



# The AMERICA FIRST Leader

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

Party Introduction

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\$2.00

## An Exciting Seven Years - A More Exciting Future

by Romelle Winters

NH National Committee Member

In early 2002, the Buchanan faction of the Reform Party, socially conservative Libertarians, independents, activists, and those concerned with the direction of their Republican and Democrat parties, began a series of meetings. They were unhappy with politics-as-usual. They were tired of hypocritical politicians who said the right things during the campaign but governed quite differently.

However, these activists were also disappointed with third-party-politics-as-usual. They were frustrated with the internal battles driven by ego and the unrealistic attempts to win high office without first putting into place the manpower, activism, and fundraising capacity necessary to win.

These patriots wanted to build something that could take back our nation. They knew they needed to build a new political party to bring about crucial change. They realized



The AFP Founding Convention was held August 8-10, 2002 in Orlando, Florida.

the necessity for a party unencumbered by the baggage of pre-existing organizations, one that could learn from both their strengths and weaknesses.

Over the course of several months, these activists outlined a plan to build such a party. The goal would be to focus on electing principled citizen statesmen to every office and at every level of government, not on promoting the candidacies of a small number of personalities running for high office.

The plan would keep the grassroots in charge, not a small cadre of self-appointed leaders. It would be one committed to the principles enshrined in the Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, and the wisdom that influenced and guided

our Nation's Founders.

On April 15, 2002, the America First Party was established. Its founding members adopted a Mission and Statement of Principles. They called a national convention to adopt a platform, to build party membership, and assist its first group of candidates.

Several strong candidates for state and local offices began their campaigns across the country. To support their efforts, the Party began an aggressive campaign to promote the Party's stands and assist them in ballot access, organizing volunteers, and raising money.

Most of our candidates did well at the ballot box in November 2002. Indeed, more than half of our candidates earned between 15 and 25% of

*(Continued on Page 7)*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Who We Are .....	2
Statement of Principles .....	3
Party Building .....	4
AFP Stand on Issues .....	5
Party Organization .....	6



**Dan Charles**  
Founding 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)

## Who are We? Why are We Here?

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

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 devoured and our families destroyed to feed global corporations and the World Trade Organization. We see those rights granted by our Creator, not by man, 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.

As this has happened, the Democrat and Republican parties have thrown 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 circus, 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.

***We must unify the tens of millions of folks who agree with us, but are disenfranchised or trapped in ineffective or corrupt political parties.***

In short, neither the Democrats nor Republicans who have controlled this country for the past century know or care about what is right. 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 is 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.

When the Party was founded in April 2002, the seasoned activists and grassroots leaders from across the country 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. In order to change things, you must win elections.

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. We adopted a strategy to win elections, building from the grassroots up. We now have members in 46 states and three party members holding elective office.

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. And we must 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  
Founding 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)**



**Tom White**  
Candidates Cmte  
Chairman and former  
Party Building Cmte  
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 has logged tens of millions of hits, with hundreds of people a day viewing vital information about the Party and what it stands for.

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

## Party Building: What Can YOU Do?

by Tom White

*Candidates Committee Chairman and  
former Party Building Cmte Chairman*

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I get involved?"

History demonstrates that a small number of dedicated individuals can create great change with motivation, commitment, and organization. That is what a minority of colonists used to defeat an empire and found this nation.

Our grassroots efforts are an essential component to returning our country to the sovereignty envisioned by the Founding Fathers. We may be small now, but we are growing rapidly.

To be a part of this exciting movement dedicated to the successful election of principled citizen statesmen, you need to get off the sidelines and participate. There are six things you can do.

First, join the Party.

Call our toll-free number and ask for a membership form. When you receive it, fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

Second, attend local meetings. Gathering with like-minded people is a valuable and fun way to exchange ideas and prepare for elections. Together with your fellow members, you will help make decisions about your state party and get people elected.

Third, recruit people you know. In order to be effective, grassroots movements must grow. You can start with friends and family. They know you and trust you. They will listen to you when you encourage them to become a part of the AFP.

Fourth, help others learn about the AFP. Our Party offers the American people an opportunity to actually elect principled citizen statesmen who promote Constitu-

tional, common sense policies that put America and all the American people first. Let them know about our positions. Let them know about our strategy for success, and our progress.

