

# New York Prohibitionist



*Think NY Vote Dry*

*October 2022*

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## A Vision for the Future

In these trying times, the Prohibition Party of New York continues its work to advocate for positive policies and advance social reform. We offer a vision for a better future for New York. A vision for a new approach to governance focused on moral principle, public service, and advancing the public wellbeing. A vision of a state filled with healthy, prospering communities, and greater opportunity for all New Yorkers. If you are interested in helping to make a positive impact on your state and your community, consider joining the Prohibition Party of New York.

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"Democracy is based upon the conviction there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people." Harry Emerson Fosdick

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## State and National Party News

The Prohibition Party continues to move forward on the state and national level. The Prohibition Party is working on plans to hold a national conference call for the Prohibition National Committee sometime in November. The meeting will deal with various party business items, including the selection of new PNC committee members, organizing efforts, developing action plans for the coming years, and preparations for the 2024 election.

The Prohibition Party of New York held a statewide party conference call on October 7th. In which, members of the party discussed topics including the state party's organization efforts, public messaging for the coming November elections, and plans for state party activities in the coming year.

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"Voting is the expression of our commitment to ourselves, one another, this country, and this world" Sharon Salzberg

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## Notes on State Party Conference Call

The following notes describe what was discussed during the New York Prohibition Party conference call held on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

*There was some discussion of the state party's activities over the past year: including party messaging efforts, legislative activism (such as our efforts to oppose the governor's alcohol-to-go policies and efforts to find a member of the assembly to reintroduce the bill for the Addiction Prevention and Recovery Act), and our efforts to run candidates for local elections. I gave a short summary of my run for my local school board, in which I had managed to get on the ballot and came in 4<sup>th</sup> place, with 149 votes.*

*There was some discussion of our state party's social media efforts. Mr. Kusnir stated their intention to help with developing our state party's social media efforts. We plan on having further discussions to follow up on this and work on developing the party's social media presence.*

*Some discussion was had about our efforts to find a member of the state assembly to reintroduce the bill for the Addiction Prevention and Recovery Act (a bill that if passed, would greatly improve funding addiction prevention and recovery programs for alcohol and other drugs). We plan on looking for possible new approaches for reaching out to state assembly members, so that we can hopefully find one that is receptive.*

*There was some discussion about the party's information efforts for the upcoming November elections. While we may not have any candidates on the ballot this November, we can work to gather information on those candidates who are running (to identify which ones hold favorable or unfavorable positions or records) and to share this information*



with voters. This can provide the dual benefit of helping voters make informed choices in the election and helping to get some attention for our party among voters. These information efforts have already begun. The latest issue of the New York Prohibitionist contains an article providing some information about the coming election and how some candidates stand on certain issues.

*The more members we have helping with our information efforts, the more we can get done. If you wish to help with this, please spend some time seeing what information you can gather about candidates in the coming election and where they stand on key issues, and then email me what you found. Also, feel free to share the information that we have gathered with people, whether that be in person, online, writing letters to newspapers, or so on.*

*We then spent some time discussing the party's efforts for the coming year. It seems that some of the main things that we will be focusing on will include developing the party's messaging efforts online, looking for ways to get news coverage, looking into opportunities to hold in-person events, continuing our legislative activism, and looking into opportunities for members to run for local offices.*

*These were the main things that were discussed in the conference call.*

*Jonathan Makeley, State Chairman*

## Second Circuit Court Uphold Anti-Democratic Ballot Access Laws, Refuses to Explain Reasoning

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Second Circuit Court issued a ruling upholding the anti-democratic changes made to New York state's ballot access laws in 2020. Rather than giving any sort of reasoned explanation to back up their decision, the decision they issued was only a few sentences long and only says that they think that the says the U.S. District Court did not commit any error when it upheld the ballot access law changes earlier this year. In reality, the U.S. District Court's decision was very much erroneous, contained numerous factual errors, and its reasoning went against precedents that had been set by the Second Circuit Court itself.

