

# Church and State

A Newsletter of the Cole Foundation for Renewing the Culture

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## NATION BUILDING THEN AND NOW

On March 26 and 27, The Cole Foundation and Bryn Athyn College of the New Church sponsored a program at the College to focus on the difficulties and status of nation building efforts in Iraq. On Friday, Lt. Col. Dr. Greg Rose, Associate Professor at the Air Force Academy, and Captain Craig Cooper, met with students over lunch in a standing room only classroom in Pendleton Hall. Dr. Rose addressed policy issues, while Captain Cooper, who has done three tours of duty in Iraq as weapons officer aboard an F15E, gave a first hand account.

On Saturday night more than a hundred students and members of the community listened to a series of three talks. The first was an introduction by Professor Donald C. Fitzpatrick, describing the great difficulties encountered in the first decade of the American Republic. Mr. Fitzpatrick outlined the weaknesses that made the creation of the United States difficult, but then showed that there were also a great many strengths or advantages that the nascent republic could call upon. Even with those many advantages, it would take more than a century for the nation to unify. The full text of Mr. Fitzpatrick's remarks can be found at the Cole Foundation website ([www.colefoundation.org](http://www.colefoundation.org)).



Dr. Rose and Capt. Cooper discuss the realities of Iraq with Bryn Athyn College students.

This was followed by a presentation by Dr. Rose. Dr. Rose discussed the challenges of nation building in Iraq from the perspective of Iraq's internal conditions. He outlined the slim record of success in past attempts at nation building around the globe, stressing that there are certain prerequisites to success in these efforts, and they are seldom all present. In particular, he said that *strong ethnic identity and homogeneity, strong*



David Radcliffe outlines the intricacies of the United States' foreign policy bureaucracy.

*state capacity (organized military, judiciary, bureaucracy), and economic development and resources* were three essentials. A full summary of Dr. Rose's talk is also available on our website.

The final talk was given by David Radcliffe, who currently serves in the Pentagon on the *Special Operation and Combating Terrorism Policy Team* in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. Mr. Radcliffe complemented Dr. Rose's talk by illustrating the challenges of nation building in Iraq from the perspective of the U. S. military, intelligence and diplomacy apparatus. Using the same examples of success and failure as Dr. Rose, he highlighted the difficulty of inter-agency cooperation. A Powerpoint file of Mr. Radcliffe's talk is available at our website.

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## WHY WE HAVE A DUTY TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN POLITICS

Rev. Walter E. Orthwein

With privilege comes responsibility. Those of us who are privileged to live in a free society have a responsibility to participate in the political process whereby that freedom is preserved. And those of us who are privileged to be acquainted with the spiritual truth, which the Lord has revealed in His Word, and specifically in the doctrines of the New Church, have a responsibility to apply that truth on the civil plane of life. The spiritual principles of the New Church need to be brought down into actual life, so that they may have a tangible effect in our world. Otherwise those principles have no power and might as well not have been revealed.

There is a strong doctrinal foundation for the premise that New Church people should take an active interest in the civil order of society and be involved in politics. I do not mean that the church organization should involve itself in politics; this is deadly to the life of the church because individuals must be free to apply the truths of religion according to their own conscience. If individual New Church people wish to get together and form a political club of some kind, separate from the church body itself, that is fine.

The nature of a person's involvement in the political realm will vary from person to person, but to completely ignore politics as something unimportant or unworthy of a spiritual person's attention runs counter to the teachings of the church. One well-known teaching is that being "spiritual" does not mean forsaking the business of this world. On the contrary, engaging in useful natural work promotes our regeneration.

It is true that the words "politics" and "politician" have acquired some unsavory connotations, but if spiritually-minded people refuse to participate in politics the situation will only grow worse. Every use is subject to abuse, but let's not

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"Religion occupies the highest seat in the human mind, and sees beneath it the civil matters pertaining to the world; it also ascends by means of them, as the pure sap ascends through the tree to its very top, and from that height it surveys what is natural, as from a tower one surveys the plains below." -- True Christian Religion 601

The purpose of the Cole Foundation is to promote and support research, scholarly studies, and development of a written philosophy from the teachings of the New Church, regarding the economy, the civil law, the political theory, and the cultural and ethical values applicable thereto.

