

## Chairman's Chat

Chairwoman, M.J. Bolt,  
SCRCC Chair/CEO



Happy 2024! We trust you had a wonderful Christmas season, and are getting the New Year kicked off right!

Go to [SpokaneGOP.com](https://SpokaneGOP.com) and click on **Donate and Volunteer Today!**

**And remember to visit us on FACEBOOK.**

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP)

We here at Spokane GOP are busy in preparations for the 2024 Republican Party Precinct Caucuses on January 13<sup>th</sup>, as well as the Spokane County Republican County Convention on February 10<sup>th</sup>! These are HUGELY IMPACTFUL OPPORTUNITIES for you to ENGAGE in matters that affect your local community! It all starts at the January 13<sup>th</sup> Precinct Caucuses! Go to [convention.spokanegop.com](https://convention.spokanegop.com) TODAY to Pre-Register for your Caucus and find out the location of your Precinct Caucuses.

***This Issue: Limited Government** - Government is best when it governs the least. Big government infringes upon the rights of the citizens, is prohibitive, inefficient and extremely expensive.*

***Next Issue: Healthcare** - We believe that the best healthcare model is one with very limited government intervention, based around the principle of individual responsibility.*



Here is why this is such an important opportunity YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS:

You should strongly consider participating in precinct caucuses because they offer a unique opportunity to engage in the political process at a grassroots level. By attending a caucus, you can directly influence our party's platform, discuss issues that are important to you and your neighbors, and help select delegates to represent your interests at the county, district, and state conventions. This can ultimately shape the direction of our party and influence the selection of candidates for various political offices. Obviously we have a very important Presidential Election this year that will greatly impact our lives. In addition, we also have 9 STATEWIDE elected races, including the Governor, that are even more impacting to the lives of all of us Washingtonians. We also have important Congressional and Legislative races this year. By starting at the Precinct Caucuses and being elected as a Delegate, you can have a say in who the GOP Party endorses for these positions. Moreover, by participating in a caucus, this allows you to meet like-minded individuals and build connections within your community – your neighborhood precinct. This can lead to further involvement in local politics and activism, fostering a more engaged and informed electorate. Additionally, caucuses also serve as an educational experience, helping attendees learn more about the political process and the positions of various candidates on important issues.

In summary, participating in a precinct caucus offers a chance for you to have a direct impact on the political process, connect with others in your community, and become more informed and engaged citizens.

We look forward to seeing you on January 13<sup>th</sup>!!!

## *"God is on our side".*

By Juli Skinner

How smug are we, when we voice it, to believe that our own state of affairs and personal objectives are more righteous over our opponent's, literally, in the name of God? Yet, it is said. It is used as a free pass for whatever action is about to be taken. Believing that "God is on our side" and saying it with no forethought is arrogant and egotistical. Is God on the side of the vindictive mother who is trying to eliminate a [good] father's parental rights? Probably not but it doesn't stop her from saying it. It is infuriating. When both political parties claim in their speeches that God is on their side, it might start to make us wonder if there is a time that God is truly on one side, and if so, can we quantify it?

Out of each challenge, a champion and a loser will emerge. What does God have to do with the outcome if each side believes that He is on their side? To compound the confusion, not all winners are "good". They merely possess the right ingredients to prevail; even if it is just a snap shot in time. And even if what comes from victory is evil (or vice versa). Hitler succeeded in exterminating millions of Jews. Hamas slaughtered innocent Israeli citizens. Biden signed an executive order ensuring the right to abort (kill) unborn babies. It's absurd but it's pretty certain that all of these leaders believed God to be on their side. Though it is terrifying that leaders wear the mantra as a conceited shield, hiding behind it as they take part and lead an impending misdeed or atrocity, there is some comfort in knowing...God. And those who truly know Him, know that He **was not** on their side.

What does *"God is on our side"* have to do with our topic for the month; big government? Well, people who say it while promoting big government can give the impression that *God* wants big government. Whether we are a Democracy or a Republic, both sides

cannot have equal representation. We constituents, on the other hand, should be equally represented by our leaders. Both forms of government elect officials who represent their constituents but that's where the commonality stops. The main difference, as scholars point out, is **who** is represented. In a Republic, all are represented. In a Democracy, the majority is represented. Now if you happen to be in the minority and living in a pure Democracy, you will not be represented.

<https://www.phoenix.k12.or.us/cms/lib/OR50000021/Centricity/Domain/1172/apol%20Distinguishing%20DemocracyRepublic.pdf>

It seems that party lines are getting a bit muddled so for arguments sake, can we agree that Democrats are the party of big(ger) government? If that is settled, the question is, what does it take to amass a larger governmental system? First and foremost, likeminded control freaks with dangerous ideas. A bankroll is helpful too. Once every institution across the nation is taken under control by the Party of Big Government, we will have reached the antithesis of what our founding fathers envisioned. They went to great lengths to set in place a limited system of government because if we are to believe that our Constitution was born of the desire to flee tyranny and we understand tyranny to be a vehicle to which one controls the masses, then we must conclude that our forefathers did not want big government. Since our founders based the Constitution on religious (Judeo-Christian) principals, the answer is clear. Once we let true Democracy reign and reign fully, we will have inevitably allowed evil to penetrate our society, becoming commonplace and mistakenly of God's will. Atrocities will flourish. The conclusion? We can no longer defend the Extremist Democrat when they shout, "GOD IS ON OUR SIDE."



