



# Free New York

February 1998

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The official newspaper of the Libertarian Party of New York

LPNY 1998 Convention  
Saturday, March 14 &  
Sunday, March 15  
Poughkeepsie Sheraton  
Civic Center Hotel,  
Poughkeepsie NY

basic package (includes all  
speakers but no meals) \$49

basic + 1 (includes all  
speakers plus 1 meal) \$79

prime package (includes all  
speakers & both meals) \$98

all prices are for registrations  
received before 2/27  
after 2/27 add \$10 to all  
prices

for more info, call Audrey at (516)  
286-7631 or e-mail her at:  
audgeo@aol.com

## To Contact

*Free New York*

US Mail: Jeffrey Russell  
55 Via Da Vinci  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Phone: (518) 373-8002 Box 776

E-Mail: JRuss1776@aol.com

Fax: (518) 371-3364 (but call  
first, normally it's not turned on)

## Roy Innis to Seek LPNY Gubernatorial Nomination

*On January 5, LPNY chairman  
Lloyd Wright sent the following  
announcement to the LPNY e-  
mail distribution list.*

Roy Innis, Chairman of the  
Congress on Racial Equality  
(CORE) and Board Member of  
the National Rifle Association,  
announced today he will seek the  
Libertarian Party of New York's  
nomination for Governor at this  
year's convention March 14-15 in  
Poughkeepsie.

Jim Harris and I met with Roy  
in late November to gauge his  
interest in running on our ticket.  
We asked many questions on  
issues ranging from guns to  
drugs to free markets. He gave  
straight libertarian answers to all  
questions except he favors some  
regulation of content on the  
internet. I suspect this is due to a  
lack of understanding of the  
internet, but am not sure. Thus,  
while he is not a pure 100%  
libertarian, I believe he is 90%+.

Today Jim Harris and John  
Clifton met with him and

convinced him to seek our  
nomination. We did not  
guarantee him he would win the  
nomination. However, he has a  
large organization behind him, is  
well known in NYC, and is  
especially well known in the  
African-American community.  
He is personable and a good  
public speaker. I believe he  
represents our best shot at  
achieving 50,000 votes for  
governor. Steve Dasbach and the  
National LP agree and will  
completely fund our petition  
drive if Roy is our candidate.

I expect our members to ask  
Roy tough but fair questions at  
the convention. I also believe our  
ultimate success depends upon  
accepting members and  
candidates who are not quite  
100% libertarians, but who are  
close and only need further  
education to become 100%  
libertarians. I believe Roy Innis  
meets this criteria.

I will keep you informed as I  
receive more information. For  
now, Jim Harris is our liason  
with Roy.

## Drug Reform Rally Planned in NYC

Several drug reform groups are planning the Global Anti-Prohibition Days (GAD) to take place June 6-7-8, immediately preceding the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS), which takes place in New York, June 8-10. The GAD will feature demonstrations, speeches and discussion forums.

More information about the GAD, and about the organizations that are cooperating can be found at [legalize.org](http://legalize.org).

Their e-mail distribution list is: [usa@legalize.org](mailto:usa@legalize.org). To subscribe to the list, send mail to: [majordomo@legalize.org](mailto:majordomo@legalize.org) with "subscribe usa" as the text of the message.

## CDLP Moves to Tuesdays

The Capital District LP will be moving its meetings to the second Tuesday of each month beginning with the March meeting on 3/10. The February meeting will still be on the second Wednesday, 2/11. CDLP will continue to meet at The Branch Restaurant on Maiden Lane in Albany. Meetings begin at 6:00 PM. For more information, call Jeff at 371-3641 or send e-mail to: [JRuss1776@aol.com](mailto:JRuss1776@aol.com).

## CDLP Gears Up for Valid Locals Petition Drive

The Capital District Libertarian Party has begun Project 100, a plan to raise cash and signatures for this year's petition drive. The plan calls for 100% participation of all Libertarians in CDLP's area. Every member in the area is being asked to pledge \$100 or 100 signatures to help get our candidates on the ballot.

There are approximately 100 members in CDLP's area, so if every member participates, they will have a total of 10,000 dollars/signatures. So far, 8 people have pledged or given a total of \$410 and 100 signatures.

At the January 25 State Committee meeting, the State Committee of LPNY voted to decertify all local chapters that have not had an annual convention during the past year as required by Article 3 of the LPNY bylaws.

The local chapters that have been decertified are: Putnam, Westchester-Rockland, Niagara Frontier, Southern Tier, Kings and New York.

The following local chapters are the only ones that are still considered active and have a representative on the State Committee: Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, Hudson Valley and Capital District.

