

# The Pono Press

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## TEA Party Maui Represented in D.C

by Bill Doyle

Late Saturday night, May 18th, my wife Marty and I returned home and turned on Fox News. Geraldo Rivera was interviewing Penny Nance and Keli Carender on the IRS scandal. Keli is the National Grassroots Coordinator for Tea Party Patriots whom I had met last July when attending a Tea Party Patriots Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado. We had stayed in touch and in March she and her husband were vacationing on Maui and asked us to join them for dinner. We had a great time with them and eventually the conversation turned to current events and the various big government programs that have become so massive and destructive to our nation. I had mentioned our experience with the IRS and our desire to obtain 501(c)4 certification in order to comply officially and legally with the State of Hawaii and the Federal Government as a recognized, legitimate organization. I sent Keli an email the next morning, complimenting her on her appearance on Geraldo's program and thanking her for representing all of the groups who experienced similar protracted delay tactics and intrusive, lengthy questionnaires. I believe these tactics were designed to detract us from our normal activities, sap our energy and deplete our members through intimidation and fear. As most of you are aware, TEA Party Maui/Hawaii Tea Party was subjected to a 26 month ordeal with our original application in May of 2010 to our eventual granting of 501(c)

THE VOICE OF THE TEA PARTY MAUI IN SUPPORT OF A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE, CONSTITUTIONALLY LIMITED GOVERNMENT & A FREE MARKET ECONOMY

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Congressman David Schweikert (R) AZ with John Kerr and Bill Doyle in D.C. (L to R)

4 status in July of 2012, and we were certainly not alone. In fact, to this date, several Tea Party and Liberty groups are still awaiting a final determination as to their status from the IRS. The next morning, Monday, May 20th, Keli called to ask if I would be willing to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in Chairman

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Darrell Issa's House Oversight Committee Hearing on Wednesday, the 22nd, to convey our TPM ordeal to the committee tasked to investigate the improper conduct of IRS employees who had engaged in these "targeting" activities. Because John Kerr and I had already spoken about the possibility that this might occur, I suggested that both of us would be willing to participate and Keli accepted the offer. While the trip was hastily arranged and our travel to and fro included long delays in connecting cities, (Memphis going, and D.C. and Minneapolis returning) due to weather-related "handovers" from the tornado that had just devastated Moore, Oklahoma, we had a wonderful and life-changing experience. After checking into our hotel that evening around 7:00PM, we received a message that we were to meet with Jenny Beth Martin, Co-Founder and National Coordinator of Tea Party Patriots at another hotel nearby at 8:00PM. We walked over and met Jenny Beth who had arranged for us and other Tea Party leaders to be interviewed by The Wall Street Journal Senior Special Writer, Monica Langley, who was working on a piece that would put a "public face" on the matter that will appear in the WSJ late in the week of 5/27/2013 or in the Weekend Journal on 6/1/2013. We finished up around midnight and returned to our hotel--exhausted from the long day, but exhilarated by our involvement in such an important issue that will now be thoroughly exposed. The

next morning we were up early and on our way to the Rayburn Building to attend the hearings. Because seating is limited and the lines start forming at 4:30AM, TPP actually hires people to stand in line until their folks arrive at 9:00AM--so John and I were at the front of the line. We were also among the few non-politician, political staffers, journalists/photographers/videographers allowed in the hearing room and were able to observe the entire proceedings from 9:30AM 'til 1:00PM (the committee actually adjourned around 1:30PM). Because the session ran long, we were asked to meet at 1:15PM with the committee's senior staffers to brief them relative to our experience and transmit the key correspondence and questionnaires that were exchanged between TPM/HTP and the IRS. That meeting lasted 'til 2:30PM and involved other leaders from Tea Party groups from New Jersey, Colorado, Tennessee, Texas, and Pennsylvania, all of whom had very similar stories to relate and documents to transmit. The staff asked if we would be willing to return to appear before the committee at a later date, and we all committed to do so. The next day, Thursday May 23rd, we were to have met with the Senate Committee that is looking into the matter, as well. But, as we soon discovered, most of D.C. starts the beginning of a long weekend (in this case Memorial Day) by leaving town on Thursday, so John and I were at loose ends. Deciding to make the most of our time, we hastily arranged meetings with our Congressmen;

(me with David Schweikert, (R) AZ 6th District and John with Paul Gosar, (R) AZ 4th District) to explain why we were there and tell the TPM/HTP story. Both were extremely interested--Schweikert gave us 45 minutes and Gosar, who is a sitting member of the House Oversight Committee and was in the room Wednesday asking probing questions of the witnesses, allowed us 20 minutes,



