



Free Kansan

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

Second Quarter 2013

Libertarians Make Good Showing in April 2 City Elections

by
Sharon DuBois

Topeka

Libertarian Michael Ogle earned almost 32% of the vote in his run for mayor of Topeka. Mr. Ogle, a corporate accountant with degrees from Baker and Washburn Universities, is a captain in the Kansas Army National Guard. He based his campaign on performance-based budgeting to eliminate wasteful spending, removal of barriers that make it harder for businesses to be successful, and assurance that property rights would not be infringed upon by eminent domain abuse.

In the non-partisan mayoral race, Mr. Ogle was pitted against Larry Wolgast, a city council member since 2009 and former deputy mayor, and write-in candidate Betty Dunn, a former city council member.

After the election, LPKS Chair Al Terwelp said, "Mike, with the guidance of his campaign manager Bob Cooper, ran a highly professional, spirited, and organized campaign. The Ogle campaign did the LPKS proud. Mike ran on a great platform of issues that expressed the positive solutions Libertarians can bring to local government. He and his campaign have

advanced the Libertarian Party greatly in the Topeka area. The Libertarians of Northeast Kansas [Shawnee County] will now need to identify the successes of this campaign and the opportunities that still exist in winning a large local race."

Mr. Ogle expressed his thanks to his family, the volunteers for his campaign, his friends, and the National Guard members he has served with. "Thank you! You truly have made this a rewarding experience," he said.

Wichita

Clinton Coen, a 21-year-old student at Wichita State University, campaigned for a place on the Wichita City Council. Mr. Coen gained 46% of the votes. On his web site, Mr. Coen posted several items from his blog. Here are two of them: "We need laws that will prohibit elected officials from voting on items that will directly enrich a campaign contributor," and "The first step in making government an entity that helps, instead of harms, is making government more transparent."

LPKS State Convention to be Held April 20

by Sharon DuBois

The 2013 LPKS State Convention will be held on April 20th, 2013, in Emporia, Kansas.

There will be a social mixer on Friday night starting at 7:00 pm at Bruff's, 2640 W. 18th Street in Emporia.

Information on lodging options in Emporia will be available on the LPKS website.

The convention hours are 10:00 am to 3:30 pm at the [Memorial Union](#) in Webb Hall #2 located on the Emporia State University campus.

The state convention is free and open to the public; however, only registered Libertarians can vote on issues.

There will be catered box lunches available at noon. Box lunches must be reserved ahead of time. Information on reserving box lunches will be available on the LPKS website.

Here is the agenda for the convention:

- Call to Order / Welcome, 10:00 – 10:15
- State Party Success Reports – LPKS Executive Committee members, 10:15 – 11:00
- State Party Vision and Goals for 2013/14 – LPKS Chair, 11:00 – 11:45
- Business meeting – Amendments to State Constitution/Bylaws (If there are no amendments there may be a Guest Speaker), 11:45 – 12:30 (time length subject to change)
- Lunch / Socializing, 12:30 – 1:30
- Featured Speaker, 1:30 – 2:30
- Elections of State Party Officers, 2:30 – 3:00
- Volunteer Awards Celebration, 3:00 – 3:30

Nominations for state party officers

To make nominations for the state officers, or if you are interested in serving as an officer of the Libertarian Party of Kansas, please contact the Candidate Committee Chair, Steven A. Rosile, at vice-chair@lpks.org or by calling [316 618-1339](tel:3166181339).

Proposed Amendments to the LPKS Constitution and By Laws.

This year we will be proposing and making amendments to the [LPKS Constitution and By Laws](#). All registered members of the Libertarian Party of Kansas can participate in this by reviewing these documents on the LPKS website.

As published on the LPKS web site, the deadline for submitting proposed amendments was March 20, 2013.

Proposed amendments will be posted on the LPKS.org website in early April so that our members can make themselves familiar with the proposals and also see the recommendations of the Committee before the meeting.

LPKS Volunteer Award nominations

The former tradition of appreciating the hard work of our volunteer members will be resumed this year. The eight voting Executive Committee officers are excluded from being selected for the awards.

