

Taxes, taxes, plenty of money to spend!

Richard Parins, BCTA Board Member

Reading the headlines you might think our governments are swimming in money and can't figure just where to spend, Spend, SPEND! Republicans and Democrats are one-uppin each other on how to return excessive taxations to We-The-Plebes. We already know Brown County is rolling in sales tax dough, and the City of Green Bay can't quite figure out how to spend its federal Monopoly money, or at the least, they won't disclose the fullness of their benevolence. Sorry everyone, they didn't look for your opinion or vote on the issue, even though your current and future federal taxes created this "Gubmint" slush puppy. Bull hockey! They printed this fiat currency, Ghostcoin, out of thin air, bonded with taxpayers' elbow-grease!

We already know the County Sales Tax is illegal and excessive but the Board appears to be perfectly happy to continue as enjoyed. I attended the City Wheel of Fortune giveaway of the Federal Relief \$\$\$, but the question of best-use was never asked of the taxpayers, unless you were among the handful of citizens in attendance. Instead, the Mayor presented a list of pre-ordained priorities and weeks later passed through a City Committee rubber-stamp machine. Thomas Paine would be at the ready to write Common Sense 2.0. Tom, if you're reading this, feel free to jump in!

For starts, fix the damn streets before our team changes its name to the Green Bay Potholes. We already pay an annual Wheel Tax and prescribed Budget line items for street maintenance and replacement, as well as some TBA plans to enhance these necessities. But last year's Street Fixin' Season missed the starting gun and underachieved, so just who's running this boondoggle? I, for one, am disappointed the minuscule work completed, while looking nice, varies widely from City

leaders' predictions. Our governing bodies have failed us across the board.

Part of the problem is communication. No advance notice for projected work or completion dates. The City has no problem creating positions that frankly don't excite me given these very real and tangible issues. Yet, Public Works department heads could at least contact the media or tweet out project dates providing expectations. Maybe then we could appreciate the work being done on behalf of the community. Now, that's a novel idea!

Remember these important observations when the April ballot is filled out, the "tax increaser" Council and Board members and underperforming department heads need to be shown the door.

Rich

The Peculiar Institution

Scott Liddicoat, BCTA Member

I don't enjoy writing about this. For one, it's not in my nature to disparage others. For another, this is hard work. It's not easy to simplify what I'm writing about. But it's what I've done all my life as a teacher—make learning easy. And this is important for people to learn.

Deficit Spending

Back in the day, slavery was called the "peculiar institution." The peculiar institution of our day is deficit spending—the creation of money from n-o-t-h-i-n-g by the government.

It's also a peculiar institution because so few people understand how the destructive process of creating deficit money works.

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January Meeting Notes

Darin Kane, a candidate for the Green Bay Area School Board, spoke about his reasons for running for a seat on the school board. He feels the school board is not acting the way that it should. He totally disagrees with Critical Race Theory. He was shocked to hear his 20 year old son say things like “the evil white man.” Grade creep and the diminishing expectations for responsibility and accountability demonstrated by students are large concerns for him.

A single vote on the school board makes it very difficult to effect much change immediately. Darin realizes that it will be difficult to be a lone voice with everyone else opposing him. His hope is that he could talk some sense in some decisions. He is hopeful to get a couple more people on the board and start to change the dynamics. Darin's website is darinkane.com.

When you vote, the instructions will say to vote for two or three candidates, you DO NOT have to vote for two or three, but whatever it is, just vote for one.

Bill Morgan, candidate for District Three on the Green Bay City Council, spoke about issues facing the city. On the ballot, you'll see William David Morgan, his full name. He is a 39 year veteran of the Brown County Sheriff's Department.

For his last 25 years, he was a Patrol Sergeant, with all kinds of duties. Technically, they all said he was a supervisor, but he feels he was really a working guy that made sure everybody got to go home at night and the t's were crossed and the i's were dotted. He thinks everything should get back to the basics.

Bill will be on the ballot on April 5th; there is no primary. He won the drawing so he will be the first one on the ballot.

