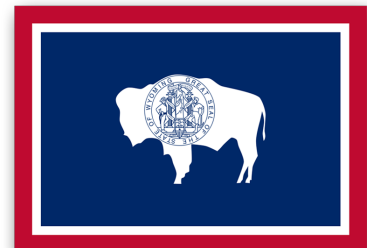
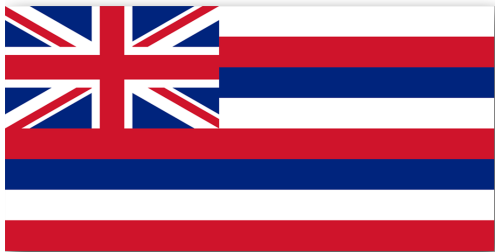


# LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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## REGION 1 REPORT



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REGIONAL REPORT FOR REGION 1  
ALASKA, ARIZONA, COLORADO, HAWAII, KANSAS,  
MONTANA, UTAH, WASHINGTON, AND WYOMING

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
DECEMBER 10-11, 2016

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### Region 1 Representative

Ms. Caryn Ann Harlos, Colorado  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 561.523.2250 E: Caryn.Ann.Harlos@LP.org

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### Region 1 Alternate

Mr. Steven Nielson, Washington  
Libertarian National Committee

T: 253.329.0279 E: Steven.Nielson@LP.org

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# REGION 1 OVERVIEW

The nine affiliates that comprise Region 1 are: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Due to the geographical nature of this region, spanning five time zones and extending from 19 to 71 degrees north latitude (some 3,000 x 3,000 miles), in-person contact between the Regional and the Alternate Representative and the individual affiliates will be infrequent. The Regional Representative will attempt to attend as many affiliate conventions in 2017 as possible. Regular contact is maintained with the affiliates and members through email, phone, a dedicated Facebook discussion group, and informational website. Further, the Regional Representative has requested notice of affiliate Board meetings and will remotely attend as many as possible as well as having an ongoing request to be added to any electronic mailings.

## National Memberships

All of the states in the Region experienced growth in membership numbers between October 2015 and October 2016.

### October 2015 National Membership Summary

	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
ALASKA	56	40
ARIZONA	278	15
COLORADO	371	9
HAWAII	54	41
KANSAS	123	28
MONTANA	40	44
UTAH	78	36
WASHINGTON	313	12
WYOMING	26	50

### October 2016 National Membership Summary

	Total Sustaining Members	Sustaining Membership Rank
ALASKA	85	40
ARIZONA	394	16
COLORADO	605	10
HAWAII	83	41
KANSAS	177	30
MONTANA	74	43
UTAH	151	35
WASHINGTON	594	11
WYOMING	39	51

## YEAR OVER YEAR TRENDS

ALASKA MEMBERSHIP UP 51.7%

ARIZONA MEMBERSHIP UP 41.7%

COLORADO MEMBERSHIP UP 63.0%

HAWAII MEMBERSHIP UP 53.7%

KANSAS MEMBERSHIP UP 43.9%

MONTANA MEMBERSHIP UP 85%

UTAH MEMBERSHIP UP 93.5%

WASHINGTON MEMBERSHIP UP 89.7%

WYOMING MEMBERSHIP UP 50.0%

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## State Party Memberships

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### States with Partisan Libertarian Registration

	Total Registrations	Registered Voters	Percentage Libertarian	Growth Since 7/16 Report
ALASKA <sup>1</sup>	7,557	528,879	1.4%	-.1%
ARIZONA <sup>2</sup>	31,358	3,588,466	.87%	+.11%
COLORADO	43,804	3,837,505	1.13%	+.22%
KANSAS	15,500	1,937,500	.8%	0%
UTAH <sup>3</sup>	13,609	1,746,575	.8%	+.15%
WYOMING <sup>4</sup>	1,615	240,809	.67%	+.17%

### States without Partisan Libertarian Registration

	Total Members	How Determined	Growth Since 7/16 Report
HAWAII	83	Nat'l BSM	+ 14.4 %
MONTANA <sup>5</sup>	74	Nat's BSM	+20.2%
WASHINGTON <sup>6</sup>	594	Nat'l BSM	+26.1%

---

<sup>1</sup> The LPAK Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether the registration must be Libertarian registration).

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of active registered voters. The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, county precinct committeemen, and state committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the committeemen have voting rights at the state convention.

<sup>3</sup> The LPUT Constitution defines membership differently as including dues-payers and pledgers but not requiring partisan Libertarian registration. The Kansas Secretary of State site does not have 2016 voter registration details, so information found in 7/16 is used.

<sup>4</sup> The WYLP Bylaws provides for three classes of voting membership: statutory committeemen, partisan Libertarian candidate in the past two years, or dues-paying registered voters. The membership at the time of the 7/18/16 report was under 15; it was unknown at the time of the 12/16 report.

<sup>5</sup> The MTLP is re-organizing and has a larger voluntary membership than the BSM numbers.

<sup>6</sup> The LPWA has about 320 dues-paying state party members.

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## Key Election Percentages

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### November 2016 Races

	Gary Johnson	US Senate	Other Statewide or Qualifying	Highest Any Race
ALASKA	5.77%	29.39%	10.14%	29.39%
ARIZONA	4.16%	N/A	N/A	31%
COLORADO	5.07%	2.55%	N/A	31.09%
HAWAII <sup>7</sup>	3.7%	1.6%	3.2%	22.2%
KANSAS	5%	6%	8%	29%
MONTANA	5.7%	N/A	3% <sup>8</sup>	14.97%
UTAH	3.5%	N/A <sup>9</sup>	6.73%	23.86%
WASHINGTON	~5.2%	Pending	Pending	Pending
WYOMING <sup>10</sup>	5.3%	N/A	3.6%	3.6%

Colorado and Kansas candidates both had candidates with top US House vote percentages. Utah had a top gubernatorial candidate, and Washington had a top statewide non-gubernatorial candidate. In two-way state legislature races, Kansas, Hawaii, Colorado, Utah, and Montana candidates had top vote percentages.

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## Ballot Access Requirements and Retention

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### Alaska

In order to be a recognized political party, Alaska requires that the gubernatorial candidate receive at least 3% of the total votes cast or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. If the race for governor is not on the ballot, the race for US Senator is used to calculate the 3%, and if neither the governor nor the US Senate is on the ballot, the race for US Representative is used.

US Senate candidate Joe Miller achieved over 3% (he received 29.39%) thereby securing continued ballot access.

### Arizona

There is no vote test needed. The AZLP needs to maintain .67% of registered voters (partisan) with the number currently at .87%.

### Colorado

There is no vote test needed. The LPCO needs to maintain 1,000 registered Libertarians; the number is presently close to 30K in active voters and well over 30K if inactive voters are included.

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<sup>7</sup> Some percentages differ from the Hawaii Elections site as their percentages include “blank ballots” which are not counted towards their ballot access percentages.

<sup>8</sup> There were three statewide races that all achieved 3%: Rick Breckenridge (US Representative), Roger Roots (Secretary of State), and Ted Dunlap (Governor).

<sup>9</sup> There was a gubernatorial race which garnered 3.08%.

<sup>10</sup> Wyoming had one additional candidate, Lawrence Struempf for US Representative.

## **Hawaii**

The vote test requirement is 10% in a statewide race or US House, or alternatively , 4% of all votes cast for state Senate, 4% of all votes cast for State House, or 2% of all votes cast for state Senate and state House combined. Adopting a strategy of attempting the lowest threshold (4% of votes cast in a US Senate races), the total votes for the five candidates in qualifying races was 8,293 out of 135,298 votes across eight races for a percentage of 6.1, enough to retain ballot access for an additional five election cycles, i.e. the next ten years.

## **Kansas**

The vote test requirement is 1% of a statewide race, including the presidential race. The LPKS has had access since 1992, and report that between the US Senate and presidential races. This threshold has been met across several races.

## **Montana**

The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.

## **Utah**

The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).

## **Washington**

1,000 signatures need. The LPWA will become ballot-qualified party if 5% in presidential vote is achieved.

## **Wyoming**

The vote test requirement this race is 2% in a US House race which was met by US Representative candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).

The vote test is limited in presidential years to just US House which must be achieved in order to remain on the ballot. If 10% is achieved, primary status would be retained, otherwise, nominations by convention would resume. In mid-term years, three offices count: US House, Governor, and Secretary of State.

## **Note on Major/Minor Party Designation**

As per Richard Winger, there are 16 two-tier states and the other 34 states just have one category of qualified party. The two-tier states are Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

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## State Conventions

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### **Alaska**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set.

### **Arizona**

The 2017 Convention is set for January 21, 2017. I plan on attending.

### **Colorado**

The 2017 Convention is set for March 24-26, 2017.

### **Hawaii**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but it will likely be in late Spring or early Fall.

### **Kansas**

The 2017 Convention is being tentatively set for the end of the April.

### **Montana**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set.

### **Utah**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but will likely be in April or May.

### **Washington**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but will likely be in April or May.

### **Wyoming**

The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set.

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## Other

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Google alerts have been set up in order to monitor the Web for news and information about each affiliate and key candidates (when appropriate) in Region 1 as well as a feed to monitor the regional Facebook content.

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ALASKA



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Jon Watts, jon.watts@alaskan.com

Vice Chair: Randy Stevens, randywild@gci.net

Treasurer: Vacant/Cean Stevens, mermaidcean@yahoo.com

Secretary: Vacant/Cean Stevens, mermaidcean@yahoo.com

Membership: Stephanie Shaeffer, kgendeavors@gmail.com

Communications: Joel Hadley, joelhadley@hotmail.com

Website: <http://www.alaskalibertarian.com>

### Office Space

The LPAK has office space available to them on a donated basis when needed.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	7,557. Up from 7,467 one year prior. However, this represents 1.4% of the registered voters (528,879) which is down .1% since the 7/16 Region 1 report.
Method of Membership Determination	The LPAK Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether the registration must be Libertarian registration).
Partisan Registration?	Yes.

Ballot Access Status/Requirement/Retention	<p>The LPAK has ballot access.</p> <p>Access is obtained through nomination from state-recognized political party.<sup>11</sup></p> <p>2016 US Senate candidate Joe Miller received 29.39% of the vote.</p>
Method of Determining Candidates	At convention or committee vote as per 2016 Bylaws. The prior Bylaws called for participation in the open primary.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	4 / 3 for statewide races.
Estimated Budget	\$7K-\$10K yearly.
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is up but contains one outdated page for 2016 convention. Facebook is generally current but has inconsistent posting schedule. Page likes are at 2,771. This would place Alaska about 35 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is up two spots since my last report. The Facebook page is entitled "Alaska Libertarian Party" rather than the Libertarian Party of Alaska. The Chair was alerted to this naming inconsistency.
Newsletter?	Yes. I subscribed. Last newsletter sent 2/16.
Database?	Yes. They use both Excel and a database product from a local company called 2-D Crowd which has features that are uniquely suited to Alaska. Mark Fish has been handling this portion.
BSM Members	85. This places Alaska at 40 <sup>nd</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is up two rankings since my last report and up 57.5% over a one year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The current Board is scattered over a large geographic area so that meetings are attended in person in Anchorage by those who can and by teleconferencing for those who live further away. Meetings have been quarterly, but the affiliate is looking at moving to bi-monthly meetings. I have requested to be on the distribution list.

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<sup>11</sup> A recognized political party in Alaska is an organized group of voters whose candidate for governor received at least 3% of the total votes cast in the preceding general election or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. In non-gubernatorial years, the US Senate (and then the US House of Representatives) race is used.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set.

---

## State Level Membership

---

The LPAK Bylaws defines members as registered voters who pay dues (there is an ambiguity as to whether the registration must be Libertarian registration).

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The state is broken down into burrows. Fairbanks (the Libertarian Party of Interior Alaska) has begun and needs to be re-started with new officers. Chair Watts is committed to having an active burrow group/affiliate in each of the population centers.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

The LPAK ran two statewide candidates in addition to the Libertarian Presidential ticket as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.77%

Joe Miller (US Senate): 29.39%

Jim McDermott (US House): 10.14%

Jon Watts ran in a contested primary against Jim McDermott. Also, Libertarian Mark Fish is the first Libertarian to serve on the Alaska Public Offices Commission, and a second Libertarian will be appointed in 2017.<sup>12</sup>

### Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Chair Watts is not presently aware of pending races for 2017 but this investigation is on the agenda to look into. He indicated that he believes the affiliate needs to focus more on local races rather than primarily on statewide slots.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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In order to be a recognized political party, Alaska requires that the gubernatorial candidate receive at least 3% of the total votes cast or whose number of registered voters is equal to at least 3% of the total votes cast for governor. If the race for governor is not on the ballot, the race for US Senator is used to calculate the 3%, and if neither the governor nor the US Senate is on the ballot, the race for US Representative is used.

