

Freedom's View

A Commentary on Government from Atop the Capitol

Vol. 1 "All the other alternative facts you need to know" No. 15



FRESH FROM A VACATION, WE GET MELLOW: BRIEF AND CONSTRUCTIVE

From Florida: A Pelican Brief

March 16, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC ~ *Armed Freedom*

I recently returned from a couple of sun-filled weeks in Florida. Even in that southernmost wing of our asylum, I met plenty of folks who find the Trump administration, and their congressional supporters, truly frightening and disgusting: like the lovely young woman working in the Deli Department of a two storey Publix grocery store. She did an *amazing* eyeroll when I mentioned Trump. (I just hope her blue eyes don't get stuck there in the back of her head!)

There on the Gulf coast, I observed pelicans making their runs just *a couple of inches* above the waters. *Never once* did they miscalculate and go webfoot-over-fish-pouch. In the air, they often cooperated, playing follow-the-leader as they rose and fell on the air currents.

Five of them even hunted supper in a pool created by the Gulf's receding tide. Esther Williams and all her choreographed synchronized swimmers had *nothing* on the pelican ballet! Taking off from the water and rising 15 feet into the air, *in unison* they peeled off into a sort of reverse dive, plunging into the water looking for fish . . . or perhaps just showing off for those of us on the beach?

So, I nominate the Brown Pelican as America's understudy for the Bald Eagle. Awkward to the point of being Comedy-Central-ludicrous on land, they are beauty and grace aloft. There, they are *in their element*: peerless in their agility and acrobatics . . . like our experiment in democracy and freedom.

Our nation flourishes in an environment of robust debate amongst citizens who respect the humanity of those with whom they disagree. It's able to soar when those debates express different interpretations of empirical facts. And it is capable of astoundingly graceful acrobatics when, amidst the noise of the public conversations, people actually *listen* to each other.

Coming soon to Freedom's View will be a tab called "Action." There you'll find what we trust will be a growing collection of suggestions for each of us to consider: ideas for creating the sort of environment in which America can soar and become truly great again. So, let's hear it for the Brown Pelican: the Golden Pheasant President just won't fly.



Constructive Criticism:

A Modest Proposal

March 13, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC ~ Poor Donald Trump. He, his administration, and his sycophantic congressional supporters have taken a lot of harsh criticism lately, including ours. It's only a matter of time before a rapidly decompensating Sean Spicer, down on knees before the White House Press Corps, pitifully begs for some "constructive" criticism for a change.

In an effort to get out in front of that delicious event, what follows is our "constructive" criticism in the form of a suggestion to our readers. But first, some background and science.

Joseph Aspdin of Leeds, England was a bricklayer's son who invented Portland cement. And now, from Leeds University, comes news that the ash from that city's incinerated municipal sewage has been combined with plant oil and compressed into bricks. Because the plants sequestered CO₂, these "bowel to trowel" bricks are considered "carbon negative." They even look and smell like ordinary bricks!



So the next time Trump causes you to shit a brick, just mail it to him at The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20500. Tell him it's your contribution and he can use it to construct his "big, beautiful wall."