

ELECTIONS INTEGRITY

Rich Heidel - BCTA President

Following the primary elections of February 2022, I was interviewed by local television channels for comments on the missteps experienced again – for the third consecutive election – by the city of Green Bay. I stated that when all of Zuckerberg's money has been spent and all the WEC's decisions have been rendered in efforts to maximize voter education, voter access, and voter security, you have nothing if you don't have elections integrity - first, last, and in between.

Election days have morphed into election weeks. Terms such as ballot-harvesting, ballot-curing, drop-boxes, indefinite confinement, and permanent absentee voters – to name a few – have now become part of an all-too-familiar lexicon. If waiting in a polling place line accounts for more than ten minutes, or if the municipality doesn't have bottled water available for the voters, the municipality and its clerk, poll workers, and ordinances are labeled as being "racist" and the vote as being "suppressed". How is it that, what should be, a straightforward process - that should require nothing more but one day, photo ID/registration, accommodation for handicapped or absentee voters, and counting votes with observers or certified equipment - has turned into a convoluted mess of rules, exceptions, ridiculous claims, and, yes, all varieties of opportunity for mischief and fraud? Then to top it all off, God help the American voter who even questions the results. He's branded as a denier, a dues-paying member of QAnon (whatever THAT is), anti-democratic, and so forth.

As a watchdog organization, the BCTA scrutinizes governmental budgeting and policy-making. As an elected official myself, I know that municipalities are responsible for budgeting their own elections. Any municipality that needs outside dollars has failed. Any municipality that doesn't need election funding but welcomes outside dollars anyway, is begging for trouble and franchising itself to miscreants and fraud. It's the voter who's responsible for his own schedule, his own identification, his own transportation, his own education, his own ballot, and his own bottled water. It's a cheap price to pay for the right to vote.

Our BCTA speaker last month, gubernatorial candidate Kevin Nicholson, shared what he'd do if elected as governor. Nicholson honestly summarized, however, that regardless of a governor's efforts and initiatives, or of a legislature's laws, election integrity will always and ultimately be the responsibility of us, the voters. Just like democracy itself. This is the never-ending battle that our speakers this month, Ron Heuer and Attorney Erick Kaardal of the Wisconsin Voters Alliance, are waging. They bring their battle cry to us on Thursday, May 17th, and will brief us on the status of the various legal actions brought by the WVA and private citizens against Wisconsin municipalities in elections held since 2020.

Please join us on May 17th as we educate ourselves on election integrity and become even more diligent defenders of our democratic way of recording our vote. Despite any new laws and election reforms, our vigilance is ultimately the final weapon in our arsenal.

Rich

As the Brown County Taxpayers Association, we tend to focus our attention on taxpayer issues within the borders of Brown County. However, in the last two issues of The Tax Times, we've devoted considerable space to the national issue of federal deficit spending and its unavoidable companion—inflation. In the last issue, its causes and effects were studied. The magnitude of the crisis and recommendations on what to do about it are examined within these pages.

The focus on this national issue is deliberate. All of you are aware of inflation's near double-digit surge in the last year. The prospects for increased deficit spending and inflation looking forward are unpleasant for every citizen of our country, our state, and every resident in Brown County. We hope you find what you've read, and will read today, to be vital, informative, and educational.

Rich Heidel - BCTA President

March Meeting Notes

Adam Jarchow, a Republican candidate for Wisconsin Attorney General, spoke about his observations of problems in the AG's office and his ideas for improving the operation of the AG's office and upgrading law enforcement throughout the entire state.

He has been an attorney for nearly 20 years, representing hundreds, possibly thousands of small businesses over that time. He and his wife are small business owners. So, speaking to business groups or business-oriented groups, and taxpayer groups are in his wheelhouse. A few years ago when he served in the state legislature, he spent a lot of time working with conservatives like Tom Tiffany on what he calls bread and butter issues of private property rights, and regulatory reform. You may have heard of a bill or law called the REINS Act. (REINS). Adam was the author of this bill. This bill has paid serious dividends during the Evers administration because it prevents state agencies from making new rules if those rules exceed cost thresholds. They will need legislative approval to move forward. The DNR, for example, is notorious for making horrible and expensive rules that cost businesses and farmers lots of money. They've been mostly stopped from doing that because of the REINS Act. For example, the DNR proposed a nitrate rule. And once there was some testimony about the cost, they had to withdraw it because they knew they would never get it through the legislature. Those kinds of issues are very important for this office. People don't spend enough time monitoring the non-law

enforcement side of the AG's office.

