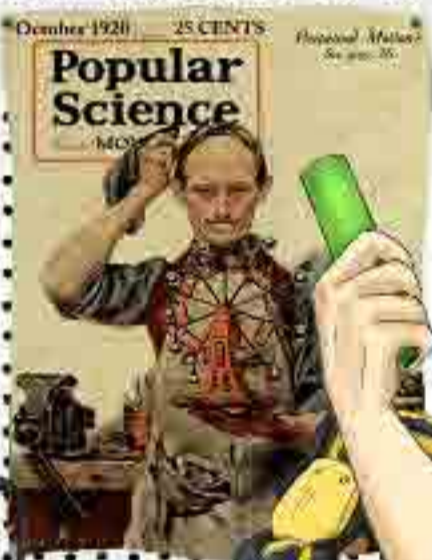


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"WHERE THE GREAT MINDS OF THE MODERN FREEDOM MOVEMENT COME TOGETHER"

The Logic of Libertarianism and Why Intellectual Property Doesn't Exist

By Stephan Kinsella

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THE Daily Bell is pleased to present this exclusive interview with Stephan Kinsella.

Introduction: *Stephan Kinsella is a libertarian scholar and attorney in Houston. The Executive Editor of Libertarian Papers and Director of the Center for the Study of Innovative Freedom (C4SIF), he is Counsel/Treasurer of the Property and Freedom Society, serves on the Advisory Panel of the Center for a Stateless Society and is also a member of the Editorial Board of Reason Papers and of The Journal of Peace, Prosperity & Freedom [Australia]. He was formerly a partner with Duane Morris LLP, General Counsel for Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. and adjunct law professor at South Texas College of Law. Stephan has published many libertarian articles and books including Property, Freedom, and Society: Essays in Honor of Hans-Hermann Hoppe (co-editor, Mises Institute, 2009), Against Intellectual Property (Mises Institute, 2008; Laissez Faire Books edition forthcoming) and the forthcoming Law in a Libertarian World: Legal Foundations of a Free Society and Copy This Book (both Laissez Faire Books). Stephan's legal publications include International Investment, Political Risk, and Dispute Resolution: A Practitioner's Guide (co-author, Oxford University Press, 2005), Louisiana Civil Law Dictionary (co-author, Quid Pro Books, 2011) and several other legal treatises published by Oxford University Press, Oceana Publications and West/Thompson Reuters.*

Daily Bell: Give us some background on yourself. Where did you go to school? How did you become a lawyer?

Stephan Kinsella: I was from a young age interested in science, philosophy, justice, fairness and "the big questions." I ended up majoring in electrical engineering at Louisiana State University (LSU). This was the mid-1980s. I liked engineering but over time became more and more interested in political philosophy.

In the late '80s I started publishing columns in the LSU student newspaper, [The Daily Revueille](#), from an explicitly libertarian perspective. As my interests became more sharply political and philosophical, my girlfriend (later wife) and friends urged me to consider law school. After all, I liked to argue. I might as well get paid for it! I was by this time in engineering grad school. Unlike many attorneys I know, I had not always wanted to be a lawyer. In fact, it had never occurred to me until my girlfriend suggested it over dinner, when I was wondering what degree I could pursue next—partly in order to avoid having to enter the workforce just yet. And also to make more money. At the time I naively thought one had to have a pre-law degree and many prerequisite courses that engineers would lack; and I feared law school would be too difficult. I remember my girlfriend's chemical engineer father laughing out loud at my concern that law school might be more difficult than engineering.

So I walked across the LSU campus one day and talked to the vice chancellor about all this. He tried to dissuade me, saying that engineering undergrads tended to find law school difficult. But he conceded that a pre-law degree is not needed; all one needs is a BS or BA in *something*. I took the LSAT and did well enough to get accepted at LSU Law Center. (In the US, law is a graduate degree, the *Juris Doctor*, which [requires an initial B.A. or B.S. degree](#). Because of ABA protectionism. But I digress.)

I discuss some of this in my article "[How I Became A Libertarian](#)," LewRockwell.com (December 18, 2002), also published as "Being a Libertarian" in [I Chose Liberty: Autobiographies of Contemporary Libertarians](#) (compiled by Walter Block; Mises Institute 2010.)

I actually greatly enjoyed law school. Unlike many of my fellow law students, apparently, who seemed in agony. I was free to talk about laws, rules, human action and interaction. Norms and opinions were relevant. I enjoyed the Socratic discussion method. In one sense, it was unlike electrical engineering, which studies the impersonal behavior of subatomic particles. In law, the subject matter is acting humans and the legal norms that pertain to human action. On the other hand, I found it similar to engineering in that it was analytical and focused on solving problems. It is less mechanistic and deterministic than is engineering but it is still analytical. So if you are the type of engineer who can shift modes of thought and who is able to write and speak coherently (not all engineers are), then law school is fairly easy. By contrast, many liberal arts majors are not used to thinking analytically. The first year of law school is meant to break their spirit and remold them into the analytical, lawyer-thinking, problem-solving mold.

In any case, I became a lawyer and do not regret it. It can be lucrative and mentally stimulating. In my own case, my legal career has complemented my libertarian and scholarly interests. As [Gary North has pointed out](#), for most people there is a difference between career and calling. Your career or occupation is what puts food on the table. Your *calling* is what you are passionate about – "the most important thing you can do with your life in which you are most difficult to replace." Occasionally they are the same, but often not; but there is no reason not to arrange your life so as to have both. In my case, my various scholarly publications and networks helped my legal career if only by adding publications to my CV. And my legal knowledge and expertise, I believe, has helped to inform my libertarian theorizing.

Daily Bell: You founded your own firm. Tell us how that came about.

Stephan Kinsella: After law school my first job was in oil and gas law at a large Houston based law firm, [Jackson Walker](#). I found the work fascinating; it was all about contract and property rights. Then I moved into patent law because it was more in demand at this time (mid '90s) and

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unlike state-based oil & gas law, it is a national legal field so allows more geographic mobility. My wife's employer at the time was pushing her to take a job in the head office outside Philadelphia. So I switched to patent law in part to accommodate this and in part to capitalize on the then-burgeoning field of IP law.

I recall discussing my career choices at this time with my friend, LSU law professor [Saúl Litvinoff](#), an old-world gentleman, who confessed that he was "nonplussed" that I, a man, a husband, would take into account my wife's career plans in my own career decisions. Oh, well. Different times.

I ended up taking a job with a Philadelphia law firm, [Schnader Harrison](#), doing patents and related IP work. I and others there ended up moving later to [Duane Morris](#), and when I moved back to Houston in 1997 I opened their Houston office. In 2000 I decided to join one of my clients as general counsel. At the time I had been at big law firms for about ten years and had learned a lot and enjoyed it but was ready for a change. And after about ten years as general counsel, I was ready for another shift so I have recently formed my own legal practice, specializing in intellectual property, technology and commercial law.

Daily Bell: Why were you attracted to Austrian economics and why did libertarianism attract you?

Stephan Kinsella: I was always interested in science, truth, goodness and fairness. I have always been strongly individualistic and merit-oriented. This is probably because I was adopted and thus have always tended to cavalierly dismiss the importance of "blood ties" and any inherited or "unearned" group characteristics. This made me an ideal candidate to be enthralled by Ayn Rand's master-of-universe "I don't need anything from you or owe you anything" themes.

Another factor is my strong sense of outrage at injustice, which probably developed as a result of my hatred of bullies and bullying. I was frequently attacked by them as a kid because I was small for my age, bookish and a smartass. Not a good combination.

A librarian at my high school ([Catholic High School](#) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana) one day recommended Ayn Rand's [The Fountainhead](#) to me. (I believe this was in 1982, when I was a junior in high school — the same year Rand died.) "Read this. You'll like it," she told me. I devoured it. Rand's ruthless logic of justice appealed to me. I was thrilled to see a more-or-less rigorous application of reason to fields outside the natural sciences. I think this helped me to avoid succumbing, in college, to the simplistic and naïve empiricism-scientism that most of my fellow engineering classmates naturally absorbed. Mises's dualistic epistemology and criticism of monism-positivism-empiricism, which I studied much later, also helped shield me from scientism.

By my first year of college (1983), where I studied electrical engineering, I was a fairly avid "Objectivist" style libertarian. I had read Henry Hazlitt's [Economics in One Lesson](#) and some of Milton Friedman's works (see my [The Greatest Libertarian Books](#)), but I initially steered clear of self-styled "libertarian" writing. Since Rand was so right on so many things, I at first assumed she must be right in denouncing libertarianism as the enemy of liberty. I eventually learned better, of course.

Daily Bell: How did you meet Lew Rockwell and become affiliated with Mises?



Stephan Kinsella: I eventually started reading more radical libertarians like Rothbard and Austrians like Mises and Hayek and soon became an Austrian and anarchist. The Austrian approach to knowledge made so much sense to me. It was rigorous without being mathematical and it was "Kantian" without succumbing to idealism: Like Rand's epistemology, the Misesian approach is also realistic. (Some of my favorite works in this regard are Mises' [Ultimate Foundation of Economic Science](#), Rothbard's [The Mantle of Science](#) and Hoppe's [Economic Science and the Austrian Method](#). See also my posts [Mises and Rand \(and Rothbard\)](#) and [C.P. Snow's "The Two Cultures" and Misesian Dualism](#).)

In 1988, when I was in law school, I read Hans-Hermann Hoppe's controversial and provocative article in *Liberty*, "The Ultimate Justification of the Private Property Ethic" (for more on this topic, see my [Argumentation Ethics and Liberty: A Concise Guide](#)). In this article Hoppe sets forth his "argumentation ethics" defense of libertarianism. This idea had a profound influence on me. I wrote several papers defending libertarian ethics, based on this theory (discussed in the previously mentioned article) and I wrote an in-depth [review essay](#) of Hoppe's [The Economics and Ethics of Private Property](#). I promptly sent it to Hoppe, who sent back a warm thank you note. This was around 1994.

Later that year, in October 1994, I attended the John Randolph Club meeting which was held near Washington, D.C., primarily to meet Hoppe, Rothbard and Rockwell. While there I was able to get Rothbard to autograph my copy of [Man, Economy & State](#), which he inscribed "To Stephan: For Man & Economy, and against the state — Best regards, Murray Rothbard" (he died the following January). I started attending and speaking at various Mises Institute conferences such as their annual Austrian Scholars Conference. I am now involved with Hoppe's [Property and Freedom Society](#), which has annual meetings in Bodrum, Turkey, since its founding in 2006.

Daily Bell: Tell us about your legal theory of property and how you came to believe that intellectual property doesn't exist.

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Stephan Kinsella: My main interest has always been and remains the basics of libertarian ethics: What are individual rights and property, how is this justified and so on. As I discuss in [Intellectual Property and Libertarianism](#), from the beginning of my exposure to libertarian ideas, the intellectual property (IP) issue nagged at me. I was never satisfied with Ayn Rand's justification for it, for example. Her argument is a bizarre mixture of utilitarianism with overwrought deification of "the creator" — not the Creator up there, but Man, The Creator, who has a property right in what He Creates. Her proof that patents and copyrights are property rights is lacking. (See my speech [The Intellectual Property Quagmire, or, The Perils of Libertarian Creationism, Austrian Scholars Conference 2008](#); and my blog posts [Objectivist Law Prof Mossoff on Copyright; or, the Misuse of Labor, Value, and Creation Metaphors](#); [Regret: The Glory of State Law](#); and [Inventors are Like Unto.... GODS.....](#))

So I kept trying to find a better justification for IP and this search continued after I started practicing patent law, in 1993 or so.

Many libertarians abandon minarchy in favor of anarchy when they realize that even a minarchist government is unlibertarian. That was my experience. And it was like this for me also with IP. I came to see that the reason I had been unable to find a way to justify IP was because it is, in fact, unlibertarian. I was heavily influenced by previous thinkers, as discussed in [The Origins of Libertarian IP Abolitionism and The Four Historical Phases of IP Abolitionism](#). Perhaps the unlibertarian character of patent and copyright would have been obvious if Congress had not enacted patent and copyright statutes long ago, making them part and parcel of America's "free-market" legal system — and if early libertarians like Rand had not so vigorously championed such rights.

But libertarianism's initial presumption should have been that IP is invalid, not the other way around. After all, we libertarians already realize that "intellectual" rights, such as the right to a reputation protected by defamation law, are illegitimate. (See Murray N. Rothbard, [Knowledge, True and False](#).)

Why, then, would we presume that other laws, protecting intangible, intellectual rights, are valid—especially artificial rights that are solely the product of legislation, i.e., decrees of the fake-law-generating wing of a criminal state? (For a criticism of legislation as a means of making law, see [Legislation and Law in a Free Society](#) and [Another Problem with Legislation: James Carter v. the Field Codes](#).)

But IP is widely seen as basically legitimate. There have always been criticisms of existing IP laws and policies and many calls for "reform." But I became opposed not just to "ridiculous" patents and "outrageous" IP lawsuits, but to patent and copyright *per se*. Patent and copyright law should be *abolished*, not reformed. The basic reason is that patent and copyright are [explicitly anti-competitive](#) grants by the state of monopoly privilege, rooted in mercantilism, protectionism

and thought control. To grant someone a patent or copyright is to grant them a right to control others' property — a "[negative servitude](#)" granted by state fiat instead of contractually negotiated. This is a form of theft, trespass, or wealth redistribution.

So to answer your question: IP rights — patent and copyright — "exist," but are not legitimate any more than welfare rights are. There are many [types of IP](#); all are illegitimate, in my view. Not only because most of them are based on and require legislation (I view all legislation as unlibertarian; see [Legislation and Law in a Free Society](#)) but because they try to set up rights in non-scarce things, which in effect grants negative servitudes to some people at the expense of the property rights of others.

Daily Bell: According to Wikipedia and other sources, "In contract theory, you extend Murray Rothbard's and Williamson Evers's title transfer theory of contract linking with inalienability theory." What does that mean?

Stephan Kinsella: I discuss these issues in various places including [Justice and Property Rights: Rothbard on Scarcity, Property, Contracts...](#) and [A Libertarian Theory of Contract: Title Transfer, Binding Promises, and Inalienability](#). The basic idea is to root the entire idea of contract in a libertarian theory of property. The latter is based on the realization that the entire purpose of property rights is to solve the problem of incompatible uses of scarce resources. The fact that some things in the world are scarce resources means that these resources can be used as means of action only if ownership is assigned and socially recognized. For things that are not scarce there is no social problem to be solved. Hans-Hermann Hoppe addresses these issues in the opening chapters of his foundational treatise [A Theory of Socialism and Capitalism](#).

Rothbard recognized that all individual rights are property rights and, therefore, that a theory of contract is not about enforceable or binding "promises" but simply about how owners of resources can contractually transfer title to others. As Rothbard recognized, this has implications for alienability or so-called "voluntary slavery" contracts. Many libertarians, assuming contracts are just binding promises, see no reason one could not bind oneself to be a slave. But if you view contracts as simply transfers of title to owned objects, then the question arises: Is one's body alienable, or not? You cannot just assume that it is. Rothbard argued that it was not.

Daily Bell: You also attempted to clarify the theory. How so?

Stephan Kinsella: Rothbard sketched the theory in 1974; Evers elaborated on it in 1977, based on Rothbard's insights. Rothbard then built on Evers's pioneering article in his 1982 *Ethics of Liberty*. But neither were lawyers and only took this analysis so far. I tried to incorporate their insights and integrate them with other Rothbardian, Misesian and Hoppeian insights about property rights and liberty and with established

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legal concepts, such as those developed under the Roman-influenced continental or civil-law systems, which I regard as more libertarian, in some respects, than the more feudalistic common-law concepts.

My basic approach is to recognize that mainstream legal theories of contract have been muddied by unlibertarian and positivistic conceptions of law and rights. Questions about what rights are "alienable" or not, loose talk about how promises should be "binding," etc., highlight the need for clarity in this area. In my view, to sort these issues out one needs a very clear and consistent understanding of the nature of property rights and ownership. First, we must recognize that only scarce resources are ownable; second, that the body is a type of scarce resource; third, that the mode of acquiring title to external objects is different from the basis of ownership of one's own body. The libertarian view is that human actors are self-owners and these self-owners are capable of appropriating unowned scarce resources by Lockean homesteading – some type of first use or embordering activity. Obviously, an actor must already own his body if he is to be a homesteader; self-ownership is not acquired by homesteading but rather is presupposed in any act or defense of homesteading. The basis of self-ownership is the fact that each person has direct control over the scarce resource of his body and therefore has a better claim to it than any third party (and any third party seeking to dispute my self-ownership must presuppose the principle of self-ownership in the first place since he is acting as a self-owner). (For more on this see my posts and articles [The relation between the non-aggression principle and property rights: a response to Division by Zer0](#), [How We Come To Own Ourselves](#), and [What Libertarianism Is](#).)

So there is a difference in body-ownership and in ownership of external scarce goods. An actor is a self-owner; self-owners are able to acquire property rights in external objects by homesteading unowned resources – or by contractual acquisition from a previous owner. Many libertarians simply assume that if you own something, you can sell it. Thus, they conclude that if we are self-owners, we can sell our bodies. ([Walter Block](#) makes this argument.) My view is that we start with the nature of ownership: Ownership means the right to exclude others. It does not automatically imply the "right to sell" since this is actually moving from a situation where you have the right to exclude to one where you *do not*. But in the case of formerly unowned resources, because of the way ownership is acquired, it can be undone, in effect. Homesteading an object requires more than just possession – it requires the intent to own. So if the intent to own is abandoned, then the thing is no longer owned, but merely possessed (if that). Thus, an owner of an object can transfer ownership to another by allowing the other to possess the object and then manifesting his intent to abandon ownership, "in favor" of the new possessor. The new possessor then in effect re-homesteads the item, becoming its new owner. In other words, the nature of ownership in external objects means that it is possible to abandon ownership to them or

use this abandonment method to transfer title to someone else. So ownership does not directly include the "right to sell," but it so happens to imply this power, for acquired property. However, the same is simply not true of one's body. There is no way to "undo" the homesteading of your body since you did not homestead it in the first place. There is no way to abandon your ownership of your body since it is rooted in your better claim to it based on your direct control over it. Merely stating "I promise to be your slave" doesn't change your status as having a better claim to your body than third parties. (For more on this, see [A Libertarian Theory of Contract: Title Transfer, Binding Promises, and Inalienability](#) and [How We Come To Own Ourselves](#).)

So in exploring the Rothbard-Evers title transfer theory of contract and in building on insights by Hoppe about the crucial importance of scarcity to property rights and his insights as to the nature of self-ownership and homesteading, I tried to identify the difference between body and external resource ownership, the basis and nature of acquisition of rights in each and the nature of what contracts are (transfers of title to alienable owned objects) and what implications this has for body-alienability (namely, that voluntary slavery contracts are unenforceable and invalid).

Daily Bell: You advance a theory of causation that attempts to explain why remote actors can be liable under libertarian theory. Can you clarify this point, please?

Stephan Kinsella: I had long been dissatisfied with the approach various libertarians take to the issue of responsibility for aggression caused by leaders or groups. Too often libertarians made what seemed to me to be too simplistic or unjustified assumptions, which they relied on in their analysis. For example some seemed to assume that there is a fixed amount of responsibility, so that if you say the mafia boss is responsible for ordering a hit, then the lackey who committed the killing is innocent. Or some would argue that a mafia boss or general or president is not responsible for the aggression committed by his underlings, unless he had coerced them or had a "contract" with them.

These all seemed confused to me. As for the latter: a contract is just a title transfer, so it is unclear why A hiring B to kill C means A is liable but A persuading B through sexual favors to kill C is not. Focusing on ad hoc exceptions to the rule that A is not responsible for B's actions seemed confused to me. The Austrian theory of subjective value teaches us that there are many ways to incentivize or motivate or induce someone to commit an action for you: you can promise sexual favors, promise to pay money, hire someone, and so on. Also, there is no reason to think that both the boss and his underling cannot both be 100% responsible: in the law this is called joint and several liability.

So in developing a paper called "Reinach and the Property Libertarians on Causality in the

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Law" for the [Reinach and Rothbard: An International Symposium](#) (Ludwig von Mises Institute, Auburn, Alabama, March 29-30, 2001), a version of which was later published as [Causation and Aggression](#) (co-authored with Patrick Tinsley, *The Quarterly Journal of Austrian Economics*, vol. 7, no. 4, Winter 2004: 97-112), I relied on Mises's praxeological understanding of the structure of human action and cooperation action in general. Mises points out that in a market economy with the division and specialization of labor, people use others as *means* to achieve their ends. This is the essence of market cooperation.

When the aim is peaceful production of wealth, this is good. But people can cooperate to engage in collective aggression too. In this case the members of the group conspire to achieve an illicit end, such as theft or murder. Just as a man can use a gun (a means) to commit aggression, so people can employ others as means to commit crimes. Sometimes these other people are innocent (e.g., hiring a boy to deliver a bomb concealed in a package) and other times they are complicit (the mafia boss's underling). In the latter case, both actors are aggressors, as they play a causal role in action that uses efficacious means to achieve the end of invading the borders of the property of innocent victims. The argument is general and praxeological and focuses on the intent of the actor (which relates to the praxeological *end* or goal of the action) and the *means* employed, whether that means be an inanimate good or another human. Thus, there is no need to resort to *ad hoc* exceptions such as "the boss is liable because he was coercing the underling" or "the boss is liable because of a contract with" the underling.

Daily Bell: You provide non-utilitarian arguments for intellectual property being incompatible with libertarian property rights principles. Can you explain this?

Stephan Kinsella: I alluded to this above in my discussion about negative servitudes. An IP right gives the holder the right to stop others from using their property as they wish. For example, George Lucas, courtesy copyright law, can use the force of state courts to stop me from writing and publishing "The Continuing Adventures of Han Solo." J.D. Salinger's estate was able to block the publication of a sequel to *Catcher in the Rye*, for example. This is censorship. (See [The Patent, Copyright, Trademark, and Trade Secret Horror Files](#).) And Apple can get a court order [blocking Samsung](#) from selling a tablet if it resembles an iPad too closely. This is just protection from competition. (See [Intellectual Property Advocates Hate Competition](#).)

Daily Bell: You offer a discourse ethics argument for the justification of individual rights, using an extension of the concept of "estoppel." Can you expand please?

Stephan Kinsella: This approach is summarized in [Argumentation Ethics and Liberty: A Concise Guide](#) and [New Rationalist Directions in Libertarian Rights Theory](#). The libertarian approach is a very symmetrical one: the non-aggression principle does not rule out force, but only the *initiation* of force. In other words, you are permitted to use force only in response to

some else's use of force. If they do not use force you may not use force yourself. There is a symmetry here: force for force, but no force if no force was used. In law school I learned about the concept of estoppel, which is a legal doctrine that estops or prevents you from asserting a position in a legal proceeding that is inconsistent with something you had done previously. You have to be consistent. I was at this time fascinated with Hoppe's argumentation ethics, which is probably why it struck me that the basic reasoning of legal estoppel could be used to explain or justify the libertarian approach to symmetry in force: The reason you are permitted to use force against someone who himself initiated force is that he has already in a sense admitted that he thinks force is permissible, by his act of aggression. Therefore if he were to complain if the victim or the victim's agents were to try to use defensive or even retaliatory force against him, he would be holding inconsistent positions: His pro-force view that is implicit and inherent in his act of aggression and his anti-force view implicit in his objection to being punished. Using language borrowed from the law, we might say he should be "estopped" from complaining if a victim were to use force to defend himself from the aggressor or even to punish or retaliate against the aggressor. I tried to work this into a theory of libertarian rights, relying heavily on insights from Hoppe's argumentation ethics and from his social theory in general.

Daily Bell: Please comment on and summarize the following books you wrote, with special emphasis on your IP theory:

- *Protecting Foreign Investment Under International Law: Legal Aspects of Political Risk* (with Paul E. Comeaux). Oceana Publications, 1997. ISBN 978-0379213713
- *Online Contract Formation* (with Andrew Simpson). Oxford University Press, 2004. ISBN 978-0379215199
- *International Investment, Political Risk, and Dispute Resolution: A Practitioner's Guide* (with Noah Rubins). Oxford University Press, 2005. ISBN 978-0379215229
- *Against Intellectual Property*. Ludwig von Mises Institute, 2008. ISBN 978-1933550329

Stephan Kinsella: The first three books are legal treatises that have little do with libertarianism or IP, although the first and third do examine practical ways for international investors to use international law to protect their property from takings from the host state (more on these at my legal site, [KinsellaLaw.com](#)).

The latter monograph was first published as an article in the *Journal of Libertarian Studies* in 2001, with the title suggested by Professor Hans-Hermann Hoppe, then the journal's editor. My initial title had been "The Legitimacy of Intellectual Property," the name of the earlier paper I had delivered at the Austrian Scholars Conference the preceding year.

It was only 11 years ago, but at the time there was not yet much interest among libertarians in

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intellectual property (IP). It was thought of as an arcane and insignificant issue, not as one of our most pressing problems. Libertarian attention was focused on taxes, war, the state, the drug war, asset forfeiture, business regulations, civil liberties and so on, not on patent and copyright.

I felt the same way. I looked into this issue primarily because I had been, since 1993, a practicing patent attorney and had always been dissatisfied with Ayn Rand's arguments in favor of IP (Ayn Rand, "Patents and Copyrights," in *Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal* (New York: New American Library, 1967), p. 133). Her weird admixture of utilitarian and propertarian arguments raised red flags for me. It included tortuous arguments as to why a 17-year patent term and a 70-year copyright term were just about right and why it was fair for the first guy to the patent office to get a monopoly that could be used against an independent inventor just one day behind him. I knew Rand's approach was wrong but I assumed there must be a better way to justify IP rights. So I read and thought and tried to figure this out. In the end, I concluded that patent and copyright are completely statist and unjustified derogations from property rights and the free market. So I wrote the article to get it out of my system and then moved on to other fields that interest me more, like rights theory, libertarian legal theory and the intersection of Austrian economics and law.

In the meantime, with the flowering of the Internet and digital information and with increasing abuses of rights in the name of IP, more and more libertarians have become interested in the IP issue and have realized that it is antithetical to libertarian property rights and freedom. It is in fact becoming a huge threat to freedom and increasingly used by the state against the Internet, which is one of the most important weapons we have against state oppression. (For more on this see [SOPA is the Symptom, Copyright is the Disease: The SOPA wakeup call to ABOLISH COPYRIGHT](#). For more discussion of SOPA and PIPA, see [C4SIF.org](#) and [Techdirt](#). See also [Where does IP Rank Among the Worst State Laws?](#); [Masnick on the Horrible PROTECT IP Act: The Coming IPolice State](#); [Copyright and the End of Internet Freedom](#); and [Patent vs. Copyright: Which is Worse?](#))

Daily Bell: What is the reaction to your theory of IP? Hostility?

Stephan Kinsella: At first there was apathy. The few people who thought about it mostly thought my views were too extreme – maybe we need to fix copyright and patent but surely the basic idea is sound. But my impression is that nowadays most libertarians are strongly opposed to IP. (See [The Death Throes of Pro-IP Libertarianism](#); [The Origins of Libertarian IP Abolitionism](#); [The Four Historical Phases of IP Abolitionism](#).) And, in fact, scholars associated with the Mises Institute sensed the importance of this issue earlier than most – for example, the Mises Institute awarded my "Against Intellectual Property" paper the [O.P. Alford III Prize](#) for 2002.

