

# Voice of Reason

## Silence is Consent



**Volume 1 Issue 1**

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*The South Mississippi Tea Party was founded in 2009 by men and women dedicated to the restoration and maintenance of limited government. We are a true grass roots organization requiring no dues or fees, no applications, tests or formal membership. Our primary purpose is to attract those of like mind who wish to work together for a common goal—a free society governed by the rule of law.*



*“Tainting the tea party movement with the charge of racism is proving to be an effective strategy for Democrats. There is no evidence that tea party adherents are any more racist than other Republicans, and indeed many other Americans. But getting them to spend their time purging their ranks and having candidates distance themselves should help Democrats win in November.*

*Having one’s opponent rebut charges of racism is far better than discussing joblessness.” — Mary Frances Berry -former Chairwoman, US Commission on Civil Rights. Politico interview, 2010*

### We, the People

Indeed, we Americans are its people; and we are quite a diverse lot. We are members of sub-sets, factions and groups of common interests shared by others with those same interests. There are also things that do not interest us and things we vehemently oppose. As Americans, it is ingrained in our collective conscience that we are not obligated to participate in things we oppose and are free to oppose those things that threaten our own interests. What is it then that created that unique American collective conscience; that national intuition embedded in the soul of such a diverse people?

Some might say this intuition is the principle of freedom. But freedom is not a principle or an ideal; it is a condition. It is a condition because it is always subject to change. Freedom, improved to its ultimate state is called anarchy. Degraded to its ultimate it becomes a crushing tyranny. Since history shows mankind prefers order over chaos, periods of anarchy are short-lived. Tyranny however, thrives throughout history in various states of intensity. In North Korea we see it at its most intense.

Freedom, in order to produce its most nutritious fruit, must be maintained. It requires effort. It must be weeded and watered, fertilized and subjected to an occasional pruning. It cannot be over-watered or under-watered without consequence to the integrity of the fruit. And so the integrity of the fruit, integrity being defined as the state of being sound or undamaged, depends upon the integrity of the gardener.

Our collective American conscience assumes it is free to pursue its own way because the men who created it possessed integrity. Like freedom, integrity is not a principle. It is a spiritual possession and conscious act to adhere to a set of high moral principles. These higher principles usually require the individual ego to subdue itself for the greater collective good and such can be found throughout the founding of this country.

Those higher principles were documented setting forth the beliefs of these men in the Declaration of Independence, the reasoning process in the Federalist Papers and the commitment of adherence in the US Constitution. Thus, a unique system of governing was established as well as the moral basis which produced it.

Such a creation could not come about without pragmatism and concessions to the realities of the day. Modern critics cite slavery and the exclusion of women in their dismissal of the high moral standards of the founders. Slavery has indeed inflicted the most severe karma on the country. Yet no critic will witness how our descendants will view abortion two-hundred years from now. Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader-Ginsberg, no fan of the founders told an Egyptian audience last year, “The genius of the Constitution, I think, is that it has this notion of who composes ‘We, the people’. It has expanded and expanded over the years so now it includes people who were left out in the beginning. Native Americans were left out, certainly people held in human bondage, women, and people that were new-comers to our shores.”



**Ginsburg**

If indeed the Constitution has expanded to include people who were “left out,” why is it crowding out those who still believe in it? Unfortunately, for all its genius, and her oath to embrace it, Justice Ginsberg thinks our Constitution is outdated. When asked by Al-havat TV if she would recommend Egyptians emulate the US Constitution, Ginsberg said, “I would not look to the U.S. Constitution if I were drafting a Constitution in the year 2012. I might look at the Constitution of South Africa.”

Ginsberg took an oath to defend our Constitution. She calls it genius. Yet she doesn’t recommend it? Ginsberg is just an example of an increasing number of elected and appointed officials who have expressed such sentiments. Of what value is an oath to those who think it outdated? What will serve as a public commitment of self-restraint if a civil servant has no principles, no integrity and no God to compel his affirmation or to restrain his ego? If we challenge him with silence, we offer him our consent.

There is security in doing nothing. To act is to challenge the unknown, and the unknown can be quite frightful. So for decades we’ve watched our freedoms erode. In 1961 God was challenged in the courts for the first time—and He lost. He was no longer allowed in our public schools. We did nothing because we still had God in our homes. But in time, slowly and incrementally we came to realize too late that God had not just been banned, He had been replaced. Where He encouraged integrity, honor and service, His nemesis promoted fame, promiscuity, selfishness and the elixir that makes it all seem so right—drugs.

Today we vote celebrity. We listen to the news and they steer us down a path that we accept or, if the reporting doesn’t seem right, we fail to investigate because it is just too laborious. We fear speaking out because there are real consequences to doing so thus making it seem there are no objections to the theft of our liberties. But there are objections. We object. We believe our Constitution should be the law of the land as it was intended. We are, among ourselves, a diverse group but our common cause is the restoration of our Constitution and our freedom.