When he talks to his law enforcement friends, they are demoralized. They feel like they are doing the hard work of the law enforcement business: investigating people, getting them into handcuffs, arresting them, and turning them over to the district attorneys for prosecution. They then are right back out on the street with the low bail, no bail soft on crime plea deals. We all talk about it that it's Milwaukee. It is happening all across Wisconsin with these judges and prosecutors. We have some good ones to be sure we have good prosecutors, but we have some really bad ones even in conservative parts of our state where we should not have that happening.

It starts in law schools. It probably starts in elementary schools. We are starting to indoctrinate people to be liberals from the time that they are in elementary school. And by the time you've gotten through four years of college and three years of law school, they have had a lot of indoctrination to deal with.

Election integrity is our top priority. The most important thing that we will do is fix our election system. If we don't have election integrity, if half the people in the country believe their vote was stolen or didn't count, or was diluted by cheating, how long can we sustain a Republic with that? You have seen how hard it is right now. The tension in the fights, even intra-party fights because of that, we have to fix it. And thankfully, because of the audits, we know a lot of the things to fix.

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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The Great Reset

Scott Liddicoat, Member

I've written previously on this topic in this space. Call it deficit spending. Call it inflation. Call it money creation. In *The Peculiar Institution* (Tax Times, March 2022) I described how the federal government creates money from n-o-t-h-i-n-g, and the effects of this routine, destructive practice by the political class.

Now I've been asked to follow up, providing specific solutions to defeat this terrible, generational problem. To defeat deficit spending will require extraordinary resolve. The result? Replacing government monetary oppression with a Great Reset of economic and moral justice for every American.

Understand the Scope of the Problem

To do away with deficit spending—The Peculiar Institution—the enormous scope of the tragedy must first be acknowledged.

Deficit money creation has placed Americans \$30,000,000,000,000 (\$30 trillion) in debt to date. The political aristocracy has deficit spent 58 out of the last 60 years. More than \$29 trillion of our debt has been created in that time. More than \$12 trillion has been run-up in the last ten years. Almost \$7 trillion of that since 2020. That's \$8 billion created from n-o-t-h-i-n-g, day after day for the last 2 years. This crisis is structural in two ways.

It's structural because deficit spending is simply the way the politicians have grown to think and do business. But it's also structural because there's currently no other way to pay the bills. American tax collections for this year are expected to be about \$3.5 trillion. Of that, \$2.5 trillion is spoken for in mandatory outlays, primarily Social Security and Medicare. That leaves roughly \$1 trillion for

discretionary spending. Military spending will take $\frac{3}{4}$ of that.

In the end, only about \$250 billion will be left for politicians to spend on everything else for the rest of the entire year and still remain within budget.

With all the crises they'll create and the new initiatives and programs they want, they'll go way over budget. They'll deficit spend even if a good economy brings in unexpectedly high tax revenues. That's the textbook definition of "structural deficit." Every year Washington political elites give us the picture definition to go along with it.

This is the Hardest Thing to Do

How do we overcome deficit money creation? The first step I proposed in *The Peculiar Institution* is still the most important, and the hardest to accomplish. *"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."*

This is terribly challenging to do in the face of an army of "experts" with direct access to a complicit media. In the face of people who scream that to do anything about deficit spending is intolerant and hateful. In the face of ordinary conversation that accepts the destructive practice of deficit spending without examination or reason. In the face of all this, trust the truth and your common sense. Deficit spending is unjust. It is wrong.

The political aristocracy is powerfully motivated to see the peculiar institution continued. But look at their record. Remember 2007 and 2008? Remember when they told us there was no housing bubble or financial crisis, even after these events were well underway? Remember just a few months ago when inflation was transitory?" With the most extensive

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financial resources on the planet, they've been regularly and spectacularly wrong.

