

Skidaway Island Republican Club

MAGAZINE

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2018 ISSUE NO. 2

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2018 ISSUE 2 CONTENTS

GET OUT THE VOTE- KEY ELECTION ON JULY 24

School Superintendent, Chatham County has one GOP candidate. Plus state GOP runoffs for governor and other state offices. *Vote early* at 112 Eisenhower, if you might miss the 24th. Watch for sample ballot email soon.

TRUE PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR - March 20 - Chatham County Issues

New County Police Chief highlighted transition out of City of Savannah consolidated police department. See page 2.

TRUE PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR - April 24 - Georgia Legislative Highlights

Senator Ben Watson and Representative Jesse Petrea highlighted a balanced budget plus a tax reduction, and getting a law to allow Skidaway to vote on its destiny. See page 3.

TRUE PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR - June 19 - Knowing Historical Principles

Author Randolph Russell highlighted his book *American History in No Time*, on how America's Founding fundamentals can be taught through key historical events. See page 6.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - SIRC Officers on Key Issues

Eight letters on topics like free speech, fiscal responsibility, media bias, and threats to the second Amendment. See pages 5 -7.

BOOK REVIEWS - *Dark Winter & Deliberate Corruption of Climate Science*

Two books now cast doubt on the long held premise that human reliance on fossil fuel for energy is causing a future climate disaster. See book reviews on pages 10,11.

FUTURE EVENTS

September 11: TP Seminar - Skidaway Incorporation: Pros and Cons

October 8: Candidates and Coctails

November 6: Election Day

November 11: TP Seminar - Avi Jorisch on Middle East tensions.

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New Chatham County Police Chief

It was a “good news/bad news” afternoon for the 70+ attendees at the March 20 SIRC True Perspectives Seminar. The bad news was that the announced speaker, Lee Smith, County Manager, was ill and could not attend. (Get well soon Mr. Smith). The good news was that he sent the new Chatham County Police Chief, Jeff Hadley to fill in. It provided a great opportunity for guests to get an early, in depth exposure to this very key, high visibility county leader.



Chief Hadley was born in South Florida, spent time in Indiana and Michigan and came here after ten years as Chief of Police in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He is married and the father of six children; his wife and the two youngest will join him here soon.

He chose not to give a formal presentation but rather to conduct an extended Q & A session.

Some of the topics raised were:

Reporting. He reports to Lee Smith, County Manager

Staffing. A main focus early on. Must get up to 140 or so. Will probably take 6 months or so to get up to strength.

Split with Savannah. Going smoothly. Staff who transfer from Savannah to County get same vetting as new hires.

Salary. Not really an issue. Entry levels are comparable to competing municipalities. Would like to see salary at levels so officers would not feel it necessary to have a second job.

School safety. Must work on hardening the target entry ways, blocking access etc. But don't build a prison. That said, if someone is intent on causing harm, it is hard to stop him/her.

911 Response. Now have 6 or 8 different centers in various municipalities which can lead to confusion and inefficiencies. So plan is for the County to take over the total responsibility.

Allocation of manpower. Looked at number of calls in various areas over time (say Wilmington Is. Vs. Skidaway etc.) and also physical boundaries – bridges, access. And then be aware of changing needs and adjust accordingly.

Other than staffing – main concern is establishing adequate records systems and case management systems.

Opioid problem. It is, of course, a public health problem but law enforcement has a roll. Officers are trained on techniques to distinguish various drugs when at crime scenes etc.

A Separate City of Skidaway Island

If this happens, do you see any problems with the idea of purchasing police protection from the County? Not really. Chief and staff have met with Tim Cook and Landings staff and are fully aware of status.

First impressions of the new Chief of Police

One guest had the last question – a comment rather than a question. He stated he felt the County Manager and the County Commissioners had done a very good job in selecting the new Chief. That was followed by the longest applause of the evening!

Chatham County Commissioner, Pat Farrell

Our District 4 representative also spoke at the meeting to review some other current County initiatives:

McWhorter will be re-surfaced later this year; looking at need for additional youth recreational facilities;

A **new Memorial stadium** is going up – will be ready for fall events; adjacent community building will be added next year;

Cyber problem prevention special study being conducted on in County systems;

Mental health crises - a Diversion Center is planned as a place to put people rather than in the Jail for a few days;

Soccer fields - Three new ones with synthetic surfaces are being added;

He finished with advice to stay focused on the next SPLOST election in 2020, if the City of Skidaway Islands is created in the November 2018 election.



Our local representatives, Senator Ben Watson and Representative Jesse Petrea, highlighted what the Georgia legislature has done this session. Yet the mainstream press generally does not cover some things that the public is most interested in, for example, the first ever reduction in the state income tax – House Bill 918. It will reduce citizens' income taxes by some \$5 billion over the next five years, by a half percent rate reduction and a doubling of the standard deduction.

The legislature still managed to balance the budget and even also fully funded the state's commitment to teacher pay and retirement programs. Georgia teacher pay is the best in the South, and the retirement program among the best in the nation. (Georgia spends 54% of its budget on education.) The legislature also expanded the credits available for scholarships (House Bill 217) for needy public school children to attend private schools to \$100 million. The previous limit of \$58 million had been oversubscribed. It was noted that under Republican leadership since 2003, Georgia high school graduation rates have risen from 67% to 80%.

On promoting conservation of lands, they passed House Bill 332 that earmarks 40% of the sales taxes from sporting goods to promoting state parks and lands and trails for use in recreation.

On medical marijuana, they expanded the uses for those intractable pain or with PTSD or with certain kinds of seizures. It is recognized that this is still a controversial issue as federal law considers THC a Class 1 drug offense similar to hallucinogens. Also, standard marijuana today has over 15% THC, the mind-altering part of weed, whereas decades ago it was only 5% THC.