**GOD** is on the  
side of righteousness.

FROM OUR WSRP CHAIR, JIM

WALSH: "The main measure of success here is simple: At the precinct caucuses, get good people elected as delegates to the county conventions. But there are other goals, too. Attract new people to WAGOP. Give them a forum. Encourage new and existing activists about WAGOP policies and candidates. Energize them to stay engaged through November. And beyond."

At the County Conventions, delegates will be elected to the WAGOP State Convention to be held in Spokane April 18-20. As Jim Walsh said: "This will be a State Convention unlike any other in years. The delegates (2,500 are planned) will nominate and endorse Republican candidates for the nine statewide executive positions (Governor, LT. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Commissioner of Public Lands, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Insurance Commissioner), the 10 U.S. Congress positions and the one U.S. Senate position on the ballot in 2024." All State positions, 7 of the 10 Congressional seats and the one Senator up for re-election are Democrats. It is important that we all get involved and nominate excellent candidates that support our GOP principles; candidates that will have our support and can raise the funds to get elected.



# The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

Limited Government No rational human wants to live in anarchy. Community structure is important; rules are important. Since the dawn of time, men have organized themselves and have agreed upon rules to live by. Mankind then “evolved” into the formation of governments. One could argue for years in regards to the pros and cons of government; regardless, governments are here to stay. The founding fathers of this nation were adamantly against big government. And when they established our Constitution, it was based upon the tenet that our freedom is God-given. We then, as citizens, for the sake of order grant back to the government certain powers. Each law agreed upon transfers power from the people to the government. Many such transfers make perfect sense. Obviously, the military could not be maintained on an individual basis. Taxation is a necessary evil but should be severely restricted. Individual citizens should not negotiate separate treaties with foreign governments, etc. However, we should also recognize and never forget that each new law passed too often erodes our individual freedom.

Anyone who has studied the founding would agree that the government we have now is a far cry from that which was intended. The Constitution which

governs our nation can be printed on a few pages while our tax code alone would fill reams upon reams of paper. Governance at every level is out of control. Legislators are compelled to pass laws as justification for their existence. Citizens, when faced with a problem, have become programmed to thinking, “We need a law for that!” This kind of logic has replaced the kind of community thinking and problem solving that existed in the early years of our nation. It has also reduced the level of personal accountability we used to experience and often shelters us from the painful lessons of our own foolishness.

We are now in a place where we feel the need to ask the government permission for everything: housing permits, land use permits, business licenses, professional licensing, FDA regulations, EPA regulations and on and on and on. In fact, the current administration feels they have the power to tell us what kind of automobiles and appliances we can buy. They shut down our country over a virus, chose businesses that could operate, forced “vaccinations”, closed churches, limited travel and so on. This ain’t limited government folks and it most certainly is not freedom. The most beneficial reforms we could pursue in the bettering of a once-great nation is by returning to the founding principles of our government. It can be done, but it will require a monumental effort to educate and energize an ignorant and complacent public. This should be the main goal of the Republican Party at every level of government.

## WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY

### **PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS (PCOs)**

*Terms began -  
December 1, 2022.*

If you do not know your Precinct number, you can find it at:  
<https://voter.votewa.gov/>

Submit your name and birthday & click registration link to get your precinct number.

PCOs are such important connections between the people and the candidates. Please let us know if you do not have a PCO in your precinct.

<https://wsrp.org/assets/uploads/2022/05/2022-PCO-Manual.pdf>

### **Would you consider volunteering?**

*Past candidates:*

**KEEP FIGHTING.**

**WE NEED YOU.**

"We are vulnerable to hypocrisy because we value our freedom to act in our own self-interest. We don't naturally grant the same consideration to others, sometimes seeking to use government as a tool to impose our interests on others. The Bill of Rights was specifically designed to limit government's ability to be used this way. The most common arguments over the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendments are a great illustration of our vulnerability to hypocrisy.

From a strictly Constitutional originalist world view, there is no basis in the Bill of Rights for any interference with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Right to Bear Arms. However, most 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment defenders (including the NRA) agree it's in our collective self-interest to allow limited restrictions. Emphasis on limited.

Conservatives turn around and object to values-free violence and bias in the media. Some of the most vocal defenders of freedom of expression are from the movie industry. When Hollywood defends the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment and attacks the 2<sup>nd</sup>, you can smell the hypocrisy in the air as acrid as gun smoke in the aftermath of a movie blockbuster bloodbath.

Journalists would rightly howl at the idea of mental health and criminal background checks for licensing a newspaper or website. Yet even movie makers and newspaper editors accept limited restrictions. Emphasis on limited.