[Laissez Faire Books](#) is coming out with a new edition of my [Against Intellectual Property](#) later this year. I am also in the process of writing a new book on IP, tentatively entitled *Copy This Book*, taking into account more recent arguments, evidence and examples. In the meantime, readers interested in these ideas may find useful the list of selected writings and talks that supplement the arguments made in AIP, which I have compiled in my C4SIF blogpost "[Selected Supplementary Material for Against Intellectual Property](#)." For further information see various works linked at [c4sif.org/resources](#) and material posted going forward at [c4sif.org](#).

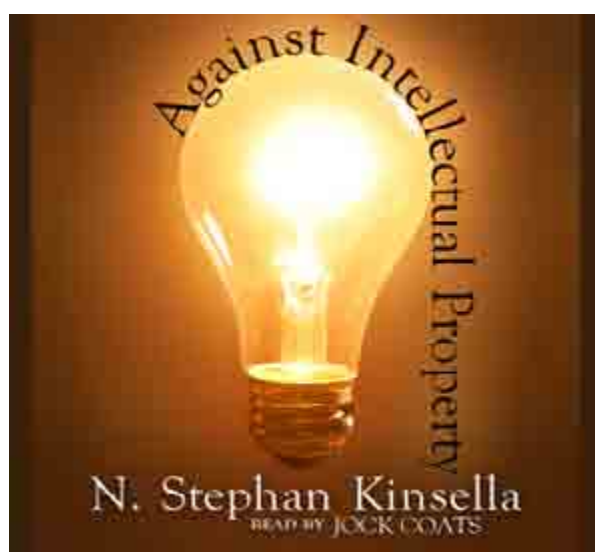
Daily Bell: How do you think artists and writers feel about it? What do they do to make a living if they do not receive royalties?

Stephan Kinsella: Well, [sharing is not piracy](#), and [copying is not theft](#). (And competition is not theft, either – see [Intellectual Property Advocates Hate Competition](#).) But people are used to thinking in these terms, due to state- and special interest-inspired [propaganda](#) to the contrary. Most artists and writers do not make much money from copyright; if they are successful at all they typically go through a publisher who makes most of the profits and owns the copyrights anyway. Luckily, technology is allowing writers and musicians to bypass the publishing and music industry gatekeepers.

There are any number of models artists can use to profit off of their talent and artistry. It is not up to the state to protect them from competition. Musicians can obviously get paid for performing and having their music copied and "pirated" helps them in this respect by making them more well known, more popular. As Cory Doctorow has noted, "for pretty much every writer – the big problem isn't piracy, it's obscurity." Artists are just entrepreneurs. It's up to them to figure out how or if they can make a monetary profit from their passion – from their calling, as I discussed above. Sometimes they can. Musicians can sell music, even in the face of piracy. Or they can sell their services – concerts, etc. Painters and other artists can profit in similar ways. A novelist could use kickstarter for a sequel or get paid to consult on a movie version (see Conversation with an author about copyright and publishing in a free society). Authors of non-fiction such as academic articles do not even get paid today – but it enhances their reputations and helps them land jobs in academia, for example. Inventors have an incentive to invent to make better products that outcompete the competition – for a while. Or they are hired in the R&D department of a corporation that is always trying to innovate. And so on. And if you cannot make your calling your career, then find a way. As director Francis Ford Coppola [has observed](#):

"You have to remember that it's only a few hundred years, if that much, that artists are working with money. Artists never got money. Artists had a patron, either the leader of the state or the duke of Weimar or somewhere, or the church,

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the pope. Or they had another job. I have another job. I make films. No one tells me what to do. But I make the money in the wine industry. You work another job and get up at five in the morning and write your script."

For some other examples, see: [Funding for Creation and Innovation in an IP-Free World](#); [Examples of Ways Content Creators Can Profit Without Intellectual Property](#); [Innovations that Thrive without IP](#); [The Creator-Endorsed Mark as an Alternative to Copyright](#). [Techdirt](#) also has a number of studies of how creators can profit from their works without relying on copyright, such as [How Being More Open, Human And Awesome Can Save Anyone Worried About Making Money In Entertainment](#).

Daily Bell: We find your theories reasonable but are you making headway? Are people generally hostile?

Stephan Kinsella: As I mentioned earlier, libertarians have, in my impression, generally become more opposed to IP, and generally on principled grounds. Most "mainstream" people are reluctant to take a principled or "extreme" position, instead recognizing that IP is "broken" and needs to be "reformed." They think IP abolitionism is too extreme, but really cannot articulate why. (See [There are No Good Arguments for Intellectual Property: Redux](#).)

Daily Bell: We've come to the conclusion that copyright law and patent law are deterrents to progress and technology. Your view?

Stephan Kinsella: The empirical studies all point this direction (see [Yet Another Study Finds Patents Do Not Encourage Innovation](#)). And this should not be surprising. Everything the state does, without exception, destroys. IP, especially patent and copyright, are pure creatures of state legislation. The origins of copyright lie in censorship and thought control; the origins of patents lie in mercantilism and protectionism. It should be no surprise that state interventions in the market lead to destruction of wealth, which of course will have an adverse effect on innovation.

Daily Bell: What would the world look like without patent and copyright law?

Stephan Kinsella: As far as copyright, I think it would look somewhat like what our current world is heading to since there is rampant "piracy" despite copyright law. Except there would be fewer outrageous, draconian results like jail terms and prison. (See [Six Year Federal Prison Sentence for Copyright Infringement](#); [Man sentenced to federal prison for uploading "Wolverine" movie](#); [British student Richard O'Dwyer can be extradited to US for having website with links to pirated movies](#).) And there would be more freedom to engage in remixing and other forms of creativity and a richer public domain

to draw on. We would still have a huge amount of artistic works being created, of course.

Without patents, companies would be free to compete without fear of lawsuits – and without being able to rely on a state-granted monopoly privilege to protect them from competition. I believe that an IP-free world would have far more innovation and diverse creativity than today's world. And there would be fewer barriers to entry so smaller companies could compete with the [oligopolies that patent law has helped to create](#).

Daily Bell: Can you explain how patent and copyright law evolved and why it was likely a reaction to the Gutenberg Press and a means of controlling information rather than protecting the public?

Stephan Kinsella: The roots of copyright lie in censorship. It was easy for state and church to control thought by controlling the scribes, but then the printing press came along and the authorities worried that they couldn't control official thought as easily. So Queen Mary created the Stationer's Company in 1557, with the exclusive franchise over book publishing, to control the press and what information the people could access. When the charter of the Stationer's Company expired, the publishers lobbied for an extension, but in the Statute of Anne (1710) Parliament gave copyright to authors instead. Authors liked this because it freed their works from state control. Nowadays they use copyright much as the state originally did: to censor and ban books – or their publishers do, who have gained a quasi-oligopolistic gatekeeper function, courtesy copyright law. For more on this, see [History of Copyright, part 1: Black Death](#); [How to Slow Economic Progress](#). And now we see copyright being used, along with regulation of gambling, child pornography and terrorism, as an excuse for the state to radically infringe Internet freedom and civil liberties. ([Where does IP Rank Among the Worst State Laws?](#); [Masnick on the Horrible PROTECT IP Act: The Coming IPolice State](#); [Copyright and the End of Internet Freedom](#); [Patent vs. Copyright: Which is Worse?](#))

Patents originated in mercantilism and protectionism; the crown would grant monopolies to favored court cronies, such as monopolies on playing cards, leather, iron, soap, coal, books and wine. The Statute of Monopolies (1624) eliminated much of this but retained the idea of a monopoly grant to an inventor of some useful machine or process. (See "[Why 'Intellectual Property' is not Genuine Property](#)," [Adam Smith Forum, Moscow](#); also [How to Slow Economic Progress](#).)

Daily Bell: Didn't Germany do better WITHOUT strict copyright than Britain did WITH it? Isn't this the reason that Germany progressed

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so much in literature, philosophy, mathematics, etc. during the 17th and 18th centuries?

Stephan Kinsella: It probably had something to do with it. As noted in Frank Thadeusz's article [No Copyright Law: The Real Reason for Germany's Industrial Expansion?](#), a new study by economic historian Eckhard Hoffner shows that Germany's lack of copyright in the 19th century led to an unprecedented explosion of publishing, knowledge, etc., unlike in neighboring countries England and France where copyright law enriched publishers but stultified the spread of knowledge and limited publishing to a mass audience. The article claims that this is the main reason that Germany's production and industry had caught up with everyone else by 1900. This seems believable to me. (See also Jeff Tucker, [Germany and Its Industrial Rise: Due to No Copyright.](#))

Daily Bell: Shouldn't the enforcement of copyright law be strictly civil? When did it become a criminal offence?

Stephan Kinsella: I am not sure exactly when the criminal penalties were added but as I noted above, there are potentially severe civil and criminal penalties for copyright infringement, including prison, extradition, being banned from the Internet and so on. Patent law can also be enforced not only by a damages award but also by a court injunction ordering a competitor to stop making a given product, on pain of contempt of court.

Daily Bell: Why is Kim Dotcom in prison in New Zealand?

Stephan Kinsella: I've discussed this case in a [number of posts on C4SIF](#). Basically, he offered a service that permitted people to share files (information) with each other. This crackdown [threatens](#) any number of "legitimate" sites and services such as Youtube, Yousendit, Dropbox and so on.

Daily Bell: We've postulated a simpler solution than what you present. We've pressed the argument for private justice - clan and tribal justice as practiced for thousands of years. In this formulation no "authority" is present but those agreed upon by the two parties to the quarrel/crime. Thus, copyright issues would become incumbent on the COPYRIGHT HOLDER to enforce. In other words, the copyright holder not the state would have the expense of enforcement. What's your take on this?

Stephan Kinsella: I suppose this could be an improvement but I think it's still misguided.

Any attempt to use force against people using information would be aggression. The only exception would be if someone has contractually agreed to pay a fine if they use information in an unapproved way. But who would sign such a ridiculous contract? I believe there is nothing wrong with using information. If you reveal information to the public by telling people or selling some product that embodies or otherwise makes evident some idea, you have to expect people to learn from this, compete with you, maybe emulate or copy it or even build on and improve on it. As Wendy McElroy [has explained](#), quoting Benjamin Tucker:

"...if a man publicized an idea without the protection of a contract, then he was presumed to be abandoning his exclusive claim to that idea.

'If a man scatters money in the street, he does not thereby formally relinquish title to it ... but those who pick it up are thereafter considered the rightful owners.... Similarly a man who reproduces his writings by thousands and spreads them everywhere voluntarily abandons his right of privacy and those who read them ... no more put themselves by the act under any obligation in regard to the author than those who pick up scattered money put themselves under obligations to the scatterer.'

"Perhaps the essence of Tucker's approach to intellectual property was best expressed when he exclaimed, 'You want your invention to yourself? Then keep it to yourself.'"

Daily Bell: Why should the state enforce copyright on behalf of the individual?

Stephan Kinsella: It shouldn't. In fact, the only thing the state should do is commit suicide.

Daily Bell: Why should disinterested third parties pay for copyright enforcement?

Stephan Kinsella: They shouldn't and wouldn't. The whole idea is preposterous and flies in the face of human action. The market provides abundance in the face of physical scarcity. It's a good thing when we are more productive. Likewise more information and knowledge is good. To try to restrict the spread and use of knowledge is insane.

Daily Bell: If people want to claim copyright and third party contracts, shouldn't it be up to them to enforce those contracts?

Stephan Kinsella: Sure.

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Daily Bell: Is the US legal system – which is a state-run, "public" judicial system – competent and fair in your estimation?

Stephan Kinsella: No. It is thoroughly unjust and illegitimate. It is just the facade of a criminal organization with a pretense to legitimacy.

Daily Bell: Why does the US have so many millions of prisoners, half the world's population?

Stephan Kinsella: Someone has to be first. But seriously – it's partly due to our insane war on drugs and also due to the devastation various state (mostly federal) policies have imposed on the black population: minimum wage, welfare, inflation, unemployment, war, Jim Crow and other vestiges of slavery. The US regularly uses IP as an excuse to engage in imperialistic bullying of other nations, to benefit US industries such as Hollywood, the music and software industries, big Pharma and the like. (See [Intellectual Property Imperialism](#) and [other posts](#).)

Daily Bell: Is there a power elite intent on moving toward one-world government and are they behind copyright and patent laws?

Stephan Kinsella: I used to be fearful of a one-world state but my current view is that the big powers, primarily the US, are the biggest threat. But yes, the western powers are using copyright and patent to crack down on dissent and to influence other countries' policies at the behest of the MPAA, RIAA and so on.

Daily Bell: What would be the best approach to socio-politics in your view?

Stephan Kinsella: As I explain in [What It Means To Be an Anarcho-Capitalist](#) and [What Libertarianism Is](#), I am definitely an anarchist – have been since 1988 or so. I prefer the term "anarcho-libertarian" nowadays, in part because of confusion spread by some left-libertarians about the connotations of "capitalism." But I am in favor of a free market and capitalism rightly understood. I am basically a Rothbardian-Hoppean in terms of politics.

Daily Bell: Do you think the Internet itself, via what we call the Internet Reformation, is having a big impact on the powers-that-be and their ability to control society and information?

Stephan Kinsella: As some earlier answers have indicated – yes. The Internet is one of the most significant developments in our lifetime, perhaps in the history of humanity. The state is trying to control the Internet but I believe and hope that by the time the state is fully roused to the danger the Internet poses to it, it will be too late for it to stop it. As a Salon writer [said](#) about former congressman/now copyright lobbyist Chris Dodd after the Internet uprising that helped defeat the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA): "No wonder Chris Dodd is so angry. The Internet is treating him like damage, and routing around it." My hope is that the Internet will find ways to treat the state like the cancerous damage that it is, and route around it and leave it in the dust.

Daily Bell: Where does the IP movement go now? What are the next moves? Are you content with theorizing about it? Is it having a real-world impact? What would that be?

Stephan Kinsella: Ultimately we have to try to highlight the illogic and injustices of the system so that people realize IP is illegitimate. This is an uphill battle, of course. Most people are unprincipled and utilitarian, influenced by state propaganda and economically illiterate. I have pondered trying to set up some kind of [patent defense league](#) but have not yet figured out how viable this is. I would also like to urge some group like EFF or Creative Commons to come up with a simple, reliable, inexpensive way for people to abandon their copyrights. At present there is [no easy way to do this](#). And though it is not prudent to advocate that people flout the law, the widespread disregard for copyright and resort to piracy, torrents and encryption will put some limits on how effective copyright enforcement can be.

Daily Bell: Any other points you want to make?


Stephan Kinsella: Let me close with [a quote from Lew Rockwell](#):

"Let me state this as plainly as possible. The enemy is the state. There are other enemies too, but none so fearsome, destructive, dangerous, or culturally and economically debilitating. No matter what other proximate enemy you can name – big business, unions, victim lobbies, foreign lobbies, medical cartels, religious groups, classes, city dwellers, farmers, left-wing professors, right-wing blue-collar workers, or even bankers and arms merchants – none are as horrible as the hydra known as the leviathan state. If you understand this point – and only this point – you can understand the core of libertarian strategy."

Daily Bell: Any references, web sites, etc. you want to point to?

Stephan Kinsella: As mentioned, I am working on *Copy This Book* and I also have another book in the works, *Law in a Libertarian World: Legal Foundations of a Free Society*, an edited selection of my rights and law-related articles. Also, I blog regularly at [The Libertarian Standard](#) and [C4SIF](#). Finally, readers can obtain [here](#) the slides and audio for the four Mises Academy lectures I delivered last year: Rethinking Intellectual Property, Libertarian Legal Theory, The Social Theory of Hoppe, and Libertarian Controversies.

Daily Bell: Thanks for your time.

Stephan Kinsella: You're welcome. Thanks for your interest. 

Reprinted from [The Daily Bell](#)

Stephan Kinsella is Founder and Executive Editor of [Libertarian Papers](#), Founder and Director of the [Center for the Study of Innovative Freedom \(C4SIF\)](#), and a member of the [Editorial Board of Reason Papers](#). A [registered patent attorney](#) and former adjunct professor at [South Texas College of Law](#), Stephan has [published](#) numerous articles and books on IP law, international law, and the application of libertarian principles to legal topics. He received an LL.M. in international business law from King's College London, a JD from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU, and BSEE and MSEE degrees from LSU. Send him [email here](#).

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INNOVATION AND THE AGE OF AUTHORITY

By L. Neil Smith

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THE great libertarian philosopher and teacher Robert LeFevre believed that there is a certain type of human personality who will "crouch and freeze" instinctively, like a frightened rabbit, whenever it's

confronted with change, whether that change is for good or for ill.

These people suffer, he said, from a kind of existential motion sickness that only lets them observe the passage of time in frozen snapshots.

For example, it is impossible, in their stunted view, that a woman can arrive illegally from somewhere south of the border, get herself a job in one of Los Angeles' infamous "sweatshops" (whoever first called them that had no idea of what a sweatshop really is), work there for a relatively short time, learn to speak English, get her greencard and a better job, and make herself a working part of the American Productive Class.

No, the poor women in those sweatshops have been trapped there since the Earth condensed from primordial dust, remain trapped there today, and will likely be trapped there until the sun burns out. This despite the facts, as reported by John Stossel, from whom I first learned of the process. The average worker in these places is there for nine to eighteen months and then leaves, prepared for a better life.



The same kind of people can't abide new technology. They want their phones wired to the wall, and hate to see anybody using a cell phone.

Those little music-makers young people use with ear-buds -- iPods and suchlike -- are an abomination. Senator Jay Rockefeller, former governor of West Virginia, wishes the Internet had never been invented. I wonder how he feels about people who watch TV on their telephones.

The fact that most of these history-altering innovations have not occurred within the deep, inner recesses of corporations, but among young unaffiliated, undisciplined "geeks" they can't identify and find, let alone control, must have them munching the furniture and drapes.

Sometimes, progress overwhelms the weaker sisters among us. The Amish, Hutterites, Mennonites, and other Anabaptists like them apparently wish it had stopped somewhere in the 17th century, and they do their level best, in their farms and in the fields, to act as if it had.

In my recent novel *Ceres*, a group of 22nd century environmental terrorists who call themselves the "Mass Movement", appropriately headquartered in Amherst, Massachusetts, want to party like it's 1799. Politics being what it is and all, they are compelled to settle for 1950, meaning, ironically enough, that they are required to park their quiet, efficient fusion-powered automobiles on the outskirts of the "City of Five Colleges" in favor of tail-finned eight-cylinder smoke belchers.



In the deeper future, among the stars, there will be misfits who will regret that humankind ever left the Earth, our lovely Mother Gaia. Now we learn about a fellow who has carried this latter-day Luddism even further. Ralph Oman, a former U.S. Registrar of Copyrights, is the latest to scream, "Stop the world! I want to get off!"

Using potential copyright infringement as an excuse, he wants to compel inventors and innovators -- who, like Charles Goodyear, having accidentally dropped a box of sulfur in a pot of rubber, to create vulcanization, often don't know themselves what serendipity is going to cook up for them -- to ask Congress for permission before releasing any new product which, in his view (the man has a mind so narrow he can peek through a keyhole with both eyes) might violate current copyrights.



This is a recipe to end any innovation by anyone but gigantic corporations with legal departments the size of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. If it were up to this clown, most of the electronic, digital, cybernetic technology -- personal computers and printers, VCR, DVD, and Blu-ray, the Internet itself -- that has transformed our culture, given it the only hope it has for continued survival, and brought about an end to the

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Age of Authority, would never have made it to the market.

Jay Rockefeller would be so proud.



A word here about copyrights and patents. In the face of a trendy socialist minority within the general freedom movement, I am known as one of the most vocal and unre-

lenting advocates of the concept of intellectual property and the unalienable individual, civil, Constitutional, and human right to keep the fruit of one's mental effort.



Does this mean I'm with RIAA in its effort to extort hundreds of thousands of dollars from Productive Class kids and their folks for the heinous crime of downloading a few tunes and sharing

them with their homies?

It does not.

Does it mean I like the sleazy law firms that troll the Internet sniffing around for possible lawsuits that they can get paid to prosecute?

It does not.

I know the present system -- like almost everything else in our civilization today -- is broken, very likely beyond repair. That doesn't mean my rights have somehow evaporated. The question, very simply, is how to protect them justly and proportionately. It's time to follow Jefferson's advice and "provide new guards" for our "future security".

But intellectual property rights are not the focus here, only the excuse the other side is trying to use to shut us up. It's the right of ordinary people to communicate freely with one another that has all the politicians and bureaucrats rattled. That

right, exercised daily, means that their days of power are numbered. They see the light at the end of the tunnel -- and it's an oncoming train. They avoided a Ron Paul presidency this time, but only narrowly and only by criminal means. The next time it will be harder, and the time after that, impossible.

They know better than most that what's happening now is happening simply because communications, which used to be a vertical structure, propagating from the top down for the past 6,000 years, has been set on its ear by a bunch of young geniuses tinkering in their garages, attics, bedrooms, and their mothers' basements. Although there are huge hardware and software companies now (most of them started by those same young geniuses, who became billionaires) the tinkering continues, threatening to set off another revolution and another after that.

Antigravity. Teleportation. Time-travel. Nanites that eat spy cameras.

Being able to 3D print our own guns -- something I more or less predicted in my novel [Henry Martyn](#), where I called the process "spreighforming" -- is here today, straight



COME AND TAKE IT

out of their most hideous horrifying nightmares. They will fail to stop it, and peace, freedom, progress, and prosperity will begin breaking out uncontrollably everywhere.

And that is what this Oman guy is trying to prevent. 

L. Neil Smith is the award-winning author of 33 freedom-oriented books, including [The Probability Broach](#), [Ceres](#), [Sweeter Than Wine](#), and [DOWN WITH POWER: Libertarian Policy In A Time Of Crisis](#).

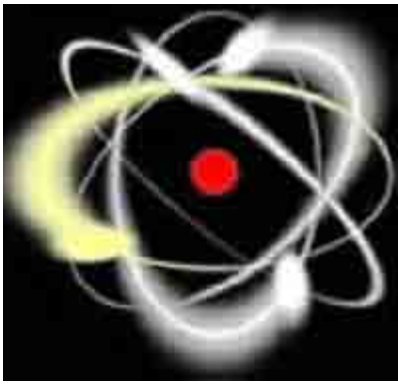
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THE BUDDING SCIENTIST WITHIN YOU

By Michael Crosswhite

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FROM the time I was 10 years old, I wanted to be an inventor and scientist. I had a microscope set, a chemistry set, my dad's workbench full of hand tools, saws, drills, etc. I remember when I was 12, trying to build a hammock to support the plaster cast on my broken arm. I loved science and thought the greatest job in the world was a research scientist. I imagined that I would solve some major world problem with one of my inventions. Well, it hasn't happened yet. But, it doesn't mean that I am not still trying.

I have a full time job working at a desk job, but when the weekend comes, I am in my garage trying to fulfill my boyhood vision of solving a major world problem. I have mostly focused on the alternative energy area.

Here are a few things that I have worked on:

About 5 or 6 years ago, I watched a 1995 UK video called "IT RUNS ON WATER"



In that movie (at +20:30), among other inventors, is a story of a real American patriot, garage inventor, Stanley Meyer. Because of the disruption in America caused by the energy crisis in 1974, Stanley decided to solve the energy problem using water as a fuel. He eventually was able to split water into its two parts of Hydrogen and oxygen very efficiently. Hydrogen is a very flammable fuel, and Oxygen makes fuel burn. If you don't believe me, just watch the news clips of the Hydrogen filled Hindenburg disaster in 1937. Stan Meyer discovered how to efficiently split the water using less energy than anyone else had before. By the end of the 1980's, He was able to install his invention on a dune-buggy, with a standard Volkswagen engine, and power it with Hydrogen and Oxygen (called HHO or Browns gas) which he created while he was driving. He drove the dune buggy on the streets and roads with only water in the tank as the source of fuel producing only water

vapor as exhaust. As with many successful inventors who challenge the Energy Monopoly of the Oil and Gas companies, just as he was ready to go into production with his water-car invention, he was poisoned and died before you and I got the technology.

I was inspired by Stan Meyer's story and I built several water splitting HHO devices in my own garage, and they all worked, just not as efficient as Stan's. You can do it too, here's how:

Just take a 9 volt battery, connect it with wires from each terminal, separated, and put the bare wires into some salt water. The salt will act as an electrolyte and allow the voltage and current to travel from the positive to the negative wires. This will cause bubbles to form on each wire. The bubbles on the negative wire will be Hydrogen and the bubbles on the positive wire will be Oxygen.

WARNING: Be careful to do this with good ventilation because these are flammable gasses and will explode with great force if a nearby flame or spark ignites them.

I built several of these water splitting HHO devices in my garage and was able to produce a significant amount of Hydrogen/Oxygen fuel with them. I even installed an HHO unit on my car and improved my gasoline MPG significantly. My car from the factory is supposed to get a max of 28 MPG on the highway. With my water splitting device installed, I drove from Phoenix to Kansas City, Missouri and got 36 MPG on several tanks of freeway driving. I was never able to get the efficiency that Stan Meyer got, but I proved to myself that it does work. There are many others who are working on this across the world. Two other successful inventors who can split water efficiently are Daniel Dingle from the Philippines and Bob Boyce from the USA. I challenge you to Google these guys and see them driving their water powered cars.

Another garage project was purchasing my own solar panels and installing them on my house myself. Now, I am producing 2KW of alternative power whenever the sun shines and reducing my electrical dependency. I also had solar hot water installed on the roof, and in the summer, my solar water system produces steaming hot water from the faucets without using gas or electric heating.

My next garage project is modifying a Rocket Stove heater for my workshop. I discovered an invention called the Rocket Stove and it burns

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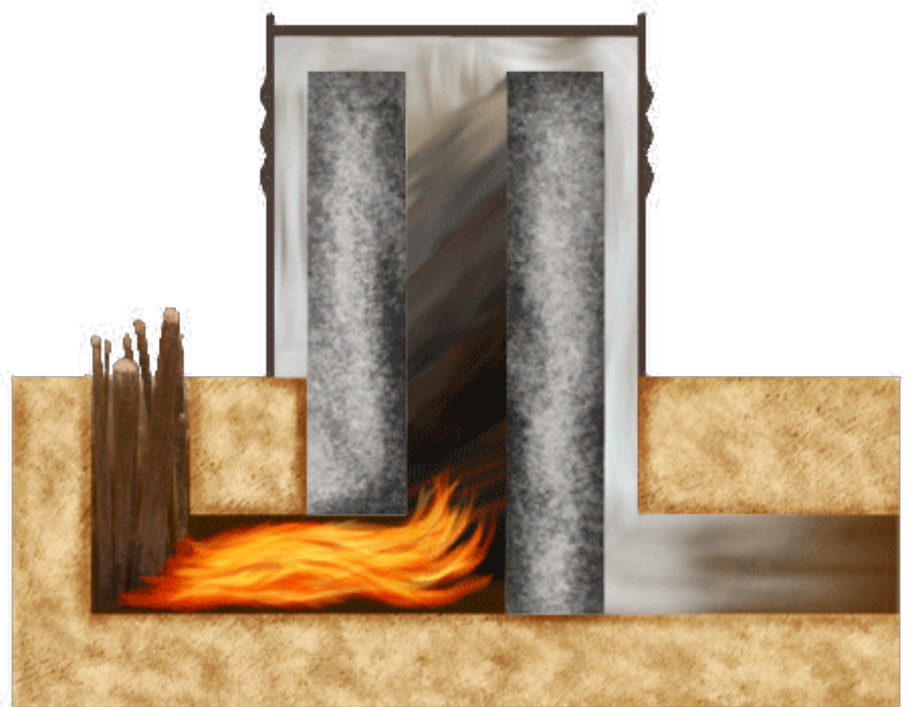
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twigs and small sticks so well, there is no smoke from the stove. I found this technology to be very interesting so I built one in my garage and it works great. When the stove starts, it produces a little smoke until it gets warmed up, then the exhaust becomes clean and smokeless. The stove is constructed so that the small sticks are burnt in a horizontal chamber and the flue pipe is vertical ("L" shaped burning chamber and flue). These chamber and flue pipes are housed in an insulated case which keeps the heat contained so the flue temperatures are allowed to get very high. The high temperatures ignite all the smoke particles, leaving a clean exhaust. This stove will allow you to cook a meal on a handful of twigs and sticks. For example, the last time that I ran the Rocket stove, I used a 6-inch long 2X4 scrap that I had in my garage and split it into 15 or 20 small sticks about the size of pencils. I fed them into the stove's horizontal burn chamber and lit it with a match and paper. As the sticks begin to burn and heat the flue, the intense heat in the flue causes a very strong up-draft which causes the flame to swirl within the flue, causing the sound of a rocket engine, thus the name. It is very cool to watch and I encourage you to become your own garage builder of rocket stoves. This is an incredible stove for camping because you can pick up small twigs and scraps from the surrounding camp area and prepare your dinner while being environmentally benign.

