

# The Patriots' Truth

## TEA Party News

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### ON OUR CALENDAR

#### **MEDIA COMMITTEE MEETING – MCALISTER'S EVERY WED AT 5:30PM**

**January 8, 2011, 9:30am at Manhattan Library Aud. – Tea Party Meeting on the Fair Tax; Richard Fry on O.J., State Sovereignty & Con-Con**

**January 14, 2011 – 1:30 Legislative Rally, Topeka, KS – Kris Kobach, speaker**

**January 20, 2011 – Legislative Seminar regarding Constitutional Convention concerns, Topeka, KS  
This will be by invitation only!! Come to next meeting for the report.**

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### **FLINT HILLS TEA PARTY**

#### **MINUTES OF December 11, 2010 MEETING**

John Ford called the meeting to order in the Auditorium at the Manhattan City Library at 9:30.

Larry Tawney led us in the Flag Salute. Karla Parsons led us in prayer. In Paul's absence it was announced that we had \$169 in the treasury with no outstanding bills.

John made the following announcement: A contact and request has been received from last month's speaker, Richard Fry. Mr. Fry would like us to join his coalition. Larry Tawney explained what this coalition (CCAG-SSS stands for Coalition of Citizen Advocacy Group in Support of State Sovereignty. To join Mr. Fry's group would mean we would attend meetings in the Coalition's support in Topeka with the Legislature and other meetings. This Coalition

supports State Sovereignty. The passing of this Legislation would give Kansas the Opportunity to opt out of Federal mandates and from being forced to conform to Federal Bills such as the Health Care Bill passed last year (Amendment 10). Chris and Larry Tawney and Chuck Henderson became acquainted with Mr. Fry at various meetings during the last year or so. Being the only ones known to Mr. Fry they became his contacts. We can change our minds at a later time if we decide to. Sylva Nichols moved and it was seconded, that we join Mr. Richard Fry's Coalition. The motion passed that the FHTP join with Richard Fry's efforts to accomplish these objectives.

The Constitutional Convention was briefly discussed and all were made to realize why we want our legislature to withdraw their request for a Con-Con being held.

**January 8, 2011, will be a meeting for discussing the Fair TAX.** People to explain this Tax to us have been scheduled. The time and location has not been set. It was moved, seconded, and motion passed that we locate and secure a place for this meeting to take place. We'll let you know.

It was briefly discussed that **January 14; at 1:30 at the State House** will be our first accompaniment with Mr. Fry **to support State Sovereignty.**

**John Matta** announced his candidacy for the race for Manhattan City Commissioner. He stated his issues and intentions to be elected. John is a Conservative and will work for reduced spending and common sense living, bring new business to Manhattan, and improve quality of living here. People need to be held accountable to contract they sign with the city of Manhattan. John will need help and we encourage you to do so.

The **Flint Hills TEA Party** will hold a **Tax Day** ceremony on **April 15**, hopefully, in the **Riley County Court House Courtyard**. We will schedule a speaker and announce final arrangements at a later time.

**Paul Barkey** came in to briefly announce that he is not voting for or registering to run for County Commissioner. Paul stated the local churches may file a lawsuit against the City of Manhattan.

**Lynn Jenkins** arrived to report on the Lame Duck Congressional Session of 2010. She reported that those who are no longer accountable to the people (the ones not reelected) are running amuck. Nancy Pelosi is doing everything she can to crash thru as much bad legislation as she can, working to cause problems and trouble for the new session to begin in 2011. Both houses are working hard to force Amnesty and bring back the Taxes, among crashing thru as many other unwanted bills as possible. **Congresswoman Jenkins** told us to "keep in touch", "no one is happy – there is nothing on paper", and "we are keeping our eyes on that sucker!!" We were told during her first year in Congress earmarks were military and infrastructure; the 2<sup>nd</sup> year people just wouldn't behave; this year Republicans tried. **Coming year NO MORE EAR MARKING!!** The appointments of Kansas Representatives to important Committees were announced. Lynn Jenkins was appointed to the Ways & Means Committee (she was already and still is serving on the Financial Services Committee); Kevin Yoder was appointed to the House Appropriations Committee and Mike Pompeo to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Tim Huelskamp will join the others in developing responsible measures that will create private sector jobs, shrink the size, scope and cost of the Federal Government, and bring common sense

Kansas values to Washington. We told her how proud we are of all of them. We felt very honored that Lynn Jenkins office contacted us asking if she could join us.