There comes a time when the fear of the known outweighs the fear of the unknown. The security in doing nothing is replaced by current insecurity and the known consequences of continued apathy. For me, that point has been reached.

The Tea Party movement is so rooted in We, the People that its origins are still debated. Its factions are independent and its leadership obscure. However dislocated and lacking of structure, we have become such a force that our ideals are rarely debated. Those who oppose us must resort to derision to counter us. Their efforts to sully our reputation have been persistent and malicious as our featured quote demonstrates. But no one is in control of his reputation. A good reputation can be ruined at any time, even without the target's knowledge. The only thing one controls in his life and perhaps the only thing he'll take with him in the next, is his integrity.

*Voice of Reason* is a creation of our own small group to supplement the information available on our website. It is intended to be a vehicle. It will carry the message from and to members and those of like mind that our Constitution is sacrosanct; created by men with integrity, flawed as they were and may only be amended or abolished as the document itself instructs.

Our focus will be state and local issues. That's where we find our best opportunity to change and restrain our leaders. They are our friends and neighbors. We have direct influence over them—if we exercise it.

We invite readers to be reporters, commentators and sources. Notify us of events and concerns. You do not have to join the Tea Party to participate. But consider joining us. We will publish the reviews of our monthly meetings for those who cannot attend. You may join even if you cannot attend.

We look forward to an informative and influential venue for true grass roots participation. That is indeed how the founders of this country started. Their legacy is ours to hold or ours to lose.

Dick Lancaster, Editor

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Virtually every article I read written by some type of media sycophant attempts to undermine our anti-Agenda 21 efforts and paint us as idiots and tin foil hat types by stating that Agenda 21 was a non-binding UN initiative which was never ratified by the US. This seems to ease most uninformed people's concerns that it will never affect them. However, we all need to understand the message below from the American Policy Institute. When the media or anyone else starts dismissing the attack by Agenda 21 on our property rights (and of course much more) we need to be prepared to confront them with the truth. Here is the truth:

“More than 178 nations adopted Agenda 21 as official policy during a signing ceremony at the Earth Summit. US president George H.W. Bush signed the document for the US. In signing, each nation pledged to adopt the goals of Agenda 21. In 1995, President Bill Clinton, in compliance with Agenda 21, signed

Executive Order #12858 to create the President's Council on Sustainable Development in order to 'harmonize' US environmental policy with UN directives as outlined in Agenda 21. The EO directed all agencies of the Federal Government to work with state and local community governments in a joint effort 'reinvent' government using the guidelines outlined in Agenda 21. As a result, with the assistance of groups like The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), Sustainable Development is now emerging as government policy in every town, county and state in the nation."

Information is vital to our efforts if we are to prevail.

Thank You

John Rhodes, Chairman

## **HISTORY OF THE SOUTH MISSISSIPPI TEA PARTY**

On September 11, 2001, the United States was attacked and thousands of lives were lost. The day after 9/11 on 9/12, Americans stopped seeing party lines and banded together as patriotic Americans, with flags flying. Radio talk show host, Glenn Beck began the 912 Project in 2009 as a way to try to get Americans back to those days of patriotism. The organization, which is not a political party, has become a major part of the Tea Party movement and it espouses the following 9 Principles and 12 Values:



The 9 Principles are these:

America is good.

I believe in God and He is the center of my life.

I must always try to be a more honest person than I was yesterday.

The family is sacred. My spouse and I are the ultimate authority, not the government.

If you break the law you pay the penalty. Justice is blind and no one is above it.

I have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but there is no guarantee of equal results.

I work hard for what I have and I will share it with who I want to. Government cannot force me to be charitable.

It is not un-American for me to disagree with authority or to share my personal opinion.

The government works for me. I do not answer to them; they answer to me.

The 12 values are: Honesty, Thrift, Sincerity, Courage, Reverence, Humility, Moderation, Personal Responsibility,

Hope, Charity, Hard Work and Gratitude.

The South MS Tea Party was originally known as the MS Gulf Coast 912 Project. Our organization is made up of regular citizens of different party persuasions and backgrounds, but all with an underlying belief in the Constitution, smaller, limited government, fiscal conservatism and free market principles.

Our particular chapter began in February, 2009 with about 10 people attending its first meeting. One week later more than 50 people crowded into a small office in Ocean Springs and by the 3rd week, over 100 people filled the fellowship hall of Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Ocean Springs. Since then our meetings have been held at both the St. Martin Community Center and the D'Iberville Recreation Center, our current meeting location where we still, after 4 years, average about 80 people per meeting.

We are truly a grassroots organization, in that we started with a blank slate and some of us agreed to be on the first board of directors. We then wrote our own charter and bylaws.

All of our meetings begin with a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of our National Anthem. We share inspirational and educational videos about current political issues as well as historical videos about our founding documents. We have guest speakers on topics ranging from preparedness to 2nd Amendment rights to political speakers. Our group has hosted several large rallies and several seminars. We regularly give updates on state and national legislation. And we now have a lending library of books, DVDs and periodicals.

