



Independents Make Our Mark in Maine

A few weeks ago, Jackie Salit visited the great state of Maine at the invitation of activist Joe Pickering and Barbara McDade, president of the Maine League of Women Voters and Director of the Bangor Public Library. Jackie spent several days talking about the independent movement on the radio, with the editorial board of the *Bangor Daily News*, on a political panel at Husson University (sponsored by the Bangor League and Library) and at the Bangor Rotary Club. She received a strong reception everywhere she went.



(L to R) Mark Kelly, moderator, Elliot Cutler, independent candidate for governor, Jill Goldthwait, former State Senator (I), Toby McGrath, Deputy Chief of Staff, Angus King and Benjamin Sprague, Independent Bangor City Council member.



At the Bangor Public Library, Jackie was interviewed about her book, *Independents Rising*, her trip to Maine, and the government shutdown.

Click [here](#) to view ABC's coverage.

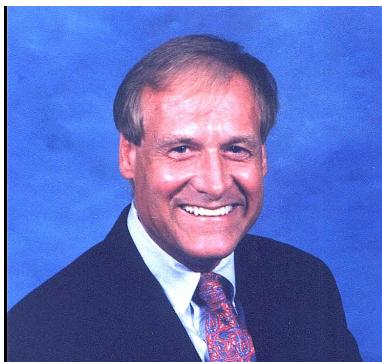
Click [here](#) to view the panel discussion.

[Click here](#) to view more pictures from Salit's visit to Maine.

Jackie, Barbara and Joe were interviewed by the *Bangor Daily News*.

Read, [**We've Moved Away From Political Parties. Should Government, Too?**](#)

Independent Ohio Leader Represents Independents at Ohio State



Rick Robol ([Independent Ohio](#)) joined 300 attendees at the meeting of the Bipartisan Policy Committee ("BPC") at Ohio State University on Tuesday, October 15, 2013. The two Co-Chairmen of the [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#) (PCEA), Robert Bauer and Benjamin Ginsberg were on the first panel of the event, and as Rick noted, their focus was on the interests of the Republican and Democratic parties. "There was little mention of independent voters as Bauer and Ginsberg discussed the work of the Commission, stating that its focus was on administrative issues." Robol asked the next panel to address issues of independent voters and after some prodding, the panel had a very engaged discussion about the value of open primaries and the circumstances of independent voters. Rick is a member of

IndependentVoting.org's national independent reform committee which orchestrated our campaign to

pressure the PCEA. The committee is looking forward to continue its work. If you're interested in being involved, contact Steve Richardson at stevenrichardson@verizon.net.

Listen to the National Conference Call of Independents

On the October 15, national conference call for independents, [Jackie Salit](#) talked about independents' participation in the PCEA hearings, the partisanship crisis as showcased in the recent government shutdown, and the independent movement for sweeping political reform that's growing across the country. It's an important message about what it is going to take to do something about the partisanship hardwired into the current electoral and legislative setup. [Listen to the full call here](#)

Our job, in my opinion, is to grow our movement, our networks, to grow this conference call. The more we do to raise the profile and the size of our networks, the more we will be in a position to lead the American people forward at a time when the political parties cannot. Every time they tell us to sit down and be quiet, we will stand up and speak! Louder and louder.



How Democrats Abandoned Independents and Empowered the Tea Party

[IndependentVoting.org](#) Director of Development, John Opdycke penned a controversial article, [How Democrats Abandoned Independents and Empowered the Tea Party](#), which puts the responsibility of the partisan crisis on both parties.

No Room for Debate

Just last week a [Gallup poll](#) found that only 26 percent of Americans believe that the two major parties adequately represent them, and 60 percent of the country thinks that a viable third party is needed in the United States.

[Read this excellent editorial](#) by City & State Editor Morgan Pehme on the need to democratize the New York City Mayoral debates.



Next Spokesperson Training Sunday, November 17 7pm ET

**Join a
Spokesperson Training Call
with Sarah Lyons,
IndependentVoting.org's
Director of Communications**

These are interactive calls. For those of you who would like to develop your skills talking to others and writing about the independent movement and learn how to effectively project your message.

[Register Here for the call](#)



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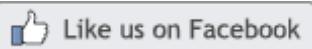


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