Holly Freisen announced that she would be conducting a Constitutional Class at the Grace Baptist Church on Dickens January 20 thru March 24, 2011. The classes will be held from 6:45—8:30, Thursday evenings. The cost of the class will be for the purchase of the books needed: \$25.00. If you have the books the class will be free.

Chuck Henderson passed out information on Richard Fry's coalition.

The decision of whom and for how long the FHTTP Moderator will hold that position was discussed. Previously it has been for 3 months at a time and basically on a volunteer basis. This had been discussed at the Media Meeting and it was decided to put it before the whole group. Previous Moderators indicated they didn't feel 3 months is long enough to get really organized and be comfortable. John Ford was to take the position with the December meeting, which he did and he will be our Moderator for six months. Ernie Honas will be the back up (in case John can't be there) and become Moderator when John's time is up. It was suggested that a Moderator's time become 1 year. It was pointed out that being the Moderator of a TEA Party is like drawing a target on your back. If this becomes less of a possible problem it could be extended to a 1-year term if the volunteer Moderators desire to do so. Larry moved it be a 6-month position; Daryl 2<sup>nd</sup> it and the motion passed.

It was announced that the December 22<sup>nd</sup> Media meeting would not be held.

The need for someone to take the Secretarial Position is again open. Chris Tawney and Sylva Nichols volunteered and it was so moved, seconded, voted on and passed.

It was discussed that the meeting should be the same day, time, and place in the effort to encourage more people to be able to schedule ahead of time and plan to attend. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the monthly meeting will be held the second Saturday of the month, at the Manhattan City Library at 9:30 each month.

It was also noted that a new Treasurer or at least an assistant needed to be selected. Jud Jones said he would help train one, as it isn't an easy job. If there are no volunteers Jud would consider doing it himself. More will be discussed on this at a later time when our present treasurer, Paul Barkey, is present.

Chris was asked to give a Media report and when doing so realized the information had already been discussed.

Jud Jones from PT County told us about the history of TEA Party in PT County. Jud announced he intends to have an Obamaville (like Hooverville) meal of beans and cornbread on 2011 tax day, April 15. It was discussed that RL County could go to the PT County ceremony at noon in the Wamego City Park at the Shelter and then PT County can come to the supper at 5:00 in the Riley County Court House Courtyard.

Jud also told us about the Congressional 2<sup>nd</sup> District Republican Party's Meeting. As a delegate to this meeting, Jud was representing PT County. When Jud talked to the group he acknowledged the very extensive part the statewide TEA Parties played in the success of the

Republican Conservative candidates election. He felt some were surprised, some were dumbfounded, and some understood and were appreciative.

Holly told us about a White Elephant Christmas Party that is to be held by the Riley County Republican Party in the Tattarrax addition and all are invited to attend.

We all stood and sang, “God Bless America” lead by Chuck Henderson.

John Ford, Moderator, adjourned meeting.

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While many may not be able to vote directly due to logistics, that does not stop us from being activists to get the non-voters to understand what their lack of involvement means not only for themselves but for their children and the community in totality. Each of us has a part, in supporting the conservative candidates and the communities that we participate in on a daily basis. If we set around and wait for the non-voters to get interested, or even informed, or get the message out...our communities, our state, our country will ebb ever closer to demise. That is what they are counting on.

**Our signatures, our votes may not always count but our reach does.**

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## **Greetings Fellow Patriots,**

In the 5<sup>th</sup> issue of Patriots Truth Newsletter, an open letter by Tom Nichols was published. That letter was brought before the group and was vetted – that vetting and some changes were made by Tom and the Media group – made up of current and former FHTP moderators and media group – Vetted and Published.

The response to this open letter was not vetted by any group. The author sent it and implied it was her wish to have it sent out.

I, as a Conservative member of the FHTP, speak only for myself. I believe in the Constitutional 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights. I gave an oath many years ago to defend that Constitution and the nation from foreign and domestic enemies. I believe there is **not** a statute of limitations to that oath.

