



THE GEM STATE PATRIOT



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©

Knowledge is Power as Silence is Consent. We will
bring you the knowledge so you can rise up and
restore freedom and liberty back to our country.

Welcome to the first edition of The Gem State Patriot. This is an independent newsletter without connection to any organization. Conservative organizations around the state believe there is a real need to unite all of these groups under one information banner so we can become an effective force in defending our State and Country from those that would willingly try to destroy our liberties and freedoms. There is no charge for this newsletter and its only purpose is to inform all those around our great state of problems, new ideas, changes and events that are taking place in different areas of Idaho. We are hoping you will all be willing contributors to stories, opinions and interviews, because without you we will not be successful in our cause to unite these great conservative liberty minded organizations. We will also offer a Schedule of Events Calendar to publish meetings and special events. We are here to report the news and to offer interesting articles and opinions of people around our state. The Gem State Patriot is a **not for profit newsletter**.

Over five thousand years ago, Moses said to the children of Israel “pick up your shovel, mount your asses and camels, and I will lead you to the promised-land

Nearly 80 years ago, President Roosevelt said, Lay down your shovels, sit on your asses, and light up a camel, this is the promised-land

Now President Obama has stolen your shovel, taxed your asses, raised the price of camels, and mortgaged the promised-land

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Please direct any comments on this newsletter to:

Bob Neugebauer: Publisher E-mail - nugie@cableone.net Phone - 208-887-2144

Steve Ackerman: Editor E-mail - sackerman@cableone.net Phone - 208-860-8055

Excerpts from a letter by Senator Steven Thayne on Healthcare Fallout

“What is the next step: Many of the opponents to the ACA are very frustrated by the passage of the State Health Insurance Exchange. I would like to share a positive path forward;” Senator Thayne goes on to share his frustration. “The ACA will not reduce costs. It is a threat to freedom. What we see with the ACA is a new entitlement for the middle class. An entitlement is simply the taking of money and resources and power from those that produce and giving that money and resources and power to those that did not produce.” Here is his plan.

“A Plan

The answer is simple. We act rather than react. What is the real goal: The real goal is to empower people so that they control their own health care decisions. We do not need recalls and referendum. We need to do more than complain. We need to come up with plans of action on how to solve two problems

1. Reduce the cost of medical care

2. Improve access to care

These two goals can be achieved by using limited government strategies.”

Senator Thayne goes on to say “People need to control the funds; not government or insurance companies.” He goes on to explain: “First, protect your own health. Stay as healthy as possible through diet exercise, and life style choices. Second, don’t go to the exchange. Boycott it. There is no legal requirement to go to the exchange. It is voluntary and unnecessary. Health insurance can be purchased outside of the exchange.”

He goes on to talk about how the exchange must be self-funded, and if the cost to use the exchange is too high, citizens would not have any incentive to use it. The third part of his plan would be to find care options outside of the exchange which are legal. He talks about buying non-qualifying policies such as a high deductible policy where you would pay a penalty beginning in 2014 of \$95.00 or 1% of income or you could “Pray that nothing happens.” He talks about joining organizations that are exempt from the penalty but still can help with medical costs. His fourth suggestion is to self-fund or band together to help each other.

His “last steps would be to make changes to the health care system which would include; Support S1106 that he wrote this year. This only applies to state employees at this time but could be expanded. This has to do with funded health savings accounts. He would support H289 which requires health insurance companies to offer low cost insurance policies, build off-exchange real market solutions and work on reforming Medicaid. In conclusion he says “These ideas are not a panacea; however, they are a beginning. There are struggles ahead; let’s work together.”

Paradoxical Quote of The Day From Ben Stein:

Fathom the hypocrisy of a government that requires every citizen to prove they are insured... but not everyone must prove they are a citizen.”

Now add this, Many of those who refuse, or are unable, to prove they are citizens will receive free insurance paid for by those who are forced to buy insurance because they are citizens.”

A Case for Transferring Ownership of Public Lands from Federal to State

What is happening with public policy and the care of our public lands? As we look across the vast landscape of our federally managed public lands what legacy are we leaving? Have current environmental policies brought us the utopia we were promised? If we wish to be honest we would have to say no. Western states would do a better job of managing their lands and the vast wealth that could be generated off of them for the benefit of each western state and to benefit America in providing us with a solution big enough to face the fiscal challenges we face as a nation.

Current environmental policies are having devastating effects to forestry health, critical habitat for wildlife, creating sustained damage to our watersheds and polluting our air. Internationally we look across the worlds landscape and see many concerns; yet fail to recognize the ticking time bomb in the American West of natural destruction, due to fuel loads build up of dead and dying timber which are primed for catastrophic wildfires. Without immediate action what will these forest look like 100 years from now? Is this the landscape naturalist John Muir and President Teddy Roosevelt envisioned we would leave future generations? If we do not begin to recognize our role in working with nature we will not leave a healthy sustained environment or a bright future for generations to come.

