



Free Kansan

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Kansas
www.lpks.org

Third Quarter 2013

LPKS Successful in Overturning Lenexa Open Carry Ban

LPKS Press Release

Tuesday evening, June 18th, 2013, the city council of Lenexa unanimously voted to allow the open carry of loaded firearms by law abiding citizens on property open to the public.

The Libertarian Party of Kansas is proud to have worked with city officials to help make this possible. We appreciate the city council having the courage to change their weapons ordinance to comply with the Kansas constitution and state statutes.

Even though Lenexa has changed their weapons ordinances there are still municipalities in Kansas denying their citizens 2nd Amendment rights.

A new group, Johnson County Open Carry will be filing a civil suit within weeks against the cities of Leawood and Prairie Village for completely banning the open carry of loaded firearms.

Libertarians Wear Empty Holsters to Protest Prairie Village Open Carry Ban

by
Sharon DuBois

The Johnson County Open Carry group held a picnic at Harmon Park in Prairie Village on June 16. There were hot dogs and sodas – and empty gun holsters.

The empty holsters were a visible protest against Prairie Village's ban on the right of its citizens to openly carry weapons.

In a lawsuit filed earlier this year by LPKS Second Amendment Chair Earl McIntosh against Prairie Village, a judge ruled that there was no injury because Mr. McIntosh is not a resident of Prairie Village. The lawsuit was thrown out.

For the June 16 picnic, Prairie Village resident Grant Nelson filed for a special use permit to allow the attendees to openly carry weapons. The permit was denied. The group plans to file another lawsuit against Prairie Village claiming violation of Mr. Nelson's 2nd Amendment rights.

Douglas County Libertarians Urge City to Limit Use of Drones

by
Sharon DuBois and Ben Jones

The Douglas County Libertarians have formed a coalition of organizations which is working to convince the Lawrence City Commission to ensure that the use of drones will not infringe on the privacy and constitutional rights of the citizens of the city.

LPKS Douglas County member Patrick Wilbur and Young Americans for Liberty (YAL) member Ben Jones have brought together a group of Lawrence residents to partner on passing a local resolution on drones. They both have been working with individuals from other organizations such as the Douglas County Republicans, MadreLawrence, and the ACLU.

The coalition has been working on a resolution based on one passed by Charlottesville, Virginia. It calls for

- a moratorium on the City using drones until guidelines governing their use are developed at the state level
- a ban on the City ever using weaponized drones
- a ban on the City using drones to conduct surveillance and gather evidence admissible

in court, except in response to an emergency where lives are at risk.

Members of the coalition have reached out to others in the community, including law enforcement, to get their feedback on the coalition's proposed resolution on drones. As soon as all members of the coalition have approved the wording, it will be presented to the Lawrence City Commission.

Mr. Wilbur believes that "Lawrence has a great opportunity to be a leader on this issue. Often the members of the freedom movement try to undo the damage done by poor policy. This is one of the few times we have been ahead of the curve."

The group has created a Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/KansansForResponsibleDroneUse?directed_target_id=576254655729375

Governor Candidate Search Team Asks for Suggestions

by
Sharon DuBois

The LPKS Executive Committee has appointed a search team to find a candidate to run in November of 2015 for Governor of Kansas on the Libertarian ticket. The ideal candidate will have a thorough understanding of libertarian principles and good public speaking skills. He or she must also be a resident of Kansas.

All liberty-minded Kansans are encouraged to submit suggestions for this important position. Please send suggestions to policy@lpks.org.

"There is no worse tyranny than to force a man to pay for what he does not want merely because you think it would be good for him."

-- Robert Heinlein

From the Editor



Collectivism and Dunbar's Number

by Sharon DuBois
Editor, The Free Kansan

Actually, collectivism works quite well.

Consider the iconic nuclear family of one dad, one mom, and two or three small children. All members of the family know each other intimately and care deeply about each others' well-being. Mom and Dad willingly work to provide everything for their youngsters because they -- the adults -- are the only ones in the family capable of providing the necessities. If the family is to survive, whatever is brought into the home must be shared according to what each person needs.

Or, as Karl Marx would have it, "from each according to his ability, to each according to his need."

British anthropologist and evolutionary psychologist Robin Dunbar is a specialist in primate behavior. His research has suggested that there is a limit to the number of people with which primates, humans included, can maintain meaningful and stable social relationships. This is the size group in which we can keep track of how we are related to each member, and how the other members of the group are related to each other. It's the largest number for which we can feel a sense of close community, in which we care deeply about the well-being of the members of the group. The relationships among the group members are not necessarily of blood kinship; for humans, one link might be something like "that man is my daughter's husband's barber." This maximum group size, referred to as Dunbar's Number, is proposed to be between 100 and 230, and is commonly taken to be around 150.