My thoughts on this issue are: I have taken no oath to the Republican Party. I have in the past year worked for Conservative Candidates who ran as Republicans. Some won, some lost. The Conservatives, I believe have found a voice. Together, with the Flint Hills TEA Party the Conservatives, are being heard locally and state wide. The goal is to have Constitutional Conservative Government for Kansas and all of the United States of America. If the Kansas Republican Party wants to join us, they are welcome. However, we will continue to work toward our goal with or without them.

The Conservative movement has achieved a step forward and does NOT need to take steps back. As a Conservative, I refuse to knuckle under to a moderate Republican Party!!

Subsequently, what I suggest you do, in the privacy of your home, is write your own open letters and share them with us – the FHTP media group. We look forward to an open discussion of ideas and education. I believe as a member of FHTP you ALL are LEADERS!!

If you do feel the need to write to the Republican Party Leadership, I strongly suggest you do so. The writer of the following letter generously provided the addresses and phone numbers.

My parting thought is this: a frank, open discussion in the light of day is far better than a whispering missive in the dead of night.

Sincerely

Larry Tawney

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The following is the letter that was sent out in response to the Open Letter by Tom Nichols in the #5 Patriots Truth Newsletter.

Dear Flint Hills Tea Party Friends

**Please note: This is not an approved communication from the Republican Party State Wide or from the Party here in Riley. This is from an individual only who serves within the party.**

I would like to offer a response to the open letter written by Tom Nichols to Republican Party. Although I have spoken with Sylva and Tom, I want to clarify a few important things about the current rules in the Republican Party concerning Officers and Committeemen and women who promote openly for Democrats.

The rules for the State Party are clear that if a Republican who has an office, promotes openly that they support a Democrat or Democrats, then he or she no longer can hold this position. It is a pretty humiliating procedure, but the way Helen VanEtton and Barb explained it to me, is that a complaint must be filed with the state party, which means you can send a note to Amanda Adkins or Ashley McMillian, Executive Director. They in turn will have a conference about the individual and see if he did indeed do this. In which case, they will speak with him and ask him/her to step down as an officer and committeeman and will not be allowed to vote in County Party meetings.

Since there are only four officers in our own Riley Republican Party, and Tom made reference to, and we know two of the four, it is most likely who has been singled out with this complaint. FYI, the matter has already been dealt with by the new Chair and the fellow has been reminded of the ruling.

He is more than willing to train someone else for his position, and a conservative has requested to do so for 2012. It requires much training, and the officer has agreed to train anyone who is interested. I do not think he is concerned about conservative or moderate, he feels they have their place.

It is good to remember, in America, ever since the federalists and the anti-federalists, there have been differences. So this man or any other RINO is welcome in the Republican Party, but they cannot hold leadership positions if they openly support democrats

Now, in the privacy of the voting booth, that is between that individual and his ballot. And we can't think to take that freedom away from him/her. But as far as Officer Position, the party is clear, they are out of here if the procedures are followed. This rule has not been known to us, nor enforced due to the delicacy of not humiliating some who are truly friends (yes, it is possible to have a RINO as a friend) and instead, the desire is to bring about a more gracious "goodbye".

However, in the course of time, since we now have some conservative leadership which is willing to bring some education to the party, there is much hope that precinct committeemen and women and officers will once again adhere to their party platforms and duties in the true spirit of patriotism. So Patience and a little grace is needed here. Let's not have a massive purity purging scheme. Good to take things from this point on, as things are working themselves out without lots of bloodletting.

There are some things to keep in mind about the Republican Party here in Riley County. It has had a long history of Moderates Leading the party and conservatives on the side-lines. That is changing, but it will take time to get our house in order, and we don't want to alienate, polarize and burn every bridge with people. So diplomacy, finding common ground is of the essence if we are to win the war. This is not always easy as human relationships go and there is much room for learning in relating to one another and people with opposing views. Open letters, while they have their place, should be directed instead to that individual in a private letter as this humiliates the persons involved publically and only alienates the people we are seeking to win over/and work with. IF you would like to write a letter to any of the officers and express your concerns, feel free to do so, with tact, and thank them for their service. The Founders did not always agree but found common ground, and since this is not like a club where you take a pledge, we must allow for some differences.