As ballot access expert Richard Winger had explained,

"There is much wrong with the U.S. District Court decision. It said that New York is justified in keeping minor parties off the ballot because otherwise the state would need to waste money on public funding for minor party candidates. This was fallacious because the Second Circuit had already ruled in a Connecticut case that if a state has public funding, it can restrict it to the major parties. Also, the U.S. District Court made errors of fact when it compared New York's ballot access rules to the laws of other states. The U.S. District Court ignored all of the evidence that the minor parties had presented about the failure of New York to even have a procedure for a group to transform itself into a qualified party in advance of any election. The U.S. District Court didn't discuss why the petitioning period should be squeezed into a six-week period, when a majority of state allow unlimited petitioning period."

It's absurd that the Second Circuit Court would claim that the U.S. District Court had not made an error, despite all the evidence that it had. One might wonder what sort of twisted and hypocritical rationale they used to justify their decision. But we will be left wondering, as the justices did not bother to explain their reasoning.

Sources: <https://ballot-access.org/2022/10/23/new-york-daily-news-criticizes-second-circuit-one-sentence-opinion-on-ballot-access/>  
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## Additional Information on Candidates

With the November elections approaching, the Prohibition Party of New York is working to help inform voters about the coming elections and where candidates stand on various important issues affecting our state. In last month's issue, we provided some basic information, as well as information on how many candidates voted on several important issues. You can find the article on pages 1-4 of the issue: [https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be\\_3770e5470f4244a3a0672fcd5079138.pdf](https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_3770e5470f4244a3a0672fcd5079138.pdf)

We have some additional information for voters in this month's issue.

### List of Non-Incumbent Congressional Candidates on the Ballot

Bridget Fleming (District 1, Democrat and Working Families), Nicholas LaLota (District 1, Republican and Conservative), Jackie Gordon (District 2, Democrat and Working Families), Robert Zimmerman (District 3, Democrat and Working Families), George Santos (District 3, Republican and Conservative), Laura Gillen (District 4, Democrat), Anthony D'Esposito (District 4, Republican and Conservative), Paul King (District 5, Republican and Conservative), Thomas Zmich (District 6, Republican, Conservative, and Medical Freedom), Juan Pagan (District 7, Republican and Conservative), Yuri Dashevski (District 8, Republican and Conservative), Menachem Raitport (District 9, Conservative), Daniel Goldman, (District 10, Democrat), Benine Hamden (District 10, Republican and Conservative), Steeve Speer (Medical Freedom), Max Rose (District 11, Democrat), Michael K. Zumbluskas (District 12 Republican, Conservative, and Parent), Mikhail Itkis (District 12, independent), Tina Forte (District 14, Republican), Desi Cuellar (District 14, Conservative), Stylo Sapaskis (District 15, Republican), Miriam Flisser (District 16, Republican), Michael Lawler (District 17, Republican and Conservative), Collin Schmitt (District 18, Republican and Conservative), Josh Riley (District 19, Democrat and Working Families), Marcus Molinaro (District 19, Republican and Conservative), Elizabeth Joy (District 20,

Republican and Conservative), Matt Catelli (District 21, Democrat and Moderate), Francis Conole (District 22, Democrat), Brandon Williams (District 22, Republican and Conservative), Mex Della Pia (District 23, Democrat), Nick Langworthy (District 23, Republican and Conservative), Steven Holden (District 24, Democrat), Laron Singletary (District 25, Republican and Conservative), Stevan Sams (District 26, Republican and Conservative).

### Non-incumbent congressional candidates' stances

Candidates stated to be in favor of taking actions to address alcohol and/or other drugs:

Santos (District 3), Gillen (District 4), Pagan (District 7), Lawler (District 17), Molinaro (District 19), Sams (District 26).

Candidates stated to support other policies to protect public health:

Gillen (District 4), Goldman (District 10), Rose (District 11), Molinaro (District 19).

Candidates stated to have pro-alcohol positions:

King (District 5), Riley (District 19), Joy (District 20), Castelli (District 21).

Candidates stated to hold other pro-drug positions:

Rose (District 11), Conole (District 22), Della Pia (District 23).

Candidates stated to support policies to help improve education:

Fleming (District 1), Gordon (District 2), Zimmerman (District 3), Schmidt (District 18), Riley (District 19), Conole (District 22).