Will we be ready to meet the challenges we are facing and leave our children and grandchildren the same opportunities we have had? We cannot continue down the path of current policies if we are to have a sustainable environment. One would think the environmental community would also agree.

In 2012 1.7 million acres burned in Idaho, 246,000 of those acres burned in Idaho County where I am a commissioner. Using just 50% of normal timber production this represents 1.23 billion board feet of timber and at \$300.00 per thousand this represents \$329,000,000.00 in value, a natural resource value now lost for over 100 years. What was gained by this devastation? Let me tell you what was lost.

Twenty five percent of the value of this resource would have been \$92,500,000.00 to fund education, rebuild are crumbling schools and fund local services from road maintenance, law enforcement, ambulatory care, indigent care and the many other services provided by local county and city governments. A conservative economic multiplier of 3-4 could be attached to the total value of the resource meaning the potential of gain to the local economy could have been as high as 1.3 billion dollars in economic activity, revitalizing our depressed economies, creating hundreds of jobs in the communities of Idaho County and broadening our tax base to further support our educational needs and fund county government. 12.8 million tons of noxious pollutants were released into the atmosphere. A conservative estimate of animals killed is between 750,000 and 1,000,000,000. These current policies are also creating ecological damage to critical habitat for endangered species and sustained damage to watersheds so critical for every aspect of life on the planet.

This issue is not republican vs. democrat, conservative vs. liberal, no this issue should cross party lines and bind us to a common cause, rally us around a united theme to benefit our communities and protect our common interest unique to each of our regions and our state as a whole. If we do not address these issues facing us the outcome is certain, and one that we nor future generations will be happy with. We need to stop saying what we cannot do and start believing what we can do. Release the ingenuity of the human spirit and seek solutions, which protect our environment and yet allow us to utilize its potential to our benefits and lift us off the dependency of government subsidies and allow us to provide for ourselves and pull our own weight as Idahoans and Americans. It will be up to us to leave it better than we found it.

To learn more about the transfer of public lands from federal ownership to state ownership please contact Idaho County Commissioner Jim Chmelik at jim.chmelik@gmail.com or (208) 983-8133 also visit the American Lands Council at americanlandscouncil.org and learn more about transferring federal ownership to state ownership and state management. I look forward to hearing from you on this issue so important to Idahoans.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR
BY
TONY SNESKO

ORIGINAL INTENT

“You don’t need an assault rifle to hunt!” - Governor Cuomo repeatedly shouted in his pre-pubescent soprano voice to a cheering crowd of anti-gun supporters. My wife Valerie was amused when I yelled back at the TV, “It’s not about hunting, stupid.” Later that day, I went to a friend’s house for dinner. This friend has more hunting rifles than anyone I know and he brings home an elk every year. I mentioned Coumo’s rant and my friend said, “Well, no one hunts with an AR15!” I thought my head was going to explode. How could my conservative friend not understand the 2nd Amendment? I spent the evening schooling him.

A few days later, a friend emailed a letter he received from one of our two Idaho senators in DC. The senator has an A-rating with the NRA, but in his letter he said, “I fully support the 2nd Amendment, I hunt and sport shoot.” All I could do was shake my head. It was obvious that we have an endemic 2nd Amendment ignorance problem.

You would think the NRA would educate our legislators through their annual questionnaire, but when I read the latest version, they only asked if the member agreed with the NRA’s stance on the 2nd Amendment. There was nothing addressing the prevention of tyranny -- the original intent of 2nd Amendment. It’s not about hunting, or even self-defense. The founders were focused on preventing future politicians from turning on the people and using our military against us.

Tench Coxe, delegate for Pennsylvania to the Continental Congress, best describes it:
As civil rulers, not having their duty to the people duly before them, may attempt to tyrannize, and as the military forces which must be occasionally raised to defend our country, might pervert their power to the injury of their fellow-citizens, the people are confirmed by the next article in their right to keep and bear their private arms.”

If we, 2nd Amendment Patriots, are going to be successful in deterring our rulers from infringing on our right to bear arms, we must first educate our “rulers” and our nation on the original intent of the 2nd Amendment. It is the 2nd Amendment that protects the 1st Amendment and all of our inalienable rights.

Tony Snesko, Founder

You can reach Tony by e-mail at tony@idahocarry.org

Constitution in the Spotlight

Protect Your Right to a Fair Trial; Ensure Limited Federal Government; Support SB1184 by Senator Monty Pearce

The requirement that all governments in the U.S. – federal, state, county, city, and so on – honor their promised adherence to a person's right to a fair trial and other aspects of due process as agreed to in the Fifth Amendment should be without question or controversy. Yet, in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) we see that promise being abrogated.

