# Plational Prohibitionist



Twenty-first Century Series



Michael Wood Presidential Candidate 2024

Michael Wood is a fifth-generation Californian and recently retired CEO of a multinational company.

Although he attended San José State University, majoring in political science, he did not initially enter politics - opting instead for a career in high tech. His business career has seen him live on three continents and sit on the boards of directors of companies in six countries, focusing on growth and job creation.

An active member of the Prohibition Party, since retirement he has been elected to both the Prohibition National Committee and the Executive Committee of the Prohibition Party. His objective is to work closely with other party leaders to help revitalize the party. By setting a new, more centrist course, Wood hopes to ensure the long-term success of America's oldest continuously-active third party.

When not working for the party, Wood volunteers 500 hours a year to help manage a large food bank, distributing donated food to upwards of 20,000 people each week. He is an avid political historian, genealogist, and author; his work has appeared in more than a dozen peer-reviewed journals. Wood has been married for 22 years and has two sons.

# More Convention Details inside !!!

Apr-May-Jun 2023

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John Petrowski Vice-Presidential Candidate 2024

John G Pietrowski of Toledo, Ohio is our candidate for Vice President in 2024. He was born June 4, 1959 in Toledo Ohio and has spent most of his life there, excepting 10 years in Temperance, Michigan. He retired in 2018 from the US Postal Service after a 33-year career as a clerk.

Petrowski is a lifelong Roman Catholic (currently the Lector Coordinator for St. Clement in Toledo, Ohio)

He has attended both the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University, where he studied Graphic Design.

He married his wife Diane in 1988; they have one child, Elana.

Petrowski says, "I have never consumed alcohol, with the exception of a tiny fake taste for our wedding toast: I had to make it look good for the photographer. (lol) I have never been a smoker or drug user." He recently became a member of the Prohibition National Committee for Ohio. His interest in politics began in 1972, when he found a couple of political buttons in his grandfather's basement. They started his lifelong collection of political memorabilia as well as his thirst for politics. He has, he says, visited the graves of every President excepting that of George H.W. Bush.

Petrowski started a small business, Graphic Politics, in 1995. It is a basement business that produces political campaign buttons. He produced a couple of designs for Earl Dodge when Dodge ran for President. He also produced buttons for Jim Hedges when Hedges ran for President.

He was an editor of *Political Collector* magazine and ran a cover story (interview) with Earl Dodge entitled "The Earl of Denver." The *Political Collector* has ceased operation, as have many publications, due to lack of advertisers.

Zack Kusnir was born and raised in San Diego, California. He earned both a bachelor's degree and master's degree from

the University of Southern California, where he also played on the football team. He has built a career in the finance and technology industries, and now



resides in New York City with his wife, Irina, and son, Caden.

He is a life-long Prohibitionist. It has been the only party he has ever been a registered member of, and he now serves as its Chairman and Treasurer.

Kusnir has created a short, attractive website complimentary to our "official" site: prohibition.carrd.co

His Twitter page can be accessed at: twitter.com/ZackKusnir.

# The National Prohibitionist

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From the Chairman's Corner Zack Kusnir

Prohibition: To Give, Not Take

The goals of the Prohibition Party, and prohibitionists worldwide for that matter, are often misunderstood. In America, where the concept of freedom is the bedrock of our foundation, how could the concept of "prohibition" possibly be further at odds with our culture and the visions of our Founding Fathers?

Unknown to many, the roots of prohibition and temperance movements drove action not to take, but to give and protect. It is undisputed that the consumption of alcohol impairs judgment, instigates violence, and can lead to addiction, leading to a vast array of problems from the breakdown of families to poverty. The act of consuming alcohol is "freedom," but the potential consequences are shackles that have imprisoned millions of people.