*TPM Past President John Kerr in Washington D.C.*

even though he was between meetings. Both gentlemen agreed that this was a very important issue and one that would not disappear soon and almost certainly involved the very highest levels of the administration. We came away from those brief meetings with a sense that our representatives do care and will follow this story to its eventual conclusion, putting proper measures in place to ensure that this does not happen again. The rest of our time that Thursday was involved in seeing the sights, touring the Capitol Building and the Library of Congress before hailing a cab to the airport for our return

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(D.C. Visit Continued from page 2)*

flight. The flight was delayed six hours, three of which were spent on the runway hoping to receive departure clearance, this caused the plane to return to the terminal due to low fuel reserves. There is a three hour maximum wait time in the new Passenger Bill of Rights and the crew had also been timed-out for allowable hours on duty. We were finally able to depart for Minneapolis, arriving at 3:00AM, caught a couple hours sleep on the terminal floor (Delta provided floor mats) and were at

the gate early that morning to secure seat assignments for the return flight to Phoenix. We arrived in PHX at 11:00AM on Friday--12 hours later than originally scheduled. All in all, however, a wonderful experience just the same --and we'll do it again if called. My sincere thanks and gratitude to Tea Party Patriots for organizing our travel and accommodations, setting the agenda for our meetings and shepherding us through the "hallways of power" while we were in D.C. Both John and I were complete neophytes to the city and the process and could not have

possibly begun to know how to go about arranging all that we encountered on our own. TPP is to be commended for their unwavering commitment to our Tea Party principles and core values, all of the TPP staff with whom we met were quality individuals who have dedicated themselves to our movement to restore our country to its rightful place as leader of the free world with liberty and justice for all. My compliments to Jenny Beth Martin and her entire staff who went above and beyond to make our time in The Capitol as meaningful and productive as possible.

## The Misuse of Power

*Maui News Editorial , Published May 17, 2013*

Sometimes events involving the federal government can seem to be far removed from our small island in the Pacific Ocean.

But the egregious misdeeds of the Internal Revenue Service's targeting of conservative groups seeking tax-exempt status touched home when the Tea Party Maui

Maui News in an interview that the IRS kept demanding more information from the group about its members and donors after it applied for the 501c(4) status in May 2010.

The agency also wanted information on the group's communications, speakers who addressed them, and information on the families of members. The application that was expected

Investigation is opening up a criminal investigation of the whole matter. At least one Washington supervisor was blamed for lax oversight of the Cincinnati office in an inspector general's investigation. More than one commentator has pointed out that not since Watergate have the actions of the IRS seemed to be used for such blatant political purposes. Doyle told the newspaper that he hopes a full open hearing on the IRS targeting will be conducted in Congress.

As of Wednesday, at least three congressional committees are promising just such hearings. It is very important for the American public to know just who was responsible for turning the IRS into a political attack dog.

*\* Editorials reflect the opinion of the publisher.*

***"It's chilling. What's going on in America where political views make you a target for intimidation?"***

to be approved within six to 12 weeks was finally approved in July.

Doyle said of the experience, "It's chilling. What's going on in America where political views make you a target for intimidation?"

revealed that its application for 501c(4) was delayed by the agency for 26 months.

Bill Doyle, who was president of the local Tea Party in 2012, told The

While the targeting of the conservative groups for extra scrutiny is being blamed on managers in the IRS' Cincinnati office, the Federal Bureau of

# TPM HAPPENINGS

## Simon Russell Speaks to TPM

by Valerie Sisneros

Simon Russell, a local farmer and dedicated activist, spoke to TPM at our May general meeting. Simon ran a hard-fought campaign in 2012 for State House of Representatives/District 13. He expressed his gratitude to TPM for all of our support. He spoke on a variety of interesting topics; number one on his list was the Hawaii Farmer's Union, in which he currently presides as Vice-President here on Maui. I learned that 90% of the food on Maui is imported and 92% of the food products we export are not really foods that would sustain us. The majority of farm products we ship out are corn, macadamia nuts, sugar, pineapple, biotech seeds, and flowers. Statistics show that we live in an area with the least amount of food security in the entire country. This seems insane when you look at all the great land and mild weather that Maui is blessed with. Simon says that in 1960 Maui was farming 2 million acres of land, today it is down to 1 million acres, with half of the land now utilized as real estate instead. He spoke about the times when farmers were families working the land for generations, but that is no longer the case since so much of the labor has been replaced by machinery. He said that most local farms are now just one family doing the best they can to feed themselves and possibly a small part of their community. Simon