As numerous members of the legal community, political analysts, and court decisions have noted, sections 1021 and 1022 of the NDAA do not uphold that Fifth Amendment protection of due process.

Specifically, Congress is allowing the president to “detain covered persons,” according to the “laws of war.” The problem is Congress did not declare war, in this case, against terrorism. It only authorized the president to “use military force” against terrorism. While fighting terrorism was (and is) a necessary policy, it is wholly different from a “declaration of war.” Thus, it cannot allow the president to suspend Fifth Amendment protections of Americans.

Why does this matter? For a couple of reasons. First, under the “laws of war,” a president and Congress can detain a person until the end of the war, i.e., the formal surrender by one side or the other. The problem with the “war on terrorism” is there will not likely ever be a formal surrender. Thus, an open-ended ability to suspend the Fifth Amendment protections of any American lead to other problems – loss of the Sixth Amendment right to a “speedy trial;” loss of Seventh Amendment “civil trial by jury;” and maybe Eighth Amendment of protection against “cruel and unusual punishment.”

Second, if a person can be “detained indefinitely” any time Congress authorizes the use of military force, then why couldn't a person be detained when Congress authorizes the spending of money on the military? Why couldn't a person be detailed when Congress authorizes public safety checks of TSA agents for people getting on planes or trains? Under what other conditions could a person be detained? If there are no limits to what an executive agency or department can do, and then do we still have “limited government?”

Senator Monty Pearce chose not to allow Idaho to be complicit in this slippery slope to excessive and potentially irresponsible federal actions. He did this by putting forward the Idaho Liberty Preservation Act (SB1184). Rooted in the Tenth Amendment, SB1184 “prohibits” the State of Idaho from providing “material support” or “participating in any way” with the “implementations of sections 1021 and 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act [for fiscal year 2012].” This includes “public officer, official, or employee or agent” of the State of Idaho.

Why We Support SB1184

There are five reasons to support SB 1184. They include the following:

- 1) **Treatment of people, including their arrest, indictment, trial, conviction, and imprisonment (or capital punishment) is primarily the purview of state governments.** Local police, county and state courts, state prisons, etc. are the enforcers of such laws because these are police and judicial functions. This is a core requirement in the Tenth Amendment; one where Sections 1021 and 1022 violate by trampling upon state jurisdiction.

Congress' passage of the Authorization to Use Military Force law is not an “enforcement law;” it is an authorization to use military force. The State of Idaho has a duty to ensure our Bill of Right protections are maintained, as a co-equal partner in the federal system. Senator Pearce's bill is simply protecting the jurisdictional divide between state and federal power. That is what helps us maintain limited government.

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Constitution in the Spotlight

We would add that after watching the way the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) violated the jurisdiction of the State of Idaho on the health exchange issue, making Idaho become the implementer, payer, and enforcer of federal insurance rules, we question whether either the federal Congress or the President would respect state jurisdiction on this issue.

2) The “detention” of American citizens “under the laws of war” until “the end of hostilities” is too open-ended and vague. When is the “end of hostilities” when it comes to the War on Terror? The president and congress argue that because terrorism is somehow “different,” it means the president can authorize the military to override state and local law enforcement functions.

During the Cold War, the U.S. and Soviet Union had some 30,000 nuclear weapons pointed at each other. No president or congress needed to violate Americans’ Bill of Rights to fight the expansion of Soviet power. The U.S. government simply fought the Soviets. We see no evidence that justifies the suspending of Bill of Right protections on civilians due to acts of terrorism. Let alone without due process. Senator Pearce is only asking Idaho to protect the Bill of Rights of those ordinary citizens.

3) Remember our Founding Fathers. Our Founding Fathers had to deal with pirates on the open seas who hurt trade and commerce. They gave Congress and the President the power to issue “Letters of Marque and Reprisal” that allow Congress to authorize monies to target terrorist groups and kill their leaders. Congress could wake up tomorrow, pass a “letter of reprisal” against members of Al-Qaeda, and authorize money for the military to go after them and kill them. The president doesn’t need this open-ended and limitless power against innocent civilians on American soil to fight terrorists.

4) Sections 1021 and 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) are like the gun control debate where people want to curtail 2nd Amendment rights because they worry about someone getting killed by a gun. The answer is not to undermine of our Bill of Right protections, it should be to enact tougher laws if you hurt or kill someone with a gun or through an act of terrorism. If a US citizen engages in an act of terrorism from Idaho, then our state laws on murder, assault, battery, along with federal wire transfer, conspiracy, RICO, and other laws should be tough and used fully. If we need to toughen the laws in Idaho more to discourage anyone from engaging or supporting terrorist activity, I support it. But, just like the gun issue, don’t undermine our 4th, 5th, 6th, and maybe 8th amendment rights to try and find safety.