But the Prohibition Party does not wish to take away the American right to imbibe. That is one's personal choice and we respect and support individual freedoms. The Prohibition Party stands against the traffickers of alcohol who willingly trade the health of the individual and society for profit. The traffickers of alcohol capitalize on human weaknesses and intentionally exploit vulnerable and uninformed individuals, throwing ethics to the wind as they divert blame. Traffickers of alcohol know their power, and abuse it as they can so easily subordinate people and communities with their product. And rather than stand up for the people for which it works, the government provides tax incentives and subsidies to the traffickers and producers of alcohol. This environment promotes addiction, the breakdown of families and communities, and leads the vulnerable into poverty.

Are those who have been affected by the aforementioned consequences really free? When one is under the influence and doesn't have proper cognitive function nor the ability to safely drive a vehicle, are they really free? Is a family that is in disarray, has a violent household, or been broken down really free?

There are several actions that the Prohibition Party supports to diminish the negative effects of alcohol. We support the implementation of programs that provide education designed to reduce alcohol abuse. We support a ban on advertising congruent with those enforced on the tobacco industry. We support elimination of financial incentives which encourage alcohol production.

The Prohibition Party is here to give back freedom, to give back health, to give back opportunities that have been taken away by the ubiquitous presence of alcohol. The Prohibition Party is here to give, not take.

## PPHS Report

The Partisan Prohibition Historical Society customarily holds its biennial meeting in conjunction with conventions of the Prohibition National Committee. Five members were present at the recent Buffalo convention: Makeley, Petrowski, Wood, Kusnir, and Hedges.

Our officers and directors were re-elected, except that Jonathan Makeley replaces Jeff Rome as Vice-President.

We also elected John Petrowski as a Director, replacing Billy Joe Parker (whose term expired).

James Hedges was given the 2022 Citation of Merit, "For being the glue which has held the Prohibition Party together since the Earl Dodge era." Hedges objected to setting a precedent of receiving the Citation more than once (his first was given in 2005), but, he said, "Sometimes one must respect the will of the people."

#### Securing Our Future Michael Wood

The Prohibition Party has run a presidential candidate in each of the last 39 general elections. For over 100 years, the party remained true to its progressive conservative roots - including our full support of women's rights.

A "right to life" plank did not appear on the Prohibition Party platform until 1976... unfortunately corresponding with deteriorating public support for our party at the polls.1976 saw party support suddenly drop by nearly half, to only 1,200 votes perstate in which we ran. That is unfortunately the same per-state result we achieved in the 2020 election.

This election is not about a single plank, nor a single candidate, It is about the future of the party. Are we a single-issue party? No! Do we adapt, or continue on our path to oblivion? I chose the former.

As a party we count precious few women as members. We need to attract young people and more women. More than half of all voters are women. Their significance at the polls is magnified because women generally turn out to vote at higher rates than men.

Gallup polls show that more than 60% of American women are pro-choice, as are nearly 70% of ALL younger Americans (18-34). Our survival as a party, to continue to focus on our signature issue of temperance, depends on earning the support of women and younger people.

Ensuring that the PROHIBITION PARTY returns to the prominence of its first 100 years is an objective many of us can heartily agree upon. It is our hope that by embracing our party's progressive roots and traditional support of women's rights, we might stand a chance at reversing our abysmal performance at the polls over the last several decades.

Despite being America's oldest continuously active third party, in the last decades we have become politically inconsequential - and that is a shame. Political parties must adapt to stay relevant, and our party in convention has agreed that this is the election cycle in which to make those changes.

I do hope that each of you will focus on our mutual common ground, rather than on our differences, as we work together to regain our former position of significance in American politics.

## 2024 Platform of the Prohibition Party

**PREAMBLE** — We, the members of the Prohibition Party, assembled in convention this year in Buffalo, New York, supporting traditional values and with a firm reliance on the guidance of divine Providence, do hereby pledge to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and to serve the needs of its citizens. We hereby affirm that all persons are created equal, endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. As America's oldest continuously active "third party", since 1869 we are united in a common purpose - to protect the public welfare and to enhance the freedom and dignity of each individual. We are strong believers in personal responsibility, efficient regulation and leaner government, the separation of powers, and federalism; we hold that the rights of the people are sacrosanct. We love our country, we are optimistic about our future.

