



Vol. LXXIV issue 5 *"To Encourage Active Participation In Political Affairs"* May 2009

## History of Socialism in the United States, (Or how we got where we are today)

This month's speaker is the Scholar, Author, Historian, Economist, Jurist and Political Activist, Tom Phillips. We first met Tom when he was a guest at a recent SCRW&M luncheon. His comments in the Forum displayed a vast knowledge, and a common sense approach to economics. His subject for this month's luncheon will be 'The History of Socialism in the United States,' a particularly appropriate subject since our new Democrat President, with his Democrat Congress, seem intent on moving the United States as far toward a Socialist State in his first 100 days as he could.



*Tom Phillips*

Tom, born in Cowley England, the son of a Bangladeshi mother and a Sudanese father, entered Rice University / Loyola Law School as a Trotskyite Socialist only to experience a sea-change in his philosophy during his undergraduate studies. He emerged a firm devotee of Austrian Economics and a fierce opponent of Socialism in all its forms. Mr. Phillips interned at Cato Institute then returned to the university to complete Masters Degrees in History and Economics following this up with a Juris Doctorate. During this time he perused his fascination with Austrian principles as an adjunct research fellow with the Ludwig von Mises Institute. Tom Phillips is a specialist in Austrian Economics, Western Civilization (with emphasis on the Cold War) and U.S. Constitutional Law.

He is currently a resident in the Los Angeles area and is working as a Consultant in law and economics. His association with Jeffers Dodge, and Pia Varma at PopModal.com has brought him to the attention of the Conservative element of the Los Angeles community. As an Author, he recently published his first book, "Queer Sinister Things: The Hidden History of Iran" which details Iranian history from the Constitutional period of 1905 to the Islamic Revolution of 1979.

Besides lecturing on the History of Socialism in the United States, he also lectures on the Middle East in the context of the Cold War. Tom's interests are many, and the range of his vision is broad. He is a very valuable asset to our Conservative community.

From the President's Desk---



Brenda Montaine

Flu Free Greetings from your Southern California Republican Women and Men President !

Thank you to everyone who made it to our April meeting. Special thanks to our guest speaker Lisa Snell, Director of Education and Child Welfare at Reason Foundation. She

gave a riveting talk on one of the topics dear to my heart, Education.

Hope this president's message finds you all happy, healthy and flu free. It has been a wild month for me so far. Let's see, first Rick and I spent spring break in Cancun, Mexico. Other than there being few people spring breaking the week we went to Cancun, it turns out it's not the best timing for a trip to Mexico. We are keeping our fingers crossed - so far so good - we are "humanbirdswine" flu free.

Next, I'm sorry that I missed being in America for Tea Party April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. I feel it necessary to disclose that I've returned from Mexico to discover that my mild mannered mother has been labeled a right wing radical wacko for participating in our American Constitution given right of freedom of speech. She participated in sending post cards to our California leaders expressing her heart felt sentiment of "NO MORE TAXES !" only to be faced with left wing liberal media name calling. Mom, don't listen to them, you are indeed a true American. Truth is all of us Conservatives are being marketed as the new radicals. We may want to follow Eldon's lead and all register as radicals with our federal government so that they do not have to deplete their resources tracking us all down. (Please conjure up a picture of me right now with tongue firmly in cheek). I miss the good old days when truth, justice, and the American way meant that you avoided committing felonies and were able to put your own hard earned money to your own use whether that was under the mattress, or freely given to your children, church, or own pocket.

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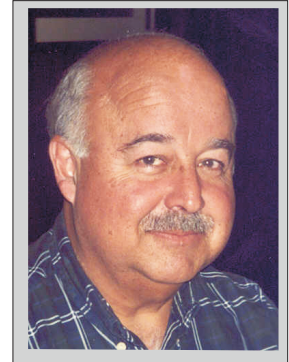
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**Deadline for  
 June 2009  
 Newsletter**

SUBMISSIONS:  
 June 4th, 2009

## Bill's Bills

The 800 lb gorilla is of course the propositions on the May 19 special election ballot. As more polls show those monstrosities losing, expect to see "Armageddon" and "end of time" scenarios played out in commercials by the tax-raising supporters of the propositions, with widows and orphans being thrown under trains if we don't pass them. Don't believe hype...follow your own good common sense on these initiatives. By all means BE SURE TO VOTE on May 19<sup>th</sup>. And take the advice of my good friend Jiminy Cricket, and "let your conscience be your guide".



