



Free New York

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The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New York

May 2025

LPNY UPDATES, SPRING 2025

by Andrew Kolstee
LPNY Secretary

As we move into late spring, the Libertarian Party of New York continues to move forward. Here are the latest updates and opportunities to get involved.

New York State Fair

We are looking for volunteers to staff the booth at the New York State Fair. This is one of our biggest outreach efforts of the year, and volunteer help is essential. Volunteer Director Catrina Rocco is assembling a schedule of volunteers to staff the booth. If you plan to attend the fair and can help, even for a few hours, please contact her at crocco@lpny.org.

The Liberty Test Podcast

New episodes of the LPNY's podcast, *The Liberty Test*, continue to be released regularly. The podcast just released its 12th episode, entitled "Baby Benefit or Ballot Bribe." Watch and subscribe on YouTube!

Ballot Access Bills

There are still no updates on the Senate bill (S01870) or Assembly

bill (A02724), which would reduce the thresholds for independent and third-party ballot access. Both remain in committee. Please contact your State Senator and Assemblymember to express your support for these critical reforms.

Fall In-Person Event

The Executive Committee is finalizing details for an October in-person event in Rochester. If you have recommendations or would like to assist in planning, please reach out to us at info@lpny.org.

2026 National Convention

We are still gathering names of those interested in serving as Delegates to the 2026 Libertarian National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. While the official delegate count won't be finalized until January 2026, expressing your interest now helps us prepare.

If you're interested in being considered as a delegate, email us at info@lpny.org. A formal application process will open at a later date.

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New Donor Benefit

The Executive Committee recently adopted a new donor benefit: anyone who donates \$50 or more in a calendar year to the Libertarian Party of New York will be offered a complimentary National membership.

County Affiliates And Multi-County Affiliates

Some changes have been made to the LPNY Rules in regards to organizing local affiliates. During the April 27, 2025 meeting, the State Committee voted to allow multi-county affiliates to develop within a Judicial District. Libertarians in unorganized counties are encouraged to network with neighboring counties to form an official affiliate. The State Committee also voted dissolved three inactive County Affiliates: Schoharie, Tioga, and Yates Counties. Anyone interested in reorganizing those counties are asked to reach out to affiliates@lpny.org

COUNTY AFFILIATE NEWS

BRONX

CONTACT:

Kim Antonio,
Acting County Chair

CHAUTAUQUA

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., June 10, 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., Jun. 18, 2025 @ 7 PM
Google Meet
(third Wednesdays)

CONTACT:

Scott Hoskins, Chair
scottdhoskins@gmail.com

CLINTON

CONTACT:

Zachary Remian, Acting Chair
zremian@lpny.org
(518) 310-6664

DUTCHESS

NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Jun. 21, 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., Jun. 17, 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., Jun. 5, 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., Jun. 14, 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., Jun. 13, 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

NEXT MEETING:

See Facebook page
for details

CONTACT:

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

ORANGE

CONTACT:

Juan Ayala, Chair
livefree@juanrayala.com

PUTNAM

NEXT MEETING:

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

CONTACT:

Bill O'Donnell, Chair
billod10704@gmail.com

QUEENS

NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Jun. 14, 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., Jun. 6, 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., Jun. 21, 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

SUFFOLK

CONTACT:

Robert Schuon, Chair
rschuon@mindspring.com

ULSTER

NEXT MEETING:

Mon., Jun. 9, 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., Jun. 28, 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

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 Daniel Castello Strategic Planning 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) Wendi Szabo (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