Public Safety Issues

On gun safety, they rebuffed a liberal Atlanta congress person's call for confiscation of handguns – a blatant violation of the second amendment, but an obvious appeal to a leftist base that likely has no chance of going anywhere in Georgia.

In contrast, they passed a measured bill (HB 657) forbidding intentionally providing a gun to a felon, who is already forbidden to acquire a gun on his own. This measure carries a mandatory imprisonment of at least one year. They also funded \$16 million towards school security grants (Editor's Note: \$267,199 for Chatham County).

On other public safety issues, they passed House Bill 673 – combatting distracted driving, creating fines for holding a phone while driving.

Incorporation of Skidaway Island

Our representatives got the legislature to ok putting a referendum on the November ballot to be able to separately incorporate Skidaway Island. Now it is up to the residents here to decide their future status. It was also noted that the state legislature did not fund a study to see if Chatham County and the City of Savannah might benefit from a merger.

On other geographic news, the legislature is funding a study to evaluate the benefits of keeping or expanding military bases in Georgia, noting that Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Air Field contain some 21,000 military personnel, a third of Georgia's total.

Questions and Answers

1. What is happening legislatively on mental health issues? There has been a lot done on criminal justice reform over the past few years. For example, taking certain non-violent crime issues out of the basic prison system. Better to handle DUIs, some drug offenses and mental health with other Accountability Courts and save hard time prisons for the more violent. Even moving some to community release with some protection is better for some violators than housing them with hardened violent criminals.

At the same time, more attention is now paid to stopping early release via the parole boards of those who juries have justifiably given long sentences for their heinous crimes. At a minimum notice must be given to the families of the victims of these crimes to try to oppose early release, for the sake of alleviating prison overcrowding.

It is recognized now that 71% of paroled violent criminals commit further crimes and need re-incarceration. Now there are more sentences of life without parole to prevent such recidivism and protect the public.

2. What can be done to reduce the sale of guns on the black market? And too easy sale of guns at gun shows? It is recognized that background checks need to be strengthened there. It is too easy to let someone merely sign an affidavit of no prior crimes or mental health issues. The new law on criminalizing furnishing guns to felons should help with the black market problem.

Also, a previous bill (HB 1013) was enacted to promote a 72 hour evaluation of a person by psychological experts before allowing the keeping of a firearm.

3. Is there any truth to the story that some 2.5 million cases a year involve good guys with guns preventing bad outcomes? That is a bone fide statistic that the mainstream press studiously avoids covering.

4. What are we doing to prevent bad outcomes from attacks on our electric grid? There are more and more backup systems being put in place to minimize the outages.



Restoring Patriotism Through Knowing Our Past

Randolph Russell gave an inspiring talk on the importance of preserving our unique American History, which frankly is being downplayed by the education establishment in this country. His motivation for writing a concise history of the important events was also to place them in context of the innovative genius of our founding fathers to craft a civilization different from the ones they were fleeing in Europe as settlers here.

Too many of our youth and indeed our own voting citizens do not understand the foundational truths of our Constitution and the motivating Declaration of independence. There are four basic reasons to try to restore that knowledge and wisdom among our electorate:

1. Our unique identity as Americans is established in those documents.
2. We need to educate ourselves is that there are people who seek to fill the void of ignorance with a distorted picture of this country and its founding.
3. The strength in our treasure of self-governance relies on knowing that history
4. The stories of our struggles as an emerging nation enriches us in avoiding past mistakes and striving for even greater accomplishments.

Know the Principles

Not just the facts but the founders goals is a key way to view the decisions and events of the past. The context of these principles will also help the readers remember those key events instead of what many schools just have as a 1500 page litany of historical events.

For example, why do we have three distinct branches of government? Why did the founders set this up as a check against an all powerful federal government. As James Madison reminded us, "if men were angels, no government would be necessary" and no need for these checks and balances.

The American dream was started with an astonishing break from the most powerful nation in the world at the time - Great Britain. It was at great risk, but the reward was greater. The Revolutionary War was pivotal and almost not successful but for the bravery and leadership of our founders - especially George Washington. Those who dismiss him because he had been a slave owner simply do not know of the mores of the times, where in 1860, 25% of American households owned one or more slaves, including some of the already freed black Americans at the start of the Civil War.

Today's critics who espouse some utopian dream of leaders

without any flaws can't appreciate the very character of our country that fought a horribly bloody war in part to eliminate slavery. No credit for that. Who do those critics emulate as governing angels?

The very innovative spirit of American independence has pervaded our success story of taking only 200 years to become the most prosperous and free nation in the history of the world. The American spirit was embodied in D-Day 1944 when almost insurmountable opposition confronted our troops on Normandy's beaches. We succeeded by emerging leadership among the ranks to overcome those obstacles. In contrast, the Nazi troops to the North, expecting the invasion there, did not dare act innovatively without permission from above.

Q&A

Does your book deal with liberals' obsessions with our struggles in the treatment of native Americans and slaves? Yes, it is important to cover those eras, but in the context of those times, but not in today's environment of enlightenment.

How do we confront today's education establishment that is in denial on its ineffectiveness of teaching true context of history? One way is to realize that local school boards are still voted on by local citizens, so get involved, if you see progressivism being pushed instead of true American values.

Why are most university professors so liberal and won't accept blame for why most Americans being so ignorant of American history and basic civics values? Many blame grades K through 12 for student ignorance (and are probably right to do so).

Why do new citizens know more of our history than our already voting citizens? Back to the schools at fault, but it is not universal, as Arizona, for example, now requires high school grads to be able to pass the history portion of the citizenship naturalization exam.



Randolph Russell retired from his corporate career, and wrote the first version of his book *American History in No Time* for his children, who seemed to have missed its fundamentals in their classwork. He now lectures around the country promoting these basics to enthusiastic audiences.