**AGRICULTURAL POLICY** — We support regenerative farming practices that balance corporate and small-farm interests. Confined Animal Operations ("CAFOS") require the use of large amounts of preventative medicines, which diminish the effectiveness of these drugs against human illnesses. Humane animal husbandry should be incentivized through financial and regulatory support.

The widespread use of pesticides and the escape of GMO-modified genetic lines into the larger environment damage the balance of nature. The use of these materials should be minimized to reduce their environmental impact, while farmers who prioritize sustainable practices should be rewarded.

Food banks should be supported through programs which incentivize donations of fresh, healthy foods from local farms. By prioritizing regenerative farming practices and supporting small farms, our agricultural policy would create a more sustainable food system which promotes access to healthy food for all while minimizing negative impacts on the environment.

We support programs to assist tobacco farmers in migrating to alternative crops. **BALLOT ACCESS** — In many states, overly burdensome ballot access laws make it difficult for minor parties and independent candidates to get on the ballot. In doing so they undermine the ability of voters to express their democratic will. States should move to establish fairer ballot access standards that provide minor parties and independent candidates a reasonable opportunity to get on the ballot.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** — Creating jobs and investing in our country's critical infrastructure must be a federal priority. Economic development efforts should focus on the improvement of the economy as a whole. Under a balanced federal budget, investments should focus on the maintenance and improvement of transportation, energy, and public health services, as well as communication technology.

EDUCATION - We believe that all students should have access to a sound, deep, and broad education. States should work to ensure that all public schools are provided with adequate funding and support to meet the needs of their students. We support the right of families to choose the method for educating their children, and for programs that allow families to make choices for alternate schooling. We approve of the federal Department of Education setting minimum standards for education and advocate for stronger emphasis on science, technology, engineering, math, history, and languages. We advocate free community colleges with 4-year degree programs, as well as for vocational education. Student debt relief must be applied equally to all; including those who through personal responsibility have already repaid their original debts. We support programs to retrain displaced workers and those who become disabled. Educational curriculums should include informing our youth about the dangers of alcohol and drugs.

**ENVIROMENT** — We recognize that pollution has an impact on our planet. We understand that abatement projects must balance costs with benefits. We support cooperation with other nations in mitigating the possible effects of climate change. We should strive for energy independence and will not surrender our sovereignty in making energy decisions. We advocate increased research into the development of non-fossil fuel resources, including tax breaks for companies and subsidies for consumers willing to switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

**ETHICAL GOVERNMENT** — We support stronger ethics and anti-corruption laws for elected and appointed government officials, improved transparency, protecting public research and regulatory agencies from improper influence, fostering greater citizen engagement, and promoting a spirit of ethical public service among public officials.

**EQUALITY** — We abhor all forms of racism, discrimination, harassment, hatred, structural inequality, and violence directed at any group. We support a just and inclusive society with equal opportunities for all; including equal pay for equal work. We support equal recognition and opportunities for persons with disabilities.

**FEDERALISM** — We are strong believers in the Tenth Amendment; those powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people. In a nation often divided by opinion, an adherence to federalism is more important than ever. Many issues are better regulated by state and local jurisdictions than by a distant federal government.

**FOREIGN RELATIONS** — We will conduct foreign affairs in a manner that fosters amicable relations among nations. We believe in using diplomacy to resolve international issues, and we promote respect for the mutual sovereignty of nations. We recognize that healthy international trade has the potential to promote economic growth among nations. We support free and fair trade that is reciprocal and regulated.

