
Organizing a County

Posted by Kevin Ferrizzi - 2008/08/17 22:00

I have recieved a lot of requests for help in organizing new counties for the NJLP so decided to post some info up here so that others that have gone through the process can contribute their experience to the conversation. In order to organize a county you must first attend a meeting of an existing NJLP committee, whether it be the Steering Committee, State Board, General Meeting, or a local County committee. After meeting with the Party leadership and a brief interview process, a meeting place for the new committee must be found. I've always used library meeting rooms. They are free and usually open and require little more than going to the front desk and asking for the request form. After the meeting date,time, and place are set, a message is sent out to all county members to convene an organizational meeting. The membership list can be obtained from the Membership coordinator. Once all of the local members come together to meet, they elect a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer and report the results to the NJLP State Board. After filing the proper reports to the Party leadership, the County Committee will be considered officially affiliated with the NJLP. Any Committee that opens an account and files the proper paperwork with the NJLP Treasurer will become eligible for funding from the NJLP.

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Re:Organizing a County

Posted by JDouglasFisher - 2008/10/12 19:43

Is there a Morris County Libertarian Party, or has it yet to be organized?

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Re:Organizing a County

Posted by wluers - 2008/10/13 10:59

Yes, there is a Morris County organization. Howard Kupferman and I are spearheading it. Its very new. Please write back and let us know how you would like to be involved. Or write me directly, wluers@luerslaw.com.

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Re:Organizing a County

Posted by zerostomia - 2008/10/13 19:29

I am interested in either creating or taking part in some sort of organization local to Camden County. If anyone out there knows anyone else in CC willing to be a part of a group, let me know. I can be reached at geometer@hotmail.com.
<http://njlp.org/images/fbfiles/images/sSsign.jpg>

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Re:Organizing a County

Posted by wluers - 2008/10/13 19:39

Zerostomia: Is that your sign? Its excellent. If you don't hear from someone regarding Camden County in a few days, let me know and I will try to put you in touch. We're in the north but I know some folks in the southern part of the State.

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Re:Organizing a County

Posted by Howard Kupferman - 2008/10/13 21:23

We had an incredible response at the Millington Fair. Even the mayor came over to our booth and declared that he was really a Libertarian at heart.

I need as much help as I can get. Please contact Mr. Luers and help us organize.

Re:Organizing a County

Posted by TJAndriesen - 2008/10/16 20:43

Let me know the next time your out at something. I'm from Mo'town.

Re:Organizing a County

Posted by zerostomia - 2008/10/16 21:04

To anyone who can answer this: last week there was like a town fair festival thing in Barrington. They closed off traffic for maybe a quarter mile on a main road and just had like street vendors and stuff all up and down it. Of course, there were people everywhere, and I thought it was a wildly overlooked opportunity to set up a Libertarian booth and just chill there ready with pamphlets and handouts if anyone was interested.

Is there any sort of standard procedure for setting up anything like that, in case the opportunity comes up again?

Oh and yeah, it's my sign. Worth every minute of effort. I go nuts around election time. There's also a banner someone threw over the 295 southbound overpass by exit 28.

I wonder who could've done that?

Re:Organizing a County

Posted by Jay Edgar - 2008/10/16 21:15

To set up something like that in Camden County your best bet is to contact Kevin Ferrizzi or Bob Rayner. They run the Camden/Gloucester county LP organization.

Or just go for it! I don't know if Camden/Gloucester have invested in booth materials. When we do it in Monmouth we invest in pamphlets from various libertarian organizations (ISIL, LP store, and the Advocates for Self Government) to give out.

Most importantly take names and contact information of anyone interested!

This reminds me that I need to call and check on the status of the Monmouth outreach material.

Re:Organizing a County

Posted by wluers - 2008/10/16 21:18

Yes, a booth at a town fair is perfect. Right now, we're creating lists of fairs that are held in the counties we are organizing in Northern New Jersey. We are also contacting the local Republican and Democratic organizations to find out what events they are having booths at. There are several keys: (1) be at a fair that the R's and D's will also be at; (2) get a booth near the R and D booths; (3) staff the booth with at least one person who knows a lot of local people and can interact positively with them; (4) tell us/NJLP leadership about it well in advance so we can support you with pamphlets and people. The CRITICAL ISSUE is for local people with credibility to hit the streets and talk to their friends and neighbors about libertarianism, and build local organizations by the town, even by the neighborhood. We must start with building organizations in towns who can then field candidates for town council and school board. These types of elections generally have notoriously low turnout and well-known individuals who have personal relationships can win these elections. Then onto Freeholder, and so forth. (This would take several years, which is fine with me. It takes years to build a party.)

Howard Kupferman in Long Hill Township in Morris County recently ran a booth at a town fair and it was wildly successful. Indeed, the upcoming spring and summer 2009 season will be a perfect time for fairs, because all the Assemblymen and Senators running for re-election in 2009 will have a strong presence at those fairs.

So go for it, and keep us informed of what you want to do. WE WILL SUPPORT YOU.

Call or write me any time to discuss!

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