Anyway, my next project is to convert this rocket stove to heat my workshop this winter. I plan to put copper coils at the top where the flames come out and circulate water thru the pipes to a radiator inside my workshop. Here is a picture of the rocket stove I built.



Google "Rocket Stove build" and Check out the info and videos for rocket stoves here: <http://www.richsoil.com/rocket-stove-mass-heater.jsp>



Another garage project that I want to tell you about is the GEET fuel reactor that I built. A few years ago, I discovered a garage inventor named Paul Pantone and his GEET fuel process. Paul has patented his discovery and has put plans for building his fuel reactor on the internet for free. http://geetinternational.com/Free_Plans.html

<http://geetinternational.com/GEET%20-%20Small%20Engine%20Conversion%20Plans%5B1%5D.pdf>

What his invention does is to replace a conventional motor's carburetor with a device to refine/crack/break-down unconventional fuels (crude oil, soda pop, battery acid, water, etc...) into a fuel that is similar to propane or natural gas. It uses the wasted heat from the engine to refine unconventional fuels into this light gas that will run any standard gasoline motor. The process works like this. You put gasoline into a container (fuel tank) that is modified so that air is forced to bubble up from beneath the fuel causing some of the fuel to vaporize. This vapor is carried from the sealed container via tubing to

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the GEET fuel reactor. The GEET fuel reactor is basically two pipes, one inside the other. The exhaust from a running gasoline engine is very hot. Paul placed the incoming fuel line inside the exhaust pipe to heat the fuel vapors before going into the engine's intake. This process of hot exhaust going out of the engine in one direction while cold fuel vapors traveling the opposite direction inside the exhaust pipe causes an electrical storm within the fuel vapors that convert the fuel into a clean gas similar to natural gas or propane. The result is a very fuel efficient motor which produces very, very clean exhaust, without soot or carbon. Once the motor is hot from being run on gasoline vapors, then other unconventional fuels (crude oil, soda pop, battery acid, water, etc...) can be used to run the motor. Many of these unconventional fuels can be obtained for free or inexpensively.

I bought the materials described in the free internet plans from a local plumbing supply store and built my own GEET fuel reactor (cost about \$100). A friend gave me his broken lawnmower (bad carburetor), and I installed my GEET fuel reactor on that 3.5 hp Briggs & Stratton motor. I was able to start the engine using gasoline vapors with the GEET fuel reactor on the first attempt. After it warmed up, I added some black used motor oil to the existing gasoline so that I had a 50/50 mixture of used motor oil and gasoline. I restarted the motor and ran it for 20 to 30 minutes on that mixture. Next, I took a large cup and scooped water out of my swimming pool and added it to my fuel mixture. The mixture was now 25% gasoline, 25% used motor oil, and 50% swimming pool water. I restarted the motor on this mixture and ran the motor for 30 minutes before stopping the motor. The manual control valves for air and fuel delivery are very sensitive when adjusting to get the correct air/fuel mix for smooth engine performance. I wound up killing it frequently until I got the air/fuel mix adjusted properly.

Anyway, this is a great technology that anyone can build and use. I plan to build another GEET reactor and put it on my 110/220 Volt gasoline generator. If this works well, I will have my cabin in the woods powered by alternative fuels.

Here is a video of the 25/25/560 mix running my motor:



There are many other technologies, already developed, that can change the world. You can build them yourself, but you must take action, get in your garage and build them. These technologies need to be replicated and developed by freedom oriented people. We need to bring them into common use because the established energy monopolies have a vested interest in keeping these technologies away from the marketplace.

Happy building! 

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From Little Workbenches, Huge Benchmarks

By Chip Saunders

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THE history of The Industrial Age can be traced rather well by following the history of firearms development. For throughout Man's history, almost all new technological developments have been either related to or directly stemmed from war-fighting science, or has been applied to same. And this can be observed rather starkly in America's history. But while historical developments of firearms and firearms technology in the rest of the world were primarily the result of military programs run from government armories, in America, many of the most important developments were the result of private individuals tinkering in their garage or workshop. And some of these had global impact.

Each component was hand-fitted, and parts of one weapon from the same factory made on the same day by the same worker would likely not fit on another gun without the time and labor-intensive (read that as expensive) process of fitting by hand. Whitney set about rectifying this. His efforts led him to "go pro", so to speak, and he opened his firearms company in New Haven, Connecticut, which even today is home to other major gun companies that followed him there and established themselves, such as Colt, Winchester, Marlin, Mossberg and dozens of others, earning it the nickname "Arsenal of America".

Famously, Eli Whitney went to Washington, taking with him ten pieces of each part of a musket. He exhibited these to the Secretary of War, as a succession of piles of different parts. Selecting indiscriminately from each of the piles, he put together ten muskets, an achievement which was looked on with amazement. Unheard of interchangeability. The Secretary was so impressed by this, he commissioned Whitney to help establish the United States Armories at Springfield, Massachusetts and Harper's Ferry, Virginia. To this day, the same interchangeability must be demonstrated by every weapon system the U.S. military considers, and is the very first test conducted of a prospective design.

And all of this from a failed lawyer who decided to tinker around in the plantation workshop instead.

Samuel Colt, the inventor of the Colt Revolver. Nearly everyone has heard of him. Due to his designs, handguns evolved into truly more useful and utilitarian tools. And he too got his start playing around in the family workshop. But Sam was a bit more colorful of a character than Eli. When he died during the Civil War in 1862, he was one of the wealthiest men in America, and his company still thrives today.

Young Samuel preferred reading The Compendium Of Knowledge to his bible, and was fascinated by its articles on Robert Fulton and gunpowder, which motivated Colt throughout his life. His father owned a textile plant in Ware, Massachusetts and at age 15, Sam went to work there, where he had access to tools, materials, and the factory workers' expertise. Following the encyclopedia, Samuel built a homemade galvanic cell (an electrical battery). On the Fourth of July in that year he declared that he would

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Eli Whitney

Eli Whitney, known for inventing the cotton gin, also contributed greatly to firearms technology, but is considered by many the father of industrial standardized of production. When he was young, working to put himself through college at Yale, Whitney was a nail-maker. This was back when nails were made one at a time by hand. He graduated with a degree in law and moved in with the widow of Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene on her plantation in Georgia.

Uninspired by the practice of law, Whitney soon turned to his mechanical talents in the plantation workshop, where he conceived his famous cotton gin. Despite being trained as a lawyer, Eli had difficulty fighting infringement of his patent on the gin, and after years of fruitless litigation, he turned to firearms instead. With his experience in nail-making and producing his intricate and complicated cotton gin, Eli was aware that what slowed production and made all such things cost more (and more difficult to repair) was that no 2 mechanical items,...whether they be cotton gin, firearm or even a lowly nail,...were exactly the same. All firearms of the period were made individually, one at a time.



Samuel Colt

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blow up a raft on Ware Pond using underwater explosives; although the raft was missed, the explosion was still impressive. Sent to boarding school,

he amused his classmates with pyrotechnics. In 1830, a July 4th accident caused a fire that ended his schooling, and his father then sent him off to learn the seaman's trade. When Colt returned to the United States in 1832, he went back to work for his father, and built two guns, a rifle and a pistol. The first completed pistol exploded when it was fired, but the rifle performed well.

Samuel needed find a way to pay for the development of his ideas. He had learned about nitrous oxide (laughing gas) from the factory chemist in his father's textile plant, so he took a portable lab on the road and earned a living performing laughing gas demonstrations across the United States and Canada, billing himself as "the Celebrated Dr. Coult of New-York, London and Calcutta". Colt conceived of himself as a man of science and thought if he could enlighten people about a new idea like nitrous oxide, he could in turn make people more receptive to his new idea concerning a revolver. He started his lectures on street corners and soon worked his way up to lecture halls and museums. The lectures launched Colt's celebrated career as a pioneer Madison Avenue-style pitchman. His public speaking skills were so prized that he was thought to be a doctor and was pressed into service to cure an apparent cholera epidemic on board a riverboat by giving his patients a dose of nitrous oxide.

Having some money saved and keeping his idea alive of being an inventor as opposed to a "medicine man", Colt decided to embark once again on his revolving gun dream. But recognizing his skill was as a promoter and marketer rather than as a gunsmith, he hired a professional gunsmith in New York to do the actual development of his ideas. In 1835, with a working prototype, Colt filed for his first patent.

And keeping with early love for fireworks and pyrotechnics, Colt also set about inventing waterproof underwater detonators and waterproof cables, with an eye towards contracts with the U.S. Navy for mines. However, opposition from John Quincy Adams, who was serving as a US Representative from Massachusetts' 8th Congressional District scuttled the project as "not fair and honest warfare" and called the Colt mine an "unchristian contraption". With that project now blown out of the water (pun intended), he returned to the revolver.



Colt Revolver

The rest of the history of the Colt revolver is well known to most, so there is not much need to go into it here. It became so popular, it was used by both sides during the Civil War, and the frontier was settled with it as well.

And all this sprang forth from a kid tinkering in the workshop at his father's business.

Primers are the spark plugs of modern cartridges used in guns. They initiate the burning propellant inside that makes everything go bang. And it was a retired Civil War General and former national champion marksman who invented the type used today.



Hiram Berdan a repeating rifle and a patented musket ball. He had also developed the first commercial gold amalgamation machine to separate gold from ore. He invented a reaper and a mechanical bakery. His inventions had brought him wealth and international fame. But his innovation was not merely mechanical. He used his status as the nation's premier marksman to persuade the Union forces to let him raise up two special regiments of fellow marksmen. And the tactics used by the Sharpshooters (operating in small teams, using stealth and cover, trying to maintain distance to the enemy) are believed to be the direct parent of later American fighting tactics, which impact our troops fighting today.



Berdan Rifle

After the war, Berdan devoted his time to developing ways of improving the concept of the rifle. In his New York residence, he devised ways of converting muzzle-loading rifles into breach-loaders. He invented a means for the fabrication of copper cartridges (a forerunner to drawn brass cartridges used today), and most famously, the device which today still carries his name, cartridge primers,...the particular style of which he invented being called Berdan primers.

Berdan primers are used in most ammunition produced for military weapons today, although here in the U.S. and most of the west, it is Boxer primers which are preferred. But Col. Boxer of England developed his primer 4 years after Berdan, and was merely improving on his design, so it is recognized that Berdan is the father of



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the modern cartridge system. Ammunition cartridges already existed, but they were finicky and not entirely reliable. Most were rimfire or pinfire type. Fiddling around in his workshop, Berdan sought to find a way to utilize standard percussion caps then currently used on muskets, and see if they couldn't be pressed into use in a cartridge design. He succeeded, and gun design and capability took a quantum leap forward as a result, making possible future guns like the lever-action repeater all the way up to today's modern sniper rifles and machineguns.

As a retired man of class and leisure, Berdan would toil in his shop throughout the week to improve upon gun things, then weekly go take his customized weapons to local competitions to try out his new tweaks. It was basic research and development work. Although his experiences in the war had left him incapable of matching his previous championship performances, he remained well respected in the competition circuit, and everyone paid attention to his new ideas and gadgets he always brought with him to the matches he would attend. Between that and his contacts from military service, he had a second life as a successful inventor of weapon systems and accoutrements. His ammunition initiating system would go on to dominate the known world.



John Browning

ing had the distinct advantage of being the son of a gunsmith, from whom he was taught basic engineering and manufacturing principles, and encouraged to experiment with new concepts. And so it was that at only 13 years old, tinkering in his fathers shop, he produced his first own design for a "falling block" type of single-shot rifle. Upon adulthood, he then founded his own manufacturing operation and began to produce this firearm, securing his first patent at age 24.

The most prolific gun designer in American history, and thereby perhaps the world, was John Moses Browning. His name lives on in the Browning firearm company even today. Born to Mormon pioneers in Ogden, Utah in 1855, the young Mr. Brown-

The design eventually evolved into the Model 1885 single shot rifle. Winchester took notice of the design and bought it from Browning, as well as a lever-action design, which Winchester marketed as the Model 1886. This led to a 20 year collaborative relationship between Browning and Winchester, whereby most of the great iconic rifles and shotguns that Winchester became known for, and whom most people remember as "Winchesters", were more accurately in fact "Browning's".



Browning 1885 Single Shot Rifle

Later, Browning produced designs that were destined to see service with the U.S. military. These included the 1911 .45 caliber pistol which still



1911 .45 Pistol

sees service today over 100 years after its design, the M2 .50 caliber machine gun (also still serving U.S. soldiers) and the B.A.R. (Browning

Automatic Rifle) of WW2. And as far back as 1895, he developed the first gas-operated machine gun (the method most such weapons still use as their basis for operation even today).



Browning M2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun



Browning Automatic Rifle (B.A.R.)

Entire books have been written about the man fanatics in the gun culture refer to simply as JMB, and this small bit of print does not begin to illuminate the historical nexus this man was

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and is to manufacturing, military and sporting legacies. Gunsmiths everywhere have plaques hanging in their shops which read, "What would Moses do?"

And yet, this iconic figure also got his start as a mere tinkerer, letting his imagination run free at his father's workbench.

In more modern times, there has been the example of Ronnie Barrett, inventor and manufacturer of the widely recognized and admired Barrett .50 caliber rifles, which serve on battlefields and star in movies all over the globe. A professional photographer by trade before 1982, Ron had no background in manufacturing or engineering. But wanting a .50 BMG rifle, and having no commercially made model available for sale anywhere to purchase, he set about designing one for himself. Barrett sketched a cross-sectioned, full-size rifle, adding different components to it. Once he decided on the concept, he approached some machine shops with his drawings. They told him that if his idea was any good, someone smarter would have already designed it. Ignoring that warning, Ron invited a friend tool and die maker friend to help him with his project. After their regular job responsibilities, the men would start working on Barrett's ideas, sometimes laboring together all night in a one-bay garage using a small mill and lathe. Barrett also found support from a sheet metal fabricator who allowed him to visit the owner's shop and work directly with one employee. The resulting gun was the shoulder-fired Barrett rifle, which was created in less than four months.



Ronnie Barrett

After completing his prototype and test firing it on video, Barret displayed it at a Houston gun show where three people gave him deposits to make a rifle for them. With a limited amount of money, Barrett set up a small shop at his residence in a gravel-floored garage. He began by building a batch of 30 rifles, mainly because the two wooden gun racks he made in his father's cabinet shop held 15 rifles each. Using his hand-drawing of the new rifle, he placed an advertisement in Shotgun News and soon sold-out the first batch. Barrett was contacted by the

CIA, who purchased a number of rifles for the Afghan Mujahideen for use in their war against the Soviet Union.

Since then, the U.S. military has adopted the M82 rifle in all branches of service, and the military forces of the rest of the world have followed suit and purchased it as well. Along the way, it has become a globally recognized icon of weapon design. In fact, in the last 100 years, only seven individuals have invented firearms adopted by the United States Military. And even the most famous of those, JMB, who we discussed previously, had their designs perfected and mass-produced by either the U.S. government or another manufacturing company. Barrett is the only one of the group to create, manufacture, market and mass-produce his firearm independently for the United States government, who adopted it "as is", which is a rare enough event in military purchasing.

On July 15th, 1969, as the nation was watching Apollo 11 on TV, Richard Davis, a young recently discharged Marine was delivering pizzas in Detroit. Because it was sometimes a dangerous profession, he carried a .22 revolver with him. That night, he was forced to use it to shoot 3 armed robbers who were about to murder him. As a Marine, Davis was familiar with body armor. He decided honest people in high risk professions like him deserved some sort of light weight concealable body armor,...so he set about to design it. He toiled in his garage for years, trying many different soft flexible fabric materials, such as Nylon. He didn't have that much luck,...until 1975, however, when Kevlar was invented at DuPont. Rich Davis immediately recognized its utility for his purposes.

In 1976, Richard Davis, founded Second Chance Body Armor, and designed the company's first all-Kevlar vest, the Model Y. The lightweight, concealable vest industry was launched and a new form of daily protection for the modern police officer was



Richard Davis

quickly adapted. However, there was obvious skepticism at first by some as to whether this thin mere fabric could indeed stop bullets. Ever a fine salesman, who understood the power of the demonstration, Rich Davis would shoot himself to show how effectively his vests worked. He holds the world record as the man who has been shot more times than any other living human.

By the mid-to-late 1980s, an estimated 1/3 to 1/2 of police patrol officers wore concealable vests

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standard piece of everyday police equipment.

All from a guy who survived a gunfight one dark night in Detroit and decided to make something to keep folks alive.

You probably see the common thread here by now to all these stories;...Individuals, self-motivated, who got their start on the road to bigger and better things (sometimes GREAT things) in the area of guns and self-protection by just tinkering around at a bench or in a workshop at home before moving on to full fledged manufacturing. And they were able to do it because they were (mostly) free. Free to do with their energies and passions whatever they wished to, so long as they didn't trespass against anyone else.

Contrast that against the current case of Defense Distributed, developers of "The Wikiweapon".



Cody Wilson, Defense Distributed

Defense Distributed is a little different than the examples previously shown here in that Defense Distributed is not seeking to turn a profit. It is an ideological enterprise, conceived and established toward making a point and promoting an idea and a technology, encouraging that they grow symbiotically together.

The fellows behind Defense Distributed are infatuated with 3-dimensional printing; the technology by which a computer file of an object is sent via the internet to a location where a machine that slowly builds out of small globs of molten plastic a faithfully accurate dimensional copy of the item. DD seeks to design a simple plastic gun, downloadable as a file, and make it available to anyone anywhere in the world who has 3D printer. The fellows at DD are primarily students, and primarily from Arkansas, working on the project in their spare time outside of any school or lab setting. They have gotten far along in their endeavor. But now, everything seems ready to unravel.

daily. By 2006, more than 2,000 documented police vest "saves" were recorded, validating the success and efficiency of lightweight concealable body armor as a stan-

The Wiki Weapon (Video):


Being tech-savvy, they tried to get funding for their project via a "crowd-sourcing" website for entrepreneurs called Indiegogo. And they were succeeding. But Indiegogo suddenly decided they wanted to not in any way be associated with the program, and dropped Defense Distributed from their location. But that wasn't all. The manufacturer of the 3D printer the boys wanted to use, once they learned of what their product would be used for, declared the lease agreement for the rental of their machine to be null and void and sent people over to the residence where it sat to repossess it. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, has threatened to shut the effort down due to lack of licensing, safety pre-approval inspections, and other pointlessly expensive and difficult to comply with regulatory hoops. In fact, some are expecting a raid of the homes of the participants' very soon.

What would John Moses Browning do? 

A little note here about the main photo for this article. Jimmy Stewart plays Davis Marshall Williams, (in the 1952 movie, 'Carbine Williams') the real life inventor of the world famous M-1 Carbine automatic rifle used in WWII. It all started when Marsh, who was one to do things his way, was caught distilling moonshine, and was accused and convicted of shooting a federal officer in the process. This at first placed him in the chain gang which labeled him as a hard case. Later, to make room for those more deserving, he was moved to a prison farm, where he came under the direction of Captain H.T. Peoples. The Captain was a mild mannered warden, who did not shy from discipline when necessary, but also believed that given the opportunity, most men will respond to good. Believing that Marsh was just such a person, the Captain gave him every opportunity to reform, so much so, that he eventually allowed Marsh to work in the tool shop on his spare time to develop and build by hand, a working rifle, inside the prison farm itself.

While in prison, he starts to work on a repeating rifle with a short piston, an innovation that would prove to be the foundation of the M1 carbine. After getting early parole, he had a successful career further refining his invention and developing several new manufacturing techniques in arms production. [Click here](#) to view movie trailer, or to purchase movie.



WWII M1 Carbine

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Gun Printing is a Humanism

By Cody Wilson

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IN September 2012, I was invited to speak at Bitcoin 2012 in London. The organizers of the conference had recently heard of [Defense Distributed's](#) fundraising effort for the [Wiki Weapon Project](#), and because we were accepting bitcoin I believe they were excited to hear about us.

I arrived in London knowing what I'd say. I don't give prepared speeches, and refuse to read from notes. The following is transcribed from the speech I gave September 15. It isn't the cleanest writing because I wanted to preserve its conversational tone and oratory pacing. I hope you'll take a walk with the ideas.

Begin:

We began on [Indiegogo.com](#), a crowd-funding website, and over 22 days we raised \$2k, having almost no attention. We made a YouTube video and a little website, and that website was just a free Wordpress theme (and still is). It's completely inartful in so many ways, there's nothing professional about it, there's just three or four people handling the web stuff. And like I said, with almost no attention we received \$2k. So I said, "Ok, wow, there's a market for this." Then we got picked up by some gun blogs, etc., etc. Then we got picked up by Forbes magazine, and this all kind of blew out of control. So I haven't really slept since then, and I'm here right now.

But, interestingly enough, as soon as we got press, we were pulled down from Indiegogo. They completely froze our campaign, refunded all the contributions, and suddenly we had a lot of press, but no money. And so at that point we began raising money through Bitcoin. We thought, hey we'll raise money through the crypto-currencies, you can send us money to our mailing address, and then we put a PayPal thing up because I didn't know what to do. I'm not friendly to PayPal either, but, well in the 20 days after Indiegogo took us down, we raised about \$17k. Which, for us, even though it's still a shoestring budget, we're accomplishing what we intended to accomplish, which is using an FDM printer to print out some components that form a functioning firearm. That might be a dangerous functioning firearm. That firearm might explode 9 times out of 10, but that's - we're just fooling around with it. That's the point. And it was said - I guess the best way it was communicated to me is: you can't invent a bicycle in theory, you just have to play around with models until one really works. And that's what we're doing. We've got engineering simulation and some other software, but really you can't build this thing in software, as it's just a bizarre kind of - like *what is* a Wiki Weapon? I don't know. No one knows. Let's just build them, and have other people send us designs, and test them until we find things that work. Perhaps that's a bit too *laissez faire*, but let's jump into some things here.

I wanted to open with Thomas Paine's intro to *The Age of Reason*. Not that I favor English philosophers over anyone else, but I'm in the land of the Magna Carta here. Basically, Thomas Paine is saying I've always protected or defended other people's rights to have their own opinions, please grant me that right at least. Because when you prevent me from expressing my own opinion, you also entrap yourself. You enslave

yourself against changing your opinion. And that's where I'll begin. So whether we agree, whether we disagree, I think it's important that this idea be expressed and be explored. I think that's the same point in Milton's *Areopagitica*, which is the spiritual analogue for the project that I held out on the website. Milton is saying, for truth to prevail, for there to be some ultimate good, for you to be a virtuous moral agent, you must be able to engage with every idea. You must be able to explore or hear at least whatever is to be said, and that whatever that thing is, especially if it's controversial - *because* it's controversial - it must be protected, it must be seen, it must be engaged with. If that's all the project ever represents, then I'm good. We wanted the idea to be out there.

So beyond that, I don't want to shoot through our project with too much explanation. If you guys have questions, please ask them when it's question time, about the technicals of our project, but I want to get into why I said that "Gun Printing is a Humanism." Well, was my tongue in my cheek when I said that? I mean a little bit, right, I'm trying to place us in a tradition here - you might recognize the reference to Sartre. Basically, I'm saying that - let me hold myself in opposition to some of our critics. On our YouTube video we have quite a few views, and on our website we have a lot of attention, a lot of people, when they oppose the project, they oppose it normally for a pretty narrow band of reasons that are all related to each other. They say things like, "you should obey the powers that be," "resistance is disruptive," "stay in your own station," "this is a terrible idea, why would you do this? Why would you have this idea? *Un-have* your idea!" These kinds of things. They say "this will unleash the dark side of humanity!" When these people say these things, they almost believe in the project more than I do. They're saying, "Oh my God, you've f---d the world," you know - these people really believe that this is going to go somewhere crazy. All I'm saying, if I'm saying anything at all, is that we believe in activism, optimism, responsibility, and universalism. These forces that are in opposition to us, claiming to have some kind of moral superiority, really are the forces of docility, obedience, authority, futility, and resignation. "Don't do it, for all of these reasons." I don't think those are healthy impulses, and I think ultimately our project, even if it's scary, even if Freedom comes across as something radical and unsafe, and something that should be tamped down, that ultimate freedom underlines YOU as an individual actor, as a moral agent, and it says that there is a dignity in man. Humanism is probably just a BS metaphysical concept, but still, if there's a dignity to being man, if there's any truth to this Enlightenment principle of the integrity of the individual, then this is surely a project that has some import for that concept. I want to talk later about how I don't think that progress is concept-driven. I think the progress of humanity is tool-driven now. We have 3D printers. That's what this whole controversy is built around. If anything, this project, I hope, elevates some discussion about the human actor. It confirms you are important.

I don't want to spend any more time than that defending the project. That's it. That's the only defense the project is ever going to get. I'm not going to hop on a plane and keep doing this. This is probably a one-time-only show right here, where I say to a crowd, which is probably more apt than any other crowd to at least receive

Continues on Page 24

Continued from Page 23 - Gun Printing is a Humanism

the message I'm giving: "We believe this is a good thing. And in the same way that Bitcoin is a good thing."

I want to talk about *Incapacitation*. Decentralism as an incapacitator. Mr. Sklar was this morning talking about the importance of peer-to-peer relationships among individuals, and how this basically obviates certain kinds of state action. And that's what this project promises, or at least aspires, to be. I do think decentralism, and decentralist tendencies, are the future. What is Bitcoin? Why do these things matter? It is because of their decentralist tendencies. How do you regulate a bitcoin? How do you stop a bitcoin? How do you filter a packet? It's the same thing with a gun - how do you stop a gun now? When a gun is communicated through the internet, when you can literally download a gun - and **not** just a CNC file - when a non-expert can click "print," and is able to get that file from **anywhere,** it's in the same vein of decentralism as Bitcoin.

Let's look forward. Village economies, decentralized, independently-networked communities are likely our future. I think this project is a kind of cornerstone of that idea, even if it represents it narrowly, through the form of a gun. That's unfortunate in one way, because it poisons the well with people. But the promise of this technology is the ability to print any object. We introduced 3D printing to people in a sensational way, it garnered some attention and will probably allow us to accomplish our goal. That really explains what we did.