**HEALTH CARE** — Access to affordable, quality health care must be the right of every American. If this is achieved through a federal program, participation in such must remain an individual choice. The U.S. healthcare system should be a leader in innovation, and therefore we support further investment in medical research. No one who needs a medicine or treatment prescribed by a doctor should be denied such due to their personal financial limitations. We support the retention of both Medicare and Medicaid.

**IMMIGRATION** — We commend the contributions of immigrants to our culture, economy, and national identity. We insist that immigration and naturalization be done through an orderly legal process and must be sufficiently funded. Existing asylum laws rightly protect those facing persecution; however, asylum should only be granted to those arriving directly from a country where they are at risk. Refugees already present in a safe-haven country may apply for legal immigration to the United States at a U.S. Embassy in that country, but may not claim asylum simply by virtue of their physical presence in the USA or at the border.

**LABOR AND MANAGEMENT** — We will defend the right of all workers to freely choose to organize, join, or not to join a labor union.

Toward that end, we urge all states to adopt right-to-work laws. We endorse the concept of a living wage and reasonable family leave. No one (excepting public safety and medical personnel) should be forced to work on their personal Sabbath day.

**MILITARY** — We are strong supporters of our nation's military and encourage investment in military technology and personnel. We honor the service and sacrifice of our military and their families, and support the DOD position of dedicating sufficient resources to services, policies, and programs to support the military, both during and after active duty.

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY** — We acknowledge that religious values have played a positive role in the founding of the United States. We support the constitutional right of individual citizens to believe, worship, associate, educate, evangelize, and organize religious institutions.

**SANCTITY OF LIFE** — We recognize that the issues of abortion, capital punishment, and euthanasia often divide this country. The scotus has ruled that the states shall regulate access to abortion; as each state works to regulate this issue, we recognize that women must be included in the legislative process, and encourage states to look for constructive ways to address the issue. We believe that each woman should have the right to decide based on her own conscience.

**SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS** — We support the right of citizens to own and to carry firearms for personal defense and for sport. We believe that ownership of weapons of war, including assault rifles, should be tightly controlled. We applaud the efforts of private organizations to train Americans in the proper and safe use of firearms. We support stringent background checks for the purchase of any firearm.

**SOCIAL SECURITY** — Our Social Security system may not be perfect, but it does work and is in some cases the only source of income that retirees and disabled Americans have to rely upon. We advocate an actuarially sound federal Social Security system independent of any other program.

**SUPREME COURT** — We are against increasing the number of justices serving on the Supreme Court. Despite the current appearance of politically motivated judicial decisions, the U.S. system of shared power among the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches has proven itself over time. We support the current Constitutional structure. Justices of the Supreme Court should be held to the same ethics rules as *are* all other federal judges.

**TAX REFORM** — The current U.S. tax code is far too complicated. We recognize the need for taxes to ensure the government's ability to pay for infrastructure and services. The current tax structure needs to be reformed. We oppose both estate taxes and taxes on previously taxed wealth. We support a simplified tax code that requires corporations to pay their fair share. Taxes on alcohol should be increased, with the revenues being used for education and additional treatment.

**TERM LIMITS** — The Twenty-Second Amendment stipulates term limits for the office of the President. We support the expansion of these term limits to both houses of Congress. Representing other citizens in Congress should be an honor, not a career. Enacting term limits will help to reduce the influence of special interest groups and provide a more accurate representation of the public in Congress.

**Voting Rights** — Voting rights are fundamental to American democracy and must be equally available to all eligible voters. We also recognize that our nation struggles with the concept of what defines a fair election. To ensure that each would-be voter is in fact eligible to vote, we believe that voters in every state should be required to present a form of government-issued photo identification in order to receive their ballot and vote; either in person or absentee. The option to receive a free government voter identification card should be available to every qualified citizen.

**ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, and RECREATIONAL DRUG ABUSE** — The alcohol question is the Prohibition Party's unique, signature issue. We recognize that the use of alcohol and other recreational drugs is not only a personal, but also a broader social issue. The individual, and their right to drink if they wish, is not the cause; **rather, the cause** is the underlying organized liquor traffic and the subordination of uninformed Americans for profit.