Three volunteers will be recognizing with awards:

- Most valuable MALE activist of the year will receive the Seth Warren Award.
- Most valuable FEMALE activist of the year will receive the Maike Warren Award.
- Most valuable non-Libertarian member of the year who has partnered with us and made a significant contribution to our efforts will receive the Light of Liberty Award.

From the Editor

On the Origins of Government - a Fable

by Sharon DuBois
Free Kansan Editor

(This is a reprint of an article I wrote several years ago for another publication. It is certainly apocryphal, but the point it makes is well worth repeating.)

It seems that, many thousands of years ago, humanity lived in small and scattered villages. It was not an easy or peaceful life. Food was hard to come by, and roving hoards of bandits came by on a regular basis to steal what little food, tools, and clothing the people had managed to set aside for the future.

Now, the bandits were not stupid; they had, after all, managed to find a way to provide for themselves without doing any real work. And as long as they rotated their attention among several villages, and as long as they did not steal all the food during any one raid, their victims were able to recover between visits and survive. The problem, from the viewpoint of the thieves, was that there were other groups also stealing from the same villages. That meant that sometimes, when they came to visit one of the settlements, a competitor had been there recently, and there was nothing to steal. Their efforts had been wasted.

So the smartest of the thieves came up with a plan. Instead of roaming around stealing from all the villages, they would settle down. They would pick a spot right in the middle of the choicest village. They would convince the villagers that the presence of their erstwhile enemies was, in fact, for the benefit of the village. Their new rulers – uh, neighbors -- would protect the villagers from all those other bandits out there. In exchange for this new security, the only thing required of the villagers was to give their protectors a part of the food they had worked so hard to produce for themselves, and provide them with clothes and housing and tools. These taxes were, in effect, the very same items that the bandits had been stealing from them; but the thieves were able to convince the villagers to give willingly to the thieves what the thieves had been stealing from them in

exchange for protection that the villagers should not have needed in the first place.

And thus was born government.

Anyone who has ever watched that wonderful classic movie The Magnificent Seven will recognize at least part of the plot. In the movie, the leader of the bandits argues that his band of thugs is not really so bad because they always leave the villagers with enough food for survival.

The big difference between this story and that movie is that, in the movie, the men who came to rescue the village turned into good guys. They taught the villagers to defend themselves, and all but one of the rescuers who did not die during the ensuing battles went back where they came from.

The only rescuer who stayed in the village dropped his guns into the dirt, married the girl, became a farmer, and agreed to produce his own food.

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Guest Editorial

The Fallacy of False Progress

by Russell Fulmer, Ph.D.
LPKS Lyon County Chair

Change is en vogue in the current political and cultural climate. Respect for the past or endorsement of tried and true methods are scorned and branded as stale or behind the times. Seemingly, only those who believe in and are willing to promote a special breed of change – especially change as defined by the Obama administration – are prized, affirmed, and proclaimed respectable people. While change has always been a part of life and encouraged by enlightened individuals, its impact as a force du jour has historically ebbed and flowed. Right now, change is a force to be reckoned with, so let's reckon with it.

Those endorsing change in its current sense argue their beliefs to be logical, their breed of change essential for modern society, and they deem themselves "right." But are they right?

No, and here is why.

The mistake that many advocates of change make, most notably those who seek change, basically any change away from tradition at all costs, is to confuse change with progress. Ironically, the movement behind this wave of change-inspired momentum is titled *progressivism*, and therein rests the central problem and major source of confusion with this strain of change: Namely, that while it *is* change, it is also believed to be progress. Change and progress are not synonymous. Blending the two terms is committing a logical fallacy.