Fifth, join the Activist Program. Many people who want to help do not know quite what to do to help build the Party. The Activist Program provides organization, assistance and information on the Party's grassroots activities.

Each one of us has different abilities and time constraints. The Activist Program coordinates, within the state and at the national level, where each individual would be best utilized. We will help you and your fellow Party members become efficient and effective grassroots party activists.

This program has a selection of activities from which you can choose. You can tell us about people who might be interested in the Party, or you can put a bumper sticker on your car. We also help

coordinate other activities like writing letters to the editor, leafletting, and holding informational meetings.

You can choose from among these activities, based on how you want to help save our nation. Call the toll-free number and learn how to join the Activist Program.

Sixth, contribute money to the Party. No organization can run without sufficient funds. We are no exception. The Party, controlled by the members, uses its funds wisely to spread our message and elect true patriots. Because none of the members are paid, all contributions received go directly toward the growth of the Party.

Since its founding, the America First Party has been focused on building a grass roots organization. Our members work together, giving what they can to take this country back. We have seen success! Join us to help save our beloved nation.

### Six Ways You Can Help

1. Join the Party
2. Attend local meetings
3. Recruit people you know
4. Help others learn about the AFP
5. Join the Activist Program
6. Contribute money to the Party

# Where the AFP Stands on Some of the Most Asked-About Issues

## Trade & Globalism

The so-called "free trade" policies supported by both Democrats and Republicans are a threat to our national and economic security.

The result has been a race to the bottom of the wage scale for American workers, and a trade deficit that transfers America's wealth to poorer nations including China. We have eliminated many of the jobs that served as a gateway to the middle class and allowed America to provide for itself.

The AFP seeks trade policies that comply with the US Constitution and put the interests of American families and workers first. We support tariffs, "Buy American" requirements for all government contracts, trade regulations that level the playing field with low-wage competitor nations, and other policies that protect U.S. jobs and industries.

We oppose NAFTA, CAFTA, FTA, WTO, and other trade agreements that transfer Congress' authority to regulate trade to unelected multinational bodies.

## Life

We are 100% pro-life without exception or apology, believing, as the Founders did, that the right to life is unalienable. We oppose the killing of innocent human beings simply because they may be inconvenient or unwanted.

The AFP recognizes that life begins at conception and continues until natural death. We support the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and seek the passage and vigorous enforcement of legislation which protects the right to life, regardless of age or state of gestation.

## Immigration

Our nation's immigration policies have become twisted to serve the political goals of the two major parties -- not the American people, economy, or national security.

We seek to reform legal immigration

by implementing rational policies that support assimilation and promote citizenship. We also support a 10-year moratorium on legal immigration. Following that, we seek a reduction in new immigration to ensure that, as in the past, we open our doors to those whose focus is to become the best Americans they can be.

Illegal immigration is a serious threat to our security and way of life. We must regain control of our borders, with troops if necessary, and remove those who are in this country illegally.

## Judicial Activism

The courts have overstepped their proper Constitutional role. They no longer interpret the law; instead they have been creating it or amending the Constitution with foreign law. The hallmark of judicial activism is legislating from the bench and goes by another name: judicial tyranny. Congress should exercise power to overturn federal judicial decisions that misinterpret laws, create new ones, or twist the plain meaning of the Constitution -- and impeach judges who do.

## Education

Education is not a federal issue. You and other parents -- not state or federal bureaucrats and not the teachers' unions -- should control the education of your children.

We seek to return education to local and parental control and shut down the Department of Education -- returning money, resources, choice, and control to the parents and the local schools.

## Taxes and the Budget

The problem is not that the government taxes too little; the problem is that our government spends too much. The AFP advocates a return to Constitutional compliance in the size, scope, and authority of the federal government. It is important to provide mechanisms for states and the people to adjust to the new reality--

*(Continued on Page 7)*



Michael E. Lynch  
Public Relations Cmte  
Chairman

## The AFP Store

The America First Party has made a number of promotional and educational items available on its on-line internet store.

Bumper stickers, brochures, pocket Constitutions, and caps and t-shirts will all be useful to help promote the Party and its message.

In addition, several excellent books, including four titles autographed by their author Patrick J. Buchanan, are also available.

