

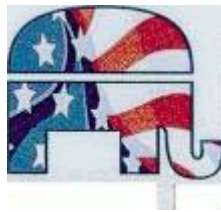
# Leavenworth County



## Republican Party

**PRECINCT COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**HANDBOOK**



REPUBLICAN PARTY  
OF KANSAS

**January 1, 2009**

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**SECTION I**

# THE REPUBLICAN GOAL: RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

## The Republican Party - GOP History



ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Republican Party was born in the early 1850's by anti-slavery activists and individuals who believed that government should grant western lands to settlers free of charge. On February 28, 1854, Major Alvan E. Bovay called a meeting in the Congregational Church in Ripon, Wisconsin, a small town northwest of Milwaukee. The men who met that night in that small farming community were called together in the common belief that slavery was unconstitutional.

In Congress, debate raged over the Kansas-Nebraska bill. Its passage would leave the legal question of slavery to the residents of the Kansas and Nebraska territories and upset a ban on slavery in those areas imposed by the Missouri Compromise of 1820. Out of the meeting in Ripon came a resolution: A new party, to be named the Republican Party, would be formed in the Kansas-Nebraska bill passed. They decided to call themselves Republicans-because they professed to be political descendants of Thomas Jefferson's Democratic-Republican party. The bill passed in the Senate on March 4, but did not become law until May 30 after the House finally passed it.

Following Senate passage, on March 20, fifty-three local citizens gathered in the schoolhouse in Ripon. From that group they appointed a committee of five to form the new party. The first official Republican meeting took place on July 6, 1854, in Jackson, Michigan. The crowd was so great that it could not be held in the town's largest facility. Business had to be conducted outside in a grove of trees near the county racetrack. The name "Republican" was formally adopted at that convention. At the Jackson convention, the new party adopted a platform and nominated candidates for office in Michigan. Organizational meetings soon followed in Iowa, Ohio, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, and other northern states. In the 1854 congressional elections, forty-four Republicans were elected to the House of Representatives, and eleven were elected to the Senate.

In June 1856, the Republican Party held a national nominating convention in Philadelphia. Senator John C. Fremont was nominated, under the slogan: "Free soil, free labor, free speech, free men, Fremont." He received 33% of the popular vote, and was defeated by Democrat James Buchanan for the presidency.

Two days after the inauguration of Buchanan, the Supreme Court issued the Dred Scott decision which was denounced by Republicans. The Democrat party split over the slavery question. As a result, in 1858 the Republicans won control of the House of Representatives.

The second Republican national convention in 1860 resulted in the nomination of Abraham Lincoln for president. The platform pledged not to extend slavery, called for the construction of a transcontinental railroad, and supported a protective tariff. Lincoln's major opponents were Northern Democrat Stephen Douglas, Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge, and Constitutional Union Party candidate John Bell. Lincoln won with only 39.8 percent of the popular vote.

The Civil War erupted in 1861 and lasted four grueling years. During the war, against the advice of his cabinet, Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation that freed the slaves. The Republicans of the day worked to pass the Thirteenth Amendment, which outlawed slavery, the Fourteenth, which guaranteed equal protection under the laws, and the Fifteenth, which helped secure voting rights for African-Americans.

The Republican Party also played a leading role in securing women the right to vote. In 1896, Republicans were the first major party to favor women's suffrage. When the 19th Amendment finally was added to the Constitution, 26 of 36 state legislatures that had voted to ratify it were under Republican control. The first woman elected to Congress was a Republican, Jeanette Rankin from Montana in 1917.

Presidents during most of the late nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth century were Republicans. The White House was in Republican hands under Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush. Under Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, the United States became the world's only superpower, winning the Cold War from the old Soviet Union and releasing millions from Communist oppression.

## Origin of “G.O.P.”



G.O.P. dates back the 1870s and 1880s. The abbreviation was cited in a *New York Herald* story on October 15, 1884: “‘The G.O.P. Doomed’ shouted the *Boston Post*. The Grand Old Party is in condition. . . .”

