Grassroots American Values
A Firelands Area Conservative Action Group
http://www.plan2succeed.org/grassroots

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About this Newsletter
National news often distracts us from local events. This Newsletter is intended for Conservatives in the Firelands area that want to be informed and involved. You have our permission to send it to your Conservative friends, either by snail mail or E-mail.

THANK THE TROOPS: http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/

WHAT YOU WON’T FIND IN OUR LIBRARIES
Why do Liberal books outnumber Conservatives on a ratio of 2/1?

In the play The Vagina Monologues, the word vagina is pronounced 136 times. It is described as “a play about violence against women.” Among other stories, it romanticizes the sexual encounter where an older woman gets a female minor drunk. One monologue reads that "Christians don't have vaginas." The few males mentioned are depicted in a very negative light. Hillary Clinton, Gloria Steinmen (wrote a Foreword of the book) and Suzan Sarandon (performed in the play) are big fans of Eve Ensler. In most of our Universities now Valentine's Day has been substituted by V-Day (1) —guess what that V stands for? The CLEVNET (2) has 5 videotisks and 2 DVD’s (catalogued as Popular), 6 sound disks, and 17 book copies of The Vagina Monologues available.

DISCLAIMER: This is not a Politically Correct organization. We do not exist to make people feel comfortable. So, feel free to feel uncomfortable!
How uneven are things? The Sandusky Library has 15 copies of Bill Clinton’s *My Life*, 5 copies of Joseph Wilson’s *The Politics of Truth*, and 7 copies of Michael Moore’s *Fahrenheit 9/11*. There are no copies of *A Deficit of Decency* (Zel Miller), *Right Turns* (Michael Medved), or *Taking Heat* (Ari Fleischer). There are fourteen Liberal-leaning magazines, but only four Conservative.

In my meeting with the Director and Assistant Director of the Library (see June issue) I left a list with suggestions of books/videos to be purchased, in order to narrow the gap between Conservative and Liberal items. Recently the Library Director let me know that she “will determine, which, if any [books] will be added to the collection.” The only one ordered so far (because their “copies were missing”) was Solzhenitsyn’s *The Gulag Archipelago* (written in 1973, I believe).

Below is a partial list –more to come in the next editions. (Request the complete list to grassroots@buckeye-express.com). At the end of this newsletter you will find a printable copy of the Library’s Patron Book Order Request card (more of these in the Reader’s Advisory Desk of the Library). Be sure to specify that this is a PURCHASE request. Books/magazines requests should be addressed to Julie Brooks (jbrooks@sandusky.lib.oh.us), videos, movies and documentaries, to Terri Estel (testel@sandusky.lib.oh.us). There are too many books –the Library is missing great, educative ones! So roll up your sleeves and start working!