The State Party Platform is very conservative as of this last year, and many conservatives in the county, state are becoming more involved in leadership rather than complaining about it. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> District meeting last weekend (remember, we have 4 Districts in Kansas and we are the 2<sup>nd</sup>), I sat in a room with many other delegates from the 37 counties in the 2<sup>nd</sup> district and conservative thought prevails—the next Chair for 2<sup>nd</sup> District is a homeschool, 4-H mom and many new Chairman of their counties are tea-party conservatives. John Bradford of Leavenworth County seems to carry a large contingency of men and women who are conservative and tea-party activists - and he is the one who wrote the Republican Party Handbook and was a major player in helping write the Party Platform. Please see a copy of this platform and spread the news. These are the items we can hold our county party committeemen and women accountable to, graciously informing them to consider adhering to it, along with our Representatives. No

matter who, it seems there is enough motivation that unites us to get rid of progressives in leadership in Washington and the State.

1. The newsletter serves as an event/news source for Republicans in Riley, and we hope through education, many will see the light of their call to their Country. I implore you not to tick off any officers publicly, as the newsletter is paid for by the Party. We the People newsletter is important to FHTP acceptance in Riley. I also publish the FHTP minutes in the newsletter, but will take out the open letter part since it deals with Tom's concerns, however what Tom chooses to do with this letter is up to him, if he desires to take it to the Party Chair, he has that privilege. There is contact information at the end of this letter. A personal rebuke can be more effective to a wise man, so if they are wise, they will listen. In FHTP, you are really just preaching to the choir anyway!
2. This year there will be bi-monthly meetings for the Riley County Republican Party, with speakers and outreach, similar to Town Hall meeting-format. Please feel free to volunteer and be part of these events - get into the team game and play, and not be a bench-sitter who just complains about the Team Captain. You are more than welcome to be part and let Barb know any ideas you may have to improve things!!!)
3. The newsletter serves as an event/news source for Republicans in Riley and we hope through education, many will see the light of their call to their Country. I implore you not to tick off any officers publicly, as the newsletter is paid for by the Party. We the People newsletter is important to FHTP acceptance in Riley. I also publish the FHTP minutes in the newsletter, but will take out the open letter part since it deals with Tom's concerns, however what Tom chooses to do with this letter is up to him, if he desires to take it to the Party Chair, he has that privilege. There is contact information at the end of this letter. A personal rebuke can be more effective to a wise man, so if they are wise, they will listen. In FHTP, you are really just preaching to the choir anyway!
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Here are the four county officers and their contact information. For a list of committeemen and women, go to the Riley County Court House at this website [[www.rileycountyks.gov/elections](http://www.rileycountyks.gov/elections)] and down load the list of

current Republican Committeemen and Women. Their contact information is there also.

**Riley County:**

Chairman: Barb Van Slyke, 3761 S 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Manhattan, KS. 66502 539-8527, cell: 785-564-0053

Vice Chairman: Lee Modesitt, 2004 Tinstall Cr. Apt.103, 785-313-4514

Secretary: Mellissa Rundus, 317-1302

Treasurer: Mark Knackendoffel, 785-537-7200

**State Party Contacts:**

Chair: Amanda Adkins, 4702 W. 159<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Overland Park, Kansas 66085, [amandaladkins@gmail.com](mailto:amandaladkins@gmail.com)

State office: 785-234-3456, [republicanparty@ksgop.org](mailto:republicanparty@ksgop.org) and the web at : [www.ksgop.org](http://www.ksgop.org)

National Committeewoman, Helen VanEtten, [helenvanetten@yahoo.com](mailto:helenvanetten@yahoo.com), 785-273-7814

Party Platform: [www.ksgop.org](http://www.ksgop.org) scroll down on the left, second box is marked PARTY PLATFORM.

Sincerely yours for a free republic,

Holly Friesen, FHTP member, Conservative Republican, County Delegate in Riley - [wethepeopleofriley@hotmail.com](mailto:wethepeopleofriley@hotmail.com)

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**The RINO hunt is on!!! We had thought we would need to request the help of the State Fish and Game Commission, however, it seems all we have to do is put true Conservative info out there and the bait is taken!!**

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The **coalition**, with **Richard Fry**, that we joined at the last meeting grew from the following core values.