The Department of Health & Human Services reports nearly 10% of adult Americans suffered from substance abuse in the past year. This is a national health crisis. Beverage alcohol is America's #1 drug problem; a recent government study classified 62 million Americans as binge drinkers. Nearly 6% of Americans struggle with alcohol addiction. An estimated 140,000 people die from alcohol-related causes annually. Alcohol is the third-leading preventable cause of death in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control estimates that the total economic cost of excess drinking to the U.S. economy exceeds \$220 billion annually.

We call for a ban on alcohol advertising, similar to the existing ban on tobacco advertising. This kind of ban has been proven to reduce consumption. This is especially true of alcohol advertising targeting our nation's youth and vulnerable communities. We support increased controls on the licensing of alcohol and other recreational-drug outlets.

The use of tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the USA; the CDC reports that cigarette smoking causes more than 480,000 deaths each year in our country. Vaping or e-cigarettes are also not safe because they contain nicotine and other chemicals. We oppose tobacco in all its forms, including vaping. Together with alcohol, tobacco and opiates are responsible for a significant percentage of America's public health care bill. We disapprove of government subsidies to the tobacco industry and would end business-expense deductions for advertising tobacco, cannabis, and alcohol products.

The opioid crisis in the USA has reached new proportions. A recent study found that 10.1 million people misused opioids in the past year; the vast majority of them prescription pain relievers. According to the CDC, on average 128 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose.

We oppose the use of recreational drugs in all forms; while recognizing and supporting legitimate medicinal use as regulated by the FDA and each individual's own responsibility for temperance.

We believe a sustained program of education, coupled with a ban on cannabis, vaping, and alcohol advertising, while enabling local option laws in those states which wish them, is the best way to encourage community disapproval of recreational drug use.

We support an increase in the alcohol excise tax, which in the USA is far lower than *in* many other developed countries. Proceeds from the excise tax should be exclusively earmarked for education and addiction rehabilitation programs.



# Convention 2023



The faithful remnant gathered in Buffalo,

New York on June 7-9 to hold the 38th national nominating convention of the Prohibition Party.

Five members of the Party leadership attended in person. They carried, among them, eight proxies given by other members of the Prohibition National Committee.

#### National Committee

All current National Committee members were re-confirmed in additional 4-year terms: Alabama – Rev. John Killian, Georgia – Billy Joe Parker, Indiana – Rev. James Clifton, Iowa – James Coleman, Kentucky – Jackson Pryor, Maine – Ray Perkins, Maryland – Raymond Edwards, Massachusetts – Adam Seaman, New York – Jonathan Makeley and Russell Hallock, Ohio – John Petrowski, and Carl Moore, Pennsylvania – Barry Alfonso and James Hedges, Texas – Tony Mathison, Utah – Heather Wallwork, Wisconsin – Phil Collins, and two at-large members – Zack Kusnir and Michael Wood.

The Executive Committee of the National Committee was confirmed to be:

> Chairman – Zack Kusnir Vice-Chairman – James Hedges Secretary – Jonathan Makeley Treasurer – Zack Kusnir Members – Russell Hallock, Ray Perkins, Michael Wood

#### Secretary's Report

There is a National Committee website, www.prohibitionparty.org, which is managed by Jonathan Makeley. This went online in 2020 and, to date, has been visited by more than 20,800 unique viewers.

The National Committee also has a facebook page and a twitter account. Social media accounts will be owned by the Party, not by individual candidates.

#### Treasurer's Report

The convention approved having all memberships henceforth becoming due in January of each year, regardless of the actual date of joining. The Treasurer and the Secretary will figure out how to apportion the dues of people who join in other months and how to adjust the dues of existing members to transition to the new schedule.

Standing Committees

Press Secretary – Jonathan Makeley Social Media manager – Jonathan Makeley.