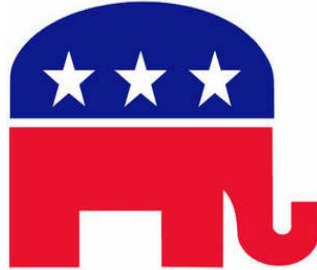
But what GOP stands for has changed with the times. In 1875 there was a citation in the Congressional Record referring to "this gallant old party," and, according to Harper's Weekly, in the Cincinnati Commercial in 1876 to "Grand Old Party."

Perhaps the use of "the G.O.M." for Britain's Prime Minister William E. Gladstone in 1882 as "the Grand Old Man" stimulated the use of GOP in the United States soon after.

In early motorcar days, GOP took on the term "get out and push." During the 1964 presidential campaign, "Go-Party" was used briefly, and during the Nixon Administration, frequent references to the "generation of peace" had happy overtones. In line with moves in the '70s to modernize the party, Republican leaders took to referring to the "grand old party," harkening back to a 1971 speech by President Nixon at the dedication of the Eisenhower Republican Center in Washington, D.C.

## Origin of the Republican Elephant

(From William Safire's *New Language of Politics*, Revised edition, Collier Books, New York, 1972)



This symbol of the party was born in the imagination of cartoonist Thomas Nast and first appeared in *Harper's Weekly* on November 7, 1874

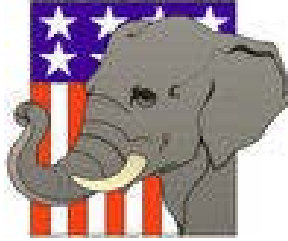
An 1860 issue of *Railsplitter* and an 1872 cartoon in *Harper's Weekly* connected elephants with Republicans, but it was Nast who provided the party with its symbol.

Oddly, two unconnected events led to the birth of the Republican Elephant. James Gordon Bennett's *New York Herald* raised the cry of "Caesarism" in connection with the possibility of a third term try for President Ulysses S. Grant. The issue was taken up by the Democratic politicians in 1874, halfway through Grant's second term and just before the midterm elections, and helped disaffect Republican voters.

While the illustrated journals were depicting Grant wearing a crown, the *Herald* involved itself in another circulation-builder in an entirely different, nonpolitical area. This was the Central Park Menagerie Scare of 1874, a delightful hoax perpetrated by the *Herald*. They ran a story, totally untrue, that the animals in the zoo had broken loose and were roaming the wilds of New York's Central Park in search of prey.

Cartoonist Thomas Nast took the two examples of the *Herald* enterprise and put them together in a cartoon for *Harper's Weekly*. He showed an ass (symbolizing the *Herald*) wearing a lion's skin (the scary prospect of Caesarism) frightening away the animals in the forest (Central Park). The caption quoted a familiar fable: "An ass having put on a lion's skin roamed about in the forest and amused himself by frightening all the foolish animals he met within his wanderings."

One of the foolish animals in the cartoon was an elephant, representing the Republican vote - not the party, the Republican vote - which was being frightened away from its normal ties by the phony scare of Caesarism. In a subsequent cartoon on November 21, 1874, after the election in which the Republicans did badly, Nast followed up the idea by showing the elephant in a trap, illustrating the way the Republican vote had been decoyed from its normal allegiance. Other cartoonists picked up the symbol, and the elephant soon ceased to be the vote and became the party itself: the jackass, now referred to as the donkey, made a natural transition from representing the *Herald* to representing the Democratic party that had frightened the elephant.



## **I AM A REPUBLICAN BECAUSE...**

I believe the strength of our nation lies with the individual and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

I believe in equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, sex, age, or disability.

I believe free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative have brought this nation opportunity, economic growth, and prosperity.

I believe government must practice fiscal responsibility and allow individuals to keep more of the money they earn.

I believe the proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations, and that the best government is that which governs least.

I believe the most effective, responsible and responsive government is government closest to the people.

I believe Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times.

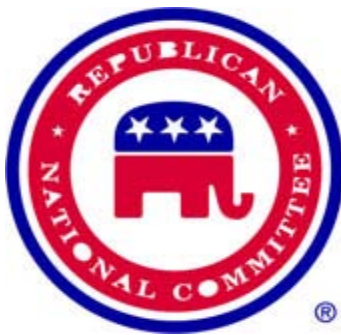
I believe Americans value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom, and human rights throughout the world.