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EDITORIAL: www.colefoundation.org

This issue has been delayed a few months to coincide with the launch of a website for the Cole Foundation for Renewing the Culture. Thanks to our patient friends at Digital Wave Technologies, information sharing just got a lot easier. While much of the content you will see on the home page of the site is also found in our newsletter, our presence on the web has additional advantages. First, those who hear about the Foundation can easily find out more -- and a lot more people will hear about it. Secondly, friends of the foundation will be able to obtain information and materials more conveniently. An archive of papers, commentary and research will be at your fingertips, literally speaking. Two other important functions can now develop. We hope to be a link to the many wonderful organizations, think tanks and resources that do so much work and generate so many ideas in areas of interest to us. On the site, you can find a list of such links. We will refine and augment it into a convenient information gateway. In our initial years, the biggest challenge has been communicating. Sharing thoughts and ideas on how the Doctrines relate to civil affairs is the central focus of the Foundation, and that just got a lot easier. If there is a demand for it, the Cole Foundation hopes to provide an ongoing forum for discussion and debate, as well as mutual learning and research. The success of this venture depends on whether or not it is useful to, and used by you. Come to the site. Check it out. Then click on the 'contact us' button and email your reactions: what you like and what you'd like to see. www.colefoundation.org.

Our little foundation has been busy, providing a steady series of programs and sponsoring ongoing research during the last six months. As we come into the summer, there are no firm dates for future events. However, there are a number in the works. Stay tuned.

"In the broadest sense this [Fourth] commandment means that men should love their country, since it supports and protects them, therefore it is called fatherland from father. But to country, king, and magistrates honor must be rendered by parents and by them be implanted in their children."

True Christian Religion 305

"Ultimately what is at stake in preserving the Pledge in its current form is whether our schoolchildren will continue to be taught the truth that acknowledgment of God is woven just as tightly into our nation's fabric as are the other elements of our heritage."

Greg Abbott, Texas attorney general in the Wall Street Journal, Dec 18 2004

"[Members of the American Left] are not simply for the separation of church and state. They are for the separation of church and society, pouring acid on our spiritual foundations, masking their contempt for God in their preaching for moral equivalence."

L. Brent Bozell III, Washington Times National Weekly Edition, Dec. 1-7, 2003.

"If you wanted to construct the opposite of the U.S. Constitution, it would look an awful lot like 'international law.' The former is a document that limits the state's grip on the people, the latter is designed to ensure they can never wiggle free, no matter where they go."

Mark Steyn, commenting in National Review on Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's willingness to rely on foreign court rulings.

"The violence we are seeing in Iraq is familiar. The terrorist who takes hostages or plants a roadside bomb near Baghdad is serving the same ideology of murder that kills innocent people on trains in Madrid, and murders children on buses in Jerusalem, and blows up a nightclub in Bali and cuts the throat of a young reporter for being a Jew."

George Bush, press conference, April 13 2004.

More from the President...

"We've seen the same ideology of murder in the killing of 241 Marines in Lebanon, of two embassies in Africa, in the attack on the USS Cole, and in the merciless horror inflicted upon thousands of innocent men and women and children on September the 11th, 2001."

"Only 21% of administrators and 30% of students [on American College campuses] knew the First Amendment guarantees religious freedom; Only 43% of administrators and 23% of students 'strongly support' allowing religious groups, including those with traditional views, to advance those views on campus."

David Frum, in Review and Outlook section, Wall Street Journal, Nov. 21, 2003

"Among Political Science departments [comparing professors who vote Democrat/Green vs. Republican/Libertarian] Syracuse clocked in with 20 ... on the left to 1 on the right, San Diego State University at 14 to 1, SUNY-Binghamton at 20 to 1, and so on."

Laura Vanderkam in USA Today quoting an American Enterprise Institute study.