- The Truth about Hillary, Edward Klein
- Atomic Iran, Jerome R. Corsi
- Their Lives: The Women Targeted by the Clinton Machine, Candice E. Jackson
- Disabling America, Greg Perry (he is a disabled person)
- Abu Ghraib, Michael Cannon, Jr.
- The Essential Ronald Reagan, Lee Edwards
- The Real Jimmy Carter, Steven F. Hayward
- Shadow War, Richard Miniter
- Flying Blind, Michelle Malkin
- Unfounded Loyalty: An In-Depth Look into The Love Affair Between Blacks and Democrats, Wayne Perryman
- They Think you’re Stupid: Why Democrats Lost Your Vote and What Republicans Must Do to Keep It, Herman Cain
- Red Star Over Hollywood: The Film Colony’s Long Romance With The Left, Ronald Radosh
- University Of Destruction Your Game Plan For Spiritual Victory On Campus, David Wheaton
- The China Threat: How the People’s Republic Targets America, Bill Gertz
- Home Invasion: Protecting Your Family in a Culture that's Gone Stark Raving Mad, Rebecca Hagelin
- A Patriot’s History of the United States: From Columbus's Great Discovery to the War on Terror, Larry Schweikart, Michael Patrick Allen
- Hearts Touched by Fire: My 500 Most Inspirational Quotations, Elizabeth Dole
- Voices from the front, edited by Frank Schaeffer
- Taking sex differences seriously, Steven E. Rhoads
- States’ rights and the union, Forrest McDonald
- Ain't no rag, Charlie Daniels
- Infiltration: how Muslim spies and subversives have penetrated Washington, Paul Sperry
- American courage, edited by Herbert W. Warden
- The myth of Islamic tolerance, edited by Robert Spencer
- The War on Mel Gibson: the Media versus The Passion, Gary North
- Consumer's guide to a brave new world, Wesley J. Smith
- Hillary's secret war: the Clinton conspiracy to muzzle Internet journalists, Richard Poe
- The People v. Harvard Law: how America's oldest law school turned its back on free speech, Andrew Peyton Thomas
- Vile France: cheese, wine, fear and envy, Denis Boyles
- The End of Time, David Horowitz
- The Faith of George W. Bush, Stephen Mansfield
- China: the gathering threat, Constantine C. Menges
- A Deficit of Decency, Zell Miller
- The People vs. Harvard Law: how America's oldest law school turned its back on free speech, Andrew Peyton Thomas
- War Stories II, Oliver North
- A Country I Do Not Recognize: The Legal Assault on American Values, Robert H. Bork
- Coercing Virtue: The Worldwide Rule of Judges, Robert H. Bork
- The French Betrayal of America, Kenneth R. Timmerman
- Preachers of Hate: Islam and the War on America, Kenneth R. Timmerman
- They Just Don't Get It, David Hunt
- Right Turns, Michael Medved
- The Vast Leftwing Conspiracy, Byron York
- The Cube and the Cathedral: Europe, America, and Politics without God, George Weigel
- The Road to Serfdom, F. A. Hayek (recipient of a Nobel Prize in Economics)
- Capitalism and Freedom (Fortieth Anniversary Edition), Milton Friedman
- Back in action: an American soldier's story of courage, faith, and fortitude, David Rozelle
- South Park conservatives: the revolt against liberal media bias, Brian C. Anderson
- One nation under therapy: how the helping culture is eroding self-reliance, Christina Hoff Sommers and Sally Satel
- Taking heat: the president, the press, and my years in the White House, Ari Fleischer
- The Limits of International Law, Jack Landman Goldsmith
- The Military we Need, Thomas Donnelly
- Fidel: Hollywood's Favorite Dictator, Humberto Fontova
- Welcome to the Ivory Tower of Babel: confessions of a conservative college professor, Mike S. Adams
- Dawn over Baghdad: how the U.S. military is using bullets and ballots to remake Iraq, Karl Zinsmeister
- Boots on the ground: a month with the 82nd Airborne in the battle for Iraq, Karl Zinsmeister

(1) http://www.vday.org/contents/vcampaigns/college

(2) CLEVNET Consortium of Public Libraries: http://www.cpl.org/clevnet.asp

(3) http://www.sandusky.lib.oh.us/
We the People

There is a belief by many in this country that the phrase “separation of church and state” exists in our Constitution. This idea has grown to include the separation of God and state or what I will refer to as God and society. The truth is that there is no statement in the Constitution that includes these words and the wider meaning that they bring. The First Amendment specifically states that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. The separation phrase comes only from a letter Thomas Jefferson sent to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut. Jefferson wrote: I contemplate with solemn reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should "make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.

Comparing the two phrases brings a more concise understanding to the debate. The Constitution requires that government makes no law concerning the establishment of religion. Does this amendment call for the removal of God and religious standards from government and society in general? This is what the argument has grown into. If you are on the side of God’s removal from society, the separation of church and state phrase and its implied meaning brings greater weight to your argument. This is obviously why it is used in lieu of the real wording. Then, we are asked to believe that just mentioning God is an establishment of religion as argued by the atheists.