comes from three generations of farmers on Kauai whose family farms were wiped out by Hurricane Iniki, and they were never able to completely recover. One of the biggest challenges for farmers is the issue of the global marketplace. The island's pineapple industry has been disappearing due to cheaper labor costs in the Philippines and other countries. Although land on Maui was predominantly Ag land for decades, it is now utilized in the following order; (1) Real Estate, (2) Tourism, (3) Government Services, and (4) Agriculture. The Hawaii Farmer's Union focuses on Regenerative Farming. This is the concept of growing food to feed the local communities, getting access to the land for farming, and finding people interested in farming. In addition they explore natural farming techniques.

The group meets on the Fourth Tuesday of every month at the Haiku Community Center from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. In the current climate of uncertainty, local farming, and learning more about growing our own food, makes so much sense.

Simon also spoke about current legislative action and the status of various bills. One of the issues Simon was very involved in was the repeal of Act 55, the PLDC, (Public Lands Development Corporation); created in 2011. This legislation would allow a majority of state land to be privatized for

reasons that are definitely not in the best interest of the people of Hawaii. One example he gave was that, had Act 55 remained in effect, China could buy up huge plots of land, set up businesses and we would have no say. The people of Hawaii rose up against this travesty and over 2000 people went to the Hawaii State Legislature building in protest. It is imperative that we continue to stand against these massive land grabs by the government. He said it is a terrible idea to use State Land as collateral for debt, with the government now attempting to drain every possible resource for revenue instead of simply practicing fiscal responsibility. There is some local support for Maui's large landowners to sell parcels of land to Land Trusts to be farmed by local farmers.

All of the issues that Simon discussed have a direct effect on our quality of life here on Maui. We appreciate all that he does to make a difference; he is a patriot and an inspiration.

For more info on the Hawaii Farmers Union, visit their website:

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



# LOCAL ISSUES

## A TEA Party Perspective of the HRP State Convention

by Tim Means

I caught the early flight to Honolulu on the morning of May 18th and found my way over the Ko'olau Mountains to the Ko'olau Conference Center in time for the opening remarks by the Republican Party Chair, David Chang. The theme of the day was "Unity" but I am pretty sure it should have been "Participation". The Party Rules allow over 2000 delegates and alternates... there were 176 in attendance. Maui had only 5 delegates, and many districts from the Neighbor Islands had none.

The morning slate of speakers were those running for leadership positions, most of whom were on a

pre-selected slate of candidates that ultimately were elected. There were also reports from the State Legislature delegations, National Committee, and Youth and College groups. In the end, only 3 state leadership positions were challenged and all challengers were defeated. The highlight of the day was the Keynote speaker, former Lieutenant Governor Duke Aiona. His message of unity was summed up in the quote "I think we all got to remember that the first step on the way to victory is to recognize who the enemy is!" As to his potential for running for Governor again, he would not say he would,

however he would not rule it out either. From the tone of his speech, I would not be surprised to see him run in 2014 in a rematch with Abercrombie. One of the reasons I attended was to size up the condition of the Republican Party in Hawaii. Attendance was 176, 50% plus 1 in that group was 89. 89! It wouldn't take a overwhelming effort to recruit 89 plus conservative (i.e., aligned with TEA Party principles) delegates to the 2015 Republican State Convention and try a TEA Party Conservative version in the State of Hawaii in the 2016 election cycle..just sayin'...

## House GOP: 'Legislature Closes Fiscally Conservative Session'

by News Release from House Republican Caucus May 2, 2013

The 2013 legislative session that came to a close today gives fiscal conservatives much to be encouraged by. The final state budget that passed this week spends about \$253 million less in general funds over the next two fiscal years than Governor Abercrombie requested. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives approved it unanimously.

Moreover, many of the worst bills that would have hurt local businesses and families failed to pass this year. Some of the tax and fee increases that died were as follows:

- General excise tax
- Barrel tax
- Conveyance tax

- Tobacco tax
- Internet sales tax
- Sugary beverages fee
- Glass container fee
- Single-use checkout bag fee
- Electronic waste fee

State budget specifics:

- Cuts government bloat by eliminating unfilled department positions
- Requires departments to justify funding for each new position
- Makes smart investments that strengthen Hawaii's bond rating and lower long-term borrowing costs
- Addresses unfunded liabilities by requiring the public sector to contribute money annually, beginning with \$217 million this fiscal biennium

- Fully recapitalizes the Rainy Day and Hurricane Relief funds with \$50 million and \$160 million, respectively, after the previous Legislature raided these reserves in 2011

Most importantly, the budget maintains fiscal restraint – despite a strengthening economy and increasingly optimistic Council on Revenues projections – due to concerns about federal sequestration effects and other economic uncertainties both nationally and globally. The budget that was crafted through meticulous negotiations moves Hawaii forward by reducing wasteful expenditures and investing wisely in our future.

-Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson

*Minority Leader*

-Rep. Beth Fukumoto

*Minority Floor Leader*

# Update: the 2013 Hawaii State Legislation (Part 1)

By Lee Aldridge

Late last year (2012), Larry Quimby, former Treasurer of TEA Party Maui (TPM) and now a resident of Oahu, initiated a program to coordinate the efforts of several TPM volunteers (myself included) to track and submit testimony on Hawaii State legislative bills in 2013.

January 16th was the opening day of the Hawaii State Legislative Session for 2013. Bills are introduced by Senators and House Representatives and placed into the "hopper" whereupon they are referred to one or more of the 20 House Committees and 16 Senate Committees where three hearings must be held on a bill before it can be moved through the next stage of the legislative process. Public testimony is permitted at the first two hearings, but not the third hearing as it is reserved for decision making by the legislative committee, however most bills are processed through more than one committee and are thus subjected to three hearings before each committee. January 24th, 2013: was the internal legislative cutoff date for the introduction of any bill. At the end of the day on January 24th, a total of 2872 bills had been introduced (1484 House, 1388 Senate).

Between the opening day and the January 24th cutoff, all of the bills were divvied up by Larry Quimby and randomly assigned to 7 to 8 volunteers (2 or 3 of the initial 10 volunteers essentially dropped out early on). Assigned around 400 bills apiece, the volunteers utilized the Hawaii State Legislature website referred to as PAR (Public Access Room) to assist them with their task of reading and determining which bill to follow and provide testimony. PAR provides a wealth of information including the full text of every bill and amendments, the bill's authors, status, schedule of hearings, copies of all submitted testimony, and much more including the abil-

ity to easily submit testimony online. The plan was to have each volunteer read each bill they were assigned leaving it mostly to their individual discretion as to whether a particular bill warranted the effort to pursue for testimony. The criteria for selection were non-specific, but generally based upon the concept of maintaining limited government. That is to say, any bill that appeared to foster bigger and more powerful government (and higher taxes) were to be opposed while those bills that appeared to reduce the impact of government would be supported. Naturally, volunteers selected a greater or lesser number of bills depending upon their own sensibility with regard to the selection criteria. Overall, roughly 200 bills were specifically identified for tracking and testimony. It was the responsibility of each volunteer to keep track of the hearing schedules for their selected bills and to alert the rest of the group to the hearing dates. This was only partially successful as some volunteers could not keep up completely with their assignments and some seemed to have dropped out completely after an initial effort.

Thankfully, every year, there is great deal of attrition in the number of bills as they proceed through the legislative process. This is due not only to public testimony in opposition, but also to the State Agencies' and legislator's support or opposition to a particular bill. It is primarily at this first stage that bills "die" in committee due to the breadth and strength of opposition and/or lack of sufficient internal (executive and legislative) support. Some significant milestones in the legislative process and the fate of the 2872 bills initially introduced are summarized below:

- March 7th, 2013 when the first cutoff was reached for bills to crossover from their originating chamber to the other chamber

(i.e. House to Senate, Senate to House) only 753 bills (363 House, 390 Senate) made it through this first deadline.

- April 11th, 2013, an important second cutoff was reached for bills to be passed back to their originating chamber (2nd crossover). By his time, only 414 bills (180 House, 234 Senate) survived.
- May 2nd, 2013; Legislature is adjourned (sine die) without setting a date for reconvening.

As of June 2, 2013, the date I wrote this article, the legislature had passed 294 bills on to the Governor to sign into law (as an Act) and their status stands as follows:

- Bills passed by the Legislature and pending the Governor's signature: 208 (93 House, 115 Senate bills)
- Bills already signed by the Governor: 86 (30 House, 56 Senate bills)
- Bills identified by the Governor's Office to be vetoed: 0

What happens next? The Governor may sign, veto, or not act on a bill in which case it automatically becomes law. He must act within 10 days for bills presented to him earlier than 10 days before legislative adjournment. For bills presented within the 10 days before adjournment or after adjournment, he has 45 days to act.