"By the more external base or conscience consisting of what is just and fair, that is, by means of the conscience consisting of good and truth in private and in public affairs, the Lord governs those who are not yet regenerate but who are capable of being regenerated..."

Arcana Coelestia 4167

[Orthwein, *Political Involvement*, cont'd from first page]

let our distaste for the abuses cause us to forsake the use.

The New Church exists to raise up that which has been cast down by human evil and folly. This is true of religion generally, and such important aspects of human life as marriage, for instance. Similarly, politics, which by its very nature is subject to various abuses resulting from such human weaknesses as the love of dominion, hypocrisy and greed, can be restored to its rightful place in a civilization whose spiritual soundness has been renewed by the New Church.

Politics per se is not a bad thing. The dictionary defines politics as “the science and art of government.” Since government is a necessary function of human society, engaging in that science and art is a useful enterprise and a way of exercising charity toward the neighbor. The involvement of each citizen in the government of the country and the local community is especially important in a democracy, in which the course of the ship of state is determined by the people themselves. (In a representative democracy, a republic, the people choose a “captain” and “crew” to run the ship, but the people own the ship).

I am not suggesting that everyone should become a student of political science, a politician, or a government worker. *The most basic governmental responsibility each of us has is simply to vote in elections, and to vote wisely.*

Our American form of government is not a pure democracy, but is a republic, in which the people elect representatives to run the government. Not everyone has the interest or ability to serve as such a representative, but most of us are capable of participating wisely in the process of selecting our representatives. If we do not exercise wisdom in this, then we shouldn't complain about the state of the government.

Voting in elections is not just a right, but a privilege and a duty. It is not just a civic duty, but a *spiritual* responsibility because the spiritual dimension is embodied in and rests upon the moral and civil planes of reality. Those lower planes provide a foundation for the spiritual plane, and if that foundation is not attended to then the presence and vitality of spiritual goodness and truth in our earthly life will be weakened. Then the civil government we live under will not support the spiritual welfare of the people, and may even be harmful to their spiritual well being.

The teaching of the Writings about “discrete degrees” gives us a great model for understanding politics and government. In terms of the whole order of human life, the spiritual, moral, and civil planes of life are related as end, cause and

effect. The end (the desired good) enters into the cause and into the resulting effect and gives them their quality. The end is like the soul in the body.

The soul in the American body politic is *freedom*; that is the great good which the American form of government was designed to embody and promote. All real freedom is, in essence, spiritual; civil liberty cannot be sustained apart from spiritual liberty, and spiritual liberty is a gift from God. It is not something we have or can sustain by ourselves, but is a perpetual Divine gift; and since civil liberty is derived from and depends upon spiritual liberty as its very soul, the same may be said for it. Freedom on every level is a gift from God.

Freedom is the most essential human faculty, along with its companion reason. The soul of American government is therefore a *human* soul, and the body politic which it forms and activates is *human* in form. This form of government, therefore, is the most favorable for the spiritual development of human beings. Therefore, this is the most favorable form of government for the spiritual development of human beings.

It follows, then, that “patriotism” is an important spiritual virtue, especially in a country dedicated to human liberty. Real patriotism is not just a blind love of one's country, but a love of the spiritual good

which the country embodies and serves. In the case of the United States of America, that good is very great, indeed. It is the good of human freedom — not just civil freedom, but civil freedom for the sake of spiritual freedom; civil freedom as the expression and support on the natural plane of life of the spiritual freedom the Lord gives to every human soul.

[continued on page four]

## HOW WE GOT HERE

### THE 70'S: THE DECADE THAT BROUGHT YOU MODERN LIFE -- FOR BETTER OR WORSE

David Frum

This is a very clear presentation of the attitudes and customs that the 70's produced in the United States, and their effects over the subsequent three decades. As Max Boot of the *Wall Street Journal* said, “No one has done a better job of explaining the origins of our present-day culture.” It is an easy, fascinating and well documented read.

— Carl R. Gunther

\$16.00 441 pp.

