

THE NEW AMERICAN TEA PARTY by Jim Bice

On the evening of December 16, 1773, a group of American colonists who called themselves "The Sons of Liberty" furtively boarded the ship "Dartmouth", which was docked in Boston harbor with a load of East India Company tea. Working through the night, the colonists dumped over 45 tons of tea into the waters of the harbor as a protest against the Tea Act passed by the British government. The event, which came to be known as "The Boston Tea Party," was one of the seminal events of the American Revolution and remains one of the most iconic moments in all of U.S. history.

In 2009, the iconic status of that event was referenced in the name of the New American Tea Party, described as a "coalition of citizens and organizations concerned about the recent trend of fiscal recklessness in government", who have begun coordinating events around the U.S. with the announced goal of protesting the largesse in federal spending. The idea of an American tea party, as illustrated by these protests, seems to have arisen spontaneously, sparked by CNBC financial correspondent Rick Santelli's TV broadcast, but spread over the Internet and on conservative talk radio. This action seeks to take up the "Tea Party" spirit by encouraging Americans to mail tea bags to the White House on April 1, 2009 (in order to arrive by April 15th, the day on which income tax filings are due) as a form of symbolic protest against "the way Washington is handling our taxes."

Rallies protesting not only the Obama stimulus package but also further plans to spend money to bail out

everyone from failing mortgage holders to automobile companies have already take place in Seattle; Denver; Mesa, Arizona and in Overland Park, Kansas. More New American Tea Parties are planned for Washington DC, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Fort Worth, and Jackson, Mississippi this Friday (March 27). Additional tea party protests are planned for Kansas City, Orlando, Vancouver, Washington, Atlanta, Omaha, Fayetteville, Dallas, and Los Angeles.

Revolution can begin slowly with a steady simmering of discontent that can finally erupt into massive social unrest and protest filled riots that tear at the very fabric of a country. Or it can begin with dissatisfied citizens coming together in civil protest using a country's political apparatus to bring about their own "revolution" of ideas.

There are many Americans right now, who believe that last year's 2008 election of Barack Obama was just such a revolution. Many of these Americans are seeking a positive change, a change by their duly elected representatives that will alter the fabric of our country and its government, but will not rip it apart. With Democratic party leadership, this new movement seeks to shift the balance of power and realign political thought and policy. Reviewing the Democratic Party Platform, it becomes apparent exactly what the Obama administration and its Democratic leaders believe should be the future of America. Health care reform, new green or alternative energy policies, better oversight and regulation of financial institutions, affordable college tuitions for more

American youth, improving the public school system, and investment in mass transit projects are among their major goals.

These are worthy goals if they are accomplished through open exchange of ideas and consideration of all points of view. The Obama Administration, however, along with the Democrat controlled Congress and Senate, under the leadership of Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid, respectively, have forged ahead without acknowledgment of opposing views or alternative ideas.

The Democrats wrote and forced through a \$787 billion "stimulus package" that no one even read before voting on it and the President didn't read before signing it. This is, indeed, taxation without representation!

The proposed \$3.8 trillion budget package was created entirely by Democrats without the normal discussion and debate associated with such massive spending. The white House even ignored a Republican budget proposal and then claimed that the Republicans refused to participate in the process.

Washington has forgotten they work for us. We don't work for them. Throwing good money after bad is NOT the answer. Neither are the hearings where Congress rakes CEO's over the coals while they, themselves, were the main cause of the sub-prime mortgage meltdown. What of the bailed out companies having lavish vacations and retreats on taxpayer dollars, being told it is everyone's responsibility to rescue people that, knowingly, bought more house than they could afford and be-

ing made to feel it our patriotic duty to pay MORE taxes? Most of us are responsible citizens. We pay our taxes. We live on a budget and don't ask someone else to carry the burden for poor decisions we may make. Many of us emailed our congressmen and senators asking them to NOT vote for the stimulus package as it was written without reading it first. No one listened. They voted for it, pork and all.

The very idea of the growing "tea party" phenomenon must be disconcerting to the myth-makers in the mainstream media and the Obama Administration. According to them, when people are agitating, they're supposed to be upset about social inequality and corporate greed. The very notion that they'd be protesting the ever-increasing size of the state upsets the worldview of these would-be opinion-makers.

No wonder big media is paying scant attention to the "tea party" protests. So far the Administration seems only to be "increasingly concerned" about populist backlash against banks and Wall Street, worried that anger at financial institutions could also end up being directed at Congress and the White House and could complicate the president's agenda.

If they'd been paying attention to the people outside the Washington Beltway, they'd realize that there already is a populist backlash directed against Congress and the White House - and not just for the bailouts of banks and Wall Street. People are upset at the rapid increase in the size of the federal government that the president is proposing. They're concerned about the government "take over" of many of the institutions that drive the American economy. And they're concerned about the massive power grab that seems to be the objective of this administration and this congress.

