

From the Conservative Side

By George McClellan... Spending (other people's) Money

"A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have"..Thomas Jefferson

The TEA party protests going on throughout America are the results of Americans becoming almost instantly alarmed and galvanized into action by the sudden massive increase of the spending by our government and the detriment to Americas future by the programs now being implemented by Barack Obama and his progressive Democrat (socialist) party.

One would think that they are simply mistaken in their calculations, but they're not! One would think that at some point common sense would intrude on their planning process, but it won't! One would think that even the warning calculations of the Congressional Budget Office would carry some weight, but it doesn't, and neither, apparently does the screaming of American Taxpayers who are not only being ignored but are referred to and categorized at "Right Wing" extremists, potential terrorists and threats to the government.

These people (Obama's supporters) know what they are doing. They are "Changing America" just like they said they would. Obama has repeated this over and over and over again in his campaign for the Presidency, in his two books, and in the repeated statements of his advisers. Obama's appointments of non-vetted Marxist Czars (Commissars) he is using to change our government and who function as replacements for his Senate vetted Cabinet Secretary's, should scare the bejeezus out of all of us.

Therefore the large "stimulus" program (admittedly started by G.W. Bush) and other spending programs either created by or embraced by Obama have been driven far beyond any level that can be sustained or repaid. The facts and figures put forth by the Obama administration as to jobs saved and jobs created, are pure fiction and unsustainable to even to most casual examination. This has been done on purpose, that purpose being to facilitate the redistribution of America's wealth from the producers, those who make a profit, provide employment, and sustain America's Gross National Product, to the slugs among us who only take, consume and reproduce more potential non-producers.

Case in point! Remember Obama's "Cash for Clunkers" program. It was a re-distribution scam. Consider: if you drive a vehicle that gets 15 mpg you will use about 800 gallons of gas in 12,000 miles. A vehicle at 25 mpg will use 480 gallons in 12,000 miles driven. With those two little pieces of data in hand, the average "Cash for Clunkers" transaction will reduce fuel consumption by 320 gallons per year. When the program ended around 700,000 vehicles were turned in for a savings of 224,000,000 gallons of gasoline a year. This is about 5,000,000 barrels of oil or one fourth of the crude oil consumption in the United States, on any given average day. So, if 5,000,000 barrels of crude oil, at \$75.00 per barrel is \$350,000,000, that means we spent 3 billion dollars to save \$350 million. These are the same wonderful people who give us the US Post Office, Veterans Hospitals, and now want to give us Obamacare.

Other schemes being planned by the Obama gang for the redistribution of our wealth is to repeal the Bush tax cuts simply by allowing them to expire in 2010, raise self-employed payroll taxes, taxing energy consumption (Cap and Trade), a proposed 8% tax on employers (producers) who do not provide health insurance, and a national surtax of up to 5.4% on the earnings of the top 1% of Americans who now pony up 40% of all Federal Income Taxes. Examples of the failure of these tax programs are found in California and New York City which are severely driving down its tax base by overtaxing the producers who are moving out of their respective jurisdictions into safer tax haven states. For New Yorkers it's New Jersey (who would believe it?), and for Californian's it's Nevada, Tennessee and Texas.

The US deficit for 2009 is \$1.8 Trillion or a full 13% of our entire economy. Can we even envision this amount? No, of course not! And yet, the Democratic congress wants to seize another 18% of our economy with it's healthcare plan. Republicans, they say, have presented no plan. Well, from the volume of noise I hear from our side, it may be that the Democrats are right. Health care problems can be easily remedied by practical methods. Costs can be lowered by increasing free marketplace competition, including cross border sales. Tort reform, by limiting awards and loser pays plans would go a long way to solving health care costs and finally, reverse the nonsense judgements from liberal Federal Courts that permit non emergency walk-ins into emergency rooms. I will state right here, that the National Republican Party, when they had the chance to correct these problems, did absolutely nothing. It is for reasons like these that our Republican Party now finds itself in the wilderness while a ruthless, well oiled, far left wing political machine does just about what it wants to do. The counter efforts of our side have been about as effective as shooting spit wads at elephants using a 'nu-flex straw.'

Here is a question to ask yourself: As we have been trading, either knowingly or not, our freedoms for some perceived value offered by government, are we getting what we expected? Socialism, or the Nanny State philosophy, is where we are headed. All of our wants and needs will be supplied to us by either a benevolent, or corrupt, or tyrannical or incompetent, or all of the above, government. These benefits will come of course, not at the speed we need it, or at the cost or value we want it, but whether we need it or not, can afford it or not, and or will prosper by it or not. Capitalism, the bogey-man of the left, has been accused of being selfish and cynical, corrupting and greedy, uncaring and aloof and inconsiderate of the needs of the poor and helpless. That's nonsense of course, but we all have our cross to bear, but recognizing that the driving force of all success is "selfishness", then Capitalism has found the formula to exploit it and bring prosperity to anyone willing to work for it. With that prosperity comes the only form of true freedom that any country in the world has ever experienced, that freedom found right here in America, the America founded upon principles enumerated only in our Constitution.

Next question: Do we realize what we are giving up for Obama's form of benevolence? Think about it. Study the issues, attend your party meetings, including the TEA protesters, scour the internet and get the facts. Turn a deaf ear to all incumbent politicians at the National level who tell us one thing and vote another but constantly call them, fax them or e-mail them your comments, thoughts, ideas and concerns and if necessary, let's return them to the ranks of the common folks.

(Nov 09)

George McClellan, Chairman

Gilmer Co. GOP