

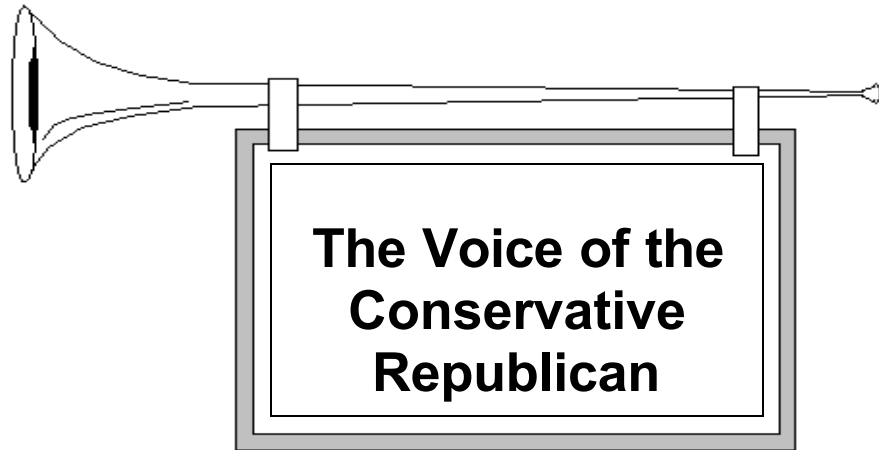
TAPROOT Trumpet

Vol. 41 No. 1

February 2007

**For if the
TRUMPET
give an
uncertain
sound, who
shall prepare
himself to the
battle?**

1 Cor. 14:8



From patronage to principle

GOP Exec. Dir. Touts Changes in Party

by **George Kocan,**
Communications Director, TAPROOT Republicans

Conservative activists in DuPage County took advantage of the opportunity and grilled a top leader in the Illinois Republican Party, Saturday morning, January 20.

John Tsarpalas, Executive Director, explained party organization and answered some tough questions at TAPROOT's monthly breakfast meeting in the Old Country Buffet, Lombard. The speaker responded with confidence and good humor as the discussion shifted from topics like leadership and money to Bob Kjellander and Kirk Dillard.

Tsarpalas noted that the rules differ between Cook County and the rest of the state. In Cook, precinct workers are appointed and called Precinct Captains. In the rest of the state, they are elected and called Committeemen. One consequence of this is that, in Cook, the list of Republican precinct captains is a secret, which

makes it difficult for outsiders to become active in Republican politics.

Nevertheless, throughout Illinois there are many precincts in need of workers. Since the party ultimately rests on the shoulders of the precinct workers, conservative activists have to step up and become committeemen or at least encourage others to do so. They represent the critical communications link between the people and the party.

The State Central Committee (SCC) recently voted to remove Bob Kjellander from his post in the national Republican organization. He refused to go. Tsarpalas explained that according to the rules, there is nothing the SCC can do. Yet, the Republican National Committee, he assured the group, "got the message." Kjellander's term expires in 2008. In his defense, Tsarpalas noted that Kjellander has raised great amounts of money for the Party.

Dave Diersen expressed concern that Kirk Dillard, Chairman of the DuPage Republican Party Central Committee was excessive in his praise for the Democrat Senator, Barack Obama, who has announced the creation of an exploratory committee for a run for the presidency. Many think it unseemly for the Republican leadership to do "public relations" for Democrat candidates. Tsarpalas answered that he was upset at a vote that his Congressman, (See page 2)

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Responds to Grilling
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TAPROOT Christmas Party Bubbles with Optimism

by **George Kocan,**
Communications Director

Headliners and celebrities helped to make TAPROOT's annual Christmas Party, Sunday, Dec. 3, the sweet icing on the political cake, where conservatives came to swap stories, plan strategies and just vent over the issues of the day.