Candidates stated to support policies to protect the environment:

Fleming (District 1), Gordon (District 2), Zimmerman (District 3), Goldman (District 10), Rose (District 11), Lawler (District 17), Castelli (District 21), Conole (District 22).

Candidates stated to support policies to promote public ethics/ oppose corruption:

Zimmerman (District 3), Molinaro (District 19), Conole (District 22), Holden (District 24).

## Alcohol-to-go Votes

Governor Kathy Hochul has continued her misguided effort to try to permanently legalize alcohol-to-go-sales for bars and restaurants. Some state senators took action to vote against her efforts. State Senators vote voted against Bill A09005C/ S8005C (which expanded the period for to-go-alcohol sales, among other changes to various state laws) include State Senators Anthony Palumbo (District 1), Mario Mattera (District 2), Alexis Weik (District 8), Andrew Lanza (District 24), Susan Serrino (District 41), James Tedisco (District 44), Dan Stec (District 45), Peter Oberacker (District 51), Joseph Griffo (District 53), Pamela Helming (District 54), George Borello (District 57), Thomas O'Mara (District 58), Patrick Gallivan (District 60), Edward Rath III (District 61), and Robert Ortt (District 62).

Though these state senators may have voted against alcohol-to-go in this instance, it does not necessarily mean that they oppose pro-alcohol policies in general. Some of them, such as Senator Thomas O'Mara, have a history of supporting pro-alcohol policies.

Sources: [https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be\\_3770e5470f4244a3a0672fcd5079138.pdf](https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_3770e5470f4244a3a0672fcd5079138.pdf)  
[https://nyassembly.gov/leg/7default\\_fld=&leg\\_video=&bn=S08005&term=&Summary=Y&Actions=Y&Text=Y](https://nyassembly.gov/leg/7default_fld=&leg_video=&bn=S08005&term=&Summary=Y&Actions=Y&Text=Y)  
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<https://colinschmitt.com/issues/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/joshRileyNY>  
<https://www.facebook.com/MarcMolinaroNY>  
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## Study Finds One in Eight Premature Deaths of U.S. Adults Attributable to Alcohol Use

A new study finds that over one-eighth of premature deaths were attributed to alcohol use. Researchers Esser, Leung, Sherk, et al. (2022) investigated the role that alcohol use plays in premature death. They analyzed data from over two million people, along with data on national sales. They found that from 2015-2019, 12.9% of total deaths among those aged 20-64 were attributable to excessive alcohol consumption. Alcohol use accounted for 20.3% of deaths among those aged 20-49 and 25.4% of deaths among those aged 20-34. The authors acknowledged that there were some limitations in their data, that their numbers were a conservative estimate, and that the total percentage of deaths attributable to alcohol use may actually be higher than they reported. In addition, alcohol-related deaths have increased since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic, so the percentage for 2020 and onwards may be higher than it was in 2015-2019. The researchers stated that the rate of alcohol-attributed deaths could be reduced through evidence-based policies, such as increasing taxes on alcohol sales, reducing the number of outlets selling alcohol, increasing medical screening for high levels of alcohol use, and increasing invention efforts.

Sources: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/gastroenterology/generalhepatology/101519>  
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## CDC Data on the Alcohol-Induced Deaths

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released new data that highlights the high level of alcohol-induced deaths in the country. The CDC found that from 2015-2019, the nation had an average of over 140,000 deaths per year that resulted from alcohol use. This includes over 22,000 deaths per year from alcohol-induced liver disease, over 12,000 deaths per year from cancer caused as a result of alcohol use, over 24,000 deaths per year from heart disease/ stroke, and over 10,000 deaths per year from liver, gallbladder, and pancreas diseases. It also includes over 12,000 deaths per year from drunk

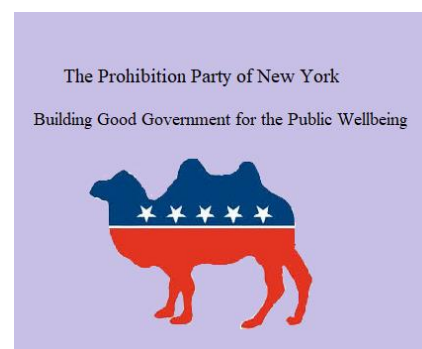
driving, over 11,000 alcohol-related suicides per year, and over 8,400 death per year from homicides committed by intoxicated individuals (over 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of total homicides).