Finally, I believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

## **SECTION II**

### **THE REPUBLICAN PARTY ORGANIZATION**

#### **The Republican National Committee**



The Republican National Committee manages the Republican Party based upon the rules adopted by the Republican National Convention. The members of the Republican National Committee consist of one (1) national committeeman and one (1) national committeewoman from, and the chairman of the state Republican Party of, each state. Membership includes representatives from American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

National committeemen and national committeewomen serve from the adjournment of the national convention until the adjournment of the following national convention, and until their successors shall have been elected and ratified. The chair of each state's Republican Party also in a member of the national committee.

The officers of the Republican National Committee consist of:

(1) A chairman and a co-chairman of the opposite sex who are elected by the members of the Republican National Committee. These are full-time paid positions.

(2) Eight (8) vice chairmen who are elected at regional caucuses by the Republican National Committee members of the four (4) regions. The eight (8) vice chairmen are composed of one man and one woman from each region.

(3) A secretary and a treasurer.

A twenty-eight person executive committee exercises all the executive and administrative functions required of the Republican National Committee between meetings of the Republican National Committee, with certain exceptions.

## **The Kansas Republican Party**



The purpose of the Kansas Republican Party is to coordinate and unite the activities of Kansas Republicans through city, county, district, and state committees under a central, statewide organization that serves as the official state affiliate of the Republican National Committee. The Kansas Republican Party is dedicated to the advancement of Republican candidates, policies, and principles, and aids in every way possible the Republican nominees selected in each partisan primary. The Kansas Republican Party seeks to advance Republican principles and beliefs by seeing them enacted as sound public policy. The Republican Party works to ensure its growth through voter registration and by attracting disenfranchised members of other political parties.

### **State Committee**

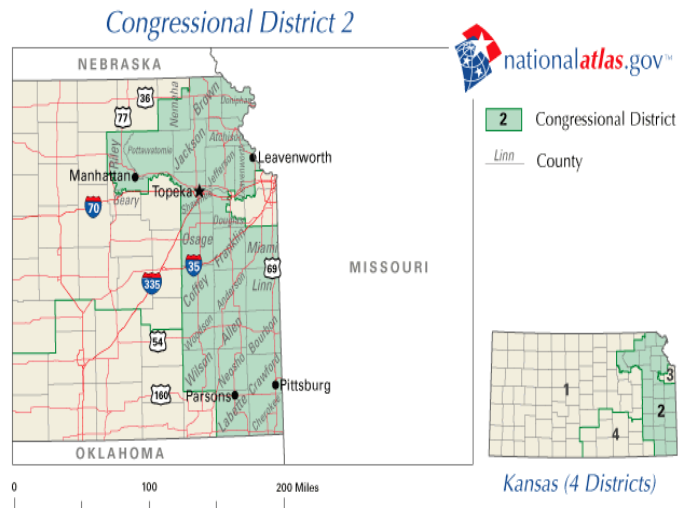
Republican Party business at the state level is conducted by the State Committee. It is responsible for calling conventions, reorganization meetings, and other meetings as required. The State Committee conducts the statewide campaign to elect the Republican ticket. It also adopts the party platform.

The Committee consists of thirty-seven elected delegates from each of the four Congressional districts in Kansas. In addition, the district chair and vice-chair are automatic delegates. The delegates and alternates are elected by the district committees. Also on the committee are members of the Kansas House and Senate, the Kansas Congressional delegation, state-wide office holders, the national committeeman and committee woman, and a representative from four designated Kansas Republican organizations. The chair and vice-chair of the State Committee are elected positions and must be held by persons of opposite gender.

An executive committee that consists of members of the State Committee minus the thirty-seven delegates from each district approves the establishment of various committees to conduct party business.

Day-to-day business of the Kansas Republican Party is conducted by a paid staff headed by an executive director.