We represent a coalition of grassroots, nonpartisan, traditional Constitutionalist groups. Our core values direct our assessment of specific legislation. These **core values** are:

1. The citizens are the sovereigns and it is their majority will that should be done within the bounds of the Constitution,
2. State employees and elected officials are bound by their oath to follow and honor the federal and state Constitutions, all legislation should first be filtered through these documents,
3. Governmental action should be open to the citizens to the greatest degree possible so the citizens may make appropriate decisions and hold their government accountable,
4. Government is necessarily contrary to the Liberties of the citizens and therefore the least government is the best government,
5. Representative, responsive and accountable government are the cornerstones of the best government and these are better achieved the closer they are to the citizens,

6. The greatness of this Republic was based on the independence and self sufficiency of the states from the federal government and the citizens from government in general,
7. Taxation is the most common instrument of tyrants for control and oppression of the people and therefore should be held to the bare minimum in keeping with the concept of least government,
8. Prosperity i.e. personal property ownership and the accumulation of wealth are the hallmarks of a free people and this natural right should be given the highest of protection.

We will endorse legislation that;

**1. Reduces the state’s size and budget,**

- including repeal of the 18% increase in sales tax
- reduction in state employees through attrition
- a freeze on educational funding
- accept no federal funding with strings attached especially those which impose “federal values” on the citizens of this state and result in the expansion of or a change in purpose of state programs.

**2. Increases the citizens access to and control over the government and expands the ability for the citizen to hold the government accountable to the citizens,**

- stop favorable treatment to private governmental associations such as the League of Municipalities and Association of County Governments, which work against the interest of the citizen and promote government power and control,
- Expand the citizens’ rights under the open meetings and records acts.

**3. Recognize and recapture the citizens’ and State’s sovereignty rights.**

We support the general concept of the following **specific types of legislation:**

**1. Firearms Freedom Act**

- Recognizes the states’ and citizens’ fundamental freedom to secure their means of self-defense,
- Recognizes the federal governments limits of control under the Commerce clause,

**2. Arizona SB1070 type legislation**

- Recognizes the states’ primary obligation to protect the lives and rights of their citizens and the citizens’ fundamental right to self defense of their lives, property and economic interests,
- Supports the fundamental American principle of **rule of law,**

This legislation supports Core Values 1,4,5,6,7 and 8.

**3. Repeal of Kansas’ 1993 request for a Constitutional Convention.**

---It has been and is incompetent of the Kansas Legislature, and danger to the liberties of the citizens, to have a request for a federal Constitutional Convention simply lying on the table. The withholding of such a request is the first line of defense of the citizens against bad proposed Constitutional amendments.

**4. Citizens' Referendum Resolution.** (This is not on our agenda for direct support this session. Perhaps it should be!)

--- This is fundamental to the citizen's authority as the sovereigns of the State.

This legislation supports Core Values 1,3,4,5 and 6.

**1. Healthcare Freedom Resolution.** (This is not on our agenda for direct support this session.)

This legislation supports Core Values 1,4,6,7 and 8.

**2. Consumption tax in place of income and property tax.** (This is not on our agenda for direct support this session.)

---This lessens the ability of the tax code to be used as an instrument of control, abuse and oppression,

---As long as there is property tax on one's home and personal property the citizens are the mere tenants of the government and this is a form of control and oppression of the citizens.

This legislation supports Core Values 1,4,6,7 and 8.

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More information has been received from **Richard Fry**.

Please see if there is any interest in the FHTP attending a **presentation on the federal district lawsuits on "Obama care" and the Arizona SB1070 are doing more harm to the states' sovereignty than any good they may do.**

Once one gets a grasp on this it is very simple but initially it is a bit hard to see the "forest for the trees". This is it in a nutshell.

1. Under Art. III Par.2 of the U.S. Constitution the states **retained the right** to go to the Supreme Court with "all" cases they have and have **consented to be sued only in the Supreme Court,**

2. This right is based on the fact that **the states retained their sovereign right** to go to or only be called into the highest court in the land i.e. the U.S. Supreme Court, i.e. this is a right of the states not only retained in Art. III but noted again in General in the Tenth Amendment

a. All sovereigns, both foreign and domestic (the states) have this right under Art. III.

3. The Congress has passed laws that some are saying give the federal government the ability to sue states in the federal district courts, and requires the states to sue or enables them to be sued in the federal district courts.