US Senate candidate Joe Miller achieved over 3% (he received 29.39%) thereby securing continued ballot access.

### **PRIMARIES:**

Alaska is a blanket primary state.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> <http://amandacoyne.com/politics/unintended-consequences-libertarian-will-be-joining-the-apoc-commission/>

## MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:

Alaska does not have this distinction but has recognized political parties and registered political groups.

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## Activities

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Chair Watts would like to find opportunities for outreach to the native Alaskan population. Promised volunteer lists never materialized. The affiliate is presently strategizing on outreach direction.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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Chair Watts indicated that a fundraising strategy needs to be implemented. He needs to investigate whether any fundraising is still being done through United for Liberty which was the project of a former Board member.

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<sup>13</sup> From Richard Winger: A blanket primary puts all candidates on the same primary ballot. Then the top vote-getter from each party goes to the November ballot.

Washington state invented the blanket primary in 1934, and used it until it was declared unconstitutional in 2002. Washington state voters liked the blanket primary. After it was taken away from them by the courts, that set up a bad situation in which the top-two got a foothold. Washington voters passed the top-two initiative in 2004, because they resented that they had lost their blanket primary.

California had a blanket primary in 1998 and 2000. California voters had passed Prop. 198 for a blanket primary in 1996. It passed easily. Unlike Washington state's blanket primary, the California blanket primary did not include independent candidates. They did not participate in the blanket primary and petitioned for a place on the November ballot.

The California Dem, Rep, Libt and Peace & Freedom Parties filed a lawsuit in early 1997 to fight the blanket primary. We lost in US District Court and in the 9th circuit. But we won in the US Supreme Court. The decision, *Calif. Dem Party v Jones*, was 7-2. Scalia wrote it. He said the freedom of association part of the First Amendment protects political parties from having to let members of other parties help determine their nominees. His decision came out in June 2000. So California switched starting in 2002 to a semi-closed primary.

Although we were very happy with this decision at the time, in retrospect it has done more harm than good. Because of that decision, the top-two movement began. After Washington state passed the initiative for top-two in 2004, the US District Court struck it down, and the 9th circuit agreed. But then in March 2008, in a decision by Clarence Thomas, the US Supreme Court said that the top-two primary was not unconstitutional on its face, at least as to freedom of association. So then California top-two people saw their chance and got the California legislature to put it on the ballot in June 2010. That US Supreme Court decision of 2008 was called *Washington State Grange v Washington State Republican Party*.

Meanwhile, Alaska had a blanket primary, which survived, because the parties in Alaska liked it. The law permits a blanket primary if the parties agree to it. In Alaska, the Libertarian, Green, Alaskan Independence, and Democratic Parties all liked it. But the Republican Party doesn't like it. So Alaska has two primary ballots. One has the candidates of the Democratic Party and all the qualified minor parties. The other ballot just has Republican candidates. The Green Party is no longer qualified in Alaska, so currently the blanket primary ballot just has Libertarians, Democrats, and Alaskan Independence Party members. The Alaska LP likes the blanket primary because (a) there are virtually never two Libertarians running against each other for a single nomination so it really doesn't change anything for us; (b) it is easier to get people to register Libertarian because they are still free to vote for Democrats in the blanket primary. We need lots of registrations in Alaska to remain on the ballot, because we can't count on meeting the alternate vote test. Although we did pass the vote test in both 2014 and 2016.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant press mentions include:

<http://juneauempire.com/state/2016-08-09/stevens-offers-libertarian-option-us-senate-race>

[http://www.newsminer.com/news/alaska\\_news/murkowski-not-taking-senate-re-election-bid-for-granted/article\\_6e29bbo2-62bf-11e6-9be2-8fb88506aed5.html](http://www.newsminer.com/news/alaska_news/murkowski-not-taking-senate-re-election-bid-for-granted/article_6e29bbo2-62bf-11e6-9be2-8fb88506aed5.html)

<http://juneauempire.com/state/2016-08-15/no-joe-miller-time-three-challengers-murkowski>

<http://www.ktuu.com/content/news/Happy-Election-Day-Alaska-Heres-where-to-vote-and-whats-on-the-ballot-390319342.html>

<http://www.ktva.com/candidate-in-contested-north-slope-seat-hires-lawyer-to-investigate-illegal-polling-procedure-600/>

<http://www.ktva.com/previous-adversary-joe-miller-files-to-run-against-murkowski-for-senate-seat-670/>

<http://juneauempire.com/state/2016-09-06/its-miller-v-murkowski-again>

[http://www.youralaskalink.com/u-s-senate-candidate-joe-miller-alaska-s-resource-base/article\\_319adbd8-7563-11e6-89fc-071937bc0f63.html](http://www.youralaskalink.com/u-s-senate-candidate-joe-miller-alaska-s-resource-base/article_319adbd8-7563-11e6-89fc-071937bc0f63.html)

<http://thelibertarianrepublic.com/joe-miller-responds-libertarian/>

<http://www.adn.com/opinions/2016/09/08/joe-miller-complicates-life-for-sen-lisa-murkowski-while-democrats-wish-they-had-a-single-choice/>

<http://peninsulaclarion.com/opinion/2016-09-08/the-election-plot-thickens>

<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2016/09/09/heres-why-socially-conservative-trump-backer-joe-miller-decided-to-run-as-a-libertarian/>

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donald-craig-mitchell/rematch-in-alaska-daddys-\\_b\\_11937936.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donald-craig-mitchell/rematch-in-alaska-daddys-_b_11937936.html)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donald-craig-mitchell/rematch-in-alaska-daddys-\\_b\\_11937936.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/donald-craig-mitchell/rematch-in-alaska-daddys-_b_11937936.html)

[http://www.youralaskalink.com/news/amy-demboski-there-s-only-one-conservative-in-the-u/article\\_5bc892ao-7a1e-11e6-8cfd-bfd613d66969.html](http://www.youralaskalink.com/news/amy-demboski-there-s-only-one-conservative-in-the-u/article_5bc892ao-7a1e-11e6-8cfd-bfd613d66969.html)

[http://www.dailyprogress.com/begich-considering-running-as-write-in-in-alaska-senate-race/article\\_370a6244-94bd-509b-8db4-ba77db7502d4.html](http://www.dailyprogress.com/begich-considering-running-as-write-in-in-alaska-senate-race/article_370a6244-94bd-509b-8db4-ba77db7502d4.html)

<http://juneauempire.com/state/2016-09-14/alaska-gop-officers-leave-committee-back-joe-miller>

<http://joemiller.us/2016/09/top-alaska-gop-officials-resign-rather-back-liberal-murkowski-libertarian-joe-miller/>

[http://www.newsminer.com/news/alaska\\_news/begich-won-t-run-for-us-senate-this-fall-in/article\\_502715c8-80e2-11e6-b7a7-afeaa1b5d14b.html](http://www.newsminer.com/news/alaska_news/begich-won-t-run-for-us-senate-this-fall-in/article_502715c8-80e2-11e6-b7a7-afeaa1b5d14b.html)

<https://www.peoplespunditdaily.com/news/elections/2016/09/26/mark-levin-endorses-joe-miller-us-senate-alaska/>

[http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2016/10/alaska\\_2016\\_comeback\\_kid\\_vs\\_most\\_liberal\\_republican\\_in\\_the\\_senate.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2016/10/alaska_2016_comeback_kid_vs_most_liberal_republican_in_the_senate.html)

<http://sky31.ddns.net/news/alaska-libertarian-party-boots-chair-weeks-before-election>

<http://www.radiokenai.us/alaska-libertarian-party-ousts-chair/>

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/national-politics/article109713767.html>

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/candidates-wild-alaska-race-face-off-sans-drama-43107238>

Potential strategies of Press Releases, Letters to the Editor, and Op-Eds were discussed.

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## Other

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The LPAK intends to introduce a resolution to the LNC to call upon the Federal Government to de-regulate marijuana after the beginning of the year. Alaska Voter Registration via the Permanent Fund Dividend Application, Ballot Measure 1<sup>14</sup> passed this past election. Although the LPAK opposed this measure, it will provide a potential for a greater voter base and access to voter records for the Party.

Electoral reform is a hot topic as it is in many other areas of the country with third parties banding together on some common cause in this area. Additionally, Governor Walker has introduced an overwhelming unpopular measure of reducing Permanent Fund disbursements by half in order to cover a budget shortfall—an issue that will enjoy broad support in opposition.

Tension and rivalries between social conservatives and social liberals has been a source of dissension within the affiliate with platform issues resulting. Chair Watts has indicated a desire to see the affiliate indicate its support for the National Party Platform in its governing documents and further wishes that the affiliate maintain a traditional approach to appealing to issues from multiple spectrums without being weighted to favour liberals or conservatives.

After some tumultuous times following the replacement of the Chair, things are progressing well with reinvigorating the affiliate.

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## Statement from the Chair

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We Libertarians have come a long way, but we have far to go. We live in a world full of contention, yet we carry on. We are the new paradigm of leadership that finds our strength in the voluntary consensus of worthy ideas, made real by success, rather than imposition.

We will lead each individual toward their personal power and away from forceful structures of authority, especially those built by our own egos. We will make a free world by planting and raising freedom everywhere it will grow.

Jon Briggs Watts, Chair

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<sup>14</sup>

[https://ballotpedia.org/Alaska\\_Voter\\_Registration\\_via\\_the\\_Permanent\\_Fund\\_Dividend\\_Application,\\_Ballot\\_Measure\\_1\\_\(2016\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Alaska_Voter_Registration_via_the_Permanent_Fund_Dividend_Application,_Ballot_Measure_1_(2016))

# ARIZONA LIBERTARIAN PARTY



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Michael Kielsky, [chairman@azlp.org](mailto:chairman@azlp.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Jim Iannuzzo

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: Bill Barker

Treasurer: Marge Tendler

Assistant Treasurer: Joe Cobb

Secretary: Emily Goldberg

Assistant Secretary: Micah Black

The AZLP has three statutory officers and four non-statutory officers and exists primarily to interface with the State of Arizona with the majority of the Party work being done at the County Affiliate level.

Website: <https://www.azlp.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	31,358. Up from 27,099 one year prior. This represents .87% of the registered voters (3,588.466) which is up 1.1% since the 7/16 Region 1 report.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters. <sup>15</sup>
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The AZLP has ballot access. .67% of active registered voters (2/3 of 1%). Currently has .87% of the registered voters.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	18 / 26 (2 non-partisan)
Estimated Budget	\$1K year typical.
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is up and substantially current. Facebook is current but needs best practices mentoring. Page likes are at 4,775. This would place Arizona about 18 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings, a jump of 11 places. I have actively mentored the Facebook administrator on maximizing reach and this has paid off.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	No. Arizona has strict laws governing online storage of voter registration data which limit the AZLP's ability to have an online database.
BSM Members	394. This places Arizona at 16 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. While the numbers increased 41.7%, this is a drop of one place in the affiliate rankings.

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## Board Meetings

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<sup>15</sup> The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, county precinct committeemen, and state committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the committeemen have voting rights at the state convention.

The AZLP acts mostly as a “shell” to fulfill statutory requirements of the State of Arizona with the bulk of the Party work being done at the county level (see below). They meet only to the extent needed to fulfill this role and meet statutory requirements.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention has been set for January 21, 2017. I plan to attend. County organizational meetings and elections are starting.

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## State Level Membership

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The AZLP Constitution defines 3 classes of membership: registered Libertarians, County Precinct Committeemen, and State Committeemen that are all defined statutorily. Only the Committeemen have voting rights at the State Convention. The number of Registered Libertarians total 31,358.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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Arizona comprises 15 counties, and there are county level affiliates. Ballot access is not granted on a statewide basis across the board; individual counties also have to make the threshold of .67% of active registered voters within that county in addition to having an active county party. See “Ballot Access” for status of counties and ballot access.

The most active sub-affiliate is the Maricopa County Libertarian Party which meets monthly (<https://www.lpmaricopa.org>). 60-65% of the population of Arizona resides in this county.

In addition to Maricopa County, there are three other counties of note. Yuma County has an active affiliate but does not have ballot access. Pima County has a somewhat active affiliate and has ballot access. Coconino County has qualified with the percentages but does not have an active affiliate. Efforts are starting up in Gila and Mohave Counties. Chair Kielsky is encouraging Party activists to adopt a county and help it move towards active affiliation.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 4.16%

One other candidate made it past the primaries, Greg Kelly, candidate for Highlands Justice of the Peace, who garnered 31% of the vote in a two-way race.

