

The America First Leader

Fighting for Faith, Freedom, and the Constitution!

November 2002

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\$1.00

Founding Convention a United Success

by Romelle Winters

On August 8th, 9th, and 10th, a historic event took place at the Renaissance Orlando-Airport Hotel: the America First Party held its Founding Convention. In a spirit of unity and a shared mission to rip control of our nation from a bloated and self-serving aristocracy and return it to the people, delegates from 19 states established a party structure and adopted a principled platform. As the delegates completed their work one day ahead of schedule, notice was served: This is a new political force in America.

As the delegates arrived, friends, both new and old, cheerfully welcomed each other. It was clear that we were serious about the purpose for the meeting. Conversations seldom wandered away from the job that was facing delegates. The



AFP Chairman Dan Charles celebrates with Tennessee State House candidate James Edwards (left) and Florida City Council candidate Cameron Bates (right).

focus of most of the discussions was how best to form a viable party and avoid the traps of so many other movements. It was obvious that all had come prepared to work.

Thursday morning, the first in-person meeting of the America First National Committee ("AFNC") began with the pledge of allegiance, an invocation, and a welcoming address by Dan Charles. Once the National Committee members from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were recognized, the work began. The Rules Committee proposed a Constitution and several sets of rules that are designed to provide a flexible yet stable party structure that gets things done. All were adopted unanimously.

The National Committee then

credentialed the delegates to the National Convention. After hearing reports from the interim officers and committee chairs who had served in a temporary capacity since the founding of the party in April, it set about electing the members of the Operating Committee--the officers and chairs of the seven standing committees.

On Friday, the General Session of the Founding Convention opened with several welcoming speeches and a ceremony honoring the affiliated state parties by unfurling the flags of those states to form the convention backdrop. With many more states working toward affiliation, it is expected that by the next convention in July of 2003, all states

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Dan Charles, AFP
Chairman

Mission Statement

We, the members of the America First Party, pledge ourselves to restore and revitalize the great American Experiment for the benefit of our nation and all its people.

We commit ourselves to elect honest people to public office who adhere to principles based on the wisdom of the Founders and expressed in the United States Constitution and our party platform.

We hold to the steadfast beliefs that the means to revitalizing our nation is to revitalize our people and the means to restore our nation is to restore just and Constitutional governance. To this end, we obligate our party:

- To preserve and protect our people and our sovereignty
- To promote economic growth and independence
- To encourage the traditional values of faith, family, and responsibility
- To ensure equality before the law in protecting those rights granted by the Creator
- To clean up our corrupted political system

Find out more about the
America First Party at
www.americafirstparty.org

Who Are We? Why Are We Here?

by Dan Charles

Our beloved nation is in big trouble. When you look around, it is plain to see. It was not supposed to be this way. But, our problems can be solved.

Over the past 100 years, we have seen our nation transformed from a Constitutional Republic to a democratic tyranny. We see politicians bending to special interests and taxing us to buy votes. We see our jobs and families destroyed to feed global corporations and the World Trade Organization. We see those rights, granted not by man, but by our Creator, being attacked and undermined by an overreaching federal government. We see the emergence of a global government, elected by nobody, that seeks to usurp our Constitution and turn our sons and daughters into cannon fodder for the New World Order.

We are building this party to take this country back.

As this has happened, the Democrat and Republican parties have merged, both throwing off all semblance of principles and any loyalty to the Constitution or the American people.

These same politicians have continuously attacked our shared values. They have given us an education system that brainwashes our children; a culture handed to us by elites built on beer, bread, and circuses; and an ethic that values self-esteem over self-reliance, and seeks to diminish that which is held dear in traditional American culture -- life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

In short, both the Democrats and the Republicans, who have controlled this country for the past century, either do not care or do not know what is the right thing to do. They have forgotten how to do what is best for America and all the American people. Instead, they prostitute themselves among various special interests, and being reelected has become their

top priority.

Over the years, various third parties have arisen to challenge this two-headed beast. Some have had good ideas, and some have not. But in the end they have failed, captured by either a cult of personality, an ideology that appeals to a very narrow segment of the American people, or internal conflicts that distract from the goal.

In April 2002, after months of careful planning, the America First Party was formed, bringing together activists and grassroots leaders from across the country. It was understood that we needed to do three things.

First, we needed to understand our mission: to elect candidates who will adhere to a set of principles based on the wisdom of our nation's Founders. We are not a club.