There is no membership fee and everyone is welcomed to attend. We rely on donations to pay our basic expenses. We do not exist for profit and none of our board or members receive any money.

Although we do encourage people to participate in our discussions, we do not condone or tolerate any violence or disruptions in our meetings.

We encourage new members to sign up to receive phone and email updates and action alerts. You can sign up at a meeting or by going to our website at [www.southmsteaparty.com](http://www.southmsteaparty.com)

If you are concerned about the direction America is heading, if you watch the news and wonder what kind of craziness has affected our leaders and if you believe in common sense and conservative values and are fed up with increasing taxes, political corruption and irresponsible government that does *not* represent most Americans, then we are asking you to come and be a part of the Tea Party movement.

There is strength in numbers and we as like-minded individuals need to join together in order to make our voices louder and stronger.

Our meetings are currently held on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 6:30 -8:30 pm at the D'Iberville Recreation Center off Brodie Road by the ball fields. We would love for you to check us out.

Monica Boudreaux, Secretary, South MS Tea Party

## **MEETING REVIEWS**



### **Monday, April 15, 2013:**

Chaplain Warren Gaffney gave a brief talk on George Washington's Farewell Address then the meeting was turned over to local candidates for the upcoming elections on May 7. Their platforms and positions on various issues are presented later under the heading: *The Candidates*.

Due to the special character of April's meet, it ran unusually long. Most stayed until all candidates had spoken and the meeting ended at about 9 PM; usually we are out by 8:30.

A review of our March meeting is included so that readers and newcomers can get an idea of what goes on at a regular monthly meeting.

### **Monday, March 18, 2013:**

Sixty-four people attended the evening meeting. Chaplain Warren Gaffney spoke first informing the group that Article 3 Section 18 of the Mississippi State Constitution that references the use of the Holy Bible in public schools. The Statute reads:

....."The rights hereby secured shall not be construed to justify acts of licentiousness injurious to morals or dangerous to the peace and safety of the state, or to exclude the Holy Bible from use in any public school of this state."

Warren went on to preview his weekly course in American Heritage and how it coincides with Christian principles. Please see the Events and Announcement Section.

Sgt-at-Arms Paul Boudreaux was recognized for his bid for Biloxi City Council, Ward 6. All member are urged to run for local offices if at all possible.

Danny Lamey won the 9 mm pistol raffled in our fund raiser then immediately donated it back to the group. It will be auctioned again with tickets being sold at the door.

Chairman John Rhodes then delivered a short presentation title, *How Do We Rescue Our Nation?*

One of our members spoke on the Environmental Justice Conference she attended at the Coast Coliseum, which covered topics such as Sustainable Development, Equity, and Gentrification (the changing of housing codes in downtown Ocean Springs). The member has made a brief video that is posted on Youtube and Facebook called "Urban Renewal is Negro Removal" as quoted by the keynote speaker, Robert D. Bullard. Bullard is billed as "the Father of Environmental Justice" (see feature article, *Another Justice?*).

The meeting concluded with an appeal for submissions for *Voice of Reason*, the new interactive supplement to our website, a presentation of socialist symbolism in American movies and Barry Neyrey's update on the Harrison County Utility Authority detailing some unknown qualities of the new Smart Meters.

Compiled from the meeting minutes.

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WEEKLY EDUCATIONAL EVENT:** Friday meetings titled "For God and Country" held each week at 7:00 pm at the Northside Assembly of God Church on Lemoyne Blvd. There is also a Tea Party Bible Study held each Wednesday at 7:00 pm at the Cedar Grove Community Center off Lemoyne Blvd. The South MS Tea Party Bible Study is held every Wednesday at 7:00 pm at the Cedar Grove Community Center off Lemoyne Blvd. The Bible study is led by our chaplain, Warren Gaffney.

**THE MISSISSIPPI PREPAREDNESS PROJECT (MPP)** is hosting a free canning class on Saturday, April 27, from 1 pm – 3:30 pm at the NEW Biloxi Library on Howard Avenue. This class is open to members and non-members.

**NEW COMMITTEES:** We have formed some new committees and plan to add to that list soon. Let us know if you would like to be on a committee or chair one.

Youth Outreach- Tom Cramer

Newsletter – Dick Lancaster & Roberta "Bert" Pethel

Agenda 21 – Juanita Colvin & Patti Cornwell

We are also looking for some help with Media Relations, Social Networking and Membership

We are collecting items to put in a Tea Party basket which will be raffled at a later date. If you have something you'd like to donate, please bring it to the meeting.

**FOOD DRIVE:** Don't forget to bring a canned or other non-perishable food item to the meeting. We will donate them to one of our local food pantries.

**SPEAKERS WELCOME:** If you have a topic of interest that you would like to speak on at a meeting, please let us know. We would love to hear from some of our members. Presentations must be in written form or on a Powerpoint and must be no longer than 20 minutes. Topics need to be pre-approved by the board.

