

How To Catch Wild Hogs

submitted by Mike Simcik
August 15, 2018

Ever wondered how the word “Freedom” creeps into our everyday lives? That word started to get hammered in Television ads, videos, multimedia, commercials, songs, sports events, etc, shortly after our 44th president took office in 2009. A quote: “I will fundamentally change America.”

This article was never intended as a joke but many people not only see the humor in it but what is actually coming in the near future. Most well-informed individuals definitely see the handwriting on the wall as the word freedom will change from a good thing to bad and right before your very eyes.

The word communist changed to socialist, and socialist to liberals, and all with the sole intention of changing our historical views from negative to positive on any ideology.

I recently had a great conversation with a wounded career veteran, just discharged, and was attending a larger college in one of our northern states. He told me about some of the courses he was taking and at least one close encounter with a campus professor.

While in one of the Veterans classes this professor began making references to and the philosophy there-of Carl Marks. This was very upsetting as the Veteran had several tours of duties in countries where He was shot several times defending those same countries against communism take over. Some of His wounds were not completely healed yet and at times making the Veteran very uncomfortable.

The professor paused during his lecture and asked the Veteran what was the matter? Asking again if He had a problem or would like to leave the class? The veteran student told the professor that He had been shot fighting against communism while overseas and the wound is still painful. In the middle of the wounded Veterans story, he asked the teacher a strange question. He asked: Do you know how to catch wild hogs? The teacher thought it was a joke and asked for the punch line. The Veteran student said: It’s no joke. “You can catch wild hogs by finding a suitable place in the woods and putting corn on the ground. The hogs find the corn and begin coming to eat every day. When they get used to the idea every day of eating the free corn you put up a fence on one side. They eventually get used to the fence and keep eating the free corn then you put up a second fence. After a while, you put a third side of the fence with an open gate and still the hogs pay no attention to it because they got used to eating the free corn.

The following day you just slam the gate on them and you have captured the whole heard of hogs.

Suddenly the hogs realize they have lost their freedom. Yes, they run around inside the fence trying to find a way out but it’s too late, they’re caught. Soon they go back to eating the free corn because they forgot how to forage on their own in the woods so they accept their captivity. The Veteran told the professor that this is exactly what He sees happening slowly in America and Canada today.

Our own government keeps pushing us towards Communism/socialism and keeps spreading the free corn around in the form of insidious programs.

Some of these programs are; supplemental income, tax credit for unearned income, tax exemptions, tobacco subsidies, dairy subsidies, pay-outs not to plant crops, welfare entitlements, medicines, drugs, etc. At the same time, we continue to lose our freedoms just a little bit at a time.

If you recognize that government intervention is a threat to America and democracy then you still have a brain to fight back. But If you think that all this government help is beneficial to your current way of life and accepted the “free ride” then you’re already caught. The problems we face today exist because people who work for a living are outnumbered by the people who vote for a living!

History lesson warning. A quote from Carl Marx; “Remove one freedom per generation and soon you will have no freedom at all and no one would have even noticed the change.”

God help us all when that gate slams closed!

George Bitner



George Phillip Bitner, age 85, of Spring Lake passed away Saturday, March 11, 2023, at American House in Spring Lake. He was born April 27, 1937, in Spokane, WA to William H. and Helen M. (Wood) Bitner. George married Eunice M. Stenberg on February 28, 1986, in Spring Lake. George graduated from Sturgis High School and Hope College with his Bachelor’s degree. He taught Fifth grade at Spring Lake Schools and also coached both boys and girls golf there for over fifty-two years. George was a member of Spring Lake Presbyterian Church, honorary member of Spring Lake Country Club, Michigan Interscholastic Golf Coaches Association, Michigan High School Athletic Association, National High School Coaches Association and member of Kappa Eta NV at Hope College. He was named boys and girls golf coach of the year by USA Today in 2014. George loved golfing, coaching, traveling, reading, and most of all spending time with his family. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Eunice Bitner; children, Cynthia (Mike) Hardy, Zo Ellen Turner, Christine Osborne, Alyson (Patrick) Ryan and W. Andy (Melissa) Bitner; ten grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; his sister, Vicki (Dennis) Rose; and special friends, Elif (Gurol) Camikle and their children, Asya and Kuzey. A memorial service was held Friday, March 31, 2023, at Spring Lake Presbyterian Church with Rev. Dan Anderson officiating. Memorials to The Spring Lake High School Golf Team or Gentiva Hospice are appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to The Spring Lake Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services. Share memories with the family at their online guest book at www.sytsemafh.com.