5) Civilian courts appear more effective. A study by the US Senate Intelligence Committee showed that the average prison sentence of a person tried under a military commission was less than three years. The average district attorney was able to prosecute and get 19 years. We would rather have a US citizen who engages in terrorism to get 19 years than three years. If a terrorist kills someone, then our call would be for capital punishment. I’m more confident that can be done by a jury of fellow Idahoans – than a military commission.

Idaho should be standing up for the Bill of Rights of her fellow citizens. Senator Pearce’s bill does that. We urge support for SB1184.

By Steve Ackerman - sackerman@cableone.net

GUNS & MENTAL HEALTH

Gun Control, Mental Health, and the Affordable Care Act: Payette and Washington Tea Parties Host Forum

The Payette County Tea Party and Washington County Tea Party hosted a forum on Mental and the Second Amendment on March 30th. Entitled “Gun Control and Mental Health: Who’s Controlling Who?” the forum featured guests from the legal profession, law enforcement, a political and economic analyst, as well as a former state legislator.

Among the panelists at this event was Mr. Stephen Ackerman, independent political and economic analyst. Mr. Ackerman discussed concerns over how expanded definitions of mental health, increased drug prescription rates to deal with mental illnesses, and recent moves by the Obama Administration could undermine people’s Second Amendment rights. This includes both provisions in the Affordable Care Act and especially recommendations in the Biden Commission on Gun Violence, headed by Vice President Joe Biden.

While the Idaho state legislature included provisions in H248 (the health exchange bill) to counter some of these moves, more work needs to be done by both our state and federally elected officials. To that end, Mr. Ackerman outlined five key recommendations Idahoans can take to protect their Second Amendment rights in the face of potential efforts to undermine them. They include the following:

- 1 Push Members of Congress NOT to authorize money for CDC research on guns and violence
- 2 Push State Legislators and the Governor NOT to cooperate on release of information to federal agencies without clear limits, with respect to H248
- 3 Push State Legislators and the Governor to counter federal urging of information of Idahoans diagnosed with mental health illnesses, pending a thorough state review³
- 4 Push Members of Congress NOT to fund National Violent Death Reporting System⁵
- 5 Awareness campaign to remind doctors and mental health professionals of private nature of firearms and ammunition ownership, possession, storage, and use to us

A fuller summary of these recommendations can be found by contacting Katherine Harris of the Payette County Tea Party at: payetteteaparty@gmail.com or Larry Lundin of the Washington County Tea Party at: larrylundin@mtecom.net. While your contacting either Kathy or Larry, why not consider a donation to their organizations?

By Steve Ackerman sackerman@cableone.net

A TEA PARTY PRIMER by Darr Moon

STATE YOUR MISSION

Education of Constitutional issues, limited government, personal responsibility, free markets and fiscal accountability are the key emphasized components of our Tea Party organization. Yours can be different, but should be stated in a Mission Statement so you can remind yourself on occasion what it is you're trying to accomplish.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Custer County Tea Party Patriots are dedicated to Honoring, Defending and Educating the public on the Constitutional Principles of our Founding Fathers, which are Limited Government, Personal Responsibility, Free Markets and Fiscal Accountability.

Don't forget whose government we enjoy.

*We are the People in charge; so we have to act like it if we want good government. To be effective we must look beyond the adversarial climate that exists in politics and bring to the arena of human events better ideas. Our strength is our relationships with millions of individuals who understand the blessings of good government. To effectively change the strangle hold of centralized power we must act locally and chip away at those who seek power and privilege over service and principle. Keep your organizational structure amorphous, independent and involved.

*There is no head to cut off which makes the power elite nervous. They can't regulate undefined activity or smear leadership that doesn't exist.

*We are a grass roots movement that cannot be stopped from above.

*The disadvantages of herding cats are our advantage. Power can not waste time, money and effort stomping strays.

*We are not a political party. Remember that so we are not co-opted into joining forces with the power brokers just to get elected. We don't drink from their well, they drink from ours.

*We are not a religious movement. It is important that we respect all faiths and follow the Constitutional principles of free people.

Resolve to have a monthly meeting at a convenient and consistent location

*Meetings are best held at 7:00 pm so that people can have dinner before coming.

*Always have a topic and a speaker who has personal experience about the topic who can relate their information with truth and conviction.

*Keep information current and of concern to the audience so as not to replay the latest news alert from Fox. The media at all levels is a means to turn your opinion not so much to inform you. Don't let your meetings become a social bitch session. Bitching should be left for happy hour at the local tavern.

*Serve snacks and have the responsibility pass from member to member. We are so fortunate to have a lady who makes the best fudge I've ever had. I'd show up to watch paint dry just for her rum flavored vanilla fudge. She contributes greatly; people like to have a cup of coffee, hot chocolate and a treat to chat about the issues before and after the meeting.