**PISTOL RAFFLE:** Tickets are available at each meeting for the 9MM pistol raffle.

## STATE

### MCPP CELEBRATES PASSAGE OF CHARTER SCHOOL LEGISLATION

This morning, the Senate passed the conference report on charter schools by a vote of 34-18, which sends the measure to the governor for his signature. The House approved the conference report yesterday by a [vote of 62-56](#). This is far from a perfect bill, but it is a good start and will give some Mississippi children an opportunity to receive a quality education that they would not have had otherwise. In politics, it's important not to let the perfect become the enemy of the good. In this case, this is a good bill and we celebrate its passage! (To read a summary of the bill, [click here](#).)

Mississippi Center for Public Policy has been promoting the concept of charter schools for more than fifteen years, not as a cure-all for our broken public education system, but as a way to provide parents whose children are trapped in schools that are not meeting their needs, a much needed choice. Because of this legislation, some Mississippi parents will now have that choice. And we now have the chance to show people what charter schools really are instead of the caricature that has been painted of them by charter school opponents. As students begin to succeed in charter schools, most objections will end and demand will grow.

We especially want to thank Lt. Governor Reeves and Sen. Gray Tollison for their strong and determined leadership on this issue, and House Speaker Philip Gunn, Rep. John Moore, and Rep. Charles Busby for their hard work in convincing a surprisingly reluctant House to give this option to Mississippi students. Governor Bryant has been an ally in the fight for charter schools for many years and we look forward to him signing this bill into law. This is an important victory for us and all Mississippians, but our work on this would not have been possible without our supporters. Thank you for your commitment to our effort to provide parents the options they need to direct the education and upbringing of their children.

Submitted by Bert Pethtel

An excellent source for state legislative coverage can be found at <http://www.mslibertybeacon.com>.

## ANOTHER JUSTICE?

Biloxi was host to the EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program's Environmental Justice Conference on March 1 and 2. "Environmental Justice" is defined by the EPA as: "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of laws, regulations, and policies."

This definition is just a wordier version of plain old ordinary justice. Since the civil rights era however, many sub-justices have been invented such as social, economic and even climate. These justices with prefixes have gradually developed into an Orwellian type of newspeak. Sub-justices usually mean injustice for the white, middle class. The classic Marxist thinking is that justice, like economics is a zero sum game. And such was the theme at this conference.



**Robert D. Bullock**

The agenda, posted on our website, <http://epa.gov/gmpo/pdf/environmental-justice-conference-draft-agenda.pdf>, provided a long list of left wing ideologues one of which was the "Father of Environmental Justice" himself,

Robert D. Bullock. Unfortunately, from the time I first reviewed the agenda to the time I needed to reference it for this article, the agenda has mysteriously fragmented. Some of the topics still remain on the PDF file along with Biloxi Mayor A.J. Holloway's incomplete bio, however, all but two of the speakers and their bios have disappeared. Mayor Holloway spoke to introduce the attendees to Biloxi but had little to do with the conference itself.

Although my planned introduction of many of these radicals has to be curtailed, we did have a concerned citizen in attendance who produced two videos. One of them was of keynote speaker, Dr. Robert D. Bullock. The other was an audio only feed by a female questioner of Bullock about a controversial zoning change in Ocean Springs.

Early on Bullock addresses climate change as the number one environmental justice issue of the day. "The science is in. The data's in. There's no confusion," he says as the climate seems to be poised to strike down the vulnerable. His solution? "We have to do something different."

Waiting for him to define what that different action would be was an exercise in futility. Instead we see that the country's going to burn up in a drought and be deluged with floods—sometimes in the same region. But there was no solution as to how we were to make the climate less racist.

Bombarded with charts, statistics and familiar left wing rhetoric, Bullard implied a solution for the attendees—we must address "social equality, the widening health gap, families in poverty and provide a "livable wage" for all. Still left with some ambiguity, the audience was provided an environmental justice framework.

To accomplish this equity we must integrate environmental justice into decision making, provide equal access to green, healthy, livable neighborhoods, provide green open spaces, parks, full service grocery stores, better homes and access to transit. Not enough? We have to look at green energy, share the benefits and burdens of development and address climate change threats "using the justice and equity lens."

If the specifics of the solution still elude the reader it is because the solution is the obvious Marxist one—spread the wealth. Bullock never mentions that phrase but it is certain he didn't have free enterprise solution in mind.

Bullock took a question from a woman who referred to a black section of Ocean Springs populated by lower income families. It was rezoned in 2010 with little input from the residents. Last year their property taxes went up to reflect the new value of the commercial zoning.

"It's called gentrification," said the female questioner, "Where they clean out the community with something called sustainable development. Something for mixed use housing where they want no more private property



**Central planning in China has produced a dozen or more "Ghost cities." Planned for 300,000, only 28,000 live in this utopia. Yet they continue to build hoping the idea will catch on.**

ownership. Where they want businesses on the bottom, offices in the middle and living quarters on top. Where they want no private ownership but more private...or private corporation ownership but not private personal, people ownership.