"...research has suggested that there is a limit to the number of people with which primates, humans included, can maintain meaningful and stable social relationships."

Interestingly, according to Wikipedia, 150 is "...the estimated size of a Neolithic farming village,...the splitting point of Hutterite settlements,...the basic size of professional armies in Roman antiquity and in modern times since the 16th century." Humans seem to know instinctively, when it is important for the members of a group to feel closely connected, what size group works best.

In my opinion, for communities of up to 150 or so, collectivism can work very well. If my daughter's husband's barber's business has fallen off because he has been very ill, I will know about it and be willing to help him voluntarily. On the other hand, if his business has fallen off because he's too drunk to show up for work half the time, I'll know about that, too. And I will be certain to require him to get some help before handing over cash.

Communal gardens and barn raisings and other collective bucolic projects work well for groups this size, because everyone knows who is doing the work, who is cooking the food for those doing the work, and who is just making a show of working.

Yes, collectivism can work quite well for small groups of 150 or so or fewer.

It cannot be made to work for 300+ million.

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Editor: Sharon DuBois

Readers are invited to send comments, ideas, letters to the editor, and additions to the mailing list to FreeKansan@cox.net. Letters to the editor must include the author's full name, which will be included when the letter is published.

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Guest Editorial

The Torch is Passed

by Mike Ogle
LPKS Treasurer
and 2013 Topeka Mayoral Candidate



As we move forward towards the celebration of Independence Day, let us take a moment to remember that Independence was just a step in the process. Our founders recognized that the United States, even after our Independence, was not a free country. Many documented worry over the exclusion of slaves from liberty within our Union. Thomas Jefferson was quoted as saying, "Nothing is more certainly written in the book of fate than that these people are to be free." Many other founders displayed the same concern over slavery and other issues of liberty that adversely affected our union post-Independence.

With a clear understanding that our founders recognized tyranny within the borders of our more perfect Union, we must recognize that our founders only constructed the framework that would be the path to the protection of the natural rights of mankind. The founders' work was Independence, and to that end, they sacrificed life and limb, fortune and prosperity to fight a war against a world superpower. The war was won. From that point on the founders went to the task of securing our liberties by diligently working to limit the role of government within our most basic and natural actions as humans. We enjoy the ability to speak freely, worship in accordance with our beliefs and repel aggression. We have many more protections that safeguard our privacy and enjoy the assumption of innocence in all interactions with our government unless the state

specifically proves otherwise. As Americans, we have many other protections from tyrannical governmental practices. For good measure, the founders clearly stated that mankind is privileged to many other natural rights that may not be enumerated, but are still to be protected. As evidenced by the continued practice of slavery and other forms of injustice, tyranny exists within the United States past these legislative protections of our natural liberties.

Today, I am writing to say thank you. Although the slaves are long emancipated, it is clear that we live in times that have endangered many of our natural liberties. As Libertarians, we work hard to continue the work of our founders so that one day we may live in freedom in the full enjoyment of our natural liberties. The struggle may not end in our lifetime and at times I wonder if the founders worried if they had not done enough. I will provide to you that as we face uncertainty, we must realize that liberty from tyranny is a goal. We have moved closer to liberty through Independence and then through emancipation; however, evidence suggests that the struggle for

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liberty will never end and we will forever be charged with its defense. In the Free State of Kansas and in the United States, it is our duty to carry on the work of our founders to ensure that our posterity be left fewer chains than we tired against. These things we must do with "a firm reliance in divine Providence" and with the convictions of "our Lives, Fortunes and Sacred Honor."

From the Chair



Great by Choice

by Al Terwelp
LPKS Chair

During election years our focus must be on electing Libertarians. On off years like this one, we grow the party and spread the message of liberty and Libertarianism. The strategy of “what” and “how” was the main topic of discussion at our April state convention. Our strategy focus was on organization and development of our county groups, the increase of our communication with our party members and the development of fundraising strategies to provide marketing opportunities. Each of these strategies had their own sub-strategies explained.

The named goal was to accomplish major party status in 2014. This can be achieved by winning 5% in the governor race. To do this we now have developed three committees to exercise these strategies. We have formed standing fundraising and bylaws committees and an ad hoc governor candidate search team as well.

I am asking the statewide membership, everyone reading this, to take action.