What does bitcoin allow you to do? It doesn't have its own intention as a project. It's not political, I would say. It is just a protocol, but what does it literally allow you to do? I'm from the US. The US dollar is the world's reserve currency. I'm on the plane ride over here, and I hear when I arrive that Ben Bernanke, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, has announced the go ahead of QE3 to buy MBS in dollars. The Fed's balance sheet at the end of 2013 will be four or five trillion dollars, and they're going to keep monetizing until they reach some threshold that they believe represents "price stability" or until unemployment is at a level that, whomever these planners are, think is adequate. That monetization is the undermining of every single actor holding dollars in the world. Bitcoin allows you to slip outside of this "legal tender" regime. That's what it is. It doesn't have that intention, but that is what it allows. Whatever this political hierarchy is that built itself up and said "Legal Tender for Debts = The Dollar and Bank Credit. These are money and any other kind of money is illegal," that regime can't speak and can't act in a world of bitcoin. And I think this is why I was ultimately persuaded to come speak to you.

Defense Distributed hopes to follow in the same kind of tradition. A world government says: "You Shall Not Have a Gun," and let's put aside our fictions about democratic legitimacy - a majority has spoken and therefore this is the will of all people - there are certain decisions, let's say, that groups can no longer make. In the long term guns will be completely available to populations. That's the promise of this project and technology. We're in a gun control regime (The UK) right now. Cultural attitudes and tendencies will inform your opinion about guns, but there is still something fundamentally sound about that right of a minority, and we know the ultimate minority is the individual, to slip outside of these hierarchies if he so chooses. I'm not saying that's not scary.

Max Keiser said that Bitcoin is the currency of resistance, but I think that Bitcoin IS resistance itself. That's not just a silly semantic distinction. Gustav Landauer said "*The State is a condition. It is a certain relationship among human beings. It is a mode of behavior.*" When we begin to contract different kinds of relationships with each other, like the independent, peer-to-peer interactions made possible by Bitcoin, when we behave differently towards one another, what happens to the State? What room is there for the State? When we begin to expand free spheres of action in completely unanticipated ways, what happens? That's a question we're posing as well.

There is nothing sacrosanct about group decision-making or representative democracy. The future is decentralized action - individual planning over central planning.

I want to hold out a model. Protestantism as an idea wasn't possible until there was the *Printing Press*. You can't have Protestantism- Martin Luther, the further effects of Calvin and Methodism- you can't have these until you have the printing press. This tool allowed people to completely invert an incumbent cultural order. What am I trying to say? Think of the radical inversion of authority- imagine a pyramid of authority with God at the top, the religious class, and the laity at the very bottom. Knowledge was filtered down. When you have the printing press, quickly everyone begins to have a bible in hand, they have to think for themselves, and now you allow this philosophy: YOU must determine what you are to make of this. It must be up to YOU to determine your relationship with God. I know we're in a post-religious moment, and the project isn't coming from a religious perspective, but think about how radical that was. The printing press forced you into an existential crisis. "My God, it's up to ME to determine what my relationship is to the Deity itself!" One of humanity's single biggest experiential interruptions. It was driven by a tool. The 3D printing analogy is clear. When you have self-replicating, networked, material printers, they will force humanity into similar inversions of authority.

We're hoping to make people ask themselves these similar questions. You have the choice now, independently of others' will, what you will do. Will you have a gun? Will you not have a gun? It will be up to YOU to determine. No one else can decide for you anymore. 🌟

The Wiki Weapon (Video):



Cody Wilson is an engineer AND law student in the Drone Star State who is creating a freely distributed printable gun design for the world. ("[The Wiki Weapon](#)"). His project will revolutionize guns and kick-start the Printable Gun Hobbyist Movement, while pissing off both liberals and conservatives. Visit his webpage at [DefenseDistributed.Com](#).

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American Innovation: A Sacred Right.

By Gabriel Mueller

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AN idea is not necessarily good because it is old, or necessarily bad because it is new, but if an old idea works, then the weight of the evidence is all in its favour. Ideas are themselves

extraordinarily valuable but an idea is just an idea. Almost anyone can think up an idea. The thing that counts is developing it into a practical product. ~Henry Ford, My life and work, 19

I think Henry Ford has a point. What separates the theorist from the scientist, or the dreamer from the entrepreneur, is action. For the scientist, experimentation is the necessary step after the formulation of the hypothesis. Similarly, for the entrepreneur, the “foot-work” must come after the vision if the business is to grow. Simply put, thought precedes action and, according to Ford, thought is nothing without action.



There is no question that Mr. Ford was a man of action. He was a scientist and an engineer, an entrepreneur and an inventor, and especially a spokesperson for both the businessman and the common-man. The

founder of Ford Motor Company, he manufactured millions of cars for the American people.

But most importantly, Mr. Ford was a free-thinking man. He was an individualist; one who believed in the dignity of the hard work and the sanctity of property.

Conversely, he despised unnecessary governmental interference---whether it came from the Bolsheviks in Soviet Russia or the “masters” in Washington. To him, government was always promising things it could not deliver on:

When you get a whole country---as did ours---thinking that Washington is a sort of heaven and behind its clouds dwell omniscience and omnipotence, you are educating that country into a dependent state of mind which augurs ill for the future. Our help does not come from Washington, but from ourselves; our help may, however, go to Washington as a sort of central distribution point where all our efforts are coordinated for the general good. We may help the government; the government cannot help us.

But today all our government wants to do is “help” us. It wants to make us “safer,” so it passes endless amounts of federal regulation and code for us to abide by. It wants to “take care of us” so it taxes the productive and gives to the unproductive. It wants to “protect industry” so it licenses certain business or demands a fee from those that want to enter into a new line of work. It taxes us for our income and our consumption; it modifies our contracts and our agreements.

Simply put, our government gets in the way of our work. And for those of us who want to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Ford, we are discouraged from doing so because the stakes---and the costs--- of doing business are so high.

All thanks to our “caring” government.

But what motivates man to action?

Ludwig von Mises, one of the greatest economists of the 20th Century, stated that man acts--and acts “purposefully”---because he aims to manifest his will. Action demonstrates preferences---



But before man acts, he must determine what his action will “cost” him. According to economic theory, it is called a cost-benefit analysis. If the benefits outweigh the costs, the acting person will act. All benefits and costs are subjective to the acting person, however, and therefore not all action can be predicted from an outside perspective.

For example, because time and energy and physical resources are scarce, each person must decide on how best to use said time or energy or resources in the manner most satisfying and agreeable to that person.

If it is his wish that he not be rained on, he must build a cover over his head. If it is desire that he learn more about the stars, he must study them. If it is his objective to become wealthy, he must serve:

To prohibit a great people...from making all that they can of every part of their own produce, or from employing their [capital] and industry in the way that they judge most advantageous to themselves, is a manifest violation of the most sacred rights of mankind. ~Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations, 1776.

At first read, Smith’s words seem so obvious that they barely register as thought-provoking. But upon further reflection, Smith’s words prove to be a powerful, thought-provoking statement that challenges the current times.

Smith is describing not only the sanctity of private property, but the logical extension that private property infers onto the acting individual--the right to do with your property as you see fit.



Gabriel Mueller is a former economics teacher. He has a background in law and justice studies, is a self-taught Austrian economist, political activist, and a huge Ron Paul supporter. Gabriel works at [Liberty Coin & Precious Metals](#) in Scottsdale, AZ

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Small Businesses Love Bitcoin!

By Anthony Gallippi

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If you have a small business, or if you've made an invention, what is the best way to sell this all over the world? First, you will need a website to reach a global audience. But what is the best way to accept payment over

the internet? PayPal? Credit Cards? Not even close. The best way to accept internet payments is with Bitcoin!

Bitcoin is a new digital currency that allows you to send money like you send an email – to anyone, anywhere, anytime – without going through a bank or corporation or government. Bitcoin operates completely peer-to-peer, like gold and silver, but it is fully digital.

BitPay is hands down the easiest way to accept bitcoin payments for your business, either online or in person. You can set your prices in dollars, pounds, euros, or 30 other currencies, and BitPay will collect the payment. As a merchant, you have the option to keep the bitcoins, or get cashed out with a direct deposit into your bank account. Over 1,100 businesses already use BitPay to accept bitcoin payments.

Why is BitPay so great? Well first, there is no risk of fraud, reversals, or chargebacks with bitcoin. If your business has ever accepted a credit card that turned out to be stolen, you know this sale became a total loss. Credit cards were never designed for the internet, and accepting them when the card is not present poses huge risks to the business. PayPal's dispute process is heavily weighted against the business as well.

Second, bitcoins are available in any country, so by using BitPay, your business can accept a payment from any country on the planet, instantly, with zero risk of fraud. No other payment provider can offer this service. PayPal cannot do this, American Express cannot do this, and Visa/Mastercard cannot do this.

Bit-Pay Mobile Checkout (Video):



Butterfly Labs (<http://butterflylabs.com>) is a hardware manufacturer in Kansas City with 20 employees. They are able to collect payments and export their products to places like Russia, India, Thailand, Poland, and Belarus. Those locations have a very high risk of fraud with credit cards and PayPal, but with bitcoin, they have no risk of payment fraud.

If you've tried to accept bitcoin and do it yourself, there are many challenges. Securing your bitcoin wallet from hackers requires advanced security knowledge. The bitcoin exchange rate is volatile. There is no automation in the standard bitcoin software. And your accountant will probably raise all kinds of questions as to how he is supposed to handle bitcoin on the books. The do-it-yourself approach may be good for installing baseboards, but it's not good for bitcoin.

BitPay's service takes all of the volatility risk, security risk, and accounting uncertainties off the hands of the business. The fully automated payment tools can plug into most any website, with simple "buy now" buttons, checkout buttons, and plugins for many of the popular ecommerce shopping cart packages. For retailers the setup is even simpler. By signing up for an account at <https://bitpay.com> you are automatically given a webapp that you can put on your computer, tablet, or smart phone to collect bitcoin payments in person.



To read more in-depth examples of businesses accepting bitcoin, visit <http://www.howtoacceptbitcoin.com>.

If you would like to start accepting bitcoin for your business, visit <https://bitpay.com> 

Anthony Gallippi, co-founder and CEO of BitPay, Inc., saw a need for bitcoin payment processing and founded BitPay in 2011. As a start-up, Mr. Gallippi is involved in all of the day-to-day operations including new business development, marketing, and customer service. Mr. Gallippi has 15 years of experience in sales and marketing working in the Robotics industry. Mr. Gallippi has a Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Merchant Solutions for the bitcoin currency

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Philly Freedom Report

By James Babb

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IT was an exciting and productive summer for Philadelphia freedom lovers. We have an amazing, diverse group of freedom activists. This is a brief summary of some of our activities.

"Suspicionless Checkpoint Nullification" (Video):



On June 15, members of the Valley Forge Revolutionaries began an important community service project. Volunteers set out to protect travelers by warning them about dangerous suspicionless checkpoints being conducted by heavily armed men in blue costumes.

Under the guise of public safety, scores of police from multiple agencies assembled to harass thousands of travelers. They blocked a major thoroughfare, and the operation filled an entire Best Buy parking lot. The fire department was on hand with generators and flood lights, and a massive donut station was erected to fill the maws of this tax-fattened legion. The Valley Forge Revolutionaries had eight volunteers with some reflective signs.



Jeff Pelurie and Will Duffield nullify a suspicionless checkpoint

The launch of this operation was incredibly successful. From 10pm to 4am, hundreds of cars were successfully warned about the checkpoints and were safely diverted. Sources indicated that they went for over three hours without a single arrest. If we had kept one person out of jail, the effort would have been a success, but our efforts reduced their overall catch by 10 or 15 victims.

Our second attempt to nullify a checkpoint was less successful. Once they knew we were coming, they were forced to relocate and postpone their operation. We are pursuing additional means of identifying these checkpoints in the area and have established a "minuteman" response model, where volunteers are ready to respond on short notice when a checkpoint is discovered.

This is a proven technique for protecting the community that can be replicated anywhere suspicionless checkpoints are used to harass travelers. The cost is extremely low compared to the rewards.

TFP Live!!! (www.TFPLive.com)



A new series was launched by Mike Salvi, founder of Truth, Freedom Prosperity. TFP Live is a monthly live event featuring music, comedy and an activist interview. Underground Arts (<http://undergroundarts.org>) is the ideal location for for this series. This 12,000 square foot facility features two performance spaces, high quality adult beverages and even free parking. Crowd response has been excellent so far. Featured guests have included Adam Kokesh, Tatiانا Moroz and myself. For those that can't make it to Philly, each episode is streamed online and archived.



Mike Salvi, founder of Truth, Freedom, Prosperity and host of TFP Live!!!

Lemonade Freedom Day (www.lemonade-freedom.com/)



August 18th was the second annual Lemonade Freedom Day, organized by Robert Fernandez. Freedom loving folks across North America organized events and individuals all over the country set up stands and sold lemonade or raw milk without licenses or permits. Philly activists set up a popular stand in Rittenhouse Square, and happily served lemonade and treats, nullifying local restrictions on voluntary exchange.



Lemonade Freedom Day 2012 in Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

End-the-Fed



Philadelphia End-the-Fed parade

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END THE FED

Since 2007, Philly has been the host of numerous End-the-Fed rallies. Our demonstrations have been some of the biggest and most visible in the country, featuring parade floats, live music and hundreds of participants. Our rally on September 22, 2012 was organized by Mike Heise. It's great to see young activists like Mike rise to the occasion, grab the baton and run with it. I look forward to participating Mike's future events.



Mike Heise (with megaphone), organizer of the 2012 National End the Fed Rally

Jury Nullification Outreach

Many of our activists participate in jury nullification outreach, distributing pamphlets from the Fully Informed Jury Association (www.fija.org). The legendary Julian Heicklen has inspired many of us. Our public outreach just "by coincidence" happened to coincide with the "trial" of Ed "NJ Weedman" Forchion (www.NJWeedman.com) in Mount Holly, New Jersey. Ed was forbidden by the "judge" to mention the juror's right to nullify a bad law. Luckily, signs were on display and FIJA pamphlets were distributed to the public entering the courthouse. Ed admitted to possession of one pound of cannabis, but the jury failed to reach a verdict on a distribution charge. Ed's retrial is October 10th, 2012. We are hoping for a similar result. A victory for Ed will be a significant blow to prohibition in New Jersey. Win or lose, Ed has done an amazing job raising awareness of jury nullification.



James Babb and Ed "NJ Weedman" Forchion

We Won't Fly (www.WeWontFly.com)



Our campaign against the TSA has reached it's two year anniversary. It's hard to believe that we still need to protest nude photography, sexual assault and radiation by the blue-shirted goons. The endless stories of theft, corruption and abuse coming from this agency are astounding.

An interesting angle of attack has emerged as a result of the TSA's defiance of a court order. The law requires them to allow all of us an opportunity to publicly comment prior to their adoption of x-ray and millimeter wave body scanners at airport checkpoints nationwide. The TSA has arrogantly refused to cooperate.

TSA Comment



Since the TSA doesn't want to hear or respond to our concerns about the health, privacy or security implications of their decision to use body scanning technology in American airports, George Donnelly has created a website (www.TSAComment.com) to accept these comments and share them publicly. Please drop by and leave your comments about the TSA.


National Opt-Out Week, November 19 to 26, 2012

Join the nationwide demonstration at your local airport.

"Vote for Nobody" Campaign (www.anti-politics.ws)



Frustration with the corrupt, immoral electoral system has created a huge opportunity for agorists and anarchists to present solutions. The nationwide Vote for Nobody campaign is modeled after traditional political campaigns, but encourages people to withhold consent and abstain from participation in the corrupt process. Philly activists are even participating in traditional candidate forums representing the non-compliance option on election day.

These are just a few of the recent activities that our Philly freedom activists are participating in. If you've been considering a move to New Hampshire for the strong freedom activist community, but you prefer mild winters, a diverse culture or major metropolitan attractions, Philly may be the place for you. 

James Babb is a Co-founder of [We Won't Fly](http://www.WeWontFly.com).

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A Garage Innovation Designed for Garage Innovators

By Garret LoPorto

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LOOK at the world we live in today. Most of us realize many of our systems are no longer working. And protesting them just isn't enough. If we are really going to change things, we need to innovate and create better solutions that disrupt and replace all the stuff that isn't working. It will take all of us disruptive innovators plugging away in our basements and garages - but we can no longer afford to do this in isolation. We need to come together and connect our home laboratories in a way that truly fosters powerful collaboration and crowd-sourcing. We can cooperatively achieve amazing things together.

Worldwide right now, there are at least 350 million disruptive innovators, just like yourself - creative people born to change things. Imagine what would happen if we all supported each other?

To put that in perspective, the empire state building took 7 million work hours to build. If we each gave just an hour a day to work on the world's problems together, we would collectively devote 350 million work hours every day. That's 40,000 years. That's 555 human lifetimes. That's fifty times the entire empire state building project - worth of innovation, creativity, problem solving and progress all devoted to making the world a better place each and every day.

From innovators to hacktivists, whistleblowers and rabble rousers to social entrepreneurs, iconoclasts and change-agents - all share the common bond of having the insatiable desire to change the world for the better.

But how do you coordinate that many disruptive innovators? Some might say that'd be like trying to herd cats. How can you possibly give everyone's ideas and voices a fair shot while filtering the signal to noise ratio so that the best, most timely and helpful ideas, projects and initiatives get the attention they deserve?

One side of that requires technology - a platform with ongoing, real-time democratic curation where you vote up or down the postings of others based on their merit.

When you do that, bad ideas and nonsense disappear, good ideas are challenged and refined until they become great. And great ideas - they rise to the top galvanizing everyone's attention and support.

If we take that platform and integrate it with tools for rapid crowd-sourcing, crowd funding and crowd coordination, now we're playing with fire.

Let me introduce you to UPRISER.COM - a garage innovation designed for garage innovators - UPRISER is the evolution of revolution where disruption meets innovation - a roundtable for revolutionaries where we rise up together. A place where you can roll up your sleeves, make good ideas great and make great ideas happen. It's a radical new platform for seeding revolutionary ideas, innovation, launching startups, rapid grassroots organizing, whistle-blowing,

and starting and coordinating positive initiatives democratically.

This is where you come in. Imagine creating a world where innovations and creativity flourish, where wealth and resources are abundant, and where you have played an important role in replacing all of the corrupt and broken systems with new systems of integrity, which you helped create, that truly benefit humanity.

But in order to launch this site, we'll need your help. Please visit www.indiegogo.com/upriser

Now it is up to all of us inventors, activists, entrepreneurs, angel investors, artists, whistleblowers, scientists, pioneers, rebels, visionaries, free-spirits and disruptive innovators worldwide to make this happen.


the evolution of **revolution**



UPRISER

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the upriser persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the upriser." ~ adapted from George Bernard Shaw

What happens when you bring millions of change-agents and disruptive innovators together?

We're about to find out. 

UPRISER//the evolution of revolution(Video):



Garret LoPorto (born in 1976) is an American activist, author, speaker, media artist, entrepreneur and inventor. In 2010 Garret recorded and released a speech (later becoming a viral Youtube video, reaching over 6.5 million views) where he called out to rule-breakers, rebels, troublemakers, free spirits, pioneers, visionaries and non-conformists – to recognize their strength, rise up together and reform "the establishment."

THE WAYSEER MANIFESTO (Video):



Known for his viral Internet activism, his music and speeches, and as an inspirational thought-leader in [neurodiversity](#) and the psychology behind [disruptive innovation](#), LoPorto has authored two books on the subject.

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Supporting Creativity and Innovation thru Kickstarter

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KICKSTARTER

1. KICKSTARTER 101

1. What is Kickstarter?

Kickstarter is a funding platform for creative projects. Everything from films, games, and music to art, design, and technology. Kickstarter is full of ambitious, innovative, and imaginative projects that are brought to life through the direct support of others.

Since our launch on April 28, 2009, over \$350 million has been pledged by more than 2.5 million people, funding more than 30,000 creative projects. If you like stats, there's [lots more here](#).

2. How does Kickstarter work?

Thousands of creative projects are funding on Kickstarter at any given moment. Each project is independently created and crafted by the person behind it. The filmmakers, musicians, artists, and designers you see on Kickstarter have complete control and responsibility over their projects. They spend weeks building their project pages, shooting their videos, and brainstorming what rewards to offer backers. When they're ready, creators launch their project and share it with their community.

Every project creator sets their project's funding goal and deadline. If people like the project, they can pledge money to make it happen. If the project succeeds in reaching its funding goal, all backers' credit cards are charged when time expires. If the project falls short, no one is charged. Funding on Kickstarter is all-or-nothing.

3. Why is funding all-or-nothing?

All-or-nothing funding is a core part of Kickstarter and it has a number of advantages:

It's less risk for everyone. If you need \$5,000, it's tough having \$1,000 and a bunch of people expecting you to complete a \$5,000 project.

It motivates. If people want to see a project come to life, they're going to spread the word.

It works. Of the projects that have reached 20% of their funding goal, 82% were successfully funded. Of the projects that have reached 60% of their funding goal, 98% were successfully funded. Projects either make their goal or find little support. There's little in-between.

To date, an incredible 44% of projects have reached their funding goals.

4. Can Kickstarter be used to fund anything?

We allow creative projects in the worlds of Art, Comics, Dance, Design, Fashion, Film, Food, Games, Music, Photography, Publishing, Technology, and Theater.

Everything on Kickstarter must be a project. A project has a clear goal, like making an album, a

book, or a work of art. A project will eventually be completed, and something will be produced by it.

Kickstarter does not allow charity, cause, or "fund my life" projects. Check out our [project guidelines](#) for details.

5. Does Kickstarter screen projects before they launch?

Only a quick review to make sure they meet our project guidelines. Kickstarter does not investigate a creator's ability to complete their project. Backers ultimately decide the validity and worthiness of a project by whether they decide to fund it. See the Accountability section for more.

6. Why do people back projects?

A lot of backers are rallying around their friends' projects. Some are supporting people they've long admired. Many are just inspired by a new idea. Others are inspired by a project's rewards — a copy of what's being made, a limited edition, or a custom experience related to the project.

Backing a project is more than just giving someone money, it's supporting their dream to create something that they want to see exist in the world.

7. Where do backers come from?

In most cases, the majority of funding initially comes from the fans and friends of each project. If they like it, they'll spread the word to their friends, and so on. Press, blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and Kickstarter itself are also big sources of traffic and pledges. Altogether, millions of people visit Kickstarter every week.

8. Do backers get ownership or equity in the projects they fund?

No. Project creators keep 100% ownership of their work. Kickstarter cannot be used to offer financial returns or equity, or to solicit loans.

Some projects that are funded on Kickstarter may go on to make money, but backers are supporting projects to help them come to life, not financially profit.

9. What's Kickstarter's fee?

If a project is successfully funded, Kickstarter applies a 5% fee to the funds collected. Our payments processor, Amazon Payments, will also apply credit card processing fees that work out to roughly 3-5%.

If funding isn't successful there are no fees.

10. Who is Kickstarter?

We're 40 people based in a tenement building in New York City's Lower East Side. We spend our time making the site better, answering questions from backers and creators, and finding great new projects to share with you. Every day is an adventure — we get to experience projects

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as they happen! [Say hello](#) or [come work with us!](#)

2. Accountability

1. Who is responsible for completing a project as promised?

It's the project creator's responsibility to complete their project. Kickstarter is not involved in the development of the projects themselves.

Kickstarter does not guarantee projects or investigate a creator's ability to complete their project. On Kickstarter, backers (you!) ultimately decide the validity and worthiness of a project by whether they decide to fund it.

2. How do backers know if a project will follow through?

Launching a Kickstarter is a very public act, and creators put their reputations at risk when they do.

Backers should look for creators who share a clear plan for how their project will be completed and who have a history of doing so. Creators are encouraged to share links and as much background information as possible so backers can make informed decisions about the projects they support.

If a creator has no demonstrable experience in doing something like their project or doesn't share key information, backers should take that into consideration. Does the creator include links to any websites that show work related to the project, or past projects? Does the creator appear in the video? Have they connected via Facebook?

Don't hesitate to request information from a creator. You can always reach out before pledging via the "Contact me" button on the project page.

3. How do I know a project creator is who they claim they are?

Perhaps you know the project creator, or you heard about the project from a trusted source.

Maybe they have a first-person video. That would be hard to fake. "Is it really U2?!" Well, it is if Bono's talking about the project.

Still not sure? Look for the creator bio section on the project page. Are they Facebook Connected? Do they provide links for further verification? The web is an invaluable resource for learning more about a person.

At the end of the day, use your internet street smarts.

4. What should creators do if they're having problems completing their project?

If problems come up, creators are expected to post a Project Update (which is emailed to all backers) explaining the situation. Sharing the story, speed bumps and all, is crucial. Most backers support projects because they want to see something happen and they'd like to be a part of it. Creators who are honest and transparent will usually find backers to be understanding.

It's not uncommon for things to take longer than expected. Sometimes the execution of the project proves more difficult than the creator had anticipated. If a creator is making a good faith effort to complete their project and is transparent about it, backers should do their best to be

patient and understanding while demanding continued accountability from the creator.

If the problems are severe enough that the creator can't fulfill their project, creators need to find a resolution. Steps could include offering refunds, detailing exactly how funds were used, and other actions to satisfy backers.

5. Is a creator legally obligated to fulfill the promises of their project?

Yes. Kickstarter's Terms of Use require creators to fulfill all rewards of their project or refund any backer whose reward they do not or cannot fulfill. ([This](#) is what creators see before they launch.) We crafted these terms to create a legal requirement for creators to follow through on their projects, and to give backers a recourse if they don't. We hope that backers will consider using this provision only in cases where they feel that a creator has not made a good faith effort to complete the project and fulfill.

6. Can Kickstarter refund the money if a project is unable to fulfill?

No. Kickstarter doesn't issue refunds, as transactions are between backers and the creator. In fact, Kickstarter never has the funds at all. When a project is successfully funded, money is transferred directly from backers' credit cards to the project creator's Amazon Payments account. It's up to the creator to issue a refund, which they can do through their Amazon Payments account. (Like PayPal, Amazon Payments allows refunds for 60 days from the date of charge. After 60 days, creators cannot reverse the same charge to backers' credit cards, so to issue refunds they'll need to initiate a new transaction to send money via Amazon Payments or PayPal, send backers a check, or use another method. Our support team has guided creators in how to issue refunds like these before.)

7. Why can't Kickstarter guarantee projects?

We started Kickstarter as a new way for creators and audiences to work together to make things. The traditional funding systems are risk-averse and profit-focused, and tons of great ideas never get a chance. We thought Kickstarter could open the door to a much wider variety of ideas and allow everyone to decide what they wanted to see exist in the world.

Kickstarter is full of ambitious, innovative, and imaginative ideas. Many of the projects you see on Kickstarter are in earlier stages of development and are looking for a community to bring them to life. The fact that Kickstarter allows creators to take risks and attempt to create something new is a feature, not a bug.

8. What is Kickstarter doing about fulfillment?

As Kickstarter has grown, we've made changes to improve accountability and fulfillment. In August 2011 we began requiring creators to list an "Estimated Delivery Date" for all rewards. This was done to make creators think hard about when they could deliver, and to underline that Kickstarter is not a traditional shopping experience.

