*"It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds." –Samuel Adams* 

## **Town Crier Committee Report**

The Truth makes us free...We live in an Era of Lies

Vol 12 No 10

July 1, 2023

# Town Criers Mark Ten Years of Free Speech at the Fort



TCCR Staff Photo

From the very first days of the Tea Party's founding in 2009, politicians and their "Deep State" bureaucrats, including law enforcement, have tried to silence the Tea Party movement—the people's voice. The Town Criers, a committee of the St. Augustine Tea Party (SATP), are activists. The Town Criers first appeared on the streets in the historic district of St. Augustine, Florida on June 14, 2011.

Early on they became aware of the suppression of free speech in the most conservative Republican County in the State of Florida. Free speech was being restricted at federal, state and local levels by restricting the people's right of assembly on public lands—a direct violation of the First Amendment. These governmental identities did this by forcing people into so-called free speech zones.

The National Park Service (NPS) was restricting the right of assembly without permission at the Castillos de San Marcos. Small groups under



25 could speak in an area determined by the government. A sign was TCCR Staff Photo July 2013 placed designating the First Amendment area. Town Criers considered the regulation of speech and the right to assemble unconstitutional and refused to comply with the Park Service's directives. The Town Criers would schedule deliberate excursions on the Federal park lands just to provoke a Park Ranger's response. The peaceful nature of the Town Criers' protests bewildered the Park Rangers. The Town Criers would declare the NPS regulation to be in conflict with the "Supreme Law of the Land"...the Constitution. In addition the Town Criers would point out that as Law Enforcement they were breaking their "Oath of Office." Complicating matters for the Park Rangers, the public would often join the Town Criers in support of their First Amendment rights.

Resistance continued over a three-year period. During this time the Tea Party tried to solicit the aid of Congressman Ron DeSantis in dealing with this First Amendment issue as it related to the NPS. In spite of the fact that he was a member of the Republican Freedom Caucus at the time, DeSantis responded like a typical establishment Republican. He did nothing. DeSantis, as a Congressman and later as Governor, allies with the RPOF according to a Town Crier spokesman. The SATP was the last organization in the country that the Republican Party of Florida (RPOF) wanted to help.

On July 4, 2013, a criminal citation for demonstrating without a permit was served on Dave Heimbold, SATP Media Chairman. The citation was later rescinded after the incident was exposed by intensive media coverage, which was initiated by this publication. "Action News" TV/47's reporter, Lorena Inclan, covered the violation of Mr. Heimbold's civil rights and the First Amendment rights of the Town Criers who were with him on that fateful 4th of July.

The screenshot pictured below is the TCCR opening salvo.

## Federal Agents Violate Saint Augustine Tea Party's Civil Rights...





On the 4th of July, David Heimbold, Saint Augustine Tea Party Media Chairman, while celebrating our nation's 237th birthday, walked on Federal property carrying a flag dating back to the Revolutionary War period. In 1776, Betsy Ross had not yet been commissioned to produce the American Flag that came to be known as the Betsy Ross flag. In addition, Heimbold carried the sign pictured above which states, "Tea Party Lives on 4 U!"



Photos by TCC Staff

TCCR Screenshot of Article July 4, 2013

On July 18, 2013, two members of the Tea Party met with Gordon Wilson, NPS Supervisor. Mr. Wilson started the conversation with words dear to the Tea Party's heart, "A common sense approach." A cordial meeting ensued. The result of the meeting was the opening of the Castillo de San Marcos to small groups of 25 or less over the vast majority of the property with no permit required.

The following Independence Day, 2014, began with the display of the Dartmouth and the Town Criers were free to mingle with the public on the Fort's expansive grounds. This event has become an annual tradition. The free speech zone is gone and free speech prevails—HOW AMERICAN. The following appeared in TCCR:

What a difference a year makes



First Amendment Rights alive and well at the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, Florida

A year ago today, the National Park Service had a policy of First Amendment Areas, called 'Free Speech Zones', at the Castillo de San Marcos. The policy was based on Department of Interior regulations. The Saint Augustine Tea Party (SATP) and its Town Crier

Committee, refused to acknowledge the validity of these regulations, based on the Constitutional rights

TCCR Screenshot First Dartmouth Appearance at the Castillos de San Marcos July 4, 2014

The free speech zone on federal property was the first to fall. The Town Crier protests and refusal to



recognize the free speech zones continued on for two more years at state and county levels. Even when the zones were removed from county parks and state owned land at the amphitheater, problems continued with government workers and the county attorney with their creation of dis-information. Eventually St. Johns County, Florida was freed of the so called "Free Speech Zones."

