



# *The* Wonder Springs Chronicle

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## The Wonder Springs Chronicle

### Contact Information:

Jerry Bannon

Publisher

Wonder Springs

36 Merkel Road

Kettle Falls, Washington 99141

phone: 509.496.5855

blog: [www.wondersprings.org](http://www.wondersprings.org) email:

[jerryb@wondersprings.org](mailto:jerryb@wondersprings.org)

[chronicle@wondersprings.org](mailto:chronicle@wondersprings.org)

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## Competition and Decentralization

*The whole world is so greedy for bathtubs that it has lost the stability necessary to build them, or even turn off the tap. Nothing could be more salutary at this stage than a little healthy contempt for a plethora of material blessings.*

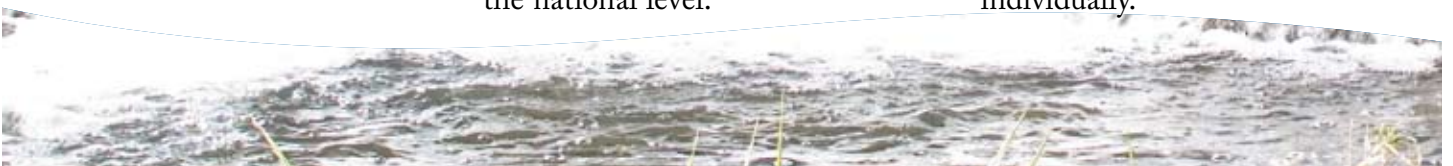
— Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac, March 1948

Since our consumer world has begun to outwardly head into the ditch in 2007, there has been much said, pontificated, argued and discussed about the reasons for our current muddling economy and direction for the future. Little however, has been articulated regarding the need for economic competition and decentralization, especially federal government decentralization.

Presidential candidate Rick Perry in his book Fed Up! Our Fight to Save America from Washington, indicates his focus on the national government, but seems to look at one of the trees but misses the centralization forest. This of course has been the Republican mantra for as long as I can remember as they, along with the Democrats, “progressively” centralize more and more power at the national level.

Agriculture, Education, Environment, Healthcare, Housing, Military, Social Security and Transportation are just a few of the centralized bureaucracies that drive the national agenda. With largesse, contrary to all the rhetoric to the contrary, and essentially by definition, begets a lack of competition.

Centralization however is really the way we humans choose to solve our community and cultural problems throughout recorded history. Since the Tower of Babel in the Old Testament until the passage of ObamaCare in the United States, to the Eurozone attempts to unify distinct nation states, into a financial precursor to another attempt to create the human Babylonian utopia, we believe we are significantly collectively smarter than we are individually.



Sadly this desire is totally contrary to the created natural law order that exists in the universe; hence these experiments always end in failure. But as fallen, sinful man, we redesign and refine these failures as essentially the result of poor planning and execution; then we attempt to rebuild that yellow brick road on the same footings of the previous failures.

“This time is different” is part of our fallen human nature, and the only way we believe that we can save ourselves, from ourselves, is to give it a better college, enlightened try. To believe otherwise only comes through the grace of God, both the specific grace of the gospel centered in the life, propitiatory sacrifice on the cross of Jesus Christ, and his bodily resurrection three days hence; and also a common grace leading to the truly enlightened worldview that this natural law focus is an individual not collective salvation.

When you broaden this specific grace into the universally common grace, available to all human beings throughout history; we quickly find that bigger is not better, especially universally better, but just different. Furthermore this understanding commonly redefines community as freedom for achievement, rather than the community values of egalitarian outcomes.

In that enlightenment, when we look at the current gridlock at the national level, as not only the contrast between collectivism, where Wonder Springs defines those players as “collective elitists” and their antithesis the objectivist “laissez faire scoundrels;” we find the perfect storm, catch 22, or simple chaotic inertia, which will slowly develop competition and eventually leading to decentralization.

Oh, the horror of what we see as developing chaos of our government! This is only a significant problem if our desire is to bring about order within the limits of our limited understanding.

Thus far I have refrained from making any comments on the “Occupy” movement that began on Wall Street and is slowly growing within cities across the nation. Critics find it amusing that these people have nothing better to do with their time, but in that, is the essential truth, that is missed

on both sides. These people have nothing better to do with their life, just because they look to the state to provide that life meaning, which is, in reality, only a natural understanding of their progressive elitist cultural training.

“They know no better, ‘cause they’ve had no experience outside that state regulated egalitarian community.” In reality that is just chaos breeding chaos. In the proper context, Wall Street unregulated “free market laissez faire” has created essentially pestilent chaos on the streets, because we have attempted to create a financial world, where money and consumerism are the sole measures of success.

Our only visible beneficiaries of this success, outside the financial markets, and those with access to financial capital, are the financial elites, who have no intention of “sharing the wealth” unless enough chaos requires some sort of minor readjustments of the financial equilibrium.

The dinosaurs of centralized government planning battling it out to the end with the behemoths of global finance is just an misconception of the much deeper structural faults of the natural lacks of competition and centralization.

I recently purchased an audio version of F. A. Hayek’s, *The Road to Serfdom*. When he wrote the book during the Second World War, few of us were around. To some extent this book served as the popular bible to the rise of monetarism that fostered the Reagan Revolution.

It has been a number of years since I purchased the hard copy, but listening to the book gives an insight that it is not so much an endorsement of laissez faire capitalism, as defined through Alan Greenspan’s run at the Federal Reserve, but rather a treatise of nineteenth century liberalism; almost the exact opposite of our liberal definition of today; also quite different than what we would call conservatism.

What this means in a world of politics of conservative versus liberal hybrids, we have so dumbed down the political gene pool, we no longer have any genetic diversity from which to create a path, much less a sustainable path forward.

When given the true freedom to choose politically, the universal majority throughout the world would

like to see moderately conservative government. Put in terms of Hayek's serfdom, they would be generally defined as liberals, the antithesis of today's what Hayek called "collectivists," which come in true socialist and conservative species; which especially in recent years as dominated the world's democracies.

So what are we going to do about this?

We have entered the endgame of basically the twentieth century atheistic evolving political-financial experiment. On the natural law, universal scale of reproducing sustainability, it has been weighed and found wanting.

Compared to modern parliamentary governments, the American model is designed to make significant changes, a slow process of compromise. Since Republicans and Democrats are now at loggerheads, what is slowly going to develop is what looks chaotic, but in reality is just a natural energetic readjustment. Overtime this will cause decentralization and eventually the emergence of true enterprise competition and a government, which fulfills its natural common functions.

The good thing about the American political experiment, is that these slow changes, allow the flexibility of the process to muddle through, when more dramatic political processes may stress and potentially collapse into anarchy; and some sort of authoritarian rule from either the political left or right.

So your ability to adapt to these changes and understand where we are headed, will allow to you look for opportunities being created, as over time our world slowly increases competition, allowing for success of smaller more competitive enterprises and eventually the decentralization of governments at all levels.