*William Saracino*

In the meantime the boys and girls at the daycare camp for the intellectually challenged, known more commonly as the legislature, have been busy insuring a better life for all of us. Here are a few examples of how your tax-dollars are being spent – it costs about \$3,500 for each bill that is introduced in the legislature:

**AB 64** *Krekorian* (Dem. 43rd AD)

Threatens electric grid reliability and increases energy prices for all ratepayers by mandating 35% of the state's power come from renewables in 2020. Note that in 2008 about 4% of the state's power came from renewable sources. There is no indication of how we are to increase by a factor of 9 our power from such sources, and absolutely no cap on how much this new power can cost.

**AB 98** *De La Torre* (Dem. 50th AD)

Increases health insurance premiums and increase the ranks of the uninsured by mandating that all health insurance policies provide maternity coverage. And yes, this bill mandates that insurance policies provided to 80 year old women and men of any age include maternity coverage.

**SB 401** *Wolk* (Dem. 5th SD)

Greatly expands the definition of transactions that are subject to the punitive interest penalty of 100 percent and defines a "potentially" abusive tax avoidance transaction, which is currently subject to a punitive interest penalty, to now include any investment plan or arrangement, or any other plan or arrangement, if a significant purpose of such partnership, entity, plan, or arrangement is the avoidance or evasion of income tax or franchise tax....say like a municipal bond.

And I hope you will breath the same huge sigh of relief that I did when I saw that the taxpayers were billed \$3,500 for the following vital piece of legislation:

**SCR 10** *Liu* (Dem. 53rd AD)

Designated September as "Railroad Safety Month".

Please keep SCR 10 in mind when you vote on the tax-raising propositions May 19.

### Attention Forumophiles:

**The lead off question for the May Forum will be, "What do you think of the media's reaction to the Tea Parties?" So come prepared.**

## Forum Highlights, a report by Eldon Quick

To start off April's Forum meeting Michael Lerew asked us to express our opinion of Obama's and the Democrat Congress' 2010 budget without, he begged, using foul language or rude noises. Unfortunately we were not able to grant his request for civil decorum and rude noises prevailed. "What are they thinking?" "This budget is nothing short of economic child abuse!"

The Obama Administration's plan for National Healthcare Insurance was the next subject to face our opprobrium. The tragedy, the disaster of 45 million people living in America without health insurance is a big selling point for the Libs. (This figure was disputed by several forum attendees.) So Michael thought it might be useful to look at why those 45 million are at the moment without insurance. To do this he asked us if at anytime we had personally been without insurance and why. Nearly all of us had, and the main reason was we were young, healthy, and could afford to pay for a visit to medical care if we needed it.

Regarding General Motors, Chrysler and Obama we were reminded by a Forumatic that Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has said the US should take a lesson from the pages of Russian history and not exercise "excessive intervention in economic activity and blind faith in the state's omnipotence". Hmm, never thought I'd agree with Putin.

When asked what we think would change if we elected a Republican as our next Governor, the pessimists said "not much" and the optimist said, its more important to elect conservative legislators than a Governor. But then it was pointed out that the leading contenders for the Democrat nomination are: Dianne Feinstein, Gavin Newsom, Jerry Brown, and Antonio Villaraigosa. "Sorta like having to choose between gonorrhoea and syphilis", said the wit. Gavin Newsom was deemed the most beatable. Yuck!

On why the initiative process is working so poorly for Republicans? – We are out spent by the Teacher, Police and Firemen Unions. The initiatives are frequently worded so as to deceive the voter into voting for what he is against. What we need is a 'Fair Initiative' initiative. That and a spending cap on initiative campaigns.