For New York state, they found that on average over 6,700 New Yorkers died each year as a result of alcohol use. This includes over 800 deaths per year from alcohol-induced liver disease, over 600 deaths per year from cancers caused as a result of alcohol use, over 1,600 deaths from heart disease/stroke, and over 400 deaths per year from liver, gallbladder, and pancreas diseases. It also includes 385 deaths per year from drunk driving, over 400 alcohol-related suicides per year, and 280 homicides committed by intoxicated individuals (over 47% of total homicides in the state).

These statistics got even worse in 2020. The CDC found that in 2020 the age-adjusted rate of alcohol-induced deaths had increased 26% from 2019. In 2020, alcohol-related deaths increased among males in all age groups 85 and younger and among males in all age groups 25 and older. In 2020, deaths from alcohol-induced pancreatitis increased 50%, deaths from mental and behavioral disorders due to the use of alcohol increased by 33%, and deaths from alcohol-induced liver disease increased 23%. The CDC found that while alcohol-related deaths have been increasing for decades, that deaths have increased much more sharply in the past several years.

Sources: [https://nccd.cdc.gov/DPH\\_ARDI/default/default.aspx](https://nccd.cdc.gov/DPH_ARDI/default/default.aspx)  
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<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/homicide.htm>  
<https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/Crime-in-NYS-2019.pdf>

"Our political leaders will know our priorities only if we tell them, again and again, and if those priorities begin to show up in the polls" Peggy Noonan



## New York Prohibition Party History

### John A.M. Kline

John A.M. Kline was born on February 1, 1849, in Berne, Albany County, New York. His parents were German Immigrants, who had arrived in the U.S. about a year prior to his birth. He was the youngest of six children. His father died when he was eleven. This placed the family in poverty, limited Kline's ability to attain schooling, and caused him to start working at an early age. He spent four years working at a farm for 3 dollars a month. He then spent two years working at a hotel in Schuyler County. At 17, he became a clerk at a dry goods store in Middleburg, New York. At 19, he started working at a general store in Rensselaerville, New York, and spent two years as the store's top salesman.

In the early 1870's, Kline moved to Western New York. Over the next few decades, Kline lived in various towns in Yates and Steuben counties. After arriving to the area, Kline turned his attention towards pursuing an education. In September 1871, he started studying at Starkey Seminary in Yates County, and graduated two years later. In 1873, he started studying at Oberlin College. He spent six years studying at Oberlin and occasionally teaching, until he graduated from Oberlin in 1879.

On December 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>, 1879, Kline married Frances A. Bassett of Barrington, New York. They went on to have two children: Allen Bassett Kline, who was born in 1883 and apparently named after Frances' father Allen Bassett, and J. (John) Carlton Kline in 1888.

In September 1879, Kline founded the

Dundee Preparatory School, in Dundee New York. He taught at the school, and served as the school's principal and administrator, until 1891. In 1891, the Dundee Preparatory School was replaced by Dundee Highschool. From 1891-1895, Kline worked at the State Mutual Life Insurance Company.

While living in Yates County, Kline became significantly involved in reformist activities, particularly temperance activism. He began speaking at various temperance and prohibitionist meetings throughout the region. A favorite topic of his was speaking about the American Brewers Association, its negative effects on society, and its corrupting influence on the nation's politics.

By the late 1880's, Kline became involved with the Prohibition Party. In 1888, he ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for state assembly in Yates County's 1<sup>st</sup> District, against Republican candidate William A. Carson and Democratic candidate Henry M. Huntington. The election was won by Carson.

In 1890, he was the Prohibition Party candidate for county school commissioner in Yates County. In the campaign, he reportedly spent \$12.00 on printing and postage. In the same year, he was part of a group of temperance supporters who sought to purchase the Dundee Record

newspaper and turn it into a prohibitionist newspaper. This may have become the basis for the Dundee Home Advocate newspaper, which he played a key role in creating. By 1895, the Dundee Home Advocate had merged with an Elmira based prohibitionist newspaper named "The Facts".