## 2d Congressional District Committee



The district organization serves a number of different functions. It is there to serve as a circulation center for information and materials. Training sessions may be offered to precinct workers. The district organization is the main link to the county and state party organizations. The districts hold regular meetings where experts on current issues and candidates are invited to speak. It is through these encounters that you can gain the knowledge to help you serve the Republican voters in your precinct.

Kansas has four Congressional districts. Leavenworth County is one of twenty-six counties in the 2d Congressional District. The District Committee is composed of four elected officers and delegates from each county. Delegates serve a two-year term. The number of delegates will vary as a result of voter turn-out and is specified by a formula in the Kansas Republican Party Constitution. An alternate delegate is elected for each primary delegate. The district chair and vice-chair must be of opposite gender.



by an elected county chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer. These officers are elected for two-year terms. The chair and vice-chair must be of opposite gender.

## **SECTION III**

### **PRECINCT COMMITTEE**

Elections are won at the local level. That is where the hard work pays off.

Leavenworth County is divided into twenty-three wards and forty-one precincts. In addition, Ft. Leavenworth has six precincts, but, for practical reasons, the county Republican Party does not include those precincts on the central committee. Each precinct in Kansas has a position for a precinct committee man and a precinct committee woman from both the Republican and the Democratic Party. Both political parties are entitled to the same number of precinct members per precinct.

Precinct committee candidates run for election every two years in the party's primary election. Precinct committee people are the only party officials elected directly by the Republican voters. Within the precinct, the committee man and woman represent the Republican Party to the people. They are the bridge between the voters, the candidates, and the elected officials. The precinct committee man and woman should establish neighbor-to-neighbor rapport with the Republicans in the precinct. These people can then seek your counsel as they make their election decisions.

#### **Becoming a Precinct Person**

There are two methods for an individual to become a Precinct Committee Member:

##### **I. Election**

A. Precinct committee people are elected during the primary election held every two years.

B. To get your name on the ballot, you must file a Declaration of Intent to become a candidate with the County Election Office (County Clerk's Office).

C. After you file, your name will be placed on the ballot in the precinct of your residence under the Republican Party label.

D. Any Republican who votes during the August Primary in your precinct can cast a vote for you as a Precinct Committee Member.

E. If there is more than one person running for the precinct position, the winner is elected by a simple majority vote. A write-in vote is permitted.

F. If no one files, the office appears on the ballot with a blank line for write-in votes. A person must receive five (5) write-in votes to be elected in this way.

## **II. By Appointment**

A. If no one is elected at the August Primary, or if a position vacancy is otherwise created, the Republican County Chairman may appoint a person to serve out the remainder of a Precinct Committee Member's term.

B. The Republican County Chairman appoints precinct members by submitting an appointment letter to the local county election officer (County Clerk).

C. Once you are appointed, you are an official Precinct Committee Person and a member of the county party central committee just as if you had been elected, with one exception: an appointed precinct committee member cannot vote in meetings until after the county party has re-organized.

In the event of a death or removal/resignation of an elected official (State Level and below), the vacancy will be filled by a vote taken from the Precinct Members (of the Party involved) in the jurisdiction affected only. The outcome of the nomination and vote will assume the position/office until the next scheduled election for that position.

### **Successful Precinct Organizers do the following:**

By Kansas statute, precinct people have only one responsibility. That is, should a state representative or senator leave office prior to the end of his or her term, the precinct people with that house or senate district will elect a replacement to complete the unexpired term of the person who left office.

Contact all Republicans in their precinct by mail, phone or door- to- door. Once candidate literature is available at the County Headquarters' office, include it with your door-to-door literature drops.

Remind Republicans and Unaffiliated voters in their precinct to vote on Election Day. Remind Voters where their polling place is located.

Promote the use of Advance Ballots to Republicans in their precinct.

Communicate often with the County Chair and candidates running in their precinct.

Register new Republican voters.

Enlist new Volunteers to help win elections.

Distribute yard signs.

## Communicating with Voters in Your Precinct

Remember, face to face contact is the best way to influence a voter or remind them of the importance of the upcoming election. Phone calls are the next best alternative, and will still increase Republican participation in elections. Mail and e-mail is less effective, but much better than no contact at all.