On California's Public Schools, Nobody, absolutely nobody, thought the schools are doing well. Nor did we think lack of money was the problem. We should give up the idea that every child should be prepared for college and teach courses that prepare a child for the real world where he is going to need job skills, not correct political opinion skills.

Every year the Government of California imposes more taxes and more regulations on its citizens. (Q) Where are we going if we continue down this road? (A) A dumb downed population, bombarded by what the State's Liberal politicians want and is threatened with the firing of its fire fighters and police unless it agrees to increasing taxes,, is on an unavoidable road to ruin, and is helpless to turn around. Unless we somehow replace those liberals with conservatives, starting from the bottom, and going up.

What seemed to be a simple question then led to the most intense discussion the Forum has seen in a long time. The question had to do with the violence along our southern border caused by the drug gangs, and how much the U. S. should be involved with it. Our opinion was the U. S. Government has no intention of getting involved. It was also pointed out that the claim that 90% of the guns in Mexico come from the U. S. is pure fiction. The truth is that 90% of the identifiable guns, (only those with serial numbers) can be traced to the U. S. The vast majority of weapons in Mexico do not have serial numbers, they can be traced to the Mexican Army and Police, to China, Russia, and South America, not the U. S. But then someone suggested the way to stop the violence in Mexico would be to legalize, or decriminalize drug use in the U. S. this they averred would eliminate the criminal element involved in drug transportation and sales. The violence would then cease and plus we could tax the sales. Not all agreed with this position, in fact, a number emphatically disagreed with it. The argument continued for some time and was much too involved to go into here, but I suspect this is a subject we will return to in the near future.

To conclude the Forum foray we spent our final minutes venting our spleens on the "Mainstream News Media". Will they, or will they not cover the "Tea Parties" taking place across the Nation on April 15th. Consensus – they probably will not. The News Media, – the brainwashed reporting to the brainwashed.

Does your spleen need a little venting? Come join us for the May 9th Forum, 11:30 am Smoke House Restaurant.



*Eldon Quick*

The following was submitted to the SCRW&M Newsletter by member Vladimir Val. Members are encouraged to submit articles and political material for publication in the SCRW&M Newsletter. SCRW&M reserves the right to accept, reject and edit letters and other editorial material. Letters and editorial material must include the name, telephone number and address of the person making the submission. SCRW&M does not return letters, photos, editorial material or other sub-missions. Letters and editorial material may be mailed to: SCRW&M 2312 Cheremoya Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90068 or email to: equick1@sbcglobal.net. All letters, photos and editorial material submitted shall become the property of SCRW&M and may be published in any format.

Other articles and opinions by Val can be found at; <http://rightsideofleftcoast.blogspot.com>

## We Can Save America

By Vladimir Val

In the last two national and state elections Left Wing Liberals have set the course of the State of California and the country on a path to bigger government with more power to tax and redistribute wealth. This path to socialism will eventually lead to a stagnant economy, curtailment of individual rights and liberty, and the loss as a powerful force in global politics: The USA will be reduced to a country of a few upper elite rich, a constant dwindling middle class and vast poor populous completely dependent on government. This can only lead to dictatorship as has happened in every instance where socialism became the governing standard. No country that went socialist has lifted the standard of living of its people. Whether the pretext was National Socialism or the Dictator ship of the Proletariat the result of this transition was and still is a disaster for the citizens of those countries.

It is up to those who understand the severity of this situation to inform the rest of the disaster ahead and make the required changes to reverse the course. It is up to those of us who believe in the vision of our founders, realize that only capitalism, and living in liberty with the chance of pursuit of happiness will lead us back to prosperity.

The task ahead of us requires a two-pronged approach. First we need to explain exactly what socialism is, impress all of the inevitable result of socialism, and show how we all will be affected. Second we must present a better way to run the country and how that will benefit all. Both have to be presented with an air of optimism and high spirit. We must show that a change in direction will lead us towards a brighter day, prosperity for all, and true happiness achieved from personal accomplishments. This we can achieve using age-old principles have worked for millions for almost a century.