Arizona’s election laws very much intrude into the functioning of the AZLP. Their officers must be selected from amongst County Precinct Committeemen who then choose State Committeemen. Only these persons can vote at the State Convention though all Arizona registered Libertarians are members. These County Precinct Committeemen are elected by registered Libertarians in their precincts and are required to gather nominating petition signatures, but this number is small due to the small area and the fact that only registered libertarians are included in calculating the number of the signatures required, unlike the following issues that other candidates are facing.

The largest voting bloc in Arizona is independents/undeclared which outnumber the Republicans.

## Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The affiliate will be starting on petitions for the 2018 cycle early and plan to have a Libertarian on every single ballot access line. While the ballot access laws are oppressive, they have to work with them the best that they can.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The first hurdle in Arizona ballot access is having registered Libertarians comprise .67% of active registered voters. Right now, they have .76% of the active registered voters. In addition, in order to be on the Primary ballot (either printed or added as a write-in), candidates have to obtain a certain number of signed Nominating Petitions. The Primary will take place on August 30, 2016 and is a closed primary, limited to registered Libertarian voters. This is particularly critical as the County Precinct Committeemen are included that are the pool from which the Party officers will be chosen. An open Primary would effectively be allowing non-Libertarians to choose the eventual Party officers. If the State Party ever falls off, they must petition and obtain about 21,000 valid signatures as any Party that loses qualification cannot get back on via registrations. Below is the status of the counties on an individual basis (some counties are very low density and have less than three dozen Libertarians):

Apache County .33%; Cochise County .74%; Coconino County 1.0%; Gila County .60%; Graham County .43%; Greenlee County .63%; La Paz County .38%; Maricopa County .95%; Mohave County .62%; Navajo County .65%; Pima County .80%; Pinal County .79%; Santa Cruz County .55%; Yavapai County .79%; Yuma County .62%

The issue of the Nominating Petitions is currently the subject of a lawsuit as Arizona has changed the requirements in a way that is calculated to deny access to minor parties. Previously, the Nominating Petition requirement was .5 % of the registered Libertarians in the candidate's district (or statewide). However, the new requirements cut the percentage in half to .25% but expanded the total pool from which the calculation is determined to include both Libertarians and independents/undeclared which are the most numerous voting bloc in the state. For example, using 2016 statewide figures (rounded for simplicity) of 25,000 Libertarians and 1,180,000 "others," the former rule would have required 125 signatures, while this new requirement totals 3,012 signatures. As a counter-example, using the statewide figures for Republicans of 1,125,000, and the same number of independents/undeclared, the former rule would have required 5,625 signatures, and the new one would require 5,762 signatures, a negligible difference. With this in mind, if a candidate does not obtain the required nominating signatures, they can be put in as a write-in candidate but still have to meet the same burden in write-in votes which puts the AZLP in a conundrum since their Primary is closed, yet the figures that the write-ins have to meet include independents/undeclared. In some areas, it would be mathematically impossible for the write-in to obtain the required number of votes from the pool of registered Libertarians. The AZLP lost its bid for a pre-election injunction, but an Amended Complaint was filed the end of September with an Answer filed on October 20, 2016. Expert reports have been submitted on behalf of the Party.

### **PRIMARIES:**

The AZLP has the choice of a closed or semi-closed primary and has chosen a closed primary.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> A semi-closed primary is one in which registered Democrats must choose a Democratic primary ballot, ditto for Republican, but independents can choose whichever primary ballot they want. In an open primary, each party has its own primary and its own nominees, but on primary day any voter can choose any party's primary ballot. Generally open primary states' voter registration forms don't ask about political party choice. The question is missing. There are 19 open primary states. Most southern states are open primary states.

## MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:

Arizona does not have that distinction, but only has “recognized political party.”

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## Activities

The majority of the party activities are conducted at the county level, particularly the population center of Maricopa County. Petition-gathering events are planned.

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## Finances & Fundraising

The AZLP is in good shape with funds as the prior mailing campaign did not use the entire \$25,000 allotted. The mailer was not particularly successful, and it appears that up to 2/3 of Libertarian primary votes not counted in Maricopa County though this would be difficult to prove. Historically, Libertarian turn-out is roughly equal to the two major parties. In this primary cycle, despite the heightened interest in Libertarian candidates, the turn-out was only 1/3.

The AZLP gets an average of \$1,000 year from a truly voluntary state income-tax return check off in which taxpayers can voluntarily fund a political party that then increases or reduces the amount of taxes owed.

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## Media Coverage

Significant press mentions include:

[http://tucson.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/elections/arizona-supreme-court-upholds-ballot-signature-requirements-law/article\\_34e91323-39ca-5211-9342-59bb82ae9859.html](http://tucson.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/elections/arizona-supreme-court-upholds-ballot-signature-requirements-law/article_34e91323-39ca-5211-9342-59bb82ae9859.html)

<http://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2016/09/24/court-upholds-states-rules-for-alternative-political-parties-to-get-on-the-ballot/>

<http://nevalleynews.org/7190/scottsdale/johnson-weld-offer-voters-another-choice/>

<http://ballot-access.org/2016/10/03/arizona-libertarian-party-files-amended-complaint-against-2015-law-on-how-libertarians-for-congress-state-and-local-partisan-office-may-run/>

[https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=http://www.abc15.com/news/state/political-leaders-say-legalizing-pot-saves-law-enforcement-millions-of-dollars&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoTMjUzNzgyNTU1ODEoNzIzNTg3OTIaODdjODI1MWMwYjgzMDkxOTpjz06ZW46VVM&usg=AFQjCNH9mT8E7UE\\_zuzGd7mqEsAGFfbrgQ](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=http://www.abc15.com/news/state/political-leaders-say-legalizing-pot-saves-law-enforcement-millions-of-dollars&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoTMjUzNzgyNTU1ODEoNzIzNTg3OTIaODdjODI1MWMwYjgzMDkxOTpjz06ZW46VVM&usg=AFQjCNH9mT8E7UE_zuzGd7mqEsAGFfbrgQ)

<https://www.merryjane.com/culture/marijuana-advocates-hope-to-party-on-election-day>

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## Other

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The marijuana bill did not pass, and it will take another two years to get something else on the ballot. Many Libertarians opposed the bill due to the regulatory burdens imposed. Chair Kielskey hopes to focus the Party into doing one thing and doing it well. The future focus is uncertain at this point.

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## Statement from the Chair

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Arizona has more registered Libertarians, more interest, more energy, and more plans for success at the ballot and in the public policy marketplace, than ever before.

-Chair Michael Kielsky

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF COLORADO



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Jay North (chair@lpcolorador.org)

Vice Chair: Wayne Harlos (vicechair@lpcolorador.org)

Treasurer: John Hjersman (treasurer@lpcolorador.org)

Records: Mike Spalding (recordsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Membership: Ken Wyble (membershipdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Communications: Caryn Ann Harlos (communicationsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Outreach: Marie Cochran (outreachdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Regions: Jorge Zogaib (regionsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Campaigns: Richard Longstreth (campaignsdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Legislative: Michael Stapleton (legislative@lpcolorador.org)

Fundraising: Matthew DiGiallonardo (fundraisingdirector@lpcolorador.org)

Website: <http://www.lpcolorado.org/>

### Office Space

No. Meeting space is provided monthly by The Independence Institute.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	43,804. Up from 32,549 one year prior. This represents 1.13% of the registered voters.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The LPCO has ballot access.  The access requirement is 1,000 registered Libertarian voters.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	46 / 26
Estimated Budget	\$10K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Page likes are at 15,203. This would place Colorado about 4 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings.
Newsletter?	No. Mailblasts are sent regularly.
Database?	Yes through NationBuilder.
BSM Members	605. This places Colorado at 10 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings.

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## Board Meetings

The Board meets monthly at space offered by The Independence Institute. The meetings are open and streamed live for public viewing. Board reports and documents are available online in an effort to move towards greater transparency and interface with the membership.

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## State Convention

The 2017 Convention has been set for March 24-26, 2017.

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## State Level Membership

State party members are the registered Libertarians. There is no separate membership structure. However the Libertarian registrations have grown over 26% over the past year, outpacing both the Democrats (just over 7%) and the Republicans (4.25%).

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are 64 counties in Colorado, and a structure of county affiliates and a “pre-affiliate” phase of development group. The LPCO is attempting to have development groups in every county that does not have an affiliate. Affiliates are currently established in Arapahoe, , Boulder, Delta, Douglas (new) and El Paso counties. There are approximately nine Development Groups.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

Twenty-six Libertarian candidates appeared on the ballot as follows, many of whom broke prior Libertarian records:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.09%

John Hjersman (State House District 16): 28.03% in a two-way race

Susan Quilleash (State House District 17): 9.08%

Norman “Paotie” Dawson (State House District 18): 7.43%

Judith Darcy (State House District 20): 5.79%

Mike Seebeck (State House District 21): 31.09% in a two-way race

Matthew Hess (State House District 28): 8.29%

Kim Tavendale (State House District 33): 6.04%

Roy Daktroub (State House District 50): 5.20%

Gilbert Fuller (State House District 54): 22.79% in a two-way race

Kevin Gulbranson (State House District 16): 4.11%

Glenn Ingalls (State House District 60): 6.38%

Joe Johnson (State House District 68): 8.26%

Manuel Quintel (State Senate District 12): 24.44% in a two-way race

Hans Romer (State Senate District 19): 6.13%

Michelle Poague (State Senate District 29): 6.37%

William Stuart Bartley (State Senate District 35): 3.97%

Darrell Dinges (US House District 1): 3.98%

Richard Longstreth (US House District 2): 5.86%

Gaylon Kent (US House District 3): 4.86%

Bruce Griffith (US House District 4): 4.73%

Mike McRedmond (US House District 5): 6.83%

Norm Olsen (US House District 6): 4.94%

Martin Buchanan (US House District 7): 4.68%

Lily Tang Williams (US Senate): 2.55%

Colorado was one of the state in which Gary Johnson's vote totals exceeded the margin between Trump and Clinton. Libertarians also had over 80% electoral participation.

## Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Feelers are being put out for major candidates for 2018 including Governor. Several Libertarian have indicated that they will be running for non-partisan local races.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

Ballot access is secured with Colorado having the easiest ballot access laws in the country.

### *PRIMARIES:*

With the passage of Propositions 107 and 108 creating semi-closed primaries, the LPCO, as a minor party, can easily opt out though a primary is required when multiple candidates for a single office have significant support at convention.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

The LPCO is a recognized minor political party. Major party recognition requires 10% of the vote in the gubernatorial race.

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## Activities

The LPCO is very active in Outreach events and conducted numerous sign-waving events during the campaign and organized a protest at the State Capitol. Further, this LNC member and Communications Director is involved in a Civil Rights lawsuit against the Secretary of State, State Attorney General, and Denver District Attorney to overturn the "ballot selfie" law as an unconstitutional infringement on the right to political free speech. A temporary injunction was obtained. This suit garnered much publicity for the Party.

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## Finances & Fundraising

A former program of mailers to newly registered Libertarians is on the agenda for future implementation. The LPCO was without a Fundraising Director for many months and is attempting to fire back up an active donor solicitation program.