Letters to Editor Wall Street Journal

Guy Randolph, March 31, 2018

William Galston's op-ed, "Populism's Challenge to Democracy" misses the real threats to liberal democracy and engages in hand ringing about populism. For me, the threats to liberal democracy in America are suppression of free speech on college campuses, an IRS that is used to mute conservative thought, a DOJ and FBI that have political bias, expansion of the welfare state instead of job creation, an economically stagnant middle class, porous borders, a highly biased press, expanded power of bureaucrats and identity politics. Let's see, all that happened under the liberal elite Obama Administration. Should we really be fixated on the dangers of populism?

Guy Randolph, July 5, 2018

In "Go for Growth, Fellow Dems" (op-ed, June 29), Tony James urges Democrats to embrace many Republican positions. He likes tax cuts, sensible regulation, supporting businesses, and addressing the unequal tariffs between the U.S. and our trading partners. Alas, he is wasting his time trying to shift the views of the Democratic Party, which has become ever more left-wing, if not outright socialist. I think it is time for Mr. James to become a Republican.

Letters to Editor, Savannah Morning News

Guy Randolph, May 23, 2018

I voted Tuesday because I think it is my duty. I also voted because I think our democracy is under attack. The left would have you believe the attack is from Trump.

Wrong. The attack is from the politicization of our government agencies and our institutions. The attack is led by progressive Democrats who think they are superior to "deplorable" conservatives. Since the progressives think they come from higher moral ground, the ends justify the means. It started with the IRS targeting conservative groups. It continues on college campuses where conservative free speech is under attack. The bias of most news organizations is obvious. Did you see some of the commentary when Trump referred to MS 13 gang members as "animals". What an amazing twist of the facts. And now it is looking like the FBI and the CIA were involved in spying on Trump's campaign in collusion with the Democrats. It appears that bureaucrats in charge of our most powerful agencies have aligned themselves with politicians in the pursuit of power. This is very dangerous. Russians influencing our elections pales by comparison to this attack from within.

So don't take the bait that the Russians or Trump are our problem. The problem is inside the halls of our most revered institutions. The impartiality of these institutions has been compromised. We had an election. The duty of our government institutions is to support the elected

officials. Unfortunately those institutions are engaged in undermining and removing certain elected officials. That is a coup. If we don't address this issue, the democracy is in trouble. Time for an investigation. Maybe a Special Council.

Mike Walters, May 29, 2018

Entitlement Programs Impact GDP

It is great that independents and liberals are now willing to discuss the fiscal soundness of our nation. But let's put it into total context. Aside from the formal national debt, owed to others as formal bonds issued, we also have off-balance sheet obligations. The formal debt is over \$20 trillion, almost double what it was at the start of the Obama Administration.

Yet the unfunded liabilities for entitlement promises, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and ObamaCare, likely now are north of \$50 trillion in present day dollars. That means we need over \$50 trillion in the bank now to pay those obligations.

We now tax federally some 20 percent of our gross domestic product, or GDP, to pay for federal programs. At current levels, in a few generations our entire federal tax revenue system will be needed to pay for the promises of those first three programs, with nothing left over to merely pay the interest on the formal national debt or to pay for national defense or any other federal program.

So what portion of change do you think is needed to cover all of our federal obligations? Half from tax increases and half from cuts? Liberals complain when any attempt is made to reform entitlement.

Recall that tax increases generally make our products less competitive worldwide, so there is a natural limit on that measure of solving our problems, not to mention pushback from the electorate.

The sad reality is that we need a serious conversation with ourselves on what has been promised in the entitlement state – for retirement income and medical largess. And Bernie Sanders is pushing Medicare for all as a solution to the failures of the Affordable Care Act.

Western European economies are in worse shape than we are but those countries won't admit it to themselves. Full retirement at age 55, and "free" socialized medicine, make their products even more uncompetitive worldwide. Their birthrates are even lower than ours, so making one or two workers pay for the retirement largess to those in retirement is an even bigger fiscal disaster. Having government taxation take over 40 percent of GDP is a blueprint for future economic stagnation.

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Letters to Editor, Savannah Morning News

Mike Walters, July 2, 2018

Taxes Won't Make Social Security Solvent

An Ed Conant column published June 18 chided Congress to fix an emerging Social Security crisis, but the solution proposed was misguided, leaving out crucial facts. Payouts now exceed income, but tax increases won't solve the problem.

The real underfunding of Social Security is over \$30 trillion present value, and there is no trust fund. It's only an accounting gimmick. Congress already spent the SS tax dollars, and put IOU's in the file, and hypothetically invested those IOUs at Treasury bond rates.

The present value deficit means we need over \$30 trillion in an actual investment account earning real cash to meet what Congresses promised voters to gain their votes.

The system was poorly designed at the start. In 1935 more than 30 workers paid for each retiree and life expectancy was 61 years. Now it's almost 80, and a 65-year-old can expect to live another 18 years, and in a decade, there will be only two workers for each retiree.

Corporate pensions recognized this by switching to defined contribution plans, that employees own and can give to heirs when they die. The investment returns are mainly stock market based, and stocks can earn an average of 8% or 9% long term, versus Treasury bonds that don't even pay 3% right now. The earning power of 9% compounded over 30 years is 5.5 times that of 3%.

Yet state and local government pensions are still using the outmoded defined benefit system, with cost of living increases. The underfunding of those public pensions is often more than 100% of stated values.

Liberals consistently demagogue any real reforms like partial privatization of Social Security, wanting big government in control. Ironically, raising the Social Security tax rate is more regressive, as today's combined (employee and employer) 12.4% of wages would eventually have to be 25% to meet future demographics.

The tragedy of the original Social Security system is its raising of false expectations that the federal government will always bail out retirees. It wasn't meant to replace responsible saving for retirement. It was only to be a basic floor of benefits to prevent abject poverty. Politicians either misunderstood that or deliberately misled the voting public with promises that couldn't realistically be met.