## LPNY Officers

Chair: Lloyd Wright, 16 Fairview Road, Hopewell Jct., NY 12533  
(914) 226-3387 e-mail: [lw.free.ny@mhv.net](mailto:lw.free.ny@mhv.net)  
Vice-Chairs: Blay Tarnoff, 50 DeKalb Ave., Apt S6, White Plains, NY 10605  
(914) 949-1945 e-mail: [blay@bigfoot.com](mailto:blay@bigfoot.com)  
Audrey Capozzi-Pappaeliou, PO Box 613, Bellport, NY 11713  
(516) 286-7631 e-mail: [Audgeo@aol.com](mailto:Audgeo@aol.com)  
Secretary: David Harnett, PO Box 188, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602  
(914) 471-4958 e-mail: [doberman@sprynet.com](mailto:doberman@sprynet.com)  
Treasurer: James Harris, PO Box 1036, Rockville Centre, NY 11571  
(516) 646-8897  
At Large: Katherine Betz, 16 Fairview Road, Hopewell Jct., NY 12533  
(914) 226-3387 e-mail: [KBetz@watson.ibm.com](mailto:KBetz@watson.ibm.com)  
Christopher Garvey, 16 Nicoll Ave., Amityville, NY 11701  
(516) 598-0752 e-mail: [ChrisGarvey@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ChrisGarvey@worldnet.att.net)  
Robert Goodman, 1402 Astor Ave., Bronx, NY 10469 (718) 547-4165  
e-mail: [RobertGoodman@godi.adirondack.fidonet.org](mailto:RobertGoodman@godi.adirondack.fidonet.org)  
Jeffrey Russell, 55 Via DaVinci, Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(518) 371-3641 e-mail: [JRuss1776@aol.com](mailto:JRuss1776@aol.com)  
Bonnie Scott,  
(914) 428-9163 e-mail: [BJS2@Cornell.edu](mailto:BJS2@Cornell.edu)

## Conti Seeks Attorney General Nomination

Daniel A. Conti, Jr. of Hempstead has announced that he will seek the Libertarian nomination for New York State Attorney General.

Conti was the Libertarian Party Candidate for New York State Attorney General in 1994, and he was the Libertarian Party Candidate for Nassau County District Attorney in 1997. In 1994 he received the most votes of any statewide LP candidate.

Mr. Conti is a resource attorney for Big Apple Dads and Long Island Dads, and he is a member of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

His platform will include the following planks:

1. Drastically reduce the size of the Office. In 1994, the Attorney General's Office employed approximately 1,000 people. In four year's time, Republican Dennis Vacco has increased the number of employees to over 1,800.
2. Lobby the legislature to require full public disclosure of all expenditures made by the office.
3. Stop utilization of civil forfeiture laws to seize private property from innocent individuals and businesses in

what now amounts to government sponsored thievery.

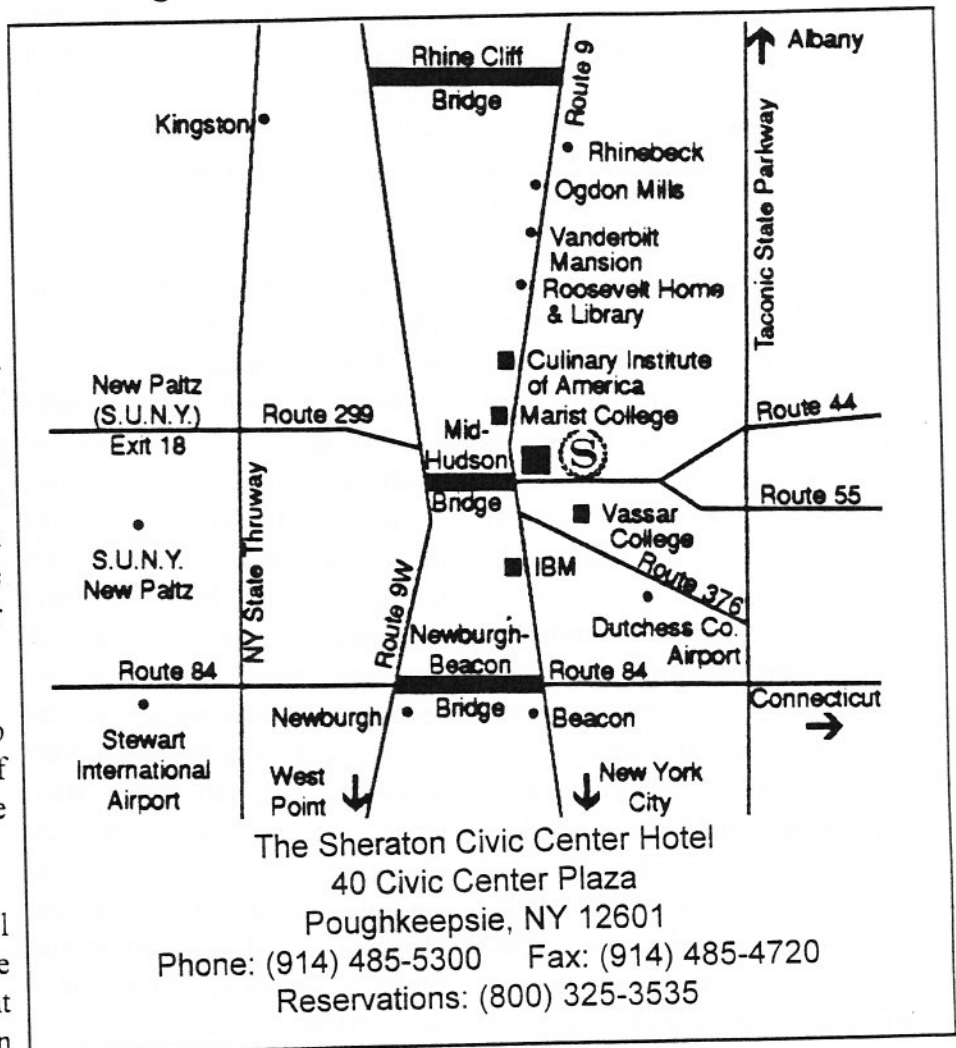
4. Support the privatization of the New York State prison system.
5. Support an individual's right to physician-assisted suicide without government interference.
6. Use the office to direct local district attorneys to prosecute violent criminals, rather than wasting taxpayer dollars prosecuting victimless crimes.