Any bill vetoed by the Governor may be reconsidered by the legislature up to noon on the 45th day after adjournment. A veto may be overridden by a 2/3 vote of both House and Senate or a simple majority may amend and return the vetoed bill to the Governor for reconsideration. Chances are high that all the bills pending the Governor's signature will either be signed into law or will pass into law automatically due to inaction on his part.

As for the efforts of TPM volunteers, it is unfortunately difficult to judge what

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# Senator Sam Slom to Speak at June TPM Meeting

TEA Party Maui is very pleased to announce that Hawaii Republican State Senator Sam Slom will be the guest speaker at our June General Meeting. Sam has been our State Senator for 17 years. "No Consequences for Bad Government Behavior in Hawaii" will be the topic of his speech to TPM.

In addition to his legislative duties, Senator Slom is very much involved in the business world. He is President and Executive director of Smart Business Hawaii for which he authors a monthly journal report to its membership, and President-Owner of SMS Consultants. Sam broadcasts a routinely scheduled hour on the Rick Hamada Show on KHVH radio and occasionally replaces Mr. Hamada as moderator of his 3-hour show. Senator Slom's writings have appeared in Forbes Magazine, The Economist, Money magazine, USA Today, National Review, Pacific Business News, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, and Investor's News Daily. He has also been interviewed on CNN and Fox News. This promises to be a great evening with the lone Republican Senator from our Hawaii State Legislature.

**Mark your calendar for 6:00 PM, Thursday, June 13th in the Garden Center Room at Kalama Heights Community Center on 101 Kanani Road in Kihei.**

*(Update: the 2013 Hawaii State Legislation (Part 1), Continued from page 6)*

overall effect our testimony may have had on the bills. As I had stated earlier, all public testimony is available for viewing on PAR, and as an illustrative example; 6 bills involving gun control were all heavily opposed (by at least a margin of 10 to 1), yet 2 of the bills still managed to make it through the process despite the fact that one of those bills (SB 69) also faced major opposition. I would say (cynically, but realistically) that lobbyists, organized liberal and/or environmental advocates, and union support for any bill (not the least of which is due to their ability and willingness to appear in person at hearings) far outweighs any opposition from the general public. For next year's TPM effort, some consideration has been given to waiting until after the first crossover before taking on assignments to track and testify on bills. This would obviously substantially reduce the number of bills that we would have to read and sift through for further scrutiny and testimony and might help volunteers to more selectively and effectively focus on bills. Despite the inability to definitively assess the impact of our testimony on the ultimate fate of the bills, it is, nevertheless, a very important function we serve to let the legislature know that someone is monitoring their actions and can hold them accountable for the bills they may have authored or pushed through the legislature. In the next Pono Press Issue: Part 2—more about the bills that passed.

## The Tax Dance

*by Kay Ghean*

Exciting and educational aren't words we normally associate with County Council meetings. However, May's budget meetings may very well be an exception.

Entering the middle of the arena, fully armed with years of budgeting experience, appeared the hero, Councilman and Budget Committee Chair, Mike White. Near him strode Councilmen Don Couch and Riki Hokama; each known to squeeze the most out of every collected tax dollar. Circling our hero were long time tax and spend enthusiasts, Councilmembers Gladys Baisa and Mike Victorino armed with fully developed skills at squeezing the most possible tax dollars out of every tax payer.

The opening remarks of Chair White made it clear the budget expenses would be closely examined.

Behaving more like a successful businessman than a politician, he announced the Council must consider the slow economy, unemployment and citizens living on fixed incomes. With these in mind, the County should keep spending unchanged from last year; thereby not increasing the tax burden on already stressed tax payers. Even before discussing the alternative budget proposed by Chair White, the gasps from Council members Baisa and

Victorino made front page news! "Draconian!" Fear and trepidation rippled through various county officials and the non-profits. Could it really be possible that the always available hydrant of tax dollars would be closed? Viewers of the proceedings watched as the mix of logic and compromise came to votes. The push and pull continued for weeks, resulting in a small increase in year-to-year spending. Good news, one would think. Not quite finished, the Council's next move was to increase property taxes. This time, the Homeowners escaped an increase but not Business, the economic life blood of Maui. Business taxes increased which, in the end, make goods and services more expensive for everyone. As Government Unions receive pay increases and government grows; tax payers are expected to obediently pay the tab. Predictably the next year, Government Unions again receive pay increases and tax payers have long ago learned the dance.

The people in the band may change but the dance will always be the same until we elect Council members willing to stand "in the middle of the arena" and support those who oppose a tax and spend....and tax mentality.