This method is based on the five points of selling, **Attention, Interest, Conviction, Desire, and Close**. This method has helped people achieve great individual success. It can do the same for our dear country. We must gain the attention of the people by stating over and over again the results of the course that our leaders are taking. We must make them realize the disastrous consequences of bigger and bigger government and how it is robbing us of our liberty and freedom. They need to feel the impending disaster imminently ahead. They must feel the doom rushing to impact their lives in order to pique their interest. Unless we achieve their interest we will be talking to the hand. We need to convince them of our veracity and the truth of what we are saying.

Once we have their **interest** we can go into more details of the problem. Bureaucrats do not have the vision needed for success, only entrepreneurs with the will to take risks and accept the results have the vision needed to build businesses that will produce the products and services that people will buy, hire the workers to run the business, bring continued economic growth, and insure prosperity for all. Government bureaucrats are only interested following stringent paths that waste money and effort. The administrative procedure is more important than results. There are many examples of government failure in running things. The post office is

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constantly in the red while United Parcel has survived with out the taxpayers having to subsidies its operations. The DMV represents the epitome of bureaucratic failure. We need to bring out as much of this evidence as we can. This will bring us to the **conviction** part.

This is where we implement the fact bridge **benefit/detriment** portion of the **conviction** stage. Here we make factual statements and how they relate to each individual. Fact; in a socialist state the government dictates what you produce, how much of it you produce, what you charge, how many people you employ and what you pay them, and to whom you can sell your product or service. This (bridge - what that means to you) means that no matter how much or little you work you are restricted on how much you can earn (detriment to you). In a free enterprise system (all benefits to you) you decide the product or service you will produce. You get to pick what you think the people want to buy. You get to sell to whom and where you think you can make the best profit. You charge what the market can sustain. You hire the number and caliber of people you need to be profitable. There are many, many more examples we must use to convince the people that capitalism means a better life for the all.

The next step is to build a **desire** in the people to reject socialism and to want the benefits of a free capitalist enterprise system. One way is to paint a word picture. This is done by getting the individuals in the group we are speaking to. Get them to visualize their total misery living in a socialist state and their ecstatic joy and happiness living in a free society.

In a socialist state they wake up every day to the same routine, no changes, his status will be the same whether he is innovative, works harder, or just goes through the motions. There is no hope to for better things. His entire life is dictated by the government.

In a free enterprise system individual destiny in one's own hand. The sky is the limit. Everyone is rewarded according to their own abilities and achievements. What ever is owned is earned. There is no better feeling than that of achievement. The word pictures that get painted will stay with your audience for a long time.

No amount of effort will accomplish anything if there is not a close, in this case a call to action. This is where we ask the people to walk precincts, make phone calls, make donations, and vote conservative.

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*VLADIM IR VAL Born in Czechoslovakia, I experienced the realities of life very early. My family and I cheated death many times, from being bombed during World War II to dodging snipers in South East Asia. To escape from communist treachery my family and I crossed borders through muddy fields, barbed wire, and armed guards. At the age of nine I arrived in New York City. Two weeks in a new country I was immersed in the NYC school system, the best thing that could have happened to me. I learned English quickly without forgetting Czech or German. I immediately picked the political party that I would support, the Republican Party. That's right; I knew where I belonged even at the age of nine. I was a musician with my own band, worked with various promotional groups, started an out sourcing business for assembly of small manufacturing items, a computer company marketing hardware and software. I served in South East Asia in Military Intelligence, held several positions in various fraternal organizations, worked on the U. S. Bicentennial Celebration, and now doing my best to strengthen the Republican Party.*

## Drugs: To Legalize or Not

*As mentioned in the Forum Highlights column there was intense discussion in the Forum regarding de-criminalization, or legalizing drugs in the U.S. as a means of eliminating the violence along our Mexican border. In the Wall Street Journal, Weekend Journal section of Saturday April 25th, there were two articles each taking one side of the 'Legalize or Not' argument. I have selected what I thought were some of the most telling paragraphs from each article.*

*Writing in favor of legalization was Steven B. Duke, a professor of law at Yale Law School. He writes the following:*

In 2000, the Mexican government disturbed a hornets' nest when it began arresting and prosecuting major distributors of marijuana, cocaine, heroin and amphetamines. Previously, the cartels had relied largely on bribery and corruption to maintain their peaceful co-existence with the Mexican government. Once this pax Mexicana ended, however, they began to fight not only the government but among themselves. The ensuing violence has claimed the lives of at least 10,000 in Mexico since 2005, and the carnage has even spilled north to the United States and south to Central and South America.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recognized the heart of the matter when she told the Mexicans last month that the "insatiable demand for illegal drugs" in the U.S. is fueling the Mexican drug wars. Without that demand, there would be few illegal drug traffickers in Mexico.

