



# CONSTITUTION PARTY

News at a Glance



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## IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE, ALASKA IS TRULY WIDE-OPEN...

By Ken Lambert

For many of us in the Lower 48, all that is known about Alaska is gathered from Sarah Palin, "Deadliest Catch", and "Ice Road Truckers". But the real story, and the potential future, of this vast and important state may lie in how the Constitution Party will make a difference in the "Final Frontier" state's politics.



J.R. Myers founded the Alaska Constitution Party (ACP) in 2010, and things are starting to really click for the fledgling but active Constitution Party state affiliate. The organizational structure is well established, an Executive Committee is steering the ACP's efforts, and they are close to announcing candidates both for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. In addition, Pamela Goode, a former Alaska GOP activist and local elected office holder, has left the Republican Party and officially registered with the Alaska Constitution Party. She now serves as an ACP Senate District Chair. According to Myers, she is one of many former stalwart Republicans who are now looking for other options.

Like any state affiliate of the Constitution Party, it is not easy to do things that Republicans and Democrats simply take for granted. For instance, getting on the ballot for Governor will require over 3,000 signatures. The general rule of thumb in petition signature gathering is to get twice as many signatures as required. A petition drive with a 6,000 registered voter goal may not sound like a lot, but the entire state of Alaska only has 732,000 residents spread out over half a million square miles.

Organizing a grassroots effort is never easy, and when most of the state has less than one person living per square mile, it is more necessary to use all the technological advances that are available. Myers says that his group leans heavily on social media, conference call systems, and internet-driven technology to bridge the geographical distances.

Alaska has a promising record of voting against establishment candidates. Governor George Wallace received more than 12 percent of the vote in his 1968 American Independent Party presidential run, and Congressman John Schmitz earned six percent as the American party nominee in 1972. Ross Perot, running as an independent for President in 1988, came in second place; in 1990, a member of the Alaskan Independent Party, Walter J. Hickel, was elected Governor. Today, most of the electorate in the state is registered independent or unaffiliated.

Speculation about J.R. Myers himself as the gubernatorial nominee is growing. He is an Alaska Licensed Professional Counselor and Chemical Dependency Counselor, earned two Masters degrees (Professional Counseling and Human Services), is a MENSA Society member, and has been active with such community service groups as Literacy Volunteers of America and the Alaska Counseling Association. He served as Vice

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## Save the Date!

### Fall Committee Meeting

The Fall meeting of the Constitution Party's National Committee will be held September 27th and 28th. Details can be found by visiting the Constitution Party's website at [ConstitutionParty.com](http://ConstitutionParty.com)



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*(Alaska continued...)*

Chairman of the Alaskan Independence Party from 2008-2010 and has led the Alaska Constitution Party since 2010.

For more information, or to assist Myers with donations or other needed help, please visit the official ACP [Facebook page](#). Or, contact J.R. Myers directly at: J.R. Myers, P.O. Box 1365, Haines, AK 99827 Phone: 907-766-2859 Email: [johricmye@aptalaska.net](mailto:johricmye@aptalaska.net)

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*Ken Lambert is active in the Constitution Party of New Hampshire*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN...



The fall meeting of the Constitution Party is scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Denver International Airport. We hope to see as many states as possible represented, especially from the Western and Midwestern regions of the country. I have been impressed by the number of people who have already registered from the Eastern and Southern Regions. Their dedication has certainly not gone unnoticed. If you have not yet registered to attend, simply go to National Committee Meeting [sign-up page](#) on our website.

The number of our Constitution Party candidates who are running for non-partisan offices this year also encourages me. Electing people to local office is key to our party's growth. In some states, such as Pennsylvania, those offices are by political party. In that state the party has three candidates running for office. In Utah, five of the seven candidates running for local office made it through the August 13<sup>th</sup> primary and will be on the November General Election ballot. In New Jersey, we have a candidate for Sheriff on the ballot. There are other states that also have candidates that will be on the ballot in November.

I am also encouraged by the increasing number of voters who are registering as Constitution Party. State Chairman J.R. Myers of Alaska is to be complemented for the work he has done there. Voter registration has increased over 45% since December of 2012. Part of that increase has been due to his forwarding our party's monthly newsletter to members and voters of like mind as well as being posted on social networking sites. There are now CP registered voters 37 of the 40 districts in his state. I would encourage our party leaders in other states to do the same. I appreciate those states that are faithful in forwarding that information on to the national so we can in turn share it with all our readers.

Getting ballot position for the party in 2014 is also a priority. At the Baltimore National Committee meeting, each region was asked to select at least two states where it was possible to get signatures for ballot access in 2014. In the East, Delaware and Vermont were recommended. In the Midwest, South Dakota has indicated that their goal is to get enough signatures of Constitution Party votes in that state to run a candidate for governor in that state in 2014. That would almost certainly enable them to retain ballot position for 2016 and there by avoid the necessity of gathering 5,000 signatures to regain ballot access in that state for 2016. In the West, Alaska, New Mexico and Montana are being targeted for ballot access. If your state is a state where getting ballot access is possible in 2014, I would encourage you to contact your regional chairman and your national leaders of your interest in securing ballot access. Their contact information is found on our [website](#). Each state we gain and maintain ballot access in 2014 is one less state we will need to focus on in 2016. In many states the ballot access process by law can not begin until 2016, but in those states that do allow for ballot access in 2014, we by all means want to pursue that opportunity.

*Frank Fluckiger*

National Chairman,  
Constitution Party



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