Bill has been a baseball coach for over 30 years. He is starting his 13th year as varsity baseball coach at Preble High School. He also coaches American Legion baseball in the summer.

Bill is law enforcement. His big thing, of course, will be public safety right now. There are several police and fire positions still open. We need to ensure they keep trying, and to try harder to get these positions filled so that people are getting the service that they deserve.

Voter integrity is another big thing. Bill can't believe that some billionaire was able to come in and throw money down, and have an operative take control of our election and have all the authority he was given.

Infrastructure funding for everything seems to be used to get some pet projects done. We need to get back to doing what basic infrastructure was. We need to approve roads. You have to be able to drive down the street and not worry about a tire getting punctured because you hit a rut in the road.

Bill is an advocate for the Second Amendment and everything about it, but laws need to be enforced. People have to be prosecuted. We do need to support the people that are going to prosecute, make people pay for the crimes they commit and make it a deterrent.

Asked about his heroic rescue of a young woman attempting to jump off the Leo Frigo Bridge, Bill modestly explained, “It was fun. I mean, I got to go on the Oprah Winfree show and all these national shows, but it was just proper training. Brown County had the best training that ever was then. And I was in the right position at the right time.”

Three BCTA members attended a meeting of the NEW Patriots Tuesday evening. County Executive Troy Streckenbach addressed the members of that group for a good hour and a half about everything that's going on in the county. The summation of it was that we're getting all the government we paid for and some extra. One of the issues that came up amongst the members of that group was that the county executive is very positive towards diversity and inclusivity. He talked so long we were forced to vacate that meeting room by the town rules. So we really didn't get a chance to ask him how he's funding all of these things. As long as we had, we were going to be forced to vacate that meeting room by the town rules. So we didn't get a chance to ask him how he is funding all of these things. That was probably the reason many members came to the meeting.

Dave Nelson - Secretary

February Meeting Notes

State Senator Eric Wimberger was our guest speaker.

He represents the 30th Senate District, north of Green Bay. He graduated from Marquette University Law School in 2005. He was elected to the State Senate in 2020. He chairs the Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs and Constitution and Federalism.

Senator Wimberger discussed several issues that are of significant local interest:

It appears to be Christmas time in Wisconsin with Governor Evers attempting to play Santa Claus giving out \$150 gift cards in an election year.

Senator Wimberger introduced a bill for the \$120 Million in funding for southern Brown County bridge and connections, it was vetoed by Gov. Evers delaying the project for another 2 years.

Moving the coal piles, as coal usage transitions to natural gas, the main issue is reworking the port at the old Pulium Plant. Project cost of expanding the port is estimated to be about \$25 million.

Another thing he is working on is the Zuckerberg Zuck buck constitutional amendment. He thinks this is important going forward with the private money that came into the 2020 election. It was an end around the campaign finance rules. Doing a get-out-the-vote program takes a lot of money. You have to have cars and staff and an organizational structure of some kind. Well, that's already half built-in if you just give it directly to the government. And then use as a contingent as, by a contractor receiving the money, you have to do X, Y, and Z, including having the private entity

staff basically running the election. In Green Bay. It got to the point where Ms. Teske, who was the clerk, went on Family Medical Leave on October 22nd. The city appears to have turned over the election to an outside democratic attorney from New York.

Green Bay Area School Board candidate Jason Johnson discussed his campaign. He is a structural engineer who has worked on projects for the Green Bay Area School District, giving him familiarity with the District's facilities. He has seen some of the work that's been done and is concerned about where tax dollars are going.

While knocking on doors and talking to voters, people are concerned about their kids not being in school. Many kids are not learning in the virtual setting. These kids were playing games while they were supposed to be watching their lessons.

For public education to work, students, teachers, and parents need to agree on a plan and work together. The problem is some of the parents don't want to be involved in the process. There are a lot of problems with discipline in the schools. Many of the problems are from students being frustrated because they don't know the material they're being taught. They were sent home because of COVID. They never got that material and they never stopped and said, Hey, we need to circle back and get this material learned. And so they've missed out on the basics. Anyways, that's why Jason is running. He is concerned about their education and how our tax dollars are being spent.