In May 2012 we added additional guidelines and requirements for Product Design and Technology projects. These include requiring creators to include on their project pages information about their background and experience, a manufacturing plan (for hardware projects), and

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a functional prototype. We made this change to ensure that creators have done their research before launching and backers have sufficient information when deciding whether to back these projects.

We've also allocated more staff to trust and safety. We look into projects reported by our community for guidelines violations and suspicious activity, and we take action when necessary. These efforts are focused on fraud and acceptable uses of Kickstarter, not a creator's ability to complete a project and fulfill. On Kickstarter, backers ultimately decide the validity and worthiness of a project by whether they decide to fund it.

3. Getting Involved

1. How do I start a project?

Click the green "Start Your Project" button on the [Start Page](#). That will take you through the process of building your project. All projects must meet Kickstarter's project guidelines and all creators must meet Amazon Payments' eligibility requirements.

Before jumping in, do some research. Read through [Kickstarter School](#) for tips on how to structure your project. Talk to your friends about your ideas to see what they think. Look at other projects on Kickstarter that are similar to yours. All of this work will pay off.

2. How can I find interesting projects to back?

There are a bunch of ways to find cool projects:

[The Kickstarter Newsletter](#): Once a week we send a hand-picked email of three projects worth checking out.

[Your friends](#): Connect your Facebook account to Kickstarter to follow your friends and check out the projects they're backing.

[Staff Picks](#): The Staff Picks section collects standout projects selected by the Kickstarter team.

[Popular](#): The Kickstarter algorithms displays the projects making the most waves. The main popular page is the best view: three of the most popular projects in all 13 categories.

3. Is there a place I can download the Kickstarter logo?

Yes! [The Kickstarter Style Guide](#) has hi-resolution versions of the Kickstarter logo and other assets for creators, backers, and members of the press to download.

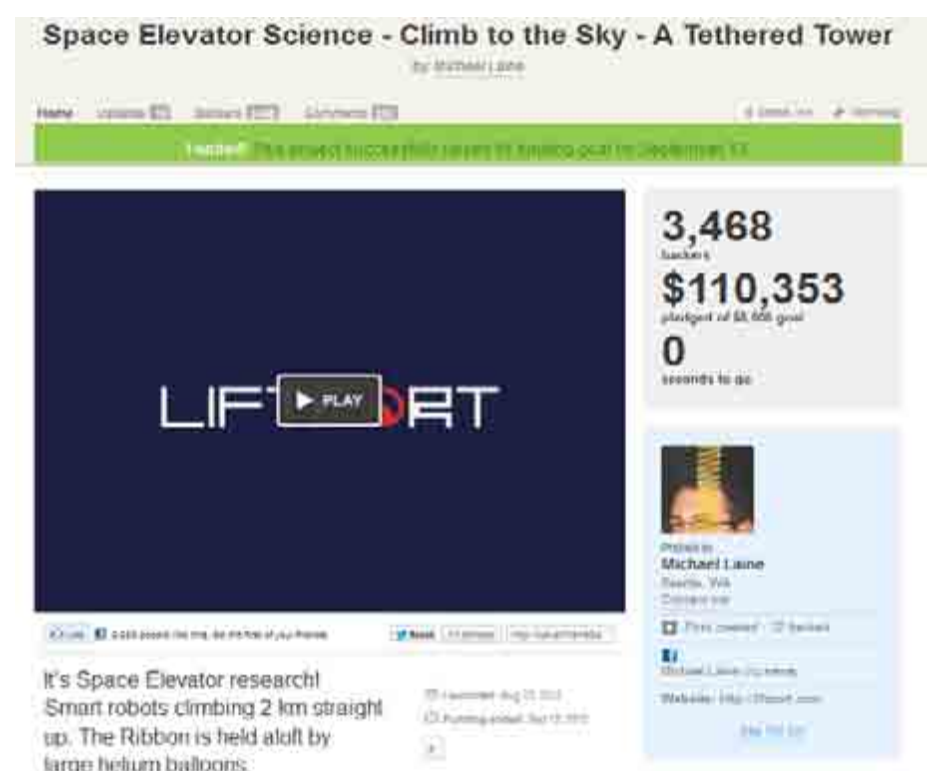
4. If I have more questions, what should I do?

Have questions that weren't answered here? We have more Frequently Asked Questions available for both [creators](#) and [backers](#). If you're a member of the press looking to reach Kickstarter, you can contact us from the [press link here](#). If you are looking for customer service help, just click Contact at the bottom of the page. Thanks!

This article was reprinted from the [Kickstarter.Com](#)

Listed below are a few examples of projects that the Freedom's Phoenix Digital Magazine Editor thought were interesting, and will provide an example of the sort of projects that are listed on Kickstarter:

[Space Elevator Science - Climb to the Sky - A Tethered Tower](#):



Space Elevator Science - Climb to the Sky - A Tethered Tower
by Michael Lane

3,468 backers
\$110,353 pledged of \$1,000 goal
0 seconds to go

It's Space Elevator research! Smart robots climbing 2 km straight up. The Ribbon is held aloft by large helium balloons.

[SkyCube: The First Satellite Launched by You!](#):

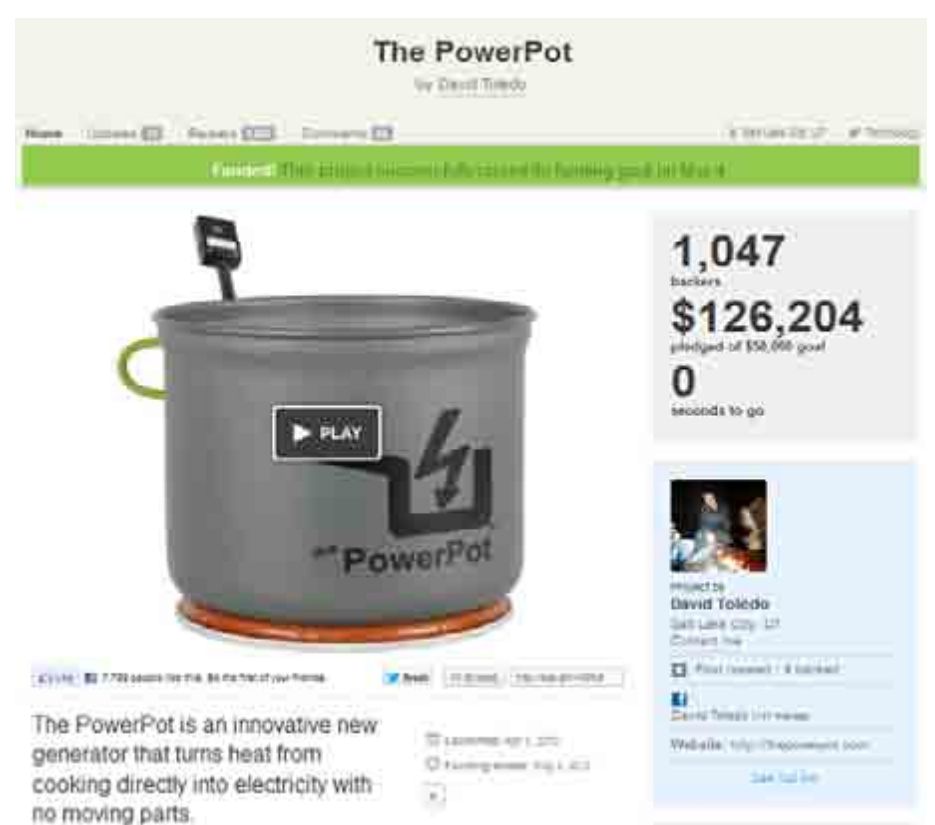


SkyCube: The First Satellite Launched by You!
by Tim DeBenedictis

2,711 backers
\$116,890 pledged of \$52,500 goal
0 seconds to go

A nano-satellite that lets you take Earth images and "tweet" from space, then inflates a visible balloon, and de-orbits cleanly.

[The Power Pot](#):

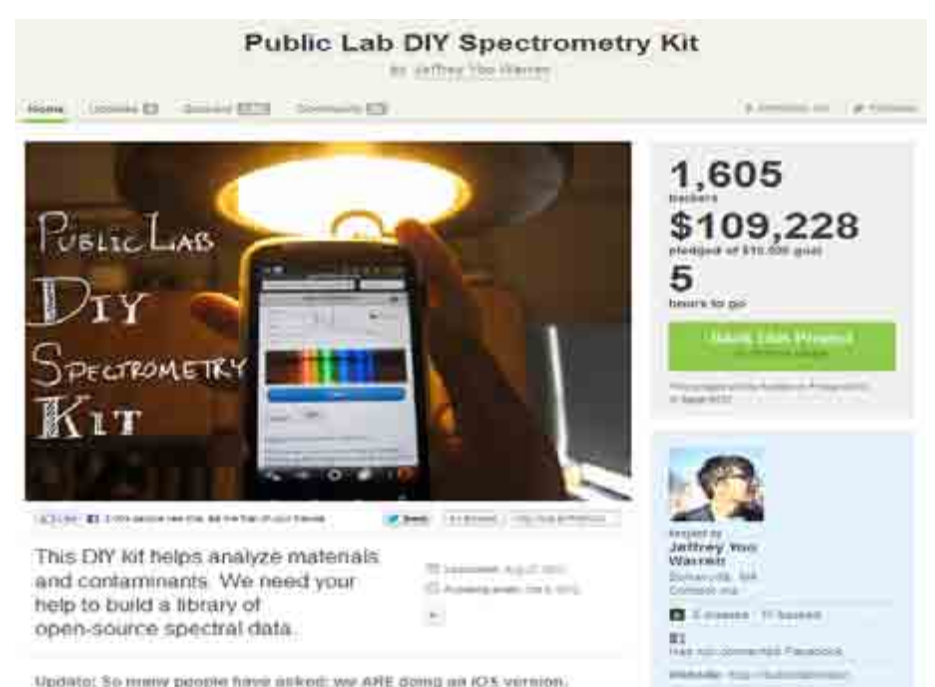


The PowerPot
by David Toledo

1,047 backers
\$126,204 pledged of \$50,000 goal
0 seconds to go

The PowerPot is an innovative new generator that turns heat from cooking directly into electricity with no moving parts.

[Public Lab DIY Spectrometry Kit](#):



Public Lab DIY Spectrometry Kit
by Jeffrey Vowles

1,605 backers
\$109,228 pledged of \$10,000 goal
5 hours to go

This DIY kit helps analyze materials and contaminants. We need your help to build a library of open-source spectral data.

Discover great projects, or start your own... 

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Online Before The Internet

By Cody Hall

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BEFORE the days of high-speed internet and even dial-up AOL, there was an "online" world of communication that many people today have no idea existed. A much more decentralized way of communicating "online" that could be argued to have significantly helped speed up the use and acceptance of what we know as the internet today.

What I am speaking of is the Bulletin Board System (BBS).

A BBS is a computer running software enabling users to connect to the system through the use of a terminal program. Once a user connects to



the system and logs in, they can perform various functions such as exchanging messages, transferring

files, reading news, direct chat, and playing text based games. In order to access a BBS you originally needed a phone line using a modem. If you were using a modem back in the late 1980's and early/mid 1990's, I am sure you remember the obnoxious sounds it would make when connecting with another system. Those obnoxious sounds were the modulation and demodulation which acted as a virtual Rosetta Stone between the various incompatible microcomputers, allowing them to "speak" to each other, successfully transferring data.

The American ingenuity that created the first ever BBS came out of Chicago, IL in the late 1960's. A man by the name of Ward Christensen awoke on January 16th, 1968 to find himself snowed in and unable to travel to work. Instead of relaxing the day away he decided to call his friend Randy Suess. During their conversation they came up with the idea to create a computer system with software that would allow members of their Chicago computer club (CACHE) to dial-up via modem to the system and submit articles for their monthly newsletter. Ward Christensen coined the term "Bulletin Board System". Ward decided to develop the hardware while Randy worked on the software. After one month of hard work during their off time, the first ever BBS went live on February 16th, 1968. It was called "CBBS" - Computerized Bulletin Board System.



Ward and Randy actively gave away their CBBS software for free and new BBSs began popping up around the USA, such as "CBBS-NW". Computer hobbyists were so excited that they had discovered a way to connect to another person's computer system and communicate with individuals of like mind. Most BBS's were run by hobbyists and were provided as a free service. Some BBS's charged users a subscription fee for initial access or for additional daily access time. The size of the BBS was determined in large part by the amount of phone lines and modems an operator had. If a BBS system operator (or "SysOp") only had one phone line and modem, then only one user could be dialed in "online" at one time.

For nearly 20 years BBSs were the main way to communicate with individuals "online". At their (BBS's) peak, there were over 150,000 in North America. However, as the internet became more popular in the mid-1990's many of the companies running large BBS's began reinventing themselves as Internet Service Providers (ISP's). Even the most popular BBS magazine "BoardWatch" changed it's name to "ISP Watch". As the internet grew in popularity, the BBS's faded quickly out of the picture. 150,000 BBS's quickly dwindled to thousands and by the mid-2000's faded to only a few hundred. Once the internet became the dominant form of communication "online", many of the BBS's that stayed online made their services available via the internet using Telnet in addition to connecting via dial-up modem.

Why am I writing about what may seem to be an outdated communications technology? How much longer will we have



the internet as we know it today? Anyone who keeps up with current events through independent media can clearly see the State continue their policy of incrementalism with the internet and freedom of expression. The ideas of liberty are spreading like fire in the minds of men (and women) thanks to the communications technology that makes up the internet. This fact has the State and the ruling class worried. This is especially apparent in the continuous government propaganda stories of "cyber-security threats" (i.e. Stuxnet, Anonymous, so called "piracy"... etc) and the resulting "solution" of said threats as State legislation. Never forget that the power to regulate is the power to grant favors.

While I have the utmost confidence in the uber-techies that are always a few steps ahead of any type of State control scheme, it never hurts to have a back up plan. As I explained above, BBS technology worked for 20+ years as the dominant form of "online" individual communication. BBS's work in a decentralized and individualistic fashion. To have various BBS's across America as repositories of liberty/voluntaryist/individualism/critical thinking content made accessible via both the internet and old school dial-up would be a good idea in today's political climate. The computer power required to run such systems is minimal and inexpensive. The more means we have to communicate the ideas of liberty the better because as Ernie Hancock says, the revolution is between the ears.



If you would like to learn more about Bulletin Board Systems and how to create your own, be sure to check out the following websites:

BBS: The Documentary - <http://www.bbsdocumentary.com/>

List of BBS Software - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_BBS_software

The BBS Corner - <http://www.bbscorner.com/>

 Cody Hall is an independent blogger whose work can be found at his website www.Voluntarymind.com Email iambinarymind@voluntarymind.com

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Spark of Ingenuity

By Bobby Lee

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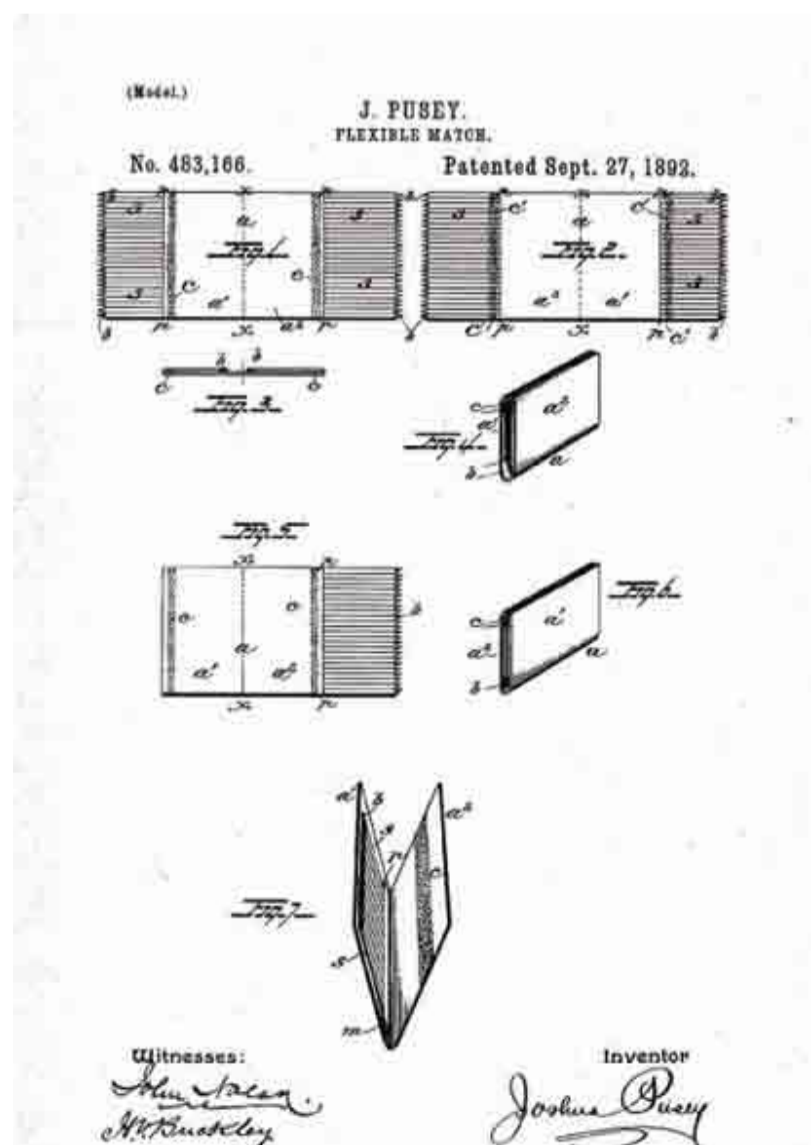


IN the late 1880's, Philadelphia patent attorney, Joshua Pusey found himself with an invitation to a dinner party for the Mayor of Philadelphia. Dressed

in the proper attire, and heading out the door, Pusey drew his attention to a slight inconvenience. Within his pocket, there was a noticeably awkward bulge, clearly outlining the shape of a large box of wooden kitchen matches. Being infatuated with cigars, leaving the match box behind was not an option, and being notorious for tinkering with object designs, Joshua Pusey had an Idea.

Already having a fixation with fire, Pusey was no stranger to the development of combustibles. In the 1880's he published a patent for torches made from paper laced with flammable chemicals, it appears the torches acted similarly to modern day "sparklers" to be used in social events. In the year 1889, Pusey began experimenting with possibilities that would eventually lead to the invention of what we today recognize as the matchbook. Working with his son by his side, the pair began mixing up an incendiary cocktail of chemicals, brewed over an old fashioned pot-bellied stove. The duo then adhered spear shaped, cut out, cardboard strips, to a sturdy paper base and immersed them into the mixture of match head chemicals. By 1892, Joshua Pusey had patented the "Flexible Match".

As innovative as the flexible match was, the invention was riddled with flaws and design issues. The most notorious of which, is that the



striker for the matchbook was placed inside the book itself, which dramatically raised the probability of self-ignition. Joshua Pusey spent the next couple of years defending himself against a numerous variety of patent related law suites. In 1896, after four years of defending his patent in legal battles, Pusey ended up selling his idea to a company named Diamond, that later became Diamond Match Company, for \$4,000, and a job opportunity. The matchbook finally began to make a break for popularity in the late 1890's when The Mendelssohn Opera Company purchased approximately 100 matchbooks from The Diamond Match company and placed an advertisement for an upcoming performance on the cover. The purchase catapulted matchbooks into the mainstream, and opened up an untapped niche in the developing world of American advertisement.



Joshua Pusey lived out the rest of his working life under The Diamond Match company, eventually passing away on May 8, 1906 at the age of 64. Throughout

his life Pusey was credited with a total of 36 patents. Other inventions include a self-operating gate for horse drawn carriages, a hydrogen lamp, a ribbon-feed reverser for typewriters, and many others. Though many of his inventions seemed destined to be subtly appreciated, it is not the invention of the "Flexible Match" that makes Pusey a great inventor. It was his ingenuity and desire to reshape problems in a continually complicating world that made the inventions of Joshua Pusey influential and a great part of American history. 🌟

Bobby Lee left the United States last year in an attempt to create a life that is more conducive to surviving the coming collapse. He regularly posts news links on Freedom's Phoenix.

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The Individual, the State, and the Truth Behind Innovation

By Jesse Matthewson

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AN interesting observation was noted by Edmund Burke, “A spirit of innovation is generally the result of a selfish temper and confined views. People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors” Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1790. It is this mindset that has driven my personal quest for truth with regards to state, government and society.

I often say that the state can innovate nothing, it can force no innovations and without a doubt public education will never result in forward momentum in science and industry. The proof is, of course, in the history we sometimes avoid, the United States was at one point the industrial giant of the world, we exported more then we imported and as a result saw increased individual prosperity as well as prosperity as a nation. Over the last century, our industry has dissolved, been shipped overseas and replaced with a consumerist approach to economy. We import far more then we export, and in fact really only export weapons, soldiers and wars. Sure we still have some car manufacturers who build vehicles; however, we do not export them overseas, not in the same manner that we used too.

Government has effectively stamped out the spirit of ingenuity in the American people. While the occasional individual still innovates some new product or form of a current product, the unfortunate truth is that most innovation outside of computer related software is related directly or indirectly to the military industrial complex and current police state. A quick look at Popular Mechanics, Good Housekeeping, and other available top innovation lists will show you that either the innovations are simply minor changes


to current products, foreign innovations, or are military/police in nature.

Innovation can only be accomplished by individuals; no entity, regardless what name it goes under, can innovate anything. The individual must be completely free to dream, believe and create new and wonderful products. The state and government cannot allow, promote or even agree with the type of true freedom necessary for real innovation. So as we look at the past, present and future of invention, creation and innovation, it is important to remember the individuals who were the true drivers of the success



we Americans are currently draining. Those selfish enough to realize that they could prosper personally and enjoy the fruits of their individual labors as they continued to create for others' use.

No amount of taxes, regulation, or government can help improve the spirit of innovation. It will always come back to the individual's need to succeed, the drive to be more than they are, and the mental shift from being a robot trained to vote, edu-indoctrinated, and work a meaningless tax paying job for life (slave). Throw off the bonds that keep you down, discard the mentality that requires a belief in a piece of paper, or leaders. Embrace the individual and remember, true innovation is possible if, and only if, you can do this.

Free the mind and the body will follow. 

As a voluntarist it is Jesse's firm belief that we should all be better students in life. His education is both accredited and auto-didactic and spans American History through Modern Criminal Justice; allowing his philosophy to be fluid, so question, criticize and above all exercise your intellect. You can email Jesse at jesse.mathewson@hotmail.com

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OpenLuna Mission - Returning Mankind to the Moon Through Private Enterprise

OpenLuna.Org

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OPENLUNA MISSION

Mission Plan

The OpenLuna Foundation aims to return mankind to the moon through private enterprise. Initial goals focus on a stepped program of robotic missions coupled with extensive public relations and outreach. Following these purely robotic missions, a short series of manned missions will construct a small, approximately 8 person outpost based on a location scouted by the robotic missions. This outpost will be open for anyone's use (private individuals to government agencies), provided they respect our ethical conduct and heritage policies. Most of the work on the missions is being done on [the wiki](#).



The OpenLuna Foundation takes a unique approach in that:

All aspects of the mission plan and hardware will be open source. This information will be publicly available and community support and involvement will be actively pursued and welcomed. Special efforts will be made to involve students, educational facilities, and amateur space enthusiasts. A strong media presence will be a priority. The entertainment and educational potential of the mission will be exploited to allow the mission to reach the maximum number of people possible. This furthers the educational potential of the mission, provides publicity for sponsors (which will encourage support for future missions), and demonstrates to people that this is possible in the present and inspires the next generation to continue and exceed these mission goals. Mission hardware will be light and geared toward continuity from one mission to future missions. This will save costs and simplify the mission and hardware development. Superfluous hardware will be removed from missions and each component will be made in the lightest fashion possible. This may create initial complications, but it will balance out over the span of the program. Risk levels will be assessed and considered to balance risk with the cost of safety to the ability of the mission to continue forward. Much like an Alpine expedition, moderate risks will be acceptable in favor of exploration. Access to all scientific data and acceptance of outside research proposals will be encouraged.

Phase one - "[Scout](#)" class mission

Multiple small scout rovers, delivered by a single lander. The lander will "hop" around to deposit the rovers, similar to an upside down candy-dispenser. There will be two of these lander/rover combinations in the initial launch, one being left in orbit until the results from the first

landed unit are analyzed. Based on determinations from the Science Team, the second lander will either land at a secondary search location, and distribute it's rovers there, or distribute rovers around the existing sites for greater detail. A communications satellite will be placed in orbit around the moon with this launch.

Phase two - "Boomerang" class sample return mission

The locations for these sample return missions will be determined by the rovers from Scout class missions. We plan for 180-200kg of samples returned and a rover that can loiter indefinitely "prospecting" and gathering further information. The landing is planned for the southern pole. We will be looking for water, He-3, and a good location for a future shelter and outpost. Land will be "claimed" for the project (as provided for by international law and treaty, see growing and evolving discussion of lunar and other non-Earthly land ownership debates/policies). Place at minimum one communications satellite in orbit with the first launch. At least two of these missions are planned to give a good spread of target areas and rigorously test the technology. Rock samples will be returned to the University of Western Ontario, CPSX and, after being safely cleared, then distributed to those who requested them or auctioned. Profits from this and other income opportunities will be used to fund the next mission. Media opportunities will include auctioning samples, contests to include students at various levels, naming rights as appropriate, documentary rights, etc.

Phase three - "[Pathfinder](#)" class mission

Presuming satisfactory site characteristics, tests, and technology development, this mission will be manned. A person with a lunar "tent" as a safety stop will stay as long as safely feasible, testing technology and preparing the site for future construction. This first manned lander will be named "Tranquility" in honor of Apollo 11 (and Firefly/Serenity). Formal announcement of outpost construction plans for Phase four. Development of licensed merchandise, mock and real space/surface suits, other things as they are thought of.

Phase four - "[Explorer](#)" class mission

Launch up to three more astronauts (as many as possible given technology and supplies). Bring shelter materials as determined by Phase three and spend approximately one to three days building an outpost. If feasible and safe, leave two volunteers on the surface.

Phase five - "[Shakedown](#)" mission

Launch up to five more astronauts (as many as possible given technology and supplies). Bring shelter materials as determined by Phase four and spend as much as two weeks testing every system by use in the outpost. If feasible and safe, leave a volunteer on the surface. Announce the completion of the outpost and offer reservations and use to NASA, ESA, JAXA, other space agencies, and private individuals and organizations.

Further Plans

Develop mining, a scientific outpost, in-situ life support as quickly as possible. We will start looking at better surface transport, and a secondary site for a second or third outpost, preferably on the far side for a telescope, or lava tube sites.

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Continued from Page 36 - OpenLuna Mission - Returning Mankind to the Moon Through Private Enterprise

Work with a launch provider to improve launch and landing capabilities. Work on a capsule to increase crew comfort. Primary concerns will be given to making the facilities self sufficient, developing infrastructure to further exploration, and Lunar utilization, and working to further educate and inspire the general population.

OpenLuna Team Members

Paul Graham, President and Chairman of the Board:



Paul worked as an Engineer for the Mars Society's Mission Support since the FMARS 2002 season, and was the Engineering Team Coordinator until 2009. Paul was also on the 4 Frontiers Generation II Mars Settlement Programming team as a

dual division head (Building Trades & Mars Suits.) He attended Colorado School of Mines where he studied Engineering Physics, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering as a triple major. He has worked in every building trade, including several years as a plumber, a tinner and an electrician, has extensive RV experience from construction, repair, refitting and living and even spent a few days working on the ARES rover.