NPS Photo

## Tea Party's Legacy in Historic St Augustine, FL

Former SATP Chairman, Lance Thate was interviewed and made the following statement:

"Over the past 13 years the SATP has supported many conservative issues. We have attended numerous County Commission meetings, Town Hall meetings, School Board meetings and City Commission meetings—all with little to show for it. SATP members made telephone calls, wrote letters to the editors of the mainstream media, sent text messages, emails and engaged politicians in every conceivable way. Tea Parties put forth candidates only to be defeated by RPOF or the RNC. Enthusiastic Tea Party members participated in all the appropriate ways. While we had some initial successes, in the final analysis the achievements were temporary as it was usual for victories to be overturned. The Tea Party came to learn, the hard way, that when you play the game in the establishment's house, the house rules prevail. In 2014, the political establishment had had enough. Speaking for their interests, Karl Rove declared, on Fox News, that the Tea Party was dead. The media closed ranks and over 100 groups, in Florida alone, shrunk to a handful. They were the victims of the GOP's "Control or Destroy" Tea Party program initiated by the RPOF. The SATP was one of the groups that survived. It survived because we purged REC board members from our ranks and we didn't play the Republican candidate game. When Tea Party rallies started to fade, we took the rally to the people. Our Town Criers stood tall, proclaiming the truth, in the face of all the lies. We were an inspiration and a source of hope for the people we encountered. The 12 years of the Town Crier Committee's activity, in the historic district, is one of two successful legacies for the SATP. Another legacy is reestablishment of the "Right of Assembly" in public parks and public grounds by eliminating free speech zones. In a few days the current members of the SATP will be celebrating Independence Day at the Castillo de San Marcos. Without the efforts of the Town Criers of old, they would not be able to do that and I'm sure they have no idea that it took five years to accomplish this one important Constitutional issue. The Tea Party's struggle in St. Johns County illustrates the degree of control and power that the "New World Order" has at local, state and national levels. The emergence of Donald Trump and the reaction to him tells the story. Our political rulers want to put President Trump in jail. We are in the final stages of a Progressive Communist revolution. The Town Crier mission is to expose it to as many people as possible. All other activity is a waste of valuable time. The SATP suffers today from too close a relationship with the SJCREC. It is destroying the grassroots nature of the movement that started with the Tea Parties. Even Trump fails to understand the true nature of his base."



### **Ten Years of Free Speech have Passed**

On the 4th of July it will be 10 years since the beginning of the end of the restricted 1st Amendment "Rights of Assembly" in St. Johns County. Two Town Criers who were present when the NPS served the criminal citation for demonstrating without a permit returned to the very spot where the citation was served to observe the anniversary. Pictured here are Lance Thate and David Heimbold. Thate and Heimbold have served as Town Criers longer than any other current Committee members. Their service, along with many others over an extended period of time, made it possible for the Tea Party to assemble on park grounds for the Independence Day celebration which is coming up in a few days.

### TCCR Staff Photo Like our Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/towncrier2010/

### July 5, 2023

# The Fourth at the Fort

TCCR Staff Photos 7-4-2023





On Independence Day 2023, The Saint Augustine Tea Party (SATP) transported its replica of the Dartmouth to Castillo de San Marcos. The Dartmouth was one of three ships from which tea was dumped into Boston Harbor in 1773 as a protest against King George's Tea Tax. This became known as the Boston Tea Party.

For the past 10 years, the SATP has been celebrating Independence Day at the Castillo de San Marco in the historic district of St. Augustine, Florida. The fireworks in front of "The Fort" are spectacular

and draw people from across the nation as well as the locals. During the day crowds upwards of 60,000 people flood the historic district on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. At night on the Castillo de San Marcos grounds 15,000 people assemble to watch the fireworks and they surround the Dartmouth on display. The Tea Party's Dartmouth is truly an attention getter.

Johnny Counts returned, for the second time, dressed as George Washington and was a huge success with the crowds. However, when the "Town Crier" showed up with an "I stand with Trump" sign, he gave "Old George" a serious challenge for the public's attention.