A fallacy is an error of reason. Fallacies place the merit of a claim in jeopardy, casting doubt on the logical methodology used to derive a conclusion. Numerous fallacies exist and are well noted, such as the fallacy of false dichotomy, the red herring, and the non sequitur. There is another as of yet unnamed (until now) fallacy often committed, which I will term the Fallacy of False Progress. This is a fallacy of conclusion, an *ex post facto* miscalculation that erroneously labels a phenomenon something it is not. A conclusion may or may not be valid, as change is inherently neither good nor bad, it simply is a deviation from an already established way. Whether change is normatively bad, good, better, worse,

neutral, or other, depends on several factors that must be evaluated in their own right, likewise with evaluating traditions. The existence of an institution, or simply because something has been done a certain way for generations, does not mean that something is rational or moral. In this respect, the counterpart of the Fallacy of False Progress is the Fallacy of Invalid Tradition. However, considering the current environment, the Fallacy of False Progress is more relevant at the moment.

To ascertain how the Fallacy of False Progress occurs we first need to demarcate the operative words of change and progress.

Change is usually meant to imply any alteration or modification of a person, place, or thing.

Progress is a term designated for the betterment of a person, place, or thing. While change is both intrinsic and necessary for progress, change is not sufficient for progress. For change to also be progress, it must carry a quality of improvement or normative good. Otherwise, change is either a neutral alteration or a regress into an inferior state of affairs.

The Fallacy of False Progress occurs when one jumps to a normative conclusion without any rationale to support that conclusion. For example, the belief that more gun regulation is a necessary and good change is a proposal usually headquartered in emotion. Any behavioral scientist worth his weight in sand will tell you that emotions are notoriously illogical. Something illogical is not rational. Therefore, more regulations on firearms would certainly be change, but would not necessarily be progress. Change and progress are not the same thing, regardless of how much one believes them to be equivalent.

In this age of impulsive change, be on the lookout for the Fallacy of False Progress. Unfortunately, this fallacy appears to be spreading to near epidemic levels. The cure, of course, is reason. The answer, as always, is liberty.

From the Chair

Kansas County Chair System Growing Fast

by Al Terwelp
LPKS Chair

What do ideological movements, teams engaged in a sporting event, military armies and political parties all have in common ... they all live by and die from a lack of momentum. I am pleased to report to the members of our state party that, yes, the Libertarian Party of Kansas has momentum. Unlike the other two parties, we cannot sit and coast on that momentum for a second. If we want to grow this party into the party that we all want to see we must continue to plan, organize and execute. The new initiatives being started today combined with the accomplishments of the past are reaping benefits and prove that we are making progress. No better sign of our growing organization is more visible than with the growing number and quality of our new county affiliate groups. We are quickly on our way to organizing our party into a statewide party. When the fall 2014 election season arrives the state of Kansas will discover what we have quietly built – a third major party in Kansas.

April 20th is our state convention. I encourage all Libertarians and Libertarian-curious who can, to attend the free event in Emporia. In the morning, party leadership will be addressing the attendees about the current situation and our recent success. Following that we will be describing the state party strategy for 2013-14.

A huge part of the strategy for 2013 and 2014 involves our county affiliate group organization. This is a new enterprise for the LPKS. It is a new venture that is really growing quickly. This endeavor is already requiring party leadership to identify and put in place some new procedures and systems to help organize this growth. It is exciting to have such needs.

I believe the success of the county chair system requires a bit of direction, but the overwhelming remainder of the work will be the action and innovation of local Libertarians. This allows us to apply Libertarian solutions on the local level all over the state, build a base of support for our local and statewide candidates, increase our membership and spread our message to more people. Additionally, if we are to really grow the party we need to find more

leaders. The county chair system will give opportunities to develop these new leaders and give all members ownership in their party and community.

Mid year 2012 we met to restart our group in Saline County. That made four affiliates in Kansas again. During a kick-off meeting in Salina we found new volunteers that lead to a new group emerging shortly after in Dickinson County. Quickly we started finding volunteers to be county chairs that would start groups in Wyandotte, Johnson, and Sherman ... etc.