“Their yards and the homes that they’ve built and that they’ve lived on all their lives, and unless they’re 65 years or older, their taxes are going to go up and I don’t think they understand that. I don’t think they have been properly briefed and educated...as a citizen and what to do. Don’t know how to (appears to be holding back tears at this point) shout it from the mountain top that this injustice is occurring.”

Bullock responded by telling the questioner, “This is old stuff... When your community has been discovered, and if it’s thought that it’s too good for the common residents...there is a process that goes on and ...the people in the community are the last to find out about the rezoning... and in some cases you have to sue the bastards.”

When he says, “When your community has been discovered...” he doesn’t say by whom and for what. But the Ocean Springs rezoning of this neighborhood appears to be a classic smart growth grab.

Both Ocean Springs Mayor, Connie Moran and Michael Lauer, head of Planning Works, LLC., the company hired to do the comprehensive plan after the zoning change are tied to the Congress of New Urbanism (CNU). Lauer lists his association in his on line bio and the Mayor was a past Board member.

The CNU is a non-governmental organization (NGO) that answers to the UN’s Council on Sustainable Development. That council was a creation of Agenda 21 launched during the Rio Earth Summit in the early 90s.

Agenda 21 has many tentacles and buzzwords and on its surface appears to offer a semi-utopia for urban growth not inconsistent with Bullock’s vision. Without study, the worst that can be said of it is that it requires central planning. Individuals who don’t like the comprehensive plan set out for them are forced to comply or move. But such burdens are borne by any citizen bound by zoning laws or homeowners associations.

According to the American College of Environmental Lawyers, Agenda 21, “opponents are attacking sustainability by making false statements about Agenda 21. They say that Agenda 21 is opposed to democracy, freedom, private property, and development, and would foster environmental extremism. For many opponents, the absence of a textual basis in Agenda 21 for such claims (in fact, the text explicitly contradicts all of these claims) is not a problem. First, they are attacking a document that is not well known, and so they count on not being contradicted. Second, the false version of Agenda 21 fits a well-known narrative that is based on fear of global governance and a perceived threat of totalitarianism, and on distrust of the United Nations. Indeed, the absence of information to support such fears only deepens their perception of a conspiracy. According to this view, moreover, people who talk about sustainable development without mentioning Agenda 21 are simply masking their true intentions.”

So what are the true intentions of a mayor who sat on the board of a UN congress and a planner who was a member of that same congress? And what are Bullock’s intentions when he calls for “livable wages, full service grocery stores and better homes?” Who pays for that? Do they mention Agenda 21?

UN Secretary General at the time of the Earth Summit, Maurice Strong said this, “current lifestyles and consumption patterns of the affluent middle class – involving high meat intake, use of fossil fuels, appliances, home and work air conditioning, and suburban housing are not sustainable.” And that’s all one needs to know

about Agenda 21. Where does that “affluent middle class” stand today? If these middle class icons are unsustainable, what is the overall outcome if a washing machine and a suburban home must be abandoned for the survival of the race?

Returning to our questioner, she seemed to have done her homework here but Bullock turns the question into a simple race issue. “You need lawyers, you need lawyers, you need lawyers...” he tells the audience. “In the 50s,” He said, “It was called urban renewal.” Then he goes on to reference an old joke called Negro removal.

“If you are in an area where there’s prime real estate and it’s now seen as too valuable for you, the residents...and they’re calling it nice names of ‘new urbanism,’ ‘smart growth,’ ...but it is a form of expulsive zoning; expulsive from the standpoint of, ‘You gotta go. You don’t fit the new profile.’”

But you can’t go. The suburbs are unsustainable.

Bullock, as all zero sum proponents eventually do, reach their logical contradiction once their plan takes action. Wealth, they say, cannot be created. It can only be transferred. But history has shown that when wealth is transferred, much of it is destroyed. Today we live in a transfer society and as the late Margaret Thatcher once said, “The trouble with socialism is that eventually you run out of other people’s money.”

Dick Lancaster  
(Several sources contributed to this article)

## BOOK REVIEW

I want to recommend a new trilogy series; so appropriate for this time in history. The books are written by Dr. James Dobson and Kurt Bruner. If you are young you may not have heard of Dr. James Dobson. If this is the case, give yourself a learning moment. Check on the net.

The first book in the trilogy is *Fatherless* (available now on Amazon or your purchase place of choice for books). The second book is *Childless*. Last in the series is *Godless*. I have started with *Fatherless* and it is hard to put this book down...it takes place in 2041. Fascinating and lots to consider.

Hope you enjoy and would love feed back at [bertk2010@live.com](mailto:bertk2010@live.com)

Bert Pethtel

Monica Boudreaux recommends *Behold a Pale Horse* by Milton William Cooper

## LIGHTEN UP

*You know you live in a Country run by idiots if...*

...You can get arrested for expired tags on your car but not for being in the country illegally.

