



# Pachyderms

Of Greater Baton Rouge

April 2013

## Islam and Terror

By: Greg Neff

Tragedy struck this past Monday, April 15th, as two explosions ripped through the joyous crowd gathered at the finish line of the Boston Marathon. Another, all too serious reminder, that we are at war with an enemy that has no regard for human life and is perfectly willing to kill their own neighbors.

This enemy is not a nation, even though nations abide by its laws; it's not a particular group of people, although people follow it many tenets; this enemy is a radical religion that is accepting of no other way of life except that which it prescribes, our enemy is... Militant Islam.

Many people, including our naïve President, scoff at the idea that we are at war with anyone, much less the wonderful people of this "religion of peace." They call those of us who see the truth bigots, Islama-phobes, and right-wing-extremists. They ignore the fact that we differentiate between peaceful people who happen to believe the



Quran and those who wish to forcefully impose Shariah on us. But, we will not be silenced as the American people must learn the truth that our politicians wish to ignore.

One of the great leaders in this mission to inform the masses is John West. Mr. West first encountered Militant Islam in Africa where it nearly took his life, Since that time, West has devoted all his free energy to studying Islam and educating Americans to the threat it poses to our nation. Mr. West will now be bringing his presentation to our group this Thursday, April 25th. We will be meeting at Great Wall Chinese Buffet, 3132 College Dr. Baton Rouge, at 6:30 p.m. The optional dinner is \$13 and includes the all you can eat buffet, drink, and tip. We look forward to you joining us for this important informational meeting.

## Immigration Reform?

By: Larry Dyer

The social and dining period was opened at 6:30 PM. The meeting was called to order by President Harold LaCour at 7:00 PM. Mr. LaCour read the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Greg Neff gave a short talk about connecting with other like-minded groups to achieve common goals.

Greg Neff also introduced the main speaker for the night, Judge Carey Holliday. Judge Holliday served as an immigration judge on the Miami Court from 2006 to 2009. He is

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## Quote of the Month

"Ronnie and I got to know each other at a time when we were both in Opposition, and when a good many people intended to keep us there. They failed, and the conservative 1980s were the result. But in a certain sense, we remained an opposition, we were never the establishment. As Ron once put it: the nine most dangerous words in the English language are 'I'm from the government, and I'm here to help.' As usual, he was right."

-Margaret Thatcher

## Remembering Lady Thatcher, "The Iron Lady" of Brittan.

By: Harold LaCour

The planet lost a great and worthy leader earlier this month when Margaret Thatcher died at the age of 87. She rose to the position of Prime Minister of the British Empire in the year of 1979, a year that I remember well.

At that time, Jimmy Carter was our President, America was widely perceived to be losing the Cold War, both politically and economically. 52 Americans were taken hostage by the extremists in Iran and America seemed to be helpless and hopeless. I was building my retail business in Gonzales,



working hard and struggling to grow. I needed money to fund the growth of the business, and the only place that I could find it was at the local banks in Gonzales. Because of the inept leadership of the leftists in the

Carter Administration and the Congress at that time, the "prime rate" for business loans was over 20%. My business nearly failed because of those interest rates, and the whole nation seemed to be suffering from what the press called a

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**Cont'd from "Remembering Thatcher"**

"malaise". Inflation and unemployment were both unusually high.

Over in England things were even more depressing. The Brits seemed to be leading the English speaking world into socialism, running just a few paces ahead of us Americans.

Those of you who remember, or read history, will recall that Sir. Winston Churchill became the Prime Minister of England in 1940, with the might of Nazi Germany staring at them from across the Channel. After Churchill's inspirational and brilliant leadership, and after the war was won and the United Kingdom saved, in 1945 the voters turned him out, for the expressed purpose of building a "welfare state" for their nation. The socialists were smart enough to know that a man like Sir. Winston would be unlikely to go along with such a goal.

During the 34 years from 1945 to 1979 the socialist were quite busy building their little utopia. The government nationalized and operated nearly all of the major industries, including: Coal, Iron and



Steel, Electric and Gas utilities, Trucking, Civil Aviation, Automobile production, and Public Housing. Unions became a powerful force in English politics. All of these industries which could have operated at a profit and paid taxes to the National Treasury, had slipped into serious unprofitability over the years and required

subsidies from the taxpayers each year. Those paying the taxes were under an impossible strain. Commenting on this situation gave rise to Mrs. Thatcher's most recognizable quote: "The problem with socialism is that sooner or later you run out of other people's money."