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## Media Coverage

Significant media coverage included:

<http://gazette.com/libertarians-see-democrat-gop-woes-as-chance-to-shine/article/1580043>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/08/18/former-libertarian-presidential-candidate-securities-violations/>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/08/22/third-parties-election/>

<http://www.westword.com/news/how-terrible-trump-and-clinton-help-the-libertarian-party-in-colorado-and-beyond-8207966>

<http://thelibertarianrepublic.com/libertarian-senate-colorado/>

<http://thelibertarianrepublic.com/colorado-denies-libertarian-debate-spot/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/160959/libertarian-debate-colorado-lilly-williams>

<http://ivn.us/2016/08/30/colorado-says-minor-party-candidate-missed-senate-debate-0-023/>

<http://reason.com/blog/2016/08/31/colorado-libertarian-barred-from-senator>

<http://democratlive.com/2016/09/06/clinton-campaign-raised-143-million-in-august/>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/06/lily-tang-williams-libertarian-candidate-colorados-us-senate-debate/>

<http://thelibertarianrepublic.com/colorado-senate-candidate/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161053/libertarian-colorado-debate>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/08/what-lily-tang-williams-said-colorado-libertarian-u-s-senate/>

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/trump-backer-to-speak-after-club-20-debate>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/07/libertarian-voters-colorado/>

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/sep/10/candidates-square-off-in-debate-for-colorado-us-se/>

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/politics-government/national-politics/article101052387.html>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/10/michael-bennet-darryl-glenn-meet-in-first-debate-for-u-s-senate-seat-at-western-slope-event/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161165/michael-bennet-darryl-glenn-lily-tang-williams-debate>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161193/lily-tang-williams-arn-menconi-debate>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/13/purple-state-memo-sept-13-2016/>

<http://www.cortezjournal.com/article/20160914/NEWS01/160919936/County-MancosDolores-face-internet-library-votes>

<http://www.westword.com/news/senate-hopeful-lily-tang-williams-on-libertarian-green-party-town-hall-at-cu-8306576>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161263/colorado-libertarian-green-party-debate>

<http://www.koaa.com/story/33124959/local-libertarian-party-thinks-johnson-stein-have-chance-to-make-other-debates>

<http://www.politifact.com/colorado/statements/2016/sep/19/michael-bennet/bennet-glenn-said-democrats-are-evil-and-hes-tired/>

<https://collegian.com/2016/09/third-party-u-s-senate-candidates-debate-free-college-health-care/>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/21/purple-state-memo-michael-bennet-darryl-glenn-agree-to-only-1-prime-time-debate/>

<http://inewsnetwork.org/2016/09/22/new-colorado-poll-shows-clinton-leading-trump-bennet-over-glenn/>

<http://gazette.com/clinton-bennet-have-big-leads-in-colorado-poll-more-than-half-favor-raising-minimum-wage-oppose-coloradocare/article/1586104>

<http://www.kjct8.com/content/news/CMU-creates-most-recent-Colorado-political-poll--394530481.html>

<http://www.thecannabist.co/2016/09/23/420-games-jim-mcalpine/63769/>

<http://castlerocknewspress.net/stories/Parker-Libertarian-competes-for-Senate-seat,236170>

<https://collegian.com/2016/09/presidential-primary-forum-discusses-unaffiliated-voters/>

<http://www.dcourier.com/news/2016/sep/26/editorial-third-party-choices-fall-wayside-multipl/>

<http://www.crestoneeagle.com/colorado-red-purple-now-blue-republicans-in-national-races-are-being-challenged-by-democrats/>

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/politics-unplugged/libertarian-lily-tang-williams-says-the-two-party-political-system-is-broken>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161535/gary-johnson-colorado-2>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161539/colorado-senate-debate-pueblo>

<https://www.commdiginews.com/politics-2/vote-against-the-republicrats-72235/>

<http://thelibertarianrepublic.com/open-letter-to-darryl-glenn-and-colorado-republicans-from-a-concerned-father/>

<http://gazette.com/bennet-glenn-u.s.-senate-debate-airs-tuesday-night/article/1587500>

<https://www.northdenvertribune.com/2016/10/12/debate-excludes-libertarian-candidate/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161674/michael-bennet-darryl-glenn-debate>

<http://www.holyokeenterprise.com/news/local-news/ballots-to-be-mailed-next-week-BO77989>

[http://www.dailycamera.com/congressional-races-colorado/ci\\_30461980/lily-tang-williams-u-s-senate](http://www.dailycamera.com/congressional-races-colorado/ci_30461980/lily-tang-williams-u-s-senate)

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/news/opinion/williams-i-am-not-for-sale/>

<http://www.chieftain.com/news/pueblo/5236586-120/ballots-county-pueblo-office?>

<https://www.r3dd.it/p/56vh3g/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/161766/kanda-calef-colorado-republican-libertarian-resign>

<http://www.csindy.com/IndyBlog/archives/2016/10/18/political-activist-asked-to-resign-for-not-endorsing-gop-candidate>

[http://www.dailycamera.com/letters/ci\\_30480508/julia-chaknova-consider-cannabis-when-you-vote](http://www.dailycamera.com/letters/ci_30480508/julia-chaknova-consider-cannabis-when-you-vote)

<http://www.5280.com/digital/2016/10/colorados-libertarian-voter-base-growing>

<http://westminsterwindow.com/stories/Hans-Romer,237745>

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20161021/NEWS01/161029809/Libertarian-Senate-candidate-worried-about-loss-of-freedoms>

<http://www.chieftain.com/news/top/5258504-120/williams-libertarian-party-senate>

<http://www.koaa.com/story/33449753/ballot-selfie-restriction-in-colorado-faces-legal-test>

<http://www.westword.com/news/libertarian-party-sees-registered-voters-uptick-beats-democrats-republicans-8418379>

<http://gazette.com/springs-lawmaker-files-challenge-to-ballot-selfie-law/article/1588361>

<http://www.tgredpillnews.com/2016/10/red-pill-news-endorses-lily-tang.html>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/10/24/ballot-selfie-colorado-lawsuit/>

<http://www.aurorasentinel.com/aurora-magazine/features/feature-treading-carefully-colorado-libertarians-bask-in-neverhim-neverher-angst/>

[http://casperjournal.com/opinion/columns/susan\\_anderson/article\\_94d56303-4654-5d47-b3b5-6306b6eec57b.html](http://casperjournal.com/opinion/columns/susan_anderson/article_94d56303-4654-5d47-b3b5-6306b6eec57b.html)

<http://coloradosprings.com/lily-tang-williams-u.s.-senate-run-is-about-pursuing-the-american-dream/article/1588506>

<https://www.cpr.org/news/story/the-ballot-selfie-ban-will-likely-remain-in-place-this-election-season-but-after>

<http://kdvr.com/2016/10/25/colorado-residents-file-civil-rights-lawsuits-to-overturn-ballot-selfie-law/>

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/second-lawsuit-challenging-colorados-ballot-selfie-statute-filed-in-federal-court>

<http://www.9news.com/news/local/politics/debate-provides-exposure-for-lesser-known-candidates/341844134>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/10/25/colorado-libertarian-party-official-joins-two-denver-voters-to-filed-second-federal-lawsuit-over-state-ban-on-ballot-selfies/>

<http://thegarrisoncenter.org/archives/tag/caryn-ann-harlos>

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/news/local/colorados-u-s-senate-race-candidate-questions-and-answers-lily-tang-williams/>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/10/31/colorado-law-restricting-ballot-selfies-temporary-restraining-order/>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/10/31/colorado-law-restricting-ballot-selfies-temporary-restraining-order/>

<https://northdenvernews.com/temporary-restraining-order-hearing-on-ballot-selfie-case-set-for-wednesday-november-2-2016/>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/162121/michael-bennet-darryl-glenn-colorado-us-senate-race>

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20161102/NEWS01/161109881/Judge-raises-concerns-with-Colorado-%E2%80%99ballot-selfie%E2%80%99-law>

<http://www.thecannabist.co/2016/11/07/initiative-300-denver-marijuana-social-use/66457/>

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/colorado-2016-election-results-congressional-races-key-ballot-measures>

<http://www.denverpost.com/2016/11/08/social-marijuana-use-on-ballot-for-denver-pueblo-considers-recreational-ban/>

<http://www.lavozcolorado.com/detail.php?id=8872>

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/162442/gary-johnson-golorado-libtertarin-clinton-trump>

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/did-colorados-3rd-party-candidates-live-up-to-the-hype>

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## Other

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Senate candidate Lily Tang Williams was initially excluded from a debate with Club 20 as registered Libertarians were under 1% of the total registrations; however, just prior to the debate, registrations were pushed over that threshold. Ballot victories included the fact that the single-payer healthcare amendment was soundly defeated and the medical assistance in dying proposition was passed. However, amendment 71 was passed which will make it virtually impossible for alternative voices to petition to amend the Colorado State Constitution. The LPCO is presently assembling an Issues Advocacy Advisory Committee to provide potentials for the Party to concentrate on a few key issues over the next few years to maximize limited resources and partner with established groups already doing work in specified areas. Some potential candidates are alternative voting methods and abolishment of the death penalty.

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## Statement from the Chair

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Colorado did a fantastic job with the elections this year. Gary Johnson earned 7.4% of the votes and with Mike Seebeck earning 31.0%, which is pretty damn high for a Libertarian.

Colorado has been working on changing gears from elections to activism and messaging work and will be leading the pack in making an impact on politics.

As a reminder, **Taxation is Theft!**

-Jay North, Chair

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF HAWAII



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Tracy Ryan, [tracyar@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:tracyar@hawaiiintel.net)

Vice Chair and Big Island Chair: Gregory Arianoff, [info@arianoff.us](mailto:info@arianoff.us)

Treasurer: Kyle Varner, [kylevarner@gmail.com](mailto:kylevarner@gmail.com)

Secretary: Joe Kent

At Large: Alan Yim, Michelle Tippens, Pat Brock (Maui Chair), Eric Weinert ([ericdraheweinert@gmail.com](mailto:ericdraheweinert@gmail.com)), Anthony Higa (Oahu Chair, [anthony.higa.hawaii@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.higa.hawaii@gmail.com))

International Ambassador of Liberty & Goodwill: Ken Schoolland, [ken.schoolland@gmail.com](mailto:ken.schoolland@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.libertarianpartyofhawaii.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	83 (BSM members).
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Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM.
Partisan Registration?	No.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	<p>The LPHI has ballot access.</p> <p>Hawaii has a unique system. It requires 10% in a statewide race or US House or ~ 750 signatures ( 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% of the number of registered voters), or alternatively, if the Libertarian candidates bring in at least 4% of all the votes cast for state Senate, 4% for state House, or 2% of the votes for state Senate and state House combined. After a party has either met the vote test or petitioned for three elections in a row, then they are automatically on for the next five elections.</p>
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	17 /12
Estimated Budget	\$5K in odd years, and \$8-10K in even years.
Website / Facebook Current?	The website is mostly current and professionally done. The Chair was alerted to outdated areas. Facebook page likes are at 3,487. This would place Hawaii about 26th in the affiliate rankings which is up 13 places since my last report. I had mentored their Facebook volunteer which appears to have paid off.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Yes, but scattered over several locations and formats.
BSM Members	85. This places Hawaii at 41 <sup>st</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This remains unchanged since my last report and up 53.7% over a one year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The geography of an island state makes travel for in-person attendance difficult. The Executive Committee meets about 6 times a year with some members meeting in person at Chair Ryan's home in Honolulu and the rest appearing by Skype.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but it will likely be in late Spring or early Fall. Because they are an island state, they are considering having two conventions teleconferenced in together.

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## State Level Membership

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The LPHI has state level membership for dues-payers and life members. There are about 50 members combined in those categories, but they have several hundred lapsed that get back involved periodically. In addition there are 85 BSM members.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The Libertarian Party of Big Island (Hawaii County) is an active sub-affiliate. Maui County had an active affiliate, but it fell apart, and they are working on getting that going again. They are striving to be competitive in Hilo (settlement in Hawaii County) and Kona (district in Hawaii County).

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

The affiliate provided a comprehensive update to LP News which is included, in part, here.

Several candidates did better than projected, led by Anthony Higa (State Representative, District 19). His 12.9% result in a three-way race was 5 points better than the pre-election projection of 8%. He has now run twice, both times being undermined by the presence of token Republicans in his race. Overcoming the public's entrenched bias to treat Republicans as legitimate challengers and Libertarians as irrelevant has been difficult. With news reporters continuing to promote Republicans as the legitimate opponents of Democrats, even in races where the Libertarian spends more time and money campaigning is a problem that the party must overcome. A similar situation affected first-time candidate Michelle Tippens (8.4%) in the 24<sup>th</sup> State House race. The candidate with the highest percentage of votes was Mike Last (22.2%) in the 5<sup>th</sup> State House district. His budget was under \$100. Only two candidates spent over \$10,000: Higa (12.9%), and Arnold Phillips (16.3%) in the 10<sup>th</sup> State Senate district (in a two-way race).

The party laments the defeat of Republican Sam Slom in his bid for a sixth term in the State Senate. Slom was an active LP member because deciding to join the GOP to help him get into office. Another libertarian-leaning Republican, John Carroll, was defeated in his attempt to become a U.S. Senator; Mike Kokoski, the Libertarian candidate in that race, got just 1.6%.

Anthony Higa (12.9%) and Michelle Tippens (8.4%) both were winners of some of the top state vote percentages in the entire country in races with both Republican and Democrat opponents.

### Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The affiliate wishes to start early recruiting candidates for 2018 and get a jumpstart on fundraising.

## Open Primaries

This came out of Justia in the case of the Democratic Party of Hawaii v. Nago: Civil Rights. The panel affirmed the district court's summary judgment in favor of Scott Nago, in his official capacity as Chief Election Officer of the State of Hawaii, in an action brought by the Democratic Party of Hawaii challenging Hawaii's open primary system on the grounds that allowing registered voters to participate in any party's primary without formally joining or declaring support for that party, severely burdens the Democratic Party's First Amendment associational rights. The panel first noted that the extent to which Hawaii's open primary system burdens the Democratic Party's associational rights is a factual question on which the

Party bore the burden of proof. The panel held that the Party had not developed any evidence to meet this burden. The Party provided no evidence showing a clear and present danger that adherents of opposing parties determine the Democratic Party's nominees. Nor had the Party shown that Hawaii's open primary system causes Democratic candidates to moderate their policy stances. The panel concluded that absent evidence that Hawaii's system affects the Party's ability to select its nominees, the Party's facial challenge failed.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement is 10% in a statewide race or US House, or alternatively, 4% of all votes cast for state Senate, 4% of all votes cast for State House, or 2% of all votes cast for state Senate and state House combined. Adopting a strategy of attempting the lowest threshold (4% of votes cast in a US Senate races), the total votes for the five candidates in qualifying races was 8,293 out of 135,298 votes across eight races for a percentage of 6.1, enough to retain ballot access for an additional five election cycles, i.e. the next ten years. The affiliate, however, wishes to qualify each time as it grants even greater credibility to the Party.