Dick Miller, February 5, 2018

Since when is immigration policy an essential part of funding our Federal Government?

From my point of view, the ONLY essential part of funding our Federal government is for our Congress to establish a budget as our Constitution directs them to do.

That hasn't happened for several years, and we continue to grope our way along with Continuing Resolutions and Sequesters and other mechanisms to hide the fact that our elected representatives are not doing their jobs.

What is so hard about passing 12 bills which dictate the future course of our country? Well, for one thing, business is not conducted on Friday or Monday. Certain Congress-folk (such as Ms. Pelosi) have a long flight to get to see their sweetie, and the mean old Air Force has reduced availability of military jets.

And, then there are the many recesses "to permit Congress-folk to exchange ideas with their constituents." Hey guys, this is the world of email and text messaging and, God help us, Facebook. Do you really need time off to take the temperature of your constituents?

An idea. Instead of shutting down government due to the lack of an approved budget, let's shut down Congressional salaries, as well as those of their staffers. Might get their attention ... you think?

But, let's get back to the immigration thing. Other than the fact it doesn't belong in a discussion of government funding, I am not sure it belongs in any discussion.

Other than an unconstitutional Executive Order by our previous so-called President, there are and have been for many years, laws in place to govern our behavior to those living in our country illegally.

They should not be here. There are tremendous problems with them being here; they commit serious crimes at a rate of over twice our citizens; certain states have given them full rights to the welfare and education benefits enjoyed by our citizens which creates a deficit of more than 7 times any taxes they may pay; their presence DOES take jobs away from American citizens and lowers the wages of all American citizens.

Why do we put up with this?

No one else in the world does. We are the only country in the world granting automatic citizenship to a child who happens to pop out of her illegal parent's womb within our borders.

Why don't we have a wall? Anybody remember the Berlin Wall? And, that was to keep people in!

Wake up America! This may be our last chance for freedom to survive.

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Letters to Editor, Savannah Morning News**Dick Miller, March 5, 2018**

Hysteria of course prevails, particularly on the left side of the aisle, when our nation undergoes a horrific tragedy such as the recent school shooting in Broward County Florida.

It is of no importance that the FBI ignored many direct indications that the gunman was a loose cannon.

It is of no importance that the local police responded to over 40 domestic disturbance calls involving the perpetrator, with no follow-up action.

It is of no importance that the Broward County security officials changed their reporting methods, and indeed reduced penalties for various malfeasances to "lower the crime perspective" in their jurisdiction.

Nope, the only hope is gun control.

I especially like the latest liberal proposal (unfortunately joined and mirrored by some supposed conservatives) to prevent individuals from buying rifles until they are 21 years old.

Wow, what a great idea. Now individual can neither buy a pistol or a rifle until they are 21. That should solve the problem!

Doesn't it make any difference that at age 18, an individual may be issued both a hand-gun and a rifle capable of both semi-automatic and automatic firing and sent off to a dismal part of the world and told to try to stay alive protecting the interests of our country?

Get a life people.

Guns don't kill people. People kill people. A spoon doesn't make me fat. It is my ingestion of the ice cream that produces the result.

The individual in Florida needed help. He needed mental help. He should have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution.

If you want to stop school shootings, do two things:

1. Improve psychiatric analysis and care in our schools
2. Permit administrators and/or teachers to carry concealed weapons (after proper training) on campus.

Dick Miller, April 5, 2018

The left side of the aisle of Congress is having an identity crisis.

They would have us believe that they are the only true supporters of minorities, the poor and the indigent.

History, of course, tells a very different story:

- It was Nathan Bedford Forrest, a Democrat, who founded the Ku Klux Klan.
- Woodrow Wilson segregated Federal Buildings and jobs after 50 years of integration under largely Republican administrations.
- It was the Democrat Party in the South that instituted Jim Crow Laws and instituted the "separate but equal" facilities policy.
- LBJ conceived the "Great Society" the imposition of which has led to much misery and many of today's problems.
- BHO did more to split our nation along racial lines than anyone since slavery was abolished. He also subjected law enforcement to the same treatment.

The "Great Society" or the "War on Poverty" is an example of liberal illogic and lack of real concern for people.

Conceived by LBJ in 1964, our nation had spent over \$22 TRILLION by 2014. The result: dysfunctional families; daddies not around; third (or fourth) generation completely dependent on hand-outs; but no significant reduction in poverty.

Insofar as their support of blacks and other minorities, it is noteworthy that no one on the left side of the aisle stood or even applauded when President Trump announced the lowest unemployment rate in history among minorities during his SOTU address.

And now we have the left side of the aisle specializing in "resistance." Not offering different, perhaps better, ideas. Just crossing their arms and saying "no."

Me thinks Ms. Pelosi will regret her comment that the \$1000 bonus offered by several corporations in response to the Republican tax cut (not one Democratic vote) was "crumbs." Perhaps so, in the highest echelons of San Francisco society, but not in Pittsburgh.

And now, she is leading the so-called "progressives" to Socialism and the total lack of morality.

Yup; an identity crisis. The left has forgotten its' long alliance with the working man and is embarking on a course leading to socialism and perhaps, globalism.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary suggests "confusion" as a synonym, and, hopefully, that is the case here. The alternate is unthinkable.

Dick Miller is a former President of SIRC, Guy Randolph is current President, and Mike Walters is current Secretary.



The Donald Trump Negotiations Academy

(This appeared in the *Jerusalem Post*, June 15, 2018.)

The president's playbook involves doing essentially the opposite of what American and Israeli negotiators have been doing for the past 30 years.

We didn't learn this week whether North Korea will give up its nuclear weapons. Only time will tell. But we did learn that US President Donald Trump knows how to negotiate.

All of the negotiations experts insist the opposite is true. "How could they agree to a presidential summit without first guaranteeing its end product?" they sigh, knowingly. "Trump's showmanship is dangerous and counterproductive," they sneer. "At the end of the day, for this to work, Trump will have to copy Barack Obama's nuclear deal with Iran," they insist.