The "Conservative Warrior Princess" herself, Teri O'Brien, repeatedly broke up the crowd with a commentary that surely would qualify as a stand-up comic routine. Jim Oberweis stopped by and, after some arm-twisting from Chairman Dave Diersen, consented to tell the group what was on his mind. Rosanna Pulido, head of the local Minutemen, came all the way from Chicago to the Orchard Brook Club house in Downers Grove to update conservative suburbanites on her latest project.

Diersen gave a brief re-cap of TAPROOT's activities during the past year and conducted an election of officers, who retained their volunteer duties for another year. Two issues belonged on the front burner, he said. In order to properly rebuild the Republican Party in Illinois, it has to remove Robert Kjellander from his post as Republican National Committeeman and pass SB600, which allows the direct election of the Congressional district's State Central (**See page 5**)

From patronage to principle, con'd from page 1

Mark Kirk, made. When he called to complain, Kirk answered that he received 2000 messages regarding the bill. The lesson was clear, you have to let your representative know what you think.

The SCC also spurred some controversy over its denial of the name "Republican" to the to the Republican Assembly of Lake County, a conservative activist group. Tsarpalas explained that this organization sent a letter to the SCC and asked permission to use the name. The committee denied the use of the name because of its allegedly uncivil behavior, of a campaign of personal harassment against Mark Baubien, and not, as was argued, because the group simply opposed a liberal Republican candidate. Tsarpalas said that the SCC wants to encourage only the highest standards in behavior and noted in passing that TAPROOT conducts itself properly.

Tsarpalas emphasized more than once that the party was in transition from a party of patronage to a party of principle. A hint of this change was expressed when Peter Labarbera, Executive Director of Americans For Truth, a pro-family group, stated that Andy McKenna, Chairman of the SCC, will likely encourage the Party to help out in passing an advisory referendum concerning an amendment to the Illinois Constitution that will protect marriage. Tsarpalas took the job of executive director, he said, to promote conservative principles.

Attending the breakfast meeting were the following office holders or organizational leaders: Dave Diersen, George Kocan, Bob Schmidt, Wayne Lela, Doug Babitzky, Byrd Parmelee, Versa Gollan, Wally Brown, Jim Oberweis, Gwen Henry, Rich Johns, Peter Labarbera, Vern McCarthy, Mary Alice Erickson, Dave Pittinger, and Laurel Bowen. (*See related story by Dave Diersen on page 3.*) #

Opinions expressed in the *Trumpet* belong to the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of TAPROOT Republicans or its Board.

Tsarpalas Responds to Grilling

by Dave Diersen,

TAPROOT Chairman and Illinois State Editor,
GOPUSA, www.gopillinois.com

Illinois Republican Party (IRP) Executive Director **John Tsarpalas** responded to questions from **Jim Oberweis** and others at an outstanding TAPROOT Republicans of Illinois breakfast meeting Saturday, January 20, in Lombard.

Meeting attendees included DuPage County Forest Preserve Commissioner **Wally Brown**, IRP Vice Chairman **MaryAlice Erickson**, DuPage County and DuPage County Republican Party Treasurer **Gwen Henry**, Chicago Townhall Meeting Coordinator **Rich Johns**, Americans for Truth Director **Peter LaBarbera**, Conservative Activists **Vern McCarthy** and **Bob Schmidt**, and Past TAPROOT Chairman **Dave Pittinger**.

Tsarpalas gave an outstanding PowerPoint presentation on the IRP -- he discussed a) the party's structure and operations including differences between Cook County and the rest of the state, b) differences between the IRP and the Illinois Democrat Party (IDP) especially the composition of each party's State Central Committees (SCC), and c) differences between the IRP and the IDP websites.

Tsarpalas said only about 7,400 of Illinois' approximate 11,000 precincts have Republican Precinct Committeemen and that about 2,000 of the 7,400 were appointed rather than elected. **Tsarpalas** provided attendees with printouts of his PowerPoint presentation.

In the January 20 GOPUSA ILLINOIS daily email, I included suggested questions to ask **Tsarpalas** during the meeting. **Tsarpalas** read those questions before he arrived at the meeting and answered many of them during the meeting.

