

2015 Northwest Liberty Academy Review

...teaching the principles of a Free Society and Free Enterprise

Business Comm. Consultants

George Gersema, Employers Resource
Todd Hatfield, Hatfield Log Homes and
Idaho Grain & Flour Mill
Alex Joye, Patriot Pawn & Gun
Tom King, King's Variety Stores
Dar and Dorothy Moon, Moon &
Assoc. Engineering
Theron Nelsen, Worldwide Dream
Builders

Executive and Legislative Branch Consultants

Lawrence Denney, Idaho Secretary of
State
Ron Crane, Idaho State Treasurer
Rep. Vito Barbieri
Rep. Judy Boyle
Russ Fulcher, former Idaho State
Senator
Sen. Sheryl Nuxoll
Sen. Chuck Winder

Judicial Branch Consultants

Justice Daniel Eismann, Idaho
Supreme Court
Jim Harris, Former Ada County
Prosecutor & Trial Lawyer
Bill Sali, former U.S. Congressman
Christ Troupis, Troupis Law Office

Education Consultants

Stephen M. Ackerman, Professor of
Economics College of Western Idaho
Kirsten Mast, Business Professor, C of I
Charlotte Twight, Professor of
Economics, BSU
Richard B. Twight, M.S. University of
Washington
Stephanie Zimmerman, Idahoans 4
Local Control

Community Outreach

Sean Borzea
Bob Neugebauer
Lori Shewmaker
Pastor Isaac Tellez
Neola Weaver
James Thomas

IT and Website

Daniel Tellez
Sean Borzea
James Thomas

Advisory Council:

Rep. Vito Barbieri
Lawrence Denney, ID Secretary of
State
Justice Daniel Eismann
Russ Fulcher, Former ID Senate
Tom King, King Variety Stores
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Associates Engineering
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The 2015 NW Liberty Academy held its inaugural event in Boise, Idaho June 17-20th at the state capitol building and the Riverside Hotel.

Kris Anne Hall of "Liberty First" was the opening Keynote Speaker. She is a constitutional attorney, a disabled veteran, and an expert historian having read and taught *original* historical documents dating back to before the Magna Charta. Her knowledge and enthusiasm kept everyone's undivided attention.

Opening Day Ceremony took place in the Lincoln Auditorium of the Idaho State Senate with former Senate Majority Caucus Leader, Russ Fulcher. Russ gave a great welcome and introductory presentation and explained the importance of understanding the proper role of government, and the vital role of Free Enterprise in a Free Society.

Former U.S. Congressman, Bill Sali, presented historical background and explained the significance of the Oath of Office. He gave an overview of the three branches of state and federal government after which participants enjoyed a personal tour all three branches of Idaho State Government.

Executive Branch First office on the tour we met with Idaho Secretary of State Lawrence Denney who explained the duties of his office and the duties of every citizen toward "eternal vigilance". Upon leaving, each person received bound copies of the Declaration of Independence, Idaho State Constitution and the US Constitution personally signed by Secretary Denney.

Next, we crowded into the Idaho State Treasurer's Office where we were treated to a look inside the vault. Treasurer Ron Crane explained the duties of his office and took us upstairs where we were able to see the Bloomberg Terminals used to show live trades and provide the Treasurer's Office with up-to-the-minute market information.

It was interesting to learn about these two offices in the executive branch that many people know about but have little knowledge of what they actually do.

Judicial Branch A short walk down the street found us at the Idaho State Supreme Court where we were given a personal guided tour including a walk through the robe room. Once seated inside the court, Justice Dan Eismann addressed our group. He explained the differences between the state and federal supreme courts and the different opinions regarding the US Constitution; one school of opinion being that the Constitution is considered a "living document" thus subject to change in interpretation versus the opinion that our founders intended the Constitution to restrict government to certain limited duties. Justice Eismann's talk was both informative and insightful.

Legislative Branch Our final excursion was to the Idaho State Senate where we met with senators and state reps who explained the workings of a bi-cameral legislature. Idaho Senate Assistant Majority Leader, Chuck Winder along with Senator Cliff Bayer spoke to the Senate duties and operation while Reps. Judy Boyle & Paul Shepherd addressed duties of the House of Representatives. Rep. Ron Nate spoke from a freshman's perspective and the importance of understanding the moral imperative of standing on "principle over politics".

"Socialism, Capitalism, **Liberty!**" was the topic of Professor Steve Ackerman, Prof. of Economics, CWI. His lively presentation included great examples of the various "isms" including communism and fascism, along with definition of terms that are often used but not always understood or explained. It is encouraging to know that we have people like Prof. Ackerman who are both knowledgeable and committed to the concept of liberty.

Our final session at the statehouse before boarding the bus for dinner, was on Social Media. Meghan Fulcher & Max Head, of Matrix Consulting spoke on the use of Social Media as both a personal communications and business tool. They addressed Facebook, Twitter, and other forms of social media, stressed the need for good security and provided handouts with helpful tips.

