



The political party of fly-fishers

By Don Oliver
Special to the Drum

They're back and scarier than ever.

Who are they? They are the wonderful people that bring you the national elections every four years. During the last cycle, we witnessed huge sums of money raised, opponents bashed, promises made that would never be kept, and dirty tricks played. For all the rhetoric, we got two really elaborate and pointless conventions, and regardless who won, a major disappointment.

I ask you, did either party actually spend any of the money raised to build one habitat house, reduce the deficit, or take some of that money and spend it on the worst public school system in the nation — Washington D.C. — and turn it into the showcase of how public education should work?

Needless to say, none of that happened. All we got for our money was a bunch of narcissistic, self-righteous, Bible-thumping, chest-pounding, run-off-at-the-mouth, do-nothing candidates. Made me proud; how about you?

Well, not being one to sit around and just complain, I have decided to form a new political party. Yep, I have, and it will be known as the Political Party of Fly-fishers.

However, like all political parties, there are certain rules and requirements for membership. To become a member of PPoFF, you have to either fly-fish, or want to



learn how to fly-fish, read a book about fly-fishing, or know someone who meets one of these qualifications.

Once you meet the strict rules of membership, you are eligible to run for office under the fly rod of PPoFF.

There are rules a member must follow when running for office. To start with, there are no age, gender, religious, race, or sexual preference boxes to check. In fact, you will receive extra help for your campaign if you are under the age of 12, or a single mom with two children and two jobs who can fly-fish and balance a checkbook. Once your candidacy is established, the fun part begins: raising money.

Once the first dollar is raised, the rules of PPoFF kick in. All money raised, by any candidate, will go into one big bank account. Then, one-half of these funds will be spent on worthwhile charitable projects, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Red Cross, or the

Salvation Army.

Once the money starts to roll in, and worthwhile projects are being donated to, the rallies will begin. The rallies for PPoFF are going to be positive events. They will have civil and spirited debates, ending with beer and hot dogs.

The debates and cookouts will be accompanied with the doing of good deeds that use fly-fishing. Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery are two that jump to my mind.

Once all the viable candidates have made their cases, a very scientific method will be used to select the person to challenge the candidates from the two nationally known do-nothing parties. The PPoFF convention will have a 10-fish cast-off. The candidate catching the most fish with 10 casts wins.

Should there be a tie, a sudden death fish-off will occur.

Just think. Our candidate will be able to stand there, look the other party's bobble heads in the eye, and ask them: How much money did they give away to good causes, and how much time did they actually spend doing something good? Assuming they answer truthfully — none — it's in the bag.

Folks, we can win this.

Just imagine what a great country this will be having a president that not only fly-fishes, but knows how to give back more than he or she receives. I get all warm and fuzzy just thinking about it.

Happy birthday wishes

To Elwood

We would like to wish you a "happy birthday" on January 26.

From the family of Shirley/Stanley R. Frost

To our late brother, Byron, Sr.

You would have turned 55, on January 15, you left us here to continue down the road of life, we are strong and we are okay, we love & miss you.

Your family

Happy 19th Birthday Krista "Suzy" Richards

It seems like just yesterday we were celebrating your 18th birthday, now you're already turning 19. This past year had its ups and downs, but it wouldn't have been the same without you by my side every step of the way. We may not always see eye to eye but I will be here to help you whether it be big or small. I love you always and forever, no matter what. May the Creator bless and watch over you on your special day.

Love you big sis

Happy Birthday Frank

May the Creator protect and watch over you.

Love Shiri



We would like to wish Our Sonny Boy, Henry ElkRiver WhiteSkunk II a very Happy 4th Birthday on January 24, 2012!! We all Love you very much and you bring so much Joy into our lives!

Love, your Family

Daddy Henry, Grandma Willette, Auntie Carol Dee, Uncle Aaron, Auntie Katie & Sister Christen
HUGS AND KISSES XOXOXO



Happy Birthday to All my January Birthdays

Uncle Raymond Cheromiah, Auntie Marlene Graves, Auntie Tanya Browning, Mataya Cheromiah, Melvin Cheromiah Sr., Uncle Sam Bautista, Randy John and "My Love" Bay Tanner Cheromiah.

From Ronica, Tay and Forrest

Happy Birthday to Manuel Myore, Jr., on Jan. 14

May you have many more to come. Don't get discouraged keep your spirit up it will all work out for the better.

We all love you,

from your family far & near

Happy Birthday to our daughter, sister, & aunt "Cheryl" on January 19

May the great spirit continue to watch over you as you travel the road of life, we love you.

Your parents, brother, sister, the rest of the family, even Tavi & Suscie (LOL)



Happy Birthday Keelyn

Happy birthday baby girl! On Jan. 7 you turned two years old. Time sure does fly when you're young and fancy free. Thank you for being so sweet and lovable. Hope your second year of life is a great as your first!

Love Momma, Papa, brother KJ, and the Ortiz family

Who am I: Where am I going?