Please support the Party by shopping at the on-line store at [store.americafirstparty.org](http://store.americafirstparty.org) For a printed store catalog, please write to request a copy:

*America First Party  
1630A 30th St # 111  
Boulder, CO 80301*

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

# A Party Organized for Success!

by *Jonathan Hill*  
National 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 two elected representatives for every state party, the highest governing authority, and by respecting the right of state parties to govern their own affairs.

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, ensure the integrity of the platform and the Party's Founding Principles.

The National Committee meets at least quarterly, and so is truly in a position to monitor and govern 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 provides 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 next elections.



**Jonathan Hill**  
National Chairman



**Martin McClellan**  
National Vice  
Chairman



**Joe Spitzig**  
Platform 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.

## An Exciting Seven Years

*(Continued from Page 1)*

the vote and several came just a handful of votes short of winning. Most third parties are doing back-flips if one candidate in one hundred gets more than 3% of the vote. Our strong showings energized America First Party members. The Party continued to grow rapidly and leftist groups such as the SPLC began attacks on the AFP.

As often happens with conservative third party efforts, a few extremists believed the unfounded attacks, thinking they would find a home in the America First Party. They came into the Party to try to change our commitment to represent all patriotic Americans who love the Constitution and the values of our Nation's founders.

In June 2003, those who opposed the Party's Mission and Principles were quickly shown the door by the majority of the Party's leaders and members. Membership nearly tripled in the year that followed.

New state parties began organizing under new rules that ensured grassroots leadership. In 2004, the America First Party once again faced voters. Our candidates focused on promoting party stands on property rights, illegal immigration, and protecting traditional marriage.

This time the Party won two-thirds of the races it entered. The Party actually elected principled citizen statesmen committed to make their communities better by governing in accordance with the Party platform. This strategy is working.

The year 2006 saw the Party gather for its second national convention in Cincinnati. Without the disunity and rancor that pervades other start-up political parties, new officers were elected unanimously by the delegates. Founding Chairman Dan Charles stepped down, taking on the role of Chairman Emeritus, and Jon Hill, a founding member of the party from Massachusetts, took up his mantle as Chairman.

As the America First Party looks back on its first seven years, its members look forward to an exciting future. With the disastrous 2008 election cycle finally over, we will continue to focus on promoting grass-roots activism and building state affiliates - the next step in reclaiming the nation.

## AFP Stand on Issues

*(Continued from Page 5)*

there is no federal nanny state.

The AFP seeks the elimination of all income, property, and wealth taxes. These taxes serve only to enslave Americans and punish productivity.

Instead we support a tax system where at least 50% of federal revenue is generated through tariffs and excise taxes on foreign made goods. The rest should come from a uniform retail sales tax on new items, and usage fees. These taxes reward savings and productivity, promote a "Buy American" policy, and leave the choice of how much you are taxed in your hands.

### Terrorism and the Iraq War

The primary responsibility of the federal government is to protect Americans from invasion and attack. On 9/11, our government failed us. It has failed to learn from this attack.

You are far more likely to be struck by lightning several times than to be hurt or killed in a terrorist attack. Yet, the government has abused the results of its past failure, thereby achieving the terrorists' goals for them -- scaring citizens and attacking our Constitution and way of life.

Central to our strategy to protect the American people is the need to secure our borders. Our enemy will use stealth, infiltration, and our weaknesses against us. To leave our borders unsecured is treasonous.

The AFP has been opposed to the Iraq War since the founding of our Party, a year before the fighting began.

The invasion of Iraq was unconstitutional and unnecessary. The occupation has been poorly-handled, costly, and served as a recruiting poster for our enemies. The war has created a resource rich client state for Iran and Al Qaeda once we depart.

Saddam was a bad man and a threat to his neighbors and his own people. But even if he had WMDs, he was not a threat to the American people and, until we invaded Iraq, was condemned as a threat to Islam by Al Qaeda. Regime change in Iraq has not been worth American blood or treasure. We are less safe because of it.



**John Pittman Hey**  
AFP Secretary  
& Treasurer

## Party Media Releases

Media 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.

The media releases are delivered by fax and email to over a thousand media outlets and hundreds of Party activists.

The media releases are posted on the Party's web site and may be viewed as soon as they are issued at

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

**Contact the  
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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

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