To contact him, send e-mail to: [dconti@islandlaw.com](mailto:dconti@islandlaw.com).

## Proposed By-laws Change

A revision to the LPNY bylaws has been submitted for consideration at the convention in Poughkeepsie. The proposed change would add Part E to Article VIII. The text would read:

*No candidate shall appear on the LP line for any political office in New York State who is not a member in good standing of the Libertarian Party of New York.*



## Regin 6 Report

By Mark A. Tuniewicz  
Region 6 Representative

It's 1998...if you expect to run for office this year, you'd better get moving! Our most successful candidates start planning 18 months ahead of time even for municipal races.

In case you wondered, yes, there was a meeting of the Libertarian National Committee held in mid-December in Washington, DC. At the annual budget meeting, we projected revenues to increase about 35% (to \$2.7 million).

The National Party as a whole continues its push to become increasingly more professional. Our first ever outside audit will be finished by the time you read this, and I've made the extra effort to meet with our auditors in DC to more fully understand their perspectives and issues. In addition, at the next LNC meeting, I'll attempt to change the LNC rules to make the auditors (internal & external) report to our Audit Committee, rather than our Executive Committee. It might not seem like a big deal, but I feel strongly that the audit function must be kept as independent as possible.

The committee has established key areas of strategic thrust—for example, we expect to continue to reduce the number of states in which we must

petition for ballot access, reducing that number to zero by the year 2000. For 1998, we are already on the ballot in about half the states, our best position ever.

Much to my delight, we approved a budget of \$60K for state & local campaign funding, tripling last year's budget. A note to federal or gubernatorial candidates—the Party is actively seeking to join its efforts with candidates who have shown a clear ability to organize and fundraise on their own—if you've proven yourself, the Party will, for example, supply 800# support if you plug the party in your campaign materials. Contact national director Ron Crickenberger at 74203.2314@compuserve.com for more information.

Don't want your address given out to any third party? Call Dolly Parker at the national office (202-333-0008) and she will flag your name.

Soon, I will be formally announcing my independent candidacy for LP National Treasurer. I feel strongly that there is much room for improvement in how the Party manages its finances, budgets & forecasts cash, and how we report this information to the membership. I'm making a point to avoid being part of any slate, since I believe that the Treasurer's position, to be credible, must be active and independent. If you want to sign on as a supporter, email me at nhliberty@aol.com.

## Suffolk Holds Liberty Seminar

by Audrey Capozzi

The Suffolk County Libertarian Organization (SCLO) under the auspices of Suffolk Individual Liberty (SIL) hosted a Long Island Liberty Coalition Seminar. Representatives from county and state legislatures, Newsday and National Review were in the audience. The session was taped by a local cable TV station. Speakers were each allotted about 5 min. to describe their organization's activities designed to promote liberty on LI. It was probably the first time Libertarians, peaceniks, pro-gun activists, sane environmentalists, the ACLU, anti-LILCO/LIPA lawyers, anti-tax folks and those for pro-choice in education, ever filled an entire conference room at Suffolk County Community College. It was a great networking success and opened up a dialog between the groups.