4. The federal government sued Arizona in the inferior federal district court (contrary to the Constitution and contrary to its status as a Sovereign),
5. Florida and Virginia sued the federal government over “Obama care” in the inferior federal district court, (contrary to the Constitution and contrary to its status as a Sovereign),
6. This harms State rights because:
  - a. The states are conceding to the federal government treating the states as if they are not sovereigns and as if the states did not retain rights the states have in fact retained.
  - b. The actions in the district courts will take much longer to ultimately decide than if they were handed directly in the Supreme Court (as a priority item),
  - c. If one of the Supreme Court Justices dies retires or is killed Obama will get to appoint another. As the court is basically balanced with a slight leaning toward the conservative, if Obama appoints another the Court will be a decidedly progressive, “living documents” and a “judicial activist” in short even the Obama suits will be lost and we can forget about the concept of state sovereignty.
7. The “Obama care” cases only address a sliver of the Constitution i.e. that related to the federal government’s power under **art 1 Par 8** of the Constitution. The original Jurisdiction issue relates to the states sovereignty. Think of it this way: **Art I Par 8 is a rib, state sovereignty is the backbone.**

**In the current law suits the states are breaking their own backs in an effort to mend one of their ribs, it’s absurd.**

**We need people to understand this and to demand that the Kansas Attorney General file the Kansas suit against “Obama care” in the **U.S. Supreme Court** not join in the Florida action!**

**January**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>1 Sat</b>              | <b>New Years Day</b>  |
| <b>6 Thursday, 6:30PM</b> | <b>Salina OJ, Salina Public Library</b>                         |
| <b>8 Saturday, 9:30AM</b> | <b>Manhattan OJ, Manhattan Public Library</b>                   |
| <b>10 Mon</b>             | <b>KS Opening of 2011 Session</b>                               |
| <b>14 Fri, 1:30PM</b>     | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> annual State Sovereignty Rally at Capitol</b> |
| <b>20 Thursday, 6:30</b>  | <b>Con Con Seminar for Legislators at Topeka</b>                |
|                           | <b>Invitation only</b>  |

**OJ = Presentation on Art III re Original Jurisdiction and Obama Care**

## **Third Annual State Sovereignty Rally**

**Friday January 14, 2011 at 1:30**

**State Capitol Bldg (pending)**

| <b>Speaker</b>                          | <b>Topic</b>                       | <b>Status</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Larry Pratt, Exec. Dir Gun Won Am,      | Freedom Firearms Act               | Confirmed     |
| Senator Dick Kelsey                     | Constitutional Convention          | Confirmed     |
| Kris Kobach Secretary of State Elect    | AZ's SB 1070                       | Confirmed     |
| ??????????                              | Kansas Budget Issues               | Confirmed     |
| Mark Leaner, Constitutional Alliance    | Surveillance Society/Real ID       | Confirmed     |
| Jeff Lewis, Nat'l Dir Patriot Coalition | State Sovereignty Issues           | Confirmed     |
| Paul Degener, NP Shawnee/Capitol        | Constitutional Convent—KS Hist.    | Pending       |
| Representative Antony Brown             | KS Safe Neighborhoods Act SB 1070) | Pending       |

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### **Myths & Realities of the Constitutional Convention Article V**

**(Invitation Only)**

**Thursday, January 20, 2011, 6:30**

**State Capitol (pending)/Shawnee Library (booked)**

| <b>Speaker</b>   | <b>Topic</b>                                  | <b>Status</b> |
|--|---|---------------|
| Charles Michaelis, Vice Chair<br>Institute for Principled Policy | Art.V Constitutional Convention history etc., | Confirmed     |
| Ex. Sen. Randy Brogdon (OK)                                      | Intro. Rescintion resolution in OK            | Pending       |
| Sen. Dick Kelsey   | Will Intro Rescintion resolution KS           | Confirmed     |

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Greetings Fellow Patriots,

Well it is done...**The Flint Hills Tea Party Educational Fund, Inc. is established.** The Bards, the Chair, the Bylaws and **dedicated Bank Account** and **new Treasurers** and it is filed with appropriate governing bodies.

An idea that started back in January or February 2010 to get pocket constitutions out to our people, military service men and women continued to grow in enthusiasm by fellow FHTP members who thought the pocket constitutions should also be given to students.

Funds were donated and the discussions took off at the meetings and that dream grew. Dick Miller, Paul Barkey, John Matta, Ernie Honas...folks it really was a group thing and whoever has played a part in the concept, the structure, the leadership, and the action...Bless you one and all.