Published in Legacy from Mar. 16 to Mar. 19, 2023.

K. Roger Smith



Norton Shores - K. Roger Smith, age 72, passed away peacefully in his home, surrounded by his family, on Monday, October 3, 2022. He was born in Muskegon on February 22, 1950 to Douglas and Alice (Halligan) Smith and moved to Ludington as a child. Roger lit up every room he entered. He was a beacon of humor and it showed when he would share stories about his life and his many jobs along the way. Roger retired as an audiologist and was most recently employed as the Executive Director for Muskegon Hearing and Speech and was the former President of the Michigan Academy of Audiology. He was a dedicated member of the Muskegon Vikings and selflessly spent his time volunteering for the Muskegon Host Lions Club, which helps raise funds for the blind and deaf. Most importantly, Roger was a loving husband, brother, father, grandfather, and friend to many. On October 16, 1982, Roger married the former Susan M. Cilia in Ann Arbor, Michigan and she survives him along with their three children, Christine Smith, Scott (Ashlee) Smith, and Brandon (Jenny) Smith; grandson, Lincoln; sister, Jan Smith Alfano; and siblings-in-law, Greg (Sharon) Cilia, Cheryl (Herman) Kozub, Lu (Rick) Luch and Cathy (Dave) Thomas. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers-in-law, Nick Alfano and Curt Cilia. A CELEBRATION OF ROGER’S LIFE OPEN HOUSE was held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at The Vikings Lodge. Those wishing to express their sympathies are asked to consider sending memorial contributions to the Muskegon Host Lions Club, or a charity of their choice. You may sign Roger’s online guestbook at <https://www.sytsemafh.com/obituaries/K-Roger-Smith/#!!TributeWall> Arrangements by The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services.

Published in Legacy from Mar. 16 to Apr. 9, 2023.

Beware the Green Shirts

Epoch Times Letter to Editor Nov. 3-9, 2021

In a 1948 speech to the House of Commons, Churchill slightly changed the quote when he said (paraphrased), “Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.” And George Santayana, in 1905, said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

In May 1966, Mao’s Cultural Revolution Red Guard utilized the youth to destroy old ideas, customs, habits, and culture. Anyone that spoke anti to the state’s mandate was punished, assaulted, killed, and lost their job, residence, and finances. The entire family was penalized, from the present generation to those that followed. Your duty to the state was to spy and report on others.

Hitler in 1936 established the Hitler Youth Movement, and by 1939, compulsory membership for boys aged 10 and older was established. By 1939, 90 percent of boys aged 14 and older were members. In current times, Antifa groups emulate Hitler’s Brown Shirts, using the same tactics of disruption, intimidation, and violence, with the same goals of promoting totalitarian socialism (fascism) and crushing opposition. Antifa is protected and encouraged by the same type of politicians that protected and encouraged Brown Shirts, but prefer wearing black shirts to brown shirts to intimidate.

The Black Shirts were organized in March 1919 by Mussolini, who recruited ex-servicemen and middle-class youth. By the end of 1920, the Black Shirts were attacking and destroying republicans, Catholics, trade unionists, and those in cooperatives, and hundreds of people were killed as the Fascist squads expanded in number. That put Mussolini into power. Early the next year, on Feb. 1, 1923, the private Black Shirts were officially transformed into a national militia.

Cuban official abusers include members of the intelligence services, known in Cuba as “state security”; the military; the national police; and the special national brigade of the Interior Ministry, known as “black berets.” They also established government groups of civilians known as “rapid response brigades.”

The present administrations’s “Green movement” is nothing but a ploy and distraction so they can eliminate any opposing political parties and transform our capitalist nation into a socialist/communist society. As in the past, using and indoctrinating the youth to spy on family and others will establish a “national movement” called the “Green Shirts.” In addition, doing away with local police departments will lead to the creation of a National Security Force, which will be local government-organized groups.

I am an 88-year-old father, grand-father and four-year USAF Korean War veteran, and I fear for my grandchildren and their future families.

Tom Guzman
California

submitted by Donna Phelps

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.

—George Bernard Shaw

A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debt he proposes to pay off with your money.

—G. Gordon Liddy

Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries.

—Douglas Case

Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn’t mean politics won’t take an interest in you!

—Pericles (430 B.C.)

The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery.

—Winston Churchill

The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else.

Democracy must be something more than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner.

—James Bovard, Civil Libertarian (1994)

That’s why we have a republic whereby the sheep are protected.