Last December I set a goal for the LPKS to find leaders and develop 25 new county affiliate groups by the end of 2013. As of mid March we have 13 officially named affiliated groups with chairs. Seven of these groups are conducting meetings while the others are contacting registered Libertarians in their counties and setting dates for their first meeting. We also have four more groups in the process of starting with volunteers stepping forward to lead. I am pleased to say we have groups in all four Congressional districts and that on January 26th we had enough county chairs (10) to justify a need to organize the LPKS's first quarterly county chair meeting.

One final rousing development has been in Sedgwick County. Sedgwick has over 1600 registered Libertarians. We now have two affiliate groups in the county. Both have a bit of overlap because they are working toward similar ultimate goals. However, each one provides local Libertarians a special volunteer opportunity and different way of get involved and connected. Some enjoy being members of both. One is more social, studies Libertarian philosophy and functions more as a think-tank (LSOCK) and the other more centered on activism and candidates (Wichita Libertarians).

If you want a Libertarian affiliate group in your county and have questions on how to make it happen contact your district's state coordinator or myself. Become a part of the Libertarian movement in Kansas.

Letters to the Editor

Comments on Hemp Article

I have just read your First Quarter 2013 newsletter.

The Article "Kansas Farmers and Businesses Need Hemp" was the first really negative piece of writing I had seen in any Libertarian document.

Those who would oppose the Libertarian agenda will use this to characterize the Libertarian party as bunch of marijuana smoking hippies. This article suggests it is the Libertarian objective to allow marijuana users to have a legal source in Kansas. The further suggestion is that the Agricultural community is prevented by law from growing a crop they need and want.

I don't think you intended to deliver that message. If you did it is wrong.

1. I don't believe the Libertarian party members are a bunch of dope smoking hippies.
2. I don't believe the Farmers regard hemp as a "must have" crop.
3. The denial of growing hemp is not the reason that equipment is sitting unused.

The Farmers are mostly conservative family oriented Agricultural experts with enormous political clout. They know what they want and will provide no support to force a legislative agenda to grow hemp. Agriculture is not a distressed industry. They are very profitable and economically strong.

In the interests of promoting the Libertarian agenda of personal freedom and limited government I recommend this article not be published.

Best regards,
EARL LONG

Second Amendment Comments

My neighbor sent this history refresher to me.

1. "Those who hammer their guns into plows will plow for those who do not." – Thomas Jefferson
2. "Those who trade liberty for security have neither." – John Adams
3. Free men do not ask permission to bear arms.
4. An armed man is a citizen. An unarmed man is a subject.
5. Only a government that is afraid of its citizens tries to control them.
6. Gun control is not about guns; it's about control.
7. You only have the rights you are willing to fight for.
8. Know guns, know peace, know safety. No guns, no peace, no safety.
9. You don't shoot to kill; you shoot to stay alive.
10. Assault is a behavior, not a device.
11. 64,999,987 firearms owners killed no one yesterday.
12. The United States Constitution (c) 1791. All Rights Reserved.
13. The Second Amendment is in place in case the politicians ignore the others.
14. What part of 'shall not be infringed' do you NOT understand?
15. Guns have only two enemies; rust and politicians.
16. When you remove the people's right to bear arms, you create slaves.
17. The American Revolution would never have happened with gun control.

CLAY DELMEZ

Government's Power to Execute – An Unnecessary and Dangerous Power

by Kristin Bollig, MSW
Topeka Area Organizer
Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty

A bill to repeal the death penalty has been introduced in the Kansas legislature, and the Kansas Libertarian Party has vowed to support this bill and efforts to end Kansas' death penalty. This is a welcome move. When we examine the death penalty, we find a wasteful government program prone to errors and abuse – in short, a power beyond the proper scope of government.

The first red flag that jumps out regarding the death penalty is that it does nothing to keep us safer. If the death penalty reduced murders and protected lives, you could make an argument for giving government this power. But years of data have confirmed that the death penalty fails to reduce crime. A number of states have repealed the death penalty without any spike in murder rates afterwards. States with the death penalty have higher murder rates on average than states without it.

When government claims the power to execute, then, it is claiming a power that is unnecessary. To exercise this unnecessary power, the state must collect from its citizens extra tax dollars – the second red flag regarding the death penalty.

