Jay Obernolte "JO" at LVEDA

How do I start this in a way to get your attention and interest. Let's see . . .

Once upon a time...no, no, no, that's not it.

Call me Ishmael. No, no, no, that's the opening to Herman Melville's famous novel "Moby Dick".

In the beginning, God . . . OK, that's a great opening to a great Book, but it doesn't relate specifically to the subject at hand. After you've

read this drivel, go find your Bible (you'd better have one!) and find that opening sentence, and read, read, read!

Oh, I found one! Charles Dickens, in "A Tale of Two Cities" opened with "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times". His story was set during the French Revolution. Our "story" is set during the Great American Decline, which could produce a revolution. Maybe.

So we find ourselves in the worst of times, as we watch our once great nation descend into moral chaos, turn its back on the Creator and even spit in His face, and engage in lies, confusion, deception, physical mutilation, and unbridled hatred, expressed most hatefully in anti-Semitism and persecution of the Jewish people.

It's the best of times for those of us who choose to follow God and let Him run our lives when we get our egos out of the way. We are watching Bible prophecy being fulfilled daily, prophesies written 2-3000 years ago. If you ever wished you'd been alive at the time of Christ so you could see firsthand His miracles and hear His teachings, well, rejoice! Now you are getting to see what He and other prophets foretold actually happen. We are living through the opposite end of God's narrative!

How do we occupy ourselves as we wait - for THE end or for OUR end? We could crawl into a cave somewhere, stepping out of the world, and live only for ourselves.

Or we can live alert to the opportunities God gives us to serve others and to make life easier for those around us. Needless to say, that would be most pleasing to God.

The task of serving others (a form of God's type of love) can take place in many ways, one of which is to participate in local affairs, to help deal with issues that affect your neighbors and yourselves, right here in our valley. That's what LVEDA* tries to do to provide a forum for anyone who wishes to come and express his or her concerns about many issues affecting our community.

LVEDA has been amazingly effective in getting the attention of our elected and unelected representatives, our local first responders, and others assigned to our area to help us (we hope). We regularly hear from our fire guys, the Sheriff's Sergeant, Code Enforcement supervisor, LV School District Superintendent Peter Livingston, County Supervisor Rowe's representative, Assemblyman Lackey's rep., and Congressman Jay Obernolte's field rep. to give us updates. Also, local organizations like the Chamber of

gressman Jay Obernolte (JO) gave us updates on several significant topics, and then

he took questions and feedback from the audience. Here are some highlights of subjects he covered. Inflation and rising prices of food, fuel, energy, etc., is severely affecting many families who can no longer make ends meet. Yes, wages have risen some, but real wage growth is -3%, meaning you're still falling farther and farther behind in your

ability to buy stuff you need.

The national debt has ballooned to the point that it has become an existential crisis for the U.S. That means that without some radical measures to lower that debt, we will experience economic collapse, severe depression, or worse. We are now, for the first time in history, paying more on the interest on that debt than we are on the debt itself, or on the military, or on Social Security and Medicare.

✓ What to do? Severely reduce government spending. Create a commission like they did after the Second World War, when a commission analyzed all government programs and eliminated many no longer

Patriotism is NOT fascism.

idea is to call it "Finding Federal Savings Commission."

✓ The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has been a thorn in JO's side since he was our Assemblyman in Sacramento. Currently they have tried to set up regulations to force California drivers to use electric vehicles by 2035. Now CARB is blocking a huge BNSF project to build an International Gateway in Barstow, where trains would bring containers directly from the ports, taking thousands of trucks off of the freeways, creating 20,000 solid jobs, unless BNSF uses all-electric locomotives. This is outrageous and ridiculous since such locomotives don't exist and won't for the foreseeable future. JO is working with Congress to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from granting CARB a waiver allowing CARB to proceed with these brainless schemes. If CARB persists, BNSF is already making plans to move this great project to Arizona.