Currently he is the CEO of Kepler Shipyards, an aerospace design and manufacturing firm currently working on launch vehicle development & New Frontiers Technologies, who are manufacturing and developing terrestrial applications for pressurized habitat, suit and other space technology, and Alpine Systems Engineering, a Linux/Unix consulting and Web/e-mail hosting company where he spends most of his time building and managing servers and figuring new and creative ways to use or abuse computers and electronic hardware. He is currently working on several Embedded controller real time telemetry and streaming media projects. He has also worked with developing rural broadband using several extreme long-range wireless technologies. His other interests include writing (He is currently writing a novel, a movie script, and a childrens story having several published short stories and non-fiction magazine articles), photography, videography, theater, acting, mountaineering, hiking and other outdoor activities, SCUBA diving, and he is an amateur radio operator (KC0IFZ).

Interview Ernest Hancock did with Paul Graham on [The Declare Your Independence with Ernest Hancock radio show on September 21st, 2012 \(Video\)](#):



Debi-Lee Wilkinson, VP of Membership and Development and board member:



Her resume spans degrees in physics to fund raising committees. The short list of her skills is: writer, tutor, computer geek and all around rocket scientist. She has co-founded/helped launch several space working groups. She enjoys craft projects which is art made from disparate pieces of material. Similarly, her vision for Open Luna membership is merging people from all walks of life for a collage approach to colonizing space starting with our nearest neighbor, the moon. She is actively forming membership and development teams. You may email her your resume for consideration on one of her teams. The only minimum qualification is ample courage.

Rick Reeser, Secretary and Treasurer and board member

Hall Fulton, board member

Marketing Materials, Artist Kelly Sands:

Kelley Sands is the owner of Kelley Design,



where he professionally creates logos and many other types of graphic design. Kelley has earned an Associate Arts Degree in Graphic Design and has a self awarded Masters Degree in coming up with creative ideas for clients since 1986. Since there is no rest for the creative mind, He also creates mosaic tile furniture, sketches and paints in fine arts. Kelley has been a Professional Artist in Advertising and Design since 1986 and has been keeping up with the ever growing technology of new creative software and the internet. "I started with pen and ink, T-squares and triangles, paint and canvas, and now I'm dealing with mega pixels and mega bytes, search engines and internet links, servers and external hard drives."

Kelley is working on the OpenLuna Project with the rest of the team and mainly on the graphic design and illustrations supporting marketing efforts, the visual presentations and the OpenLuna.org website. Kelley is also an amateur radio operator (KC0IFY).

"I winter camp without a tent, snow board, mountain bike, kayak, climb, rappel, hunt, occasionally make contacts with ham radio, teach firearms safety and combat tactics, and still dress up for Halloween. I'm not a kid anymore but I'm still young at heart and still thrive on adventure and creativity."

Launch the Launch on [Fundageek \(Crowdfunding for Innovation\) \(Video\)](#):



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The Pitch

The team will compete in a satellite launch contest where the core team members will be The OpenLuna Foundation leaders. Through mutual collaboration (a cornerstone of the organization) the team has access to tested rocket technologies and facilities at a cost that makes this team a front runner in this Nano Satellite Launch Challenge. They need a bit of funds to get their proverbial ducks in a row to organize the effort. The Nano-Satellite Launch contest is one of the latest NASA Centennial Challenge contests designed to rapidly advance the state of space flight technology. The NASA web link is http://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/early_stage_innovation/centennial_challenges/nano_satellite/index.html The contest objective is to launch two small satellite into Earth's Orbit within a week. The nano satellite design is still in progress but will include, instead of radio beeping, a audio broadcast to prove the satellite makes it all the way around the globe. Supporter's voices will make up part of the audio stream in what we call a space broadcast shout-out. For a mere \$100 contribution your voice could be included.

Impact

Any enduring species expends a small part of its collective energy to expand by adopting new territory/habitat. If this project excites you it is because you are part of the human population that seeks expansion. NASA and Space Florida have offered this contest to facilitate a revolution in launch costs that will fuel the existing new-space industry. We are taking it oSignature Diorama for OpenLunane step farther and, in the process, bring this booming, behind-the-scenes industry to the public's attention with a high profile launch that will attract large sponsors as the primary means to fund this project. Additionally, we will pitch having a film crew follow the team for a reality television show as another revenue stream for the team members. And your up-front support of this team makes you a part of this exciting effort. As exciting as this contest is, we won't be stopping here. Luna in OpenLuna is because we have our sights on the moon and by winning the award and the publicity that goes with it, this will be the beginning for this team, not the end. By bursting the OpenLuna program forward we will go where no other open source program has gone.



What We Need & What You Get

We need \$15K to turn on the lights. The first half will be to bring the team together for an initial meeting while the remaining is to begin the sponsorship program efforts. If this campaign generates more than our requested amount, the additional funds will be used to begin the project right off the bat, else this campaign may be followed by other crowd funding campaigns but

primarily will be funded by corporate sponsorship (like a race car). The more people that we can show that are interested and watching the more successful that will be so your up-front support is critical. This campaign supports the organizational step to get us quickly to the point of contacting large contributors. By funding us now you can start us out of the gates with a bang.

Rewards range from honorable mention on our website followed by promotional and complementary membership in OpenLuna with pins or mission patches up to touring our development range and a visit during a rocket engine test for larger donations. Any donation over \$100 gets your voice shout-out broadcast from space. For donations over \$5000, donors are eligible to be the first shout-outs sent from the orbiting nano-satellite to be heard all over the world. The image to the right is a previous names in space promotion.

Other Ways You Can Help

Let your friends know you are supporting this campaign and see this project lift off.

Remember when making contributions via Paypal that transfers between Paypal accounts are commission free. And paypal will process your credit card without making a paypal account.


More Links

You can find a couple more of the rocket videos at Debi-Lee's youtube playlist [Click here for it: Launch the Launch](#).

<http://www.spaceflorida.gov/nano-sat-launch-challenge> is the official contest site.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WKZBiA_wW4&feature=plcp Paul Graham giving the closing Plenary at the University of Toronto Space Development Conference. The topic is an introduction to OpenLuna.org, and a technology demonstration of two NASA mini-rovers that the students were able to remotely drive.

<http://www.openluna.org/membership> is the main membership registration site for OpenLuna.

<http://archive.thespaceshow.com/shows/1823-BWB-2012-07-29.mp3> Paul Graham on the space show July 29, 2012. (about 15 minutes in) 



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'Tom Talks Tesla' - About the Forgotten Work of Nikola Tesla

Presentation By Lt. Col. U.S. Army Officer Tom Bearden (Ret)

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THIS is Tom Talks Tesla, a recently found rare interview with Tom Bearden, which is a magnificent exposition of Tesla's transmission of hidden energy without loss, its peaceful uses, its weaponization potential and implications for today. Recorded in the 1990s, the information in this video is still fresh and relevant, valuable to both the serious researcher and the Tesla fan, and represents Tom Bearden's current thinking on these topics. Find out why Tesla's amazing work was forgotten, how it was secretly weaponized and how today we still don't grasp his ideas which when properly understood would change the world to a better place. Bearden is known to express complex ideas of physics in simple terms so they are understandable to just about anyone which makes this interview even more valuable.

Nikola Tesla

(10 July 1856 – 7 January 1943) was a Serbian-American inventor, mechanical engineer, and electrical engineer. He was an important contributor to the birth of commercial electricity, and is best known for his many revolutionary developments in the field of electromagnetism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries building on the theories of electromagnetic technology discovered by Michael Faraday and used in direct current (DC) applications. Tesla's patents and theoretical work formed the basis of modern alternating current (AC) electric power systems, including the polyphase system of electrical distribution and the AC motor.

Born an ethnic Serb in the village of Smiljan, in the Croatian Military Frontier of the Austrian Empire (modern-day Croatia), Tesla was a subject of the Austrian Empire by birth and later became an American citizen. Because of his 1894 demonstration of wireless communication through radio and as the eventual victor in the "War of Currents", he was widely respected as one of the greatest electrical engineers who worked in America. He pioneered modern electrical engineering and many of his discoveries were of groundbreaking importance. In the United States during this time, Tesla's fame rivaled that of any other inventor or scientist in history or popular culture. Tesla demonstrated wireless energy transfer to power electronic devices in 1891, and aspired to intercontinental wireless transmission of industrial power in his unfinished Wardencliff Tower project.

Because of his eccentric personality and his seemingly unbelievable and sometimes bizarre claims about possible scientific and technological developments, Tesla was ultimately ostracized and regarded as a mad scientist by many late in his life. He died without much money to his name.

The SI unit measuring magnetic field B (also referred to as the magnetic flux density and magnetic induction), the tesla, was named in his honor (at the CGPM, Paris, 1960).

Tom Bearden

Bearden, Thomas Eugene. Research scientist, researcher; b. Cheniere, LA., Dec. 17, 1930; m. Doris Faye McDonald, 1964. B.S. in math, NE La. Univ., 1953; MS in Nuc. Engring., Ga. Inst. Tech., 1971; PhD in Sci. (hon.), Trinity College, U.K., 1999. Commd. U.S. Army, 1954, adv. through grades to lt. col., intelligence specialist air def. and ABM def. 1960-75, ret; dir. Assn. Disting. Am. Scientists, Huntsville, Ala. 1995 —; ceo CTEC, Inc., Huntsville, 1995 —. Fellow emeritus Alpha Foundation's Inst. for Advanced Study, 1998 —. Author: (scientific book) Energy from the Vacuum: Concepts and Principles, contbr. articles to profl. jours. Mem.: Am. Assn. Physics Tchrs. Achievements include discovery of solution to the problem of the source charge and its associated EM fields and potentials; corrected flaw in 3-law Aristotelian logic to 5-law logic; discovery of proposed mechanism for excess antigravity accelerating expansion of the universe; extension to Becker's model of the cellular regenerative system; thermodynamics of permissible COP over 1.0 electrical power systems; co-inventor of Motionless Electromagnetic Generator; discovery of mechanism for practical antigravity; correction of Second Law of Thermodynamics to include negentropic systems; EM epigenetic reprogramming mechanism in the Prioré effect; mechanisms used in advanced Soviet energetics weapons; circuits using the nondiverged Heaviside energy flow component arbitrarily discarded by Lorentz; proposed mechanism for excess gravity holding the arms of spiral galaxies together. Avocations: aikido (retired, sandan), author, consultant. Office: Assn. Distinguished Am. Scientists.

Tom Talks Tesla (Rare, about the forgotten work of Nikola Tesla part 1/2):



Tom Talks Tesla (Rare, about the forgotten work of Nikola Tesla part 2/2):



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NJ Weedman's Jury Nullification Trail

By Edward 'NJ Weedman' Forchion

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ON Oct 10th, 2012 NJ-Weedman goes on trial in Burlington County Superior Court, in Mt Holly, New Jersey. This will recommence the most important marijuana case in New Jersey history!



On May 9th, 2012 NJweedman got a hung jury- and now it's the retrial!

Background - On April 1, 2010, Ed Forchion, aka NJ Weedman, made headlines. He was busted in New Jersey with a pound of cannabis in the trunk of his car. April Fool's Day was playing itself out in full glory. The man, notorious for his run-ins with the New Jersey law, now a transplant living in California and dispensing medical marijuana legally on a daily basis, returns home to get....arrested! And so the saga continues for NJ Weedman, America's most prominent Black activist for the legalization of marijuana.

Ironically, as the owner of his own medical marijuana dispensary in Hollywood, CA now, his arrest was a coup of sorts for the New Jersey police. Indeed, it was an April Fool's Day tale the media could not resist. Yet while Ed Forchion's arrest in Mount Holly, NJ made front page news, his trial will be likely be heralded as marijuana's own Roe vs. Wade case. Forchion plans to represent himself and utilize an open advocacy of Jury Nullification as a defense to his charges. Since the New Jersey Constitution at Article 1 paragraph 6, allows a jury to judge the law as well as the facts in a case, Forchion wants the jury to recognize that the New Jersey marijuana laws are unjust and thereby acquit him.

As the founder of the Legalize Marijuana Party, Forchion is no newcomer to the politics game. He ran campaigns for NJ Governor, US Congress, the NJ State Legislature, and the Burlington County Board of Freeholders. As detailed in his recently released book, "Public Enemy #420" (<https://www.createpace.com/3425534>), Forchion has a history that spans decades in his quest for the right of us all to smoke marijuana legally. With this recent arrest, the cannabis activist will add a new chapter to his life story as he represents himself in the case and brings to the forefront once again, the rarely discussed issue of "jury nullification."

This will be Forchion's second bid to bring the issue of jury nullification to the forefront of the judicial system. A practicing Rastafarian, he faced up to 30 years in prison back in 2000 when he was arrested and charged with conspiracy and possession of over 40 pounds of marijuana. He acted as his own defense counsel then, with a defense of religion, medical and open avocation of jury nullification. The issue of jury nullification so rattled the courts back then that he was offered a plea bargain, which he took, on the third day of trial avoiding a possible long prison sentence. To this date, he regrets that decision. He envisions this case as another opportunity to bring jury nullification back to the forefront.

NJ Weedman again plans to utilize jury nullification to fight to not only have his charges dropped, but he also plans to file a lawsuit against the state to overturn the state's medical marijuana law. Forchion believes the New Jersey law is unconstitutional for allowing terminally ill people to possess marijuana while state criminal law prohibits anyone else from possessing pot.

"The state should not be able to have two legal descriptions of the same substance," Forchion states. "How can the state be allowed to have it both ways? Arresting some people on criminal laws that describe marijuana as having no medical value and also allowing others to use marijuana for medical use under another law the recognizes it's medical value! Isn't that a violation of the 14th amendments right to equal protection of the law says Forchion between puffs of sticky icky.

Forchion's defense raises heckles in the legal establishment, but it's based on the time honored doctrine. "Jury nullification of law," as it is sometimes called, is a traditional American right defended by the Founding Fathers. Those Patriots intended the jury to serve as one of the tests a law must pass before it assumes enough popular authority to be enforced. Thus the Constitution provides five separate tribunals with veto power – representatives, senate, executive, judges and JURY – that each enactment of law must pass before it gains the authority to punish those who choose to violate it.

"There is a reefer revolution going on in this country and it can't be denied. 15 states now recognize the medicinal value of this sacred herb on some level. Including New Jersey. By purporting the issue of jury nullification, I'm just looking for one juror to examine the New Jersey marijuana laws and recognize the contradictions in it. Not guilty is the verdict I'm hoping for but a hung jury is a victory too," cites Forchion. "I'm openly going to challenge my jury to render a verdict in spite of the law. The

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Continued from Page 40 - NJWeedman's Jury Nullification Trail

law is wrong, based on lies and false facts. I wish to tell my jurors the truth about marijuana. I want to tell the jury that this law I'm charged with violating is wrong not I."

NJWeedman is a cult figure in the marijuana legalization community. He achieved media notoriety when he was front of the entire New Jersey State Assembly in 2000, then gained national attention when he fired it up at Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, PA during the republican national convention there. Upon fleeing the tyrants of the New Jersey court system in 2008, relocating to Los Angeles a few years ago in what he calls a self-imposed political asylum - or exile, he opened his own legal medical marijuana dispensary, [The Liberty Bell Temple](#). The dispensary was located at 5641 Hollywood Boulevard in Hollywood, CA and represented the basic concepts of democracy and faith.

Because of this case New Jersey state officials complained to federal authorities in Los Angeles about NJWeedman and the Liberty Bell Temple, on Dec 13th 2011 the DEA raided and closed NJWeedman's temple.

Forchion until this arrest had claimed he was no longer a weed activist and instead insisted he was a weed capitalist. Now ironically he has been forced by this arrest to once again be the WEED ACTIVIST that got him famous, NJ-weedman Super-hero to the Potheads.

Forchion is continually fueling his advocacy for the medical marijuana movement. His 'pot parties' are now legendary in Hollywood and he stirred controversy with his "Obama One Year in Office" party celebration. His NJWeedman video series, filmed from the shop and seen on his website <http://www.njweedman.com/> and at <http://www.youtube.com/user/NewJersey-WEEDMAN> commands a following of viewers from around the world. He regularly updated his footage with vivid coverage of the happenings in his shop, including specials on the vast varieties of medicinal marijuana he is able to serve up legally, daily to his patients.

The media attention and positive depictions irked NJ state officials who requested the Federal DEA to do something about this unrepentant [William Penn wannabe](#). To the chagrin of state officials, NJWEEDMAN survived the raid of his temple, pleaded with his supporters to get him from California back to jersey for trial.

([ROADAMENTARY](#)) He made it to trial and got the hung jury he predicted he'd get! He won!

Then in a shocking example of poor losership the state decides to retry NJweedman. Throwing shit on his plans to restart his California life.

NJweedman goes back to California and his Cancer treatments and re-starts Liberty Bell Temple as US Collective but must return.

Did you know?

**JURORS CAN SAY
"NOT GUILTY"
WHEN PEOPLE BREAK
UNJUST LAWS**

If it shouldn't be a crime
they shouldn't do the time.

Share this to save good
people from bad laws.

Learn more
**POWER TO
THE JURY**
.org

**The trial is set for Oct 10, 2012
JUDGE DELAHEY
BURLINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MT HOLLY, NJ 08060**

I'm asking all supporters to come to my trial and occupy the Courtroom!!! 🍂

[Edward Forchion was interviewed](#) on the *Declare Your Independence with Ernest Hancock* radio show on October 1st, 2012:



Edward Forchion is an activist not only for marijuana legalization, but for a Fully Informed Jury as well. Visit his website at [NJWeedman.Com](#)

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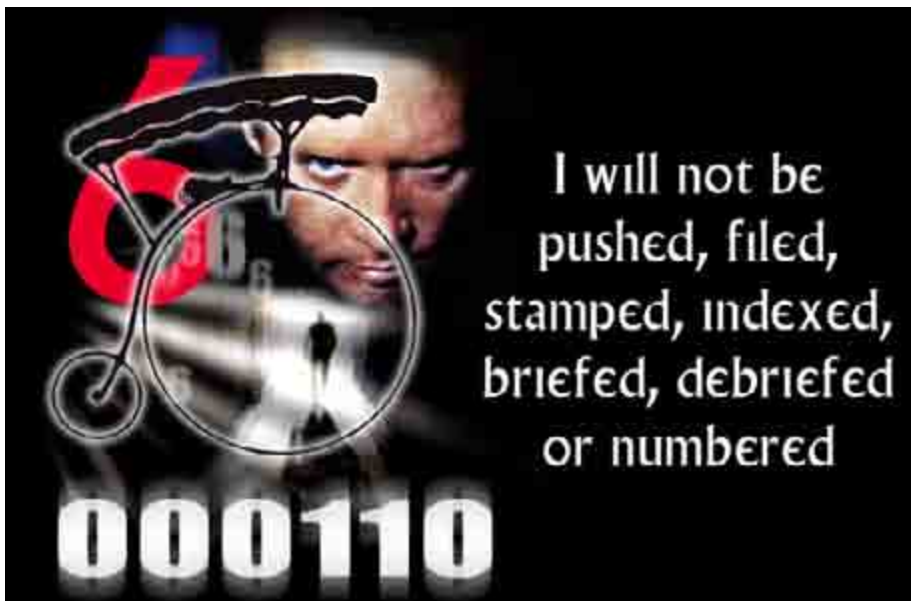
The Sovereign Man is the Real Prisoner

By SARTRE BATR

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ACCORDING to establishment officials, the concept of the Sovereign Man philosophy is a direct threat to the authority of the State. Depending upon your perception of reality and the degree of legitimacy for government, given to the prevailing order, fundamental inalienable rights of the individual may vary widely. In the extreme, government statisticians consider most if not all natural rights as capricious and arbitrary, if conflicts challenge the dictates of the regime. This unending and interminable struggle to defend undeniable individual basic rights drives bureaucrats to use unconscionable measures to coerce citizen compliance.



An illustration comes from the FBI's Counterterrorism Analysis Section in their publication, [Sovereign Citizens - A Growing Domestic Threat to Law Enforcement](#).

"The FBI considers sovereign-citizen extremists as comprising a domestic terrorist movement, which, scattered across the United States, has existed for decades . . . Sovereign citizens do not represent an anarchist group, nor are they a militia, although they sometimes use or buy illegal weapons. Rather, they operate as individuals without established leadership and only come together in loosely affiliated groups to train, help each other with paperwork, or socialize and talk about their ideology. They may refer to themselves as "constitutionalists" or "freemen," which is not necessarily a connection to a specific group, but, rather, an indication that they are free from government control. They follow their own set of laws. While the philosophies and conspiracy theories can vary from person to person, their core beliefs are the same: The government operates outside of its jurisdiction. Because of this belief, they do not recognize federal, state, or local laws, policies, or regulations."

Such sentiments demonstrate that civil liberties have no place in the realm of federal law enforcement. Authoritarians assume that government automatically possesses authenticity because it claims to hold a monopoly of force within the society. Rational and balanced observers of the history and government abuses, especially to their own citizens, must conclude that arrogant superiority, manifested by magistrates and constables, has caused untold atrocities and suffering.

Resistance to unchecked governance through punitive social control and mind manipulation is the theme of arguably the most significant television series ever filmed, [The Prisoner](#). The episodes of this 1960's British cult production are not simply offbeat entertainment, for it deals with some of the most pronounced maltreatments and psychological torture in a society of distorted reality.

For those not familiar with the program,

[Patrick McGoohan](#) plays a man who resigns from a top secret position and is abducted from his London home. He finds himself in a beautiful village where everything is bright and cheerful - the people, their clothes, the buildings, the flowers. But despite this rosey exterior, the village serves a sinister purpose. People are forcibly brought there in order to have their valuable knowledge protected or extracted. Everyone in the Village is assigned a number instead of a name - the Prisoner is Number Six. Chief interrogator and administrator is Number Two, but he isn't the boss - an unseen Number One is the boss.

Failure is not tolerated in the Village, and most episodes feature a new Number Two, though some are privileged to return for a second chance to break Number Six and discover why he resigned.

The Prisoner struggles to keep this information from his captors and to find out which side runs the Village and where it is. He strives to discover the identity of Number One, and above all, he attempts to escape."

The global culture has changed in the forty-five years since No. 6 engaged in his existential struggle to preserve his dignity as a Sovereign Man. By any objective standard the attitudes

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Continued from Page 42 The Sovereign Man is the Real Prisoner

and conditions in the world toward respecting the self-worth of the individual has descended into a new Dark Age of totalitarian despotism.

The always thoughtful and often profound John W. Whitehead of the Rutherford Institute penned an exceptional essay, [The Prisoner: 'I Am Not a Number. I Am a Free Man!'](#)



"Fundamentally, however, The Prisoner is an epistemological exercise that focuses on the concept of reality, both in the subjective and objective sense – that is, can we really know anything about anything? Is reality a mere social construct? Since society creates any knowledge that people may possess, does this mean that human beings are simply products of the given social setting from which they are manufactured? As Steven Paul Davies notes in The Prisoner Handbook (2002): "Thinking for yourself is not necessarily thinking by yourself." And as Number 2 warns Number 6 in the episode entitled "Once upon a Time":

Society is the place where people exist together. That is civilization. The lone wolf belongs to the wilderness. You must not grow up to be a lone wolf.

Therefore, the ultimate goal of those in power is conformity to the constructs of society. This means both figuratively and literally eliminating the lone wolf, the individual. Modern psychiatry defines "normality" as conformity. This "measuring of the human psyche by psychologists," as Davies puts it, has seriously affected how we live our lives and how we view nonconformists. Media representations of "normality" have become the criteria that society uses to evaluate its members. The concept of normality has become subjective as our views have changed to meet societal demands. The individual, as the term was once defined, is becoming passé. As McGoohan commented in 1968:

"At this moment individuals are being drained of their personalities and being brainwashed into slaves. The inquisition of the mind by psychiatrists is far worse than the assault on the body of torturers."

The context of comparing and contrasting society and the individual has lost much of its academic substance. The "concept of reality" is routinely scripted by the elitist system that operates as the all-pervasive and all-powerful Number One. The Village of pleasant and polite appearance is essentially a penitentiary of human bondage and servitude. Heed the lesson that conformity under a coercive courtesan court is doomed to strip the majesty of their human spirit and substitute a remorseful sense of ruin, for the zombies that swallow the anguish of state discipline.



The relevance of the plight of the prisoner holds true for all of humanity. In a video clip from the broadcast, [The Prisoner - Which Side Runs the Village?](#), the purpose – "an international community, a perfect blueprint for world order", is the essence of the gruesome quandary that faces every living person in this age of the macabre New World Order.

The Sovereign Man is the natural order of the created universe. The Illuminati plan for total dominance, seeks to eliminate individuals by the billions. Replacing the noncompliant is essential to their annihilating agenda. The selected and remaining few, will adopt the technocratic transhumanist transformation into a demented version of [Nietzsche's Gnostic Superman](#).

Bureaucratic minions administer punitive retribution with a sense of urgency, since the Patriot Acts allows for unmerciful treatment of "domestic terrorists". So says the FBI . . . The fear that grips the establishment rests upon the public awareness that "The government operates outside of its jurisdiction", also stated by the G-men. However, the recent reinstatement of the unconstitutional NDAA dictum should alarm all men of good will.

As Kurt Nimmo reports on [Infowars](#),

"This pernicious law poses one of the greatest threats to civil liberties in our nation's history," writes [Brian J. Trautman](#). Under AUMF, "this law can be used by authorities to detain (forever) anyone the government considers a threat to national security and stability – potentially even demonstrators and protesters exercising their First Amendment rights."

If this is the real world, the Village of tranquil incarceration seems tame by comparison. The Prisoner program concludes in its search to unmask Number One, with the music of the Beatles - "All You Need Is Love" - playing on in the background. Such hallowed harmony falls upon deaf ears, when it comes to the overseers of the [global gulag](#).

Sovereign individuality is basically the noble quest to fulfill your life as a unique and sacred human being. Superseding natural law with wicked Transhumanism rejects God as our creator and master. Personal responsibility and respect for a moral and lawful order is consistent with an accountable and meaningful life.

Subjecting the masses to a techno-maniacal imprisonment destiny is pure evil. That "perfect blueprint for world order" is a master plan for total enslavement. Dissent against such illicit sanctions is necessary to prevent the threat of human extermination by the functionaries of the NWO.

No law is valid without the consent of the people. Logic dictates that slavery by forced conduct and mental conformity, through cultural perversion, is a behavioral assault on human dignity. The Sovereign Man is effectively the conscience of society that oppressive government deems to be an enemy of the state. Under such governance, the state becomes the enemy of the public. Are you your own Number 6, with the need for redemption, or are you simply another jailer inside a prison of your own construction?

Be Seeing You . . . 

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Behind the Curtain

By Charles Goyette

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THE Republicans and Democrats of modern America—the red and blue faces of the state—have led us all down their yellow brick road of the welfare and warfare state. And now the curtain has been pulled back on the Great and Powerful Oz of Washington and its work of cheap flim-flammery has been revealed for all to see.

The roar of its might depended on the wealth it stripped from the people. Now it has no wealth left, only debt to burden the people with in their reduced circumstances. It promised to provide for the poor, but instead left the entire nation poorer. It promised to provide for the elderly in their retirement. But the only resources the Great and Powerful Oz had were the ones it took from them to begin with, and in so doing it altered the people's behavior so that they failed to provide for their own old age. It promised to provide for the general security. Instead it destroyed the people's financial security while it went abroad, propping up tyrants and meddling in affairs hither and yon. The security of the Great and Powerful Oz consists not of peace and tranquility, but in maintaining a perpetual state of alarm and making the people hated in far corners of the world.