BASIC BOOKS

[Orthwein, *Political Involvement*, from p.3]

There are three distinct degrees of reality, according to the teaching of the New Church. The lowest degree is the “complex, containant, and base” of the two prior degrees. The civil plane, therefore, is formed out of the spiritual and moral planes which are above it, and it is the foundation upon which those higher degrees of life rest. Free thought, for example, needs free speech to express it. Without freedom of speech, freedom to think is incomplete and powerless. The outmost degree is where power resides. In regard to the Word, for instance, it is in the letter — the actual teachings — that the celestial and spiritual senses, or the goodness and truth within, become actual and permanent and can affect our lives.

The quality of natural life is determined by the kind of spirit that enters into it; conversely, the condition of the natural determines the kind of spirit that *can* enter in and dwell there. A better

spirit will enter in when natural conditions are changed for the better. Raising the “standard of living” is not the essential thing, but when the moral standard of the nation is raised a new spiritual atmosphere will prevail. Political wisdom is the application of spiritual and moral principles to the civil order of the community.

All of this shows why our involvement in the civil life of our community and country is a spiritual responsibility. The New Jerusalem, the New Church promised by the Lord in the Book of Revelation, descends out of heaven from God more or less perfectly and fully depending upon the moral and civil order that exists on earth. Political activity is one of the ways in which that natural order is affected, which is why New Church people have a duty to pay attention to political issues, examine them in light of the truth from the Word, and participate wisely in the civil life of the country.

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## EVENTS

### MAURICE McTIGUE ON EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT



MAURICE McTIGUE AT CAIRNWOOD MANSION

In November the Foundation hosted the Honorable Maurice McTigue of the Mercatus Center for a luncheon at Cairnwood Mansion. In attendance were Bryn Athyn College faculty and students, Cole Foundation trustees and friends, and also friends of the Mercatus Center from the metropolitan Philadelphia area.

Mr. McTigue has worked at Mercatus since 1997. Before that he served in a remarkable number of positions in the Parliament and government of New Zealand in the 80's and 90's. There he played a pivotal role in the decontrol and privatization that turned New Zealand into one of the most free economies in the world.

The subject of Mr. McTigue's talk was his results-based analysis of government services. His plea is to measure the efficiency of various government entities and shift resources from the less efficient to the more efficient. Using an endless repertoire of amusing anecdotes, McTigue illustrates not only the ten-

dency of government to defy measurement, but the amazing results that can be achieved when measurement finally takes place.

Mr. McTigue came to us at the suggestion of Amy Buick, who acts as head of donor relations in the mid-Atlantic area.

### THE MERCATUS CENTER

#### At George Mason University

The Mercatus Center is a research and education center devoted to studying how institutions, especially government, affect freedom, and attempting to hold those institutions accountable. The Center is currently located at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia, along with its sister organization, the Institute for Humane Studies, which encourages scholarship among students in the study of freedom.



HON. MAURICE McTIGUE

The Center has an impressive lineup of scholars, including Maurice McTigue, and an extensive library of studies. The studies, and more information about the Center, are available at its website: [www.mercatus.org](http://www.mercatus.org).

## GEORGE WASHINGTON AND PUBLIC MORALITY

On February 17th, a packed dining room at Cairnwood Village heard a Washington's Birthday talk by Brian Henderson. Mr. Henderson is a History professor at Bryn Athyn College, and has also taught U. S. History in the Academy Secondary Schools. The topic of Mr. Henderson's talk was *George Washington and Public Morality*. With special attention to Washington's Farewell Address to Congress, Mr. Henderson demonstrated America's first president, considered the Father of his Country, far from avoiding references to God and Christianity, injected his speeches with constant statements of the absolute necessity for morality in public life, and for a religious basis for morality. An efficient Cairnwood Village crew of Louise Pollack, Christine Bedford and Khary Allen, as well as our own Del Gunther, made the meal and the program as delightfully festive as it was informative.



LEFT: Historians confer. Dr. Lawson Pendleton discusses details with the presenter after the talk. RIGHT: Colleagues Brian Henderson and Dan Synnestvedt explore American history resource volume presented to Mr. Henderson after the talk.