Both animals and humans have an innate desire for the altered consciousness obtainable" through drugs. What we can and should do is eliminate the black market for the drugs by regulating and taxing them as we do our two most harmful recreational drugs, tobacco and alcohol.

Marijuana presents the strongest case for this approach. According to some estimates, marijuana comprises about 70% of the illegal product distributed by the Mexican cartels. Marijuana will grow anywhere. If the threat of criminal prosecution and forfeitures did not deter American marijuana farmers, America's entire supply of that drug would be homegrown. If we taxed the marijuana agribusiness at rates similar to that for tobacco and alcohol, we would raise about \$10 billion in taxes per year and would save another \$10 billion we now spend on law enforcement and imprisoning

marijuana users and distributors.

A most impressive experiment has been underway in Portugal since 2001, when that country decriminalized the possession and personal use of all psycho tropic drugs. According to a study just published by the Cato Institute, "judged by virtually every metric," the Portuguese decriminalization "has been a resounding success." Contrary to the prognostications of prohibitionists, the numbers of Portuguese drug users has not increased since decriminalization. Indeed, the percentage of the population who has ever used these drugs is lower in Portugal than virtually anywhere else in the European Union and is far below the percentage of users in the U.S. One explanation for this startling fact is that decriminalization has both freed up funds for drug treatment and, by lifting the threat of criminal charges, encouraged drug abusers to seek that treatment.

We can try to deal with the Mexican murderers as we first dealt with Al Capone and his minions, or we can apply the lessons we learned from alcohol prohibition and finish dismantling the destructive prohibition experiment. We should begin by decriminalizing marijuana now.

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*Writing for the opposition to legalization was, John P. Walters, former director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy under President George W. Bush. He wrote:*

The violence of traffickers, which has harmed tens of thousands, is dwarfed by the millions harmed by another violence, that done daily by those in our own communities under the influence of drugs. Roughly 80% of child abuse and neglect cases are tied to the use and abuse of drugs. It is not that drug abuse causes all crime and violence, it just makes it much worse by impairing judgment, weakening impulse control and at some levels of pathology, with some drugs, causing paranoia and psychosis. Well more than 50% of those arrested today for violent and property crimes test positive for illegal drug use when arrested. Legalized access to drugs would increase drug-related suffering dramatically. The origins of federal drug laws were a response to disastrous drug and violence epidemics when virtually every family had access to opiate- and cocaine-based remedies around the end of the 19th century. Drugs were

## Notes from the Board

The Board wishes to thank Julietta Parr for her kind contribution of \$126.00 for stamps for mailing the Newsletter. Paid up members who wish to receive a hard copy of the Newsletter by mail may get it by notifying Eldon Quick at 323-467-7654

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available without penalty. Addiction was rampant, with an estimated 250,000 opiate addicts in the U.S. population of 76 million. Or if you really think that prohibition causes the problem, remember that ancient China was brought to its knees by easy access to opium. Today, even highly traditional and regulated societies like Thailand, Malaysia, Iran and Afghanistan are suffering terrible addiction problems--because heroin is addictive and easily accessible. Making highly addictive drugs easier to get and use is what makes this harm greater.

Although cynics on the left and right assert the drug problem is as big or bigger than ever, it is simply not true. Illegal drug use is still a problem, but by any fair assessment it is a smaller problem. Half as many teens are using drugs than 30 years ago and a quarter fewer than seven years ago, according to the Monitoring the Future, an ongoing study conducted by the University of Michigan under grants from the National Institute on Drug abuse. Cocaine and meth use are less than half what they were at their peak. Even drug offenders are a smaller percentage of the prison population than they were 15 or even seven years ago.