Finally, politicians always disregard the horrible injustices their deficit money creation inflicts on everyone, but especially the poor. To the political class, those injustices simply aren't worth their trouble, so we don't hear about them in the media.

Trust yourself. The politicians and experts have no better reasoning powers than you or I. They aren't made of uncommon human material, and they certainly don't have angel wings. They are powerfully motivated to see the deplorable practice of deficit spending—the peculiar institution—increased and expanded.

They'll Never Do It On Their Own

It's vital to concede that the political aristocracy won't stop creating money on its own. Special blue ribbon budget panels and commissions have never worked. The balanced budget amendment didn't go anywhere. Three waves of (so-called) conservatism (Reagan Revolution, Contract With America, Tea Party) have come and gone. Sorrowful political speeches about the debt are useless. Deficit spending is worse than ever.

It's clear, that the political class won't stop overspending on its own. Creating deficit dollars is far easier than taxing us for the status and power they crave. They'll have to be forced to stop.

The Issue that Keeps On Giving

Acknowledging, owning, and conceding has now brought us to engaging. To engage the single issue of deficit money creation is to engage thousands of issues that matter to you.

Everything the government does must be paid for. It's for just this reason that we must become

single-issue voters on deficit spending. Single issue politics is usually regarded as unrealistic. But in this case, every federal government issue is combined in this one. Without deficit money support many offensive problems just disappear.

Want more freedom? Want less government? Want politicians to have to choose needs over wants? Want a government that must offload much of its inefficient and cowardly bureaucracy? Make it clear. You won't vote for politicians who are complicit in this destructive practice. You want the federal budget balanced, and that means no spending beyond taxes collected. You're voting on this issue and one of two things is coming to an end—deficit spending or my vote for you.

Incentivize Them

You own a business and one of your employees has overspent their budget 58 out of the last 60 years. Way overspent. What would you do?

Sadly, politicians can only be fired at election time. Elected replacements persistently fail to meet their advertising claims. Let your candidates and elected officials know that from now on here are your expectations whenever the budget isn't balanced. All expenses are economy for them and their legislative staff. This means covered expenses will be reimbursed at the General Services Administration rate. Commercial travel. Economy lodging. Modest meals. No exceptions. This is only sensible and reasonable for compulsive spenders. It can also be agreed to voluntarily before being introduced as legislation.

In addition, inform political candidates and officials you expect them to sponsor legislation to cut their salary and benefits in half in any year spending exceeds tax revenue. Staff too. In the interim, this

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should be agreed to voluntarily. And why shouldn't it be agreed to voluntarily? When politicians can't operate within their means they certainly shouldn't be adding zeros to their net worth. This is especially true when their wealth and celebrity is built upon the inflation their deficit dollar creation inflicts upon every ordinary American.

Smarter, Angrier, or Both

The political aristocracy depends on us to be innocent, ignorant, or submissive. We have to get a lot smarter. Angrier too. Here are just a few examples.

Political aristocrats tell us one of the best ways to balance the budget is to boost corporate taxes. Increases in corporate taxes are just passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices. Corporate taxes become sales taxes paid by you and me.

Federal block grants are simply absurd. Every year, billions in federal tax payments are collected from the states. Then they're sent back to the states in questionable grants used to buy political patronage. Of course, grant administration costs are subtracted before the money is returned, even though accountability is minimal.

The green new deal and its policies are far from settled [*sic*] science. Yet our political aristocracy stands ready to pledge trillions in deficit dollars year after year to combat it. And while they condemn fossil fuels, it hasn't kept them from continuing to bankroll their pals in those industries with hundreds of billions in deficit-financed support. Of course, no government proposal will ever permit free markets and free enterprise to resolve issues like this to everyone's benefit.

Federal stimulus payments made from deficit money are just senseless and irresponsible. Any short-run gain is quickly surpassed by the increased

inflation they cause. Everyone is harmed, but especially the poor, even if they receive a stimulus payment directly.

