



# Free New York

## NOMINATING CONVENTION SET FOR OCTOBER 25, 2025 IN ROCHESTER

by Andrew Kolstee  
LPNY Secretary

The Libertarian Party of New York’s nominating convention will be held earlier than usual, to select our 2026 statewide candidates (Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller). Petitioning will not begin until April 2026, but getting started early is important for momentum.

The nominating convnetion will be held Saturday, October 25, 2025 in Rochester. The venue is the the

Homewood Suites by Hilton Rochester/Greece (400 Center Place Drive, Rochester, NY 14615). The convention will begin at 12:30 p.m. and adjournment is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. A special \$169 hotel room rates has been reserved and expires on October 5, 2025.

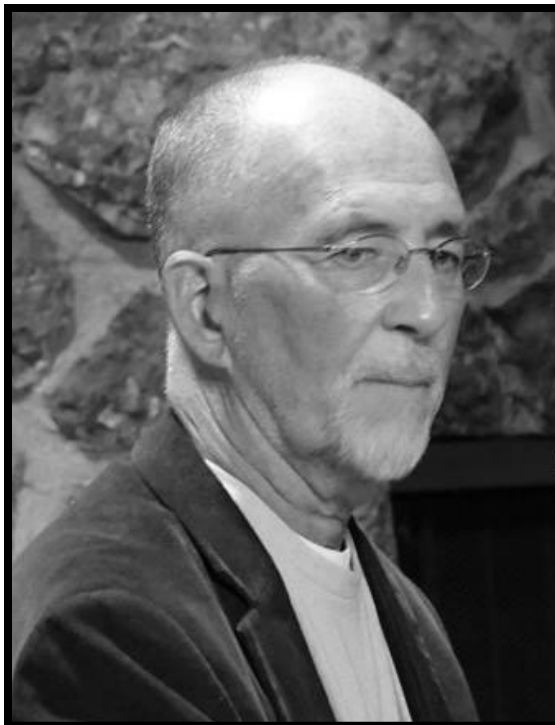
For the first time, the cost to attend the convention is **FREE** although donations are welcome. Lunch will not be provided. The Monroe County Libertarian Party is working to organize an evening dinner

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event and details will be announced when they are ready.

The business will include filling vacancies on the State Committee, nominations for statewide candidates (Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller), selection of the LPNY’s representatives and alternate representatives to the National Platform and Credentials Committees, and delegates to the 2026 Libertarian National Convention.

# LPNY.org/donate



## *In Memoriam*

# James “Jim” Rosenbeck

## 1954–2025

The Libertarian Party of New York mourns the loss of James “Jim” Rosenbeck, who passed away on September 8, 2025 at the age of 71. Jim was a dedicated activist, leader, and longtime advocate for liberty whose contributions were especially influential in the late 2010s.

A retired school counselor and Genesee County resident, Jim earned his Master of Science in Educational Counseling from SUNY Brockport in 1981 and served as Counseling Department Chairperson at Pembroke High School before retiring. He then devoted much of his time to political and community activism.

Jim’s involvement in the Libertarian Party began in the early 2010s with the Genesee County Libertarian Party. He served as Secretary, chaired the City of Batavia Libertarian Committee, and represented the county affiliate on the State Committee. From 2015 to 2018 he served as Vice-Chair of the LPNY, working closely with State Chair

Mark Glogowski.