*Meetings are open to everyone, even those who may see issues differently. Please invite those with differing opinions. We must seek those who have lost their way in the media driven madness of 24 hour non-stop news. We can't just sing to the choir and expect to affect change.

Maintain a network to communicate issues, special events and upcoming meetings

*Build a confidential email list of parties interested in keeping current on the issues and willing to help support your group efforts.

*Send out weekly information, not just pass through info that we all get too much of. Keep the emails interesting and with a point.

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A Tea Party Primer Continued

*If you have a good writer in your group get them to articulate their thoughts to help keep a unique and local flavor to your messages. Forward information, notices and events to your membership and to other organizations that may be interested in your issues and understanding of the material you've written about.

*Be careful to check sources and encourage members to do their own research and be wary of wolves dressed in sheep clothing sending email chains that do not offer reliable information or persuade you away from your principles.

Collect donations and ask for financial help from all members even if just a small amount

*In order to keep your meetings interesting, educational and informative you will need to solicit speakers from outside your community. It will be necessary to help with their travel and motel expenses

*Advertise your meetings and events. This means preparing text for newspaper advertisement and well as preparing posters and flyers. It all costs money.

Connect with other patriot organizations

*Be a part of a larger group of patriots with common goals.

*Ask members to join other groups and provide information about their agendas.

*Affiliate with local patriot groups and support their causes.

*Let the cream rise, involve your active members to participate in organizing meetings, topics and events.

Public outreach

*Advertise your meetings in the newspaper, through flyers and radio talk shows.

*Hold fund raisers that bring new people to your group by showing them that you are just like them acting as good involved neighbors.

*Advance ideas to raise money and attention:

Hold a local rummage sale (gets people to come and share a story or two)

Visit retirement centers

Get involved with your schools (Constitutional Scholars Challenge)

Raffle items

Be a part of the 4th of July parades

Hold Town Hall meetings so the public can meet local officials

Have a booth at your county fair

Be bold, be resolved that you are not alone in this mission to bring basic understanding of liberty to all.

*Have a library of educational books on all topics of liberty to include Financial, Political, Constitutional and Historical content.

Encourage members to get involved in community affairs

*Attend school board meetings, county commissioner meetings, planning and zoning meetings

*Get members elected to School Boards, P&Z commissions, watch dog organizations

*Be a defender of liberty. Point out where local regulations take liberty, tax people unfairly or elevate a special interest group above all other parties. Put your leaders on alert that you are watching.

Offer solutions

*We are not about throwing rocks but bringing people together to understand that good government comes from individuals understanding and acting on issues.

*Defend good ideas and promote the general welfare, common liberties and individual resourcefulness of all people.

*Come to solutions based on the principle of liberty upheld by the Constitution as understood by our Founding Fathers.

*Show how and why laws and regulations that do not support the principles of liberty and our Constitution lead to tyranny.

*Read our nation's history; come to love the uniquely American ideals that have offered generations the blessings and protections of civil liberties and property rights under our Constitutional rule of law.

**CONGRATLUTIONS TO KEVIN MILLER ON BEING THE #1
STATION IN THE TREASURE VALLEY A TRUE PATRIOT
THANKS FOR HIS TIME AND ENERGY IN PROMOTING
CONSERVATIVE ISSUES AND FOR HIS CONSTANT
EFFORTS TO FIGHT FOR OUR FREEDOMS**

**THE KEVIN MILLER SHOW
580KIDO AM RADIO**

**HE IS ALWAYS THERE FOR US LETS BE THERE FOR HIM
WE ASK ALL OF THE CONSERVATIVE ORGANIZATIONS
IN THE TREASURE VALLEY TO TUNE INTO THE
KEVIN MILLER SHOW EACH MORNING
5 TO 9:00 AM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY &
5 TO 8:00AM ON SATURDAYS**

**If you live out of the area you can tune Kevin in on your computer
Just click on the link below and listen to the show.**

<http://www.kidoam.com/pages/listenliveplayer580am>

FUTURE CANDIDATE WORKSHOP



Robert Arnakis, Team Manager WDC Leadership Institute His 15 years of experience in grassroots organizing and developing campaign, fundraising, and communications strategies has established Robert as one the country's top political trainers. Last cycle, 179 first time candidates who were trained through Robert's programs were elected to office, including seven freshmen members of the United States Congress.

Robert has served as campaign staff on two presidential races, several congressional races and a multitude of municipal and legislative campaigns. His favorite campaign was working on U.S. Senator John Thune's 2004 campaign. Robert helped lead the GOTV efforts which resulted in the defeat of former Senate Majority Leader

Tom Daschle.