...A seven year old boy can be thrown out of school for calling his teacher “cute” but hosting a sexual exploration/sexual diversity class in grade school is perfectly acceptable

...The Supreme Court of the United States can rule that lower courts cannot display the 10 Commandments in their courtroom, while sitting in front of a display of the 10 Commandments.

...Hard work and success are rewarded with higher taxes and government intrusion, while slothful, lazy behavior is rewarded with EBT cards, WIC checks, Medicaid, subsidized housing, and free cell phones

...You pay your mortgage, and deny yourself the newest big screen TV or latest gadgets. Your neighbor defaults on his mortgage while buying iPhones, TV’s and new cars, and the government forgives his debt and reduces his mortgage with your tax dollars.

\*



Women drivers in Saudi Arabia.



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## THE CANDIDATES

Our April meeting was primarily dedicated to getting to know candidates in the upcoming May 7 local primaries. Each candidate was given 3 minutes to address our membership. Those that provided contact information were asked to provide a short statement describing their candidacy. We also asked them to comment on two issues we felt were a priority; Agenda 21 and the education programs Common Core/CScope.

The following reviews are a combination of their delivery at our meeting and the follow up emails. I missed some of them when they spoke and others had no convenient contact information on their literature I collected so a non-response does not necessarily mean they ignored my request. Most were given an opportunity to review what I had written and a chance to correct any misperceptions I may have made at the meeting (I am partially deaf). They are presented in no particular order.

Dick Lancaster



## **Candidate for D'Iberville Mayor : Travis Burke**

Burke is a lawyer who has spent the past 10 years running an insurance business. “We need to let some new people in,” he told us. But he wasn’t here to debate his opponent. “I’m here to talk about now.” Issues of importance to him were building and drainage. His literature vows to keep residents and businesses informed by making himself available to that end.

**STATEMENT:** “I vow to restore trust to our local government by putting his education, experience, and leadership skills to work for the citizens and businesses of D’Iberville.”

**AGENDA 21:** “In regards to Agenda 21, D’Iberville has already implemented a Smart Growth plan of development for the next 20 years. I am adamant about protecting citizens’ property rights; however, I also realize the need to have standards or covenants to promote a uniform design. I do not believe that these standards should be implemented across the board, especially for individuals who live in more rural areas or have acreage or large lots of property. Additionally, property owners should be allowed exceptions such as grandfathering property in, if the new code affects those property owners.”

**COMMON CORE:** I am for protecting the right of individuals to educate their children as they see fit. These rights has been expressed in several Supreme Court opinions. I do not believe I have enough knowledge of Common Core to know if I am for or against it. I am for educating our children, but I do not believe the government should be solely responsible for the education of our children and that parents must take responsibility for their offspring and promote morals and standards that benefit our society as a whole.



## **Candidate for Ocean Springs Alderman, Ward 6: Mike Impey**

“I grew up with conservative principles,” he said. Impey was not against the beautification of the city, “but not if it comes at the expense of necessary priorities such as drainage and sewer backups.” Impey held his own on aggressive questioning by a supporter of the 2% restaurant and hotel tax, saying that such taxes could drive patrons to adjacent cities.

**STATEMENT:** “I am a lifelong resident of Ocean Springs and am proud to identify myself as an unapologetic Christian conservative. My goal is to see a more equitable distribution of tax dollars throughout the city that begins to address the serious drainage issues facing the citizens of Ward 6. As the dollars come in from the BP settlement, we should have a plan in place to put a good portion back in reserve and then set priorities for the remaining funds. We must be good stewards of the tax dollars entrusted to us by the citizens of Ocean Springs.”

**AGENDA 21:** “This United Nations generated policy is a direct threat to private property rights and as a consequence individual freedoms. Without the ability for a person to own property and keep what they earn, there is no longer any motivation for a person to work hard or excel. We have seen these affronts to liberty expanded through the use of federal wetlands rules and the seizure of property. through the misuse of eminent domain. This is a malignant cancer on our democratic society that destroys personal rights and must be opposed at every turn.”

**COMMON CORE/CSCOPE:** “The easiest way to control a population is to dumb that population down. Not designed by trusted educators, but by progressive Washington insiders and those with various corporate interests,

this program does away with traditional successful teaching techniques as well as demonizes traditional values. It also intrudes on a parents right to determine what they think is best for their child and replaces it with what "Big Brother" thinks would be best. Tip of the hat to George Orwell. Sadly sir, you were correct about everything except the year."

### **Candidate for Biloxi City Council, Ward 3: Joy Tucei**



A realtor and former educator, Tucei’s literature is a resume with no policy statements. I did not hear her comments at the meeting. Tucei responded to our query by stating, “The basis of my platform is to ‘very simply’ work towards the ‘Betterment of Biloxi. ‘ I am particularly concerned about drainage issues, the great need for hundreds of sidewalks all over our city and as for the ‘Big Picture’-- WE MUST SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT within the City of Biloxi. We have to do a better job for our citizens, and that is what I plan to do as the next Councilwoman, Ward 3 of our beautiful Biloxi.”