✓ Veterans' issues – JO supported the PACT Act which would extend health care and benefits for vets exposed to Agent Orange, burn pits and other toxic substances. He also wants to focus on the Loma Linda Veterans Hospital, which needs to be

cleaned up and become more accessible. Other areas JO is working on: the development of fusion energy which is safer than nuclear and cheaper than carbon-based energy sources. Artificial Intelligence-creating a regulatory framework to protect against negative and harmful uses of Al. Israel - while JO isn't on the foreign relations committee, he is very engaged with the issues in the Middle East and concerned about the administration slow-walking needed armaments to Israel.

JO had to leave after an hour or so. Then we heard from our Sheriff's sergeant, our County rep Steve Reyes, the Assemblyman's gal Iris, Peter Livingston, a representative of County Fire, and more. All allowed the audience to interact, ask questions, and discuss issues bugging people.

One last important issue brought up by a local was to ask why Victor Valley Transit changed the bus service so that it only travels Hwy 18 and sits at our store for 30 minutes. It no longer travels any of the side roads and route deviations now cost \$4. This is a bad situation for those who need that service. There were no answers but our County people will try to find out what's happening.

If you made it this far, I hope you find the contents informative and even maybe helpful. The biggest takeaway for you personally should be that all of the representatives beg for you to come to them for help with whatever issues you have with federal agencies (JO) or State agencies (Assemblyman Lackey) or County agencies (Supervisor Rowe's rep. Steve Reyes). All of them are of good spirit and diligently try to represent us little people against the BIG BAD Bureaucracy that couldn't care less about you or me.

We are especially "lucky" to live in San Bernardino County, which has its problems but is not woke or leftist or any of that other rotten stuff. And the more we attend meetings like LVEDA, the more we help to keep the agencies aware of and serving us little people with helpfulness and the desire to do right.

(I dislike using the word "lucky" because I believe God has a hand in making our situation better than many, but the word "blessed" has been overused and watered down. Got any better words, anyone?)

Here are the contacts for the various representatives that regularly come to LVEDA:

- Sheriff's Sergeant J. Necochea 760-552-6800 jnecochea@sbsc.org
- Hayden Bartz, Congressman Obernolte
- 9700 Seventh Ave., Suite 201, Hesperia 760-247-1815 hayden.bartz@mail.house.gov
- ✓ Iris Gutierrez, Assemblyman Tom Lackey 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley 760-539-1341
- Iris.Gutierrez@ASM.CA.GOV ✓ Steve Reyes, Supervisor Dawn Rowe 63665 Twentynine Palms Hwy, Joshua Tree 760-366-1488

Steve.Reyes@bos.sbcounty.gov Thank You, Father, for our unique and wonderful community, and for those who represent us with a willing and helpful si



LVEDA MEETING FOR LIVELY DISCUSSIONS ON **IMPORTANT ISSUES!**

Monday, November 25th 5:00 pm at the Moose Lodge

on Foothill Road, just west of Tradepost Road.





Amy Reed Insurance Agency

SIGN-UP MEDICARE FOR ADVANTAGE

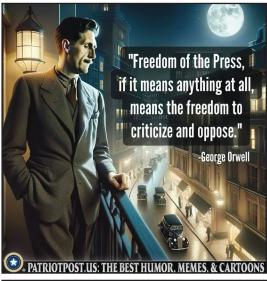
Friday, Nov. 15th 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

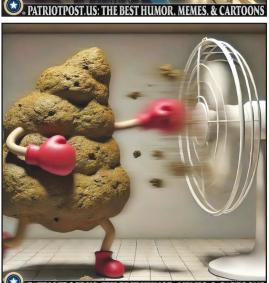


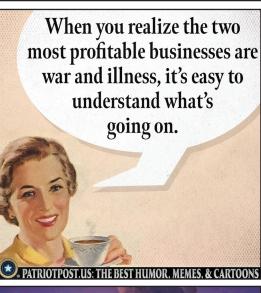
This last LVEDA meeting on Oct. 28, Con-

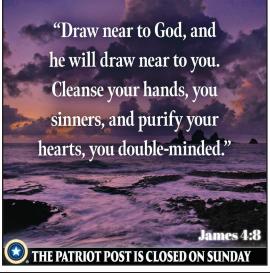
Commerce and the Museum Society.

On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web









LVM Commentary - November 14 - 20, 2024