Some on the nation's foremost public policy organizations such as Tea Party Patriots, Americans for Prosperity, Focus on the Family, State Policy Network, National Right to Life Committee, and the American Legislative Exchange Council have benefited from Robert's training. Robert has provided training for the Republican National Committee, Libertarian National Committee, and the Constitution Party.

[Quality Inn, Mahogany Room](#)
[Saturday April 27th 8:30 AM to 5PM](#)

[1 Day \\$40 \(\\$50.00 at the door\) \(Meals Included\) All checks payable to:](#)

[The LC Tea party 601 3rd St. # 411 Clarkston, Wa 99403 509 758 3726](#)

The Future Candidate Workshop is designed to build on our Campaign Management Workshop. The program helps develop potential candidates and community activists to run for office successfully by building a grassroots organization. The Future Candidate Workshop focuses on your personal and political preparation for a future career as an elected official and community leader.

Ideal attendees for the Future Candidate Workshop are candidates and senior campaign staff involved at the local or state level. Winning campaigns are 90% preparation and 10% perspiration. This training will provide you give you the knowledge to make a difference on a political or legislative campaign.

The Future Candidate Workshop will teach you proven methods used by winning campaigns.

[Attendees will learn how to:](#)

Decide if they are ready to run

- **Organize a campaign staff and structure**
- **Raise funds**
- **Communicate with voters**
- **Work with the media**
- **Manage a crisis**
- **Win!**

Call 509 758 3726. Deadline for 40.00 fee is April 15th.

Sample Lectures Include:

- Are You Ready to Run?
- How to File and Become a Candidate
- Fundamentals of Leadership
- Campaign Structure-Hiring and Firing of Staff and Consultants
- Developing a Finance Committee
- Person to Person Fundraising
- Fundraising-Political Action Committees
- Message Development
- Writing a Speech
- Public Speaking Secrets
- Preparing for Political Debates

**DINNER WITH THE VIRTUAL PRESIDENT
BILL WHITTLE**

SPONSORED BY TEA PARTY PATRIOTS OF NORTH IDAHO

THE FRIENDS OF IDAHO & SANDPOINT TEA PARTY

SATURDAY APRIL 20TH, 2013 6:30 AT THE

COEUR d' ALENE INN

506 APPLE WAY CD'A

NO HOST BAR

\$30.00 PER PERSON OR TABLE OF 8 FOR \$200.00

FOR TICKETS CONTACT

Brent Regan - brentregan4trustee@gmail.com 208-676-1922

Pam Stout - pamwbst@aol.com 208-610-4222

Mr. Virtual President: <http://www.mrvirtualpresident.com/>

Dear Editor,

I read with great concern your opinion this Sunday that concluded there were only two options for Idahoans with regard to the health insurance exchanges, a federal exchange or a state exchange. I'm exasperated to believe that in our country where millions interact in a supposedly free market that only two choices are available for anything; health insurance exchanges to ice cream. Could it be in fact that there is no free market in the insurance world only consortiums of big care providers organized to monopolize a once very personal choice, your health care service? Under the guise of knowing better for us than we in fact know for ourselves the argument for better, more affordable health care has all but been conceded to the medical giants. Who knows best how to manage and implement your personal health care plan, a massive federal government bureaucracy from far away in Washington D.C. or an equally authoritarian state government in Boise who will ultimately be regulated by those in Washington and paid to stay in power by big health care? I say neither and I would hope that you too concur for when Idahoans choices are so neatly packaged by a government empowered by more government and paid for by a medical monopoly, how long do you think it will be before there is no choice? Please take a moment to see how much money has been contributed to your state representatives from big insurance and health care. You might then understand how the upward spiral of insurance rates and medical care is so well managed.

<http://www.sos.idaho.gov/eid/eos/CandSearch.aspx>

Darr Moon

The 9-12 Project of Idaho Opposes “Common Core State Standards”

While the swirl of legislative activity has been occupying the minds of most freedom-loving conservatives in Idaho these past two months... we at The 9-12 Project of Idaho have also been working in committee to study the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which were *officially* adopted for Idaho public schools in February 2011.

These standards were embedded within the “Students Come First” education reform plan promoted by Tom Luna’s office, supported by the Idaho State Board of Education and the Governor, and passed by the Idaho Legislature. Yet none of us could remember hearing about CCSS during the Idaho education reform campaign. It wasn’t until we began hearing from local moms last fall, who were hearing from other out-of-state moms that this was something to be concerned about, that we decided to look more closely. What we initially discovered was alarming, so with the help of work already done in other states (and one particularly determined young Idaho mother!); we were compelled to learn more.

Here is a small part of what we have learned...

CCSS in Idaho is actually rooted in our January 2010 application to compete for money from Round One of Obama’s “Race To The Top” Education Program, therein committing to Obama’s education reforms for “*college and career ready standards*”, sight unseen. When the draft version of these standards was released in March 2010, they were called *Common Core State Standards*. The final version of these standards was not released until June 2010.