Dennis Ross, who mediated the negotiations between Israel and the PLO that led directly to the largest Palestinian terrorism campaign against Israel in history, and Wendy Sherman, who negotiated Bill Clinton's horrible nuclear deal with North Korea in 1994 and Obama's disastrous nuclear deal with Iran in 2015, as well as all their esteemed colleagues have taken up their pens and stood before the cameras and clucked about how Trump's Singapore show is amateur hour.

But what we actually saw in Singapore, for the first time since Ronald Reagan went to Reykjavik, was a US president who actually knew how to negotiate with America's enemies. Indeed, Singapore was the first time a Western leader from any nation has gotten the better of his opponent at the negotiating table.

There are three dangers inherent to the process of negotiating with enemies. And to understand how Trump succeeded where everyone since Reagan has failed, it is important to keep them in mind.

First, you have no guarantee that the other side will agree to a deal. Trump can make the case for denuclearization to Kim. But he can't make Kim agree to denuclearize.

Since the US has not defeated North Korea militarily, only Kim can decide whether to go along with Trump or not.

The first inherent danger of negotiating then, is that the other side walks away and – as PLO chief Yasser Arafat did in 2000 – chooses to make war instead of peace. Negotiations give credibility to the other side and may, as a consequence, make war a more attractive option for your opponent after a period of negotiations than it was when the talks began.

The last two dangers inherent to negotiations have to do with the actions of Western negotiators and leaders.

Democratically elected leaders have a greater tendency than dictators to become convinced that their political survival is dependent on their ability to deliver a deal. Once that happens, once a leader believes that the risk of failure is too great to accept, he becomes a hostage of the other side.

In 2000, then-prime minister Ehud Barak believed that his only chance of political survival was to convince Arafat to

accept a peace deal with Israel. As a result, Barak stayed in the negotiations even after Arafat rejected his offer and tanked the Camp David summit in July. He remained in talks with Arafat and his deputies even after they launched the most murderous terror Israel had ever seen.

The third danger inherent to negotiating with your enemy is related to the second danger. If a leader believes his future depends on getting a deal, the likelihood that he will accept a terrible deal skyrockets.

Obama made reaching a nuclear deal with Iran the chief aim of his second term. To achieve this goal, Obama abandoned every redline he set for himself. He let Iran continue enriching uranium.

He made no demand that Tehran curtail its ballistic missile development. He agreed to gut the inspections regime to the point of meaninglessness. And so on down the line.

Obama was so averse to coming home empty-handed, he agreed to a deal that far from blocking Iran's path to a nuclear arsenal, paved Iran's path to a nuclear arsenal. And he threw in \$150 billion in sanctions relief to pay for Iran's efforts to achieve regional hegemony as a sweetener.

With these risks in mind, we turn to the Singapore Summit. Trump's playbook involves doing essentially the opposite of what American and Israeli negotiators have been doing for the past 30 years.

Five lessons stand out: 1. Don't make light of your counterpart's failings; play them up.

For decades, Israeli negotiators praised Arafat as a man of courage and Abbas as a moderate. Obama and his team praised Iranian President Hassan Rouhani as a moderate. By praising their opponents, the Israelis and Americans justified making concessions to their counterparts, without requiring them to reciprocate. In other words, Israeli and US negotiators put the burden to prove good intentions on themselves, rather than their opponents, who actually had no credibility at all.

Trump took the opposite approach. After North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile last July, Trump called Kim "Little Rocket Man" and a "madman."

By polarizing Kim and blaming him for the growing danger to US national security, Trump made the case that Kim had to prove his good intentions to Trump, not the other way around, as a precondition for negotiations. Kim was required to release three American hostages and blow up his nuclear test site. He was the one who needed to prove his credibility. Not Trump.

2. Intimidate, don't woo, your opponent's friends.

Trump's three predecessors all begged the Chinese to rein in the North Koreans. In doing so, Clinton, George W. Bush and Obama handed all the leverage to Beijing. To curb North Korea even temporarily, the Chinese demanded continuous US concessions, and they received them.

Trump on the other hand, threatened China. He linked US-China trade deals to Chinese assistance in curtailing North Korean threats and aggression and agreeing to a US goal of denuclearizing China's client state.

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To prove his seriousness, Trump managed to lob 58 missiles at Syrian targets in retaliation for Bashar Assad's use of chemical weapons while he was eating dinner with Chinese President Xi Jinping at his golf club in Florida.

Trump's linkage of US-China trade to North Korean denuclearization has paid off. Xi cut off North Korean coal exports to China and limited fuel shipments from China to North Korea. A month later, Kim announced he wanted to meet with his South Korean counterpart.

3. Make it easy for your side to walk away from the table and hard for the other side to jump ship.

Trump accomplished this goal through a series of moves. First, he and Defense Secretary James Mattis threatened to destroy North Korea. Second, Trump coupled the threats with the largest increase in defense spending in memory. Third, Trump has repeated, endlessly, that he has no idea whether talks with Kim will lead to an agreement, but he figures it's worth a shot. Finally, after Kim insulted National Security Adviser John Bolton, Trump canceled the summit.

Not only did Trump's polling numbers not suffer from canceling the summit, they improved. As for Kim, Trump's nixing the summit taught him two lessons. First, he learned the price of failure.

Second, Kim learned that unlike his predecessors, Trump doesn't fear walking away. Indeed, he'll walk away over something that none of his counterparts would ever dream of jumping ship for. If Kim wants to negotiate with Trump, he will respect Trump's choices.