The debate generally comes down to questioning the intentions of our forefathers. Many argue that they were Christians and being so, their intentions are obvious.

The fact is that in the many writings by the founders of our country, God, morality, Gods blessings, and a society dependant upon God is mentioned hundreds of times. Jesus was mentioned only a few. George and Martha Washington attended church, but George never took communion. Martha attended regularly requiring the family carriage to return to get her following communion. George was opened to all religions and denominations and was said to have attended Quaker, German Reformed, and Roman Catholic services. John, Abigail, and John Quincy Adams were of the Unitarian faith. In one of many letters to her son, Abigail wrote: “I acknowledge myself to be a Unitarian --- believing that the Father alone is the Supreme God, and that Jesus Christ, derived his Being and all his powers and honors from his Father.” It would be difficult to reach a conclusion as to any of them being Christians in the strict sense, however, there is every indication that they were a God fearing, moral, religious people.

There is also much evidence in the personal writings and speeches that a majority of the forefathers meant for our government to be based on God’s morality and commandments. John Adams stated in a speech in Defense of the American Constitutions, 1787:
The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If 'Thou shalt not covet' and 'Thou shalt not steal' were not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society before it can be civilized or made free.

He also wrote to Zabdiel Adams on June 21, 1776, "Statesmen, my dear sir, may plan and speculate for liberty, but it is religion and morality alone, which can establish the principles upon which freedom can securely stand. The only foundation of a free Constitution is pure Virtue, and if this cannot be inspired into our People, in a great Measure, than they have it now. They may change their Rulers, and the forms of Government, but they will not obtain a lasting Liberty."

You can find many other quotes that support this way of thinking. Thomas Jefferson was the only one that I found to be almost confused about his beliefs regarding God and religion. Many of his statements are actually contradictory in nature. Many that favor the removal of God from society argue that no one can use these statements and ideas as a basis for determining the intention of any the founding fathers. It's amusing that the same group uses Thomas Jefferson’s statement about separation of church and state as the basis for their entire argument. How can they determine his intentions using the same?

For this reason, I place a greater importance on the statements or speeches made directly within the government, rather than thoughts contained in their letters to friends, acquaintances, or groups. If the founding fathers truly intended to keep God and his commandments separated from government, any talk related to God within government would have ended with the First Amendment. It didn’t. Just reading George Washington’s inaugural address brings a pretty clear indication of exactly the opposite. Here are some excerpts from that address:

. . . it would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official act my fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes, and may enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute with success the functions allotted to his charge. In tendering this homage to the Great Author of every public and private good, I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own, nor those of my fellow-citizens at large less than either. No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency; . . .

. . . since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained; . . .

. . . but not without resorting once more to the benign Parent of the Human Race in humble supplication that, since He has been pleased to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquility, and dispositions for deciding with unparalleled unanimity on a form of government for the security of their union and the advancement of their happiness, so His divine blessing may be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations, and the wise measures on which the success of this Government must depend.
How could anyone read this and associate a separation of God and government? It clearly states that the success of our government depends on God’s wisdom! I find even more evidence in Washington’s plea for a national day of Thanksgiving to congress in 1789. As we all learn in grade school, Thanksgiving is about the pilgrims, Indians, and giving thanks for the harvest. Although the early idea of Thanksgiving may be based on that concept, Washington clearly makes it a day that is reserved for thanksgiving to God. Here is the transcript of that proclamation:

City of New York, October 3, 1789.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor, and Whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee* requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanks-giving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

* The Senate concurred in the House resolve to this effect, September 26.

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th. day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be. That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks, for his kind care and protection of the People of this country previous to their becoming a Nation, for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enable to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have show kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best. (A joint congressional resolution officially set the date as the fourth Thursday in November in 1941)

This was the first national Thanksgiving Day proclamation under the Constitution. Amazing! Our government actually put into law a holiday meant to worship and give thanks to GOD, not pilgrims, Indians, or the harvest. Is this not a clear violation of the government establishing a religion? Only if you misinterpret the intentions of the founding fathers.