# COMMUNITY COMMENTARY

## Unlocked Doors

by Sue Wagoner

As a young girl living in Spanish B Camp on the Puunene Sugar Planation life was simple, humble and fun. We could romp and play all day and no one bothered us. I never knew of a child being molested or of a policeman being required in the camps. If we were fortunate enough to meet a stranger, we would talk to them and ask, "Where you Stay?" The dusty roads and cane fields were our playgrounds and we investigated every nook and cranny from the school yard to the graveyard. When we were hungry we had a wide choice of mangos, guavas, papayas and bananas that grew on the sides of the roads or even those that hung over the hedges in people's yards. Our greatest treat was finding a cane stalk that had fallen off a cane car. I have sweet memories of the sweet warm juices as I munched on the cane. I frequently visited my grandmother who lived in Camp A. When I arrived she would sit me down and wash my dusty bare feet with her special Hawaiian scrubbing stone. We would then have tea and

grandmother would tell me all sorts of stories. My favorite story was about Queen Liliuokalani. When grandmother was a young girl, she was selected to be one of the flower girls in the Queen's Parade in Lahaina. She described the beautiful garment the Queen wore that day. Years later I recreated that garment, with the help of Bishop Museum and I used that garment in my monarchy fashion shows. As a youngster I was keenly aware that the plantation provided our basic needs including, housing, electricity, water, refuse service, kerosene for our Franklin cooking stove, chopped wood for our hot baths and full medical care. I often wondered who that marvelous man was who did all this for his workers. I had heard my father rave about his generosity. It was a rare thing to see an automobile on our dusty road, however, one day my curiosity was satisfied when I spotted a long black shiny car coming towards me. In the back seat of this chauffeur driven car, sat Mr. Frank F. Baldwin, President and General Manager of the sugar plantation. He looked so regal as his chauffeur, Masaru Fukushima, slowly drove

past me.

My little dream world continued until one day in 1949 I heard rumblings that the sugar mill had become unionized. The first thing that happened was that the workers were charged \$18 a month for rent. Then slowly all the other special benefits disappeared. The thing I missed most was we no longer had Christmas parties. Previously the plantation would provide each child with a brown paper bag containing a mainland orange and apple, mixed nuts and candies. In memory, we only had mainland fruit, apples and oranges, at Christmas time. There were no physical boundaries in my little world. I did have the invisible boundaries of respect, kindness and above all else honesty. I simply refused to hurt, steal or be unkind to another human being. Throughout these many camps, I didn't know of one family who locked their doors. At the same time, they hung a key on the wall next to the front door. Today I know that this key symbolized ownership of the home and at the same time – trust in human beings.

## WISE WORDS

**"If you can't make them see the light, make them feel the heat."**

**-Ronald Reagan**

## Book Review

# 2013 U.S. Congressional Directory/113th Congress First Session Directory

by Valerie Sisneros

This directory is a great resource for all concerned citizens who are becoming more involved in the process of self-government as prescribed by our Founding Fathers. It is a slender, compact spiral notebook and contains about 200 pages of everything you need to contact every elected official in Washington D.C., and also the Governors of every state in the Union. There is a picture and a short bio on each one. Interesting, I thought, was the bio on the President. It gives his birth date, his qualifications, and religion as: "Attorney, Lecturer, Christian". You can access the titles, names, and phone numbers of the Leadership and Officers of the House and Senate, and their assistants. There are lists of all the standing Committees and Subcommittees in the House and Senate, including every member in each committee. There are 25 pages of Committees and Subcommittees in the House and 13 pages in the Senate, small

print, single-spaced. Looking at the sheer number of those committees really shines the light on the actual size and scope of the government bureaucracy. The Directory also includes District Maps of every state with census information on population, broken down by the percentage of people by ethnicity, the number of registered voters, and the Senators and Representatives for each district. There is a Re-election Schedule containing all of the House and Senate seats that will be up for re-election in 2014, 2016, and 2018. Good Information. There are tips for Communicating with Congress by phone and e-mail, How a Bill Becomes Law, and a Legislative Glossary. The explanations of the Roles of Congressional Staff will help to make sure you are contacting the right person for your particular issue. There is even contact info for all of the Key Media Websites. For a small book, it contains just about everything you need to

participate in our republican form of government.

