

National Prohibitionist



Twenty-first Century Series



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Election 2024



Prohibition Party

Announced Candidates



**THE PROHIBITION PARTY,
A Tradition of Reform since 1869**

Michael Wood

Ours is a party of reform. We are fiscally conservative yet socially liberal. We are not a one-issue party, as some might believe. A look back at our 1908 party platform shows that we campaigned for:

- Equal voter rights; *11 years before women earned the right to vote*
- Direct election of Senators; *5 years before implementation*
- A fairer, graduated income tax; *5 years before it became law*
- The guarantee of bank deposits; *26 years before enactment*
- Workers comp insurance; *41 years before it was law nationwide*
- The outlaw of child labor in mines; *30 years before it became law nationwide*
- Protection of our natural resources; *8 years before the creation of the National Park Service.*

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Zack Kusnir

Zack Kusnir is a financial advisor and nutrition and fitness consultant living in New York City. He has been a registered Prohibition Party voter for much of his life, but he has only recently decided to become an active member.

He has created a short, attractive website complementary to our "official" site: <https://prohibition.carrd.co/>

Kusnir's facebook page can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/ZackKusnir/>

He has begun writing a series of articles for the *National Prohibitionist* which analyze current national issues from a wholistic perspective, in keeping with the Prohibition Party's focus on family and community welfare.

Last fall, we published his article on financing college education. In this issue, we present his views on improving the American food system:

Strengthening Health, the Economy, and the Environment

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Our History

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.

*Perhaps we make too much
of what is wrong and too
little of what is right.*

-- HM Queen Elizabeth

Baier is a Candidate

Scott Baier has announced his intention to seek our 2024 presidential nomination. Baier is a New Jersey resident, a long-time advocate of the Prohibition Party, and a personal friend of the Editor. He supports our 2020 platform.

Scott is a high school graduate. Several times he has discussed with me being a write-in candidate for office.

He has never, however, filed paperwork to become a "declared write-in."

This is his recent photograph.

Baier's email address is: s.marks.baier8185@gmail.com

He may be contacted by telephoning 609-516-7628.



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From the Chairman's Corner

Phil Collins

Party Facebook Group

In the party Facebook group, I asked all group members, who aren't paid members of the party, to join the party. I reminded them that we only charge \$10, per year. I said that we hope to help some candidates in 2023 and '24.

In the party Facebook group, I asked members to apply to join the PNC. I said that the majority of states have at least one PNC vacancy.



PPHS Award

The Partisan Prohibition Historical Society has given its 2022 “Citation of Merit” to Mark Schrad, for his book *Smashing the Liquor Machine*.

Professor Schrad teaches Political Science at Villanova University. He has devoted much effort to correcting misperceptions of National Prohibition.

The Prohibition Party - Continued from Page 1

The 1940s saw our best performance in the last 100 years. The 1948 platform included:

- Separation of Church & State
- Economy in Government
- Tax Reduction
- Justice and Equal Opportunity for all races
- Congressional oversight of Monetary Policy
- The End of Peacetime Conscription
- Conserving Social Security
- Supporting Farmers and Laborers
- Elimination of the Liquor Traffic

In 1948, with this platform, Claude Watson received more than 100,000 votes – our only candidate to do so in the last 100 years. We cannot simply duplicate his platform and results. Times are changing. People no longer wish to be “told” what to do – education is the key to ensuring a culture of personal responsibility.

Our historical website, prohibitionists.org, bluntly comments on our results since 1948, saying “a succession of strict fundamentalist candidates... presided over a plunge to oblivion”. This might sound exaggerated, but it is not. I offer for comparison the rapper Kayne West, with his self-proclaimed “Birthday Party”, who garnered 10-times the number of votes in the last election as our own party.

As we move forward towards 2024, I for one would like to suggest that we build a party platform that moves away from the failures of the past and appeals with a positive reform message more directly to the constituents of today.

Amerindian Tobacco

The tobacco plant, *Nicotiana* spp., is native to the Americas. Indigenous peoples restricted tobacco to medicinal and ceremonial use; recent commercialization of tobacco by Europeans and others for recreational use has resulted in widespread disease and death.

Nicotine (tobacco) administered via the “peace pipe” did not require that the smoke be deeply inhaled. And the expression “peace” pipe is itself a European invention. Tribes which used pipes each gave them their own unique names.

