

# The America First Leader

*Fighting for Faith, Freedom, and the Constitution!*

May 2003

Copyright © 2003 by the America First National Committee

\$1.00

## Elections Bode Well for Party's Future

*by Romelle Winters*

*Public Relations Cmte. Chairman*

The America First Party was formed on April 15, 2002. Beginning a new party is a formidable undertaking. A party must have rules, a constitution, a mission statement, and a well-developed platform. There were innumerable technical and legal hoops through which to jump. A founding convention had to be planned -- difficult on such short notice. Individuals sacrificed time, efforts, and money to accomplish the almost-impossible.

The first few months were filled with almost insurmountable and time-consuming duties to complete. With an election cycle looming in the near future, running candidates seemed to be an unattainable goal. The task of finding people willing to

run, gaining ballot access, and managing a complex campaign appeared to be unthinkable when juxtaposed with the work of party-forming and building. Yet, the America First Party was fortunate enough to have ten people willing to expend their energies and time to run under the banner of an unfamiliar name in politics. As a beginning force in the political world, the AFP stepped boldly into the arena with candidates who would be its original representatives for a change in the nation.

The members of the Party can be proud of the individuals who represented us in a variety of races from city councils to representatives in the US Congress. They competed against established candidates. They competed against the forces of big money. They battled negative press, dirty tricks, and hostility. Although none won, the America First Party can be proud of their efforts and the fortitude shown by all contenders. The following were the patriots "in tricornered hats" who faced insurmountable odds to represent the nation's new political power: Patricia Baker, Cameron Bates, Edward Moses, Dan Rogers, Jerry Martin, Ken Feduniewicz, James A. Traficant, Mark Anderson, and James Edwards.

The AFP has taken its first step into the political process, but it will not be the last. The Party members are committed to fulfill the primary



*James Edwards, AFP Candidate for Tennessee House District 97, addresses the 2002 National Convention.*

purpose of running candidates and WINNING races -- at all levels. The AFP is not here to run ineffectual meetings. The AFP is not here to stroke egos of braggarts. The AFP is not here to be a semi-social club with secret handshakes and aimless expeditions. The AFP is not a charitable organization. The America First Party is a political organization with the purpose of being a major force in this nation. The America First Party has dedicated its energies to the restoration of the Constitution, the Constitution written by our Founding Fathers, the Constitution defended

*(Continued on Page 6)*

**Get Ready for the  
AFP 2003 National  
Convention!**

**July 25-26 at the  
Nashville Airport Marriott**

For more information contact:

[info@americafirstparty.org](mailto:info@americafirstparty.org)

or call (866) SOS-USA1 toll-free!



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](http://www.americafirstparty.org)

## Just Because You Can Do Something...

by Dan Charles  
National Chairman

Whether being interviewed by a member of the press or just talking with a potential new party member, one of the questions I get most often asked is, "Why did you help start this new political party?"

While there are many good answers to this question, among my favorites is, "To again give the American people the chance to vote for moral and responsible government." This answer lets me continue in all kinds of different directions, based on the interests of the audience. I want to share one of those directions with you today.

Our public servants have become professional politicians (from the Greek meaning "many blood-sucking creatures"). They have stopped asking the questions they should ask. They have stopped looking to the source of authority to which they should look. Instead, they focus on the most expedient way to get things done that will get them re-elected.

The first step in restoring moral and responsible government is to have our public servants ask themselves a very simple question: "Just because you can do something, does that mean you should do something?"

The power of this question is that it should force the asker to check and see if the Constitution allows a particular action to be taken. This grand governing document of our nation is simple to understand. It says what the federal government is allowed to do. Our federal government cannot do anything not listed as an enumerated power.

But too many of our elected representatives fail to ask this question. They only

seem interested in what they are able to do to satisfy the demands of an electorate that seeks easy answers from Washington. They are afraid they will lose their jobs, so they have lost their way.

Of course, some do ask the question. However, they are rare. The only way to turn the exception into the rule is to replace the bad ones with principled citizens who will ask the questions that should be asked and respect the Constitution.

The establishment leadership of Democrat and Republican Parties actively work against those types of candidates -- even funding primary challenges against grassroots supported incumbents who dare to ask the right questions.

The America First Party is committed to running principled citizen candidates. That is why you should think about running for office yourself. I urge you to read Candidates Committee Chair James Edwards' article later in this issue to find out what is involved.

The other thing I want you to consider is becoming a delegate to this summer's National Convention, July 25 and 26 in Nashville, TN. There, you will get to hear from our candidates and other great speakers. You will be able to help us prepare for the 2003 and 2004 election. You will have a voice in the future of the Party, and, thus, the future of America.

