

The America First Leader

Fighting for Faith, Freedom, and the Constitution!

Spring 2003

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Patriots Join to Form America First Party

*by Romelle Winters,
Public Relations Cmte. Chairman*

On the evening of April 15, 2002, representatives from eight independent state political parties came together to found a new national party.

These founding members of the America First Party were united in belief and purpose, though among them were former Reagan Democrats, conservative Republicans, and refugees from various failed third parties.

Their intention was simple: to restore America to the greatness of the Constitutional Republic bequeathed to us all by our forefathers; to re-establish the traditional values of patriotism, honor, family, and the right to life; to restore America First principles in trade and foreign policy;

to oppose socialism and big government; and to restore the Constitution to its rightful place as supreme law of our land.

Their purpose was expressed by the unanimous adoption of the Founding Resolution, which reads in part:

Resolved, that representatives of the States of Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Tennessee hereby join hands together to form a national patriotic political party; and

That such national political party shall hereafter be known as the America First Party; and

That the purpose of said party shall be the restoration of life, faith, freedom, responsibility, and the Constitution of the United States of America;

Observers from more than a dozen other states interested in building a new political party also attended this founding meeting. Five days later, representatives of these eight state parties met again and adopted provisional rules, a mission statement, and founding principles for the new party.

The newly established America First Party quickly created press relations, candidate, and party building



Dan Charles, National Chairman of the America First Party, addresses delegates at the Founding Convention.

committees, which garnered positive media coverage. In late April, the party's web site went live. Within weeks, the FEC had recognized the America First National Committee as a national party committee. Party headquarters was flooded with requests for more information. The task of building a nationwide party was well underway.

The Founding National Convention was held in Orlando, Florida from August 8 - 11, 2002. This National Convention finalized the Party Constitution and Platform.

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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 over-reaching 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 grass roots 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)**



J. D. Jones, Party Building Chairman



O. Gene Lovell
AFP Vice-chairman

Using the Internet to Build the Party

Since its founding in April 2002, the America First Party has utilized the latest internet technology to spread the party's message and recruit like-minded patriotic Americans to take back our country.

The Party manages numerous e-mail "reflectors" which facilitate communication between party leaders, members, the media, and the general public.

In addition, the Party's award winning web site (www.americafirstparty.org) has logged 1.7 million hits, with hundreds of people a day accessing vital information about the Party and what it stands for.

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

Party Building: 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 Spring 2003, the party is represented by patriotic Americans in 41 states across the country.

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 is to have state party organizations in all 50 states by our next National Convention in July, 2003.

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 grass roots 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.

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, work mates, 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."

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

November 19, 2002

Wisconsin

January 14, 2003

New Jersey

February 4, 2003

Idaho

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A Party Organized for Success!

*by Jonathan Hill,
Finance Committee Chairman*

Many third parties have come and gone, most of them done in by hostile take-overs, internecine fights, or lack of organization and focus.

With this in mind, the founding members of the America First Party planned and carefully implemented a party organization which will protect the investment in time and money made by the members.

The America First Party Constitution operates under a system of federalism at its highest level. It has accomplished this by making the National Committee, with its three elected representatives for every state party, the highest governing authority.

The National Committee also serves as the Credentialing Committee for its own membership, and for the National Convention. This averts the risk of one or a few individuals being in a position to manipulate the makeup of either the National Committee itself, or the Convention. These safeguards, in turn, insure the integrity of the platform and the party's Founding Principles.

The National Committee meets at least monthly, and so is truly in a position to monitor and control the governance of the party.

Officers and committee chairmen are elected by the National Committee and may be discharged at any time should the National Committee lose confidence or trust in them. Each officer and committee reports directly to the National Committee and is subject to its directives.

Standing Committees are established by the Party Constitution to organize the functions critical to the party's success. Each committee is responsible for developing and carrying out party operations within its assigned area.

National Committee members and rank-and-file party members can join a committee and work in areas of their expertise and interest. The Committee system organizes and focuses the talents of the members.

After the onerous and distracting experiences many of us have experienced in other parties and patriotic organizations, we are excited to be part of a party that will provide a stable platform for political action, and which supports our moral and constitutional values.

In addition to the built-in stability of the new organization, we are an ideologically unified group, strongly united behind our founding principles and the party platform. We are now moving forward to position ourselves for the 2004 elections.