During this process, John Matta, became aware of the Federal Law:

***Public Law 108-447***

*SEC 111. (a) The head of each Federal agency or department shall—*

- (1) provide each new employee of the agency or department with educational and training materials concerning the United States Constitution as part of the orientation materials provided to the new employee, and*
- (2) provide educational and training materials concerning the United State Constitution to each employee of the agency or department on September 17 of each year.*

(b) Each educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United State Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution.

Original Documentation can be found at the following URL on page 4”

**[Http//www.gpaaccess.gov/serialset/creports/pdf/108-792/108-792\\_p537-636 divj.pdf](http://www.gpaaccess.gov/serialset/creports/pdf/108-792/108-792_p537-636_divj.pdf)**

Thus our grassroots dream of pocket constitutions to our local students, went to countywide, then counties within the Flint Hills area and now to the entire state of Kansas for eligibility.

The Constitutional Bee (Spelling Bee format) will be open to grades 9-12. A flyer will come later.

Now that our grassroots dream is formalized...we can start funding it. Patriots this is your chance to take an active part. There will be more information forth coming in every Patriots Truth Newsletter. Any amount of donation is welcome. Let’s make it Grow.

Checks can be make out to **Flint Hills TEA Party Educational Fund, Inc. and may be mailed c/o Flint Hills TEA Party of KS, 1228 Westloop Place, PMB #326, Manhattan, KS 66503-2840.**

Sincerely,

Larry Tawney,

Board Member of the Flint Hills TEA Party Educational Fund, Inc.

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**The following was received from John Matta, a conservative candidate for  
Manhattan City Commission**

**Why I Am Running:** When I accepted the position that brought me to Manhattan, my boss asked me if I would stay at least two years. The biggest reservation he and other members of senior management had with hiring me at the time was my being able to adjust to living in a small Midwestern community. He said “you have worked in the San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Phoenix areas. How are you going to adjust?” My reply was I had my satellite dish so I would be able to watch my football and wasn’t really worried about it. Plus I had a two year old at the time and Kansas sounded like a great place to raise a family. Sure seemed like a better place than L.A.

That was just about thirteen years ago. We have truly enjoyed living here and becoming part of the community. I remember when we moved into our house, the neighbors held a welcome party for us and another family that was moving in. Even thirteen years ago Manhattan was more expensive than most parts of Kansas but being from California it seemed like a great deal to us. Manhattan’s growth over the years has added many amenities to the city. Fort Riley growth and the addition of NBAF combined with Kansas State University make for a very bright economic future for Manhattan.

However, the way this growth is being managed has made Manhattan the most expensive place to live in Kansas. Increased costs and debt of city government has, and (unless something is done) will continue to drive higher local taxes. City debt was \$52.2MM in the year 2000, \$63.2MM in 2005, and hit \$214MM this year. The debt service payments were \$8.9MM in 2009 and are projected to hit \$26.5MM in 2013. The debt service alone completed the city will be faced with increased costs for the portions of those developments that fall under the city’s control.

There are costs associated with a city’s growth. However with the right stewardship they can be managed without double digit percentage mill levy increases, which we have seen the past couple of years, and unless things change, we will see for years to come. I want Manhattan to continue to be a place where people can feel a sense of community, are proud to call Manhattan home and still can afford to live here. That is why I am running for city commission. My professional career has focused on driving efficiency, lowering costs, and improving quality. That is what I am offering Manhattan, teamed with at least two other fiscally responsible commissioners, we can keep Manhattan a city we can afford to live in.

John Matta

## **Business Experience:**

I am a seasoned executive with 26 years of experience with progressively greater scope of responsibility. While most of my experience is in Logistics and General Management my background includes: finance, Store Operations, Contract Management, Facilities Management, and Expense Control. I have a consistent record of being able to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and improve quality.

\*Profit and loss responsibility for operations comparable in organizational and financial size to the city of Manhattan.

\*Direct responsibility for operations exceeding 1,000 associates.

\*Responsible for the distribution of product totaling in the billions of dollars annually.

\*Project managed numerous multi-million dollar projects including equipment, IT systems, and consolidations.

\*Directly managed contracted services.

\*Managed union and non-union operations.