4. Appoint hard-line negotiators.

Kim's attack on Bolton was reasonable from his perspective. Ever since Clinton signed his failed nuclear deal with Kim's father in 1994, Bolton has been the most outspoken critic of nuclear diplomacy with North Korea in Washington. Bolton opposed – rightly – every diplomatic initiative and agreement every administration adopted with Pyongyang. There is literally no one in Washington more skeptical of the chances that an agreement with North Korea will succeed than Bolton.

And there he was on Tuesday, sitting at the negotiating table in Singapore.

For the past generation, American and Israeli leaders engaging in negotiations with their enemies have given their opponents a say – indeed, they have routinely given them veto power – over the members of their negotiating teams. US and Israeli leaders used their team roster as yet another tool to appease the other side. This, while ignoring the concerns of their domestic constituencies.

Trump took the opposite approach. After setting up the talks in a manner that minimizes the cost of walking away from the table for him and maximizes the cost for Kim, he chose negotiators that would both minimize the chance of reaching a bad deal and assuage and encourage his constituents that he can be trusted. Both Trump's supporters and detractors know that so long as Bolton is

at the table, the chance of the US agreeing to a bad deal is fairly close to zero. Trump's rising poll numbers and the fact that the majority of Americans support his negotiations with Kim show that his efforts have paid off politically.

5. Take control of the clock.

Reporters in Singapore were shocked when Trump informed them Tuesday afternoon that he and Kim were about to sign an "agreement." But sure enough, shortly thereafter, they were shepherded into a grand hall for a formal signing ceremony.

A quick look at the "agreement" showed that there was really nothing there beyond platitudes.

Trump's many critics were quick to take him to task for his "deal" because it was purely aspirational.

But they missed the point. The point wasn't to reach a serious agreement. The point was to sign a piece of paper that said "Agreement" on it. By signing the piece of paper, Trump took all time pressure off of himself and his team. They have their deal. He signed it. In a ceremony with a fancy fountain pen. They have all the time they need now to do what it takes to get Kim to cough up all of his nukes.

On the other hand, time is working against Kim. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Wednesday that the economic sanctions on North Korea will remain in place until after North Korea has denuclearized in a verifiable manner. In other words, assuming Kim cares about his economy and is in this for the money, Kim will want to reach a deal and implement it as quickly as possible.

Trump's critics in the US ratcheted up their attacks against his summitry with Kim on Wednesday and Thursday. But everything they say just discredits them. Trump is only dealing with a nuclear armed North Korea because all of his predecessors enabled Pyongyang's nuclear armament through feckless diplomacy. He's only there to try a new approach because their old approach gave Kim the theoretical ability to nuke New York.

And now that he's actually negotiating, it is clear that what they really fear is not that he will fail like they did. They fear that he will succeed, like only he – a loud-mouthed real estate mogul and reality show star from Queens who couldn't care less what they think of him and happened to write a book called *The Art of the Deal* – can do.



Caroline Glick is an American-born Israeli journalist and Senior Fellow for Middle East Affairs of the Washington, DC-based Center for Security Policy. She is also author of *Shackled Warrior: Israel and the Global Jihad* (2008) and *The Israeli Solution: A One-State Plan for Peace in the Middle East* (2014).

BOOK REVIEW: This book was published after ten years of research on the effect of the sun and sunspots on Earth's climate. Looking at thousands of years of data, the author credits the sun and the planet orbits to explain over 90% of Earth's climate variation.

Sun Cycles: Consistent and Compelling

There is an astonishing amount of cyclicity to climate patterns compare to the Sun's behavior. For example, the Milankovitch cycle of Earth's variation in orbit around the Sun shows a cycle of 100,000 years when the Earth gets much further away than normal. This coincides with the astonishing cycle of major Ice Ages every 100,000 years when the snow does not melt in the summer, and glaciers a mile thick form in Canada and Russia.

But Casey researched other smaller Sun cycles of 100 and 200 years when Mini Ice Ages occurred in the 1600s and the early 1800).

Anecdotal evidence is overwhelming on these much colder periods. Napoleon's Army lost two thirds of its soldiers in the Russia invasion, when the very harsh winter of 1812/1813 killed some 400,000 French troops caught there. And the Thames River and the Baltic Sea became totally frozen.

Worse: Seismic Activity Increases in Cold Eras

Casey also attributes seismic events as more likely to trigger during these shorter solar and planetary cycles. Gravity and Sun position also influence Earth's molten core. The New Madrid Earthquake was in 1811, and Mount Tambora erupted in Indonesia in 1815 (100 times more powerful than the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption).

Sunspots Observed for Centuries

Even Galileo suspected the effect of sunspots on the Earth and thus began measurements of the size of the amazing 11 year cycles of high and low sunspot activity over hundreds of years. When the cycles of very low sunspot activity appear over 100 and 200 year periods (called Grand Solar Minimums), the Earth has responded with decades of much colder periods. The latest was around 1800 (the Dalton Minimum) and another one around 1600 (the Maunder Minimum).

The Next One is Here

Casey's measured Relational Cycles make a compelling case that we are in the throes of the next Grand Solar Minimum. This means that we are headed for several decades of much colder weather, just as we had in the 200-year cycles of the past.

Forget Man-Made Global Warming

It thus should be no surprise that Casey is not a fan of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) demonization of CO2 as a major cause of climate variation. Casey, in fact, calls the Man-Made Global Warming (MGW) theory the "greatest international scientific fraud ever perpetrated."

As a former NASA scientist, he actually presented his findings to the Obama Administration and Congress over the period 2007 to 2011, but was met with some skepticism. Global warming alarmists were reigning then with a

pitch for government to enact drastic measures to reduce CO2, with carbon credits and other incentives.

Because of the above perceived "big lie" about carbon as a culprit, in 2009 Casey recommended the firing of Obama's Climate Czar John Holdren and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) head for ignoring the new compelling evidence of global cooling, but to no avail.

Casey claims the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) staff acknowledged the emerging solar hibernation. Yet the leaders in NASA did not dare make it public because it went against the prevailing party line that CO2 was the culprit for global warming.