Dave Nelson - Secretary

Monthly Meetings @ The Village Grille

Monthly meetings are held at **The Village Grille, corner of Hoffman and East River Drive, Allouez**. The location has no stairs or steps, convenient parking, and a room to better accommodate speakers and conversation. There will be three selections from which to choose lunch - each one will be priced at \$12 (including tip.) Lunch is at 12:00 noon with monthly speakers presenting.

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**New Members are Always
Welcome.**

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John Maynard Keynes, the father of deficit spending wrote:

“There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch [meaning to corrupt or debase] the currency.

The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million can diagnose.”

Like slavery, deficit spending inflicts terrible, systemic injustices on its victims, who are the poorest in our communities. The violence they suffer is inescapable. But deficit spending is the peculiar institution of our age for another reason. That’s because of the tortured reasoning and institutional fervor with which our modern-day political aristocracy seeks to perpetuate it. Like the peculiar institution of old, this institution must not be touched or even questioned. On the contrary, it must be revered and worshipped.

Curiously, most of those who currently oppose deficit money creation have it wrong. They warn that “we’re leaving all of this debt to our children.” But the White House Office of Management and Budget shows we’ve run deficits fifty-eight of the last sixty years. Fifty-eight of the last sixty years! After six decades it’s pretty obvious. Politicians have no intention of paying off the debt, even in the good years. While our children will suffer consequences, paying off the debt is not one of them.

Creating Dollars and the Inflation Tax

The Washington aristocracy knows it cannot tax us through legitimate means to pay for all of the power they want. We’d rebel against having that kind of money taken from what we earn. But they still have on the spot access to the cash they want through the peculiar institution of printing money. Of course, today’s equivalent of printing money is digital money creation. Input the desired numbers into the right computer, hit enter, and the money is instantly created from...from...n-o-t-h-i-n-g. Instantly, the deficit for the year is increased, and likewise the national debt. Almost as instantly, the problems begin.

As government money created from nothing is spent and pushed into the economy, its value, its purchasing

power, goes down. Whenever the supply of dollars available to pay for the same amount of goods increases, the value of money always decreases. Every economist knows this. It’s why counterfeiting is such a serious crime. When money’s value goes down, businesses must raise prices on the things they produce to keep up. Caused by money creation, this is inflation. It’s what Keynes called “debauching the currency.”

Government creates money, spends it, and gets the benefit. Prices go up and we get the resulting burden. That’s why many people call it an “inflation tax.” But inflation doesn’t hit everyone equally. For the rich, it’s merely an annoyance. For those in the middle, perhaps it requires longer hours or a second job. But for anyone who cannot increase their income, inflation causes terrible economic violence. That’s the unemployed, retirees on fixed incomes, the helpless, the luckless. In other words, the poor. They struggle to pay for, or can’t pay for the higher-priced necessities of life. Food. Housing. Energy. Transportation. Health care. All of this harm is forced upon every American by the peculiar institution of government deficit money creation.

If That Wasn’t Bad Enough

But the story of the peculiar institution gets worse. It isn’t just government that creates money and swamps the economy with it. Banks get to do it too. Through government legislation, banks are allowed to create up to nine times—nine times!—the amount of money they have on deposit. Here’s how it works.

You happily deposit your \$1000 dollar federal stimulus check in the bank. Automatically the bank creates \$9000 more in its computers and loans it out. It’s called 10% fractional reserve banking. When the loan money created from nothing is spent and pushed into the economy, once again the value of money, its purchasing power, goes down. Remember, the value of money decreases when more money is available to pay for the same amount of goods. Remember who is hurt the most in this inflationary process. That’s right—the poor. They struggle to pay for, or can’t pay for the higher-priced necessities of life.

Big banks and the government causing all this harm. Are you surprised?

And before moving on, it should be clearly noted that

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the monopoly right to create money from nothing is reserved only for the political and banking classes. We The People are not granted the same right. Don't believe me? Try creating and spending money on your own.

