



Free New York

Vol. 54, No. 2

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New York

February 2025

PETITIONING BEGINS IN APRIL AND OTHER LPNY NEWS

by Andrew Kolstee
LPNY Secretary

Here are a few updates for the Libertarian Party of New York.

The Liberty Test Podcast

Episodes of the LPNY's podcast, The Liberty Test, are now up on the LPNY's YouTube Channel.

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Petitioning and 2025 Candidates

The independent petitioning period begins on April 15, 2025. We have a few people who have expressed interest in running. If you are running for office this year, please reach out to us so we can help you. All candidates are encouraged to submit campaign news to this newsletter.

Contact Political Director Paul Grindle at pgrindle@lpny.org if you are interested in running.

New York State Fair

The Executive Committee has been discussing the State Fair in Syracuse this year, but if we have a booth, it will need to be staffed. Volunteer Director Catrina Rocco is currently collecting a list of volunteers. Contact her at crocco@lpny.org if you are interested in helping.

Ballot Access Bills

We do not have any updates on the Senate bill (S01870) or Assembly bill (A02724), which would lower the thresholds for independent candidates. Both have been referred to their respective committees.

The Executive Committee is continuing to work on efforts to pursue ballot access, but we need help from everyone to reach out to your elected representatives and ask them to support these bills.

In-Person Event

The Executive Committee is also discussing holding an in-person event later this year. If you have any ideas or are willing to volunteer to help plan this, please reach out to us. We will present more details on this event as the plans are developed. We will likely hold the event

sometime between September and November.

2026 National Convention

Even though it is over a year away, the Executive Committee has discussed collecting a list of those interested in being a Delegate to the 2026 Libertarian National Convention, which will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. If you are interested, please contact us at info@lpny.org. A formal application will be set up in the future.

We will not know how many delegate seats we will have for this convention, as the numbers will be finalized in January 2026. You can help keep our numbers up and ensure we also maintain a representative on the National Platform and Credentials Committees by making sure your National membership is up to date.

COUNTY AFFILIATE NEWS

CHAUTAUQUA

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Mar. 11, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
and Zoom
(second Tuesdays)

CONTACT:

Andrew Kolstee, Chair
akolstee@lpny.org

LEARN MORE:

www.chautauquaLP.org
fb.com/chautauquaLP

CHEMUNG

CONVENTION:

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025 at 12 PM
Ill Eagle Taphouse
200 E. Church St., Elmira

CONTACT:

Craig Colwell, Chair
ccolwell78@gmail.com

LEARN MORE:

lpchemung.org

COLUMBIA

NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025 @ 7 PM
Google Meet
(third Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Scott Hoskins, Chair
scottdhoskins@gmail.com

CLINTON

CONTACT:

**Zachary Remian,
Actng County Chair**
zremian@lpny.org
(518) 310-6664

DUTCHESS

NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Mar. 15, 2025 @ 5 PM
Village Restaurant
& Pancake Factory
1540 Route 44, Pleasant Valley
(3rd Saturdays)

CONTACT:

Robert Cocomello, Chair
Catrina Rocco, Vice-Chair
info@dutchesscountyp.org

LEARN MORE:

dutchesscountyp.org

ERIE

NEXT MEETING:

Held Monthly via Zoom

CONTACT:

Duane Whitmer, Chair
chairman@eriecountyp.org

KINGS (BROOKLYN)

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Mar. 18, 2025 at 3 PM
@ Fourth Avenue Pub
76 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217
(3rd Tuesdays)

CONTACT:

Christopher Skelly, Chair
cskelly@cskelly.tech

MADISON

CONTACT:

Mark Braiman, Chair
mbraiman@lpny.org

MONROE

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Mar. 6, 2024 @ 7 PM
(first Thursdays)
Contact us for the link.

CONTACT:

Steve Becker, Chair
drsbecker@aol.com

LEARN MORE:

monroecountyp.org
Ask about the Google Group
and social meetings

NASSAU

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Mar. 13, 2025 at 7 PM
@ Landmark Diner
(2nd Thursdays)

CONTACT:

**Jon Gunther,
Executive Committee Chair**
jonguntherlibertarian@gmail.com
**Blay Tarnoff,
County Committee Chair**
LPNY@eblay.com

NEW YORK (MANHATTAN)

MONTHLY SOCIAL

Wed., Mar. 12, 2025 at 7-9 PM
@ PubKey Bar
85 Washington Pl.
New York, NY 10011
(second Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Chance Haywood, Chair
chaywood@lpny.org