More info at: [www.tuceiforcouncil.com](http://www.tuceiforcouncil.com).

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: “I would like for your members to know that I do understand their serious concerns regarding Agenda 21 and Common Core/CScope. I very definitely believe in the sovereignty of the United States of America. As to the Common Core Standards, all parents should become aware of the essence of this practice in our schools and know that it is a ‘trickle down’ established curriculum from the Obama administration. As a former teacher, I believe that parents should be prepared to accept or defeat this form of education, and definitely be aware of the pros and cons of the concept.

“Thank you, South MS Tea Party for inviting me to your forum.”

### **Candidate for D’iberville Councilman at Large: Joey Bosarge**



Claiming deep roots in D’Iberville and 100% commitment to its service, he vows to continue that effort if re-elected.

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.

### **Candidate for D’Iberville City Council, Ward 4: Stephen Furney**



Furney served in the office the past 4 years and touts among his accomplishments the passage of the noise ordinance, drainage system and road improvements and lower garbage collection rates. His literature lists promises made with promises kept.

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.



### **Candidate for Biloxi City Council, Ward 3: Dixie Newman**

Newman works for the Harrison County District Attorney after a 3 year stint in the new York real estate market. She wants to start with beautification saying, “Every woman knows it doesn’t take much to beautify...” She’s also concerned about the stagnant economy and the red tape businesses have to deal with to get things done.

STATEMENT: “I am the youngest candidate running for Biloxi City Council Ward 3. I decided to take a stand and run for this position because I am tired of the economic growth being stagnant, beautification has been lost, and there is nothing for families to do. Pride needs to come back to Biloxi along with communication. Constituents just want to know what is going on and not be forgotten. I will be Full-Time if elected because everything is important no matter how big or small the issue.”

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.

### **Candidate for D’Iberville Mayor: Rusty Quave**

First elected Mayor in 1993, Quave is proud of the city’s expansion of services without a substantial rise in taxes. Aggressive recruitment of business and sound management is the key to pulling that off, he claims. More info at: [www.facebook.com/bronson.quave](http://www.facebook.com/bronson.quave).



STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.

### **Candidate for D’Iberville Councilman at Large: Glenn Ellis**

Ellis remained in D’Iberville through Katrina distributing supplies and filling in for the Mayor when the mayor was absent. “Many times in politics,” he says, “citizens are misled. I care about this city and I was the only councilman who voted against a pay raise.”

STATEMENT: Ellis was not contacted for a statement.



### **Candidate for Diamondhead Mayor: John Fletcher**



“You run a city like a business, and I’ve owned 7 (businesses).” Fletcher said Diamondhead used to be a nice place until a year ago, “when we incorporated.” More info at: [www.JohnFletcher4Mayor.com](http://www.JohnFletcher4Mayor.com)

STATEMENT: “I promise to cut the taxes to 8 mills, reduce spending to a level that these taxes can maintain, eliminate the debt, and make the City resident friendly. Also I will not run for reelection, and will serve without any pay. I will press the Councilmen to do likewise and pass a one term limit.”

AGENDA 21 AND COMMON CORE: “I AM AGAINST BOTH COMMON CORE AND AGENDA 21. The new city of Diamondhead Officials are practicing the elements of these worlds and mind control agendas. I promise to revert from the path they have chosen and to either eliminate or change the Ordinances they have passed and to provide the Citizens with a friendly and limited government.”



### **Candidate for Biloxi City Council, Ward 4: Robert Deming**

“Realize, prioritize and act,” is Deming’s stated philosophy. His literature is informative and spells out his values and goal such as efficiency, preservation for posterity and growth without compromising the spirit of the city. More info at: [www.votedeming.com](http://www.votedeming.com).

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.

### **Candidate for Biloxi City Council, Ward 6: Kenny Glavan**

Glavan wants business to flourish and says he will get that done. When a questioner asked about the neglected part of Biloxi north of I-110, Glavan said, “stay on your representative. Get a time frame (for your request to be accomplished). We need to fix this nonsense.” More info at: [www.gottavoteglavan.com](http://www.gottavoteglavan.com).

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.



### **Candidate for D’Iberville City Council, Ward 2: Debbie Hardy**

“My platform is accountability. I will be educated before I vote on an issue,” says Hardy. Traffic safety, sewage upgrades and a community development block grant are her priorities if elected.

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response



## Candidate for Biloxi City Council, Ward 6: Paul Boudreaux

Boudreaux is [Sgt. @Arms](#) of the South Mississippi Tea Party so he comes to this group with an advantage. Since we have been urging members to get involved and run for office, Paul is demonstrating that commitment. Boudreaux thinks integrity is the key to good leadership. He spent 32 years in the construction business and knows how to solve problems.

“I hear too many complaints about regulations,” while campaigning door to door, he says. “I’ll surround myself with knowledgeable people, improve the fiscal health of the city by not subbing out work we could be doing and honor our obligations.”