When I became the drug policy director in 2001, we faced an inherent weakness in prevention programs for youth. Teens told us they had been taught the dangers of drugs, but if their boyfriend or girlfriend used they did not want to be judgmental or estranged, so they were likely to join in. We put treatment specialists together with some of the best creative minds in advertising to fashion prevention messages directly presenting drug abuse as a sickness that places an obligation on friends to help stop it. We enlisted the idealism and caring of the young to reverse the force of peer pressure. The ads were an important contributor to our progress that needs to continue and grow. With this knowledge of addiction, how do we choose to make more victims?

We have learned to apply public health tools that have been proven effective against other diseases. We have learned that addiction is a treatable disease.

We are increasing the pathways to treatment--through routine health care, the workplace, places of worship and schools, Drug courts leading to referral for treatment by the criminal justice system are now the major pathway through which the dependent are getting the help they need. Do we want to end all this by taking the courts out of the equation? Supervised, court sanctioned treatment works best. Legalization robs us of this tool.

(The criminal gangs in Mexico) have become more dangerous as they have lost profits from the cocaine and meth trade over the last two years. Those who think legalizing drugs will stop the violence by cutting off the money to these groups seem unaware that they not only smuggle drugs and people across the border for profit, but that they also kidnap, hijack, manage large auto-theft operations and have extensive protection rackets.

Moreover, some of us remember that Bobby Kennedy was leading organized-crime strike forces against extremely dangerous mafia families, decades after the end of Prohibition. Just as ending Prohibition did not destroy organized crime in the U.S., legalizing drugs will not break the terrorist criminal groups in Mexico. In fact, the real pattern of violence from the mafia families in the U.S. to the cartels in Colombia suggests it is when they are threatened and destabilized that violence skyrockets. It is the violence focused on the threat of violent takeover by rival criminal groups that is an unfortunate but perhaps necessary first step in restoring the rule of law.

We can make progress faster when more of us learn that drug use and addiction cannot be an expression of individual liberty in a free society. Drug abuse is, by nature and the laws of organic chemistry that govern this disease, incompatible with freedom and civil society. Drug abuse makes human life solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short (a special version of Hobbes's hell in our own families). In the deepest sense, this is why failure is not an option.

*President's message continued from page 2*

Continuing, to completely rewind up the tightness in my shoulders that I unwound spending six days in a bathing suit in Mexico, Rick and I were burglarized three days after returning from south of the border. We are grateful that it wasn't worse than it was.

So now you have the update on me. Please come to our next meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, a second Saturday meeting, to share an update on you, your views on the 2009 Tea Party, and -not to go unstated- please bring all of your complaints on Obama and Biden, you will find yourself in good company.

Now that I don't have to defend Bush, I'm finding myself attacking our government. Is this what happens when Republicans lose and we are left perplexed by the Democrat party? For example, the California Democrats have endorsed Proposition 1B, but not 1A - this does not make sense since 1B is dependent on 1A passing. (Conjure up here an audible sigh from a frustrated Republican)

## Membership

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Saturday, May 9th, 2009

# Tom Phillips

## Socialism and the United States

### THE SMOKE HOUSE

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**Political Forum at 11:30 am**

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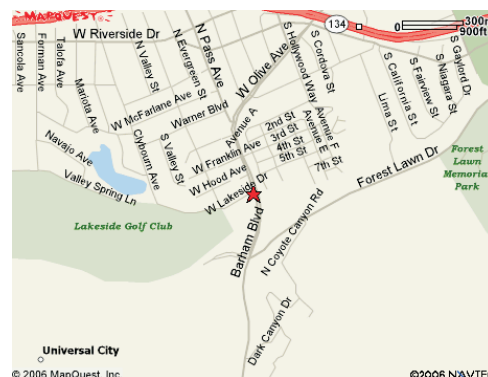
May 19th Special election

June, 13th Luncheon

July, 11th Luncheon

Aug, 8th Luncheon  
Location to be announced.

Sept. TBD Luncheon



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