All Republican Precinct Committee Members should contact Republicans in their precinct at least twice before an election. You can also make a difference by recruiting volunteers. Volunteers will help build the party, and make fulfilling your precinct duties more fun.

The Leavenworth County Party Chairman, as well as the County Clerk, will be able to provide you with a list of all voters (by party), in your precinct. These lists afford ample space to take notes related to each voter. It is your job to encourage Republican and Unaffiliated voters in your precinct to vote, and to vote for candidates of the Republican Party. The list can be provided in a "walking list" format that enables the precinct person to visit Republicans in a systematic way based on where they live.

### **Voter Contact Checklist**

Before you begin contacting the Republican voters in your precinct, make sure you are prepared. The following is a checklist of things you should know or materials you will need:

A list of voters in your precinct.

Be knowledgeable of where the polling place is within the precinct.

Know who the Republican candidates are that are running within your precinct. This information is available for you at the Party's County Headquarters.

Have candidate brochures on each candidate running within your precinct.

It is always suggested that you have voter registration cards and be familiar with how to fill them out (available at both the Party headquarters and the County Clerk's office).

Advance Ballot request forms (forms will be available at both the party Headquarters and at the County Clerk's office). Carry these with you, along with the voter registration cards, as you go door-to-door.

## Getting Out the Vote

Getting out the vote (GOTV) is one of the most important things a Precinct Committee Member can do if we don't get out the vote on Election Day and days preceding it, then everything else we do between now and then will be jeopardized. The final days are about closing the deal and getting Republicans and Unaffiliated to cast votes for Republicans.

Consistently, the most effective means to get out the vote is through personal contact with the voters. Candidates will attempt to knock on as many doors as possible, but in larger precincts and districts, it is not possible for them personally to contact every household. The precinct committee people are the critical link between the candidate and the voter. You can assist the candidates by distribution literature, by speaking with the voters of your precinct, and by you, as a neighbor, encouraging them to vote.

On election day, the County Party headquarters will establish telephone banks to call voters to remind them to vote. The headquarters also will have volunteers to provide rides to the polls.

## Some Typical Questions from Voters – Be Prepared

- How do I find out if I am registered to vote?
- How do I register to vote?
- Where do I register to vote?
- Where do I vote?
- What is my precinct number?
- When is the primary? What do I have to do to vote in the Primary? May an unaffiliated voter vote in the primary? **(ONLY REGISTERED REPUBLICANS MAY VOTE IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY.)**
- When is the General election? May anyone vote?
- What does the Republican Party stand for? (You may be able to furnish the voter with literature available from your county headquarters or county chairman.)
- Who are the candidates, and what are their backgrounds? (Any additional information regarding a candidate should be directed to the candidate or to the candidate's organization.)

- What can I do to help the Party?
- Are there any Republican clubs around here? How do I join?
- Where do I get bumper stickers, buttons and campaign literature?
- Who is the county chairman, vice chairman and secretary?
- Who is in charge of my precinct?

### **Do's and Don'ts of a Precinct Canvass**

- Do be brief and a good listener.
- Do be friendly – this person is a friend, regardless of party affiliation.
- Do have all the answers if possible. If you cannot answer a question, admit it, but promise to get the information and call again. The way then is paved for a second call.
- Do leave an appropriate piece of literature, if possible.
- Do leave names and phone numbers of precinct leaders.
- Do not raise controversial issues.
- Do not argue.
- Do not make derogatory remarks about any Republican organization or candidates or officeholders.
- Do not make any statements about opposition candidates which cannot be proven.
- Do not antagonize.

## **Voter Registration**

The strategy for registering voters varies in each precinct depending upon rates of turnover and the partisan composition. Leavenworth County has a significant turnover due to the proximity of Fort Leavenworth. A precinct member should gain a feel for what the turnover rate is based on living within the precinct.

Many opportunities present themselves to allow us to register new voters, such as at church, at malls, shopping centers, sporting events, blood drive events, and even going door-to-door. Be knowledgeable of the form and how to fill it out. When an individual completes the registration card, make sure to tell them where their polling place is located. The voter will receive a confirmation card from the Board of Elections once the registration card has been processed.

