



Written by [Steve Bonta](#) on July 23, 2024

Published in the issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 40, No. 15

## The John Birch Society: Standing in the Gap

One thing almost everyone agrees on is the acute state of crisis in America in 2024.

Domestically, the economy continues to wallow in a muck of stubbornly high inflation and low wages. The tide of illegal immigration unleashed by the Biden administration continues to pour unabated across our southern border. Violent crime is on the rise. The partisan divide is sharper than at any time since the Civil War, as highlighted by the failed assassination attempt on Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania rally. Elsewhere in politics, abjectly corrupt and criminal officials in the Biden administration thumb their noses at a justice system interested only in waging partisan warfare against Donald Trump and his supporters. Despite the Supreme Court ruling in support of broad presidential immunity and a Florida judge's throwing out the entire Trump classified-documents case, the forces of anti-MAGA lawfare march on, undeterred and unrepentant. Our so-called justice system is being transformed into a tawdry canvas of partisan retribution, and every honest American knows it. Those who raise voices in protest of such entrenched injustices are hounded, persecuted, canceled, censored, and demonetized, while the voices in support of the Deep State and the radical Left have risen to never-before seen levels of insolent gaslighting. And people await this November's elections with trepidation amid concerns, in the wake of political persecution and, now, an assassination attempt, of what the radical Left and the Deep State may try next.



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Abroad, our enemies are emboldened as never before. Barring serious and unforeseeable changes, our country appears to be on the path to world war. Less remarked by the mainstream media, but potentially just as consequential, the United Nations is preparing for a drastic overhaul, beginning in September with its Summit of the Future. That event might well see the UN Charter rewritten to



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further empower the Security Council and disadvantage powerful member states, including the United States. Also contemplated at the summit is a radical overhaul of the global financial system, whatever that might entail, as well as numerous other ambitious agenda items.

Our great country, which in two years will celebrate its semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary, is no stranger to crisis. But the severity of the present mess is amplified by a general sense of helplessness at the sheer scope of the problem, and a general lack of understanding of its root cause. Lost on the majority of the American public is that much of the chaos now unfolding at home and abroad is part of a design on the part of amoral plotters to undermine and destroy the United States from within, while erecting a socialist global political and financial system — a “New World Order,” if you will — from without.

Readers of this magazine and members of our parent organization, The John Birch Society, are well aware of these core issues, and have been working to educate Americans about both the principles upon which this country was founded and the nature of the enemies who seek to destroy it.

At the time of this writing, the GOP national convention is underway in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with a newfound focus to reach out to communities traditionally at odds with Republicans and with loosely styled “conservatism” — minorities, labor unions, and the like — and to bring them into the capacious confines of the MAGA movement. In the wake of the attempted assassination of Trump, it seems that everyone is trying to get on the “national unity” bandwagon. While we certainly applaud the efforts of people of good faith to take the edge off the bitter partisan strife of recent years and to disavow the shocking political violence directed against Trump and his movement, a modern-day “era of good feelings” will not suffice to preserve the Republic in the long run.

To achieve lasting gains in individual liberty and limited, constitutional government, it is also necessary to continue the program of education and outreach that The John Birch Society has been pursuing for decades. It’s not as glamorous as the short-lived adrenaline rush of a successful political campaign or a favorable Supreme Court ruling, but in the long run, it will transform our government and culture for the better just as surely as the Fabian tactics of the radical Left have transformed it for the worse.

Even the Left now reluctantly acknowledges that we’ve been quietly winning the battle, as *The Nation* noted in an article only last year entitled “How the John Birch Society Won the Long Game.” The modern-day American Right, the article noted, has “adopted the Birchers’ extremism wholesale,” later adding that “Birchers’ politics have become standard, not fringe ... their rhetoric is repeated almost word for word by Donald Trump.” The usual smears about “extremism” aside, this is high praise indeed from one of the oldest magazines in the United States and a longtime standard-bearer of the Left.

Once a year, The John Birch Society hosts its own national convention, if you will — our Leadership Conference where novices and veterans of the freedom fight mingle and benefit from the insights of keynote speakers from a broad range of backgrounds within the freedom fight.

[This year’s Leadership Conference](#) will take place in sunny Laguna Hills, California, on September 20-21. Its theme, “Standing in the Gap,” is a reference to the largely unsung role of the JBS for more than 65 years manning the breaches in the walls protecting our liberty and independence. Our featured speakers at the two-day event will include Joe Wolverton, a lawyer, constitutional law scholar, and frequent contributor to *The New American* magazine, and host of the radio show *2A for Today*. Joe will be speaking on Saturday morning, September 21, about our years-long campaign to prevent an Article



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V convention (a “Con-Con”), an event that would be a disaster for our Constitution given the current state of politics. Also speaking Saturday morning will be veteran journalist and *TNA* senior editor William F. Jasper, who will be speaking on the history of the United Nations. For decades, Jasper has been reporting on the goings-on at the UN and has attended many important UN conferences. He has an unparalleled understanding of the globalist institution and the way in which it advances its pernicious anti-American agenda.

Saturday afternoon’s lineup will include JBS program coordinator Leah Southwell, who will be speaking on how to use our *Legislative Scorecards* to lobby congressmen, and JBS National Field Director Jon Schrock, who will be discussing the power of local organization.

The Council Dinner Saturday evening will feature Pastor Paul Blair, who will be speaking on “Biblical Principles of Civil Government.” Blair, a former offensive tackle in the National Football League, is now a Baptist pastor in Oklahoma and founder of the Liberty Pastors Network and the Liberty Pastor Training Camps. Also speaking at the Council Dinner will be John Birch Society CEO William S. Hahn.

Now more than at any time in living memory, America is in need of educated patriots to stand in the gap. We may be winning the “long game,” but many battles still lie ahead. Join us in the exhilarating battle to reclaim our liberties and sound the tocsin of liberty in every ear. We would love to see you in Laguna Hills in September!



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