

## Independence Day Tea Party

“Reliving 1776” is this year’s theme for Dickinson County’s Independence Day parade on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by Americans for Constitutional Enforcement (ACE). <http://www.a4ce.org/> The theme alone invokes images of brave patriots from our nation’s past who cared enough about our country to put their convictions into action.

In 1776, the birth of our country was painful. Breaking away from tyrannical King George III involved protest and a difficult and bloody Revolutionary War. But because of the deliberate decision to choose liberty and to be willing to “live free or die,” the early American patriots went into battle and ended by giving us this wonderful country with freedoms never before experienced in human history and a Constitution that has lasted longer than any other.

*The Boston Tea Party* of 1773 ignited colonial protest. From that event, other similar “tea parties” arose as colonists were made aware of England’s plan to tax, tax, and tax again its American colonies. Tea parties of the 18<sup>th</sup> century were a way of getting the King’s attention and letting him know his taxes were unfair and unacceptable.

Now jump ahead to the 21<sup>st</sup> century and take a look at what is happening in our country. Look at our bloated and growing federal government that is now taking over banks and businesses, firing CEOs, closing car dealerships, contemplating wage caps and naming a record number of “czars” to head the endless government agencies. Look at a government freely giving away billions of our tax-payer money and quickly printing more. And look at a government just itching to take over health care.

This government grab for power needs funding and the levying of new and creative taxes on “We the People.” Now there is talk of taxing retirement savings, taxing cow flatulence, taxing our *stimulus* money, taxing sugared soda, taxing beer and wine, and on and on.

According to Pravda (the Russian newspaper), the United States of America is descending into Marxism with startling speed and barely a whimper is heard from American citizens. There seems, however, to be a slow but steady awakening in the U.S. A. to the fact that no country can be taxed into prosperity. Many Americans are now saying, “Enough is enough” and this incessant taxing and spread-the-wealth Marxist doctrine is not what America needs.

This past April, throughout our country and even in several U.P. communities, Tea Parties were organized to let the federal government know that unbridled spending and bailouts leading to unprecedented taxing of the citizenry is unacceptable to many Americans. “*Taxed Enough Already*” became the rally cry of indignant Tea Partiers.

So, in the spirit of “Reliving 1776” and taking America back from the brink of disastrous taxation that enslaves the average worker, there will be a “4<sup>th</sup> of July Tea

Party” as part of this year’s parade. It will be an opportunity for spectators of the parade to actually join in and become participants and patriots.

Whether Democrat, Republican, Independent, or simply an American, young and old, all members of the community are encouraged to join in behind the ACE float and the fife and drum unit. Bring a sign or an American flag and come walk in the parade. Interested citizens can go to the ACE website for more details about the organization and the July 4<sup>th</sup> event.

The ACE float (always the last float of the parade) will travel along Woodward and Carpenter. The organizers hope that as the parade travels along the route, spectators will fall in behind the fife and drum unit as it passes by and there will be a swelling number of modern-day *patriots* who will take part of the demonstration. Tea Party participants are encouraged to bring American flags or signs of protest.

The float, fife and drum, and tea partiers will continue to the end of the parade at the Midtown Mall, where the party will continue for another 30 minutes with peaceful protests, patriotic music and a motivational guest speaker.

At a time when many patriotic Americans are disillusioned with what appears to be an uncertain future for our beloved country, participating in the “Reliving 1776” Tea Party is a way to take America back and express disapproval for what seems to be irresponsible government policy. Concerned citizens interested in more information about this movement and the patriotic philosophy behind it may go to the website <http://www.tyranttamer.com/> Then plan to be a real and active part of this year’s Independence Day parade.