At the same time, this grassroots rebellion is brewing, we get a real sense of what the president's "community organizing" really means. As opposed to these tea parties, his is a top-down affair, with his new national organization, "Organizing for America", directing local groups to agitate for his agenda.

The media was fascinated by a movement built around a man, yet seems much less interested in a movement, like the American Revolution, built on an idea.

The New American Tea Party is a grass roots organization that protests the broader political implications of a government that has grown too large, too powerful and too intrusive.

On April 1st the New American Tea Party is asking for every tax payer who is fed up with so called stimulus packages and bailouts to losing companies and their C.E.O.s to send a message of revolt that we have had enough. This is not about Democrat or Republican. It's about our government spending away ours and our children's hard earned tax dollars for their own amusement and pet projects. We have been lied to enough! So on April 1st they ask you to please send 1 tea bag (you need not include a note) to: President Barak Obama at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington D.C. 20500.

Of course, everyone is free to choose whether or not to participate in symbolic protests, so such actions don't have much in the way of verifiable "true" or "false" aspects. With that in mind, here are a few suggestions for those inclined to participate:

- * Given the more stringent security procedures for mail handling enacted after 9/11, there are no guarantees envelopes containing mailed teabags will get through to the White House without being discarded or significantly delayed.

- * Envelopes that cannot be run through USPS sorting machines are subject to an additional 20¢ postage surcharge.

- * Senders might wish to include explanatory notes with their envelopes stating the desired outcome, such as: "I enclose this teabag as a protest against the passage of any further economic stimulus packages that provide money to businesses without provisions for strict transparency and accountability in how that money is to be spent" or "I enclose this teabag as a protest against the passage of any further economic stimulus packages that include earmarks."

Be sure that any messages sent with the tea bags NOT be aggressive or threatening. BE NICE! The object of this exercise is merely to let the President and Congress know that there are people who disagree with what they are now doing. If enough people participate, the politicians will surely listen.

STIMULUS PLAN FOR TIRES

This plan is home-grown. We sell YOU tires for LESS!



As Low As \$182.00
(LT235/75R15)

- Krawler-inspired tread design with great looks and off road performance
- More flex zones across tread improves off-road traction
- Large sidewall lugs improve traction in soft soil conditions



As Low As \$156.00
(LT235/75R15)

GT Brand Radial Tires for your car or truck.

PASSENGER CAR TIRES



CHAMPRO 60
As Low As \$61.00
(185/60R14)

- High tread rigidity
- Low rolling resistance
- Double center ribs



SAVERIO HT PLUS
As Low As \$116.00
(P235/75R15)

- Modern "S" shape tread pattern design
- Four circumferential grooves with open shoulder slots
- Special tread compound and wide shoulder slots

LIGHT TRUCK TIRES



ADVENTURO A/T
As Low As \$132.00
(LT235/75R15)

- Robust design with multiple sipes shoulder to shoulder
- Wide tread pattern and deep solid blocks and lugs
- Open shoulders with wide sills



ADVENTURO M/T
As Low As \$136.00
(LT235/75R15)

- Aggressive pattern design
- High void ratio and pyramidal shaped tread elements
- Special casing profile and solid shoulder pattern
- Reinforced casing construction



No Interest For 6 Months

\$500 Minimum Purchase Required. Minimum Payments Required.

Lube, Oil, & Filter \$22.95 reg. \$28.95

- Up to 5 quarts 10W30 motor oil
- Install oil filter
- Most cars & light trucks
- 35-point vehicle inspection

APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED

Coupon expires 3-31-09

- **FREE** Tire Rotation
- **FREE** Flat Repair
- **FREE** Mounting
- **FREE** Tire Re-Balance

- **FREE** Tire Inspection
- **FREE** Air Check
- Tire Replacement*

* Limited Warranty. Ask for details



FARWEST TIRE FACTORY

DON'T SETTLE FOR LES!

267-2173

1595 N. BAYSHORE DR., COOS BAY



LIVE MUSIC

Friday & Saturday Nights

Kitchen Always Open

WANDA'S

267-6293

740 Coos Bay Blvd. • Coos Bay



NOAH'S ARK FISH-N-PETS

FOR ALL YOUR PBT NEEDS
1760 Virginia Ave.
North Bend, Oregon 541-756-PETS

- *Healthy Animals
- *Knowledgeable Staff
- *Clean, Neat, Spacious
- *Specializing In Fresh & Salt Water Fish And Reptiles
- *Licensed By USDA For Exotic Animals

FRESHWATER FISH - BUY ONE - GET ONE FREE

When You Mention This Ad!

CONYERS: Jenday Conyers, Sun Conyers, Greencheek Conyers, Blue Head Conyers



Regularly \$299.00 Each

Your Choice - Now ONLY \$220.00 Each!

Cat Beds & Bird Cages 20% Off!

20% OFF All Reptiles*

*Good through 3-31-09 KN



44TH ANNUAL PANCAKE FEED

See inside for details

TUESDAYS:

Buy 2 Fresh Water Fish
Get One FREE!