For the Cause of Putting America First,

Dan Charles  
National Chairman



### America First Party Selects Logo!

On April 15, 2003, the National Committee voted to select the Minuteman symbol (see left) as the official logo of the party. The logo was selected on the first anniversary of the founding of the Party. The Minuteman symbolizes the Party's admiration of the patriot Founders of our nation who were willing to give their lives for freedom.

# 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  
Committee Chairman



O. Gene Lovell  
AFP Vice-chairman,  
Convention Committee  
Chairman



Trey Golmon  
Ballot Access  
Committee Chairman

### Get Involved!

Would you like to get involved in the activities of the AFP? One way is to join a Committee. There's plenty of work to go around ... and plenty of opportunity to help build the party from the ground up.

Find out more about the  
America First Party at  
[www.americafirstparty.org](http://www.americafirstparty.org)

## Getting the Party's Business Done

*The work of the party is carried out largely by party Committees. Here are brief reports of what they've accomplished so far. The Committees are always looking for volunteers. Consider joining one today!*

### Platform Committee

The Platform Committee is currently working on adding to existing language in order to re-enforce what we already have, while adding specific language to areas that have been overlooked. For example, we are working on a plank covering Veterans issues, and the abysmal abuse of our Veterans by the government!

We are also looking at the current Resolutions, as adopted by the Founding Convention and the National Committee, for needed updates and corrections. Many were of a timely nature, and some of those time limits have expired since being written. It is our intent to be current by the Convention.

### Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee has been working on a campaign to put together a vibrant program designed to promote the party and bring it into the arena of political viability. Many press releases have been distributed to media around the country.

We have also designed and produced ads appearing in major publications. This will acquaint Patriots with our positions on issues as well as attract new people to the Party. Our tri-fold brochure further informs interested prospects of our principles and goals. The newsletter was a successful publication and will become a quarterly guide to the members as well as an attractive recruiting tool.

### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, after developing a comprehensive plan of operation, has researched fundraising methods and is in the process of writing a fundraising manual for candidates and state parties. The committee also approved gift-incentive

items and associated donation levels to increase donations, and has passed a resolution recommending use of PayPal, a secure online payment system. The committee has also recommended the consolidation of specialized funds into the general fund, to simultaneously fund proposed advertising and newsletter development/mailling.

### Convention Committee

Mark your calendars for July 25 & 26, 2003 and make your travel plans to Nashville, Tennessee. The National Committee has selected the Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel as the site for the 2003 America First Party National Convention. Experience a real grassroots political gathering by coming to the National Convention.

You may either come as an observing guest or you may contact your America First Party state organization for details, become a member and volunteer to attend as a voting Convention Delegate. It's time for you to get involved in helping to save our Nation.

### Ballot Access Committee

The Ballot Access Committee is researching the ballot access requirements and deadlines in every state and generating reports upon which decisions will be made as to where to first launch ballot access initiatives for the party.

The committee has set the following criterion for prioritizing ballot access drives: 1) those states that actually have candidates running for office in the next election cycle; 2) those states that have the most active state parties and are the most likely to provide workers to obtain ballot access; and 3) those states that have the easiest requirements, in terms of signatures, registration requirements and general work involved.

Using this strategy, the Ballot Access Committee intends to maximize the number of states coming "on-line" with ballot access for the party.

*(continued with "Party Building" on next page)*

## Running For Office - A 15 Month Basic Guideline

by James Edwards

*Candidates Committee Chairman*

First of all, realize that by offering yourself as an America First Party candidate for office, you automatically become the most valuable commodity in our party's arsenal of resources. The ultimate goal of this party is to take back our beloved nation. That dream will be realized when our candidates begin to win elections and seize offices at every level of government.

During our first year of existence, we have accomplished many great things in a relatively short period of time. However, our movement is not that of a political action committee, nor are we lobbyists. We believe the time to bargain with the traitors in Washington D.C. and the various state legislatures has come to an end. Make no mistake, we are a political party whose sole mission is to elect its candidates into office and return our country back to its proud Constitutional roots.

In order for our party to be a success, it will take the ultimate sacrifice of those who are willing to step to the front lines and offer themselves as our candidates for office. Speaking from experience, there is no more nobler or worthwhile commitment than that. Should you choose to volunteer in this capacity, rest assured that the entire structure of our party has been established to ensure that your willingness to run will be met with an equal willingness for you to win. You can depend on help and support from all the standing committees and various state parties. We look after our own and we will stand with you all the way through the glorious end

of your campaign. We are here for you.