When Kansas reinstated the death penalty in 1994, the legislature estimated that this move would cost the state between an additional \$2.4 and 4.2 million a year. A more recent audit found that capital cases in Kansas are 70% more expensive than non-capital cases ending in life in prison without parole. Before finally repealing the death penalty, New Jersey wasted over \$250 million on its death penalty without executing a single person. California would save \$126 million a year by ending the death penalty. North Carolina would save \$11 million a year. And the list goes on.

Capital cases cost more because of the additional due process protections in these cases, which require extra lawyers, investigators, and preparation. We could reduce the death penalty's cost by scrapping these additional due process protections. But even with the current protections in place, innocent individuals end up on death row and, sometimes, are executed. Without these protections, there would be even more mistakes.

Since 1973, 142 individuals sentenced to death in the US later were found innocent. In some cases, new evidence has come forward suggesting an individual is innocent, yet authorities fight tooth and nail to carry out the execution to avoid admitting a mistake.

Take for example the case of Cameron Todd Willingham. Willingham was sentenced to death in Texas for murdering his three children in an alleged arson fire. After the conviction, arson science advanced and investigators reexamining the case concluded that there was no evidence that an arson fire killed Willingham's children. Governor Rick Perry and the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles ignored this evidence and Willingham was executed in 2004.

It is difficult to think of any greater abuse of government power than deliberately taking the life of an innocent individual. From the death penalty's track record, we know that as long as the government has the power to execute, mistakes and abuse in its application are inevitable.

"It is difficult to think of any greater abuse of government power than deliberately taking the life of an innocent individual."

For these reasons, it should come as no surprise that more Libertarians and those advocating libertarian principles oppose the death penalty. Explaining his change of heart on the death penalty, Libertarian presidential nominee Gary Johnson said: "As governor of New Mexico, I was a bit naïve and I did not think the government made mistakes with regard to the death penalty. I came to realize that they do." Edward Crane, the founder of the Cato Institute, bases his opposition to the death penalty on the simple fact that "the government is often so inept and corrupt that innocent people might die as a result."

The Chair of the Kansas Libertarian Party, Al Terwelp, sums up the case against the death penalty best: "The death penalty's track record in this country is abysmal: millions of dollars wasted and dozens of innocent people sent to death row, while doing nothing to reduce violent crime. It is plain common sense to end the death penalty and make a clear statement that government should not have this power."

Jury Rights and Jury Nullification Are on the Rise

by Steven A. Rosile, LPKS Vice Chair

In what is a very exciting development several months ago the New Hampshire legislature passed a law requiring that trial judges must allow defense counsel to inform juries of their right to judge the law and circumstances of the case before them and render a verdict that they believe will result in a just result even if the prosecution and met all their burden of proof under the law. In a nutshell - Jury Nullification.

This law had not even gone into effect yet when a defense attorney requested a trial judge to allow the jury to be informed of their rights as the new law would soon require. The judge agreed. This particular defendant was accused of growing several cannabis plants in his yard. The jury acquitted him outright.

Now remember that the law did not grant this right to the jury, the law just mandated that judges inform them, or allow the defense to inform them of their rights. This right under common law dates back at least to Magna Carta, 1215 AD. This right and power is referenced in our Declaration of Independence where it says "governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed" and it is in the jury box, not the ballot box, where this consent is granted or denied. This is one of the most precious parts of our common law heritage. It is how the people can control their government and protect their fellow citizens from bad law/bad government without resorting to violence.

The repeal of prohibition of alcohol came about when jurors, tired of the corruption and violence wrought by prohibition, began acquitting defendants charged with alcohol related crimes.

There have been other recent instances of Jury Nullification. In New Jersey shortly after the above defendant was acquitted another jury acquitted a defendant on cannabis charges. In Minnesota an Amish farmer/dairyman was charged with selling raw, un-pasteurized milk by the state. The jury acquitted him.

These three cases are all just in the past three or four months.