Hawaii has mandatory open primaries.

### *PRIMARIES:*

Hawaii has a mandatory open primary that the LPHI must participate in.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

Hawaii does not have this distinction but rather simply has recognized political parties.

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## Activities

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During 2016 most of the LPHI's activities are centered around candidate support and fund-raising. They do hold two general meetings per year in different locations to facilitate attendance.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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The affiliate expected to raise up to \$50K for candidate support, but unfortunately that did not happen. The fundraiser planned at the home of Jim Neighbors ended up being more of a meet and greet.

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## Media Coverage

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The LPHI has received good local media coverage. The Honolulu Star Advertiser has a Libertarian on its editorial staff who advocates for coverage of libertarian issues. Chair Ryan participated in a 700-word side-by-side editorial issue column with the other parties. There is also a popular local liberty-friendly online magazine, Civil Beat, that provides regular coverage.

Other coverage included: <http://countercurrentnews.com/2016/03/hawaii-may-become-first-state-us-decriminalize/>

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## Other

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Hawaii leans very Democrat, but not because the people support Democrats, but because they oppose Republicans. The demographic is primarily Asian-American with a solid history of voting Democrat but with views of being socially liberal and fiscally conservative that obviously track libertarian in philosophy. The Green Party is popular but is not doing anything of significance.

The key issues in Hawaii are marijuana legalization and unfunded liabilities that now run in the neighborhood of 19 billion dollars. The marijuana legalization issue deeply affects their agricultural economy and is supported by 70% of the population. Unfortunately the legislature would not even consider legalization in 2016 or cleaning up the dispensary regulations, particularly since sugar and pineapple are no longer viable industries. Other concerns include campaign matching funds (the LPHI wishes to move to a voluntary system), adding NOTA to unopposed candidates, homelessness (a large problem but the LPHI has not reached policy consensus), a proposed rail project (the LPHI has not reached policy consensus), and the Jones Act which puts tremendous economic burdens on the people of Hawaii through rank protectionism which would be ridiculous if applied to passenger air travel.<sup>17</sup>

The prostitution decriminalization efforts are moving slowly. Presently, prostitution convictions can be expunged, but only if the "offender" claims to be a trafficking victim.

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## Statement from the Chair

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The Libertarian Party of Hawaii has made its way through another election with sufficient votes to retain its ballot status. Since it has qualified in three successive electoral periods it will now be on the ballot for another five elections. Lots of work still needs to be done, as despite the success with ballot access none of the candidates in Hawaii received more than 22% of the vote. The immediate goals of the party are to consolidate the growing list of new members with direct contact and meetings around the state. Moving forward into 2017 the party hopes to have some success convincing the Democrat controlled legislature to reform laws on marijuana and sex work. There is also an initiative to replace the State's partial public funding of campaigns with a privately donated neutral fund to serve the same purpose.

-Tracy Ryan, Chair

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<sup>17</sup> See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merchant\\_Marine\\_Act\\_of\\_1920](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merchant_Marine_Act_of_1920) for more information.

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF KANSAS



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Rob Hodgkinson, [chair@lpks.org](mailto:chair@lpks.org)

Vice Chair: Sharon DuBois, [vice-chiar@lpks.org](mailto:vice-chiar@lpks.org)

Treasurer: Ric Koehn, [treasurer@lpks.org](mailto:treasurer@lpks.org)

Secretary: Charlotte Underwood, [secretary@lpks.org](mailto:secretary@lpks.org)

1st District Coordinator: Joey Frazier, [dist1@lpks.org](mailto:dist1@lpks.org)

1st District Deputy Coordinator: Mike Wilson, [dist1@lpks.org](mailto:dist1@lpks.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> District Coordinator: Gerret Mentzer, [dist2@lpks.org](mailto:dist2@lpks.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> District Deputy Coordinatory: Vacant

3<sup>rd</sup> District Coordinator: Jeff Caldwell, [dist3@lpks.org](mailto:dist3@lpks.org)

3<sup>rd</sup> District Deputy Coordinatory: Mike Kerner, [dist3@lpks.org](mailto:dist3@lpks.org)

4<sup>th</sup> District Coordinator: Dillon Albin, [dist4@lpks.org](mailto:dist4@lpks.org)

4<sup>th</sup> District Coordinator: Maria Church, [dist4@lpks.org](mailto:dist4@lpks.org)

website: <http://www.lpks.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	Approximately 15,500. Up from 13,609 one year prior. This represents .8% of the registered voters.
Method of Membership Determination	Registered voters.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The LPKS has ballot access.  The access requirement is 1% of statewide race including president (the Secretary of State has ignored precedent and intent in this interpretation). This threshold was met this year over several races.
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	10 / 14
Estimated Budget	\$6K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Website is substantially current. Facebook pages likes are at 2,832. This would place it about 34 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is down one ranking since my last report. Mentoring was offered to assist in their page growth including the best practices guide.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Yes, Nationbuilder.
BSM Members	177. This places Kansas at 30 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is down two rankings since my last report and up 43.9% over a one year period.

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## Board Meetings

The Board has quarterly in-person meetings and monthly teleconferences.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention is tentatively set for the end of April.

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## State Level Membership

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There is no dues-paying structure. Between the 2016 national convention and the presidential election, the number of identified supports on the LPKS.org website increased by 134%, and the number of volunteers increased by 242%. In the past decade in Kansas, membership in the Democratic Party has increased by 2.5%; in the Republican Party, 5.9%; in unaffiliated voters, 23%^; and in the Libertarian Party, 71%. In the past year alone, Libertarian voter registration is up 13.5%.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are four congressional districts, each of which has executive committees. There are 105 counties in Kansas, which are unevenly divided between the districts. The 3<sup>rd</sup> District is very active, and there are about eight active county groups. They are working on developing the Libertarians of Northern Kansas (LNK pronounced L-Neck) which is the area that contains the capital city so it is important they are active there.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

They are presently running 14 candidates with Rob Garrard as their US Senate candidate. The US Senate race typically garners between 7-10% of the vote.

The candidate tallies are as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 4.7%

Robert D. Garrard (US Senate): 6%

Kerry Burt (US Representative): 7%

James Houston Bales (US House): 6.4%

Gorden J. Bakken (US House): 3%

Jason Conley (State Senate): 29%

Michael Kerner (State Senate): 7.2%

Patrick McMurray (State Senate): 24%

John Taube (State House): 6%

Frederick Caleb Christopher (State House): 7%

Joey Frazier (State House): 13%

James Pruden (State House): 8%

## Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

Candidates have been recruited for local city council-level races in 2017, and the larger races in 2018. Chair Hodgkinson would like to run 100 candidates in 2018 to increase exposure to the Libertarian brand.

US House Representative Pompeo is joining the Trump team as CIA Director, causing a Special Election to be scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> District. Since the LPKS does not have major party status, no Libertarian candidate will be able to appear on the ballot for this election unless a petitioning hurdle is overcome, and then such candidate would appear as an Independent.

Governor Brownback is term-limited out this election, and the LPKS intends to run a strong opposition.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

The LPKS has had access since 1992, and between the US Senate and presidential races. This threshold was met this year over several races.

In order to obtain major party status, the LPKS needs to obtain 5% in the gubernatorial election.

### *PRIMARIES:*

There is no Libertarian primary unless they obtain major party status, and at that point, it would be the Party's choice to have an open or closed primary.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

Major party status is achieved by obtaining 5% vote in gubernatorial race.

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## Activities

The LPKS participates in the multi-day (10 days) Kansas State Fair, and multiple local groups have meetings. The 3<sup>rd</sup> District hosts regular meetings as well as the Libertarians of South Central Kansas.

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## Finances & Fundraising

As there is no dues structure, fund-raising efforts involve simply asking for money. Up until 2008, the LPKS had a healthy monthly donor base that fell away, and now Chair Hodgkinson is working on rebuilding that base. They also hold fund-raising events.

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## Media Coverage

Significant media coverage included:

[http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/libertarian-burt-trys-to-get-word-out-on-run-for/article\\_65abbecf-f776-5398-b483-9b82fc664450.html](http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/libertarian-burt-trys-to-get-word-out-on-run-for/article_65abbecf-f776-5398-b483-9b82fc664450.html)

<http://cjonline.com/news/2016-08-27/kansas-libertarians-bullish-2016-pursue-major-party-status-2018#>

[http://www.hutchnews.com/news/local\\_state\\_news/kansas-libertarians-hopeful-for/article\\_ed88efa8-f8f5-5f09-8652-dbf1283af24.html](http://www.hutchnews.com/news/local_state_news/kansas-libertarians-hopeful-for/article_ed88efa8-f8f5-5f09-8652-dbf1283af24.html)

<http://www.kansas.com/opinion/editorials/article99284132.html>

[http://www.dailyprogress.com/kansas-libertarians-hope-election-bolsters-future-prospects/article\\_512c6345-8a00-56b2-a605-6e7fd63d5706.html](http://www.dailyprogress.com/kansas-libertarians-hope-election-bolsters-future-prospects/article_512c6345-8a00-56b2-a605-6e7fd63d5706.html)

<http://www.wibwnewsnow.com/kansas-libertarians-hope-election-bolsters-future-prospects/>

[http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/federal-races-anti-incumbency-versus-power-of-incumbency/article\\_f1016865-bfbe-547c-b726-b384d9500132.html](http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/federal-races-anti-incumbency-versus-power-of-incumbency/article_f1016865-bfbe-547c-b726-b384d9500132.html)

<http://www.mcphersonsentinel.com/news/20161012/death-penalty-conference-set-for-oct-22>

[http://www.mdjonline.com/neighbor\\_newspapers/extra/news/st-district-house-candidates-troubled-by-economy-education-funding/article\\_dae4eb4c-3b18-55fb-81fc-cc02a4e725ed.html](http://www.mdjonline.com/neighbor_newspapers/extra/news/st-district-house-candidates-troubled-by-economy-education-funding/article_dae4eb4c-3b18-55fb-81fc-cc02a4e725ed.html)

[http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/burt-drops-out-endorses-lapolice/article\\_o67e0e53-9339-551e-aa47-df09e5b3cfe6.html](http://www.hutchnews.com/news/elections/burt-drops-out-endorses-lapolice/article_o67e0e53-9339-551e-aa47-df09e5b3cfe6.html)

<http://kcur.org/post/libertarian-vp-nominee-weld-holds-kansas-city-rally#stream/o>

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## Other

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There are no single large issues that the LPKS concentrates on but rather Board members and candidates have their particular interests. Medical marijuana is an ongoing concern. Chair Hodgkinson focuses on eminent domain and civil asset forfeiture.

The Secretary of State is antagonistic to minor parties and is well known for throwing out thousands (even tens of thousands) of registration forms because the applicants didn't attach proper proof of citizenship documentation. There was a dispute over pending registrations which was ultimately decided against the Secretary of State.

The LPKS feels it is important that the National Party conduct a strong candidate recruitment push.

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## Statement from the Chair

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Requested.

# MONTANA LIBERTARIAN PARTY



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Ron Vandervender, [ron.vandervender@mtlp.org](mailto:ron.vandervender@mtlp.org)

Vice-Chair: Nathan Pierce, [nathan.pierce@mtlp.org](mailto:nathan.pierce@mtlp.org)

Treasurer: Michael Fucci, [micheal.fucci@mtlp.org](mailto:micheal.fucci@mtlp.org)

Secretary: Connor Burns, [connor.burns@mtlp.org](mailto:connor.burns@mtlp.org)

Website: <http://www.mtlp.org>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	74 plus 50.
Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM and sign-up (with voluntary dues).
Partisan Registration?	No.

Ballot Access Status/Requirement	<p>The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US House Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.</p> <p>Montana has mandatory open primaries.</p>
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	7/9
Estimated Budget	In flux as Party is re-organizing.
Website / Facebook Current?	<p>Website is modern and current due to recent efforts. Facebook is generally current but inconsistent. Page likes are at 1,489. This would place it about 38th in the affiliate rankings, up 3 places since my last report. During this transition, the affiliate does not have access to that Facebook page and has started a new one while trying to get control of the former.</p>
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Just started.
BSM Members	74. This places Montana at 43 <sup>rd</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is up 1 place rank since my last report and up 85% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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This information has been requested. Formal meetings are being organized.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set.