The Trump sign was well received by the public. Two seasoned Town Criers parked at a private residence on Water Street and entered at the gate where ten years earlier the NPS issued a criminal citation for exercising their First Amendment Rights. It was early evening and the people were settling in for the forthcoming fireworks. Town Criers had make their way, through growing numbers of people, a distance of several blocks to rendezvous with the Dartmouth. The Town Criers report that the trip took an exceptional amount of time as the "I Stand with Trump" caused frequent stops for photographs.



**TCCR Staff Photo** 



**TCCR Staff Photos** 



TCCR Staff Photos

### It's a Long Day for the Tea Party Volunteers

According to Tea Party sources a great deal of effort is required to make this event a reality. This year it was especially true. Before the Dartmouth was ready for presentation to the public, the boat had to have extensive repairs to the railings and the masts. Shawn Morrison, SATP Chairman, along with other skilled volunteers, undertook a major restoration in preparation for the 4th of July.



TCCR Staff Photo over 20 hours for some. For Jason Davis and family the day started in the wee small hours of the morning... 6 AM to be exact. The Davis's towed the Dartmouth into St. Augustine. The Dartmouth must be in place well before the public shows up, to allow time for the boat's masts to be raised, flags mounted, banners put up, rigging installed. Also the tents and tables all require set-up. Since the boat remains at the Fort for the fireworks, the boat cannot depart with the public due to the heavy traffic. The Dartmouth's size prevents her negotiating the narrow, traffic laden streets in the historic district. As a result the boat often departs after midnight. It is very long day for Tea Party members—

Shawn Morrison, SATP Chairman, stated: "This is a labor of love for our Country. We know that by standing up and resisting the evil that has infected our Nation, we bring hope to our fellow citizens."

### July 15, 2023

# **Growing Weary**

#### By Calvin Johnson

I find myself at times growing weary of all the nonsense that comes out of Washington, out of the media, and out of numerous radical woke groups. However, I am reminded of the Biblical scripture that says we are not to grow weary in well doing, which means we are not to grow tired of doing good or what is right. We are constantly bombarded with false narratives and spin from many on the Left and at times it is easy to just throw up our hands and give up and let them have their way, but that will only increase the suffering that this world faces and eventually will come to bite us in the backside. There will always be a battle with evil and those who are the



Johnson Photo

Devil's useful pawns; however, we are called not to grow weary but fight the good fight for what is good and righteous. So, when the Devil's pawns, like Vice President Harris, comes to town and spews out false narratives, false accusations and spins what is good into wrong, we have to be there to hold her and others accountable and to set the record straight.

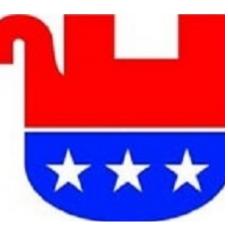




### July 26, 2023

# All Politics is Local is a Lie

The phrase "All politics is local" is commonly used in United States. Tip O'Neill, a former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives during the Reagan era, is most closely associated with this phrase as he, on occasion, brought national political issues to the local level to challenge his opposition. Another take on the phase considers that the "local" refers to the fact that politicians need to develop local backroom political skills to further their careers to higher office. The Republican Party takes it to a whole new level—you need to earn your right to office by loyal dedication to the party.



The idea that people can join the party, i.e., joining the executive committees, to exact change locally and that candidates win favor at

committees, to exact change locally and that candidates win favor at FB Image precinct level is a fallacy. Local Executive Committees are controlled by the State Committees with a set of rules and money. The State Committees are controlled by the National Committee. One only needs to follow the money.

The truth is the leadership is progressive and there is no room for conservative values in either party. The current political parties are like the two sides of a coin and the coin is progressive—two systems of corruption, if you will. The choice Americans have at the polls, whether Democrat or Republican, is the choice of which poison they wish to take. If a grassroots candidate squeaks through or if an unvetted candidate who cannot be controlled, such as Donald J. Trump, wins...LOOK OUT. The Dems steal the election in the urban centers with the Republican Party colluding in the criminal deed.



The greatest enemy to either party's leadership are grassroots movements.

The 'Tea Party Movement' burst onto the political scene about 14 years ago. Unknown millions of enthusiastic patriots determined to make a change, began their work in rallies across America. They were very naive and very idealistic. They were primarily fiscal conservatives longing to return to constitutional governance. They were terrified of the transformation of the Democrat Party and Barack Obama's transformation of America itself.