Without the action of all of you, Libertarianism would be just an idea. We are in our current position because of the work of those who have been leaders before us and those of you have been active with us for many years. I continue to say “thank you”.

We have huge obstacles and long odds. This is a brutal fact. However, we are gaining in strength and momentum in Kansas undeterred and this makes our successes sweeter and more impressive. The world undoubtedly will continue to be unpredictable and unstable for the rest of our lives, but we are the owners of our fate. The factors that determine our

success are a matter of conscious choice, a choice that lies squarely in the hands of Kansas Libertarians. Discipline and action are more prevalent on the path to greatness and success than circumstance, luck and hope. I also find it a deeply debilitating life perspective to believe that one’s actions are of no account. I have grown to know that we Libertarians believe that we are responsible for our choices and performance. I find this optimistic and refreshing in comparison to the rest of the political environment that builds a society and culture that imprisons others in eroding hopes and infects them with the premise that what they will face in life lies beyond their control.

To realize our political success we must not and will not be deterred by bad luck, circumstance, inherent unfairness in life, political setbacks, or self-inflicted mistakes. Regardless of the times we live in, the number of hours in a day or the days each of us are granted in our lives we are free to choose, free to be great advocates of liberty by choice. The decision to act lies before you.

“We need you to get involved in your local Libertarian county groups, start a group, participate in county fair outreach booths this summer, donate, work on a particular local or state issue, and as you can, spread the Libertarian message and benefits.”

Through your sustained action and organized focus we can keep the Libertarian Party of Kansas and our purpose advancing despite fear, confusion, uncertainty and chaos. This gives us all contagious inspiration and courage. It is not about what will happen to us as a party in the future but what we will create, what we will do, and how well we will do it. As we go about our business this summer I ask all of you to think of one final thing. It is never to forget that everything you do, regardless of how big or small, in your personal life and for Libertarianism matters and it matters for all time.

(Editor’s note: For additional information on LPKS state strategy, visit <http://lpks.org/files/2013/06/2013-LPKS-strategy-for-website.pdf>)

Letters to the Editor

Election Strategy

I read your piece in the Free Kansan, FK2013-04 page 1, on the election contest in Wichita – Clinton Coen. You commented on two items from his website and in part representing strategy.

I would like to make some observations about the last general election in Wichita, KS. I have participated in elections before in minor capacities. This last election I worked as campaign manager for a candidate for City Council. The last election was an eye opener and I would like to share some observations to help others who want to get elected.

The first was to research the opposition and a winning strategy. We were challenging a well known, respected incumbent, with a strong central populace of concentrated support. I determined it was still possible to defeat the person if the main strategy was to walk the neighborhood and the candidate met the voters. The ancillary, if you have the financing, is having them come to meet the candidate.

The outcome of meeting the voters was enlightening. We concentrated on 4200 registered voters who normally vote in the general election. The limit was done due to time and finances. We asked two questions: What is your major concern with City government? And: What do you think about the severe debt problem of the City? Most did not have a concern, but infrastructure was #1 when mentioned. Few had any idea about the looming debt crisis caused by extensive debt. A short discussion did allow educating the public.

The contest was entered too late. The candidate did not enter until the last day to sign up. Other engagements did not allow functional entering until a week after the primary contest was completed. The earlier the candidate enters is the better for the public to meet the candidate. Possible contributors considered the late entry a losing proposition and hindered contributions.

What was the result? A focused 3 week campaign resulted in 28% of the vote. Considering a campaign

of an unknown, poorly financed, divisive populace, campaign contest, the results were amazing. What lessons were learned? Enter the contest early and sincerely. **Educate** the public on issues that **PERSONALLY** affect them directly using USPS direct mail (contract: no postage, address, and to every residence.) Meeting in the community with the voters as often as possible is a major strategy. Focus issue oriented mailers on voters later in campaign with the date of the election. Know the incumbents political party and voting record, in Kansas there are RINOs making that the incumbents first lie in public service.

James Kilpatrick
Wichita

LP Membership in Kansas Growing – A Lot!

The number of registered Libertarians in Kansas, as we go to press, is 11,735. That's an increase of 935 in the last eight months.

Now, according to a recent survey, somewhere around a third of the people receiving this publication are not registered as Libertarians. If 65 of you will go, RIGHT NOW, to the web site of the Kansas Secretary of State and change your party affiliation, we will have 1000 new members since the fall election.

Here is the web site for the SOS:
<http://kssos.org/>

Here is the form you will need:
<http://kssos.org/forms/Elections/voterregistration.pdf>

LP Merchandise Available from Two Sources

by
Sharon DuBois

Shirts, bumper stickers, mugs, campaign supplies, buttons, and Libertarian brochures – among other things – are available from two sources.