Marijuana was not used by the indigenous peoples. Medicine men sometimes enhanced tobacco with additional medicines, but marijuana was not one of those.

For additional information, contact “Native American Lifelines,” Balt., MD.

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Walk outside and you will notice the vast majority of Americans are metabolically unhealthy. Walk a few blocks in the city and alcohol will be readily available in all directions, as well as ultra-processed foods with long lists of ingredients that are difficult to pronounce.

Go into your local grocery store for the usual haul, and your bill is significantly higher than it was last year. It's probably higher than it was six months ago. It may even be higher than it was six weeks ago. It's the same food, your salary is the same, and it doesn't seem to make sense.

Open the newspaper, turn on the television, or scroll your favorite social media site, and within minutes you've seen multiple posts addressing environmental issues. Unnecessary plastic usage, burning fossil fuel to ship products across the nation and the world, factory farming and monocropping.

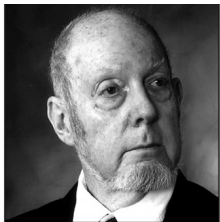
What does this all have to do with each other? Well, regenerative farming can help to address all three of these issues: health, the economy, and the environment. What is regenerative farming? Regenerative farming is going back to the basics of farming by properly utilizing the diversity of animals, pastures, crops, and soils to produce healthy foods the way they were intended to be produced, and in a way that enriches the environment. Consequentially, a positive impact on the economy is to be had as well.

Health

For far too long, Americans have been eating massive amounts of ultra-processed, unnatural foods that have been negatively impacting health. It is no secret that there is a metabolic health crisis in this country. Not only does this burden and stress the individual, but it burdens and stresses our healthcare system (I'm sure you've noticed your health insurance premium rise substantially over the years). Why is unhealthy food and alcohol so readily available, but finding reasonably priced organic meat, dairy, fruit, and vegetables so hard? Shouldn't it be the exact opposite?

Real, natural, and healthy food can be produced and transported locally, but there are so many government regulations making this way more difficult than it should be. With some common-sense policy change, real food from regenerative

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Editor's Musings

"Drug War"

America, the "land of the free," holds 25% of the world's prisoners but has only 5% of the world's population. Two important contributors to this non-sequitur are America's emphasis on locking up drug users and on hiring private companies to run its prisons.

Locking up drug users is widely condemned as punishing the victims. It has been advocated by both major parties, on the grounds that reducing demand will put the traffickers out of business. But, this policy, in part, caused a 700% increase in our prison population in the 30 years since 1970, while having no effect at all on the size of the drug traffic.

The "war on drugs" has been a failure, because it has employed a futile strategy.

We should not legalize any recreational drug, but we need to attack the drug traffic, not persecute the drug victims. That's the way it was done in the 1920s, in combatting the damage caused by alcohol, and it reduced per-capita consumption of alcohol by two-thirds (without filling prisons).

The explosion of prison populations has been dealt with by privatizing prisons – by handing over a traditional governmental function to private businesses. Privatization, by creating a profit motive for locking up people, encourages the prosecution and conviction of drug users and for keeping them incarcerated as long as possible.

Imprisoning drug users -- wage earners, tax payers, family members – harms America. It lowers productivity, shrinks tax receipts, and increases governmental costs. It separates parents from children, making it more likely that the children in turn will grow up to become prisoners, themselves.

We're shooting ourselves in the foot by criminalizing possession. America should concentrate, instead, on destroying the drug traffic and on rehabilitating the user victims of that traffic.

For more information, contact the American Friends Service Committee, afsc.org, or call 215-241-7093.

