

New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry

May 2018

Volume 1 #5

Approaching New Horizons

As we move forward in our efforts to build up the Prohibition Party of New York, and promote policies for the improvement of New York state, we will undertake tasks which will bring us to new horizons. In this issue of the National Prohibitionist, we will cover some of the ways in which we are endeavoring to move forward.

This issue will also introduce a new type of segment in our state party newspaper, where we will interview an individual or group who is involving themselves with some form of activism in our state.

"By organizing our friends, families, and neighbors we can create real, tangible change across the country." Amara Reese-Hansell

Emery Joins Prohibition Trust Fund Association

Robert Emery has joined the board of the Prohibition Trust fund Association: The Prohibition Party's main financial body. Mr. Emery is a New York member of Prohibition National Committee, from Albany, and a leading member in Prohibition Party of New York. Mr. Emery stated that he'll be interested in seeing what the groups assets are and how it operates, when it holds its annual meeting in June.

Sign Up for The New York Prohibitionist

Interested in keeping up to date with all the news from the New York Prohibitionist? Well you can sign up for our email list, and have latest issues emailed to you when they come out. All you have to do is email newyorkprohibition@aol.com and let us know you'd to sign up. You can also do so by messaging the New York Prohibition Party Facebook Page or the New York Prohibition Party Twitter Account.

The Prohibition Party of New York Moving Forward

In 2017, we began the process of reestablishing the state party organization in New York. As it stands, the Prohibition Party of New York is in its early stages of building itself up as an organization. We have a starting group of members, are working to spread awareness of our group, are working to recruit new members, have been engaging in activism, and have been working to grow our organization.

Moving forward, we seek to establish the Prohibition Party of New York as a fully functioning state party organization, with a formally established state party committee and the infrastructure needed to fully act as non-state recognized minor party in New York.

In order to establish a full state party committee, we must first work to recruit enough members that we will a sufficient pool of people for filling leadership and committee positions. Now we don't have a precise number for this. But, we would need to have people to fill at least the roles of chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and about 3-5 executive committee members. In addition, we could use some people to fill the roles of regular state committee members, and other organization positions that we may create. To this end, we will work to recruit as many good new members as we can, and work to find those people who could be well suited for filling the needed leadership positions. Once we are convinced that we have grown enough to do this, we will begin planning for some form of state convention, where we will formally establish a state committee, as well as establish a state group charter, and bylaws.

Another key step in our development will be establishing a state group account.



That way, we can begin to raise and spend money for our group activities, and thus have a wider range of possible activities. Once we can get a state group treasurer, we can begin the process for this.

Once, we have our state committee established, we can begin the process for gaining the legal recognitions we will need to formally operate in the state. The first key step for that will likely be working to apply for status as a 501C4 organization. If we can gain status as 501C4 organization, then we will have the legal security to be able to raise and spend money for our state party operations, messaging, and activities. Although this status will come with limitations and political spending and won't allow us to directly fund the campaigns of our candidates. Though that will be addressed in the next step.

Once we have 501C4 organization status for our state group, we could then work to establish a separate political action committee to raise and spend money for supporting Prohibition Party candidates in the state. And once these steps are done, we'll have completed our early stage of organizing, and will have the basic elements needed for a non-state recognized minor party. These steps taken together will likely take years to complete. But the more we work in the near term to advance these things, the sooner we can accomplish them. And once we have securely established our state party organization in New York state, we can work towards one day growing large enough to become a state recognized party, with ballot access.

On the Assembly Campaign Trail

Prohibition Party of New York organizer Jonathan Makeley is running for the 146th district of the state assembly, and is seeking to get on ballot via independent nominating petition. In the lead up to the petition signature collecting period (which starts in mid-July), Makeley has been working to build up his campaign and reach voters.

Here are some recent details on his campaign. On May 21st and May 22nd, Makeley attended two neighborhood meeting events (for Getzville and Audubon) held by the Town of Amherst, as it works to prepare its comprehensive plans for the town.

In describing the events, Makeley stated:

"I just finished attending today's Amherst neighborhood input meeting at the Getzville Fire Station. Nice to see so many people gather to have a say in the future of their community. I saw incumbent assemblymen Ray Walter, who was there for about the first 15 minutes of the event. As for me, I was there for the entire event. I had the pleasure of talking with several people about issues related to the town of Amherst and hearing comments from various people about the town's condition and where they would like to take it.

The conversations in the event also brought up some issues which are more broadly relevant to the state. The burden of property taxes, the rising costs of living, the need to improve infrastructure, the tensions between developers and community members, and the need to reduce the number of places selling alcohol.