Cafe Press (www.cafepress.com/LPKS) carries a wide variety of items imprinted with the LPKS logo – golf balls, mouse pads, laptop skins, BBQ aprons, and candle holders, as well as the more conventional shirts.

LPStuff.com (www.lpstuff.com/shop) sells clothing, mugs, brochures, campaign supplies, ties, buttons, mouse pads, and books. And boxer/running shorts. LPStuff.com has a physical presence as well. Much of their merchandise is available from T & R Coins, 5642 SW 29th St. (Barrington Village Shopping Center) in Topeka.

The emphasis of the two suppliers is slightly different. Cafe Press sells merchandise bearing the LPKS logo, while LPStuff deals in Libertarian merchandise suitable for all states and all locations.

“Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage - to move in the opposite direction.”
--E.F. Schumacher

LPKS to Organize Speakers' Bureau

by
Sharon DuBois

The LPKS is in the process of organizing a Speakers' Bureau. This will consist of a group of Libertarians and liberty-minded individuals who are available to speak to groups about Libertarian issues and principles.

“Small clubs and organizations are always on the lookout for speakers for their meetings,” said Stacey Davis, LPKS Policy Researcher. “This will be a wonderful opportunity to spread our message to a lot of people. We’re hoping to have several speakers available who can talk about a lot of interesting topics.”

Proposed topics include, but are not limited to:

- JEDO bid process for economic development funds (Topeka specific)
- How to run a successful political campaign
- History of the LPKS
- How to get legislation introduced
- Food regulations
- Small business regulation and zoning
- Prepper movement
- How to do a good radio interview
- How to write a good letter to the editor
- Second Amendment issues
- How to be a good outreach booth volunteer

Those with suggestions for additional topics, those who would like to be one of the bureau speakers, and those who would like to request a speaker for a club are encourage to contact policy@lpks.org.

Pictures from the LPKS State Convention

Photos Courtesy of Cheryl Holt Kerr-Hodgkinson





District 1 News

Saline County Libertarians are presenting a liberty-oriented show on public access television. They are also preparing for the Tri-Rivers Fair to be held the first week in August. **Mike Trow**, Saline County Chair, is working on business cards to hand out to people.

Gray County Libertarians are gathering material and information in preparation for staffing a booth at the Gray County Fair to be held July 14-18.

The Libertarian Party of Dickinson County has created a Facebook page.

District 2 News

Libertarians of Northeast Kansas (Shawnee County) have been working to establish a Young Libertarians group at Washburn University. They staffed a booth at the Kansas Prepper Expo in Holton on April 27. Attendees from 10 different counties signed up to be on the LPKS email list.

Robert Garrard, 2nd District Coordinator, is planning Operation Politically Homeless booths for these events:

- Topeka Gun Show, July 13th – 14th.
- Shawnee County Fair, Topeka, July 25th – 28th.
- Jackson County Fair, Holton, July 29th – August 2nd.
- Leavenworth County Fair, Tonganoxie, July 30th – August 3rd.
- Osage County Fair, Overbrook, August 7th – 10th.
- Kansas Preppers Expo, Holton, September 28th.
- Baldwin City Maple Leaf Festival, October 19th – 20th.

District 3 News

Wyandotte County Libertarians have begun educational outreach in their area. The program began with jury nullification information in June, and will continue with the benefits of re-legalization of hemp for agriculture in July, cannabis as medicine in August, and benefits of a freer education policy in September.

Tresa McAlhaney, Wyandotte County Chair, has developed “Mobile Activist” packs, which are available for a \$50 donation to the LPKS. Each pack consists of an apron or bag screen printed with the LPKS logo. It is filled with brochures, a clipboard, paper and pen for recording contact information, and liberty-themed bumper stickers which can be used to sell as a fundraising project. Contact wycchair@lpks.org for more information. All proceeds benefit the LPKS.

Third District Libertarians are planning to staff a booth at the Olathe Old Settlers September 5 – 7. Their booth will be right between the Republican and Democrat booths! They are also planning a Libertarian garage sale on September 28, as well as continuing to call all registered Libertarians in their area.

Johnson County Libertarians have started an email campaign to contact all registered Libertarians for whom they have valid email addresses. **Grant Nelson**, Johnson County Chair, reports some success with the campaign.

District 4 News

Libertarians of South Central Kansas (LSOCK) are looking for guest speakers on libertarian, political, or other topics for their Tuesday supper meetings. If you know someone who may be interested in speaking to their group, please contact LSOCK Vice Chair Steve Rosile at 316-618-1339 or email him at sarasile@att.net. The LSOCKs are also working to educate the public on jury rights and jury nullification information.