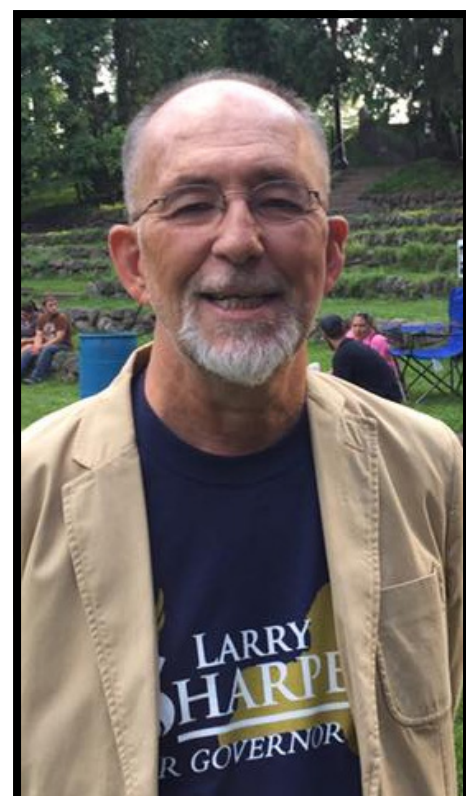
In 2018, Jim was elected State Chair, serving until April 2020. He led the party during a pivotal period when Larry Sharpe ran for Governor for the first time, and subsequently achieved ballot access for the party for the first time. He also briefly represented Region 8 on the Libertarian National Committee in 2018. He was a Delegate to the 2014, 2016, and 2018 Libertarian National Conventions and served as New York’s Delegation Chair in 2018.

In addition to leadership in the party, Jim ran as a Libertarian candidate for Batavia City Council twice, in 2013 and 2017. He was also a Presidential Elector for Gary Johnson/Bill Weld in 2016.

Jim was active in the party alongside his wife, Deborah Kerr-Rosenbeck, and encouraged others to take part in the political process. Jim was committed to building the Libertarian Party, through working to

develop new county affiliates, support candidates for public office, and petition to secure ballot access, and other activities.

His advocacy left a lasting mark and will be remembered by his family, friends, and many fellow Libertarians.



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# SUPPORT THE LPNY!

by **Mark Axinn**  
LPNY Fundraising Director

I am saddened to report the passing of a good friend and former LPNY Chair, Jim Rosenbeck. Jim was 71 and living in Florida with his wife Debbie, where they had retired from Batavia a few years ago. I last saw them in December 2024, and knowing what team I like, Jim gave me a Tom Seaver baseball card that I will always cherish.

Like all of us, Jim was concerned for our country in these days of authoritarian diktat against anyone who does not tow the government line.

So what can we do to honor his memory?

To start, we can continue to support Libertarian candidates and causes as an alternative to the big government welfare/warfare world which we currently encounter everywhere we look. Whether it's an anti-prohibition or pro-individuality activity, we can still stick our finger in the eye of the oppressor to let them know how much we object to the status quo.

We are a small sound of sanity in a sea of statism, and it is important for us to keep at it to prevent the tyrants from imposing even worse nanny-state despotism than they already have.

Of course that takes money. Please join me and donate to the Libertarian Party of New York today. You can do it easily on the website at



*Deb Rosenbeck, Mark Axinn, and Jim Rosenbeck in Florida in December 2024*

LPNY.org, or snail mail a check to the P.O. Box 2171, Jamestown, NY, 14701.

Please send a donation today in Jim's memory. You will feel so much better than when paying taxes.

Thanks so much!

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# LPNY CONDEMNS ASSASSINATION OF CHARLIE KIRK

by **Christopher Skelly**  
LPNY Communications Director

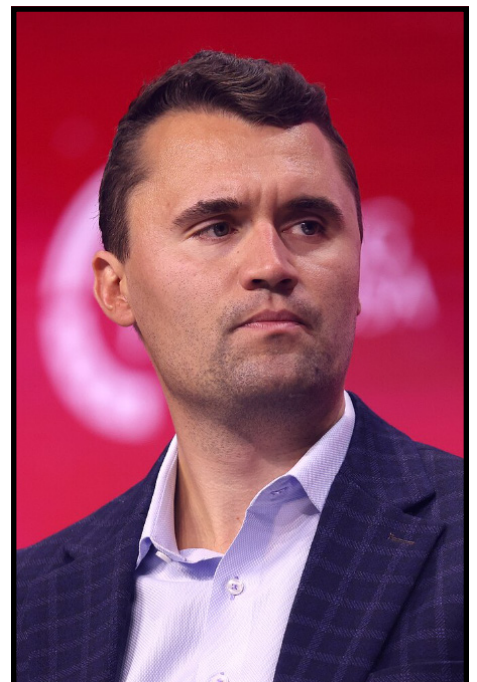
The Libertarian Party of New York is saddened and condemns the assassination of Charlie Kirk.