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**Hey, Can You Spot Me a \$Trillion?**

By: Larry Dyer

Why do people borrow money? We'll, it's generally to get something now that they otherwise would have to wait for. They might want to buy a home or a car, and know they have the earnings to pay for the purchase over time. Businesses borrow in order to buy assets that will increase their productivity and profitability. The assets are expected to produce a cash flow that will cover the interest cost plus provide a profit.

Why do banks lend money? It's because they have an expectation of receiving repayment of the loan plus interest to cover their operating costs. Banks only make money if they are good at assessing risks. Bad loans can put a bank out of business (if they don't get a government bailout). The availability of credit has certainly helped shape our economy and improved our standard of living

But so much for the rational explanation of borrowing and lending.

What is one of the banks' biggest customers? It's the federal government. When they put their excess cash into government treasury bills or bonds, they are lending money to the government. The major reason they invest their money in federal debt is because it is required by regulations from, guess who, the government! They have to maintain minimum solvency ratings, and only the "safe" government investments help them keep their high ratings. If you have money in the bank, you can be sure that some of it is lent to the government. Do the banks get paid back? Well, yes. But are they better off? Not always.

When we lend money to the government, what are we getting? Well, we get more government spending! Why don't our representatives fix or curtail programs that are unsustainable? It's because we lend them money to continue those pro-

grams. We are lending them money to promote new regulations that will hurt us. We are lending them money so they can buy votes. We are certainly not lending money to them for any of the reasons a bank would lend to any of its other customers. The hard earning savings of American's is being used to fuel the voracious and destructive federal spending. The only reason your money is safe, is because the government can print money.

I mentioned that banks are always better off lending to the federal government. Back in the 90's when there was a balanced budget, investors needed a new place to invest. Guess where they were enticed to lend their money? Safe, guaranteed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Bonds! Bernie Madoff couldn't have done it any better.

*Larry (Club Secretary) serves as the "Director of Finance" for a local finance and accounting firm and has written for several online publications.*

**Cont'd from "Remembering Thatcher"**

As Margaret Thatcher began "privatizing" the big industries in the UK, she faced an angry pushback from big Labor, and unmerciful venom from the collectivists Press. Yet, despite the dire warnings of the Keynesian economists and Fabian Socialist politicians, under her firm leadership productivity went up and unemployment went down! News of her activity over there began to be covered in the US press in late '79 and into 1980. As a young businessman, I took notice... and I wondered if it might be possible for America to elect someone like this "Iron Lady" over here in our country.

Fortunately, I didn't have to wait long before a washed-up movie cowboy rode into the national scene and cast himself as the man that America needed. His name was Ronald Reagan, and he immediately fell in step with Mrs. Thatcher, forming a team that fought the good fight for

individual freedom on both sides of the Atlantic for a full decade.

Since the collectivists and redistributors now reside in academia and dominate the media, we can expect that both Regan and Thatcher will be maligned and demonized in the history books currently being written. Even so, I am proud to have been alive in that great era. What a team they were, Ronnie and Maggie. They inspired "faith" in their people and brought down the Berlin Wall and ended the Cold War.

As a final salute to Margaret Thatcher on the occasion of her passing, I raise my glass to her memory and recite the iconic toast made by Bogart in Casablanca, "Here's looking at you kid."

*Harold (Club President) is one of the founding members of the Pachyderms of GBR and a retired business owner.*

**Cont'd from "February Meeting"**

currently a special assistant to the Director of the LA Office of Workers Compensation for court evaluation and review.

Judge Holliday gave a very enlightening talk about the workings of the immigration courts in this country. He described a system that works but is just not being enforced. The system does not allow judges to enforce their own rulings. Immigration judges can order the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) to deport illegal immigrants, but ICE is not bound to carry out the judges' orders. Immigration is being controlled by politics, not by rule of law. Immigration judges need to acquire Article 1 status, which would give them the power to enforce rulings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.



**WE WANT YOU!**

Join the Pachyderms of Greater Baton Rouge today and help us carry out our organization's mission to:

**"Promote active citizen involvement and education in government and politics..."**

Dues are only \$35 per year! Fill out the form below and mail it in with a check made out to Pachyderms of GBR to:

Angela Neff 2525 W. Orice Roth Rd #901 Gonzales, LA 70737

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Writers Needed!**

Do you enjoy writing about current public issues? Maybe you have always wanted to, but never knew where to get started. Well the Pachyderms have the opportunity for you! We currently have openings for conservative writers who want to educate the public, express their opinions, or just hone their skill in our monthly newsletter. We want to expand our monthly publication but we can't do it alone. For more information you can contact one of our officers.

**Be sure to Join  
This Thursday,  
April 25th, at 6:30 p.m.  
at Great Wall Buffet  
on College Dr. for our  
monthly meeting.**

**Pachyderm Officers**

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