QUESTION: When will the IRP SCC reverse its January 13 vote to deny the Republican Assembly of Lake County (RALC) permission to use "Republican" in its name, apologize to the RALC, and apologize to each and every RALC member? When will you apologize for your statements against the RALC? If the answer is never, then, what are the next actions that the IRP, the SCC, and you are going to take to drive the remaining conservatives out of the party?

ANSWER: Sadly, **Tsarpalas** indicated that the IRP SCC will not reverse its January 13 vote, apologize to the RALC, or apologize to any of its members. Sadly, **Tsarpalas** indicated that he will not apologize to RALC or to any of its members for statements he made about RALC

and its members. Sadly, **Tsarpalas** continued to argue that RALC is divisive. **Oberweis** and I strongly disagreed. However, **Tsarpalas** indicated that the IRP, the SCC, and he do not want to drive conservatives out of the IRP.

QUESTION: Last Saturday you said the RALC would be receiving a written confirmation of the vote denying use of the word "Republican." As of yesterday's (Friday, January 19) mail it has not been received. When can the RALC expect to receive it?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** said the IRP was in the process of revising the letter.

QUESTION: In a newspaper article you said the RALC attacked Republican candidates in the November General Election. On page eight of RALC's pre-election news magazine, RALC listed all Republican candidates as being supported as priority one. Which candidate were you referring to in your statement?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that he was referring to State Representative **Mark Beaubien**, but he did not provide specifics.

QUESTION: How do you reconcile the RNC General Counsel statement that anyone can use the word "Republican" in their organization title with the denial action taken against RALC by the IRP?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that IRP lawyers were considering that.

QUESTION: What is your response to the Daily Herald's January 20 editorial position that "Illinois Republican leaders may have overstepped their bounds in declaring a conservative Lake County political group can't use the word 'Republican' in its name" and the Illinois Republican leaders' action "is more about retribution?"

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that the IRP SCC believes it did not overstep its bounds and that its action was not retribution. **Tsarpalas** said that the IRP SCC Victory Committee had voted to deny RALC's application before any of its members became aware of the lawsuit by **Raymond True** against the IRP, but **Oberweis** indicated that at least one IRP SCC Victory Committee member knew of the suit before the SCC (See page 4)

Illinois GOP Chairman Tsarpalas responds to grilling, from page 3...

Victory Committee voted.

QUESTION: Do you agree that a Republican (for example, Senator, Illinois Republican Senate Whip, and DuPage County GOP Chairman **Kirk Dillard**) praising a Democrat, for example, **Obama**, is far worse than a Republican criticizing another Republican? Please elaborate.

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that he agreed and that many other IRP leaders also agreed. He indicated that IRP leaders were discussing the problem.

QUESTION: When will the IRP issue a report on what happened at the January 13 IRP SCC meeting? What happened at the January 13 IRP SCC meeting? Why was so much of the meeting conducted in executive session?

How did each SCC member vote on the motion to ask **Kjellander** to resign and what reasons did each of them give for their vote? How did each SCC member vote on the motion to deny RALC the right to use Republican in its name and what reasons did each of them give for their vote? Why weren't attendees Senator **Chris Lauzen** or Representative **Paul Froelich** recognized? What did **Andy McKenna** stress in his update?

What did you stress in your post election report?

What did **Maureen Murphy** stress concerning the party's platform and voting integrity? What did **Jim Durkin** report concerning **John McCain**? What did **MaryAlice Erickson** report concerning increasing ethnic representation on the SCC - can **Diersen** volunteer to represent German-Americans?

What is the IRP financial situation - 2006 income, 2006 expenses, 2006 year end assets and liabilities, and 2006 year end net worth? When and where will the next IRP SCC meeting will be? What will be on the agenda? What will specifically be discussed in executive session?

ANSWER: Sadly, time did not permit asking these questions, except the one concerning the IRP's financial condition. **Tsarpalas** said IRP raised and spent about \$8 million last year and that IRP's current assets exceed its current liabilities.