In the course of my campaign I hope to help address these issues with my advocacy for stronger policies for promoting the public wellbeing, reforming the state fiscal system to reduce the burden of property taxes, improving infrastructure, and a holistic approach to economic development which takes into account the wellbeing and interests of communities. And in the course of my campaign, I hope to speak with plenty more of the people in the district."

"Today I attended the Amherst input meeting for the Audubon neighborhood. As with the Getzville meeting, it's nice to see so many people gather to have a say

in the future of their community. I had the pleasure to speak with and hear from various community members about their thoughts and aspirations for their communities.

The conversations at this event also touched on issues that are important on a statewide scale. Such as the importance of good quality schools. As a candidate, I support policies to maintain and improve the quality of education.

As we move forward with this campaign, I hope to have the opportunity to interact with plenty more people across the district."

Makeley has also gained some news coverage. On May 19th, the American Third Party Report published an article titled, A3PR Exclusive: Interview with Jonathan Makeley, Prohibition Party Candidate For NY Assembly, which is available to read on their website. www.american3rdpartyreport.com/2018/05/a3pr-exclusive-interview-with-jonathan.html

Makeley is working to spread awareness of his campaign and gather together a group of volunteers to help collect petition signatures. Those interested in helping, can contact the campaign at makeleyforassembly@outlook.com

State Activism Interview, With Dale Driscoll on Brittany's Law

This is the first article for our state activism interview segment. In this article, we interviewed Dale Driscoll, who is an advocate for Brittany's Law. Brittany's Law is a proposed bill, which would establish a state registry for those convicted of violent felonies, similar to the current system for sex offenders.

Here is the content of our interview

Would you mind telling our readers what Brittany's law is?

Brittany's Law Domestic/Violence Prevention Act would require violent felons to register, similar to the sex offender registry except with the violent felons it wouldn't be life long. There would be a panel of 5 created by the sponsor of the bill in the Assembly, This is how it was explained to me: Aileen Gunther's bill creates a 5 member board that determines the level status, after that Level 1 and 2 offenders are registered for

10 years, Level 3 is minimum of 10 years until a court determines the person is no longer a threat. Most of these acts of violence are domestic violence related, such as choking, strangulation, use of a deadly weapon, imprisonment or kidnapping and of course murder. 77% of violent felons will abuse their partners.

In May of 2009 my daughter Helen started dating John Brown. Helen knew he was on parole, but not for the actual reason. He had told her he was in a bar room brawl over a girl, when in actuality he had thrown his infant child into a wall causing permanent brain damage. Both of these charges would fall under assault in the 2nd which is what was stated on the Dept. of Corrections Website. Yes, Helen did look him up, but I have to tell you, if you don't at least have the persons birthday it's nearly impossible to find who ever you might be looking for. There was also no mention of child abuse of the DOC's website. There is NOT enough information given on the DOCS website and it's too difficult to find anyone.

1. Had she known the actual charges she never would have allowed this

2. man anywhere near her underage children.

3. John Brown wasn't allowed to be around his own children, so I had to ask, why was he allowed to move in with my daughter and her underage children?

4. John Brown frequently violated the conditions of his parole, yet nothing was ever done. I can't blame the parole officers for this. They were told by the state NOT to send parolees back because of over crowding in the prisons. Because of the numerous violations he did have to meet with his parole officer and his boss the day before he killed them. He was given, what they called a get out of jail free card. In other words, as long as he agreed to work for them as an informant once his parole was complete he would not be sent back to prison. Allowed to stay out only to kill my daughter and 12 year old granddaughter Brittany the next day, Nov. 20, 2009. The reason he killed Helen? She broke up with him. As for Brittany, because she went to her mothers defense and tried to save her. The system failed them and the system continues to fail us.

Continued on Column 1, Page 4

Interview with Dale Driscoll: Continued

Would you mind sharing as to why it is that you are advocating for Brittany's Law?

I believe this bill will save thousands of lives and I have the backing of so many, (Brittany's Law FB Group alone has over 1500 members) that want this bill passed and cannot understand why it hasn't. I advocate for domestic violence as a whole because I want to bring awareness. There are so many red flags to look for, but until someone is in a violent relationship, and go for help they are unaware of what these red flags are. We NEED education.

What is the current status of the effort to pass Brittany's Law through the New York state legislature?

We also have the backing of the whole NYS Sheriffs Association. This bill S1107 is currently in the Finance committee of the Senate. Once it gets out of committee it will go to the full Senate floor for a vote. It is expected to pass again, as it has for the past 7 years. It then gets sent to the Corrections committee in the Assembly, where it has stalled every year.