Third-Party Co-operation

Richard Winger

The Committee for Free and Open Elections (COFOE) have improved the ballot access laws by lobbying 1985-present, in Alaska (cutting the number of registrants for party status), *Arizona* (cutting the number of signatures for party status, and cutting the vote test to remain qualified), *Arkansas* (expanding the petitioning period from 2 months to 3 months), *California* (cutting the number of registrants for party status), *Colorado* (creating a party petition, and easing the vote test for ongoing qualified status), *Connecticut* (cutting the number of signatures for statewide petitions), *Delaware* (easing the method to get on and stay on, to a registration test of one-tenth of 1%), *DC* (easing the vote test for qualified status), *Georgia* (cutting the statewide petition from 5%, to 2.5%, and then later to 1%), *Hawaii* (cutting the party petition from 1% to one-tenth of 1%, and easing the vote test to remain on), *Idaho* (cutting the party petition from 3% to 2%), *Kansas* (cutting the party petition from 3% to 2%), *Louisiana* (cutting the number of registered members for party status from 5% to 1,000), *Maine* (easing the vote test), *Maryland* (easing the petition from 3% to 1%; later the state's highest court knocked out the need for those candidate petitions entirely), *Michigan* (easing the vote test), *Minnesota* (easing the vote test from the last election to either of the last two elections), *Missouri* (cutting the petition from 1% to 10,000 and eliminating the distribution requirement), *Montana* (cutting the party petition from 5% of the winner's vote to exactly 5,000), *Nebraska* (easing the vote test to either of the last 2 elections, and also adding the registration alternative), *Nevada* (cutting the party petition and the vote test from 5%, to 3%, to later 1%), *New Mexico* (cutting the minor party nominee petition from 3% to 1%, and cutting the independent candidate petition from 3% to 2%), *North Carolina* (cutting the party petition from 2% to one-fourth of 1%), *North Dakota* (changing the vote test from just Governor, to several statewide offices), *Ohio* (cutting the vote test from 5% to 3%), *Oklahoma* (cutting the vote test from 5% for Gov/Pres to 3% at either of the last two elections for any statewide race), *Oregon* (cutting the party petition from 5% to 1% and the vote test from 5% to either 1% at either of the last two elections or registration of one-third of 1%), *South Dakota* (cutting

the party petition from 2.5% to 1% and the vote test from Governor to any statewide office), *Texas* (cutting the vote test from 2% for Governor or 5% for any other statewide race to 2% for any statewide race at any of the last 5 elections), *Utah* (cutting the vote test from the last election to either of the last two elections), *Vermont* (cutting the vote test from 1% to just being organized in any 10 towns), *Virginia* (cutting the presidential petition from 10,000 to 5,000), *West Virginia* (moving the petition deadline from May to August and lowering the candidate petition from 2% to 1%), *Wisconsin* (changing the vote test from 1% in the last election to 1% in either of the last two elections), and *Wyoming* (changing the party petition from 8,000 to 2% of the last vote cast, and the vote test from 10% to 2%).

This is an overwhelming record of success, and we can keep it going if we try.

We Were Right All Along

The World Health Assembly's "Alcohol Action Plan" for 2022 states that the best way to combat alcohol problems is to restrict access to alcohol; not by preaching, not by education, not by exhorting people to make "responsible choices," but by reducing access to alcoholic beverages. Political action. Resisting the alcohol traffic. In plain English, Prohibition.

The World Health Assembly is the advisory body to the World Health Organization (WHO), a branch of the United Nations.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages is the 8th-leading preventable risk of disease, worldwide. The WHO adopted a "Global Alcohol Strategy" statement in 2010 which has been largely ignored. Most countries have experienced an increase in alcohol consumption since then, making 2010-2022 a "lost decade" in alcohol prevention. Delegates to the 2022 World Health Assembly were unanimous in approving their new "Alcohol Action Plan."

For more information, see: www.moveendiinternational.org

When I first got sober, my sponsor told me I would need a suit of clothes. When I asked why, he said: "If you relapse, we'll have something to bury you in. If you don't relapse, you'll need it to wear to a lot of your friends' funerals."

VOTE DRY



Cornelius Bright

Cornelius J. Bright, one of the most successful and prominent attorneys of Eastern Oregon, resides at Wasco, Sherman County. He was born in Bath County, Virginia, September 27, 1862, the son of Thomas M. and Martha J. (Anthony) Bright, both natives of Virginia.

The family removed to Ohio when our subject was four years of age. Thence they went to Iowa where they remained until 1883. He laid the foundation of an excellent education in the district and graded schools in Fontanelle, Iowa. In 1883 Mr. Bright came to The Dalles where he taught school one year. He was then matriculated in the Wasco Independent Academy, from which he was graduated in 1886, with honors, and having earned sufficient money to carry him through, with the strictest economy. Subsequently he taught school two years in Wasco County, Oregon. In the spring of 1888, he came to Wasco, Sherman County, where he taught two terms of school. In November, 1888, Mr. Bright began publishing the *Wasco Observer*, the first newspaper in what is now Sherman County. That fall the question of county division became a vital issue and our subject took an active and leading part in the campaign. Of the new county he was appointed school superintendent and served with ability until the July election of 1890.