To that end, we adopted the mission statement that appears on this page. We also adopted a Statement of Principles, which appears on the next page, and a platform based on those principles at our founding convention. Together, these documents clearly define what it means to put America First.

Second, we needed to hit the ground running. We started in 8 states and have grown rapidly, finding quality leaders, party members, and candidates in more than 30 states in just a few short months.

Third, we needed to make it clear that we are building this party to take this country back. To do that we must unify the tens of millions of folks who agree with us, but are disenfranchised or trapped in ineffective or corrupt political parties. We must also reactivate those who have given up on our system.

If we are going to succeed, we need your help. Please join us. Together we can take our country back. Together we can put America First!

Dan Charles
National Chairman

Statement of Principles

Preserve and Protect Our People and Our Sovereignty

- Support a military whose mission is to protect our nation, not police the world
- Strengthen our borders and promote rational immigration policies
- Protect English as our common language
- Seek friendship with all nations, but avoid entangling alliances
- Work to maintain our nation's sovereignty and oppose all attempts to make our nation subservient to the precursors of global government
- Apply American values to our foreign policy

Promote Economic Growth and Independence

- Restore accountability and Constitutionality to budgets and taxes
- Promote tax policies that adhere to the Constitution, enhance individual freedom, encourage savings and investment, and promote the family
- Eliminate unconstitutional portions of the federal government
- Rebuild our manufacturing base and protect American workers
- Protect our right to fair trade and oppose free trade, exit NAFTA and the WTO
- Help American businesses stay in America
- Promote a Buy American policy
- End taxpayer bailouts of corporations and foreign governments
- Implement a self-sufficient energy policy

Encourage the Traditional Values of Faith, Family, and Responsibility

- Protect and recognize the sanctity of all human life
- Defend the traditional family unit based on one man and one woman
- Promote the primacy of parents in the lives and education of their children
- Respect the free exercise of religion

- Recognize the Judeo-Christian heritage of our shared values

Ensure Equality Before the Law in Protecting Those Rights Granted by the Creator

- Defend the self-evident truth "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"
- Preserve and protect all of the Bill of Rights
- Oppose all quota systems. Merit and behavior must prevail
- End judicial tyranny and restore balance to our political system
- Restore property rights and restrict government land confiscation

Clean Up Our Corrupted Political System

- Remove the primary source of corruption by sharply reducing the size and scope of the federal government to its limited powers under the Constitution, and return control over all other matters to the states
- Require that all political donations be promptly disclosed and come from voters
- Enforce fair, uniform standards for ballot and debate access to give voters more choice
- Implement clean election practices-restore paper ballots
- Reform the lobbying system so that the only organizations permitted to lobby are those organizations whose money is acquired strictly from voter donations. Reasonable individual voter donation amount limits must be established
- End lavish Congressional pensions-put them on Social Security
- Ban taxpayer funded Congressional campaign mailings
- Restore the rights of states in the manner of choosing Senators and Representatives and promote the citizen legislator

The Statement of Principles of the America First Party was adopted at the first meeting of the National Committee on April 20, 2002.

The Principles provide an outline for the party's Platform, which contains a section for each of the Principles headings. Each Platform section then expands upon that particular set of principles.

The Statement of Principles is the core statement of beliefs of the America First Party. As such, a two-thirds vote of the National Committee is required to adopt any change to the Principles.

The Party Constitution binds both the National Committee and the National Convention to adopt a platform consistent with the Principles.

All party leaders are required to support and advance the Principles as a condition of holding a position of trust within the America First Party.

Contact the America First Party at (866) SOS-USA1 (toll-free)

Partybuilding: What Can YOU Do?

by J.D. Jones & Gene Lovell

The growth of the America First Party is nothing short of miraculous. Starting out with 8 state party organizations on April 15, 2002, within only 4 months, the number of state party organizations expanded to 19 by the time of the Founding National Convention on August 8, 2002, with organizing committees in 9 other states.

As of November 1, 2002 the party has expanded to 23 state party organizations and 14 states with organizing committees.

With the right message at the right time in our Nation's history, the America First Party is attracting unprecedented numbers of people from all walks of life from all across the Nation. Our goal of having state party organizations in all 50 states by our next National Convention in July, 2003 is assured.

Even with the historic growth that we have experienced, some say that our efforts can have no significant impact because the forces against us are so great.

These naysayers are simply not informed. History has proven repeatedly that "the few" are always responsible for initiating great changes. As an example, only a handful of committed people initiated the changes that resulted in the founding of this great country.