If someone was looking for more information of Brittany's Law, where could they look for it?

If anyone wanted to learn more about Brittany's Law they could simply google Brittany's Law NYS. There is a lot of information out there, there are also several conferences on YouTube, again just search Brittany's Law.

If someone is interested in doing something to help support Brittany's Law, what sort of things could they do?

There are 3 key people that people could call to help get this passed. The bill number in the assembly is A404. They will ask for this.

David Weprin : 518-455-5809 - Chair of the Corrections Committee

Joe Morelle: 518-455-5373 - Assembly Majority Leader

Carl Heastie: 518-455-379 - Assembly Speaker

Simply tell them you are calling in support of Brittany's Law, Bill no. A404. The call takes about 3 seconds.

There are currently 9 states that have similar laws. I could only remember 5 Kansas, Oklahoma, Montana, Illinois, and Indiana. New York used to be such a progressive state. When it comes to any kind of changes or creation of a law the

assembly rejects it. We are lagging when it comes to the safety of the people of NY. Too often the criminals are put before the victims.

"After reconstruction the next great question will be the overthrow and the suppression of the legalized liquor traffic"
Horace Greeley

Prohibition Trust fund Association Meeting in Binghamton

On June 13th, board members for the Prohibition Trust fund Association (the Prohibition Party's main financial body) will be meeting in Binghamton, New York for its annual meeting. The meeting is restricted to board members and other invited individuals. Though once it is done, we hope to provide some news as to the productive work they will have accomplished at the meeting. And it is nice to have such an important meeting take place in our state.

Prohibition Party News Across the Nation

Here is some news for the Prohibition Party Nationally:

National Committee Member Richard Swift has been working to promote the party in Illinois. Recently he managed to get an article printed in the Dispatch Argus newspaper, in which he encouraged people to consider the Prohibition Party as a third party option, to help address the needs and convictions of Illinois voters.

In Georgia, national chairman Rick Knox had been trying to acquire the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor. But Knox was unable to gain the nomination.

In Mississippi, there was hope that Prohibition Party candidate for Congress, Bill Bayes, could have become the first prohibitionist to get on ballot for congress in over 30 years. Unfortunately, we have received word that Bill Bayes had to end his campaign due to health problems. We wish Mr. Bayes well in his recovery.

In Tennessee, the Prohibition Party has endorsed Ronnie Holden, a candidate for the 47th district of the Tennessee State House.

The Partisan Prohibition Historical Society is currently working on producing a new book on the history of the Prohibition Party up to the 2016 elections. There is currently no set date on when the book will be completed. Though party

members and other select individuals will be able to request a free copy of the book when it is out, and more details will be given by the national Prohibition Party in the future.

"Gambling has NO product and NO service. It sucks money from businesses that do and put it into the hands of bookies who work to promote this scam." Dianne Berlin



Expanding Outreach: Over 100 Communities Reached

Our online messaging efforts continue to reach more people. Our Facebook page has reached people in over 100 communities across the state. Our most recent data shows that we have reached people in 120 communities, in 48 of the state's 62 counties. Beyond the state, we've also reached people in 42 other states and 29 countries.

Cancer Society Pushes For Statewide Tobacco 21 Law

Spectrum News Hudson Valley reported that the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network has been asking New York State lawmakers to consider passing a law to raise the legal age to purchase tobacco to 21. The cancer society promotes this as a way of reducing youth access to tobacco, working to delay the initiation of smoking, and thus reduce the level of use and addiction to this carcinogenic substance.

Source: Landers, Caitlin. "American Cancer Society Pushes for Statewide Tobacco 21 Law." Spectrumlocalnews.com. April 30, 2018. Accessed May 23, 2018. http://www.spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/hudson-valley/news/2018/04/30/american-cancer-society-pushes-for-statewide-tobacco-21-law-7cid=share_twitter?cid=share_fb.

University at Buffalo Researchers Develop Drug Sensing Chip

Researchers at the University at Buffalo announced earlier this month that they had developed an inexpensive chip that can quickly detect for the presence of cocaine. They hope to develop this into a technology that can be used by police to quickly test for the presence of cocaine, marijuana, and opioids.

Staff, WKBW. "UB Researchers Develop Cocaine-sensing Chip." WKBW. May 08, 2018. Accessed May 23, 2018. <https://www.wkbw.com/news/ub-researchers-develop-cocaine-sensing-chip>.