Other Scientists Concur

Casey also cites numerous support for his new cycle theory from solar experts around the world, but IPCC authors have a strong lobby that excoriates scientists that are skeptical of MGW or who offer counter theories. He was amazed that the MGW fallacy has still managed to survive even after the Earth showed no warming since 1998.

Evidence Overwhelming - It Will Get Colder Soon

In the book's Appendix, Casey offers some 33 major pieces of compelling evidence supporting the prediction of the current Sun phase producing harsh cold over the next 30 years, such as:

- In 2008, the Earth's average temperature dropped, 0.6 degrees C, reversing the prior temperature gain
- Ocean temperatures have been declining (maybe that's why there were no major hurricanes in the US for a record 11 straight years)
- Glacial Ice is increasing (not declining as MGW alarmists claim)
- Solar winds are at a 50-year low
- Sun's radio flux density is at an all time low
- Sun size is decreasing
- Solar irradiance is decreasing
- Earth's Northern Lights are at record lows
- Earth's upper atmosphere is shrinking
- Cosmic rays reaching the Earth from beyond the Sun are at a high.

Finally, Casey alleges that the authors getting grants to publish for the IPCC were encouraged to look for CO2 as a possible cause of warming. They were also discouraged to look for the Sun and planetary orbits as a cause.

The Sun is the almost exclusive source of warmth for our planet. Why it should be ignored is astonishing. This author has thus made a major case for ignoring the MGM crowd, and looking at the cycles of the Sun for clues of future climate change. Especially since the past millions of years have provided such a consistent cyclical record of what happens to climate on Earth.



John Casey, founder of Space and Science Research Corp., is a space shuttle engineer, and former national space policy advisor and NASA scientist. This book is the culmination of ten years research on Solar activity.

BOOK REVIEW: Professor Timothy Ball has produced a major expose of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Its strategy was to indict a harmless trace gas in the atmosphere as the cause of global warming trauma. It is mostly a political movement masking as science to make developed countries feel guilty about fossil fuel generating their energy-based economies.

Origins of the Political Philosophy

Under the guise of environmentalism, many in the past have had it in for the industrialized world. From Thomas Malthus to Paul Ehrlich, the world's population growth has worried some about the ability to sustain it. The Club of Rome exploited this fear to world leaders fearful of the free market's ability to cope, with a socialist goal of promoting world government to solve the problems.

This sentiment has apparently been adopted by a new breed of socialist who want to demonize carbon dioxide, and use the UN to promote big governmental programs to save humanity from this peril.

The Method in a Nutshell

Starting in 1988, the IPCC has issued increasingly stark warnings that we need to reduce this peril or apocalyptic results will ensue in as little as 100 years. How convenient, as we won't really know whether the alarms are appropriate until their remedies have thrown back the modern world to a simpler time, and governments have siphoned off vast taxes to try to remediate the fear.

The Basic Premise is Fundamentally Unsound

Using complex models (without releasing the underlying codes or data), the IPCC has used a correlation between global temperature and CO2 levels as the primary cause of warming. They actually have it backwards. 500,000 years of data show that temperature rise precedes CO2 growth, and therefore could not possibly be the cause. Plus science tells us that warming oceans release more CO2, so warming causes CO2 growth, not the other way around, and the lag is hundreds of years not immediate.

Also how could a trace gas of 3 to 4 parts per 10,000 of CO2 in the atmosphere possibly cause the whole planet to warm? Over the past 10,000 years it has been as much as 3 degrees C warmer than now, with no SUVs burning gasoline to cause it.

The last 18 years have had no warming despite the CO2 rise. The models have never been validated. They can't even explain how water vapor in the atmosphere works (over 90% of the greenhouse gas effect).

Global Governance as the Motivation

The orchestrators of this movement have seized upon the UN as the mechanism (80% of the nations have a GDP less than Arizona's). The US under the Clinton Administration was an unwitting tool, as some \$70 billion of grants were given to research this new potential peril. (None was given to research the alternative theses that perhaps the sun and the earth's proximity and tilt had more effect on our climate.) What could have produced massive Ice Ages every 100,000 years with mile-thick ice covering large portions of the Northern hemisphere?

Have the major climate research nations of the UK and the US that dominate the peer reviewed journals published this new research? It turns out that the UK's East Anglia University Climate Research Unit (CRU) controlled most of the writing of the IPCC's Summaries for Policymakers. They also directed the science paper reviewers to promote their conclusions. They were in close contact with a few US brethren like Michael Mann of Penn State and Jim Hanson of NASA and NOAA to perpetuate the thesis.

Counter opinions were trashed, and even editors of journals fired for allowing skeptical alternatives. "Climategate" was an expose of their tactics, when 1000 emails were hacked and revealed their "tricks".

The Hockey Stick is Broken

Michael Mann's Hockey Stick in the 2001 IPCC Report was one of them, where he manipulated 1000 years of tree ring data to wipe out huge climate variations. In the Medieval Warming Period, farming existed in Greenland. In the Little Ice Age, much later, the Thames River used to freeze over. Yet Mann's graph showed flat temperatures in the world for some 1000 years until it curved up after 1850. This was the mainstay of that report, where a continuation of the "hockey stick" like curve could conceivably produce a many degree warming over the next few centuries. The trouble was an actual reading of the underlying IPCC report had the worse case scenario melting the Greenland glaciers taking "thousands of years", not the alarming flooding of Manhattan Island that appeared in Al Gore's Nobel Peace Prize winning slide show.

After the Climategate Scandal, Mann's Hockey Stick forever disappeared from an embarrassed IPCC, and they merely fit curves to an ascending Earth warming after the Little Ice Age ended in the nineteenth century.

The demonization of skeptics, however, continues to this day, using terms like "climate deniers" analogous to Holocaust deniers. A Canadian website still exists to attack personally those who dare resist the UN thesis. (Are all the skeptics in the hip pocket of Big Oil?)