The AFP Candidates Committee hopes that this simple guideline will help ready you for some of the challenges that you are sure to face during your quest for office. Running a race is the adventure of a lifetime, and exhaustive preparation is a major key to victory! Remember, even monumental tasks are made simple by breaking them down into workable segments that can be completed one-by-one.

### 15 months until Election Day: Determining the Office

Running for office must not be a haphazard decision! When we run for office as America First Party candidates, we run hard and we run to win. It is imperative that every move you make be meticulously planned. Our enemies will be prepared to defend their incumbency; we must be prepared to challenge them. In doing so, you must first determine the following...

- Decide what office you intend to run for, then learn and understand that office and the duties it entails.
- Think about your qualifications both official and unofficial.
- Know your stands on the issues and be able to articulate them.
- Obtain ballot access requirements and petition deadlines.
- Appoint a campaign staff to help you through each leg of this journey. Some positions you may choose to fill include: Campaign Manager, Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator and Media Coordinator.

*(to be continued in the next issue.)*

*(Continued from previous page)*

### Party Building Committee

WHAT CAN YOU DO? The growth of the America First Party is nothing short of miraculous. As of April 30, 2003, the party has expanded to 30 state party organizations and 11 states with organizing committees. We have the right message at the right time in our Nation's history.

Support organizations are being created. Members are volunteering or being elected as County Chairmen for their local County. This will allow State Parties to run and support their candidates.

There are many students involved in the effort of creating America First Party Chapters in their College or University. The first Chapter has been created at the University of Tennessee.



James Edwards  
*Candidates Committee  
Chairman*



Romelle Winters  
*Public Relations  
Committee Chairman*



Jonathan Hill  
*Finance Committee  
Chairman*

### Promotional Materials Now Available On-Line!

Now you can obtain bumper stickers, brochures, and exclusive books to help promote the party. Check out the on-line web store at [store.americafirstparty.org](http://store.americafirstparty.org)

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





**Clint Lacy**  
Public Relations  
Committee



**Maureen McHugh**  
National Treasurer



**John Pittman Hey**  
National Secretary

### Quit the U.N.!

The United Nations is a threat to the sovereignty of our nation and future of our freedom.

Sign the on-line "Petition to Withdraw from the United Nations" at

[www.americafirstparty.org](http://www.americafirstparty.org)

Find out more about the America First Party at  
[www.americafirstparty.org](http://www.americafirstparty.org)

## Anti-Terror Legislation: Who Is It Really Protecting?

By: *Clint E. Lacy*

I have been sitting back patiently watching the current administration and I don't like what I see. I am sure this statement alone would send many conservative talk show hosts into a frenzy if they were to read it. For them I can honestly say this, hey guys I voted for Bush, and I was on board 100% even more so after 9-11. When we attacked Afghanistan I was proud. I felt we would finally get the devils that attacked us.

After tumbling the Taliban, it wasn't long before the neo-conservatives started demanding action against Iraq. I even remember Sen. John McCain, a moderate Republican, visiting an aircraft carrier and yelling, "On to Baghdad!" to the troops. Suddenly Osama took a backseat to Saddam. Our president and our Congress also chose to debate "Homeland Security" legislation as a means to protect the citizens of this country. (Call me crazy, but sealing our borders and bringing our troops home to protect the mainland sounded like a better defense strategy to me.)

Soon the Patriot Act was passed. It contained enough Constitutional infringements to scare anybody. It federalized airport security personnel -- those who felt service was bad before this happened were in for quite a surprise now! Security screeners became even ruder and service rapidly deteriorated. But once again our government thought of everything. Under the Patriot Act, a citizen of this country could be jailed for up to twenty years for merely complaining about the service to

the security screeners.

Numerous more restrictions were placed on citizens of this country, while our borders remained and still remain porous. Several state governments have even proposed issuing drivers licenses to illegal aliens. While at the same time, the government watches you and I as if we were the ones who flew those planes on Sept. 11th and more of that legislation is on the way! While we see the bulk of our

***I remember Sen. John McCain ... yelling, "On to Baghdad!" to the troops. Suddenly Osama took a backseat to Saddam.***

military depart our shores, leaving our nation in an even greater state of compromise, Congress is reportedly drafting Patriot Act 2 (of course, they deny this). One of the most disturbing items in this draft was:

**REMOVAL OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP FROM PERSONS WHO BELONG TO OR SUPPORT "DISFAVORED" POLITICAL GROUPS.**

The obvious question being -- what is the definition of "disfavored" in relation to politics? The answer being -- whatever the government wants it to be. I was talking to my father about this and perhaps he said it best. He said, "That wouldn't be hard to define, disfavorable will be anyone who is not a Republican or a Democrat."

