

Dear Enrolled Libertarian,

First let me just say, thank you. Thank you for identifying as a Libertarian and enrolling to vote as one. As you may know, this 'privilege' of enrolling Libertarian as only been afforded to us since 2003, as a result of court case in conjunction with the Greens. Since that time over eleven hundred people have stepped forward and publicly identified with the 'Libertarian' Party, despite not being recognized as an official political party in New York.

As chairman of the Libertarian Party of NY , affectionately known as the LPNY, I'd like to further invite you to become a member of our 'organization'. There is a separate and distinct difference. While you can 'enroll' as a Libertarian, it does not mean that you are an automatic member of the LPNY. While our organization runs candidates, collects dues and participates in the political process, until we are recognized as an official party (more on that later), we cannot automatically consider you a member. The good news is that it is very simple and, I think, worthwhile.

Our basic membership dues are \$25. This helps support our operation in many ways. This letter, our conventions, newsletters and most importantly our candidates on the ballot, all reflect how that money is spent and the message of liberty delivered. As chairman I'm hoping to implement a new database and website for our success in 2009 and beyond.

Unlike the two major parties, we don't have staff, expensive offices or an apparatus that perpetually feeds itself. Our volunteers are a hardy lot of average citizens, business professionals, activists, academics and a whole host of other liberty loving enthusiasts and participants. We don't ask for a lot and we give back far more in our time lost with family, friends and work. I'm proud to have associated with so many of these people over the past few years.

The LPNY has produced and ran candidates in New York since 1972. While I couldn't appreciate at the time, my first Presidential vote for Ron Paul in 1988 was a direct result of all the hard work and dedication from members of the LPNY whose struggle and advocacy for freedom continues today. That struggle will continue as far as the eye can see and as long as those who would do us harm with over regulation, high taxes and an abandonment of civil liberties on many levels.

In 2009 and later on in 2010 we will face many barriers to freedom. As a political party we are one of the largest in the country. Unfortunately the barriers for success are high in NY. We need 50,000 votes for Governor in order to qualify as a party. Only a handful of states have a similar arcane requirements. A combination of that and the ability for other parties to 'fuse' their candidate to the major parties makes it next to impossible for a principled individual to stand out from the crowd and advocate all the things that liberty brings with it. Please consider joining the national party at <http://lp.org>.

Any of you who know me or have met me, know that I have a low threshold for emotional pleas, tired platitudes and all the other mixed ingredients you typically find in our political gumbo. Letters for money are rarely different. Please consider joining the LPNY today, ask friends and family to consider it also.

Also keep in mind that joining is more than just a monetary contribution. Our local chapters need new blood and fresh ideas. You may not even have a local group available. Consider starting one. It's amazing to see how a few people can make a difference. With as little as a dozen people in your area, you could be running candidates and be full fledged participants in the process, not just envelope stuffers.

My hope is to see a robust party of freedom lovers and candidates throughout the state. Join in, how you can and will. We're ready to help an assist.

Sincerely,

Eric Sundwall, Chair LPNY