After dinner at Smokey Mountain Pizza we returned to our hotel where the next session was on "Private Property Rights" with Ramona Hage Morrison giving an update on a 37 year old property rights battle that now has a second generation of the Wayne Hage Family continuing their court case regarding the Pine Creek Ranch in Nevada. After the deaths of Ramona's mother and years later that of her father Wayne, and step mother, Helen Chenoweth Hage, federal district court judge Robert C. Jones in Reno, found in favor of the Hages in determining that the US Forrest Services and Bureau of Land Management had engaged in a "conspiracy", **beginning in the 1970's**, to take their vested water rights and grazing preferences (rights). This decision has been appealed by the government and the fight for private property rights continues.

That evening our Keynote Speaker was Connor Boyack, President of Libertas Institute and author of numerous books including "The Tuttle Twins Learn About the LAW" (children's version of Frederick Bastiat's the LAW) and "The Tuttle Twins Learn About the Miraculous Pencil" (children's book on Leonard Read's "I, Pencil"). Connor spoke on his more recent book entitled, "Feardom" that focuses on "*How Politicians Scare You into Surrendering Your Liberty, and How You Can Stop It*". Connor's message was timely and we look forward to his upcoming children's book based on G. Edward Griffin's "The Creature from Jekyll Island".

Each morning started with a session during breakfast entitled, "Food for Thought" during which two of our speakers, Pastor Isaac Tellez and Ross Hodge Knudsen delivered messages with principles of liberty on which we could reflect.

Other topics over the next two days included:

- **"Free Market Cooperation: A Competition to Serve Others"**- with Jason Riddle, Foundation for Economic Education (FEE). This included an **interactive game** that taught the principles of free exchange.
- **"Nobody Knows How To Make A Pencil"**: Lessons about The Free Market (based on "I, Pencil"-Leonard Read, Founder of FEE) - with Connor Boyack, Libertas Institute.
- A Panel discussion on the **"Unintended Consequences of well-intended legislation"**
Panel: Steve Ackerman, Todd Hatfield, Tom King, Darr Moon, Ramona Hage Morrison.
Moderator: Wayne Hoffman, Idaho Freedom Foundation (IFF)
- **"The Power to Tax...the Power to Destroy"**, Scott Hodge, Tax Foundation
- How you can Become **"The Richest Man in Babylon"** David Smith, Author, The Write Doctor, The Morgan Report, Money, Metals Exchange.
- **The LAW**, "How A French Pamphlet from 1850 Predicted America in 2015" Connor Boyack, Libertas Institute

Friday night, 16 year old Entrepreneur, Erik Finman spoke on **"How a Teenage Entrepreneur Built a Startup Business"**. Erik told of his struggle with teachers who verbally scoffed at him and predicted that he was destined to be a McDonald's worker with no hope for success in his endeavors. Finding a

dedicated teacher/mentor along with his determination, perseverance, sense of humor, support from family and a positive attitude, Erik realized success despite the negativity of others. Erik has been featured in a CBS Documentary and written about in Time. He is truly a remarkable young man and a living example of the spirit of Free Enterprise and the quest to live a life of liberty.

Our final keynote speaker, Dr. Tom Woods, of the Mises Institute, spoke on how the states can be involved in "Enforcing the Constitution". On Saturday he followed up with "Conceptions/Misconceptions about American History". Tom's knowledge and teaching ability was a real benefit to all who attended.

Day three included announcement of the essay contest winners. Congratulations to Scott Perrin, David Perkins and Callie Perrin for their fine contributions. Their essays can be found on our website. Prior to commencement, a special ceremony giving well deserved recognition to those who stand guard to protect, defend, and preserve liberty was held in the Lincoln Auditorium of the Senate. Three categories of "Eternal Vigilance" honorees included:

Law Enforcement: Lt. Larry Jones, Boise Police Dept. (1971-2002) Retired.

Military Service: Jack Stuart, WW II Veteran. U.S Navy (1944-1946) Pacific Theatre
Roger Lewis Staff Sgt., Vietnam Veteran. 163rd Div. Nat'l Guard (1962-1968)

Public Service:

Dieter Bayer, former Idaho State Rep. who fled Nazi Germany as a child and committed his life to helping others understand the importance of preserving our inalienable right to life, liberty & property.

Pat Felts, Kathryn Frazier & Mary Heikkola, over 80 combined years monitoring the legislative branch and scrutinizing the activities of those who govern.

Robert Forrey, former Idaho State Rep., proponent of education, advocate of Home Schools

Special commendation to Maurice Clements, Former Idaho State Legislator and co-founder of the Center for the Study of Market Alternatives (CSMA) for his *lifetime commitment and dedication to advancing the principles of a free market and a free society.*

For more information on the Northwest Liberty Academy and details on past and upcoming events visit our website at nwlibertyacademy.org



HIGHLIGHTS



Happy faces at Joe's Crab Shack





Ron Crane, ID State Treasurer



Into the Treasurer's Vault!



Lawrence Denney, ID Secty. of State



Inquiry!



Panel

"Unintended consequences of well-intended legislation"



Connor on "The LAW"



Legislators explain a Bi-cameral Legislature



Max Head and Meghan Fulcher on Social Media



Jason Riddle **FEE**
Free Trade Game



Erik Finman, 16 year old Entrepreneur



Idaho Supreme Court with Justice Eismann



"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for dinner. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote."

Our mascot , "Liberty Lamb"

Find more at:

nwlibertyacademy.org

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