Common Core is a set of national K-12 education standards that will necessarily focus curriculum toward successful outcomes on Obama’s “Race To The Top” education program assessments. The defenders of CC insist that they do not represent a national curriculum, and they are technically correct. Schools or districts are free to choose their own curricular content, so long as they remove nothing and add no more than 15%. However, the computerized assessments themselves (currently in development) are being aligned with the CC standards, and students who are not trained using available “Common Core aligned” curriculum will not do well on the assessments. Once again, teachers will be forced to “teach to the test” just as they did with the much despised “No Child Left Behind” program of President Bush. And college bound home schoolers will not be immune, because college entrance exams are also being aligned with CC.

There is a LOT of money to be made in education! The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is a big financial backer of this scheme to get technology into the classrooms. Not just in America, but globally. In America, they have given tens of millions in grant money to states and districts to enable them to meet their initial costs of implementation. They have also given millions in grants to colleges, universities, and private corporations (including the NGA and CCSSO) to develop and implement the standards, the assessment tools, and the data systems. Digital software companies and technology companies stand to gain the most over time from this “digital” education system. But exactly who is minding the store when it comes to managing the content of those easily manipulated digital lessons? There is an advisory board connection between the content influence of CSCAPE and that of Common Core. Check out the CSCAPE videos on our home page... and prepare to be shocked! <http://www.912projectidaho.com/>

One of the more disturbing aspects of the CCSS program is the cumulative data collection scheme that it ushers in. Perhaps not at first, but the provisions have been made to collect not only
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academic aggregate data as we always have, but also student specific scores and personally identifiable data such as nicknames and addresses, disciplinary actions, or related information such as family income, religion, voting records, etc. Their wish list of “400 data points” even includes health records and biometric data such as fingerprints, DNA, iris scans and the like. Changes made in January 2012 to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) now allow this highly sensitive data to be collected by states and transmitted, without parental consent, to any governmental or private entity designated by the Department and others as an “authorized representative” for the purpose of evaluating educational programs. The Education Department even claims the right to use this data for future research projects. The Department of Labor makes no excuse for their potential use of these “State Longitudinal Data Systems” (SLDS) as they will provide everything needed to match student strengths with workforce needs. This is what they affectionately aspire to for “cradle to career” tracking. The SLDS provides for the absolute manifestation of Marc Tucker’s 1992 *Dear Hillary letter*, where his dream was “*to remold the entire American system*” into “*a seamless web that literally extends from cradle to grave and is the same system for everyone*”, coordinated by “*a system of labor market boards at the local, state and federal levels*” where curriculum and “*job matching*” will be handled by counselors accessing the integrated computer-based program”. It isn’t enough for them to simply say they “won’t” collect this type of information. If the provision is there at all... it’s unacceptable!

The word “**common**” in the dictionary is defined as “ordinary”, “regular”, “of no value”, “nothing special”, “belonging equally to all people”. Is delivery of a common education really the new objective of our educational system, where we no longer strive to encourage individual achievement? Some well respected educators that were part of the CCSS validation committee have refused to endorse the standards, referring to them as “**mediocre**”. Well, that would certainly be another definition of common. It seems our new standards are geared toward scaling back or “dumbing down” our educational system.

And did we mention that there is an undertone of “green” in this program? In a speech given at the Sustainability Summit in September 2010, Arne Duncan has said... “*We at the Education Department are energized about joining these leaders in their commitment to preparing today's students to participate in the green economy, and to be well-educated about the science of sustainability. We must advance the sustainability movement through education.*” Okay, no surprise there.

Our conclusion...

There is much to learn about Common Core State Standards, yet we have already learned enough to know that we don’t want our children or grandchildren anywhere near this program, and that Idaho is not alone in this fight. On March 14th, we announced that we will be opposing this program for Idaho schools by delivering informational packets to members of both the House and Senate Education Committees as well as to Governor Otter, Tom Luna, and other select legislators. We have also shared this information with the media and other freedom focused groups around the state.

We encourage everyone to download the White Paper developed the Pioneer Institute and the American Principles Project at <http://pioneerinstitute.org/download/controlling-education-from-the-top/>. It is well researched by credible people and is considered essential to understanding the “other side” of this issue. We also hope you will visit <http://idahoansforlocaleducation.com/> to see what is being done in Idaho to oppose Common Core.

