



# Free New York

June 1999

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The official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of New York

## Calendar

August 21, 1999 - 3rd annual LPNY picnic

Got an event? Let us know!

## Address Changes

The mailing list for LPNY is now being maintained by national. All address changes/corrections can be sent to:

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Watergate Office Building  
2600 Virginia Ave. NW,  
Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20037

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## LPNY Convenes On LI

by Audrey Capozzi

The Best Western MacArthur Hotel was the site of the Libertarian Party of New York's Annual State Convention. The constellation of speakers added to the pleasure of rubbing elbows and exchanging ideas with like-minded individuals, making plans for more professional activism, running for local office, gathering signatures on petitions, and working on local campaigns. Since the theme was "Local Elections," the focus of many presentations was in detailing the "Three W's" - Who + Why = Win, which according to Steve Dasbach, National Director, is a cardinal rule of political parties. Of course, this is what the LPNY is even though the state has not recognized that fact.

Featured speakers included Roy Innis (CORE and NRA), David Nolan (Nolan Chart), Robert Bidinotto (IOS), Bob Schulz (Radio Host), Michael Tenner (CATO). Also featured was a panel of members who have run for office at the local level.

David Nolan and Steve Dasbach outlined effective strategies we must adopt in order to main-

tain a presence on the political playing field. Dasbach outlined a plan - MAPS - in which he counsels our goal setting must be measurable, achievable, challenging and significant. Prior to throwing your hat in the ring, the plan must be put in place, including the budget. What strategy will you use to garner those votes? Will you distribute literature, run ads, go door-to-door, or use direct mail?

Bidinotto also advised focus. What appeals to the voters we are targeting? They do not have to be "purist" libertarians to vote for us, but we must attract their votes with the focus of our campaigns. Bob Schulz continues to conduct his battle for liberty in the courtroom and on his daily talk radio show. He announced some lawsuits to be instituted in concert with the LPNY. Roy Innis discussed media strategies. If he decides to seek the mayoralty in NYC, some LP members are sure to be on his exploratory committee. He was introduced to the audience by Mark Edgerton, who is seeking LPNJ's nomination for Governor of NJ. Michael Tenner gave an informative talk on So-

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## Building A Better LPNY

By Audrey Capozzi

The convention was a success, even though it was put together on a shoestring budget. Every organization holds an annual convention, especially political parties. The purpose is fundraising, fundraising, and fundraising. Since we are a political party, and not just part of an educational movement, it goes without saying we must raise funds to run candidates which involves petition drives, developing literature and signage, and gaining media attention, etc. This costs money. Unless we want to send letters begging our members to send money periodically, we have to seek other ways to raise money. The convention is one way. It also brings people together which sparks camaraderie, renews old acquaintances, promotes socialization with like-minded individuals, and stimulates ideas and political action.

The convention date should be the same weekend every year. The convention committee should be established at the first State Committee meeting after election. There should be a budget, a goal to achieve, and enough money to achieve it. It seems as though the convention committee is left to its own devices and its own credit cards to book the event. Therefore, at least one mem-

ber of the committee must have a personal credit card with a high credit limit and the high hopes that the event is successful so the debt incurred can be repaid in a timely manner. The LPNY should not only have the ability to accept credit cards, there ought to be one for use for the convention and other necessary items the State Committee deems necessary to do business, i.e. funding petition drives, operating OPH booths, printing costs, etc.

Every issue of the official newsletter ought to have the calendar for the year, including the convention date.

## *(continued from page 1)* Convention

cial Security Reform and some non-members attended, having seen the notice in local papers and senior citizen news outlets.

Other highlights were: an appetizer party on Friday night, auctions for "LI Baskets of Cheer," a Silent Auction on the Ayn Rand movie, book and poster, "A Sense of Life," OPH booth and sale items. The movie was aired Saturday night with free admission.

LPNY elected the following officers for the coming year: Chair, Dave Harnett; Vice Chairs, Blay Tarnoff and Audrey Capozzi; Secretary, Caryn Cohen; Treasurer, John Clifton; At-Large, Bradford Arter, John Ayling, John Reed, Bonnie Scott and Lloyd Wright.

## LPNY Officers

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Past Chair: James Harris, PO Box 1036, Rockville Centre, NY 11571  
(516) 646-8897

## Brooklyn to Form Local

It's Official!

The first meeting of the Brooklyn LP will be on Monday, 6/7/99 at 7:30pm. It will be in the back room of the Punjab Restaurant at 691 Coney Island Avenue (between Cortelyou & Ave. C) in Brooklyn. The phone number at the restaurant is (718) 856-6207.

The food is really good and very cheap. Nothing costs more than \$4.00.

Please be aware that the owners are Muslim. Therefore, no alcohol is allowed, and women shouldn't wear shorts or minis.