By Tim Yaw

Nuucia Bible Baptist Church

Thus far we have concluded that love as we know it is self-centered because it is focused inward.

We then logically concluded that since genuine love cannot come from within, it must be external. So we changed our view from a natural focus to a spiritual focus.

In order to do that, we needed to understand ourselves by answering the three basic questions of our humanity: Where did I come from? What is my purpose? Where am I going?

In previous discussions, we affirmed that humans were created by an intelligent spiritual being. With intelligence proving personality, we concluded that this being, though a spirit, was a person. Being a person, we named him God.

And since God created humans, He surely did it for a purpose. We then agreed that the human purpose is to glorify the Creator, making God the focus of our existence. Early in our discussion, it was agreed that humans are of physical and spiritual form, the body containing a soul, with the soul continuing to exist after the body is deceased.

So where is the real us, our soul, going after the death of our body?

During our discussion of the subjective view of God versus the objective God, we affirmed that God exists outside our perception of him. Since God is alive and supreme, would it not be reasonable that in his sovereignty he has the right to set the standard of life now as well as life after the death of our body?

Sure it does, and we accepted that when we saw our purpose in this existence was to glorify him. In other words, God expects to be the main focus of our lives and we glorify him by recognizing his sovereignty and trusting him.

Herein lies the problem in our human existence.

From birth, we have expected the focus of others to be on us. When our focus is on ourselves, we are not focused on our real purpose, nor can we provide the

love needed to live peacefully together.

Our pride further disallows us to live by God's expectations. In other words, though we may desire to, we are not able to satisfy God. God's will for his human creation is to exist with him eternally. But because God is perfectly holy and pure in goodness, he cannot relate to imperfection and impurity.

*Is this not genuine love?
God left his realm to redeem his human creation by sacrificing himself!*

No matter how good we might try to be, our pride puts us at odds with God. Eternal separation from God is what God calls spiritual death, or Hell. Because our contaminated moral state separates us from God, something must be done to reconcile the problem or we will spend eternity separated from him.

God tells us through his word, the Holy Bible, that no one is good and all have fallen short of his glory. God's glory is his perfection of holiness, which we cannot attain through our own effort. God calls this sin and tells us that the wages of sin are death.

This spiritual death needs to be rectified because after our body dies, there can be no reconciliation with God.

Because God understands our shortcoming, through his mercy and love, he provided a means of reconciliation. God left his spiritual realm and manifested himself as a sinless human. He walked with his creation in the name of Jesus Christ.

Why? Because God loves his people whom he created with which to have an eternal loving relationship. You see, our inward focus on our self-satisfaction makes us impure and unholy. The penalty for that is an eternal existence without God. A pure and holy person is the only creature with whom God can have a relationship.

Jesus Christ was that person while he walked the Earth. He took all the sin of mankind on his sinless self and died, paying the death penalty we should have paid.

Jesus' sacrifice for us satisfied God's requirement for his intended relationship with humanity. God then raised Jesus from the dead to mediate between us and God in the spiritual realm and strengthens God's desired relationship.

God tells us that if we believe that Jesus took our sin on himself paying our debt, confess that we are sinners and be willing to repent from our sinful lifestyle and live for him, we will never be separated from God again and will live with him forever. When this belief is enacted, God lives in the believer through his holy spirit, who cleanses us of our unrighteousness, sanctifying the believer toward perfect holiness and purity.

Is this not genuine love? God left his realm to redeem his human creation by sacrificing himself!

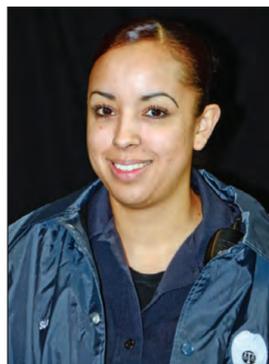
Wow! It appears that we have found genuine love. Yes, genuine love is sacrificially based on the needs of others. It is giving through self-sacrifice in order that others will benefit ahead of us. Humans are not capable of true sacrificial love; thus, without God, we cannot love each other properly.

God gives the believer only two commands to follow: Love him with all your heart, your soul, your mind and your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.

Pretty simple, huh? We love God with all we have, putting him first in our lives by sacrificing our self-centeredness, and he then gives us the power to sacrificially love others! So, a perfect and peaceful world consists of loving God and loving each other followed by an eternal existence of love in the presence of our Lord.

In the next issue, we will begin digging deeper into this mystery that God has revealed to us.

NEW EMPLOYEES



Angela Richards

Job title: Detention officer

Family: Married to Frank Richards Jr., two kids Andres and Armando Richards.

Shelina Porambo

No photo available

Job title: Multi Purpose Facility/Chapel front desk attendant
Hobbies: Love being with my two children, going to movies.

Kayla Lynn Wing

No photo available

Job title: Recreation specialist

Tribe: Ute Mountain Ute

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Jan. 23

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