And in a foolhardy finale, it sought to solve the problem of insurmountable debt by piling on still more debt. Now the state must stop. Let the final curtain close on the humbuggery of the red party and the bunkum of the blue.

A change in the way people think about the state is inevitable, just as it was inevitable that tribal chieftains, the divine right of kings, the mandate of heaven, and the rule of churches should yield to the spread of freedom. It stands to reason that the hollowness of the state's promises should thrust this reconsideration on this generation at this time.

But perhaps the generation is not equal to the demands of the age; perhaps we expect too much of a dependent, conditioned, and passive people. But if the people do miss the opportunity our economic distress provides to reassess the state, the opportunity of distress will be seized instead by those responsible for the calamity. They will use it to extend their authority and, yes, to increase the damage. As I described in *The Dollar Meltdown*, a command economy is an irresistible attraction to the power-seeking governing classes during economic distress. The hand of the state becomes a fist.

Will Americans continue to succumb to the ways of statism as modeled by the bloody French Revolution?

Or will they recall the lessons of our own revolution and seek again to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity?

It should be clear that the decision before us is not the one presented by the major media outlets with their breathless coverage of the election horse races. It is not the one offered by the opinion makers with their constrained vision and tired habits of thought. It is not the choice between Republicans and Democrats that matters. It is the choice between statism and liberty.

The sound-bite commentariat would have us choose whether the red team or the blue team should manage our lives. But America is not a sporting event, and we can manage our own lives. The future we are choosing is between want and abundance. The great achievements of mankind come not from slave labor, but from the self-motivated. Except for cigars from Cuba and vodka from the Soviet Union (if even that!), nobody anywhere with a choice is ever very interested in things made by unfree people living in command economies.

Without the oxygen of freedom creativity shuts down, inventiveness suffocates. When prodded like cattle, people move and act not as inspired, but as directed. All the spontaneity that organizes new forms of production, all the unexpected ways in which human life is improved, and the serendipity that delights us with enriching new experiences and opportunities—all flourish in an environment of freedom.

Americans who know this face the task of persuading their fellows of both the self-evident moral preferability and the productive superiority of voluntary and contractual social relationships to coercive ones.

The things we have taken for granted in our material circumstances and the increase of ease in our lives—so many of the things we notice only in their absence—are the result of a free economy. So rich are its gifts, so abundant its bounty, so profuse its variety, that we have come to think of prosperity as a given. And that is a good way to think of it—as a given. Like the cornucopia, the horn of plenty that is an icon of inexhaustible abundance that seemingly springs from nowhere, prosperity is a given, coming into being in the presence of free people in a free economy.

Liberty's gifts are many. This book has focused especially on Prosperity because she appears to be slipping away from us. But Prosperity is only one of Liberty's daughters. Peace is another. And third among her daughters is Opportunity. What a plague mankind suffers in the absence of Liberty's gifts. What a cruel smothering of the human spirit to know only lack and insufficiency instead of the abundance of Prosperity; to live in a time of constant strife and war, a time without the blessings of Peace; and to experience a lifetime of frustrating limitation and futility, a world without Opportunity.

A renewed appreciation of Liberty will mean the growth of prosperity, peace, and opportunity. Her blessings await all who wish them. 🍁

This article is an excerpt from New York Times bestselling author Charles Goyette's new book [Red and Blue and Broke All Over: Restoring America's Free Economy](#).



Charles Goyette [[send him email](#)] is the author of the New York Times bestseller *The Dollar Meltdown*. His new book is *Red and Blue and Broke All Over: Restoring America's Free Economy*. He is also editor of *Freedom & Prosperity Letter*, a monthly political and financial newsletter dedicated to revealing the truth about the U.S.'s political scene and economic climate. To learn more, [go here](#).

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Mexican Exports

By Marc J. Victor

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THERE are few things I can envision more boring than a debate between libertarians. In contrast to the unprincipled, but always interesting, answers generally presented by both Democrats and Republicans, libertarians tend to give the same answers over and over again. We don't do this to bore, but rather to give an honest answer. So, here I go again.

As I said in my last commentary, albeit slightly different, government is not the solution to our problems; it IS the problem. The problem of Arizona's slow growing exports to Mexico as compared to Texas is no different. There is no better way to improve our economy than to move closer to a free market. The state with the market that is most free wins.


Texas has increased its total exports to Mexico by 40% over the past four years as compared to a 1% increase in Arizona over the same time period. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Texas' GDP growth is 4th best in the nation while Arizona ranks only 18th.

Why is Texas realizing economic benefits not shared by Arizona? The answer is simple. According to ChiefExecutive.net, Texas is the most business friendly state. Indeed, Texas has received this honor in each of the past eight years. 650 CEO's ranked Texas best for its business

friendly tax and regulation environment. Arizona ranked much lower.

The overall benefits of a free market cannot be overstated. Between June 2009 and July 2011, Texas also created so many jobs that its new jobs account for 47% of all new jobs created nationally. All this new job creation, and Texas leads the nation in the number of people who migrate into their state too. High numbers of immigrants to Texas resulted in good economic consequences for Texas.

I am not making a case for Texas. I could have cited Hong Kong as a foreign example of what a free market can do for an economy. A free market is the best way known to raise standards of living. It doesn't matter if we are analyzing state exports to Mexico or a national economy; the free market works much better than any other economic system.

If we want to improve Arizona's exports to Mexico, the answer is less taxes and less regulation. It's the same old boring but true argument; freedom and the free market always do better than regulation and taxes. 

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Creating Jobs

By Marc J. Victor

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JOB S are created by the private sector. It is a common misunderstanding to believe government spending creates jobs. It doesn't. If it did, based on how much our government spends, we should be desperately begging immigrants to come to America to accept all the unfilled employment positions. Although there is much to criticize about our government, no reasonable person can criticize it for spending too little.

Governments sometimes appear to create jobs when they tax and spend money in a way necessitating the hiring of people. For politicians who are more concerned about how things appear to their potential voters, promoting government spending as a ruse to creating jobs is a common approach in politics. However, a belief that the government can actually create jobs is simply false. As with many economic fallacies, failing to consider the less visible consequences of an action is the source of this erroneous belief.

Ignoring the injustice for a moment, when governments forcefully appropriate money from one person then redistribute it to another, the recipient certainly benefits. However, the economic harm visited upon the unfortunate and unwilling donor is at least equal to the benefit received by the recipient. The net result of this resource shifting is not additional jobs. Moreover, it is not consistent with the principles of a free society.

When private property is well protected, free people, and the companies they form, are encouraged to invest capital into ventures they expect will net them a profit. In the process, jobs are created. It is the voluntary action of private capitalists who seek to improve their economic future that creates jobs. Government usually hinders this process.

As an analogy, human beings cannot produce tomatoes. Only tomato plants are capable of producing tomatoes. However, humans are capable of ensuring optimum conditions exist under which tomato plants can thrive at producing tomatoes. We can provide quality soil, ample sunlight, fresh clean water, fertilizer and any other conditions needed for tomato plants to produce quality tomatoes. Indeed, with the right conditions, a healthy tomato plant will produce quality tomatoes. However, humans are also capable of creating conditions under which no tomato plants are able to produce tomatoes. The same can be said of the government's ability to create jobs.

As a United States Senator, I will oppose any legislation, rule, regulation or other constraint upon the free market. High paying jobs will ripen like tomatoes. 

Marc J. Victor is the owner of Marc J. Victor, P.C. and a certified specialist in criminal law AttorneyForFreedom.com. Marc is running for U.S. Senate, and you can email him at info@victorforsenate.com

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The Constitution: The God That Failed (To Liberate Us From Big Government)

By **Bill Buppert**

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SEPTEMBER 17 is the day the serfs in the tax jurisdiction known as America celebrate Constitution Day. We hear all the usual ill-informed and ahistorical notions celebrating what was in essence one of the most savvy and lucrative political coups in Western history. The Antifederalists were right, the Constitution was an elegant trap to shackle an entire nation to a system to empower the few over the many and the banksters over the entire system of commerce. The respective states which had signed separate peace agreements with the United Kingdom in 1783 were merely political and inferior subsidiaries to the greater national power emerging in Mordor on the Potomac. The Constitution created a Soviet style system well before the Bolsheviks were even contemplating such a scheme. Whenever you hear some of your friends and neighbors extolling the virtues of the Constitution, read them Spooner's quote and see how they address that particular conundrum.



By rendering the labor of one, the property of the other, they cherish pride, luxury, and vanity on one side; on the other, vice and servility, or hatred and revolt.

~ **James Madison**

"But whether the Constitution really be one thing, or another, this much is certain — that it has either authorized such a government as we have had, or has been powerless to prevent it. In either case, it is unfit to exist."

~ **Lysander Spooner**

17 September is Constitution Day. There will be paeans, abundant commentary and church-like observances of the glories of this document in making us the most blessed nation on planet earth. This essay suggests a contrarian thesis. The Constitution is an enabling document for big government. Much like the Wizard of Oz, the man behind the curtain is a fraud. In this case, for all the sanctimonious handwringing and the obsequious idolatry of the parchment, it sealed the fate of our liberties and freedoms and has operated for more than 200 years as a cover for massive expansion of the tools and infrastructure of statist expansion and oppression. Among the many intellectual travels I have undertaken, this is one of the most heart-breaking

I have ventured on. I want to acknowledge the compass-bearers who sent me on this journey: Kenneth W. Royce (aka Boston T. Party) and his seminal book, [The Hologram of Liberty](#) and Kevin Gutzman's [Politically Incorrect Guide to the Constitution](#). For most of the political spectrum in America, the document represents their interpretation of how to make this mortal coil paradise. Even in libertarian circles, it is taken as an article of faith the Constitution is a brilliant mechanism to enlarge liberty and keep government at bay. That is a lie.

The [document](#) was drafted in the summer of 1787 behind closed doors in tremendous secrecy because if word leaked out of the actual contents and intent, the revolution that had just concluded would have been set ablaze again. They were in a race against time and did everything in their power to ensure that the adoption took place as quickly as possible to avoid reflection and contemplation in the public square that would kill the proposal once the consequences of its agenda became apparent. They were insisting that the states ratify first and then propose amendments *later*. It was a political *coup d'état*. It was nothing less than an oligarchical coup to ensure that the moneyed interests, banksters and aristocrats could cement their positions and mimic the United Kingdom from which they had been recently divorced.

The original charter of the drafters was to pen improvements to the existing Articles of Confederation. Instead, they chose to hijack the process and create a document which enslaved the nation. Federalist in the old parlance meant states rights and subsidiarity but the three authors of the fabled Federalist Papers supported everything but that. Their intent and commitment was to create a National government with the ability to make war on its constituent parts if these states failed to submit themselves to the central government.

As Austrian economists have discovered, bigger is not necessarily better. The brilliant and oft-dismissed Articles of Confederation (AoC) and Perpetual Union are a testament to voluntarism and cooperation through persuasion that the Constitution disposed of with its adoption. Penned in 1776 and ratified in 1781, the spirit and context of the Articles live on in the [Swiss canton system](#) and are everywhere evident in the marketplace where confederationist sentiments are practiced daily. The confederation's design divines its mechanism from what an unfettered market does every day: voluntary cooperation, spontaneous information signals and the parts always being smarter than the sum A. confederation according to the [Webster's 1828 dictionary](#) is:

1. *The act of confederating; a league; a compact for mutual support; alliance; particularly of princes, nations or states.*

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I would advise the readership to use the 1828 Webster's dictionary to accompany any primary source research you may undertake to understand American (& British) letters in the eighteenth century. It is the source for the contemporary lexicon. It is even available online now.

Here is a simple comparison of the two organizing documents:

	Articles of Confederation	Constitution
Levying taxes	Congress could request states to pay taxes	Congress has right to levy taxes on individuals
Federal courts	No system of federal courts	Court system created to deal with issues between citizens, states
Regulation of trade	No provision to regulate interstate trade	Congress has right to regulate trade between states
Executive	No executive with power. President of U.S. merely presided over Congress	Executive branch headed by President who chooses Cabinet and has checks on power of judiciary and legislature
Amending document	13/13 needed to amend Articles	2/3 of both houses of Congress plus 3/4 of state legislatures or national convention
Representation of states	Each state received 1 vote regardless of size	Upper house (Senate) with 2 votes; lower house (House of Representatives) based on population
Raising an army	Congress could not draft troops, dependent on states to contribute forces	Congress can raise an army to deal with military situations
Interstate commerce	No control of trade between states	Interstate commerce controlled by Congress
Disputes between states	Complicated system of arbitration	Federal court system to handle disputes
Sovereignty	Sovereignty resides in states	Constitution the supreme law of the land
Passing laws	9/13 needed to approve legislation	50%+1 of both houses plus signature of President

Note that the precept of individual taxation was an end-run against state sovereignty from the very beginning. If the Congress does not wish to violate state sovereignty, then they will simply prey on the individuals *in* the states. It should be obvious that the AoC was not a recipe for government employees from top to bottom to use the office to enrich themselves so a scheme was afoot to precipitate and manufacture dissent over the present configuration of the central government apparatus which for all intents and purposes barely existed. The AoC was intolerable to a narrow panoply of interests and the Federalist Papers appeared between October 1787 and August 1788 to plead the case for a newer form of "Republic" authored by three individuals: James Madison, John Jay, and Alexander Hamilton. The British had sued for peace in 1783 and the AoC were still in effect until 1790. Time was ticking to erect the new government apparatus that would strengthen the central government to eventually mimic the very

tyranny which caused British North America to put the English Crown in the hazard. The [Anti-Federalists](#) rose up in response and provided what I consider one of the most splendid and eloquent defenses of small government penned in our history.

When the [Constitutional Convention](#) convened on 1787, 55 delegates came but 14 later quit as the Convention eventually abused its mandate and scrapped the AoC instead of revising it. The notes and proceedings of the cloistered meeting were to be secret as long as 53 years later when Madison's edited notes were published in 1840.

The Anti-Federalist Brutus avers in [Essay I](#) in October 1787:

"But what is meant is, that the legislature of the United States are vested with the great and uncontrollable powers, of laying and collecting taxes, duties, imposts, and excises; of regulating trade, raising and supporting armies, organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, instituting courts, and other general powers. And are by this clause invested with the power of making all laws, proper and necessary, for carrying all these into execution; and they may so exercise this power as entirely to annihilate all the state governments, and reduce this country to one single government. And if they may do it, it is pretty certain they will; for it will be found that the power retained by individual states, small as it is, will be a clog upon the wheels of the government of the United States; the latter therefore will be naturally inclined to remove it out of the way. Besides, it is a truth confirmed by the unerring experience of ages, that every man, and every body of men, invested with power, are ever disposed to increase it, and to acquire a superiority over every thing that stands in their way."

The conflict was brewing between the [Jeffersonians](#) among the individualists and the Hamiltonian collectivists. The rhetorical lines were drawn and the fate of the nation eventually slid into the camp of the Nationalists.

George Washington wrote to John Jay on 1 August 1786:

"Many are of opinion that Congress have too frequently made use of the suppliant humble tone of requisition, in applications to the States, when they had a right to assume their imperial dignity and command obedience. Be that as it may, requisitions are a perfect nihility, where thirteen sovereign, independent[,] disunited States are in

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the habit of discussing & refusing compliance with them at their option. Requisitions are actually little better than a jest and a bye word through out the Land. If you tell the Legislatures they have violated the treaty of peace and invaded the prerogatives of the confederacy they will laugh in your face. What then is to be done? Things cannot go on in the same train forever. It is much to be feared, as you observe, that the better kind of people being disgusted with the circumstances will have their minds prepared for any revolution whatever. We are apt to run from one extreme into another. To anticipate & prevent disastorous contingencies would be the part of wisdom & patriotism.”

It appears even the much admired Washington was having none of the talk of independence and wanted a firm hand on the yoke of the states to make them obey their masters on high. Washington’s behavior in the [Whiskey Rebellion](#) cast away any doubts of the imperious behavior of the central government a mere four year after the adoption of the Constitution.

[Patrick Henry](#) gave the firmest defense of the skeptical posture when he questioned the precarious position the Constitution put to the state’s sovereignty on 5 June 1788 at the [Virginia Ratifying Convention](#) (the savvy Founding Lawyers ensured that the process of ratification was sped along by bypassing the bicameral house requirements and simply asking the states to conduct ratifying conventions):

“How were the Congressional rights defined when the people of America united by a confederacy to defend their liberties and rights against the tyrannical attempts of Great-Britain? The States were not then contented with implied reservation. No, Mr. Chairman. It was expressly declared in our Confederation that every right was retained by the States respectively, which was not given up to the Government of the United States. But there is no such thing here. You therefore by a natural and unavoidable implication, give up your rights to the General Government. Your own example furnishes an argument against it. If you give up these powers, without a Bill of Rights, you will exhibit the most absurd thing to mankind that ever the world saw — A Government that has abandoned all its powers — The powers of direct taxation, the sword, and the purse. You have disposed of them to Congress, without a Bill of Rights — without check, limitation, or controul. And still you have checks and guards — still you keep barriers — pointed where? Pointed against your weakened, prostrated, enervated State Government! You have a Bill of Rights to defend you against the State Government, which

is bereaved of all power; and yet you have none against Congress, though in full and exclusive possession of all power! You arm yourselves against the weak and defenceless, and expose yourselves naked to the armed and powerful. Is not this a conduct of unexampled absurdity? What barriers have you to oppose to this most strong energetic Government? To that Government you have nothing to oppose. All your defence is given up. This is a real actual defect. . .”

The [Bill of Rights](#) as we know them today were first introduced by James Madison in 1789 in response to the fears the emerging Constitution caused among the free men in these united States. They eventually came into effect on December 15, 1791. The Federalists were desperately opposed to the adoption of the Bill of Rights being insisted upon by Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson and other skeptics of central governance. As Brutus again so cleverly pointed out in the Anti-Federalist papers #84:

“This will appear the more necessary, when it is considered, that not only the Constitution and laws made in pursuance thereof, but all treaties made, under the authority of the United States, are the supreme law of the land, and supersede the Constitutions of all the States. The power to make treaties, is vested in the president, by and with the advice and consent of two-thirds of the senate. I do not find any limitation or restriction to the exercise of this power. The most important article in any Constitution may therefore be repealed, even without a legislative act. Ought not a government, vested with such extensive and indefinite authority, to have been restricted by a declaration of rights? It certainly ought.

So clear a point is this, that I cannot help suspecting that persons who attempt to persuade people that such reservations were less necessary under this Constitution than under those of the States, are wilfully endeavoring to deceive, and to lead you into an absolute state of vassalage (emphasis mine).”

The Bill of Rights nominations from the respective sovereign states originally numbered near 200 and the Founding Lawyers saw fit to include twelve ([the two concerning apportionment and Congressional pay failed to pass](#)) after much bickering especially by the most monstrous worthy of the time, [Alexander Hamilton](#). A brilliant mind coupled with all the political knife-fighting skills needed to dominate the proceedings, Hamilton made sure that the tools of oppression and a financial yoke would be decorating our necks in perpetuity. Small solace can

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be taken in the aftermath of the duel between Hamilton and Burr on 11 July 1804 in that it took him close to a day to die.

Alexander Hamilton tipped his intellectual hand in a speech to the Constitutional Convention concerning the United States Senate, 06/18/1787 (quoted in the notes of Judge Yates):

“All communities divide themselves into the few and the many. The first are the rich and the well-born; the other the mass of the people ... turbulent and changing, they seldom judge or determine right. Give therefore to the first class a distinct, permanent share in the Government ... Nothing but a permanent body can check the imprudence of democracy.”

I am no fan of democracy as I see it as nothing more than a transformational [accommodation to tyranny](#) over time but one can infer from this quote that Hamilton fancied a class of people more equal than others who would have a disproportionate access to the levers of power over the great unwashed. Again, I am suggesting that the Constitution was a document designed from the beginning as a means to rob constituent and subsidiary parts of sovereignty and subject these subordinate elements to a national framework which made their position subservient to the Federal government. The desire of the Federalists was to install a national framework and cement the structure through the machinations of national banking, franking of a currency and debt creation. Keep in mind that all of the nattering on about the Federal Reserve today is a complaint against a Constitutional Frankenstein monster in its fourth iteration since the other attempts at national banks failed. You can guess who picked up the tab.

The Bill of Rights was finally passed on 15 December 1791 but it was much diluted and purposefully weaker and more ambiguous about the central government's implied and explicit powers.


The Constitution took effect on 4 March 1789 with 11 states under it and two states not submitting ratification. North Carolina did ratify it when a promise of a future Bill of Rights was assured. [Rhode Island](#) refused and was the only state to put the Constitution to a popular vote where it *failed* on 24 March 1788 by an 11—1 margin. They eventually ratified it.

Hamilton now had the ways and means to make real his storied dream: “A [national debt](#), if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing.” The moneyed interests saw the advantage of monetizing the debt. By assuming the [state's debts](#) at the national government level, a means of controlling commerce and taxation became an implied task of the central government. This may have been the first incident of the debtors from the Revolutionary War convincing their Hamiltonian allies that if they had the national government bear the debt and relieve them of

responsibility, this could be used as the means to establish the coveted national bank to start the issuance of government currency not to mention the driver for increased taxation.

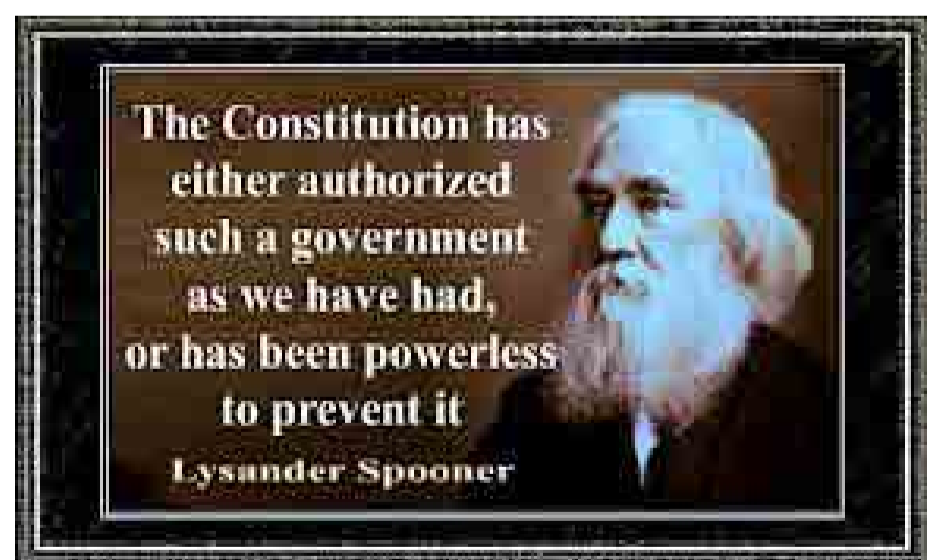
All the puzzle pieces had finally locked into place. Royce eloquently explains what has transpired in *Hologram of Liberty*: “To put a ‘gun’ in the hands of the new national government was the primary object, the great *sine qua non*, of the Constitution. A comprehensive *de jure* authority of Congress backed with *de facto* guns.” The Confederation is defeated and the long train of usurpation, centralization and tyranny leaves the station for what has become American history.

Hamilton's machinations and influence probably single-handedly turned the product of this secret confab into one of the most successful instruments of political oppression before even the creation of the USSR. What makes it even more sublime as a tool of big government is the sophisticated propaganda and hagiographic enterprise which has both spontaneously and through careful planning suborned the public's skepticism of the nature of the machine erected to control their behavior, which has resulted in an almost religious observance of all things Constitutional. Carefully cultivated over two hundred years, this religious idolatry had certainly fogged the thinking of this writer for most of his adult life. This sleeper has awakened.

Ask yourself this question: have the robed government employees who read the Constitutional tea leaves for the most part defended individual liberty or have they rubber-stamped the exponential growth of power and control of the colossus that sits astride the Potomac? 

“Our constitutions purport to be established by ‘the people,’ and, in theory, ‘all the people’ consent to such government as the constitutions authorize. But this consent of ‘the people’ exists only in theory. It has no existence in fact. Government is in reality established by the few; and these few assume the consent of all the rest, without any such consent being actually given.”

~ Lysander Spooner



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Bill Buppert is the Publisher of the website [ZeroGov.Com](#), which is dedicated to the total abolition of slavery and the state.

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Obesity Epidemic Not Due to High Fructose Corn Syrup?

By Dr. Mercola

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A staggering two-thirds of Americans are overweight, and about one-quarter to one-third of adults fall into the obese category and it is [projected to go to FIFTY percent by 2030](#).

Obesity is now so common that it leads to more doctor visits than smoking (1) – and rates have been on the rise for decades now.

The fact that obesity is now an epidemic is not up for debate. What's *causing* it, however, is.

One of the forerunning theories is that dramatic changes in our dietary patterns such as the extensive use of sugar, primarily in the form of high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), which is added to virtually all processed foods, is prompting metabolic dysfunction that is making people gain weight.

Now a new study has come out claiming it has "proof" that HFCS is not to blame... but wouldn't you know it, the study's authors were funded by, or have links to, the corn industry.

No Link Between High Fructose Corn Syrup and Obesity?

The new report, published in the *International Journal of Obesity*, says there is no evidence to suggest that the U.S. obesity epidemic can be blamed on HFCS consumption.(2) The authors reviewed existing HFCS research and concluded that there are no short-term health differences (such as weight gain, appetite, insulin or glucose levels) between the use of HFCS and sugar (sucrose), noting that both are similar in composition and absorbed identically in the GI tract.

This is the most common argument used by the corn industry to support their agenda that HFCS is safe. Sucrose (table sugar) is 50 percent glucose and 50 percent fructose. High fructose corn syrup (HFCS) is anywhere from 42 to 55 percent fructose depending on which type is used.

While it's true that they are similar in composition – their parts are *metabolized* very differently in your body. Because high-fructose corn

syrup contains free-form monosaccharides of fructose and glucose, it cannot be considered biologically equivalent to sucrose, which has a glycosidic bond that links the fructose and glucose together, and which slows its break down in the body.

Even if this obvious metabolic difference were not present, it is important to point out that *glucose* is the form of energy your body is designed to run on. Every cell in your body uses glucose for energy, and it's metabolized in every organ of your body; about 20 percent of glucose is metabolized in your liver. Fructose, on the other hand, can *only* be metabolized by your liver, because your liver is the only organ that has the transporter for it.

Fructose is the Real Culprit

Since all fructose gets shuttled to your liver, and, if you eat a typical Western-style diet, you consume high amounts of it, fructose ends up taxing and [damaging your liver in the same way alcohol](#) and other toxins do. And just like alcohol, fructose is metabolized directly into *fat* – not cellular energy, like glucose.

While in times of complete glycogen depletion (i.e. post work-out or true hunger), fructose can be used to replenish these stores, any excess will mostly be converted to fat. So, eating fructose in excess of the very small amount our body can handle is really like eating fat – it just gets stored in your fat cells, which leads to mitochondrial malfunction, obesity and obesity-related diseases.

So both sugar *and* HFCS play a role in the obesity epidemic, but it's important to understand that the claim you hear on TV, that "sugar is sugar" no matter what form it's in, is a misstatement that can, quite literally, kill you – albeit *slowly*.