It is available from the C-SPAN Store for \$12.95 at C-SPAN.org



## WISE WORDS

**"Today, when a concerted effort is made to obliterate this point, it cannot be repeated too often that the Constitution is a limitation on the government, not on private individuals—that it does not prescribe the conduct of private individuals, only the conduct of the government—that it is not a charter for government power, but a charter of the citizen's protection against the government."**

**-Ayn Rand**

# Help! Do I Need A PhD In Liberty Studies?

By Tim Regan

When one steps into the Sacred Realm of the Liberty Movement or the Patriot Movement, all of a sudden he is faced with the question; "Okay, I know something is wrong but exactly what is the problem and what do I need to know in order to help get things back on a proper footing (and what is the "proper footing" anyway)?" There seems to be so many subjects to know about, is it best to research Economics? Finance? The Constitution? How about How Capitalism works? How Communism works? Ethics? Political philosophy? Also, there is often the feeling that we need to become an "expert" on these topics in order to rationally and sanely argue what we just instinctively and intuitively know to be true. Given that most of us were indoctrinated in government concentration camps from K through 12 and possibly went on to party re-education at a local University (emphasis on "Uni", as in NOT diversity), how can we expect to think for ourselves and negotiate what is important and what is true and what is not true? Basically, what makes sense and what doesn't? What caused the financial collapse of 2008? Was it deregulation? Was it too much regulation? Was it capitalism? Was it crony capitalism? What is capitalism? What is capital? Do they mean money? What's all the talk about gold? I've never even seen a gold coin, how could gold be important? Why do the quarters and other coins keep changing their look? Is the government up to something? Oops -- sorry, I got a little lost. But, do you see what I mean when I say it's easy to get lost in the confusion that faces us when we are beginning to awaken to the possibility of a better way?

In the past I have tried to be a well informed grownup by watching the news intently and trying to digest just exactly what was going on in the world. Well, guess what? I have since learned that to be an informed adult does not include swallowing everything a distinguished looking gentleman in a tie is telling me I should know, and how I should think about it. I don't care if it's ABC, NBC, FOX, CNN, or MSNBC, these people are not fostering an atmosphere of honest intellectual inquiry. Why should they? That's not their job. They have a bill of goods to sell and they are going to do whatever it takes to make the sale. Sex may sell but repeating talking points over and over

again sells even more. Just as troublesome as saying A is true because FOX said so, is to say A must be true because MSNBC said B was true. I must admit, avoiding this knee-jerk reaction is not easy when discussing my freedoms or the future of my country. Okay, so we can't trust our education, we can't trust our media celebrities, and chances are we can't even trust our friends and family because they've probably been corrupted by both. How do we know where to stand on so many complex issues? The answer is actually very easy.

The answer is **principles**. I don't mean have principles so you can be morally upstanding and you will be rewarded with accolades, reverence, and position and later be granted a place in heaven. Although this may or may not be a result of your maintaining principles. What I mean is: know what your principles are, and understand those principles thoroughly. Then when faced with an issue, whether an economic issue i.e., Should the Fed be engaged in quantitative easing?, or a fiscal issue, i.e., Should the government be paying out unemployment insurance for 99 weeks?, or a constitutional issue, i.e., Is Obamacare constitutional?, never argue the issue. Instead, identify the principle being challenged, and explore how this incidental topic matches up to your principle.

When your principle is taken as a premise, or starting point of reasoning, you can build on this premise to reach a logical conclusion. Then all you have to do is compare this conclusion with the issue at hand. If the issue is out of accord with this endpoint, well, then obviously it is not aligned with your principle. Logic would then dictate you reject that stance taken on that particular issue. I know that was a mouthful but maybe this example will help illustrate...

For example:

**Issue-**The creepy mayor of Buttinskiburg declares that no more cupcakes shall be made within the city limits. If the cupcake makers want to stay in business they will have to change the name of their product to *deathcakes* and apply to the city for a deathcake license. They will also have to pay a fee and of course the deathcake tax for each unit sold.

**Argument-** There are so many ways to debate this new "cupcake" law. How can I possibly knock down

*(Continued on page 11)*

all these points, especially knowing that the mayor's supporters are so impassioned about his selfless actions. After all, this law is a home run for the mayor. No one can say he is anti-business, he's not closing any businesses. They can continue to operate if they want to apply for the new license and rename their product. He is generating revenue for the city. Who can argue with a mayor who is creating wealth for the city. In addition, as a good nanny state public servant, he is protecting the public from eating too many calories and saving them from obesity which everyone hates. Also, the cupcake union was recently dissolved and now all those cupcake makers are enjoying windfall profits. Money they were once paying out to high salaried batter mixers and icing spreaders are now kept in the company due to the fact that the companies can now retain a single mere baker to make the cupcakes himself. The Mayor thinks that is just not fair. This new law is a fitting punishment for those union busting companies. With this law he will be supporting and making many friends in the algaecake industry. They really need some help in the unfair cake market. They have to sell their algaecakes at twice the price of a cupcake. They just can't compete. The mayor is committed to evening the playing field. See how confusing it is to argue without principle? There are so many different paths to go down that can twist and turn in every direction. One argument can turn into an entire maze of arguments. The good news is I DON'T argue the new law; I identify the principle and explore how this law stacks up against the principle.