His answer left me pondering another question. Is our government really trying to protect its citizens, or is government trying to protect itself?

## Elections Bode Well for Party's Future

*(Continued from Page 1)*

by the blood, sweat, and tears of countless patriots, the Constitution that elected officials swear to uphold. The Constitution which has protected so many during its existence now needs protection itself.

Through the continued efforts of the

Party and the successes of future candidates, the America First Party will bring our country back to the greatness envisioned by those who dreamed of a great nation, under God, indivisible. The America First Party CAN and WILL take our country back.

## Reports from Iowa and Massachusetts

by Dave Doyle  
Chairman, AFP Iowa

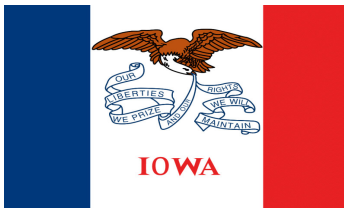
The America First Party of Iowa has two goals for its first year of existence: first, to recruit a larger membership, and second, to be recognized as being more than just a "flash in the pan."

We started a "Take Back The Counties" program. By studying demographic information as well as the contacts to our National Website, we have been able to determine what counties in Iowa are most closely in tune with us politically. Using public libraries for our meetings, we schedule a speaker and bring handouts, flyers, buttons and bumper stickers to give away. After the speeches, we mingle with the prospects and answer their questions. This process has worked well.

We have made significant headway on our second goal. When a fair ballot access bill was introduced in the Iowa Senate, we worked closely with the Greens and Libertarians to lobby for passage. We're now recognized as one of three "major third parties", while those third parties who refused to work together are largely seen in Iowa politics as non-starters.

Lastly, it is important for others to get to know us up close and personal. To achieve this, we have been working to build bridges to other strong organizations with which we share common beliefs. Two such organizations are A.B.A.T.E. and the Iowa Family Policy Center.

To date, our progress has been slow but steady. Our membership is growing. We are known in the state as a Party of principles and we are getting our message out. We have laid down the foundation for further growth. Next year should be even better as we start sending our speakers on to college campuses to spread the word in those bastions of political correctness. That is when the fun begins and we say ... bring it on!



by Jonathan Hill  
Chairman, AFP Massachusetts

The America First Party of Massachusetts has recently engaged in a series of partybuilding efforts designed to show our commitment to the development of a grassroots political movement, and to showcase our organizational abilities and professional approach.

To this end, we have developed a glossy 8-page newsletter, similar in appearance to this one, with pertinent articles and information geared to activate the reader, and foster in him a sense of urgency. The newsletter was mailed to about 3,500 on our state lists.

It featured a front-page announcement of a luncheon-speaker event at the Sheraton in Norwood on April 26th. Ray Flynn, the former long-time Mayor of Boston and reportedly the highest vote-getter in Boston political history, was listed as principal speaker. Although this event, which was like one held three-months prior to it, taxed our resources considerably, we are very satisfied with how it went. To promote it, about 7,500 pieces of mail were sent out, radio ads were launched, and hundreds of phone calls were made. In total, about \$5,000 was spent, although we also raised about \$3,000.

The speaker program lasted about 3 1/2 hours, and was superb. The entire event was impressive, and showed beyond a shadow of a doubt, that we are highly committed to our cause, and that we have the capability to provide quality leadership. As a result, we recently received very favorable coverage in an anchor story in the Massachusetts News, which receives about 1 million page-hits per month on its internet site.

You can learn more about our events, as well as listen to audio recordings of the speakers, by visiting our state page at:

[massachusetts.americafirstparty.org](http://massachusetts.americafirstparty.org)

### 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

*April 15, 2003*  
South Carolina, Alabama, Washington

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



## AMERICA FIRST PARTY

1630 A 30th Street # 111  
Boulder, CO 80301

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

[www.americafirstparty.org](http://www.americafirstparty.org)

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Greenwood, MS  
38930  
Permit No. 100

Return Service Requested

## Feeling Betrayed Lately?

MFN for China • Token Tax Cuts • (anti) "Patriot" Act • Illegal Undeclared Wars • Goals 2000 • Death Tax • Growing Bureaucracy • Rampant Spending Increases • John Paul Stevens • Federal Reserve • Sandra Day O'Connor • Illegal Alien • Appointed • Border • Under Siege • United Nations • Internal Revenue Service • Department of Education • ATT • Civil Liberties • Family • More Government Agencies • Budget Deficits • Huge Trade Deficits • GOP • Abortion • Domestic Spying • Bilingual Education • "Gay Pride" Day • Imperialist Nation Building • U. S. Troops in 117 Countries • Military Police State • Executive Ord

**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](http://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