Of Course, A Complicit Media

Predictably, the political class causing inflation blames businesses and free enterprise for the problems that result. That's what complicit media reports. The truth is businesses are always fighting to keep their prices down. You and I buy somewhere else if they don't. Freely enterprising businesses are the last ones holding the line on prices against the ocean of money created by the government and the banks.

Does this mean that most politicians and the media are just lazy or stupid on the topic of deficit money creation? The answer is neither. It's their job to be truthful on the issues, no matter how political, no matter how complicated or dull the chain of reasoning needed to follow them may be. In this age of easy information access, there are no excuses.

The Consequences In Short

Now that you know all of this, it's easy to understand the destructiveness of the peculiar institution.

First and worst, creating fraudulent dollars redistributes wealth. Politicians and banks become wealthier and more powerful on the backs of the poor. True to form, politicians then use the economic violence they caused as an excuse to create even more money to "help the poor." But it's the poor they systematically fleece with every dollar they print.

Since (compared with taxation) politicians can create deficit money with relative ease, it promotes government overreach. Politicians don't have to set priorities, make hard choices, respect budgetary limits, or even constitutional boundaries to their authority. Deficit money is always available for never-ending wars on crime, poverty, drugs, terror, etc. Then money, of course for war, usually entered into without proper concern for its consequences—monetary or otherwise.

With printed money, the government also finds it easy to be wasteful, and to fund the inefficient and unwanted. They also fund their cronies, the fraudulent, and even the corrupt. Government places money into enterprises where private citizens and investors would never freely spend or

invest.

And the government never shrinks, especially when it should. Government creates money and floods the economy with it. Then fractional reserve banking does its part to inflate the bubble. Eventually, the bubble breaks and the economy shrinks. But during the time when businesses must downsize, the government prints even more money and upsizes. With the exclusive right to create money, the federal government and the banks never, ever shrink. They always expand.

Finally, our children and grandchildren will suffer consequences. By now you know that paying back the debt isn't one of them. Our children will have to pay the ever-increasing interest on the debt with increased taxes. This increased debt service will reduce their ability to pay for legitimate government needs. But worse, future generations will inherit a much poorer, much weaker economy of government-directed "investments" and wants. These crowd out real investments in productive factories and enterprises focused on We The People and our free choices.

All of this economic distortion and wreckage—every big and little bit of it—was caused by the political aristocracy creating money from...n-o-t-h-i-n-g.

What's To Be Done?

So, how do we do away with the peculiar institution?

The first step is the hardest. Do not shrink from the truth you've just learned. Few people want to acknowledge such systemic injustice. Awakened to it, we must own the truth.

Once we own the truth, we must act on it. What shape our actions take depends on who we are, our circumstances, and our conscience. But act we must.

In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." It's only in finding, honoring, and acting on what is true that we can achieve and share justice—economic justice and moral justice.

Scott Liddicoat, BCTA Member

The TAX TIMES

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Meeting Location

The Village Grille, Allouez

BCTA Meeting and Events Schedule – MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Thursday - Mar 17, 2022 BCTA Monthly Meeting.
12:00 at The Village Grille, Allouez

Tuesday - Apr 5, 2022 Spring Election

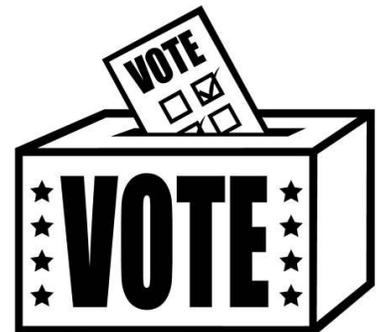
Thursday - Apr 21, 2022 BCTA Monthly Meeting.
12:00 at The Village Grille, Allouez

BCTA monthly meetings are held the Third Thursday of each month, 12:00 Noon, at , at The Village Grille, Allouez.

Meetings are open to the public. BCTA Members, their guests and other interested parties are cordially invited to attend and participate in our open discussions.

COST: \$12.00, Payable at meeting. Includes lunch, tax & tip.
Call Tom Sladek – 499-7701 for information or to leave message.

Mar - Apr 2022



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