#### FB Image

Naively, they thought all they had to do is elect Republicans who would restore the Constitution and fiscal responsibility. Initially, few understood the depth of the resistance to their cause.

The SATP in St. Johns County, Florida was organized by Republicans in 2010. The St. Johns County Republican Executive Committee (SJCREC) saw the enthusiastic SATP Tea Party members as "Worker Bees" for the sole purpose of electing GOP candidates whether they championed the Tea Party's grassroots values or not. SATP members saw a calling greater than serving the GOP. As punishment for their extracurricular activities, SJCREC operatives attacked the SATP with their bag of dirty tricks. Cord Byrd, a "Pro Bono" Jacksonville attorney for the SJCREC operatives, attempted to separate Tea Party members from the organization they served. Byrd repetitively served 'Cease and Desist' orders on the leadership of the SATP. Byrd's efforts failed. The number one foe of the SATP during the first five years or so was the Republican Party.

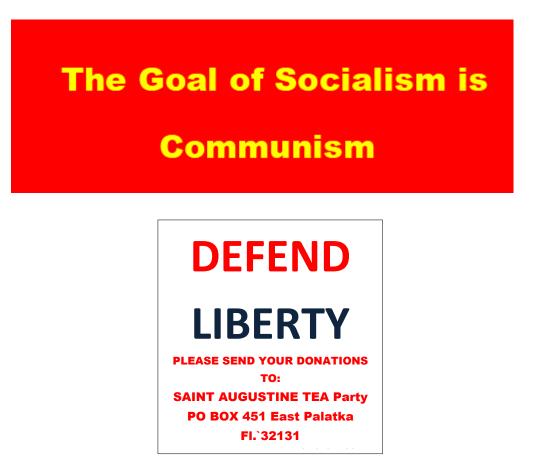
As his reward for party loyalty, Cord Byrd went on to be appointed to the position of Secretary of State by Governor Ron DeSantis. Then, opportunity presented itself for DeSantis to appoint three county commissioners in St. Johns County. DeSantis bowed to the dictates of the RPOF, local suggestions were ignored and the land development interests of the Hutson family prevailed.

There are 67 counties in the State of Florida and all County RECs are controlled by the RPOF. We are using St. Johns County as an Illustrative example. The County is about 80% registered Republicans and conservative by nature. Thus, Tea Party members wonder why the board members of the local SJCREC are predominantly progressive? Why would they attack a Tea Party they organized? And while we're at it, why would the SJCREC attack the Republican Liberty Caucus (RLC), an organization, whose main function is to preserve the Constitution of the United States? The RLC has been trying to reform the Republican Party since 1991. They are held in contempt by the leadership of the Republican Party and have little or nothing to show for their effort. So if you cannot influence politicians by attending public meetings and you can't win at the ballot box because of the two corrupt political parties' allegiance to the progressive, establishment leadership of the "New World Order," what is the solution to the crisis that is surely coming to America?

### Be Prepared, Be Informed, Spread the Word, Get in the Streets

The current political system will not protect the American people. In fact, reliance on the system will destroy America's way of life and everything Americans have traditionally valued. If this country is to be saved, it will be the people who save it, not politicians. Given that politicians have not been the answer, why play in their "Ball Park." The Democrat Party is hopelessly Communist; the Republican Party is not an opposition party. It collaborates and cooperates with the Communist agenda. With the media joining the political charade, large numbers of Americans fail to understand how close the Communist end plan is from bringing down America's way of life. Patriots, who seek values that prevailed during the greatest part of America's existence, must stop wasting their time playing in the Republican arena. Patriots have had over a decade to understand what's going on in America today. It is time to take this knowledge directly to the people. Awakening the American people is far more important than engaging the people who create the cesspool that some call the "Deep State" or the "Swamp." For motivation, a good starting point is the realization that "**All Politics is Local**" is a Lie.

### WE LIVE IN THE LAND OF THE FREE ONLY BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE



# There is a Revolution going on. Come join the Counter Resistance. Stand up for individual Liberty.

Come join us. We are a small Committee with many tasks to do to preserve the Liberty. We are blessed to see the awakening of America.

Lance L. Thate,

Town Crier Committee Chairman Editor and Publisher of the Town Crier Committee Report <u>lancethate@Gmail.com</u>