\*Worked with McKinsey and Company, one of the world's top management consulting companies, in identifying and realizing \$48MM in company savings.

## **Business Chronology:**

\*Vice President Logistics – Foot Locker

\*Managing Director Junction City Service Center – Foot Locker

\*Director of Distribution – The Walt Disney Company

\*Director of Distribution Southwest Region – Broadway Stores

\*Director of Operations (Facilities Management and Distribution) – Broadway Stores

\*Manager Contract Distribution – Broadway Stores

\*Operations Manager Stonestown Store – Broadway Stores

\*Manager Financial Planning – Broadway Stores

\*Assistant Manager Budget Control – Broadway Stores

## **Education:**

M.A. International Affairs

B.A. Government

California State University, Sacramento

## **Civic and Other Professional Involvement:**

- \*President JKT & J Properties LLC
- \*Manhattan Chamber of commerce Member
- \*Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce Board Member
- \*Flint Hills Tea Party Educational Fund Board Member
- \*Republican Party Precinct Committeeman
- \*Second District Republican Party Alternate Delegate
- \*Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Member
- \*St. Thomas More Church Member
- \*Kansas State University Lifetime Alumni Member
- \*Ahern Fund Member

**Vision:**

Manhattan continuing to be a great place to live, raise a family, and run a business. A city that respects its' citizens and businesses and trusts them to conduct their affairs with integrity without burdensome city regulation or intrusion.

**Efficiency:**

A city that provides services in the most cost effective manner possible, that is fair to city employees and contractors while holding them accountable and making sure they live up to contractual obligations.

**Stewardship:**

City decisions and tax dollar spending handled objectively and for the benefit of the community at large. When one spends their own money one can obviously let sentimentality or personal bias sway a decision but this is not the case when entrusted to make decisions for others or when spending other people's money.

**John Matta For Manhattan City Commission**

**1228 Westloop Pl PMB #300**

**Manhattan, KS 66502-2840**

**785-410-8648**

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**(Campaign e-mail will be published soon)**

Flint Hills TEA Party contact information: [www.flinthillsteaparty.com](http://www.flinthillsteaparty.com); email: [fhttp@flinthillsteaparty.com](mailto:fhttp@flinthillsteaparty.com) or facebook – Flint Hills TEA Party; Manhattan contact – Chuck Henderson, 785-236-1286; Syllda Nichols, 12100 Walsburg Road, Leonardville, KS 66449 sends the snail mail Newsletter; Snail Mail: Flint Hills TEA Party of KS, 1228 Westloop Place, PMB #326, Manhattan, KS 66502-2840

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### New Representatives Contact Info

KS-01      Tim Huelskamp    620-646-5413      [huelskampforcongress@rurallink.net](mailto:huelskampforcongress@rurallink.net)  
KS-03      Kevin Yoder                      913-526-1990      [kyoder@kc.rr.com](mailto:kyoder@kc.rr.com)  
KS-04      Michael Pompeo    316-393-6830      [mpompeo@sentryinternational.net](mailto:mpompeo@sentryinternational.net)

Refer to your last Newsletter for the Contact Info on returning State & Federal Senators & Legislators.

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As announced in the minutes Holly Friesen is teaching a Constitution Class in Manhattan. There seems to be an interest in Constitutional Classes being taught outside of the City of Manhattan. The Flint Hills TEA Party is happy to help in the organization of desired classes. Those interested in teaching or taking a Constitutional Class should contact Larry Tawney or Syllda Nichols. We will do our best to help find teachers and set up classes in the requested areas. We'll need instructors as well as students. All interested, please, contact us. For Larry leave a message at: 785-539-3430; Syllda at: 785-293-2923 or email: [syllda@twinvalley.net](mailto:syllda@twinvalley.net). It is important for us all to know and understand the Constitution.

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## Thanks and Reminders

Many **THANKS** go out to those who helped set up, and take down and clean up the room, decorations, and refreshments for the December 11 meeting. Your help and dedication is highly valued. The donations left in the Tea Pot and purchases of TEA Party articles are appreciated. Without these donations and purchases the TEA Party could cease. As you realize donations are the only income we have, therefore, it all is greatly needed and valued. Stamps are a constant expense, so contributions for stamps are always welcome. Thank you, Thank you!!!! Each and everyone!!! Come again January 8, 2011!!

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