NIAGARA

CONTACT:

Wendi Szabo,
Acting County Chair
wendiszabo@gmail.com

ONEIDA

NEXT MEETING:

Contact Keith for the link

CONTACT:

Keith Redhead, Chair
kredhead@lpny.org

ONONDAGA

CONTACT:

Rachel Becker, Chair
reb4128@rit.edu

ORANGE

CONTACT:

Juan Ayala, Chair
livefree@juanrayala.com

PUTNAM

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Mar. 13, 2025 at 7 PM
at McCarthy's
374 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512
(2nd Thursdays)

CONTACT:

Bill O'Donnell, Chair
billod10704@gmail.com

QUEENS

CONVENTION:

Sat., Mar. 8, 2025 at 12 PM
Stamatis Greek
and Mediterranean Restaurant
29-09 23rd Ave., Astoria

CONTACT:

John Clifton, Chair
mrjclifton@yahoo.com

RENSSELAER

Since October 2022, the Rensselaer County Libertarian Party has been collecting food items and monetary donations to give monthly to StreetSoldiers Rensselaer.

NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Mar. 5, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Alexis Diner, North Greenbush
(first Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Jennifer O'Connor,
Acting County Chair
joconnor@lpny.org

RICHMOND (STATEN ISLAND)

NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025 @ 7 PM
@ Coffee and Collectibles
(3rd Thursdays)

CONTACT:

Susan Overeem Cummings,
Chair
susanovereem@gmail.com

SARATOGA

CONTACT:

Naz Garabedian, Chair
nazareth.garabedian
@lawsonproducts.com

SCHOHARIE

CONTACT:

Lora Newell, Chair
lnewell@lpny.org

SUFFOLK

CONTACT:

Robert Schuon, Chair
rschuon@mindspring.com

TIOGA

CONTACT:

Sara Price, Chair
sprice@lpny.org
Rich Purtell, Vice-Chair
rpurtell@lpny.org

ULSTER

NEXT MEETING:

Mon., Mar. 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Hickory BBQ, Kingston, NY
(second Mondays)

CONTACT:

Sam Kniffen, Chair
samkniffen01@gmail.com

LEARN MORE:

www.UlsterLP.org

WAYNE

NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025 at 10 AM
Yellow Mills Diner
2534 NY-31, Palmyra, NY 14522
(last Saturdays)

CONTACT:

Jim Dayton, Chair
jdayton@lpny.org

LEARN MORE:

lpwaynecounty.org

WESTCHESTER

CONTACT:

Rajib Maitra
Acting County Chair
rajib.maitra1@gmail.com

YATES

CONTACT:

Jeff Bradley, Chair
jbradley@lpny.org

LPNY DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
<p>Duane Whitmer Chair Daniel Castello Vice Chair Andrew Kolstee Secretary Chance Haywood Treasurer Christopher Skelly Communications Director Mark Axinn Fundraising Director Justin Carman IT Director Richard Purtell Legislative Affairs Director Pietro Geraci Outreach Director Paul Grindle Political Director Catrina Rocco Volunteer Director</p>	<p>Daniel Castello Platform Committee Chair Andrew Kolstee Rules Committee Chair</p>	
STATE COMMITTEE		
<p>Mark Axinn (JD1) Morry Davis (JD1) Paul Grindle (JD2) Gary Popkin (JD2) Evan Lebrecht (JD3) Justin Carman (JD3) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) <i>Vacant</i> (JD4) Daniel Castello (JD5) James Fitch (JD5) E. Rose Leatherman (JD5) Mark Braiman (JD6) Charles Dorgan (JD6) Samuel Hordeski (JD6) Steven Becker (JD7) Justin Pelletier (JD7) Sean Phelan (JD7) James Ziobro (JD7) Maura Botsford (JD8)</p>	<p>Andrew Kolstee (JD8) Duane Whitmer (JD8) <i>Vacant</i> (JD8) Pietro Geraci (JD9) Catrina Rocco (JD9) William Schmidt (JD9) Jeffrey Denecke (JD10) Jonathan Gunther (JD10) Vincent O'Neill (JD10) Christian Padgett (JD10) Robert Schuon (JD10) Blay Tarnoff (JD10) Francisco Olvera (JD11) Irwin Mark Weinblatt (JD11) <i>Vacant</i> (JD12) Susan Overeem-Cummings (JD13) Chance Haywood (ex-officio) Richard Purtell (ex-officio) Christopher Skelly (ex-officio)</p>	
info@lpny.org	www.LPNY.org	866-336-3120