If you plan on attending, please contact Matt Siegel at (718) 252-1651 or [mattzees@erols.com](mailto:mattzees@erols.com), so that he can give the restaurant a head-count.

## Old Libertarian Founds New Organization

Bill Morris, who calls himself "the old Libertarian from Delaware" founded the Libertarian Party of Delaware in 1975. He has now founded an organization called "Seniors Against Federal Extravagance" (SAFE). The goal of SAFE is to get the federal government to cut spending and pay off as much debt as possible before the Baby Boomers retire. Otherwise, members of Generation X face very high taxes to pay for the entitlements of the Baby Boomers and/or the Baby Boomers will receive much lower entitlements than present seniors get.

SAFE is an unusual seniors' organization in that members agree to accept reductions in their entitlements if the federal

government will cut spending.

In addition to pushing for smaller government, SAFE is a bridge between Libertarians and Conservatives.

SAFE is looking to expand its membership base outside of Delaware throughout the United States so that members of Congress will hear from constituent seniors who favor smaller government. They are particularly interested in expanding into Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Those interested in more information can write to: SAFE, 206 Main St., Odessa, DE 19730-0602, or call Bill Morris at: (302) 475-7060, or visit the website at: [www.s-a-f-e.org](http://www.s-a-f-e.org).

## Local Chapters

<u>Chapter Name</u>	<u>Local Contact</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Meetings</u>
Suffolk	Barry Loberfield	(516) 543-3510	call for details
Nassau	Vincent O'Neill	(516) 676-8029	3rd Tuesday at 8:00 PM 230 Hilton Ave., Hempstead
Queens	Brad Arter	(718) 670-3270	2nd Saturday at 10 AM Bohemian Hall, 29-19 24th Avenue, Astoria
Thomas Paine	Blay Tarnoff	(914) 949-1945	
Hudson Valley	Donald Silberger	(914) 255-8819	1st Tuesday at 7:00 PM College Diner, Route 299, New Paltz
Capital District	Jeff Russell	(518) 371-3641	2nd Tuesday at 6:00 PM Branch Restaurant, Maiden Lane, Albany
Southern Tier	Will Kone	(607) 687-7597	

# Libertarians Big Hit At Vassar Political Conference

by John Reed

The Libertarian Party of New York was invited to participate in The Junior State of America's Political Fair Conference, in Roosevelt Hall on Vassar's campus. The theme of this conference was "The Nature of Freedom: a Forum on Human Rights and Liberties." There were debates held by the high school students involved in The Junior State of America. In addition, the students got to hear from political professionals on certain topics. Don Silberger, our candidate for Lt. Governor in 1998, spoke to the students on personal freedoms. Our friend Don, ended up getting the loudest applause from the students.

Unlike other debate forums, the purpose of JSA is not so much to train speakers as it is to train leaders. JSA debates are much more geared toward the exchange of philosophical and political ideas. Topics are designed to be thought-provoking, rather than just controversial. All JSA events are student-run, and the student leaders, elected by their peers, decide the focus and goals for the organization. The Vassar event was being presented by the Empire-Constitution Region, which comprises New York and Connecticut, and included a mock

trial and nonpartisan political activities in addition to the standard JSA debate.

Before and after lunch, the students got to visit with the different political organizations that were able to make it to the conference. Representatives from the Green Party and NOW were also there. Out of all the organizations distributing literature, we had the most exciting table because we had our Operation Politically Homeless kit with us.

Libertarians helping with the OPH Event were, Bonnie Scott (LPNY Web Master), Jason Gagnon (SUNY New Paltz -- University Libertarian president), and John Reed (College Libertarian Advisor). We were there from noon to 3:00 PM.

Thirty four high school students took the quiz. Out of the thirty four students quizzed:

- 27% scored Libertarian
- 51% scored Liberal
- 14% scored Centrist
- 1% scored Conservative
- 7% scored Authoritarian

We also got to talk to many of the students about the benefits of free-markets and personal liberties.

Every student that took the quiz received a personalized definition sheet for what Libertarian, Liberal, Centrist,

Conservative, and Authoritarian means (from the Advocates Quiz/definitions site) and the flyer "TOWARD PEACE AND FREEDOM - The Libertarian Challenge Around the World".

This helped everyone understand that Libertarians are real and that there is legitimacy in libertarianism. For the students that scored Libertarian, we got their names and addresses to invite them to events this Fall and send them Libertarian information.

One illustration I used to show that the old one-dimensional political line is obsolete and the new two-dimensional Nolan Political Chart is much more reliable was to ask the students, "Hitler was to the right, Stalin was to the left, which side do you want to be on? On a two-dimensional political map, they both end up at the bottom Authoritarian quadrant."