## **Advance Voting**

In the past, voting by mail was limited to voters who were unable to leave their home or would not be in town on Election Day. Now we encourage all voters to vote by mail. As a Precinct Committee Member, you should ask everyone you know who is a supporter to apply for an Advance Ballot. The Process is simple.

To obtain an advance ballot, fill out an Advance Ballot application (available at both the Party's County Headquarters and at the County Clerk's office) and mail it to the County Clerk's office.

Advance Ballots are convenient for voters and make it possible for Republicans to receive votes prior to Election Day. If you register a new Republican, always encourage them to use an Advance Ballot. Advance Ballots are mailed to voters by the County Clerk's office 20 days before the election.

Every Advance Ballot cast before Election Day is one less we have to chase on Election Day. A strong Advance Ballot effort in the weeks leading up to the election will allow us to reach more voters on Election Day.

## **Poll Watchers**

Precinct Committee Members also serve as Poll Watchers/Agents on Election Day. This is the last point at which a Precinct Committee Member has a chance to influence the election results. Many things must happen prior to Election Day if this is to truly be a worth-while effort. We will now look at the process leading up to the General Election.

## **Events Leading up to the Next General Election**

Shortly after the General Election, two things become critical:

- After the last election, the precinct Committee Member needs to get an updated copy of the latest Voter Record. This will be provided to you by the Party Chairman during scheduled training sessions. During the next 18 months, the committee member must scrub the list for accuracy and update each entry with a good working telephone number. Many numbers can still be found in the phone book. Test the number to insure it is workable.

- Training. The Leavenworth County Party Chairman will schedule and conduct several classes in the next few months following the general election to insure everyone fully understands what is expected of them, and to assist in getting good working documents.

During the time leading up to the next election, the Precinct Committee Member should familiarize themselves with the area, streets, etc. of their precinct.

60-70 days prior to the General Election the County Party Chairman will activate the Party Headquarters. At this point all necessary candidate literature, Voter Registration forms, and Advance Ballot requests will be available to all precinct personnel.

45 days prior to the General Election, Advance Ballots are mailed to overseas military members.

20 days prior to the General Election Advance Ballots are mailed out to all County voters who have requested them.

The County Clerk, when requested by the Party Chairman, a candidate for office, or both, will provide a listing to the Party/Candidates of those voters who have requested Advance Ballots.

The Republican Party Headquarters volunteer staff will commence calling all those who have requested Advance Ballots to determine if they have returned their completed ballots.

When they affirm that the ballot has been returned, it will be noted on the Master Voter Log at the Headquarters.

It is imperative that Precinct Committee Members scrub their voter records with the Master Log at the Headquarters. Otherwise, when the time comes to be a poll watcher, the voter record will be incomplete.

On Election Day, the Precinct Committee member should have a voter record that has been scrubbed for all advance ballots and errors, so that all names showing on the record are names that should pass through the voting stations at that site that day. The voter record should be complete with valid workable phone numbers as well.

## **Election Day**

A few days prior to Election Day the Party Chairman will certify each Precinct Committee Person as a Poll Agent. The Precinct Person will go to the Party Headquarters to get his appointment orders and will go to the County Court House to get his official badge. These will be required when he goes to the polling place to perform as a poll agent.

Each polling site has two members (man/woman) appointed. The shift is 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Ideally, it would work best if each poll agent had a volunteer to allow each member to only work a 6 hour shift. Each poll agent is allowed to appoint one volunteer to assist them in their duties at the polling site (appointment orders and badge are required as well if this happens).

Poll agents will sit in close proximity to the voter registration table in order to hear the names of those persons coming in to vote (minimum distance to the registration table is three (3) feet).

As an individual voter approaches the registration table and states his name for the record, the poll agent will scratch the name off his voter record (if it is a member on his roster). Around 3:00 – 4:00 pm, either someone designated from the headquarters, or one of the other poll agents, can start calling the remaining individuals to encourage them to come vote. (This is where the valid phone number becomes critical).

Under perfect conditions, at the end of Election Day, all names on the Precinct Committee Member's voter roster will have been crossed off as voted.

