

Election Season – Time to Act on our Principles

By Tom Sladek - BCTA Treasurer

Call to arms for conservative voters! This is not a time to be timid. September and October are “mobilization months” for the upcoming election.

Everyone knows the stakes are high this November, and now is a good time to think about what you can do to make a difference. Here are some ideas.

Maybe you’re a person who never hosts a candidate’s yard sign on your property. Please reconsider that. You have neighbors who support the same candidates as you, though perhaps they’ve never spoken to you about it. A yard sign at your property will encourage them to vote, perhaps cause them to speak to others about it, and maybe they will join you and put up a sign as well – a cascading effect that can make a difference. Call the candidates or party and ask for a sign.

If you feel some serious urgency about this election, it’s probably time to step up and

volunteer. The candidates and parties have needs for people with any array of talent, experience and availability and will find something of value for you to do. All you have to do is call them and make the offer!

Think about your own circle of family, friends and acquaintances. I’ll bet you can identify some who are uninvolved (won’t vote), unmotivated (won’t vote), or perhaps homebound (won’t vote). *Your words can influence* their choices and actions. Certainly if you know a homebound person, you can help them get an absentee mail-in ballot or offer them a ride to their polling place.

The day after the election we can feel happy, energized and optimistic about the future of our state and federal governments. Or, we can feel pessimistic, frustrated and worried. We’ve been through enough elections that you and I have had both experiences. If we act during September and October, we can enjoy the good experience in November.

Tom

JULY MEETING NOTES

Congressman Gallagher Speaks

Eighth District Representative Mike Gallagher spoke about current and developing issues. Congressman Gallagher is in his second term as our Congressman. He is currently running for reelection for his third term. He presently serves on the House Armed Services Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in Congress. Mike has appeared on national television and he's been published in national print media. Three weeks ago, he became a first time dad of his daughter, Grace. He explained that his life has changed dramatically in the last three weeks. They say that the birth of a first child has a way of changing everything instantly at that moment. And so, having a child has a way of reminding us of the importance of the things that are contained within the Constitution - the rights of everyone to be secure on their persons and in their homes.

Congressman Gallagher said he finds himself thinking a lot about parallels between our current moment and the early days of the cold war with the Soviet Union. The fact is that we are dangerously dependent on China for a variety of medical equipment and all sorts of different goods. The Chinese are much more sophisticated than the Soviets. They can't be trusted. What can be done to hasten the divorce? If you care about the China issue, Trump will advance a tougher position.

Congressman Gallagher thinks the paycheck protection programs, highly imperfect, did

ultimately save about a million jobs in Wisconsin. There's going to be a lot of waste, fraud and abuse anytime the federal government tries to inject that much cash into the American economy. Cash which it doesn't have, but borrows from future generations.

We cannot afford to stay shut down, not just on an economic level. People need to work. People need to interact with other people. And the full cost of forcing people not to work, paying them not to work, staying shut down, and forcing people to stay in their homes will have lasting effects

We just need to stay open. There are limits to what we can do in this country. The top down, one size fits all approach in Washington D.C. does not work because this country is, and always has been, from the bottom up.

The total cost of shutting our schools down longer than they've already been shut down will not be appearing for years now. Our kids cannot afford to fall further behind. By the way, kids in China and our other competitor countries around the world are not falling another year behind. When you add everything up, we have to take some intelligent risks.

The strength of America is that we can have an argument and honest debate, weigh different factors, and then arrive at what we think is the best strategy.

Dave Nelson - Secretary

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**"Those who expect to reap the blessings
of freedom must like men undergo the
fatigue of supporting it."**

Thomas Paine

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AUGUST MEETING NOTES

Regular Joe Speaks to BCTA

Joe Giganti, host of the Regular Joe Show on WTAQ Radio, presented his observations about political courage, a disappearing commodity.

Joe explained that he is a native, a very rare breed, born and raised in the City of Washington DC, and he survived. At the age of 13, he made his first appearance on a local radio station. He became known as Joe the Pizza Guy. He did music radio and then went into political work.

His mother was an Irish woman, a one hundred percent Irish Catholic woman. She advised him that there are two things he should never do in this world. He should never go into entertainment or politics. He broke his mother's heart by doing both.

Joe said he believes the best way he can honor his mother and father is to live the life that they taught him. That's what he has tried to do. He explained to his mother that he learned from watching her and said, you always told us that right is right and wrong is NO. It's right and wrong. If somebody is doing the wrong thing, you'd be the one that stands up and says, that's not right.

He went through four years of military training. Although he wasn't in the military, he learned about tactics and strategy: you never want to be outflanked. Unfortunately, in part due to Republican leadership, we've been outflanked.

They're not willing to push back.

As individual citizens, we are responsible to understand issues and speak out instead of expecting other citizens to carry the load for us. We also need to communicate our views to our legislators, keeping them ever mindful that we are following their actions.

When a good conservative friend suggested that Joe pick his battles, Joe responded that we don't actually have the luxury of picking our battles anymore because that's how we got here. Weak responses are: We'll worry about that later. We'll do that over there. Let's focus on this instead.

So we're really living in this bizarre world where kids can't go to school, where if you go to church, you're viewed like you're going to kill someone. But if you have a brick in your hand and you're marching downtown, you're good to go. There's a reason so much is happening. Part of that is to keep people off their game.

The left is driven by emotion. There's very little reason or logic in anything that they're doing. We have to understand that they're coming at it from an emotional perspective, not that we have to argue emotion with them.

Conservative leaders, Joe thinks, need a pandemic of courage. Their job, their existence, is to leave conservative majorities to restore responsible, responsive government.

Dave Nelson - Secretary

Monthly Meetings @ The Village Grille

Monthly meetings are held at **The Village Grille, corner of Hoffman and East River Drive, Allouez.** The location has no stairs or steps, convenient parking, and a room to better accommodate speakers and conversation. There will be three selections from which to choose lunch - each one will be priced at \$12 (including tip.) Lunch is at 12:00 noon with monthly speakers presenting.

Let us contemplate our forefathers, and posterity, and resolve to maintain the rights bequeathed to us from the former, for the sake of the latter. The necessity of the times, more than ever, calls for our utmost circumspection, deliberation, fortitude and perseverance. Let us remember that "if we suffer tamely a lawless attack upon our liberty, we encourage it, and involve others in our doom." It is a very serious consideration ... that millions yet unborn may be the miserable sharers of the event.

— Samuel Adams, *Speech* [1771]

The TAX TIMES

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Inside This Issue

Election Season –
Time to Act on our Principles
July Meeting Notes
August Meeting Notes

Meeting Location

The Village Grille, Allouez

BCTA Meeting and Events Schedule – MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Thursday - Sept 17, 2020 BCTA Monthly Meeting.
12:00 at The Village Grille, Allouez
Speaker - Assemblyman Shae Sortwell

Thursday - Oct 15, 2020 BCTA Monthly Meeting.
12:00 at The Village Grille, Allouez
**Speaker - Anthony LoCoco, Dep Counsel
Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty**

BCTA monthly meetings are held the Third Thursday of each month, 12:00 Noon, at , at The Village Grille, Allouez.

Meetings are open to the public. BCTA Members, their guests and other interested parties are cordially invited to attend and participate in our open discussions.

**COST: \$12.00, Payable at meeting. Includes lunch, tax & tip.
Call Tom Sladek – 499-7701 for information or to leave message.**

Sept - Oct 2020



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