This is the result of growing division among citizens, fueled by the false narrative that those with differing political views are existential threats. This misperception distracts from the true source of oppression: the state itself.

History demonstrates that as state

power expands, it sows discord among the people, pitting them against one another while the real threat, the overreach of government authority goes unchecked.

The LPNY stands firm in recognizing the state as the primary adversary to individual liberty and calls for unity in opposing its encroachments, rather than allowing ourselves to be divided by partisan fear.



# NEW YORK'S SHIFT FROM NATURAL GAS: A CASE FOR A JONES ACT LNG WAIVER

by **Richard Purtell**  
LPNY Legislative Affairs Director

New York State's ongoing transition away from natural gas is emblematic of a broader push toward renewable energy and reduced carbon emissions. While this shift aligns with ambitious climate goals, it also highlights a critical issue for neighboring New England states: the need for reliable, affordable energy during the transition. This challenge underscores the importance of revisiting the Jones Act—a century-old maritime law—to allow domestic liquefied natural gas (LNG) to flow to New England.

The Jones Act, formally known as Section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, requires goods transported between U.S. ports to be carried on ships that are U.S.-flagged, U.S.-built, U.S.-owned, and U.S.-crewed. This creates barriers for energy distribution, including LNG.

The United States is the world's leading exporter of LNG, with tank-

ers regularly transporting the fuel to dozens of countries. Last year, for example, the Cove Point, Maryland LNG terminal exported LNG as far as Japan and India. Yet incredibly—and absurdly—that same LNG can't be sent up the coast to New England due to a complete lack of U.S.-built and U.S.-flagged LNG tankers.

Instead, the region often relies on costlier foreign LNG imports. Earlier this year, the CEO of ISO New England highlighted the benefits that relief from the Jones Act would provide. Testifying before Congress, he pointed out that LNG was being imported at approximately six times the price that US LNG exports command.

New York's pivot away from natural gas compounds this issue. As the state phases out natural gas infrastructure and prioritizes electrification and renewable energy, it reduces its role as a transit hub for natural gas pipelines to New England. This leaves New England states, which already face some of

the highest energy costs in the nation, even more vulnerable to supply shortages during peak demand periods, such as harsh winters.

A Jones Act waiver for LNG could provide a practical solution. By allowing non-compliant vessels to transport LNG between U.S. ports, New England could access abundant and affordable domestic LNG. This would reduce reliance on foreign imports, enhance energy security, and stabilize prices for consumers. Moreover, domestic LNG is often produced under stricter environmental and labor standards than foreign alternatives, aligning with broader sustainability and ethical goals.

A Jones Act LNG waiver would not only support New England's energy needs but also strengthen the nation's energy independence. As policymakers weigh the complexities of energy and environmental policy, pragmatic solutions like this deserve serious consideration.

**See pages 6-7 for County Reports**

**Don't see your county listed?**

**We are looking for Libertarians to organize new County Affiliates! Contact us for more details!**

**[affiliates@lpny.org](mailto:affiliates@lpny.org)**

You're Cordially Invited to the

# MID HUDSON LIBERTARIAN GALA

PAMELA'S ON THE HUDSON  
1 PARK PLACE, NEWBURGH, NY 12550

September 28, 2025, at 3:30- 7:30 PM

General Ticket/Committee Member Ticket \$75/\$70  
VIP Experiences Start @ \$125  
Sponsorships & Advertisements Start @ \$25

Scan QR Code to Purchase Tickets/Sponsorships



# COUNTY AFFILIATE NEWS

## BRONX

**CONTACT:**

**Kim Antonio,**  
Acting County Chair

## CHAUTAUQUA

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tues., Oct. 14, 2025 @ 7:00 PM  
on Zoom  
(second Tuesdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Andrew Kolstee, Chair**  
akolstee@lpny.org