In an August, 2011 case in Cook County, IL (Chicago) a woman was charged with eavesdropping/wire-tapping when she secretly recorded police internal affairs investigators as she was complaining about an officer that she alleged had sexually harassed her. The woman believed that the investigators were trying to dissuade her from pressing charges against the officer so she recorded the interview without the knowledge or permission of the investigators. In Illinois all parties being recorded must have knowledge and give consent. The jury in this case acquitted the woman. The jury here may have felt the law was proper but that in this set of circumstances the woman was justified in disobeying it. This is a

proper use of Nullification that does not necessarily mean that the jury finds the law invalid, just that the circumstances are such that the law should not apply.

However, after this acquittal, the ACLU challenged the state law in federal court and the federal district court ruled it unconstitutional. On appeal the federal circuit court of appeals upheld the lower court ruling

and the Cook County Prosecutor appealed to the US Supreme Court who refused to hear the case, letting the trial court and appeals court rulings stand. I learned of this case in the past week or two in the email newsletter Liberty Crier, published by a group of Ron Paul supporters.

The Fully Informed Jury Association (www.fija.org) has been educating the public nationwide about this for over twenty years and it is finally beginning to pay off as this power of jury nullification is being restored to the public's mind. This will surely come into play if/when the federal government attempts to enforce their cannabis drug regulations in Colorado and Washington after those two states' cannabis legalization efforts were successful in last November's elections.

(See Jury Rights, page 9.)

"The jury here may have felt the law was proper but that in this set of circumstances the woman was justified in disobeying it. This is a proper use of Nullification that does not necessarily mean that the jury finds the law invalid, just that the circumstances are such that the law should not apply."

SB9 – A Bill to Re-Legalize Cannabis

by Tresa McAlhane
LPKS Wyandotte County Vice Chair

Re-legalizing cannabis for medical use under Kansas law has taken a step forward. In January, SB 9 was introduced by Senator David Haley (D-KC). The bill lists ailments for which cannabis may be prescribed, and aims to “protect patients with debilitating medical conditions, as well as their practitioners and providers, from arrest and prosecution, criminal and other penalties, and property forfeiture if such patients engage in the medical use of cannabis.”

The bill was assigned to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee. Committee Chair Mary Pilcher-Cook (R-Shawnee) has since refused to hold a hearing on the bill despite phone calls, letters, emails, and other lobbying efforts.

Parties and groups interested in furthering the medicinal cannabis re-legalization movement have organized in a group called Kansas For Change, Inc. based out of Wichita. If you are interested in joining the movement or donating money or other resources, contact Esau Freeman by phone or text at (316)737-5911, or write to Kansas For Change, Inc., PO Box 8349, Wichita, KS, 67208.

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(Jury Rights, continued from page 8)

In Wichita, LSOCK has been providing FIJA and other information about jury rights on a regular basis at the Sedgwick County Courthouse and other locations since 1996. Please go to www.fija.org for more information and do some research on the 1670 trial

of William Penn in London, England. Yes, that William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania.

Several members of the LPKS are currently working on developing a presentation of this essential part of our heritage and plan on giving it to various groups around this state in the near future.

Accountability breeds responsibility. -- Stephen Covey

Ideas for Starting and Running a Local LP Group

By Sharon DuBois
LPKS Shawnee County Chair

Are you thinking about organizing a local Libertarian group, but don't quite know where to start?

The fact is, most of the real work for liberty is done at the town or city level, and a strong network of active local Libertarian groups will do more for freedom than anything that can be done at the state or national level.

It's important to understand that establishing a local LP group is not the same thing as being an LPKS County Chair. County Chairs are appointed by the LPKS District Coordinators. And while County Chairs will often start and lead local groups, the official role of County Chair is more structured and is clearly defined in documents published on the LPKS web site. It's entirely possible for there to be more than one local group in a county, and the people who lead them may or may not be County Chairs. If you want to start a local group, you are encouraged to do so. Just be sure to keep your County Chair informed.