**Principle- Individuals are responsible for themselves.** They have a Natural Right to do to their own bodies whatever they freely choose, as long as they do not harm, defraud, or aggress another individual.

**Process-**My eating cupcakes within city limits does no harm to another. I have the Natural Right to eat cupcakes. Cupcake makers have the Right to sell cupcakes within city limits. I want to eat cupcakes. The mayors law in effect bans cupcakes.

**Conclusion-** As a result of the Mayor's law: under threat of force the ban will preclude me from my Natural Right to eat cupcakes within city limits.

**Action-** I do not support the mayors action.

The best part about my new stance concerning the mayor is that I am standing on certainty. I cannot and will not get caught up in the whirlwind of emotions and obfuscations that are bound to be directed toward me when stating my position. I know my principle and the conclusion I reached through reason is perfectly aligned with the principle. I didn't have to get involved with any of the traps hidden within the issues. I didn't have to rely on any of the media's opinions. Most importantly I didn't have to know whether the mayors cut-out-cupcakes-end-obesity logic was sound or not. I didn't have to research nutritional science to argue whether banning cupcakes will end obesity. I didn't have to painstakingly explain that governments cannot create wealth, they can only destroy it. None of that. I stuck to my principle, developed my stance from that principle, and now I can move forward on solid ground in the knowledge that this stance was proven by logic to be the "proper footing" on which to stand. It's good to be certain.

### **Some Common Principles of a Free Society**

- Rights belong to individuals, not groups, they come from our nature and can neither be granted or taken away by government.
- All peaceful, voluntary economic and social associations are permitted.
- Property is privately owned and this ownership cannot be voided by government.
- Government may not redistribute private wealth or grant special privileges to any individual or group.
- Individuals are responsible for their own actions; government cannot and should not protect us from ourselves.
- Government may not claim the monopoly over the peoples money.
- ALL forms of involuntary servitude are prohibited.
- Government must obey the laws that it expects other people to obey.
- Government must not attempt to manage the economy.

## PONO PRESS TEA PARTY MAUI

For more info, please see our website:

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**TEA Party Maui is an active grassroots organization based on the island of Maui, Hawaii.**

**Our mission is to attract, educate, organize, and mobilize our fellow citizens to secure public policy consistent with our three core values: Fiscal Responsibility, Constitutionally Limited Government, and Free Markets.**

## Upcoming TEA Party Events

- ⇒ **June Monthly General Meeting:** Senator Sam Slom will speak about the past legislative session and how to get involved in the next session. Thursday, June 13th at **6:00 pm** at Kalama Heights Garden Room. Located at 101 Kanani Road in Kihei. Please note earlier start time.
- ⇒ **July Monthly General Meeting:** Thursday, July 11th at 6:30 pm at Kalama Heights Garden Room. Located at 101 Kanani Road in Kihei.
- ⇒ **June "Preaching to the Choir"** social event. Friday, June 28 @ 6:30 pm. Location TBA.
- ⇒ More events will be coming for 2013! Please check out the website [www.teapartymaui.com](http://www.teapartymaui.com) to get involved or call us at (808) 214-2859.



## Community Meetings

- ⇒ We encourage you to stay on the pulse of the issues by attending Community Meetings listed on the Maui County website: [www.co.maui.hi.us](http://www.co.maui.hi.us)
- ⇒ For information on upcoming bills in Congress and for easy ways to get involved with your Congressmen and Congresswomen go to [www.POPVOX.com](http://www.POPVOX.com)
- ⇒ Another way to be informed about upcoming legislation and to follow proposed bills through the process is to go to the Hawai'i Public Access Room through the following link: <http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par/>

**The Pono Press is a voluntary effort to spread information about TPM happenings and educate about our core principles. We strive to help bring to light and explore newsworthy items of local and national interest which relate to these principles. With the help of our outstanding contributors, we are able to offer insight and perspective on these issues. If you have an interest or knowledge in any particular subject area or issue (local or national) and would like to help us educate others, please contact us at [ponopress@teapartymaui.com](mailto:ponopress@teapartymaui.com). At this time are looking for people interested in education, county and state budgets, the second amendment, land use, and transportation. Mahalo!**

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