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## State Level Membership

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The MTLP Bylaws provide for free memberships to those who certify in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals, dues are optional.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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This Ravalli County has an active county chapter. Chapters are developing in Flathead, Gallatin, Glacier, and Yellowstone. Lewis & Clark and Cascade have some initial interest.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

Montana has a very low legislative filing fee (\$15). The following candidates ran and obtained these results:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 5.7%

Rick Breckenridge (US House): 3%<sup>18</sup>

Ted Dunlap (Governor): 3.3%

Roger Roots (Secretary of State): 3%

Ian Wheeler (House District 6): 5%

Andrew Forcier (House District 57): 14.97%

Josh Daniels (House District 43): 7.28%

Dick Motta (Senate District 39): 7.02%

Francis Wendt (House District 61): 4.07%

Pual Bonar (House District 84): 3.54%

### Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

They are working on soliciting candidate for the open US House and US Senate seats coming up in 2018. There are also several libertarian-leaning Republicans already in office that are being courted for a Party switch.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement averages out to be 2.8% which can be met by any statewide candidate in about seven races. In this cycle, it turned out to be 12,542 votes needed. Three statewide candidates (Rick Breckenridge-US House Representative, Roger Roots-Secretary of State, and Ted Dunlap-Governor) met this burden.

#### **PRIMARIES:**

Montana has a mandatory open primary that the MTLP must participate in.

#### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

Montana does not have that distinction but only qualified political parties.

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## Activities

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<sup>18</sup> Replaced Mike Fellows after his passing.

The affiliate is in re-organization mode but is working rapidly to get back up to speed. Previously, the affiliate participated in booths at the Gallatin County Fair, Yellowstone County Fair, Ravalli County Fair and the Western Montana fair. They also hit the parade route as well with the Heritage Day Parade in Stevensville, Kalispell 4th of July Parade, Kalispell Fair Parade, and the Ravalli County Fair Parade.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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The affiliate is in re-organization mode but has plans for a fundraising push for committed micro-payments on its website.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant press mentions include:

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/local/2016/08/11/vote-candidates-platforms/88573046/>

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/politics/2016/08/18/trump-clinton-challenges-boost-libertarian-party-montana/88907462/>

[http://ravallirepublic.com/news/local/article\\_22d99e90-6415-11e6-a20c-5b77bf5318b5.html](http://ravallirepublic.com/news/local/article_22d99e90-6415-11e6-a20c-5b77bf5318b5.html)

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/local/2016/09/21/proctor-man-chosen-replace-fellows-libertarians/90805580/>

[http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/ap\\_news/montana/new-us-house-candidate-requires-late-ballot-correction/article\\_7c86f4e7-ed19-5536-a49d-5df52bb8d2a6.html](http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/ap_news/montana/new-us-house-candidate-requires-late-ballot-correction/article_7c86f4e7-ed19-5536-a49d-5df52bb8d2a6.html)

<http://flatheadbeacon.com/2016/09/23/libertarian-power-struggle-emerges-death-candidate/>

[http://ravallirepublic.com/news/local/article\\_2ba04738-813c-11e6-a767-2be5027355ac.html](http://ravallirepublic.com/news/local/article_2ba04738-813c-11e6-a767-2be5027355ac.html)

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/opinion/tribune-editorials/2016/09/23/citizens-better-schools-highly-misleading-name/90962068/>

<http://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/local/2016/09/23/remembering-libertarian-mike-fellows/90983196/>

[http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/politics/elections/2016/general/libertarian-could-be-a-factor-in-close-race-for-governor/article\\_5f9bf2e5-8e53-59c9-9b5c-bc3d6bfacf95.html](http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/politics/elections/2016/general/libertarian-could-be-a-factor-in-close-race-for-governor/article_5f9bf2e5-8e53-59c9-9b5c-bc3d6bfacf95.html)

[http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/republican-zinke-captures-second-term-in-montana-house-race/article\\_1dc7c5f7-1403-5d04-ac08-732e0f804764.html](http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/republican-zinke-captures-second-term-in-montana-house-race/article_1dc7c5f7-1403-5d04-ac08-732e0f804764.html)

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## Other

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Long-time MTLP Chair Mike Fellows passed away in September causing a vacuum in the Party which is presently going through a re-organization mode. It was discovered that crucial filings had not been done which was quickly remediated and new interim Bylaws filed with the Secretary of State. They have exploratory plans for a Convention, with their Bylaws allowing for it to be contingent on the later of one year or twenty county chapters forming. It appears that neither Board meetings nor Conventions have taken place in years. The affiliate is struggling to get member involvement in order to rebuild but is working towards that end. I maintain regular contact.

Despite the setback of the death of Mike Fellows, the current officers have been monitoring upcoming legislative issues and potential initiatives so that they can support or oppose as appropriate as their opinion is frequently sought. They intended upon keeping up their strong support and activism for jury nullification/fully-informed juries as Mike Fellows did previously. They will also be putting out regular Press Releases.

The Libertarian National Committee passed this Resolution regarding Mike Fellows:

*Whereas Mike Fellows was a dedicated and accomplished activist for the cause of liberty who gave generously of his time and financial resources, and*

*Whereas Mr. Fellows represented the Montana Libertarian Party with distinction by virtue of his many campaigns for public office, including campaigns for the Montana state legislature, Montana Secretary of State, Montana Supreme Court Clerk, and the U.S. House of Representatives, and*

*Whereas Mr. Fellows served with distinction for many years in positions of leadership in the Libertarian Party, including his service as chair of the Montana Libertarian Party and as an alternate representative on the Libertarian National Committee, and*

*Whereas Mr. Fellows was a man of integrity, wisdom, wit, generosity of spirit, and commitment to the principles of liberty and personal responsibility, therefore*

*Be it resolved that the members of the Libertarian National Committee express our sadness at the passing of Mike Fellows, and that we offer our condolences to his family and friends.*

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## Statement from the Chair

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With the re-organization efforts in Montana, the MT Libertarian Party is now registered with all necessary state agencies and a EIN. There is now four State officers with three others we are working with to be at-large committee member. We do have a bank account and designated phone line. We have been in a member drive and have picked up over fifty members state wide. We have nine counties working to organize county artistes at the moment. Work is done also started in the area of candidates for the 2018 elections. We will have people around the capital during legislative session and be active in measures which come up.

-Ron Vandevender, Chair

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF UTAH



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Andrew McCullough, [chair@libertarianutah.org](mailto:chair@libertarianutah.org)

Vice Chair: David Raine

Treasurer: Chelsea Travis

Secretary: Brian Kamerath

Website: <http://www.libertarianutah.org>

### Office Space

Chair McCullough is a practicing attorney and allows the LPUT the use of conference space in his offices.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

There are no paid staff, but the LPUT has a volunteer Scott Linsley who functions as an Executive Director and has been given a Board vote.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	13,609. Up from 3,949 from prior report. This represents .8% of the registered voters.
Method of Membership Determination	The LPUT Constitution defines membership as including dues-payers and pledgers to its Statement of Principles, but does not require partisan registration.
Partisan Registration?	Yes.

Ballot Access Status/Requirement	The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	11 / 11
Estimated Budget	\$10-12K per year
Website / Facebook Current?	The website is current and professionally done. Facebook page likes are at 2,483. This would place Utah 36 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. Mentoring was offered to assist in their page growth.
Newsletter?	No, but is in progress.
Database?	Yes, but type unknown.
BSM Members	151. This places Montana at 35 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is up 1 place rank since my last report and up 93.5% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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There are monthly open meetings.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but will likely be in April or May.

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## State Level Membership

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Yes. There are about 250-300 dues-paying members. They have two operational classes of membership: pledged (to their Statement of Principles) dues-payers; and pledgers only. Only pledged dues-payers are eligible to vote in internal Party business at their convention but pledged members can vote on candidate selection.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The Vice Chair took development of sub-affiliates on as a personal project, and these have been started since the beginning of this year with about six active groups, four of which are actual affiliates, and the other two being in development.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

Eleven Libertarian candidates appeared on the ballot as follows:

Gary Johnson/Bill Weld (Presidential/Vice-President): 3.50%

Brian Kamerath/Barry Evan Short (Governor/Lt. Governor): 3.08%

Andrew McCullough (Attorney General): 6.73%

Craig Bowden (US House, District 1): 5.87%

Jim Dexter (State Senate, District 6): 6.61%

Joe Buchman (State Senate, District 14): 9.4%

Lee Anne Walker (State House, District 46): 23.86%

Chelsea Travis (State House, District 35): 9.44%

Brent Zimmerman (State House, District 16): 8.45%

Chair McCullough broke previous records in his Attorney General run.

### Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The Vice Chair of Ogden County is putting together an informal candidate forum.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement is 2% of any statewide race. This was met by gubernatorial candidate Brian Kamerath (3.08%) and Attorney General candidate Andrew McCullough (6.73%).

#### **PRIMARIES:**

The LPUT does not participate in the primary system although they could opt in, but rather they nominate through convention, and primaries only become relevant when two candidates get 35% of the vote in a party endorsements meeting.

#### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

Utah does not have these distinctions but rather has registered political parties and qualified political parties.

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## Activities

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There are monthly social activities and other special events.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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In the Utah state tax laws, taxpayers are offered the opportunity to have a part of their taxes “refunded” in the form of a \$2 donation to a political party of their choice. The LPUT receives up to \$10K a year through this benefit, but the old parties receive a huge windfall. This public funding works very much like the Federal system in that selecting this option does not increase or decrease the amount of taxes owed.

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## Media Coverage

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The big news was the switch of State Senator Mark Madsen from the Republican Party to the Libertarian Party. Other significant media included:

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865659607/Who-is-Gary-Johnson-Some-frustrated-Utah-voters-looking-at-Libertarian-candidate.html?pg=all>

<http://www.ibtimes.com/latest-presidential-polls-gary-johnson-jill-stein-cutting-hillary-clinton-donald-2416866>

[https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2016/09/21/mgk-modified-debate-features-utah-ag-reyes-and-empty-podium/#.V-QE\\_qIrlzU](https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2016/09/21/mgk-modified-debate-features-utah-ag-reyes-and-empty-podium/#.V-QE_qIrlzU)

<http://expressobserver.com/2016/10/15/toxic-trump-may-cost-utah-held-by-republicans-since-1964/>

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## Other

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The LPUT does not have particular focus issues though certain candidates do. Medical marijuana is a big topic as well as the fact that Utah is only of only 12 states that tax Social Security income. School choice is also a large concern.

Additionally, there is straight ticket voting in Utah, the only state in Region 1 to have this. Chair McCullough said there is no move to get rid of the straight ticket voting which certainly made a huge difference (negative) in his Attorney General run as the Democrat pretty much said he was dropping out (without officially dropping out) and still got 25.09% of vote though no campaigning done for a few months. The big parties love it too much. There was a bill in the last legislature to get rid of it but it went nowhere.

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## Statement from the Chair

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Requested.

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF WASHINGTON



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: David Traynor, David.Traynor@lpwa.org.

Vice Chair: Don Myers, Don.Myers@lpwa.org

Treasurer: Sean Treasure, Sean.Treasure@lpwa.org

Secretary: Katherine Carter, Katherine.Carter@lpwa.org

The LPWA also has seven Regional Directors (Jacob Lamont, Benjamin Judah Phelps, John Brandmair, Adrian Wright, Curtis Hart, Gavin Keefe, James Apker, and Ryan Johnson) and the following divisions: Political, Communications, IT, Outreach, Events, and General Volunteering.

Website: [www.lpwa.org](http://www.lpwa.org)

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	594 BSM members, and approximately 320 state Party dues-paying members.
Method of Membership Determination	National Membership BSM and Party Bylaws.

Partisan Registration?	No.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	1,000 signatures. Will become ballot-qualified party if 5% in presidential vote is achieved. (see below)
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	13 /31 (their website does not yet have them all)
Estimated Budget	\$10K yearly
Website / Facebook Current?	Page likes are at 7,413. This would place Washington about 13 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings which is a decrease of one rank since my last report. Some implementation of growth practices would potentially skyrocket this page. I recommended that their page administrators watch my Facebook training video.
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	Yes, CiviCRM
BSM Members	594. This places Washington at 11 <sup>th</sup> in the affiliate rankings. This is up 1 place rank since my last report and up 89.7% over a one-year period.

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## Board Meetings

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The LPWA meets quarterly in person and monthly via teleconference.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention date(s) have not yet been set but will likely be in April or May. If they obtain major party status in the recount (see "Ballot Access") there will be a business meeting in January to bring their Bylaws into compliance with state requirements for a major party.

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## State Level Membership

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Yes, as defined by the LPWA Bylaws. They have about 230 dues-paying members.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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The LPWA has eight regions (with regional directors mentioned on site) and over ten recognized county parties. They are also working towards the possibility that they will become a major party and will have to account for PCOs (Precinct Committee Officers) and have this coming quickly on-board into place if the vote count is certified over 5%.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

The LPWA ran 31 candidates with eleven making it out of the Top Two Primary.