I think these two examples bring clarity to what our country, people, and government used to stand for. The First Amendment was actually meant to keep any of the churches, religions or
denominations that existed in the early United States from becoming or declared the national religion. The dominance of the early Church of England may actually be a basis for this thinking. Our founding fathers belonged to many different denominations. Whether they were Christians in the strict sense is unimportant. They created a government based on Gods commandments, his morality, and Christian principles.

These principles are the base for all this country stands for including the acceptance of different ideas and religions. If we ever remove God from our society, his tolerance would most certainly be replaced with man’s intolerance.

“We the people” need to embrace and protect our heritage by keeping God at the forefront of our country.

"If we ever forget that we’re one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under." Ronald Reagan

How You Can Help

- Support Grassroots American Values
- Explain to your friends that you support Libraries, but they have to start cutting expenses, lowering costs, making intelligent decisions. They do not need luxurious palaces to function, and besides, the Internet will soon make them obsolete!
- Call, phone, pay a visit to your local librarian and let him or her know your position.
- Write, call, fax, and email your local library and CLEVNET with suggestions for good conservative books and videos. They consider patrons’ suggestions when making purchases.
- Check out conservative videos/books as frequently as you can: that will send a message to Librarians that, contrary to what they may believe, these items are of interest to patrons.
- Set your local newspapers right! Send letters to the Editor complaining when they distort or do not report the news (for example, the Sandusky Register did not report President Bush’s June 28th speech).

Cool Blogs & Links

- [http://www.operationkeepssake.com/](http://www.operationkeepssake.com/) Tell your teen to just say “No!” to sex
- [http://faculty.ncwc.edu/Jchristensen/](http://faculty.ncwc.edu/Jchristensen/) Check what our kids are being taught!
- [http://www.newsmag.com/](http://www.newsmag.com/) Newsmag Magazine had our Ken Blackwell in its June/05 cover!
- [http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/](http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/) Our man in the White House?
- [http://www.ci.huron.oh.us/index2.htm](http://www.ci.huron.oh.us/index2.htm) City of Huron.
- [http://www.erie-county-ohio.net/officials.htm](http://www.erie-county-ohio.net/officials.htm) Know thy County Official!
- [http://www.ohiogop.org/index.aspx](http://www.ohiogop.org/index.aspx) OH Republican Party
- [http://soapbox.townhall.com/](http://soapbox.townhall.com/) Townhall’s blog!

Reporters & Writers Needed

We need your help. If you are interested in volunteering to attend and report on City, Township, County, School Board, and/or any other public meetings, we would like to hear...
from you. We are not looking for professional writers or journalists, but like-minded Conservatives who would like to contribute to our newsletter. We are looking for volunteers to write 500 word editorial comments on local governmental activities. Writers can use a pen name if they do not want their real names disclosed. If interested, please respond to grassroots@buckeye-express.com.

Our Mission Statement

Grassroots American Values exists to promote and defend the right to life, marriage, traditional family values, small government within the Constitutional boundaries of the Founders, personal responsibility, and American sovereignty. Our Mission Statement, while lofty in scope, is intended to provide guidance for our group's local activities. National news coverage too often focuses our attention on National events. We too often ignore the actions of our local politicians and career bureaucrats. We formed this organization to inform you, solicit your opinions, and invite your assistance in pursuit of the above-mentioned principals in our hometowns.

Our Goals

- Recruit and enlist members
- Seek out and enlist like-minded volunteer committee members, reporters, and contributors
- Monitor and report local governmental activities to the membership
- Find consensus among members and contributors
- Formulate action plans
- Organize activities, including lobbying activities

These are ambitious goals with a broad agenda; however, with your help we believe they are attainable. We welcome your comments and suggestions: grassroots@buckeye-express.com.