Mr. Bright had commenced the study of law immediately after graduation. In October, 1890, he was admitted to the bar and established an office at Wasco. The first marriage of Mr. Bright occurred November 9, 1890, at Wasco, when he was united to Jeanette Murchie, a native of California, the daughter of Andrew and Mary A. Murchie. North Yakima, Washington. Mrs. Bright died at Wasco, February 27, 1892, from consumption, after an illness of a year's duration.

On March 14, 1896, at Wasco, Mr.

Bright was united in marriage to Jennie M. Larson, born at Alcona, Michigan. She is the daughter of Charles and Christina (Nelson) Larson, the father a native of Norway; the mother of Sweden. Charles Larson and his wife at present live in Yamhill County, Oregon.

Fraternally he is a member of Aurora Lodge No. 54, K. of P., of which he is past chancellor and has on several occasions served as representative to the grand lodge; W. W., Wasco Camp, No. 350, of which he is past consul commander; the Rathbone Sisters, Mrs. Bright being a member of the same, and grand chief in the grand lodge of Oregon; past chief of the local lodge Lillian Temple No. 17. Mrs. Bright is prominent in Methodist Episcopal church work; has been organist ever since coming to Wasco. Both are members of that church of which he is recording steward, leader of the choir and chorister in the Sunday school. He has been city attorney and for the past three years clerk of the school district.

Politically he is a prominent Prohibitionist; has been county chairman for the last ten years; delegate to county and state conventions and was delegate from Oregon to the last Prohibition national convention at Indianapolis Indiana. During several campaigns Mr. Bright has been the Prohibition candidate for congress, attorney general and supreme judge.

Mr. Bright is a man of pleasing personality, is a forceful and logical speaker, and an untiring student. He is conscientious in his labors for clients and is known as a man, to use the homely but expressive phrase, "one can tie to." He maintains an up-to-date and complete library, and judging from his past achievements in his profession, he has a bright and useful future before him.

Cornelius Bright died in 6 December 1920 and is buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at The Dalles, Oregon.

Information from An Illustrated History of Central Oregon (1905) and from Find-a-Grave, located by Adam Seaman

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farming can be made more readily available and affordable, and improving one's health all starts with nutrition.

The Economy

At first glance, it may seem that regenerative farming may be healthier and more environmentally friendly than factory farming and monocropping, but worse from an economic standpoint. This may be

true in the short-term (and for some large corporations with an iron-grip on the food industry), but from a holistic, long-term viewpoint, regenerative farming will positively impact the economy.

Over time, regenerative farmland develops a higher crop yield to crop loss ratio as the farmland heads toward reaching its most optimal state for food production. At the same time, the cost of maintaining the farmland becomes less, as the land does not need as much input in order to produce. In comparison to the current practices that dominate the industry, regenerative farming has shown to be more profitable due to the higher crop yield-to-loss ratio and the elimination of the need for massive inputs of fertilizer and pesticides.

Going back to the topic of health, a healthier population puts less strain on our healthcare system, will lower the cost of healthcare premiums, and will result in less of a financial drain on American citizens.

The Environment

This may be the most obvious positive impact of regenerative farming, as it is of no surprise that a farming system in which all aspects of the farmland working in harmony with one another are a positive for the environment. Regenerative farming doesn't only enhance the biodiversity of the land, but eliminates the chemical pollution associated with fertilizer and pesticide runoff.

Additionally, food products produced on regenerative farmland is natural and unrefined, meaning it is not meant to be packaged individually and in bulk, and put on trucks, trains, planes, and ships to be distributed across the country and the world. It is meant to be transported locally, meaning less plastic, fuel, and other resources are used in moving the food to its final destination.

I'm sure as you were reading this you began to connect the dots as to how regenerative farming can improve the health, economy, and environment, and you noticed a lot of overlap between the topics. At this point in time agricultural policies largely favor industrial farming, and also make successful regenerative farming immensely more difficult than it should be. The topic of regenerative farming has slowly been gaining popularity, and it is my hope that this interest increases exponentially to the point where the momentum can be used to enact common-sense policy reform that will benefit all.