Lastly, it's time to celebrate and enjoy the fruits of our labor at the Victory/Watch Party.

## Section IV: Appendix

### Kansas Republican Party

#### State Officers

##### **Kansas State Party Chair**

Kris Kobach  
1025 SW. Gage Blvd  
Topeka, KS 66604  
785-234-3456  
republicanparty@ksgop.org

##### **Kansas State Party Vice-chair**

Sharron Meissner  
2504 SE Faxon Ct.  
Topeka, KS 66605  
785-379-9343  
sharozm@excite.com

#### District Officers

##### **Second District Chairman**

Caryn Tyson  
P0 Box 191  
Parker, KS 66072  
313-898-2366  
tyson@tntsolutions.org

##### **Second District Vice Chairman**

Rich Kiper  
1221 Tanglewood St.  
Leavenworth, KS 66048  
913-651-0522  
rkipper1@kc.rr.com

#### Leavenworth County Officers

##### **Leavenworth County Chairman**

John Bradford  
125 Rock Creek Loop  
Lansing, KS 66043  
313-683-0871  
jbradford@kc.rr.com

##### **Leavenworth County Vice Chairman**

Connie O'Brien  
22123 211th St.  
Tonganoxie, KS 66086  
913-369-2933  
edconob@aol.com

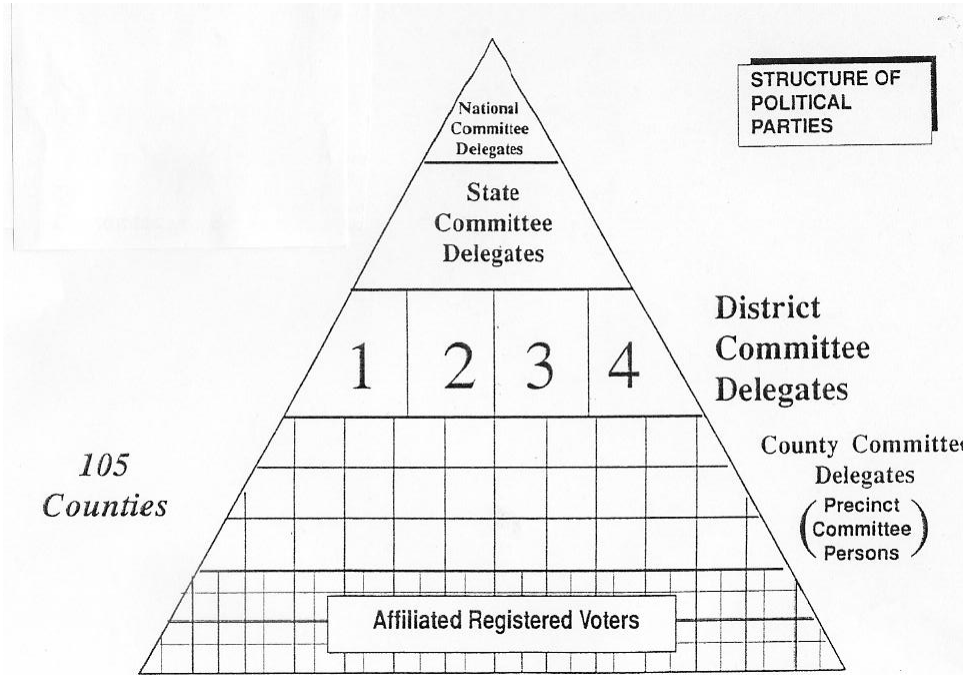
##### **Leavenworth County Treasurer**

David Chartier  
220 N. Main  
Lansing, KS 66043  
913-727-6738  
d.chartier@excite.com

##### **Leavenworth County Secretary**

Theresa Mast  
353 Deerfield  
Tonganoxie, KS 66086  
913-845-2382  
ptmast@att.net

# Republican Party Structure



## SAMPLE PRECINCT LETTER

Dear neighbors and members of Precinct \_\_\_\_, Ward \_\_\_\_,

We are sending this letter for three purposes. The first is to introduce ourselves as your recently-elected Republican Precinct Committee representatives. Second, we want you to know why we have become actively involved in the Republican Party. Third, we want to inform you of important election information for you to use and share with your friends and neighbors.