#### Primary Election Analysis and Commentary (from LPWA):

Josh Trumbull<sup>1</sup>. Our Attorney General Candidate has officially received the most votes by a Libertarian in the history of Washington Libertarians in a Primary or General Election. Joshua B. Trumbull (L) has received over 275,000 votes and there are still 250,000 ballots remaining to be counted. Joshua will appear on the November Ballot as a statewide candidate, along with the Johnson/Weld ticket. Please support his campaign to help boost our exposure and his success!

2. Justin Murta, the Libertarian Candidate for State Insurance Commissioner received over 79,000 votes in a three way race, garnering 7.4% of the statewide vote. This was Murta's first campaign, and he received the endorsement of high profile Republican elected officials for the spot.

3. Our US Senate Candidate, Mike Luke, finished 6th in a 17 way race! The race for the US Senate was arguably the most crowded field in an overwhelming wall of names, and this was Mr. Luke's first political campaign. His campaign appealed to over 16,000 voters across the state. Mike ran a clean campaign and we look forward to his next step!

4. Congressional candidates across the state pulled in honorable numbers in similarly crowded races. Scott Stafne, CD1, finished 4th in a field of 5, with 3% of the total. Brian Luke, brother of US Senate candidate Mike Luke, finished 4th in a field of 5 in the CD2 race, with a 3.25% finishing. Krystal McGee ran a last minute campaign against Republican powerhouse Cathy McMorris Rodgers in CD5, his first campaign ever, and finished 5th in a field of 5 with about 2% of the vote. Collectively, these three candidates provided an alternate option on the ballot for over 10,000 Washingtonians who proudly cast their ballots for the LP.

5. Our candidate for the highest executive office, Paul Addis for Lt. Governor, received over 20,000 votes in an eleven candidate race, receiving 2% and beating all non-major party candidates. Mr. Addis ran a campaign for state representative in 2014 and has spent the past two years and two campaigns garnering very positive media attention for the Libertarian Party. He remains as a very positive figure for the face of the party and is an inspiration to those who will follow his lead in carrying the Libertarian banner.

6. In a three party, three candidate race, Mr. Tim Turner received over 63,000 votes for the Secretary of State position. Mr. Turner gained attention across the state on his strong libertarian positions as well as his retro campaign Delorean. Mr. Turner achieved nearly 6% of the vote in what will be the most hotly contested race in this state's general election.

7. Former chairman, Steven Nielson, handed off his gavel to seek the office of Public Lands Commissioner. With 300,000 ballots remaining to be counted, Nielson remains tied for 5th place in a race of 7 candidates, with 51,000 votes and 4.8%. Nielson has been tracking daily results and has noted that his campaign continues to narrow the margin with each round of counting, indicating that late voters (independents and undecided) tended toward the Libertarian campaign at a higher rate than the early voters.

8. There were 21 State Legislative candidates, running for Senate and Representative seats in the Primary Election. Of the 21, ten Libertarians will advance to the General Election. These candidates represented over 56,000 voters across their districts in the state, with more potential gains as the remaining 250,000 ballots are counted over the next several days. These 21 candidates ran a variety of campaigns, from fully active campaigns to paper candidates, buying the ballot real-estate for the party. All candidates and campaign types are equally important to our overall objectives of libertarian

advocacy, political diversity in elections, and attaining major party status in Washington State through the Gary Johnson campaign. The candidates who will not advance deserve our thanks and congratulations. **Those who will be on the general ballot in November deserve our support.** They are the torch bearers representing the political alternative in our state and nation.

Candidate	Votes	Percent	Candidates	Advance?
Apker	4,988	26.59%	2	y
McGlenn	5,199	28.25%	2	y
Delaney	1,573	7.98%	3	n
Foster	4,421	21.69%	2	y
Cooper	3,109	14.14%	3	n
Scott	7,337	26.53%	2	y
Price	3,097	20.99%	2	y
Hels	3,615	22.32%	2	y
Guthrie	1,054	6.13%	4	n
Lyons	767	3.20%	4	n
Frostad	5,163	26.10%	2	y
Hart	581	2.73%	4	n
Schaefer	659	4.14%	3	n
Driscoll	868	4.60%	3	n
Simonson	824	3.64%	3	n
Jordan	426	1.90%	4	n
Lamont	920	3.06%	4	n
Burns	538	1.81%	4	n
Viskovich	3,124	11.72%	2	y
Darnell	4,424	25.55%	2	y
Phelps	3,786	22.06%	2	y
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56,473</b>	<b>Advance to General:</b>	<b>10</b>	

The following candidates were left in race:

1. Josh Trumbull for Attorney General (32.84%)
2. James Apker for state senate Wa3 (32.67%)
3. Randy McGlenn for SR-Wa3 (32.69%)

4. Dennis Price for State Senate wa11 (23.65%)
5. Alex Hels for SR-wa21 (27.8%)
6. Michelle Darnell SR-Wa48 (29.87%)
7. Mike Foster Sr-Wa7 (23.13%)
8. Michael Scott for SR-Wa10 (28.04%)
9. John Frostad SrWa-31 (28.4%)
10. Benjamin Phelps SrWa-48 (27.35%)
11. Stephanie Viskovich SRWA-46 (15.12%)

The vote totals are still being certified. Presently Johnson/Weld have over 5% but this may come down during counting and certified of mail-in and absentee ballots. The ultimate difference may come down to as few as 500 votes.

The Attorney General candidate Josh Trumbull got as many as a million votes.

For further details, please see "Statement from the Chair" below.

**Addendum:** As of 11/30/16, the Washington Secretary of State has taken the position that Presidential vote totals are 4.89% due to write-ins, undervotes, and overvotes. The issue with this is that the write-in votes are not legitimate under Washington law, and are not being tabulated, but the number of them is being used to calculate the percentages. Without these, the Johnson ticket would be at 5.01%, and the LPWA would qualify for major party status. The LPWA is considering exploring legal options.

## Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

The LPWA has a goal of 100 candidates to run in 2017 local non-partisan races. They have about 55-60 soft commitments. For 2018 they have likely candidates for all of the Federal races and are working on the State races.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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At the end of June, the LPWA had collected about 800 signatures so far towards their goal of 2,000 signatures (1,000 are required). They have until 7/23/16 to meet this goal. It always remains insecure until accepted since the Secretary of State in reality can invalidate for any reason. One concern is that they do not yet have the signatures of Johnson and Weld for their nominations, and Washington requires that the signatures be before a Washington notary; thus a notary needs to go to them or they need to go to Washington to get this taken care of.

Unless LPWA becomes a major party, they are required to obtain 1,000 signatures in order to petition onto the ballot. Although at the time of this report Johnson and Weld have over 5% of the vote, the mail-in and absentee ballots have yet to be counted/certified, and the Secretary of State has advised these may push that percentage down, so the LPWA is in a waiting game until potentially after December 8, 2016 and are examining their recount legal options.

As Richard Winger noted, Washington should consider lobbying for a lower threshold to become ballot qualified which is presently 5% in the presidential race. The median vote test of the 50 states is only 2%.

### **PRIMARIES:**

Washington is a “top-two” state in which only two candidates make it out of the primaries onto the general ballot.

### **MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:**

In order to obtain qualified party status and have automatic ballot access (as well as other benefits including higher placement on ballots), the LPWA must obtain 5% in the Presidential race. The Washington Secretary of State does not appear to use the distinction of major and minor party status though that is the common parlance.

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## **Activities**

The LPWA plans on participating in Legislative Day at the Capitol in February.

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## **Finances & Fundraising**

The LPWA’s primary source of funding is membership dues and voluntary donations.

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## **Media Coverage**

The Google alerts set up didn’t seem to capture all of the pertinent coverage, but significant media coverage included:

<http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/some-state-republicans-plan-to-bail-on-trump-vote-libertarian/>

<http://www.heraldnet.com/news/libertarian-ag-candidate-homes-in-on-fergusons-weak-spot/>

<http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/third-party-candidates-make-headway-in-washington-state-but-face-steep-odds/>

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## **Other**

The LPWA does not have any specific issues they are focusing on as a party, but candidates have taken up several key issues such as foreclosure fraud, term limits for state legislators, industrialized hemp, as well as cannabis. Washington is so diverse that there are not issues that are common to a majority.

A minimum wage hike was passed as well Initiative 1491 which is an “emergency measure” for temporarily restricting the gun possession rights of persons determined through, amongst other factors, statement of family members that a person is going through a traumatic period and should not have access to firearms.

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## **Statement from the Chair**

With certification of the 2016 election right around the corner, and roughly only 4,000 votes left to cast, let’s take a look at what we brought to 2016.

2016 was a record breaking year for the Libertarian Party of Washington! We saw record vote totals, record candidate participation, record fundraising, campaign events, voter reachout, and great gains race by race for repeat candidates.

While a final number is still pending for the Gary Johnson Campaign in Washington State, certification will be somewhere between 4.70 and 5.01%, and vote totals above 160,000. Obviously finishing above the 5% “magic” major party threshold would be a huge win for the Libertarian Party of Washington, however, any result in that area will be a huge improvement over 2012 totals for Gary Johnson, which show a finish of 1.35% and 42,202 total votes. Pending the SOS’s decision on the

total number of write-ballots we will find out our final weighted percentage. Depending on the final certified results, there are many paths to consider, and regardless of potential legal avenues/actions we may take, know that the Libertarian Party of Washington will be moving forward with an effort to adopt the "Major Party" state structure. This will ensure a greater ability to retain qualified volunteers, as well as enable this organization to be more involved in pro-active vs reactive politics. Stay tuned in the coming months for updates on the progress here.

Joshua Trumbull broke all vote total records for a Libertarian in the State Washington. His campaign for Attorney General netted well over 976,000 votes, good for approx 33% of the ballots in his race. Yes you read that right ladies and gents, we have almost 1 million voters in the state of Washington who are now trained to vote Libertarian. Let's keep them engaged and excited!

Exciting numbers were reached in our 10 Legislative campaigns as well:

In LD3;

James Apker for State Senator received 16,387 votes and roughly 33% of the ballots in his race.

James made fantastic gains from the primary where he received 4,988 ballots for 26.6%.

Gains made from his first run in 2014 were even more encouraging. In 2014 James was able to achieve 20.2% of ballots cast, receiving just over 9,400 votes(in LD7).

Randy McGlenn for State Representative Position 1 received 16,254 votes, also equivalent to roughly 33% of the ballots cast. Randy also made gains over his primary numbers which had him at 5,200 votes, and 28% of the total ballots. Gains made for Randy from 2014 were astounding! In 2014 Randy received 8.1% of the total vote, which was about 1,661 votes.

The results in LD3 are a perfect representation of a trend that I would like you to watch as we go through the rest of the results. Liberty is on the Rise!!

In LD7;

Mike Foster received 14,790 votes, good for 23.1% of votes in his race. This total also showed a gain from primary to general. Primary results for Mike this August were roughly 21% of the vote at 4,400 votes received. Very respectable gains were achieved here over previous Libertarian campaigns.

In LD10;

"The Real" Michael Scott received 18,724 votes, good for 28% of the total. Gains were made from the Primary where he received 26.5% at 7,337 votes, and very impressive gains from 2014 where he posted 23.7% and just over 11k votes. Michael is on the same strong trajectory that will be showing us wins in the next cycle, the tipping point is upon us!

In LD11;

Dennis Price for State Senator received 23.65% of the total at just more than 12,000 votes. Gains from the Primary results at 21% and 3,000 votes roughly.

In LD21;

First time candidate Alex Hels showed his warrior spirit by achieving 27.8% of votes, or 16,616 total votes. Alex improved upon a primary showing of 22% and roughly 3600 total votes. We are all very excited to watch as Alex continues to develop as a candidate, and look forward to any potential opportunities locally for him in 2017.....

In LD31;

John Frostad running for State Representative Pos 1 achieved 28.4% of the vote, or 16,958 total votes. John showed gains from his Primary numbers which had him at 26% and 5,100 votes cast. I would like everyone to reach out and congratulate John on his election totals, as well as his new position, Interim Chair for the Libertarian Party of Pierce County!

In LD46;

Stephanie Heart Viskovich for State Representative Position 1 received roughly 15%, and 11,355 votes; against a very tough, entrenched, opponent. Stephanie was also able to show gains over her numbers in the primary, 11.7% of the vote at 3,100 votes.

In LD48;

Michelle Darnell for State Representative Position 1 received 29.87% of her race, at 16,799 total votes. Michelle built on a 25.5% showing in the primary with 4,424 votes total. Michelle was able to gain in total votes from her 2014 State Senate campaign as a Republican. She received 13,446 votes in LD48 for State Senate against Cyrus Habib. Michelle was able to build the most expansive campaign team of all LPWA candidates this year. This organization should serve to strengthen and prep the 48th for success in the near future!