STATEMENT: “I believe the City of Biloxi and all forms of government should handle their financial obligations the way most families do; pay their bills first, donate to charity second and recreate if anything is left. I recently read that in the midst of all the sequestration cuts, the federal government is upping its “donation” to Syria from \$125 million to \$250 million. This kind of thinking creeps all the way down to the local level.

“If elected to the Biloxi City Council, I will try to integrate my personal principles and methods of honoring my personal obligations into the way the city operates.”

AGENDA 2: “Agenda 21 is hidden in so many facets of federal rules down to grants with strings attached which are awarded to local communities. These grants should probably never have been awarded in the first place. A major Agenda 21 push hidden in FEMA rules is de-development by way of un-grandfathering property for flood insurance, making the premiums so unaffordable that properties are abandoned. These programs must be called out for what they truly are. “

COMMON CORE: Common Core is the method and C Scope is the curriculum by which the dumbing down of America is taking place, making the serfs more agreeable and manageable. This too, is a product of the United Nations and part of Agenda 21. The U.S. Dept. of Education was implemented under the premise that curriculum was not to come from the federal level.”



## Candidate for D’Iberville City Council, Ward 2: Larry Feranda

“Kids are paying too much for sports. The public needs to know the city’s finances. They should be posted every quarter. You have a right to know where your money goes.” Feranda says he will put his Ward first.

STATEMENT: No response.

AGENDA 21 and COMMON CORE: No response.



## **Candidate for Gulfport City Council, Ward 5: Toliver Lasswell**

“The number one issue Gulfport continues to have is how we acquire (taxation, grants, fees, loans) and how we spend (payroll, programs, infrastructure, contracts, etc.) money. Over 80% of the budget is spent on payroll and benefits. That doesn’t leave much room to improve infrastructure, does it? The budget, bond issues and fees also need to be reevaluated.”

He would like to introduce a ‘bill of rights’ that would allow businesses to operate with less red tape getting in the way.

“I would like to introduce a property owner’s bill of rights for Gulfport, which would be developed by input from the citizens and business owners, to help them do business freely with minimal government interference. I support job growth through modest taxation and free market principles. When you lower taxes and reduce regulations, you encourage new businesses to form, creating more jobs. Gulfport has made improvements to the city’s infrastructure, but we’re just not there yet.”

To facilitate such a ‘bill of rights’, Lasswell would like to see such things as quarterly ward meetings to hear the concerns of residents.

STATEMENT: Lasswell addressed our group in February and was not contacted for a statement.

## **Candidate for Gautier City Council, Ward 4: Zachary Redmond**

"I decided that I wanted to run for City Council in Gautier when I realized that we suffered from the Good Old Boys system of indecision and a stagnant economic policy for incoming businesses," he said. 18-year-old senior at Gautier High School

Redmond sees debt as one of the biggest issues facing the City of Gautier, Redmond made it clear that debt was something he wanted to tackle. "I plan to help balance our budget, allow more businesses to come to our city, to allow for more jobs, and start a Youth Advisory Committee to get our youth more involved with the city and its government." More info at:

[www.zacharyredmond.com](http://www.zacharyredmond.com)



Statement: Redmond addressed our group in February and was not contacted for a statement.



## **Candidate for D'Iberville City Council, Ward 1: Randall Pelous**

The US Marine Corps veteran’s campaign literature states, “During my 12 years with the Harrison County Road Department, I have been involved in many projects dealing

with city infrastructure, drainage and road work. I will use these skills I attained to better Ward 1 and to provide the leadership that is needed in these departments.”

STATEMENT: He was not able to be contacted for a statement.

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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**VOICE OF REASON** a monthly publication of the South Mississippi Tea Party. It is intended as an interactive media among members and non-members. The content is the sole responsibility of its Editor, Dick Lancaster and primarily confined to state and local issues, providing information on politics, social trends, personalities, education and other topics related to the support of, or threat to the Constitutional principles which this organization is dedicated to maintaining or restoring.

We welcome articles, suggested topics and commentary from members and readers under the following guidelines:

**Feature/Investigative Articles/Interviews:** 1500 words. Exceptions may be made for compelling investigative work and may be broken into a monthly series if applicable. No anonymous articles will be accepted. Photos should accompany articles when possible. All sources must be submitted for verification by the editor.

**Articles of Interest (History, Politics, Law, Bios, Education, Economics, etc.):** 750 words.

**Commentary/Opinion:** 500 words.

**Letters to the Editor/Humor/ Announcements (approved by the Board):** 250 words.

**Suggestions, Tips and Sources** may be submitted anonymously.

Send all submissions to: [editor@southmsteaparty.com](mailto:editor@southmsteaparty.com).

## HELP!

The Southern Poverty Law Center is threatening the school district in Moss Point over an alleged bullying case. Does anyone have information on that? We'd like to find out what's going on.

Got a kid in school? What's happening there? Can you get us a copy of their textbook?

See an article or broadcast in the news that doesn't add up? Let us know. We need a media rep.

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