The more fructose a food contains, and the more total fructose you consume, the worse it is for your health.

It's important to note that both sugar and HFCS are problematic, as they both contain similar amounts of fructose, the true culprit. But the reason why HFCS may, in fact, be even worse

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than table sugar, despite having similar fructose content, is both due to the aforementioned difference in metabolizing it (sucrose's glycosidic bond) and **due to its liquid form**. When you consume fructose in liquid form, such as drinking a soda, it places an even more intense burden on your liver. The effect on your liver is not only *sped up* but also *magnified*.

Cost Is King

Even if one were to ignore the evidence reviewed above and accept the corn industry's argument that there is no significant biochemical difference between the fructose in HFCS and regular table sugar, one can't escape the quantity argument. There is simply no defense against it. In the mid '70s, Japanese scientists discovered how to manufacture HFCS cheaply from corn. Because it is so cheap it is used in massive quantities.

Fructose in small quantities is relatively harmless. Our ancestors would typically consume some on a regular basis, typically in the form of fruits, but they would rarely consume it in quantities greater than 15 grams (one tablespoon) a day. Now the average intake is FIVE times that at 75 grams and some people consume more than 10 times that amount. At those levels fructose becomes a pernicious liver and metabolic toxin.

Another Case of Industry-Funded Propaganda?

But here is where it gets really interesting. There are actually clever forces at work behind the scenes that have carefully orchestrated this information to deceive you and the rest of the public. So why does this new study make it sound like HFCS has been nothing more than an unfortunate scapegoat in this whole scenario?

As I have [explained in a previous video](#), it is usually helpful to examine who authored the study, and where their funding and true loyalties lie. And in this case, doing so proved to be very revealing. Research shows that industry funding of nutrition-related scientific articles may bias conclusions in favor of sponsors' products, with potentially significant implications for public health.⁽³⁾

This is now becoming widely accepted, so much so that still more research found physicians are

less likely to believe and act on research findings when they are industry-sponsored.⁽⁴⁾ If that's the case, many may have a hard time believing the featured HFCS/obesity study. There are four authors to the featured study: lead author James M. Rippe and co-authors David M. Klurfeld, John Foreyt, and Theodore J. Angelopoulos. Each one has his own ties to industry, making for a very concerning conflict of interest:

1. **Rippe:** Disclosed in the journal that he and his Rippe Lifestyle Institute had received research grants and consulting fees from a variety of companies and organizations including ConAgra, Kraft Foods, PepsiCo, Weight Watchers and the Corn Refiners Association. He also disclosed in other research completed in 2012 that he has received funding from the Corn Refiners Association.⁽⁵⁾

Rippe also is an advisor to the food and beverage industry. On his health website he lists ConAgra and PepsiCo as two of several "partners." He also disclosed in a press release on this most recent study that he is an advisor to the food and beverage industry including the Corn Refiners Association, "which funded this research with an unrestricted educational grant."

2. **Foreyt:** Disclosed in the study that he is a member of the scientific advisory panel of the Corn Refiners Association.⁽⁶⁾

3. **Klurfeld:** Is a scientific and policy advisor on the American Council on Science and Health (ACSH),⁽⁷⁾ which has published material criticizing the "demonizing of high fructose corn syrup."⁽⁸⁾

4. **Angelopoulos:** Is the author of at least one other study vindicating HFCS – which was funded by PepsiCo.⁽⁹⁾ Plus he got a \$200,500 research grant from Rippe Health and Lifestyle Institute for "consulting services."⁽¹⁰⁾

How Sensitive are You to Fructose?

Some people may be able to process fructose more efficiently than others, and the key to assess this susceptibility to fructose-induced damage lies in evaluating your uric acid levels. The higher your uric acid, the more sensitive you are

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to the effects of fructose. The safest range of uric acid appears to be between 3 and 5.5 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dl), and there appears to be a steady relationship between uric acid levels and blood pressure and cardiovascular risk, even down to the range of 3 to 4 mg/dl.

[Dr. Richard Johnson](#) suggests that the ideal uric acid level is probably around 4 mg/dl for men and 3.5 mg/dl for women. I would strongly encourage everyone to have their uric acid level checked to find out how sensitive you are to fructose.

Many people who are overweight likely have uric acid levels well above 5.5. Some may even be closer to 10 or above. Measuring your uric acid levels is a very practical way to determine just how strict you need to be when it comes to your fructose consumption.

The major problem with fructose lies in the excessive amounts so many people consume. And fructose has actually been linked to over 70 health conditions in the biomedical literature, indicating that this is far bigger than just a "weight problem."⁽¹¹⁾

It's no secret that we are eating more sugar than at any other time in history. In 1700, the average person ate four pounds of sugar a year. Today, about 25 percent of all Americans consume over 134 grams of fructose a day, according to Dr. Johnson's research.

For most people, including if you're overweight or obese, it would actually be wise to limit your fruit fructose to 15 grams or less, as you're virtually guaranteed to get "hidden" fructose from just about any processed food you might eat, including condiments you might never have suspected would contain sugar.

Keep in mind that fruits also contain fructose, although an ameliorating factor is that whole fruits also contain vitamins and other antioxidants that reduce the hazardous effects of fructose. Again, one way to determine just how strict you need to be in regard to fruit consumption is to check your uric acid levels. If your levels are outside the healthy ranges listed above, then I strongly suggest you listen to your body's biochemical feedback and reduce your fructose consumption, including that from fruit, until your uric acid levels normalize.


Bonus Weight Loss Tips You Might Not Have Heard of

For the majority of people, severely restricting non-vegetable carbohydrates such as sugars, fructose, and grains in your diet will be the key to weight loss. Refined Carbohydrates like breakfast cereals, bagels, waffles, pretzels, and most other processed foods quickly break down to sugar, increase your insulin levels, and cause insulin resistance, which is the number one underlying factor of nearly every chronic disease and condition known to man, including weight gain.

As you cut these dietary villains from your meals, you need to replace them with healthy substitutes like vegetables and healthy fats (including natural saturated fats!). You will probably need to radically increase the amount of high-nutrient, low-carbohydrate vegetables you eat, as well as make sure you are also consuming protein and healthy fats regularly.

I've detailed a step-by-step guide to this type of healthy eating program in my [comprehensive nutrition plan](#), and I urge you to consult this guide if you are trying to lose weight.

Next, you'll want to add in proper exercise. The key to boosting weight loss and getting the most out of your exercise routine is to make sure to incorporate high-intensity, short-burst-type exercises, such as my [Peak Fitness](#) Program, two to three times per week. Several studies have confirmed that exercising in shorter bursts with rest periods in between burns more fat than exercising continuously for an entire session.

Now here's the bonus: A growing body of research suggests that intermittent fasting may in fact be a key weight loss tool. It appears particularly powerful when combined with exercise – i.e. [working out while in a fasted state](#). Intermittent fasting is not the same thing as starving yourself; it can be as simple as skipping breakfast. You can find more [details on intermittent fasting here](#). 

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Publisher's Backpage - Original Discovery

By Ernest Hancock

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ORIGINAL DISCOVERY

I'm encouraging you to pay attention to Freedom'sPhoenix daily entries because local, national and world events/trends are developing very quickly and I suspect that we are all going to experience the "Change" that we are constantly being promised, very soon.

If you are not at least a subscriber to the free [Email Dispatch from Freedom's Phoenix](#), you are missing a lot of important information. The [Email Dispatch Archive](#) is available for free as well and is very useful when you want to catch up on news you might have missed while vacationing or taking a break. The Dispatch and its Archive are designed so that a very wide assortment of news and original articles & opinions can be scanned in a very short period of time.

Subscribers to the Digital Magazine have many additional features available to them on Freedom'sPhoenix that we will highlight and detail in November's eZine (more new stuff just around the corner we want to add to a new tutorial - [Most recent Tutorial HERE](#)).

October's Edition of the Freedom's Phoenix Digital Magazine focuses on the theme, "American Ingenuity - Garage Inventions that Changed the World". The idea that only teams of scientists with unlimited budgets are the only sources of fantastic leaps in technology and improvements in our lifestyles is a fiction embraced by those that seek dominion over the minds and bodies of every individual.

If you haven't read my "[Publisher's Backpage September 2012](#)" article, I encourage you to do so since it is a 'Part 1' to this article and you'll get a lot more from this piece... I'll wait.....

As promised, I have been constructing my own laboratory and equipping it to provide me with 'Original Discovery'. Please let me share what I mean. At about 28 years of age, married with 4 young children, I was exposed to massive government and media corruption that would redirect a great deal of our family's time for over two decades. For the first time in my life, I would read the Declaration of Independence (very cool), the Constitution and the Bill of Rights straight through. I then started with some Thomas Jefferson and immediately stopped. Not because I thought what he had to say was wrong or uninspiring... but because it was very inspiring. Let me explain.

It has come as a great surprise to many that desired to know how I came to libertarianism to learn that it was an organic thing that I allowed to develop from 'Original Discovery'. Walter Block's book '[I Choose Liberty](#)' is a compilation of dozens of libertarian minds that explain their path to enlightenment. My contribution was written at the end of 2002 and was first published on LewRockwell.com where Walter archived the articles until publishing his book in 2011. The article [Being Libertarian - I Only Seek the Truth](#) demonstrated how an individual might discover libertarianism without even knowing of the existence of the libertarian philosophy or its many advocates from various perspectives. I intentionally allowed for 'Original Discovery'.

After reading the Bill of Rights, I was most motivated by the 14th Amendment at the time for a specific reason (yes, I know how the 14th is used to enslave us all). The corruption I was exposed to at the time had a root and I was determined to strike at it. The 'Equal Protection Clause' made it clear that the government could not constitutionally give special privileges to one group that didn't equally apply to everyone. Well heck, that's all I saw government do,... especially when it came to election laws.

Only a few pages of Thomas Jefferson's writings demonstrated to me how powerful his words were and how easily his mind would be cloned inside my head if I continued to read his work. My desire to understand what was lurking behind the government's propaganda via original discovery has always been how I've learned anything. I think it came from a lifetime of being surrounded by exaggeration and deception (family, TV, school) that created this special sort of 'method', but it is just the way I prefer to learn, and why I value truth and honesty as much as I do.

Lessons from a boy's workbench

Before moving to Arizona in the early 70's my family lived in central Florida 35 miles NE of Tampa (dry heat is MUCH better). I remember having a microscope and a self made chemistry kit that I would continue to add to over 3 years. I didn't cause too much trouble and the damage was limited to stains on the wooden TV stand that made up my impressive looking workstation. The most benefit I remember getting out of the setup was as a convincing bluff to my younger sisters that I could use my Sherlock Homes skills to determine which of them 'Touched My Stuff' etc.

Whenever I learned of a new reaction from friends, school or printed material I would ask my parents to buy the chemicals I needed with money I earned in various ways. I don't ever remember a "no". I guess I didn't ask for anything too dangerous. But I do remember my Mother obtaining pastes and powders from the local pharmacy and my father would do his part with items from the hardware and auto parts stores. My father owned a few businesses that also supplied me with plenty of foaming concoctions.

At the same time Radio Shack always had some electronic gizmo to build. Getting a radio station to provide even a few static garbled syllables in an earplug from a crystal radio, it took me days to get working, was very exciting and something that entertained me and my friends for hours.

Experiments in electromagnetism consisted of batteries connected to appliance transformers that would provide a zap to unsuspecting participants or when connected to an outside TV antenna would make the TV unwatchable. Then there were chemical reactions that would accelerate the disintegration of various substances, the launching of just about anything with anything (frogs with catapults, tennis balls with lighter fluid cannons, rockets with interesting payloads). From 9-12 years old I was encouraged to learn what I could and share with my parents what I discovered, as long as I didn't

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“burn down the house”. I remember some stern warnings about the mixing of some of the most common household solutions (bleach and ammonia come to mind... so I did it in very small quantities to see what would happen... nothing exciting).

I do remember an interesting education in chemistry when I was twelve. My uncle made a Silver ring for me that I wore for years. He cut a hole in the middle of an old Silver Quarter to fit my finger and then spent days rapping the outside with a spoon to round out the edge. One day I was sick on the couch and my mother placed an old Mercury thermometer in my mouth. We were told to be careful and not to bite on the thermometer for fear of breakage... I tested it to failure. My mother and father saw what happened and screamed for me to spit out everything. Broken glass and Mercury pooled in the palm of my hand. What I noticed was how much shinier my Silver ring was when Mercury was added to it. Soon it would dull, so I added some more. I soon went to sleep, but that was the last I ever saw of my Silver ring. I searched the couch thoroughly and ran through the event over and over in my mind trying to think about what might have happened to my ring. It wasn't until 4 years later in sophomore chemistry that I learned that I had simply [dissolved the silver](#) into oblivion.

The Mercury and Silver chemical reaction came to mind when I watched Paul Newman's "[Cool Hand Luke](#)". The character 'Luke' was sentenced to a chain gang for [cutting off the heads of Parking Meters](#). I remember thinking that a more creative thing to do would be to use a syringe to inject Mercury into the coin slot. But an even more creative thing to do would be to think of a [non-destructive use of Parking Meters](#).

Imagination Snuffed

Technology, material development, space travel, computer advancements and energy sources all shared the dampening effect of central planning. I felt that we were always waiting on “the Experts” to bestow upon us serfs another toy to play with or a machine that would fill our spare time with the ability to produce more so the state could get their increased share.

The massive increase in human productivity via computer technology, manufacturing and communications hasn't provided us with an increase in leisure time; it's filled our spare time with more work that is taxed at an ever increasing rate. We are slaves. To imagine anything different is heresy.

The Italian Renaissance that infected Europe for centuries was the result of favorable weather conditions, advancements in science and communication as a result of moveable type. Global warming (it's a Sun thing), scientific advancement and the Internet has set the stage for just this type of rapid advancement for our generation. And just like the institutions of Renaissance Europe challenged the increased productivity of the individual for their own sake then, we can expect the same thing to happen now,... and for the same reasons.

If you are not 'In Their Control, then you are Out of Their Control'.

They/Them/Those? “There are those that just wish to be left alone and there are those that just won't leave them alone”. The good guys and the bad guys are much easier to discern when

this standard is applied. The government propaganda machine and the mandatory youth indoctrination camps have been successful for many decades in the effort to get the people to demand that government not leave the other guy alone to pursue their own happiness when they can be forced to provide a little more happiness for those expecting their cut of the plunder... but I think this is changing more quickly than many realize.

It's very difficult to advocate for something that you haven't even imagined yet. Given the “freedom” to vote for how you are going to be ruled by others doesn't nurture an imagination that might contemplate not being ruled... and that is the goal. The imagination must be killed.

In the 70's and 80's I remember Science Fiction and Science magazines had their own section at the supermarkets, the book stores and the video stores. Now they have merged into Action/Adventure/Fantasy etc. I see a pattern that I hope to help break.

Back to the garage

This edition of the Freedom's Phoenix eZine (October 2012) has been created to remind us of the curiosity of our youth and the power of individual achievement on your own terms from our own workbenches.

If you read last month's [Publisher's Backpage](#) then you know that I intend to demonstrate the increased energy density of a newly designed Nickel Iron (Edison) Battery using Carbon Nanotubes that I will produce in my own workshop. This updating of a technology over a hundred years old has already been accomplished this summer at Stanford University. But just as other freeing technologies have been suppressed in an effort to eliminate the possibility of human independence from a coercive collective, I suspect the same sort of delays in the publicly funded Universities. But this small effort of my own is but a very small part of my much larger effort.

My true objective is to inspire Generation Next to get back to Original Discovery of their world. For them to determine what is important to them on their own and with the help of those that truly love them, not by government employees whose goal is their own survival at the expense of others.

The cover of this month's eZine is a representation of my workshop.



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The Project to Inspire With

Carbon nanotubes are 1000 times more conductive than copper, many times stronger than steel, very light, can be electroplated, pulled into a thread and are very very very small. What this means for what I hope to do is very simply this. Take an inert gas (I'm working with Argon and Helium) and feed it into a Tube Furnace at 600c-900c while adding a carbon source (CO₂ and/or Acetylene...C₂H₂). The heat breaks the chemical bonds of other atoms with the carbon and with the correct catalyst coating a substrate (a fancy glass slide with a special chemical coating) the carbon atoms self assemble to form these very useful tube towers. But wait... there's more.

As useful as this material is, I'm very interested in the fact that the carbon is conductive and provides an enormous increase in surface area. This allows me to take a ceramic hollowed cylinder wrapped in wire, coat it with a catalyst and deposit it with conductive fury carbon. This 'cell' is then placed in an electroplating bath to have Nickel deposited into all of the cracks and crannies and then assembled into a Nickel Iron battery that will have an increase in surface area of... a lot!

The company [Exide Batteries bought up the manufacturing of Nickel Iron batteries in the 70's and shelved production](#). Nickel Iron batteries don't degrade and are passed to the next generation,... you don't even check them for 15 years and they can be fully discharged without damage. And this is the old style that Thomas Edison designed. [This old style is now being produced in China for purchase via a distributor in California](#).

But this whole project has another much more interesting aspect to it,... inspiration. If we can help spark the imagination of Generation Next with these sorts of efforts, our generation will be able to help spark the next renaissance. Not just a renaissance in science and technology, but in the way we think and live.

NO MORE WAITING!

The Tube Furnace and the video documentation being set up:



Hospital oxygen flowmeters to control the gas mixture and flow rate. I used these because they were more controllable at low pressures:



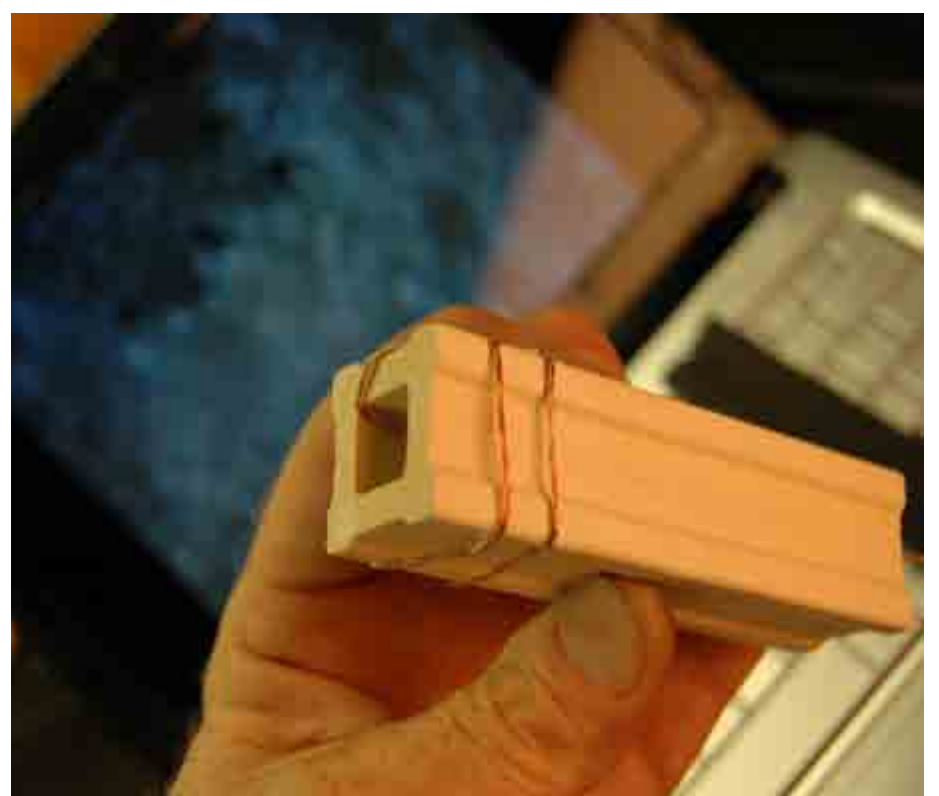
Removing a catalyst test sample. Making any carbon?:



Yep!



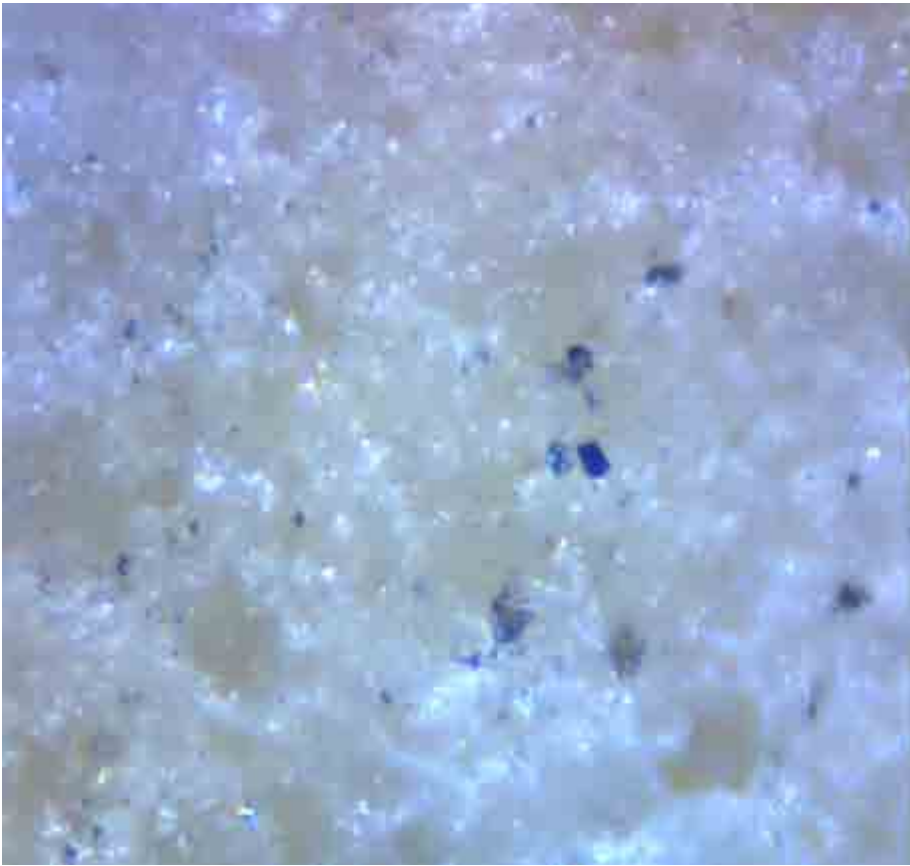
Now I need to turn this... Wrapped with a bunch more wire and carbonized...



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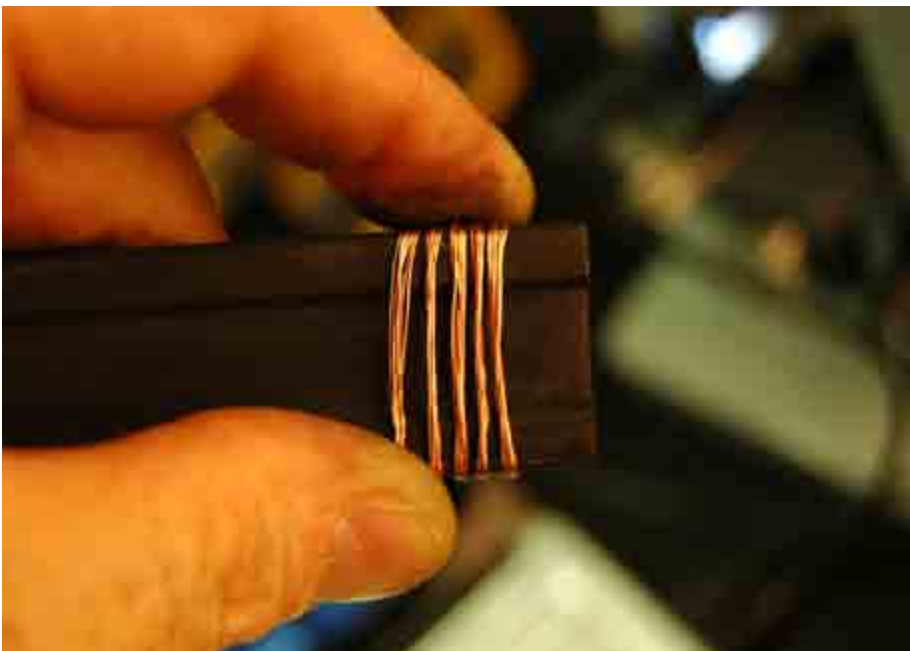
Magnified:



Since these samples need to be lighted from the top I use the USB LED plugin lamp from my MiniLapTop that I have plugged into my microscope. This wil make documentation much easier... we are just getting started.



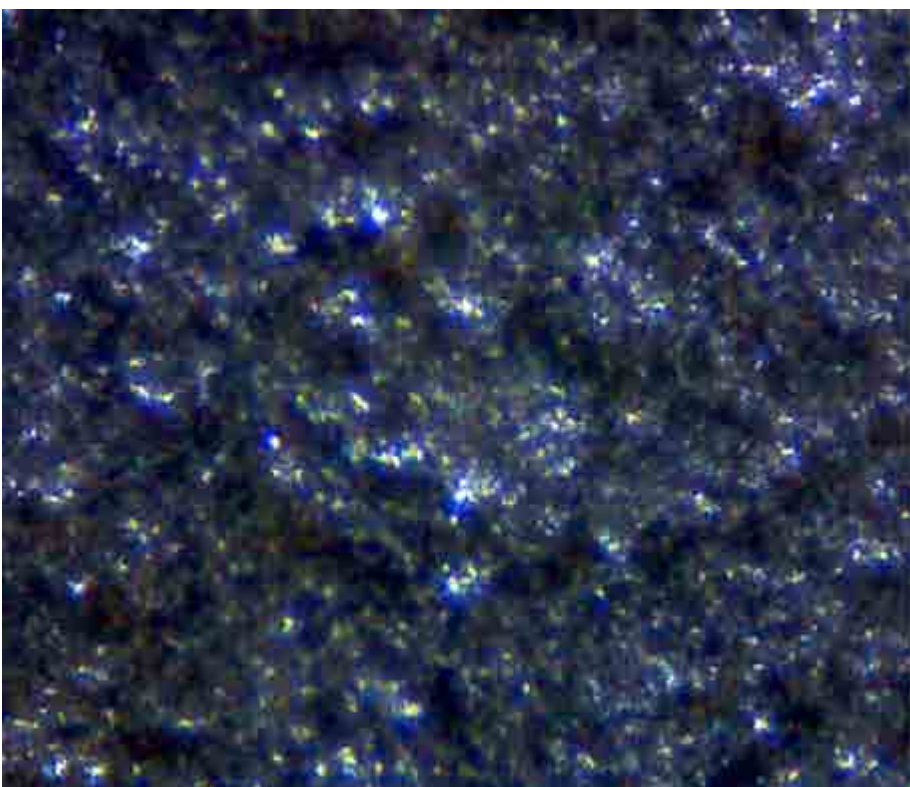
Into this (with the wire baked too):



Here is station 2 of 5 stations so far in this project. Fortunately I have a large workshop.



Which is this. Very conductive and can be plated with the metals I need.



P.S. – I have contacts at the Phoenix Police Department and the FBI here in Phoenix. I sent them the information on my project and the cover of this month's magazine so that all of the glassware (not pictured) I bought for the creations of the various compounds I need for the nanotube catalysts doesn't prompt a raid and the killing of dogs.

Oh, and I needed to warn them about [another project we started yesterday](#) that's causing a stir :)

Peace,
Ernie



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