"The America First Party is attracting unprecedented numbers of people from all walks of life..."

We can climb this mountain together and make a difference by electing candidates that believe in the principles that made this country great, and who are not willing to compromise on those principles. To elect these candidates, we must first build the America First Party in your state by adding members like yourself who love their country enough to want to do something to save it. After becoming a member, volunteer (we are grassroots and do not have paid positions) to do whatever

you can. We need candidates, district and county party leaders, committee members, national convention delegates, etc. We also need people to contact their elected representatives on issues and to bring in additional members. Every effort, large or small, is important and is required if we are to be successful.



At the Founding Convention, lifelong friendships were made, and old friendships renewed. Above, Florida delegate Jim McConnell (right) holds forth on some important political point, while Roger Simmermaker (Florida, left) and James Edwards (Tennessee, center) listen.

Can you make a difference? The answer is emphatically, YES! Should you? YES! There is great personal satisfaction when you commit yourself to working for that which is noble and just, rather than meandering through life complaining while others decide your fate. Freedom is truly not free. It must be earned.

How much time does it take? Not as much as you may think. As an example, the duties of the typical state party treasurer only require 1 or 2 hours per month.

How much talent does it take? It does not require any talent -- just a desire to make a difference. We have found that when good people come together for a good cause, good things always result and things get done.

Don't wait. Now is the time to take action. Contact the America First Party in your state. Join us in this historic endeavor to take back our country and restore sanity to local, state and national governments. Do it for yourself. Do it for the future generations, your children and grandchildren.



J. D. Jones, Party Building Chairman



O. Gene Lovell
AFP Vice-chairman

State Party Affiliations:

April 15, 2002

Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Tennessee

June 1, 2002

Texas

June 26, 2002

Connecticut

July 2, 2002

Florida, Missouri

July 30, 2002

Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio

August 4, 2002

Michigan, Virginia

August 8, 2002

Massachusetts

August 25, 2002

Minnesota, Oregon, Pennsylvania

September 28, 2002

California

Find out more about the America First Party at

www.americafirstparty.org

Where Do We Go From Here?

by Dan Charles

It has been said that it is foolish to do the same thing over and over again and hope for a different result, but to expect a different result is a sign of insanity.

Yet that is what we do every November. We participate in elections, or at least some ever shrinking percentage of us do, and we expect the result will be different. We reelect 98% of congressional incumbents every chance we get. In that rare year (like 1994) where we as a people are so angry we "shake things up" by "throwing the bums out," we simply exchange one set of bums for another.

While we may occasionally exchange a Republican for a Democrat or vice versa, the next time we go to the polls, the issues framing the candidates are the same set of unfulfilled promises from the last election. Lower taxes, better schools, prescription drugs, drug war, abortion, lost jobs, getting the government off our backs, and the list goes on.

This time, we have the opportunity to save our country using ballots instead of bullets. It will not be easy, but it can be done.

The America First Party was formed to stop the insanity. Our nation cannot truly change for the better, and what we hold dear cannot be preserved, unless we as a people reject the proposition that voting repeatedly for these self-interested charlatans will eventually lead to a change.

We have set forth a set of principles. Everyday Americans, from all backgrounds, races, and creeds, drafted our Statement of Principles. They are based on the wisdom of the Founders, our Constitution, and our shared traditional American values. We intend to adhere to those principles and require our leadership and candidates to do so as well.

If we are to take back this country of ours, we must move forward together. More than 220 years ago, our nation was

forged by a revolution. It took time and required sacrifice, and the founders pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor, secure in their reliance upon Divine providence. It is time for one again.

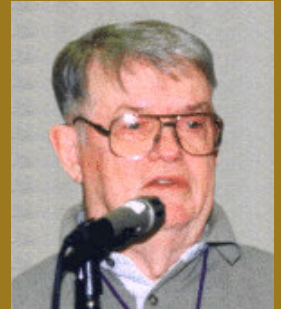
However this time, we have the opportunity to save our country using ballots instead of bullets. It will not be easy, but it can be done.

The first thing we must do is to let people know that we are here and that we intend to be a champion for the issue positions and values they hold dear. We are doing that with an aggressive media campaign that is garnering attention, but we need your help as well. We need you to reach out to your family, friends, workmates, and people you meet, and tell them about us, and ask them to join with us. It is easy if you listen, then respond, and let our principles sell themselves.

The second thing we must do is run, support, and elect quality candidates committed to our principles to all levels of government. To do this we must support our candidates individually with funds and hard work, and collectively by getting them on the ballot and building an infrastructure in support of their efforts.