These examples (and many more) are politically manipulative, unjust, and shameful. We must recognize this kind of deceit and alert others to it. We need to pay attention to the names of politicians who support schemes like these and vote them out. Most important, we must be audibly angry with our rulers about stopping deficit injustice before it becomes law.

Spending and Legislation Made Open and Clear

Clear citizen oversight of legislation and spending is required to bring the political aristocracy to heel on deficit money creation.

Every dollar of federal spending must be tracked in real time. Any entity spending money traceable to a federal government funding source must post this information in real time to a single location. It must be broken down by legislative provision, federal account number, and what the money was spent on—transaction by individual transaction. All spending must be traceable to a federal department and a specific, approved spending authority. The ruling class must be forced to account for every federal dollar spent, where the money came from, and how it's being accounted for.

Reform of the legislative process is even more vital. From the beginning draft, all potential legislation must be updated and available for public review in real-time on the internet. Before legislation leaves the committee and is reported to the floor, it must be open for public review and comment for a minimum of ten days. After this time, committee members may mark up the bill further, subject to another ten-day public review.

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Upon reaching the floor, legislation may not be voted on without another minimum of 10 days for public review. After this time, proposed legislation may be reopened for discussion, debate, and change, and then subject to another ten-day review. In other words, there will be no more late-night changes, followed by an early morning vote, followed by a recess, followed by moving on to the next crisis the politicians have endorsed for the news cycle.

These provisions are reasonable in a modern representative republic. They're necessary to compel deliberate, responsible spending behavior from our rulers.

There's Always Solution Z

Of course, the preferred solution for many is approval, ignorance, apathy, or continuing to let RINO's be RINO's. In other words, don't touch the peculiar institution. Continue to give the political aristocracy power and influence at our expense through deficit money creation. If this solution prevails, most of us will be living witnesses to yet another repeat in the history of tyranny. The creation of fraudulent money will ultimately have its way with us. As always, it unleashes forces it cannot control.

In fits and spurts, our economy may descend into second world status. Our current high inflation, shortages, social chaos, and incompetent government suggest we're on this path. We may ultimately suffer a currency collapse, the scourge of hyperinflation, or some other widespread economic breakdown. All of these possibilities (and more) are in play as our rulers create more, and more, and more, and more money from...from...n-o-t-h-i-n-g.

An Extraordinary Reset

Some who read my first piece on deficit spending (*The Peculiar Institution*, Tax Times, March 2022) said my solutions were "soft." I want to thank them for inviting me back to write *The Great Reset*. Here I've provided more specific remedies to deficit money creation by the political class. But I still stand firmly behind what I wrote in my first piece. "*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.*"

I've chosen to act by making this issue simple and clear for myself and extending that clarity to you and others. I'm reaching out to those running for, and currently occupying federal offices I can influence with my vote. The terms for my support and vote are the terms I've described herein The Great Reset. If they don't agree to them, they won't get my vote.

You've learned that deficit money creation by the political aristocracy is the most deeply rooted, destructive problem of our time. But solution Z doesn't have to be the future for you and your loved ones. Engage on the issue. Become smarter on it. Educate others. Get angry about it. Make the terms of your vote clear to those in and seeking power. Follow through.

Your action is necessary to require responsible behavior from your elected officials. Use what you've learned to become part of The Great Reset. It will be an extraordinary reset of economic and moral justice for America.

APRIL MEETING NOTES

Kevin Nicholson, a Republican candidate for governor of the State of Wisconsin, spoke about his reasons for running for governor, some major problems he sees, and potential solutions. He has experience as a dad, husband, Marine veteran, consultant, and candidate for US Senate.

He explained that we have seen a dissolution of law and order. This is not a crime wave. This is a programmatic attempt on the part of the left to actually undermine the existence of law and order in our society. Unfortunately, they have been pretty successful and the result is we are seeing sky-high murder rates, violence, and rampant drug abuse spreading across the entire state. We have to get society back on track. The left is working directly against it.