We are always eager to point out the speck in another's eye without first removing the log from our own, but an opinion column is in the speck identification business. Criticizing government transportation spending doesn't mean giving up driving on public roads. Following the current overly complicated tax code, loopholes and all, doesn't stand in the way of advocating for a simpler loophole-free tax system. Benefiting from a government program one didn't ask for does not remove a citizen's right to criticize the program. Advocating for smaller government doesn't mean abolishing government."

Reprinted with permission of the author, Sue Lani Madsen, freelance columnist. Subscribe at <https://suelanimadsen.substack.com/>

Excerpt from a column first published March 11, 2016 in The Spokesman-Review. For the complete column see <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2016/mar/11/sue-lani-madsen-all-along-the-political-spectrum-y/>

## 2024 Washington Gubernatorial Election

\*Primary election - August 6, 2024

\*General election - November 5, 2024.

**BEFORE you know it, it's here; the Primary on August 6<sup>th</sup> 2024.** Will you look back and say, "I did everything to get a Republican voted in" or will you say, "I should've done more". We have a DEMOCRAT mayor sitting in Spokane; (not a good one). We have not yet made the collective connection that quality of life has to do with who is in office.

We deserve the government we get so whatever your talent, get involved and show our family, friends, neighbors and co-workers that we can, as a group, reject policies and people who do not benefit us and our state.

**WE MUST ELECT A REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR.**

WHY **VOTE?** BECAUSE THEY DO!

*What is your New Year's resolution?*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### SAVE the GOP calendar

<https://www.spokanegop.com/calendar>

**Saturday, 13 January 2024**

10:00 am

Precinct Caucuses for all Republicans

Please Join Family, Friends and Neighbors at  
Your 2024 SPOKANE COUNTY REPUBLICAN  
CAUCUS

YOU CAN PRE-REGISTER ON OUR  
WEBSITE, <https://www.spokanegop.com/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, 10 February 2024**

Spokane County Convention

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday, 12 March 2024**

Presidential Primary

\*\*\*\*\*

**April 19 - April 21, 2024**

WA State Republican Convention

\*\*\*\*\*

**July 15 - July 18, 2024**

Republican National Convention

\*\*\*\*\*

**WATCH FOR UPDATES IN WASHINGTON:** Signatures for all six initiatives were turned in by the December 29 deadline. Given the number of signatures for each, we are hopeful that all will qualify for the November ballot. (Of course, the legislature could pass them into law when it meets, beginning January 8, but don't count on it!) Signatures must be validated by the Secretary of State's office. We will post results on our [GOP Facebook page](#) when we have that information.

I-2113, REASONABLE POLICE PURSUIT; I-2117, STOP THE HIDDEN GAS TAX; I-2124, OPT OUT OF STATE-RUN LONG TERM CARE COVERAGE ACT; I-2109, REPEAL THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX; I-2111, NO STATE INCOME TAX; I-2081, PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

For more policy issues and petitions, go to <https://letsgowashington.com/>.

Washington Democrats Amy Walen and Liz Berry are sponsoring **House Bill 1868**. If passed, it would outlaw certain gas-powered landscape equipment including riding lawn mowers and leaf blowers. Violations could include a \$10,000 fine and/or up to a year in jail! Our cars are next! They've already mandated heat pumps in all new construction which runs off electricity - phasing out natural gas. Democrats at their finest. We are leading the way to Socialism. Eventually, one of these progressive laws will find you too.

[https://www.spokanegop.com/legislative\\_action\\_team\\_sign\\_up](https://www.spokanegop.com/legislative_action_team_sign_up)

Now that the Washington legislature is meeting again, we need your help. Please sign up to receive emails about proposed bills that we support or oppose so you can act by contacting legislators, if you choose to do so.

## LEGISLATIVE WATCH

**Washington Legislators meet again on the 8<sup>th</sup> of JANUARY 2024.** Keep track of "Good", "Bad" and the "Ugly" bills in the legislature: **WSRP Olympia Watch**,

<https://wsrp.org/olympia-watch/>.

Watch the progress of the bills. Contact your legislators to voice your support or opposition. Your input is critical. Find bills at <http://leg.wa.gov>. Add the bill number to get the text, summary, when a public hearing will occur and videos of hearings. When a bill has passed out of one chamber, you can also see who voted "yea" and "nay" by clicking on View Roll Call.

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW  
<http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com>

House Republicans  
<https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-involved-in-the-legislative-process/>

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. If interested in helping with the Communications Committee or submitting work, you **MUST** meet the submission deadline. Contact Terri for more information at [terrizelevits@gmail.com](mailto:terrizelevits@gmail.com).

## CONTACT US

[www.SpokaneGOP.com](http://www.SpokaneGOP.com)

## FIND US

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP)

[YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP](https://YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP)

[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)

## SUPPORT US

<https://www.spokanegop.com>

[/donate](https://www.spokanegop.com/donate)

Stay Informed.

[https://www.spokanegop.com/gop\\_newsletters](https://www.spokanegop.com/gop_newsletters).

PLEASE visit [Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP). Like. Comment. Share. The more you like and share, the more Facebook will increase our circulation and the more people we will reach.