Jonathan Hill
Finance Committee
Chairman



Romelle Winters
Public Relations
Committee Chairman



James Edwards
Candidates Cmte.
Chairman

The Committees and Their Duties

Here is a brief description of the duties of the various committees. Each Committee welcomes new members who wish to contribute talents and efforts to the party's business.

Rules Committee - proposes amendments to the Constitution, rules for the conduct of the party, and works with State Parties in development of state party rules.

Platform Committee - develops and proposes platform and policy for adoption by the National Convention.

Party Building Committee - helps build and maintain the party on national and state levels as a major political party.

Finance Committee - develops budgets for party operations, works with the Treasurer,

and advises state parties on fund raising and other financial issues.

Public Relations Committee - creates strategies for interfacing with the media and the public to promote the party.

Candidates Committee - assists the state parties in the recruitment and election of candidates for local, state, and federal office.

Ballot Access Committee - assists the state parties in acquiring statewide ballot access.

Convention Committee - organizes the national convention.

Patriots Found America First Party

(Continued from Page 1)

Learning from history and from experience with other parties, the party is structured very simply. The National Committee is granted complete authority over all aspects of the national party. The National Convention is granted primary authority over the platform and the nominations for President and Vice-President. An Operating Committee, consisting of the officers and standing committee chairs elected by the National Committee, exists for the purpose of coordinating the operations of the party in compliance with the resolutions of the National Committee.

At this time, over half the states are organized with state party affiliates, with many more in the process of joining. Ten candidates to elective office represented the America First Party throughout the country in the November 2002 elections. The Party's award-winning web site has received 1.7 million hits, and the party has been mentioned favorably in dozens of newspaper and magazine articles. Various

party leaders have appeared as guests on national radio and television programs.

As the fastest growing political party in the country, the America First Party has become the only party that will challenge the duopoly that has taken over this country. The Party offers a populist, truly conservative alternative which appeals to the many citizens who are looking for a voice that represents their views. The Party appeals both to those who feel disenfranchised and to active voters.

The leaders and members of the America First Party fully intend to be the party chosen to lead this country back to its founding principles. Our struggle is for the heart and soul of this great country; our goal is the restoration of the Constitutional Republic bought and paid for with the blood of patriots; and the only acceptable conclusion to this struggle is Victory!

The America First Party urges patriots to join with us to accomplish the noble task that is laid before us. Working together, we will put America First once again.

America First Party Gets The Message Out...

The America First Party circulates media releases, delivered by fax and email to over a thousand media outlets and hundreds of party activists. These releases raise the profile of the party, promote the party's issues, and have garnered publicity on cable news channels, newspapers, and radio programs across the country.

Economic Prescriptions: Band-aids, Not Cures (1/29): Republicans and Democrats are wrong on taxes, promote big government and run-away spending, and won't protect American jobs and industries.

U.N.-Justified War (1/29): President's war mongering State of the Union address fails to justify unconstitutional attack on Iraq, which has not threatened our country.

Bush, Estrada & N.O.W.: Allies Against Life & Speech (12/4): denounces Bush for siding with N.O.W. and attacking pro-lifers and the First Amendment in the Scheidler case before the Supreme Court, and for nominating to the bench lawyers who participated in that attack.

Homeland Security Bill: Bad Name, Bad Bill (11/25): opposes violations of Bill of Rights in the name of "war on terrorism," failure of Congress and President to protect our borders.

Mr. President: Blood of Innocents is on Your Hands (10/25): denounces failure to close borders resulting in illegal alien sniper taking a dozen lives in multi-state terrorist crime spree.

Defend our Borders, Don't Destroy our Freedom (9/11): protests President's assaults on the Bill of Rights and neglect of our borders.

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

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

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



Maureen McHugh
AFP Treasurer



John Pittman Hey
AFP Secretary



Trey Golmon
Ballot Access Cmte.
Chairman

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



AMERICA FIRST PARTY

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Boulder, CO 80301

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Republicans Deliver ...

What Democrats Promise!

**Our Party and our candidates are fighting for Faith, Freedom,
and the Constitution. Join us to help Put America First!**



AMERICA FIRST PARTY

www.AmericaFirstParty.org • (866) SOS-USA1 (toll-free)

Paid for by the America First National Committee
1630 A 30th Street # 111, Boulder, CO 80301, Maureen McHugh, Treasurer