Ultimate Bad Results of this Hoax

When this hoax is ultimately exposed, and legitimate science steps up to point out the problems, Dr. Ball sees the unfortunate consequences of this whole charade.

First, science will take a public relations hit. How could they have stood by when the faulty thesis was promoted? Next, legitimate environmental issues may have been neglected, as a beneficial gas CO2 has been maligned.

And when the Earth starts to cool again, some very bad economic decisions were made to try to switch to very inefficient energy alternatives (solar and wind). Europe is now going back to coal in some instances. 

Dr. Timothy Ball was sued by Michael Mann, whose Hockey Stick graph in the 3rd IPCC Report has been shown to be a hoax. The judge threw out Mann's case mainly because Mann refused to release his underlying data. Dr. Ball has been a climate expert for over 40 years, and co-author of *Slaying the Sky Dragon: Death of the Greenhouse Gas Theory* (2011).

SIRC LIFE MEMBERS WHO ARE SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Last Name			Last Name			Last Name		
Barton	Bill	Sue	Farrell	Pat	Sherry	Ogren	Beverly	
Bratz	Paul	Betsy	Kane	John	Frances	Paull	Barbara	
Cartledge	Gene	Gale	Karrh	Janice		Seaton	Charles	Nell
Chapman	Verna		McKenzie	Herb	Joan	Sharp	Tom	Mary
Eckburg	Dick	Judy	McLaughlin	Sam	Barb	Sherrill	Jack	Ann
Enyeart	George	Verna	Morris	Terry	Johnnie	Ulmer	Bill	Patty
Emery	Jim	Melissa	Nickels	Robert	Carol	Winnert	Ken	Mary Lou

SIRC SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Last Name			Last Name			Last Name		
Barrow	David	Elaine	Ingram	Chip	Diane	Palmer	June	
Beets	Jerry	Linda	Jukic	Drazen	Jasminka	Parrish	John	
Berkowitz	Dick	Lynn	Jurgenson	Neil		Peterson	Russ	Louise
Beurle	Jim	Ann	Kaster	Jack	Joan	Petrea	Jesse	Brianna
Blevins	Alan	Amy	Klahr	Dean	Carroll	Philippo	Dean	Mary
Bocard	Gary	Sandy	Klavon	Mike	June	Philippo	Don	Mary
Bodary	Lee	Julia	Kraft	Bob	Marie	Powell	Nick	Phyllis
Boice	Scott	Lorraine	Krupp	Joe	Mimi	Procaccini	Jane	
Bothwell	David	Nadine	Lanahan	Tom	Peg	Protz	Guy	Sandy
Bourland	Charlie	Susana	Lasker	Mark	Sybil	Randolph	Guy, Sr.	
Braswell	Steve	Tena	Lavish	Ed	Johanna	Randolph	Debbie	
Brown	Darryl	Carolyn	Levenson	Patty		Rauers	Justin	Jen
Burroughs	William		Levine	Barry	Arlene	Redmond	Bob	Jane
Carini	Paul	Judy	Liebott	Frank	Cheryl	Reinhard	Joan	
Chidsey	John		Lutton	James	Glenda	Resler		
Christian	Sue	Marian	Mahr	Mike	Libby	Rizert	Dan	Angela
Cote'	Dick	Julie	Martin	Quentin		Savage	Chris	Gerri
Coulter	Denny	Sara	Mathis	Debbie		Schirmacher	Paul	
Culbreth	Rick		Maugh	Roger	Judy	Sellers	Tish	
Dickinson	Emily		McCain	Bill	Susan	Senkowski	Mary Ann	
DiGiorgio	Jim	Joan	McGough	Chuck	Liz	Shea	Brendan	Patricia
Duffie	Ed	Onnie	Meng	Bob	Beverly	Sickles	Bill	Chris Aiken
Eppel	John	Carol	Miller	Dick		Simons	David	Rachel
Evans	John	Karen	Mitchell	Ken	Betty	Staimer	George	Carol
Faircloth	Bob	Jean	Molella	Lou	Gerry	Steigmeier	Andrew	Carolyn
Fielitz	Bruce	Nancy	Morris	Ron	Peg	Stewart	Jeff	Angie
Fisher	Paul	Camille	Muller	Peter	Lisa	Stockwell	David	Barbara
Fletcher	Keith	Susana	Murphy	Jim	Sandy	Suelflow	Ray	
Friday	Marc	Laura	Murphy	Matt	Terry	Sullivan	Frank	Judith
Gartland	Arthur		Myers	Dick	Rhea	Tate	Mark	Carol
Gaudry	Dana	Sandy	Nelson	Richard	Kristine	Thorne	Ruth	
Glass	Curt	Argentina	Newbrey	Jim		Townsend	Al	Barbi
Grader	Jerome	Barbara	Nichols	Jim		Towson	Michael	
Hamlet	Joe	Donna	Nusloch	Jerry	Caroline	Walters	Mike	MaryAnne
Hanlon	Dan		Oberdank	Larry	Arlene	Warden	Scott	Kathy
Hartson	Verne	Lynnetta	O'Connor	Tim	Margie	Warfield	Terry	Lynn
Heaton	Frances		Oldfield	William		Webner	Mack	Corinne
Herberger	Rich	Peggy	Oliver	Bob	Brenda	Weber	Ronald	Cheryl
Heussler	Bud	Ginaer	Olson	Jim	Linda	Weitzell	Buz	Ruby
Hipp	Jerry	Ann	O'Malley	Jim	Maryanne	Whitbeck	Greg	Elaine
Holland	Will	Jean	Osborn	Tom	Kay	White	Don	Beverly
Huffer	Dan	Phyllis	Overton	Marolyn	Scott	Wilcher	John	
			Paderewski	Jules	Nancy	Wright	Bill	Alice