In 1891, Kline was one of the representatives from Yates County at the New York Prohibition Party state convention. In

1893, he delivered at address at the Yates

County Prohibition Party convention. In 1895, Kline was nominated to run for state senate.

By 1895, Kline had begun working as a professor at Keuka College/ Keuka Institute. In 1895, Kline was appointed as Principal of Keuka College/ Institute. The news of his appointment was met with praise from The Facts newspaper. They described Kline as one of the "best known educators and reformers in the state", who worked his way from being a poor boy "through the snows of difficulty to his present and enviable standing", and who "possesses the peculiar power to impress himself upon the young with whom he comes in contact".

Kline managed practical aspects of the college and its staff, while the college's founder, Rev. George Harvey Bell, administered the college as its president. As part of his work, he attended meetings with other principals in local area. In addition, his wife Frances Kline was taught English and Art at Keuka, and was at one-point head of its Art department. In June 1896, Newell M. Calhoun became president of

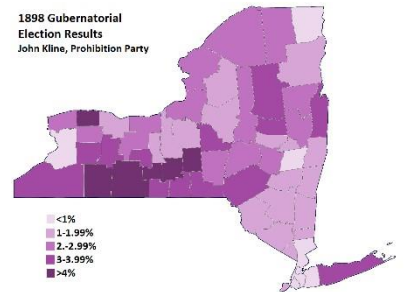
Keuka College, and served until he resigned in February 1897. Kline was temporarily appointed to fill the duties of the president. Shortly thereafter, the board appointed George Harvey Bell to return and president of the college, and bell remained president until 1904.

In 1897, Kline became president of the group producing The Facts newspaper in Elmira. The same year, he also attended Yates County Christian Endeavor convention, and acted as the executor of the will of H. Carlton Bassett of Barrington.

On June 30, 1898, the Prohibition Party held its state convention in Syracuse. John Kline was selected as the party's nominee for governor. Throughout his campaign, he spoke at various temperance and prohibitionist meetings across the state. Kline emphasized the importance of opposing the alcohol industry and its corrupt influence on politics. He called on voters in New York to stand up against its influence. For instance, an article from the Brooklyn Daily Eagle on one of events reported,

"The speaker told of the corruption he thought existed in both the Democratic and Republican Parties. It is time, he said, for another party whose purpose was pure to take hold of affairs. When the whiskey trade can step in and make and unmake presidents it was time for the people to interfere."

Kline received 18,383 votes (1.36% of the total statewide vote), and came in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Kline's strongest results tended to be in counties in Western and Central New York, particularly among the southern tier counties. He also had above average results in various counties in the Adirondacks and Northern New York. His percentage of votes tended to be lower in New York City, as well as several of the more urban counties in the state.



After the election, Kline continued to be a prominent figure in the New York Prohibition Party. He continued to make speeches at local Prohibition Party events. In 1900, Kline was selected to serve on the state executive committee of the Prohibition Party in New York State.

Near the end of 1900, Kline and his family moved from Jerusalem, New York to the area of Cleveland, Ohio. He ended up living in the town of Euclid, Ohio. He began working at A.L. Bassett & CO., a Cleveland based company that sold hats. In 1906, he reportedly purchased a share of the business. Kline continued to be active in the Prohibition Party. In 1904, he ran the Prohibition Party candidate for representative in Ohio's 20<sup>th</sup> congressional district. He received 587 votes and 1.19% of the total vote.

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1907, John Kline's son

Allen B. Kline married Mary Grace Spence, with J. Carlton Kline acting as best man. The couple took up residence in Wickliffe, Ohio.

In 1912, Kline was faced a period of poor health, due to issues with diabetes. His nephew, Dr. Scherer of Penn Yan, New York, traveled to Cleveland to assist with his treatment.

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, 1914, a group of alumni from the old Dundee Preparatory School began their first annual reunion. Kline attended as the guest of honor and was one of the speakers at the reunion. The alumni continued to hold annual reunions for at least the next several years.

John Kline died on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 1917, and was buried in Knollwood cemetery, in Mayfield Heights, Ohio.

Sources listed at: [https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be\\_f3b85b23b03d40b89f61a6e5b4478\\_634.pdf](https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_f3b85b23b03d40b89f61a6e5b4478_634.pdf)