## CPAC 2004

On Friday and Saturday, January 23-24, 2004, The Cole Foundation sponsored seven Bryn Athyn College students' attendance at a political conference in Washington DC. Accompanied by Rev. and Mrs. Walter Orthwein, trip leaders Dr. Dan Synnestvedt and Mr. Erik Odhner arranged for the group to hear speeches and debates on topics such as: Show Business and (Im)morality, Social Security Reform, Immigration Reform, and Higher Education, Citizenship, and the Political Process. In addition, students heard Senate Majority Leader Dr. Bill Frist and former Ambassador to the U.N. Alan L. Keyes. Over meals at the conference center (the Crystal Gateway Marriott) students and faculty were able to share their thoughts on the presentations and discuss how they related to topics of study in Philosophy 111, Introduction to Moral and Political Philosophy. The students reported that they enjoyed the conference and The Cole Foundation hopes to sponsor similar events in the future. — DAS



Top row: Malcolm Smith, Nathan Cole, Dr. Dan Synnestvedt, Aubrey Cowley; Bottom row: Laura Kern, Bethany Alden, Del Gunther



Walter and Kathleen Orthwein celebrated their anniversary at CPAC



Del Gunther finds Ken and Jeannie McQueen, also in attendance at CPAC

## Coming: SYMPOSIUM ON BUSINESS ETHICS

Originally planned to coincide with the General Assembly, we have decided to move it away from that busy schedule. We are now looking for a suitable date during the 2005-2006 school year. Stay tuned to future newsletters and the foundation website for news on this planned program.

## Coming: A Trip to the new National Constitution Center

This trip to Philadelphia's new National Constitution Center is planned for mid-September, 2004, to coincide as nearly as possible with Constitution Day. Stay tuned for details.

### HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT PHOENIX FROM MEDICARE LEGISLATION ASHES

Many budget-conscious members of Congress held out against the vote on the Medicare prescription bill for a record three hours because of the features and costs of the plan and the burden it will place on children and grandchildren. It brings Medicare bankruptcy years closer. It extends government involvement in medical care. Some companies are expected to save money by canceling health plans that cover their retired ex-employees, leaving the retirees with inferior, Medicare prescription coverage.

The phoenix portion of the bill establishes health savings account plans (HSAs). An HSA is a medical savings account plan (MSA) with the crippling restrictions removed. Most people have never heard of HSAs or MSAs. HSAs are new, and MSAs were temporary and too restricted for most insurance companies to put money into marketing them. HSAs replace MSAs. The program is now permanent. Everyone not on Medicare or Medicaid can have an HSA. The basics of both account plans consist of: 1. buying a high deductible health insurance policy, and 2. putting the money saved into an IRA-like account to pay for health expenses below the deductible. Most people have low medical expenses in most years. The average person will accumulate money in the account to be rolled over and added to tax-free each year. That average person will likely save over \$100,000 in a working lifetime. Before retirement the individual can only use the account money for health-related expenses. On reaching retirement, the money can be used for anything, just like an IRA.

Beside patients' saving money, the money in their hands puts them, in consultation with their doctors, at the center of medical care. They have reason to shop around wisely for their doctors and make economical decisions balancing cost and value in their care. Physicians benefit because decisions are made with their patients, not some unseen insurance employee. Payment at the time of service avoids expensive paperwork for the physician and insurance company. Doctors are under market freedom and discipline. Patients vote with their money or their feet. Employers benefit because their medical costs become much more stable. And, last but not the least, the HSA provides private care driven by market forces as a superior alternative to fully socialized medicine, now called single payer or universal care.

-- Dr. James L. Pendleton

Anyone interested in further information can contact Dr. Pendleton at the Pennsylvania Chapter, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, 815 Fethers Mill Road, Box 282, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009. Tel: (215) 938-0781 Fax (215) 939-8999 Email: [jlpend@comcast.net](mailto:jlpend@comcast.net)

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#### ADDRESS CHANGE?

If you wish an address correction,  
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*Religion alone renews and regenerates man.*  
(True Christian Religion 601)