Benjamin Judah Phelps was running for State Representative Position 2 in the 48th. Ben received 27.4% of total votes in his race, or 15,280 votes. Ben saw great gains, almost 6%, over his primary numbers at 22% and 3,800 votes.

Everyone please, take a moment of your time, and thank a candidate! These folks spent countless hours, as well as their own money, blood, sweat, tears, etc... in order to ensure that no Libertarians vote was wasted. (The only vote wasted is when a Libertarian can't vote for a "L" on their ballot).

I also believe it's important to remember that in 2012, Gary Johnson was the only Libertarian on the ballot in Washington State. Take a moment to consider the vast strides that have been made over the last 4 years. I would ask you to then consider where this trajectory has the potential to take us?

Over the course of the 2016 election season we saw gains elsewhere as well.

- Washington State saw a growth in National Membership of 89%, good for 2nd highest membership growth in our region, behind Utah. We are now jockeying back and forth with Colorado for 9th place in overall membership. The more this number grows, the more influence our state(delegation) will have at National Convention in 2018 and beyond!
- State Party membership growth was near 200%!!!
- We have already recruited just over 200 PCO's. These warriors will be ready to own their Precinct for 2017 local elections. (still looking for 7000ish more! Reach out if you're interested in helping us with our hyper-local focus!)
- The Libertarian Party is supposed to be Fiscally Responsible is it not? Then I would like to point out that our financial situation has improved by 600% over last year.

Once again I would very much like to thank all that have been involved in making 2016 a record breaking year for the Libertarian Party of Washington. I would also like to thank those that were present to lay the foundation of this success in 2015, 2014, and previously.

We must harness the gifts bestowed upon us from this cycle. The gifts of volunteers, finance, knowledge, and momentum. Keep your head held high, we are on the right track.

Visibility for our party has never been higher. Continue to reach out to the Liberty “curious” folks in your life. Consider running for office! 2017 will be another record for LP supported candidates. Keep your voice and messaging positive. There is no reason in the face of all this success to spew negativity.

We have learned a lot from this cycle, as we will learn a lot in the next. If we ran into any shortcomings, it was as we always have found ourselves, work-rich and volunteer-poor. Though I believe this speaks to how we are continually stretching our comfort and ability zones. Next time around we will stretch yet the farther. The systems are in place, they are ready for you to step up!

In the coming weeks look for announcements surrounding several exciting events including the Legislative day at the Capitol, and our 2017 Cascade Liberty Summit. Let’s work together as we shake out the 2016 results. Now is the best time that I can think of to reach out to your local LP County Party and volunteer. If you don’t have a chartered county party yet, who better to create it then you!? Become a PCO, take control of your neighborhood before 2017 gets too busy! Get involved, we need you! [lpwa.org/volunteer](http://lpwa.org/volunteer).

-David Traynor , Chair

# WYOMING LIBERTARIAN PARTY



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## State Organization

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### Party Leadership Structure

#### *ELECTED POSITIONS*

Chair: Dee Cozzens, [RCozzens@aol.com](mailto:RCozzens@aol.com)

Vice Chair/Treasurer: Kit Carson, [cspoa@aol.com](mailto:cspoa@aol.com)

Secretary: Larry Struempf, [wyolibertarian@gmail.com](mailto:wyolibertarian@gmail.com)

Website: <http://wyolibertarianparty.com/>

### Office Space

No.

### Paid Staff/Contractors

No.

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## At a Glance Statistics

Number of Libertarians	1,615 registered voters, up over 600 from about a year previously. This is .67% of the voters, up .17% from the 7/16 Region 1 report.
Method of Membership Determination	Dues-paying registered voters. <sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> The WYLP Bylaws provide for three classes of voting membership: statutory committeemen, partisan Libertarian candidate in the past two years, or dues-paying registered voters. This number is presently unknown.

Partisan Registration?	Yes.
Ballot Access Status/Requirement	<p>The WYLP has ballot access and earned major party status in 2014 when Kit Carson won over 10% in the secretary of state race.</p> <p>The access requirement is 2% of statewide race. In presidential years this test is limited to just US House. In mid-term years, three offices count towards this test: US House, governor, and secretary of state. This was met by US House Representative candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).</p>
Number of Candidates 2014/2016	4 / 1
Estimated Budget	None at this time
Website / Facebook Current?	<p>Website and Facebook are being revitalized. Facebook is being revitalized. Page likes are at 352. This would place Wyoming 49th in the affiliate ranking, up one since the last report. There is an older page with more likes under "Wyoming Libertarian Party" which has not been updated since 2013, and it is unknown who has admin access. A new page was started for Wyoming earlier this year by Doug Craig. This situation will need to be resolved with the old page closed.</p>
Newsletter?	No.
Database?	No.
BSM Members	39. This places Wyoming at 51 <sup>st</sup> in the affiliate rankings. But they have grown 50% in number.

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## Board Meetings

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The Board meets regularly via conference call.

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## State Convention

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The 2017 Convention dates have not yet been set.

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## State Level Membership

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The WYLP Bylaws do provide for dues-paying state level membership. They presently only have about 4 dues-paying members, though this may have grown in the past few months.

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## Sub-Affiliates

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There are 23 counties in Wyoming with three possible active groups: Laramie (Cheyenne), Natrona (Casper), Uinta (Evanston) with a group potentially starting in Jackson Hole.

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## Elections

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### Current Election Cycle (2016)

The Wyoming primary takes place on August 16, 2016. There is mandatory participation by the Libertarian Party since earning major party status. Presently there is only one candidate, Larry Struempf, who is running against Republican Liz Cheney (of Dick Cheney fame) for US House of Representatives.

### Upcoming Election Cycle (2017-2018)

They have some candidates on deck to run, but this information is not yet public.

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## Ballot Access and Party Status

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The vote test requirement this race is 2% in a US House race which was met by US House of Representatives candidate Lawrence Struempf (3.6%).

The vote test is limited in presidential years to just US House which must be achieved in order to remain on the ballot. If 10% is achieved, primary status would be retained, otherwise, nominations by convention would resume. In mid-term years, three offices count: US House, Governor, and Secretary of State.

### *PRIMARIES:*

In Wyoming, parties that receive 10% in a qualifying race receive their own primary while other qualified parties nominate by convention. This threshold was met in 2014 for Secretary of State, but was not met this year so the WYLP will be nominating by convention, which is more economical to the taxpayers and didn't really give the Party any advantage at all.

### *MAJOR/MINOR PARTY:*

The Wyoming Secretary of State lists the WYLP as a major political party but this will change as the Party did not obtain 10% for US House, Secretary of State, or Governor, which is the required threshold.

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## Activities

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There is nothing currently planned, but the affiliate is in building/re-building mode.

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## Finances & Fundraising

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Finances are virtually non-existent, and the WYLP is planning on ways to attract dues-paying members. The affiliate is struggling to come back from near-extinction but has a dedicated core.

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## Media Coverage

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Significant media coverage included:

[http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/libertarian-lawrence-struempff-running-for-u-s-house/article\\_25ab3a14-230d-11e6-858c-d38d9274f947.html](http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/libertarian-lawrence-struempff-running-for-u-s-house/article_25ab3a14-230d-11e6-858c-d38d9274f947.html)

[http://www.laramieboomerang.com/news/local\\_news/u-s-house-hopefuls-speak-candidates-voice-opinions-goals-at/article\\_e66cbc70-5b8c-11e6-92c5-070decccdcc0.html](http://www.laramieboomerang.com/news/local_news/u-s-house-hopefuls-speak-candidates-voice-opinions-goals-at/article_e66cbc70-5b8c-11e6-92c5-070decccdcc0.html)

[http://www.laramieboomerang.com/news/local\\_news/third-parties-looking-to-make-waves-in/article\\_db9a358e-6cd5-11e6-8b97-2baae1f6c6c4.html](http://www.laramieboomerang.com/news/local_news/third-parties-looking-to-make-waves-in/article_db9a358e-6cd5-11e6-8b97-2baae1f6c6c4.html)

[http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/new-one-u-s-house-debate-scheduled/article\\_aa547ab4-7d2b-11e6-a630-134d1baf4f7e.html](http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/new-one-u-s-house-debate-scheduled/article_aa547ab4-7d2b-11e6-a630-134d1baf4f7e.html)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/sep/19/wyoming-republicans-agree-to-1-house-debate/>

<http://planetjh.com/2016/09/20/the-buzz-2-quiet-candidate/>

<http://planetjh.com/2016/09/21/them-on-us-68/>

<http://kowb1290.com/laramie-libertarian-aims-to-break-two-party-system-in-u-s-house-video/>

[http://trib.com/lawrence-struempff-l-candidate-for-u-s-house-of-representatives/article\\_45eaef35-b82e-52b8-8c26-bce02ae7bd18.html](http://trib.com/lawrence-struempff-l-candidate-for-u-s-house-of-representatives/article_45eaef35-b82e-52b8-8c26-bce02ae7bd18.html)

[http://trib.com/ads/housing/house-ad---ad-from/pdfdisplayad\\_b43fd9dc-12b6-5b90-a992-7464009a170a.html](http://trib.com/ads/housing/house-ad---ad-from/pdfdisplayad_b43fd9dc-12b6-5b90-a992-7464009a170a.html)

[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/democratic-u-s-house-candidate-receives-another-union-endorsement/article\\_56f87971-4181-56e6-b363-d8465816d898.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/democratic-u-s-house-candidate-receives-another-union-endorsement/article_56f87971-4181-56e6-b363-d8465816d898.html)

[http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/u-s-house-debate-thursday-in-casper/article\\_oe773984-a581-50f1-b647-6603d7a36984.html](http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/u-s-house-debate-thursday-in-casper/article_oe773984-a581-50f1-b647-6603d7a36984.html)

[http://www.dailyprogress.com/cheney-greene-to-meet-for-only-us-house-race-debate/article\\_1571b6c6-5f84-59d2-9fd6-d1cf6d403006.html](http://www.dailyprogress.com/cheney-greene-to-meet-for-only-us-house-race-debate/article_1571b6c6-5f84-59d2-9fd6-d1cf6d403006.html)

[http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/cheney-and-greene-attack-each-other-s-family-connections-in/article\\_4bc56157-7b7b-52dc-a4c6-b006bc9c956b.html](http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/cheney-and-greene-attack-each-other-s-family-connections-in/article_4bc56157-7b7b-52dc-a4c6-b006bc9c956b.html)

[http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/liz-cheney-ryan-greene-stand-off-in-casper/article\\_f717912c-974f-11e6-af8c-bf1b8be8811c.html](http://www.wyomingnews.com/news/liz-cheney-ryan-greene-stand-off-in-casper/article_f717912c-974f-11e6-af8c-bf1b8be8811c.html)

<http://wyomingpublicmedia.org/post/candidates-argue-over-wyoming-roots-congressional-debate>

<http://www.chadrad.com/newsstory.cfm?story=40456>

<http://y95country.com/tags/lawrence-struempff/>

[http://www.thecourierexpress.com/news/nation/liz-cheney-has-gop-advantage-in-wyoming-us-house-bid/article\\_092e58d3-89f7-54f3-b5f6-30b4152d5947.html](http://www.thecourierexpress.com/news/nation/liz-cheney-has-gop-advantage-in-wyoming-us-house-bid/article_092e58d3-89f7-54f3-b5f6-30b4152d5947.html)

[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/us\\_house/cheney-wins-support-of-wyoming-officials/article\\_eg125f36-2612-59d6-a279-24ce06da3699.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/us_house/cheney-wins-support-of-wyoming-officials/article_eg125f36-2612-59d6-a279-24ce06da3699.html)

[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/national/u-s-house-of-representatives/article\\_666455fd-cea1-53d7-b61c-a7a67089e33a.html](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/election/national/u-s-house-of-representatives/article_666455fd-cea1-53d7-b61c-a7a67089e33a.html)

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/government-and-politics/cheney-takes-early-lead-in-wyoming-s-u-s-house/article\\_60c61ef6-6fcf-5ddf-84ae-aa2d34faff4f.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/government-and-politics/cheney-takes-early-lead-in-wyoming-s-u-s-house/article_60c61ef6-6fcf-5ddf-84ae-aa2d34faff4f.html)

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## Other

The issues that are of unique concern to the WYLP surround environmental issues and government intrusion. The oil, gas, and coal industries are crucial to the economy, and they have suffered from over-regulation and intrusion. This is an area in which the WYLP is planning on garnering attention in advocating for Libertarian solutions. Wyoming has medical marijuana, but does not have legal recreational use at this time.

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## Statement from the Chair

Requested.