Liberty in the News

Published Accounts of LPKS People and Issues

<http://cjonline.com/news/2013-04-14/topeka-man-leading-open-carry-fight>

<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2013/may/28/city-hears-pitch-policy-limiting-use-drones-police/>

Local LPKS Meetings, County Chairs, and Meeting Coordinators

For contact information for County Chairs, visit the LPKS web site www.lpks.org and Connect Locally.

Dickinson County

(James Holland)
Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Douglas County

(Zach Conrad)
Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Gray County

(Ric Koehn)
The Libertarians of Gray County meet quarterly (May, August, November, February) on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Cimarron Library in the basement meeting room.

Jefferson County

(Dennis Hawver)
Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Johnson County

(Jeff Caldwell)
The 3rd District Libertarians will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 23. The location will be announced closer to the meeting date

Johnson County Libertarians (Grant Nelson) are currently meeting with the 3rd District Libertarians. (See above.)

Osage County

(County Chair not yet appointed)
Osage County Libertarians will meet at the 4 Corners restaurant at the intersection of Hwy 75 and Hwy 56 in late August. The date of the meeting will be announced. The LPKS State Chair will conduct the meeting.

Saline County

(Mike Trow)
The Libertarian Party of Saline County meets the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at Mokas Downtown, 109 N. Santa Fe Ave. in Salina. The public is invited.

Sedgwick County

(Gordon Bakken)
The Libertarians of South Central Kansas (LSOCK) meet for supper and discussion every Tuesday at Mike's Steakhouse located at 2131 S. Broadway in Wichita, Kansas, at 5:30 pm. If we have official business to conduct or a featured guest speaker, that will begin at 6:00 p.m. All who support personal responsibility and individual liberty are invited to attend.

The Wichita Libertarians (Jeremy White) meet on the first Saturday of every month at 1:00 p.m. The April 6 meeting will be at the Mead Street Coffee Shop. Future meetings will take place at various coffee shops around Wichita.

Shawnee County

(Sharon DuBois)
The Libertarians of Northeast Kansas (LNEKS) meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Celtic Fox, 118 SW 8th Ave., Topeka. Anyone interested in learning more about the Libertarian Party is welcome.

Wyandotte County

(Tresa McAlhaney)
The Wyandotte County Libertarians meet on the third Thursday of each month at different locations. Watch their Facebook page or contact wycchair@lpks.org for more information.

The Libertarian Party welcomes your support and involvement

Your contributions of time, energy, ideas, and, of course, money will help spread the ideas of fiscal responsibility and social tolerance.

Contributions are always needed to help with printing and mailing costs of this newsletter, as well as publicity, campaign and other expenses associated with running a political party.

Contributions to the LPKS are not tax-deductible. Of course, with the elimination of the income tax and the IRS, that will no longer be an issue.

Contributions can be mailed to
Libertarian Party of Kansas
Michael Ogle, Treasurer
5924 S.W. 35th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Or donate online at
<http://lpks.org/get-involved/make-a-contribution/>

Return Service Requested



===== COMING EVENTS =====

July 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
1 -- 3rd District Libertarians
6 – Libertarian Party of Saline County
6 -- Wichita Libertarians
13-14 – Topeka Gun Show OPH booth
14-18 -- Gray County Fair
25 -- Libertarians of Northeast Kansas
25-28 – Shawnee County Fair OPH booth, Topeka
29-August 2 – Jackson County Fair OPH booth, Holton
30-August 3 – Leavenworth County Fair OPH booth,
Tonganoxie

August 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
3 -- Libertarian Party of Saline County
3 -- Wichita Libertarians
5 -- 3rd District Libertarians
7-10 – Osage County Fair OPH booth, Overbrook
7-10 – Tri-Rivers Fair, Saline County
15 -- Libertarians of Gray County
29 -- Libertarians of Northeast Kansas

September 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
2 -- 3rd District Libertarians
5-7 – Olathe Old Settlers
7 -- Libertarian Party of Saline County
7 -- Wichita Libertarians
26 -- Libertarians of Northeast Kansas
28 – Third District Libertarians Garage Sale
28 – Kansas Prepper Expo OPH booth, Holton

October 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
5 -- Libertarian Party of Saline County
5 -- Wichita Libertarians
7 -- 3rd District Libertarians
19-20 – Maple Leaf Festival OPH booth, Baldwin City
31 -- Libertarians of Northeast Kansas