Valerie Candelaria, President
The 9-12 Project of Idaho, Inc. 912projectidaho@gmail.com

THE BIRTH OF A NEW TEA PARTY IN GEM COUNTY

We would like to congratulate Jan and Wayne Montano for their work in helping form a new Tea Party in Emmett Idaho. Thirty patriotic citizens showed up for their first meeting. Russ Smerz former President of Tea Party Boise spoke to the group for an hour on the basic concepts in setting up their organization. There was a lot of excitement in the air as this group of activated citizens were anxious to get their new Tea Party rolling. Their next meeting will be held on April 11, 2013 at JD's Café at 1007 S. Washington, Emmett. If you would like further information you can contact Jan or Wayne Montano at 208-398-8722 or by e-mail at jandwmontano@yahoo.com

LAKE LOWELL CONSERVATION PLAN

There was a very informative presentation of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on the Comprehensive Conservation Program (CCP) on the way Lake Lowell and the Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge will be managed for the next 15 years. There have been many questions as to why are we being controlled after many years of public use.

The proposed Plan one will be far less restrictive that what was projected in the past. There is a "No Wake zone" added to the narrows to protect some wildlife and fishermen that frequently have their boats bounced around in that area. This will be to reduce the threat of injury while fishing from boats in that area.

Along with the Comprehensive Conservation Program is the Environmental Impact Statement. Together the report is labeled the CCP/EIS. The full report is available on the Deerflat Web Site:

<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/refugeplanningPlanningUpdates.html>

NEW IDAHO PATRIOT ACADEMY BY ELIZABETH HODGE

I'am coordinating an effort to bring the Patriot Academy* to Boise. It is a program for young people that was started by a former Texas State Legislator, Rick Green (Founder of the Torch of Freedom Foundation and Wallbuilders Speaker). It has been held in Texas for the past 12 years. Last summer I took four Idaho students (including Helen Chenoweth's grand daughter) to Austin for a week long event. The Smeed Foundation gave scholarships to all four students and sent Theron Nelsen, who called our attention to the Patriot Academy, and me, to Texas. I am pretty excited about it as it teaches the values to which you and I subscribe. It stresses the importance of elected officials actually *reading the bills* (what a concept!) *and* determining if proposed legislation is, in fact, *Constitutional*. We have state legislators along with a host of other community lay leaders who will be helping as well. Just wanted you to know as you might know some young people between the ages of 16-25 who might be interested or some group who might want to sponsor a student. I will be traveling the state in April and May and will usually have one of our youth ambassadors with me to tell of their experience at Patriot Academy. April 19th we will be at a meeting of about 4,000 people in Spokane, where Theron will introduce me and we will distribute information on the Idaho Patriot Academy."

We are not interested in perpetuating the same breed of politicians who refuse to keep their sacred oath of office to uphold our Constitution. We hope to educate young people about our founding father's vision for America and the vigilance necessary to secure and preserve our liberty. Hopefully, those who attend will come to appreciate William Penn's proclamation: "Right is right, even if everyone is against it, and wrong is wrong, even if everyone is for it."

Since this is our first time through, there is much that must be done. I am contacting people who understand the importance of educating our young people on the *Proper Role of Government*, as they might know of a group or organization that might be interested in hearing a short presentation. If you know of any church or group that might be interested, would you please let me know? I know you are busy and we are happy to contact them. We need to get the words out asap as the Idaho event is scheduled for June 25-28th.

<http://www.patriotacademy.com>

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

April 11, 2013 Gem County Tea Party will hold their next meeting at 7:00 pm at JD's Café 1007 S. Washington, Emmett. For information call Jan or Wayne @ 398-8722

April 13, 2013 at 1pm Tea Party Boise's 5th annual Tax Day Rally at the Capital Steps. Flyers will be sent shortly.

April 20, 2013 at 6:30 pm Tea Party Patriots of Northern Idaho, Friends of Idaho & Sandpoint Tea Party are sponsoring "Dinner with the Virtual President" featuring Bill Whittle April 20th at the Coeur d' Alene Inn. For tickets contact Brent Regan @ 208-676-1922 or Pam Stout @ 208-610-4222

April 25, 2013 Idaho/Carry will holding their monthly dinner on 6:30pm at Fudruckers 3421 North Eagle Road, Meridian

April 27, 2013—Lewis & Clarkston Tea Party is sponsoring a "Future Candidate Workshop" at the Quality Inn "Mahogany Room" for more information call 509-758-3726 see page 9 of this newsletter for more information.

HERE ARE LINKS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

<http://idahobusinessalliance.com/>

<http://www.912projectidaho.com/>

<http://www.freeenterprisepac.com/>

<http://www.gstp.org>

<http://www.idahocarry.org/>

Tea Party Bob has his blog up and running and will be adding new items as they come in. You can read and comment on our blog by going to:

http://bob.techlogs.com/?page_id=2

Steve and I would like to thank our computer Geeks who volunteered their help in getting our computers set up to handle this newsletter. Should you need any help in servicing your computers we would highly recommend them.

PATRIOT COMPUTER SERVICES

PLEASE CALL - 208-649-4184

ASK OF NATHANIEL LONGSTREET

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