The third thing we must do is to raise the money necessary to educate the public and support our collective efforts to elect principled public servants. As we have built this party over the past months, we have encouraged folks to donate to the candidates. But now we need you to donate what you can to the party. Participate in the "Friends of the America First Party" program with a 5 or 10 dollar a month donation. It is a small sacrifice, but there is power in numbers.

Together we can take control of our lives. Together we can build a party that will restore limited Constitutional government, protect our jobs, our sovereignty, and our most vulnerable. Join with us, and together we will restore, "a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity."



Ed Moses
Rules Cmte. Chairman



Roger Simmermaker
Platform Cmte. Chairman



John Verser
Ballot Access Chairman



James Edwards
Candidate Cmte. Chairman

**Contact the
America First Party at
(866) SOS-USA1 (toll-free)**

These fine patriots deserve our financial support. Please consider contacting each of these candidates to find out how you can help them win!

America First Party Candidate Contacts:

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**Find out more about the
America First Party at**

www.americafirstparty.org

Candidates Take Our Message to the Voters

In just four short months, the America First Party has attracted fine candidates to run for public offices in seven states. Below are short profiles of the first eight candidates to be endorsed by the America First Party organization in their states. Each candidate's picture is accompanied by three top issues the candidate hopes to address as high priority after victory at the polls this Fall.

America First Party of Colorado

Patricia Baker

*Central City At Large City
Alderman*

- Local Business Development, Expanded Road Access to I-70.
- Supports the "Southern Access" Project, while preserving our unique historic and environmental heritage
- Improved technology access to rural mountain communities, including local power generation and telephone/internet gateways



America First Party of Florida

Cameron Bates

*Port St. Lucie City Council
District 3*

- Public safety & service improvements must be made with fairness where they are needed most
- Port St. Lucie should not be in the business of running businesses
- Stop paying funds for consultants to find out what we want. Keep local decisions local!

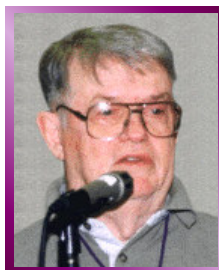


America First Party of Iowa

Edward Moses

Marion County Supervisor

- Lower taxes...Opposed to efforts to establish a local option sales tax
- Ensuring that townships don't exceed their "city limits" in order to increase their tax base
- Ballot access (free speech) for the America First Party



Dan Rogers

*State Representative
District 6*

- Smaller Government with Constitutional Restraints
- Second Amendment Rights
- Protection of Personal Privacy and Free Speech



America First Party of Mississippi

Jim Giles *(endorsed)*

*U.S. Representative
District 3*

- End all trade policies that are neither fair nor free
- Shore up borders and end immigration for 25 years for assimilation
- Stop the \$10 million a day the U.S. gives Israel



America First Organizing Committee of New Jersey

Ken Feduniewicz

*U.S. Representative
District 3*

- Stop Illegal Immigration, moratorium on legal immigration, station troops along our national border
- Restore the Constitution, especially to protect the unborn, free speech, the right to keep and bear arms, and the 10th Amendment
- Fair trade, honest money system, American Sovereignty



America First Party of Ohio

James A Traficant

*U.S. Representative
District 17*

- Buy American - Fair Trade NOT Free Trade
- Abolish the IRS
- Secure the Borders



America First Party of Tennessee

James Edwards

State House District 97

- Lowering taxes, No State Income Tax
- TennCare Reform (Weed out the corruption)
- Improving Schools (Return to local control)



Founding Convention a United Success

(Continued from Page 1)

will be represented.

The next order of business was the adoption of the platform. The diligent work done by the platform committee was obvious as delegates reviewed each of the five component parts, which correspond to the five sections of the AFP Statement of Principles. Lively and informed discussions on various planks gave those in attendance a variety of perspectives on major issues facing the country.

Part I was titled "Preserve and Protect Our People and Our Sovereignty." This section defined a foreign policy that protects our sovereignty, gets us out of the UN, and keeps us out of wars that are none of our business. This section also describes the special role of the 2nd Amendment, the need to reform legal immigration and end illegal immigration, promote assimilation, and the need to return morality and constitutionality to our foreign policy. A later resolution condemned the use of military force in Iraq, particularly without a congressional mandate as required by the Constitution.

Part II is titled "Promote Economic Growth and Independence." The delegates adopted calls for responsible and constitutional federal spending, replacing the income tax with a national retail sales tax and tariffs, and trade policies that protect American jobs and industries.

