

The Appalachian Messenger



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WELCOME TO OUR 1ST EDITION!



Welcome to the inaugural edition of *The Appalachian Messenger* micro-newspaper. While we will be focusing on Western North Carolina, North Georgia and Tennessee, we hope that the information presented in the articles applies to the entire nation.

Since this publication is a combination of print and Internet blogs, all copies of The AM will be archived as a PDF on appalachianmessenger.info. Feel free to download and distribute any edition as long as it is not edited or altered in any way. We hope that this concept proves to be successful and that other geographic areas will replicate this model.

Letters to the editor can be made via email: comments@appalachianmessenger.info. Please include the title of the article, the date of the edition and your contact information.

If anyone is interested in submitting an article, please send to us at: submissions@appalachianmessenger.info.

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Organizing Against Tyranny

By BRANDON SMITH



My work and my thoughts lately have turned toward a now constant focus on the concepts of organization, more in respect to underlying philosophy rather than hard, fast rules and structures. If you are one of the slithering acolytes of political theory elitist Saul Alinsky (and you haven't felt the inclination to jump face first into the nearest punji pit), then the primary tool of organization for you is to lie, and to lie often. Tricking people into action using false premises, telling people what they want to hear rather than opening their eyes to reality, is perhaps the easiest way to build a movement. Of course, that movement will eventually destroy itself as the lies begin to inhibit progress rather than inspire it. But in most cases, by the time the organization self-destructs it has already been exploited for the nefarious purpose it was intended.

For the liberty movement, the movement against globalization and forced centralization of financial and political power, lies are simply not an option. The internationalists have already cornered the market on lies, so we must take a completely contrary approach. We must organize around the truth, no matter how painful it happens to be. This is a much more difficult prospect, one many people don't understand or appreciate. There are a lot of complaints in the movement about the lack of what they consider effective organization, and the frustration is in some ways beginning to evolve into fear. Here are some core inconsistencies I believe are at the heart of organizational problems within the liberty movement and what we can do to solve them.

Legitimate Structure And Purpose

Just because a movement is decentralized does not mean it should lack a foundation, and that foundation should be composed of a primary purpose and a primary plan of action. This is where some liberty activists seem to become most nihilistic in their thinking.

They have been looking for top-down leadership, which doesn't exist and shouldn't exist. They have been looking for a set plan of attack, which no one can seem to agree on. And they moan relentlessly about what they see as the lack of a singular, universal vision of what the ultimate goal should be. I have heard the argument more than once that the liberty movement will fail because victory would require us to *all* agree on one ideological vision and a rather singular strategy. What they don't appear to realize is that a vision and strategy already exist that most of us agree on.

Again, our society has been conditioned to see through only a very narrow window of what constitutes organization that demands we adhere to the top-down philosophy. However, most liberty activists already agree on the bottom-up goal of self-reliance and self-sufficiency in all things, from food and water to education, security and governance.

There will be no mass majority movement on Washington in a "V for Vendetta"-style march led by some heroic masked man. And even if there were, it would accomplish nothing unless the top of the globalist pyramid was toppled (Occupy Wall Street is a good example of how such theatrics fail). This goal of a mass awakening is a common fantasy and an impractical one; but self-sufficiency, mutual aid and mutual defense are realistic efforts, given the likely short amount of time we have left. The universal vision (Continued in "Organizing Against Tyranny", page 2)

A Soldier's Pivot Point

By SAMUEL CULPER,
Intelligence Editor



I was on my second deployment when Obama was elected; assigned as an Intelligence Analyst to Multi-National Corps - Iraq. After the election, each of us knew that things would change for the war effort, for the Army, and for our nation.

To give you some background, in Fall 2008 President Bush came to Baghdad before he left office. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines packed al-Faw Palace at Camp Victory, up and down the staircases, standing room only in the palace rotunda, out the entrance and across the moat bridge, waiting to see the President speak. Security ended up having to turn Soldiers away, but those who made it in slung their rifles or had side arms holstered. Upon arrival, President Bush received a loud, standing ovation, and he thanked us for our service in a speech before he was escorted out by his personal security detail (PSD).