The Libertarians of Northeast Kansas (LNEKs), in Topeka, has been growing steadily for ten years or so. We have drafted legislation, fought eminent domain abuse, had one of our members elected to the Topeka City Council, and worked to help a small business which was being victimized by a local developer.

Here are some ideas that have worked well for the LNEKs. Please feel free to try any or all of them.

- Find a place to meet that is not in someone's home. Many local restaurants have a separate room for which there is no charge as long as the people in the group order food.
- It's easy to spend the entire meeting time sitting around griping. Instead, decide that your group will have goals and projects. People enjoy griping about the government, but it won't keep them coming back month

(See Local LP Group, page 10)

(Local LP Group, continued from page 9)

after month. Members need to feel they're helping to accomplish something.

- On the other hand, if there's time left at the end of the meeting agenda, throw out some hot topic, and let people argue and discuss for a while. That way, when someone gets on a soapbox during the meeting and insists on ranting, remind the group that there will be time for free discussion at the end of the meeting.
- Welcome and encourage visitors, even if they are not LP members. If they have come to visit, they are interested. Have LP literature and a copy of *The Free Kansan* on hand to give them. At the end of the meeting, tell them you're glad they came and invite them back. Ask if they want to be on the email list.
- Meetings should be as positive and constructive as possible. Especially when there are visitors, it's a good idea to keep the sarcasm and negativity about other parties to a minimum.
- Develop the attitude that your group is a monthly place to come and report on what you've been doing for liberty between meetings. Encourage ideas and brainstorming. Eight or nine ideas out of ten will go nowhere, but once in a while someone will propose something that really catches on. Strive to have enough projects in the works that every person who comes to a meeting will find something that excites her and makes her want to get involved. (A word of caution: if people are working on projects outside the meeting, make sure they understand they can't claim the backing of the LPKS without permission.)
- If possible, get interesting speakers, but it's not necessary to have an outside speaker every month. Have your candidates report on how their campaigns are coming along, and encourage people working on projects to brag for a few minutes.
- Make sure everyone in your group is aware of the LPKS Candidates' Handbook, which can be

found online. Encourage candidates, but don't forget to enlist campaign treasurers and campaign managers, too. Those jobs might appeal to people who would never consider running for office.

- Have an election-night party, even if you know you can't win. Invite lots of people, even those outside the campaigns. Invite the families of the candidates. Cheer when your candidates' numbers show up on-screen. Clap for them and pat them on the back. When the final results are in, hug them and thank them and let them know you're proud of them and you're glad they ran. (Ask someone who doesn't do much else to plan or help plan the party.)
- You will need allies. Find someone in your group to speak to and coordinate with other liberty-minded groups in your area. Even if do not agree 100% with other groups (or they with you), find common ground and work together on projects in areas where you agree.
- Stay in touch with other LP groups across the state. Let them know what you're doing. Attend their meetings if you can, and invite someone from their groups to attend your meetings, and maybe be a speaker. Consider creating a Facebook page for your group.
- Develop an email list and keep your members informed of what's going on. Be careful not to write too much or too often; you want them to look forward to your emails because they know there will be something informative and worthwhile there.
- Make sure everyone in your group receives a copy of the *Free Kansan*, the LPKS newsletter. Encourage them to write letters to the editor or submit articles. Send news of your activities for inclusion in the District News section.
- Inform your County Chair of all new group members so they can be included in the state database.

District 1 News

Barry Albin, First District Coordinator, is meeting with Libertarians in Cimarron to create a new group in Gray County. The First District hopes to add County Chairs throughout the far western part of Kansas in the coming months.

Gray County, Sherman County, Lyon County, and Graham / Rooks County Libertarians are in the process of determining a time and place for meetings.

Seward County Libertarians plan to decide on a meeting time and place immediately after the April elections.

Barry Albin has been elected to the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature as a delegate from Morris County. The Silver-Haired Legislature is composed of 125 representatives, all over 60 years of age. They identify concerns of Kansas senior citizens, which are then presented to the Legislature and the Governor as suggestions for state policy.