Store Manager – John Petrowski

#### State Committees

State committees are active in New York and in Pennsylvania.

Jim Hedges is Chairman of the Pennsylvania committee. He reported that a new Committee website, www.paprohibition. org recently went on-line. The Committee is advertising that it can make small grants in Pennsylvania for *e.g.*, local option elections and dry candidates, but there have been no applicants thus far.

Jonathan Makeley is Chairman of the New York committee. He has been publishing an on-line newsletter for several years and has a distribution list of 40. He also manages a state-level website, www.newyorkprohibition.wixsite.com/ new-york-prohibition. New York has its own facebook page and twitter account; the twitter account had 536 followers as of convention time.

#### Platform

The Convention acted as a "committee of the whole" when debating the 2024 plat-form. A copy is included in this issue.

New planks on ethical government and on regenerative agriculture were added to the 2020 platform, and earlier planks on foreign relations and on ballot access were re-instated.

Most controversially, the "Sanctity of Life" question was downgraded to a state-level issue, because of our general principle of federalism and in keeping with the recent US Supreme Court decision in that regard. A sentence advocating "choice" in regard to abortion was added, because of our general principle of advocating for women's rights. All of the convention attendees agreed to these changes, although some of the proxy-givers did not; the vote in favor, including proxies, was about three-quarters in favor to one quarter opposed.

#### Election Plans

Wood is concerned that the Party may not be making all required federal reports, for itself as well as for its individual candidates. Wood and Hedges are to look into FEC and IRS reporting requirements.

The Executive Committee is deciding in

which states we will run our national slate. The eventual decision will be based on available money and available manpower.

We already are on the ballot in Arkansas. Strong possibility states include Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Vermont.

#### Choosing the 2024 Slate

Michael Wood, Zack Kusnir, and Scott Baier were announced candidates for our presidential nomination. (See p.1 of the Dec.'22 issue for their campaign biographies.) On the first ballot, Baier received no votes, Kusnir received 4 votes, and Wood received 8 votes; there was also one proxy vote for "Senator Rockefeller." Wood was declared winner.

After some discussion, John Pietrowski agreed to stand for the vice-presidential nomination. He was chosen by unanimous consent on the first ballot.

(Zack Kusnir was then unanimously elected to be the new National Chairman.)

#### Program Miscellania

The convention unanimously commended Jonathan Makeley "for his excellent news-letter."

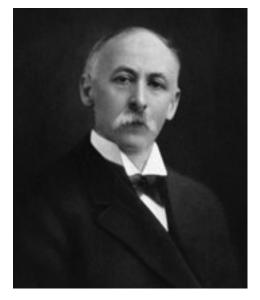
Michael Wood spoke briefly on campaign ethics and on the need to keep personal business activities and Party activities clearly separated.

A new By-Law was adopted, providing that National Committee members who fail to pay annual dues shall automatically be removed from the Committee.

A new Convention Rule was adopted, providing that only dues-paying members of the Party may be appointed to be voting delegates.

John Pietrowski brought with him a "badge-a-minit" machine and made unique convention badges for each of the five delegates present. He also made some Wood/ Petrowski pins for the attendees, after the slate had been chosen.

The banquet speaker was Mark Schrad, Professor of Political Science at Villanova University. Schrad had been given the PPHS's 2022 "Citation of Merit" for his book *Smashing the Liquor Machine*. His lecture summarized the book's conclusion that the liquor industry was a tool of Western colonialists in its immiserating and subjugating of primitive societies.



#### William Denison Lyman

William Denison Lyman was born in Portland, Oregon in 1852. His early education was received at Tualatin Academy and Pacific University, where he graduated from the scientific course in 1873. He later was awarded his A.B. from Williams College in 1877. In September of the same year he became teacher of English Literature, History, and Oratory at Pacific University, where he remained for ten years.