I'm glad we were there to inform the students of alternatives to the current two party system. These particular students are future leaders. I figure this, since they are involved in political conferences so early in their lives, and at least 27% of these students know that libertarianism is a viable option. Of course, "liberty and freedom" should always be viable options to everyone.



## LPQC Annual Convention

The Libertarian Party of Queens will hold its annual convention on Saturday, June 12, 1999 from 10 AM - 4 PM. The morning session will be for LPQC business, followed by a hot buffet lunch at 12 noon and speakers at 1 PM.

The convention will be held at Bohemian Hall, 29-19 24th Avenue, Astoria, NY.

The speakers will include Mark Edgerton, candidate for Governor of New Jersey; Roy Innis, National Chairman, Congress of Racial Equality; and Carla Howell, past Chair, Massachusetts Libertarian Party.

There will also be special guest appearances by David Harnett, Chair, Libertarian Party of New York and Muni Savyon, Northeast Regional Representative to the LP.

Advance registration is \$25 (postmarked by June 3); walk-in registration is \$30.

To register, send your name, address, phone number and check to LPQC, c/o Procida Realty Corp., 161-09 29th Avenue, Flushing, NY. Indicate if you prefer vegetarian fare. Make checks payable to LPQC.

For more information, call Jim Strawhorn (718-639-3294) or John Procida (718-746-5200), or e-mail [lpqc@aol.com](mailto:lpqc@aol.com).

## Message from the Chair

by Dave Harnett

For years the New York LP has pursued official party status, granted to us by the state if our candidate for governor earns 50,000 votes. Last year, in our sixth attempt, we spent the most money ever to receive the fewest votes ever. As one wag puts it, "if you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you always got".

Allow me to echo some aphorisms. Politics is a people business. All politics is local. We need to walk before we can run.

It's time to change our strategy. The 50,000 votes and the official party status will come naturally when we are prepared. We must focus on building our party from the ground up in every New York county, getting active in local politics and networking with both local Libertarians and other folks sympathetic to our cause. We can't earn a degree if we don't do our homework.

We can't do it without you.

Seats on town, city and county boards are up for grabs this November. To be a credible political party, we need to field candidates for these offices. Look at the politicians who now hold those seats. Are they better than you? Are they smarter than you? We're supposed to be a nation of citizen statesmen, not the subjects of an inbred political class. Any of us can be a candidate. The experience will do you good.

Take your books and magazines on libertarian philosophy and hide them in the attic. Just be yourself. Attend government board meetings. Learn the issues. Speak at public hearings. Become part of the political process.

If you can't be a candidate, then help us find candidates to carry the Libertarian banner. Other parties often recruit candidates who are not party regulars. The party exists to provide a structure in support of our candidates. If we fail in this task, then we are a failure as a party.

I want our party to succeed. I need to hear from you. What are we doing right and what are we doing wrong? Tell me what we can do to build our party. Tell me what I can do to help you. If we all work together, we will succeed, and success breeds success.

## Clifton Running For School Board

The LP of Queens County's newsletter editor and former Chair, John Clifton, is currently running for School Board in the county's 28th District. This represents the first candidacy of a Libertarian in Queens since LPQC's founding in late 1994. Clifton is running on a "more choices in education, more parental control, more accountability by schools" general agenda. The school board elections will be held in May.

## Libertarian Leadership Seminars

The Balcom Group is sponsoring a series of Success '99 Libertarian Leadership Training Seminars, that will be held in various cities around the country. The seminars are intended to teach attendees how to organize winning campaigns, how to build strong local organizations capable of running winning campaigns and how to use non-winnable campaigns to build your organization — and to set the stage for future winnable campaigns.

Speakers will include Steve Dasbach, the LP National Director, Ron Crickenberger, the LP Political Director, Barbara Goushaw, the campaign manager for Jon Coon, Jim Lark, college organizing expert, Bill Winter, the LP Communications Director, and Michael Cloud, fundraising and communications guru.

There will be a seminar held in Pittsburgh on June 26-27 and one in Boston on September 11-12. The seminar that was scheduled to be held in NYC on June 5-6 has been postponed. No new date has been picked yet.

For more information, write to the Balcom Group, Attn: Success '99, 3600 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20010 or call them at (202) 234-3880.



## How to Join the Libertarian Party

### Our Objective:

The extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits.

### Our Principles:

1. Each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty and justly acquired property.
2. No person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of force against another.
3. All individuals are entitled to choose their own lifestyles, as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
4. The only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
5. The voluntary and unrestricted exchange of goods and services is fundamental to a peaceful and harmonious society.

I hereby subscribe to the Objectives and Principles of the Libertarian Party of New York, certifying that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature required for membership, not required for subscription only)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ (we organize by county)

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Joint Regular NY and National \$25

☐ Sustaining \$100

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☐ Renewal

☐ New Member

Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party, and mail to Libertarian Party, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037