Thanks go to Barry Loberfeld not only for the idea, scheduling and booking speakers, media, etc. but even for rearranging the lounge chairs. Chris Garvey, LPNY Senatorial Candidate was a masterful Master of Ceremonies. Audrey Capozzi, LPNY Vice-Chair spoke representing (SIL), Tim Curry, Bruce Martin, and Jack Bova all played roles behind the scenes to assist Barry, as did the entire chapter, since this project was in the planning stages for months.

Those interested in duplicating the networking outreach concept in their area can call Barry for advice on planning at (516) 543-3510.



## All Politics is Local

by Dave Harnett

Starting before last month's election, I've been making an effort to attend the meetings of my town board, both the "workshop" sessions and the official business meetings. The business meetings often begin with public hearings on local laws and such, as required by state law. These public hearings are a golden opportunity for Libertarians to get involved in politics at the town and county level. In the case of a town board that often votes unanimously on every resolution, our impact as citizens speaking our mind may be greater than if a Libertarian actually sat on the board. Allow me to toot my horn:

(Kingston NY) Daily Freeman,  
Tuesday, Dec 23, 1997

*Board votes to open jobs to non-residents*

*HYDE PARK - The Town Board voted unanimously at Monday's board meeting to pass a local law amending residency requirements and establishing salary policy for several town offices, including town attorney and deputy town attorney.*

*Under the previous law, these positions were open only to Hyde Park residents. The amendment now makes any Dutchess County resident eligible for the jobs.*

*During the public hearing that preceeded the vote, David Harnett - who was the*

*Libertarian Party candidate for the 4th Ward in this year's election - objected to the amendment, saying taxpayers would be burdened by the cost of having to pay the salary and benefits of new employees.*

*Presently the board has a two-year contract, which expires on Dec 31, with Thomas Mahar Jr. - who is not a resident of Hyde Park - as "attorney to the town".*

*The amendment would allow Mahar to seek the formal office of town attorney and, as a town employee, be eligible for payroll benefits.*

*Harnett contended that the board should maintain its current practice, saying the amendment is contrary to prevailing trends in business, which he described as outsourcing "functions that are not part of the core ... of that business".*

*In response to a question posed by resident William Allt, Town Supervisor Tom Spence said salary benefits for full-time town employees are about \$5000 per year.*

*Spence said the town is "fortunate" to now be able to reimburse the town attorney and deputy town attorney through fixed salaries, rather than through hourly billing, given the town's payment of "enormous legal fees" in the past.*

*This change to the residency requirement is a sweetheart deal for the current town attorney. Under the contract, he already is*

*paid a fixed sum, \$60,000 per year. He maintains a law office in a nearby city and does handle other legal matters; a recent legal notice listed him as referee for a real estate foreclosure. The argument about "enormous legal fees" is hollow; in the many lawsuits filed against the town, the town's insurance carrier pays the attorneys. Several members of the board, particularly a former BOCES principal, lectured me sternly from the dais about the career sacrifices made by the town attorney in dedication to adminstering municipal law for the town, blah blah blah. Citizen William Allt, who I think is a long-time town resident, chatted with me after the meeting, expressing support for my remarks.*

*We're getting there, one person at a time !*

## Queens Schedule

The Libertarian Party of Queens County holds its General Meetings on the second Saturday of each month from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, at Shaheen Restaurant in Jackson Heights (72-09 Broadway., near the Roosevelt Ave./74th St. E-F-R-G-7 subway). Food is optional; donations are welcome. Discussion follows business and food break. Bring your ideas!

The next meeting is February 14. For more information, call (718) 670-3270, or send email to LibertyQNY@aol.com.

## Convention Schedule

### Saturday, March 14

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 Business Session
  - Year in Review
  - Treasurer's Report
  - By-Laws Changes
- 9:50 Break
- 10:00 Seminar: Party Building & Fundraising
- 12:00 Lunch with speaker Sharon Harris from The Advocates for Self-Government
- 1:30 Seminar: Running Successful Campaigns
- 3:00 Break
- 3:10 Nomination & Election of Statewide Candidates
- 7:00 Dinner with speaker TBA

### Sunday, March 15

- 9:00 Election of delegates to national convention
- 9:30 Election of State Committee
- 11:00 Recruitment of volunteers
- 12:00 Adjourn

## Address Changes

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

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



## How to Join the Libertarian Party of New York

### 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

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