1. Who are we? We were elected during the primary election to fill the vacant positions of precinct committeeman and committeewoman for our precinct. These are volunteer positions with the task of getting out the vote and supporting our Republican candidates. We will need all the help we can get from you—our precinct neighbors. The precinct runs roughly from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ and from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. There are \_\_\_\_ registered Republican households in the precinct, including at least one person in your household.

2. Why do this? We have become involved more actively in politics because of our great concern about the challenges to issues and values we hold dear here in Kansas and in the entire United States. This November we face the most critical election of recent times. Among the critically important issues affected by this election are:

- National security
- Marriage—defined as between one man and one woman
- Judges who violate the intent of the US Constitution
- Protection of unborn babies
- Taxes—local, state, and federal
- Education—vouchers, spending, and accountability of public schools
- Eminent domain
- Energy policy in Kansas

If we do not make our voices heard by voting, we will suffer the consequences as American citizens and as Kansans.

3. Please vote in this election. You have already shown your civic virtue by being a registered voter, but it is your actual vote on November \_\_\_\_ that counts. If you are not registered, the last day to register is \_\_\_\_\_. You can register at the county court house, 4th and Walnut.

Our precinct votes at \_\_\_\_\_. You may also vote by advance ballot either in person at the court house beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, or by requesting that a ballot be mailed to you. For more information you can call the county clerk at 684-0421. You can also check the clerk's web site at [www.leavenworthcounty.org](http://www.leavenworthcounty.org).

Additional information: The Leavenworth County Republican headquarters is at \_\_\_\_\_. Beginning \_\_\_\_\_, it will be open Monday through Saturday from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. If you would like to volunteer to help out at the headquarters, please call \_\_\_\_\_.

The following Republicans are hotly contested by Democrat challengers. Please support them at the polls on November \_\_\_\_.

President and Vice President:

US Senate:

US House, 2d Congressional District:

Kansas Senate \_\_\_\_ District:

Kansas House, \_\_\_\_ District:

County Commissioner, \_\_\_\_ District:

County Clerk:

County Treasurer:

We welcome your input. What are the most important issues to you? What would you like us to communicate to others? If you have any questions, please contact us at \_\_\_\_\_. Our e-mail address is \_\_\_\_\_, and our mailing address is \_\_\_\_\_.

Sincerely,

AAA AAAAAA  
Precinct Committeeman

BBB BBBB  
Precinct Committeewoman

## Glossary of Terms

**Advance Voting:** Allows people to vote by mail or in person at an election office 20 days before Election Day. To receive an advance ballot, one must submit an advance ballot application to the County Clerk's Office.

**County Chairman:** The head of the Party in Leavenworth County, and the chief spokesman for the party in the county.

**Door-to-Door Canvassing:** Face-to-face appeals to specific voters in your precinct.

**General Election:** The election that determines who will represent you in the government from the local to the national-level. This election happens in November or April, depending on the race.

**GOTV (Get Out The Vote):** All voter contact activities designed to get voters to cast their ballots. GOTV includes phone calls, literature drops, and door-to-door canvassing.

**Lit-Drops:** Distribution of campaign literature in public places such as shopping centers or college campuses. The term is also commonly associated as going door-to-door distributing materials for one or more candidates.

**Phone Banks:** Most commonly used form of voter contact for voter identification and voter turnout. Multiple phones in one location are used by volunteers to contact voters. Phone Banks are useful for persuadable voters who can be persuaded to vote for a candidate in a particular race.

**Poll Watchers:** Volunteers or Precinct Committee Members who sit at the polls and keep track of all voters who have voted in a designated precinct. This allows campaign personnel to contact voters who have not yet voted.

**Primary Election:** The election held in August or February to choose the Republican, the Democrat and other nominees for elected offices in the general election.

**Yard Signs:** Yard Signs are large posters/placards on stakes or wire placed on a supporter's lawn during the final weeks of the campaigns. Each city in Leavenworth County has different and varying rules/limitations both on the size of the signs, and the dates they may be put out.