We have to stop the courts. It is in the playbook of the left to continue to loosen protocols around elections and to allow as much manipulation as they possibly can. It has to be stopped. In the last two years, we saw the left use COVID as an opportunity to turn the world upside down. We have to take steps with the legislature and the new governor in order to actually put laws in place to stop county and government units from being able to arbitrarily create mandates that basically halt our society going forward.

He wants to see the institution of universal school choice. For him, that means money from the state of Wisconsin, tracking to children, and then no longer to school buildings.

Why is that important? Talk about the evils of critical race theory and the other things that our kids are being taught in their schools right now. What he wants to do is empower Wisconsin families. So that families can go to administrators and say, look, address these concerns that we have about you teaching our children or we are taking them out of your school and the funding is going to come with them. That is what you are going to finally see and see people respond. Administrators in our public schools respond to an economic pressure that they do not have today. In addition, it also gets kids out of toxic and toxic environments and into new schools more quickly as it makes it easier to start new schools because the startup funding will come with the children in the form of the funding that attaches to them.

He thinks it will create a much better market. You know what kids are being taught and you will have the ability to go into different institutions and take money. Then the other thing he would say is to talk about subjects like critical race theory. He led a group at No Better Friend. They spent a lot of time identifying what critical race theory is and how we defeat it. Universal school choice is a big part of defeating it, getting kids away from it. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 makes it clear. You cannot discriminate against Americans on the basis of race or ethnicity while critical race theory is the attempt to assign blame to people on the basis of their race or for historical sins.

That is a violation of the civil rights act. That's not about teaching the accurate history of America, which I'm all for the

good, the bad, the ugly, every kid, every person in this country should understand. But the progress we made is immense as a people. And part of that progress is the passage of the civil rights act and what we need to do and I will as your Governor ensure that institutions that perpetuate critical race theory, things like it ensued for violations of the civil rights act. That's a multi prolonged approach to education that can actually stop what is being spread now and get kids into better markets quickly.

On reestablishing law and order, several things are needed. First is the institution of mandatory minimums for setting bail limits for sentencing. He has a great group of 31 sheriffs across the state that are on his law enforcement advisory team. They have all given very direct feedback to him: We need mandatories. We need to take the ball away from district attorneys that are trying to undercharge and under-assess the bail of criminals. The legislature can define what scopes a violent charge so that we get this right. We have to rebuild law enforcement agencies in our state. We have seen real problems where they cannot recruit nor retain the people they need right now. Law enforcement has been thrown under the bus by politicians over the last couple of years. That has to stop.

Kevin views the current state energy policy as horrific and abysmal. It leads us to what we face today with rising inflation. Cutting off the Keystone pipeline was the first step in constricting the flow of energy into our economy. By doing that and by finding different ways to incentivize non economical forms of alternative energy, they are crippling our economy,

What people like Joe Biden and Tony Evers have accepted and pushed is the idea of decarbonizing our economy. We literally can't do it. We do not have the alternative energy sources to do it, plus they are wildly noneconomic. By doing this, Joe Biden and Tony Evers have started a process that is spiking the cost of energy.

We have a lot of natural gas to fuel our country and help to fuel economies throughout the world. In any case, by putting those Administration policies in place, they spike the cost of energy, and put us in a bad place. At the same time, Biden was paying people to not work. We are in an even more precarious situation because of policy decisions that the government has made. The real answer is the more energy, the better. Yes, it will come from carbon-based fuels for the foreseeable future. We need to produce much larger gas volumes as economically as possible. New energy sources to harvest power from the sun are what we want. We don't have that. So, in the meantime, a cheap and plentiful, clean fuel like natural gas actually makes the world a safer place. Cheap, plentiful energy would make the entire situation more sustainable. It would be a better decision to apply. Kevin wants to hear more about allowing the market into the energy industry.

Dave Nelson - Secretary

The TAX TIMES

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Meeting Location

The Village Grille, Allouez

BCTA Meeting and Events Schedule – MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Thursday - May 19, 2022 BCTA Monthly Meeting.
12:00 at The Village Grille, Allouez
Ron Heuer and Attorney Erick Kaardal
Wisconsin Voters Alliance

Thursday - Jun 16, 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.**

May - Jun 2022



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