Part III is titled "Encourage the Traditional Values of Faith, Family, and Responsibility." It included provisions on the role of the government in moral issues. The delegates took unwavering positions to protect human life, encourage adoption, oppose cloning and genetic manipulation, restore parental primacy and control over education, oppose homosexuals in the military, and support bedrock values of marriage and religious expression.

On Saturday, the convention covered parts 4 and 5 of the platform. Part IV is titled "Ensure Equality Before the Law in Protecting Those Rights Granted by the Creator." Delegates made it clear that the

party takes positions that promote and protect the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Planks were adopted which promote treating each citizen as an individual, not as a part of a group; defending the privacy, property, and security rights of citizens; reaffirming states rights and the separation of powers; and opposing the Federal Reserve, federalization of police powers, and judicial activism.

Part V is titled "Clean Up Our Corrupted Political System." It included provisions to eliminate special interest budget influences, a restoration of constitutional governance, a return to ethical public service, a program of meaningful campaign finance and lobbying reform that makes the voter's voice preeminent, and a return to the paper ballot to eliminate election fraud.

Once the debate and amendment process was complete, the delegates adopted the platform unanimously.

Saturday evening saw the first America First Celebration banquet. Chairman Dan Charles delivered an inspiring speech, televised by C-SPAN, and AFP candidates Cameron Bates and James Edwards spoke to those assembled. They were an inspiration to the delegates who would see the message of the America First Party brought to voters around the country by intelligent, dedicated representatives.

Another candidate, political prisoner James Traficant, then delivered a specially videotaped message. He spoke of the true need for this new party to succeed. The country is in need of a new direction and a return to the Constitutional principles upon which it was founded, where public servants serve the public instead of their own interests--and nobody need fear their own government.

The inspiring and dedicated work by those attending the founding convention will carry the message of the America First Party throughout the nation. Our platform is the basis for a new political party that will become a voice for the populist, conservative, and tradition-minded citizens who seek a return to the principles of the Constitution.



Maureen McHugh
AFP Treasurer



John Pittman Hey
AFP Secretary



Jonathan Hill
Finance Cmte. Chairman



Romelle Winters
Public Relations Chairman

**Contact the
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(866) SOS-USA1 (toll-free)**



AMERICA FIRST PARTY

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“Fighting for Faith, Freedom, and the
Constitution to Put America First”

www.americafirstparty.org

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America First Party Gets The Message Out...

The first four months of the America First Party's existence saw the release of fifteen media releases, each delivered by fax and email to over a thousand media outlets and hundreds of party activists. These releases, which raise the profile of the party and promote the party's issues, have garnered publicity on the wire services, cable news channels, newspapers, and radio programs across the country.

English Sí, Executive Orders NO (8/23): pushed the passage of HR 3333 to make English our nation's official language.

Founding Convention Unifies Behind Platform (8/19): described the astounding platform adopted unanimously at the party's founding convention.

AFNC Opens Founding Convention with Unity (8/14): described the National Committee's hard work at its first in-person meeting, including the adoption of a party constitution.

People's House Betrays the People (7/24): denounced the cowardly vote by the House of Representatives to expel James Traficant on trumped up charges.

Rep. Traficant Set to Speak At Founding National Convention As Party Growth Continues (7/16): announced invitation to Traficant to Speak at our Convention.

Stop the Insanity: Impeach the Judges Now (6/27): Called for removal of federal judges who banned the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trade Deficit: Globalists Win-American Working Families Lose (6/20): deplored the record trade deficit and loss of jobs.

Return the Sunshine: Congressional Secrecy Sinful (6/19): demanded a public ethics hearing for James Traficant.

National Convention Set as Party Grows (6/4): announced party's Founding Convention in Orlando Florida.

NYC's Hypocrite Oath: Doctors to Learn to Kill (5/29): denounced mandatory abortion training for New York City medical students.

Bush to Flying Public: Drop Dead (5/22): called for arming pilots to defend passengers.

Kill the Illegal Alien Amnesty Bill (5/15): Called upon Congress to deny amnesty to illegal aliens.

Uncap Domestic Oil and End Foreign Dependence (5/10): Called on Congress to expand domestic oil production.

New Party Formed: Mission & Principles Adopted (4/26): first public announcement of creation and positions of the America First Party.

Mass Exodus from Reform Party Begins (4/15): announced intention to start a new party based on principles that put America First.