**LEARN MORE:**

www.chautauquaLP.org  
fb.com/chautauquaLP

## CHEMUNG

**CONTACT:**

**Nick Grasso, Chair**  
ngrass89@yahoo.com

**LEARN MORE:**

lpchemung.org

## COLUMBIA

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025 @ 7 PM  
Google Meet  
(third Wednesdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Scott Hoskins, Chair**  
scottdhoskins@gmail.com

## DUTCHESS

**NEXT MEETING:**

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025 @ 5 PM  
Village Restaurant  
& Pancake Factory  
1540 Route 44, Pleasant Valley  
(3rd Saturdays)

**CONTACT:**

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

**LEARN MORE:**

dutchesscountylp.org

## ERIE

**CONTACT:**

**Duane Whitmer, Chair**  
chairman@eriecountylp.org

## KINGS (BROOKLYN)

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tues., Oct. 21, 2025 at 3 PM  
@ Fourth Avenue Pub  
76 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217  
(3rd Tuesdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Christopher Skelly, Chair**  
cskelly@lpny.org

## MADISON

**CONTACT:**

**Mark Braiman, Chair**  
mbraiman@lpny.org

## MONROE

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Oct. 2, 2025 @ 7 PM  
(first Thursdays)  
Contact us for the link.

**CONTACT:**

**Steve Becker, Chair**  
drsbecker@aol.com

**LEARN MORE:**

monroecountylp.org  
Ask about the Google Group  
and social meetings

## NASSAU

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Oct. 9, 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)

**CONTACT:**

**Chance Haywood, Chair**  
chaywood@lpny.org

## ONEIDA

**CONTACT:**

**Keith Redhead, Chair**  
kredhead@lpny.org

## ONONDAGA

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Liverpool Public Library  
(3rd Wednesdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Rachel Becker, Chair**  
reb4128@rit.edu  
onondagacountylp@gmail.com

## ONTARIO

**CONTACT:**

**Nathan Dingey,**  
**Acting County Chair**

## ORANGE

**NEXT MEETING:**

Held 4th Thursdays. Location  
varies. Contact us for details.

**CONTACT:**

**Juan Ayala, Chair**  
livefree@juanrayala.com

## QUEENS

**NEXT MEETING:**

Sat., Oct. 11, 2025 at 12:00 PM  
Stamatis Greek  
and Mediterranean Restaurant  
29-09 23rd Ave., Astoria

**CONTACT:**

**John Clifton, Chair**  
mrjclifton@yahoo.com

## RENSSELAER

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wed., Oct. 1, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Alexis Diner, North Greenbush  
(1st Wednesdays)

**CONTACT:**

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

## RICHMOND (STATEN ISLAND)

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025 @ 7 PM  
@ Coffee and Collectibles  
(3rd Thursdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Susan Overeem Cummings,**  
**Chair**  
susanovereem@gmail.com

## SARATOGA

**CONTACT:**

**Naz Garabedien, Chair**  
nazareth.garabedian  
@lawsonproducts.com

## SCHOHARIE

**CONTACT:**

**Mason Hovack,**  
**Acting County Chair**

## SUFFOLK

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Panera Bread, Deer Park  
(4th Thursdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Robert Schuon, Chair**  
rschuon@mindspring.com

## ULSTER

**NEXT MEETING:**

Mon., Oct 13, 2025 at 6:30 PM  
Hickory BBQ, Kingston, NY  
(second Mondays)

**CONTACT:**

**Sam Kniffen, Chair**  
samkniffen01@gmail.com

**LEARN MORE:**

[www.UlsterLP.org](http://www.UlsterLP.org)

## WAYNE

**MONTHLY SOCIAL:**

Sat., Oct. 25, 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](http://lpwaynecounty.org)

## WESTCHESTER-PUTNAM

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Oct. 9, 2025 at 7 PM  
McCarthy's Pub  
374 NY-52  
Carmel Hamlet, NY 10512

**CONTACT:**

**Rajib Maitra, Chair**  
rajib.maitra1@gmail.com

# LPNY DIRECTORY

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<a href="mailto:info@lpny.org">info@lpny.org</a>	<a href="http://www.LPNY.org">www.LPNY.org</a>	<b>866-336-3120</b>