



The Lancaster County Democrat

June-July 2013

Just Numbers on a Clipboard?

By Rick Boucher

General Election 2006 (Governor):

Registered Voters: 1,138,422; Republican, 573,016; Democrat, 370,724; Nonpartisan, 187,060. Total Voting, 610,499 - @ the Polls, 501,554; Military & Overseas 1,199 & early Voting, 107,746. Heineman - 435,507 v. Hahn, 145,115.

General Election 2010 (Governor):

Registered Voters: 1,142,247; Republican, 549,105; Democrat 380,321; Nonpartisan, 212,501; Heineman, - 360,645 v. Meister - 127,343.

General Election 2012 (Non-Governor):

Registered Voters: 1,164,166; 558,170 Republican; Democrat, 374,191; Nonpartisan, 228,563; Votes cast 802,745; Voter Turnout, 68.95%; Precincts 1879.

Do Republicans have a registration advantage through elected officials (state, city & county), farmers, ranchers, businesses of all sizes, right to life & evangelicals? Democrats have the construction trades, public employees, teachers, minorities (people of color), sexual orientation and right to choose?

In 2014 will we be in a tight battle for the open seat for Governor? Do we need to develop an updated get-out-the-vote effort? Is Massachusetts the likely model with the success of Patrick, Warren and Ed Markey recently?

How many volunteers can we muster for the get-out-the-vote? How many doors will volunteers knock on in 2014? How about doors in the last month before November 2014? After the primary and the nominee is selected, will we reach a million+ attempts to contact voters in person or by phone? How many paid field organizers? Eight field offices in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney, North Platte, Scottsbluff, Chadron, Columbus and Norfolk?

Can we muster every weekend for months an army of volunteers to hit neighborhoods in search of likely party voters? Will the volunteers know if the voter's record is consistent or infrequent for Democrats? Once we have found potential Democratic supporters, will we contact them on Election Day by phone or in person until the voter casts a ballot or the polls close? After the primary will we cover the 1,879 (+)(-) precincts in the state when we have less than a year to organize everyone?

Is grassroots, get-out-the-vote organizing vital? Do we have a template for a statewide field organization that can deliver more Democrats than in the past, along with Independents and a handful of Republicans? Can we harness present Internet technology and social media to organize and communicate the message?

2014 could be decided by razor-thin margins if we can get out the vote. On Election Day can we add three percentage points? Time will tell.

Volunteer to staff County Party booths or walk in parades for events this summer, including the following:

Star City Pride, July 11-14
Hickman Hay Day Parade, July 27
Lancaster County Fair, August 1-10

To volunteer for help with these and other summer events, call the County Party office at 402-476-2268.

For more information about the Lancaster County Democratic Party, follow us on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=20412530936>
and Twitter:

http://twitter.com/#!/LCDP_NE

Thanks to the recipients of the 2013 County Party Torch Bearers' awards for their many years of faithful service to the Lancaster County Democratic Party:

DiAnna Schimek, Vic Covalt, Ken Reitan, Ben Nelson, James Garver, and Gene Carroll.

See more pictures at:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10200378399196701&set=oa.573716672679526&type=1&theater>



Thanks to the volunteers who worked our booth at Lincoln's Juneteenth celebration!
Here are some pictures from that event.



James Michael Bowers, Roger Eschliman,
Patty Pansing Brooks, and Graham Brooks



Curt Lachner, Tami 'Robinson' Soper



James Michael Bowers, Roger Eschliman,
Patty Pansing Brooks, and Graham Brooks



Roger Eschliman, Doug Emery

Congratulations to County Party member Jon Rehm on being named the 2013 NDP Bob Kerrey Congressional District 1 Volunteer of the year, at the 2013 Morrison-Exon Dinner.





Lancaster County
Democratic Party
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