After spending a year at Fresno, California, endeavoring to start a raisin ranch, he subsequently teaching at the University of New Mexico in Santa Fe, he came to Whitman College in November, 1888. Here he remained continuously, except during the year 1890-91, when he was engaged in an effort to start a new college at Spokane. At Whitman he taught History regularly and served as department Head. In addition, he at various times taught English Literature, Rhetoric, Oratory, Political Economy, Political Science, Latin, Greek, Elementary Geology, Physiology, and Astronomy.

He was the author of many newspaper and magazine articles and of several books, among them The Columbia River; it's history, it's myths, it's scenery; it's commerce; Lyman's History of Old Walla Walla County: embracing Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, and Asotin counties; and Indian Myths of the Northwest.

Lyman was also known as a mountain climber, having climbed most of the highest peaks of the Northwest and written descriptions of them. He had just been awarded the title of Professor Emeritus when he died suddenly in June 1920.

Lyman House at Whitman College is named in his honor.

## **Political Strategy**

Insurgent political parties in the United States have elected a president only once (in 1860, when Lincoln won for the newly organized Republicans), but they sometimes punch above their weight because of the Electoral College: In 1884, Prohibition caused the election of Grover Cleveland by taking votes from Republican Blaine in New York, and in 1916 Prohibition caused the election of Woodrow Wilson by depriving Hughes of California.

It is important to remember that the United States is not a nation of individual citizens, it is a nation of sovereign states. The states, not the citizens, elect our president, via the Electoral College. Third-party movements can re-direct national elections by winning only a few thousand votes in "swing" states. We're not always "minor," even though we are small.

The one thing that Democrats and Republicans agree upon at every election is that independent candidates and the independent vote should be suppressed. Before we advocate eliminating the Electoral College in favor of a direct citizen vote, we must consider the suppression of independent candidates which that would cause.

#### **Trust Fund Meets**

The Prohibition Trust Fund held its 2023 annual meeting on 3 July, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Members of the Association are drawn from the Prohibition Party, the Partisan Prohibition Historical Society, the Pennsylvania Prohibition Committee, the New York Prohibition Party, the National WCTU, the New York WCTU, and the Pennsylvania Council on Alcohol Problems. The members appoint their replacements, as necessary.

We are a 501(c)4 non-profit organization. The IRS requires us to distribute most of our income each year, and not more than half of the income may be used to support political campaigns. Because a "rainyday reserve" had been built up over the years and is now illegal, the 2023 grants are larger than usual. A total of \$85,000 was awarded to seven applicants.

The Prohibition National Committee received \$25,000 for ballot access work and an additional \$5000 for election advertizing.

The Partisan Prohibition Historical Society received \$3000 for additional website development.



I was the lone dissenter to a gun-control platform plank at this week's Prohibition Party national convention, because:

Editor's Musings

Let's say that a doting grandparent wills his guns to a favorite grandson, and the grandson for any reason can't pass a background check. Do you ask a judge to break the old man's will and break the youngster's heart by confiscating the guns

Or -- gun raffles are popular in rural communities. They're a basic fund-raising device for volunteer fire companies and other community organizations. If you win the raffle but haven't passed a background check, are you to be denied the prize that your ticket paid for? Will you knee-cap your fire company by banning gun raffles?

Or, what about yard sales or other private disposals? The customer, often someone you know, is standing there on Sunday afternoon with cash in hand wanting that 22 that you used to plink empty cans. How do you do his background check on the spot?

Gun control is not as uncomplicated and as morally pure as city folks like to think it is.



Your Editor's book on the history of the Prohibition Party is now available.

"A Faithful Remnant" is a supplement (1973-2016) to Roger Storms' "Partisan Prophets" (1869-1972). It includes an index to both volumes and a fold-out chart showing in which states and years the Prohibition Party was on the ballot.

Single copies of either or both will be sent free-of-charge to anyone, on request.

This project was financed by the Prohibition Trust Fund Association, to whom I am grateful.

# Prohibition The Better Choice