District 2 News

LNEKs (Shawnee County) are focusing on supporting **Michael Ogle** in his campaign for mayor of Topeka.

Anje Kearney (Shawnee County) has been appointed to the Topeka Citizen Advisory Council. The Advisory Council makes recommendations to the City Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development.

Osage County Libertarians are preparing to determine a time and place for their first meeting.

District 3 News

The February meeting of the **3rd District Libertarians (Johnson County)** attracted 9 new people, including 4 who are entirely new to the LPKS. The group is beginning work on candidate recruitment and partnering with Young Americans for Liberty.

The Kansas City-area Ls have started a **Liberty's Night Out**, an occasional gathering intended for

socializing rather than activism. Watch their Facebook page for future gatherings.

Wyandotte County Libertarians have several volunteers calling registered Ls in their area. They will be meeting jointly with the **3rd District Libertarians (Johnson County)** in April, when they plan to choose a meeting time and place for their first separate meeting in May.

Johnson County Libertarians would like to get more Johnson County Libertarians to sign up for their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IOCOLPKS?ref=hl>

District 4 News

Libertarians of South Central Kansas (LSOCK) elected officers at their March 12 meeting. The new officers, who will hold office for one year, are **Gordon Bakken**, Chair; **Steven Rosile**, Vice Chair; **Stephanie Sommers**, Secretary; **Shawn Smith**, Treasurer, **Drew Holland**, 1st At-Large Executive Committee Member; **Jeremy White**, 2nd At-Large Executive Committee Member. **Drew Holland**, a senior at Wichita North East High School, is the youngest-ever member of the LSOCK Executive Committee.

Jeremy White and **Lacey Price** were the organizers of the Gary Johnson for President Sign Waves last year.

To receive the LSOCK News and LSOCK NEWS Alerts! via email please contact Steven Rosile at sarasile@att.net. On the web, please go to the LSOCK blog at www.libertariansofsouthcentralkansas.blogspot.com.

Wichita Libertarians will be meeting at various coffee shops around Wichita to allow more people to attend the meetings.

Harvey County Libertarians plan to decide on a meeting time and place immediately after the April elections.

Local LPKS Meetings

For a list of County Chairs and their contact information, visit the LPKS web site www.lpks.org and Connect Locally.

Bourbon County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Dickinson County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Douglas County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Franklin County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Graham / Rooks Counties -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Gray County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Harvey County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Johnson County -- The 3rd District Libertarians meet the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Overland Park Denny's, 10480 Metcalf.

Johnson County Libertarians will be announcing meeting time and place soon.

Leavenworth County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Lyon County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Osage County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Saline County -- The Libertarian Party of Saline County meets the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m., Mokas South, 2424 S. Ninth Street in Salina. The public is invited.

Sedgwick County -- 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 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.

Seward County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Shawnee County -- 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.

Sherman County -- Time and place of meetings has not yet been set.

Wyandotte County -- The Wyandotte County Kansas Libertarians will meet with the 3rd District Libertarians (Johnson County) the first Monday of April at 6:30 p.m. at the Overland Park Denny's, 10480 Metcalf. After that they plan to choose a separate meeting time and place.

"The philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next."

-- Abraham Lincoln

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 Dann, Treasurer
785 E. 1055 Road
Baldwin City, KS 66006

Return Service Requested



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

April 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
6 - Libertarian Party of Saline County
6 – Wichita Libertarians
20 - LPKS State Convention
25 - Libertarians of Northeast Kansas

May 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
4 - Libertarian Party of Saline County
4 - Wichita Libertarians
6 - 3rd District Libertarians
30 - Libertarians of Northeast Kansas

June 2013

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
1 - Libertarian Party of Saline County
1 - Wichita Libertarians
3 - 3rd District Libertarians
27 - Libertarians of Northeast Kansas

July 2015

Every Tuesday – Libertarians of South Central Kansas
1 - 3rd District Libertarians
6 - Libertarian Party of Saline County
6 - Wichita Libertarians
25 - Libertarians of Northeast Kansas