About six months later, we received word that a VIP would arrive at the palace. Our attendance was recommended but not mandatory. It didn't take a bunch of geniuses (just a few Intelligence Analysts) to predict that our special guest was President Obama. About an hour before Obama's big speech, the Palace looked like any other day, with soldiers - both officers and enlisted - scurrying around to meetings and strategy sessions. Our First Sergeant came into our office and told us that there weren't enough soldiers in the rotunda, and our attendance was now mandatory. We walked down the labyrinth of hallways that led to the Palace rotunda, and saw a modest gathering (nothing like the turnout for President Bush). There were members of the president's PSD checking Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines for weapons. The message was clear: no one trusted America's uniformed men and women with weapons in the presence of our new Commander-in-Chief. Even pocket knives weren't allowed. A few friends and I realized just what that meant, and went back to work instead of lining up to see a speech from a man whose staff didn't trust his military not to kill him. (Continued in "A Soldier's Pivot Point" page 2).

"If you love wealth greater than liberty, the tranquility of servitude greater than the animating contest for freedom, go home from us in peace. We seek not your counsel, nor your arms. Crouch down and lick the hand that feeds you; May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that you were our countrymen."
- Samuel Adams

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A Soldier's Pivot Point (continued from page 1)

I left the service a few years later and wound up as a contractor. In all, I spent over three years deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan from 2006 to 2011 under a broad range of units and Intelligence missions. During the 2008 election cycle, I began reading about Ron Paul. I read his warnings that our country was facing an existential crisis, which led me to begin reading SurvivalBlog. At my desk in Baghdad, I became a prepper.

Since then, I've worked on getting my friends and family better prepared. My parents thought I was crazy, but the more I explained to them the threats, the more open they became about the idea. My first goal was to get them to have 72 hours of supplies in case of a tornado or hurricane. After that, it became a week in case of a terrorist attack, and then a month in case of something worse.

My time in the Middle East and South America gives me a unique perspective on preparedness, because my wheelhouse is Intelligence and security. It's not enough to have stored supplies if we can't protect it. Many preppers' idea of security extends the length of a rifle barrel, but security is so much more than just having a few battle rifles.

Intelligence does many things for us as preppers. If we don't know the threats, then we can't defend against them. So through Intelligence, we learn about the threat and become more secure. Specifically, we learn about capabilities and limitations so that we can predict a realistic range of potential courses of action. If your community has a gang problem, or you expect criminality, then we need to start looking at where those problems will manifest themselves. We need to identify who these people are, and what they'll likely do during a SHTF scenario.

I'm glad to be on board the Appalachian Messenger because the message of Intelligence is so applicable to our communities. Intelligence saves lives; I know this firsthand. And it's through aggressive Intelligence collection and analysis that we can save the lives of our families and community members.

Samuel Culper is the executive editor at Forward Observer Magazine (readfomag.com), a print and digital publication written by former Intelligence and Special Operations soldiers. Sam blogs about Intelligence and warfare at guerrillamerica.com.

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Organizing Against Tyranny (continued from page 1)

is right in front of our faces and always has been: to break away from the corrupt mainstream system, to remove our dependency, to provide our own necessities and, thus, to remove our consent. Every liberty proponent in America should be able to pursue this goal *without* prompting from any centralized leadership, and it encompasses every aspect of the fight against tyranny. Make your family self-sufficient and secure without aid of government. Make your neighborhood self-sufficient and secure. Make your town or county self-sufficient and secure. If the elites try to stop you, fight back and from a position on the moral high ground. If enough communities defend themselves the prospect of martial law or totalitarian control becomes systemically impossible, politically and strategically. I rarely run into liberty advocates who disagree with this plan, yet they do nothing and refuse to even make the attempt because they are *still* waiting around for someone to give them a plan. Stop waiting around for the next Gandhi or George Washington and do what you already know needs to be done. It is truly as simple as that.

Changing Our Idea Of Leadership

As stated earlier, you do not need a man on a white horse to ride in and save you from the terrifying idea of self-responsibility. If you are waiting for someone to come down off the mountain with magical stone tablets and lead you to the promised land, you are going to find yourself rather disappointed. Despite popular belief, men do not organize other men; only ideas given focus organize men. Men rally around that which they love or that which they hate. Leadership is often incidental, or sadly, manipulative.

So, by extension, we can conclude that to develop a strong organization, the ideal must be honest and honorable, the plan must be decentralized and natural for individuals to implement, and those who coordinate the organizational efforts must do so with the realization that they are stewards of the principles of that movement and that those principles are more important than their glory. If activists plan to become followers of anything, it should be solid principles.

Read the remainder of this article on-line at:

<http://www.alt-market.com/articles/2495-organizing-against-tyranny>

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COMING IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:

- Publius Huldah** - Thoughts on an Article V Convention
- Hogwarts** - Rapid Trauma Assessment—Part 1
- Robert Gore** - Crisis Report—Part 1