QUESTION: **Kjellander** rejects the IRP SCC call for him to resign, says he has "done absolutely nothing wrong," says his critics are "disgruntled," and says he is being made into a "scapegoat." Do you want **Kjellander** to resign? Why? If you want **Kjellander** to resign and he continues to refuse to resign, what should the next step

be to prompt him to resign? If/when **Kjellander** resigns, who would be the best person to fill the vacancy and why?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that he wants **Kjellander** to resign, but indicated that little if anything can be done to further encourage **Kjellander** to resign. **Oberweis** strongly disagreed. **Tsarpalas** indicated that much of **Kjellander**'s support comes from his fundraising success and that **Kjellander** might have been named Treasurer of the 2008 Republican National Committee National Convention.

QUESTION: Why didn't the IRP support the Protect Marriage Project?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** indicated that things are moving in the right direction for the IRP to fully support the Protect Marriage Project this year.

QUESTION: Do you favor or oppose SB600? Why?

ANSWER: Sadly, **Tsarpalas** indicated that he opposed SB600.

QUESTION: The IRP is clearly becoming increasingly successful in driving conservatives out of the party -- as the IRP's Executive Director, you play a major role in doing that -- history will list you as one who played a major role in driving conservatives out of the party -- how comfortable are you with that?

ANSWER: **Tsarpalas** stressed that neither he nor the IRP want to drive conservatives out of the party -- he stressed that **Judy Baar Topinka**'s influence in the party has diminished greatly and that the party is going to be less about patronage and more about principle. #

Exciting Positions Available

TAPROOT depends on volunteers to move the organization forward. We need help with the newsletter and the membership list.

Call to volunteer: Dave 630-653-0462, diersen@aol.com;

George 630-393-6401, GeoKcn@juno.com.

Christmas Party, continued from page 2

Committee member.

In spite of the lingering memory of Republican losses, Oberweis struck a note of optimism when he said that Federal District Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald will be, “our ally when he puts Blagojevich behind bars.”

Then he took a swipe at the conservatives’ favorite whipping boy, the mainstream press, saying that conservatives have allowed the press to frame the argument. It continuously defines liberals as ‘moderates’ and mainstream voters as ‘conservatives’. The resulting contrast in terms unfairly puts conservatives in a bad light because they are the real moderates and not the liberals who advocate all kinds of extremist policies.

Rosanna Pulido, the Illinois State Director of the Minuteman Project, announced that she came to the party “to outrage and disgust you.” That is a tall order for a conservative crowd, which has so many things about which to be outraged and disgusted.

She went on to inform the assembly about the latest *cause celebre* cooked up by the immigration amnesty cabal, Elvira Arellano, who has earned fame for defying deportation orders by hiding in a church for “sanctuary”. According to Pulido, the Pastor there is the Rev. “Slim” Coleman, a Communist, who apparently is diligently hewing to the party line, since the Communist Party USA itself is pushing an open immigration policy on its website.

She exhorted conservatives to sign a letter to United States Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald to enforce the law and deport Arellano. A copy may be found on the Minuteman website, www.illinoisminutemanhq.com.

There is no mortal “savior” who will fix the immigration problem. We have to focus on our principles and hold the politicians to the standard, she said.

Talk-radio hostess Teri O’Brien gave the keynote address. Conservatives were disappointed to hear that she no longer has a Sunday program on WLS radio. But she does have a website (<http://www.teriobrien.com>) and sends out a regular e-mail newsletter, where they can enjoy her insights and humor.

With a suggestion of sarcasm, O’Brien brought up the Iraqi Study Report. “You are all counting down the minutes to the release of the report of the Iraq Study Group (ISG) aren’t you? What?! You aren’t on the edge of your seat to hear the suggestions of a bunch of pompous, unelected, superannuated gasbags about what to do about our foreign policy?” she asked.

Anything the report recommends will have to pass a litmus test, she explained. One such test involves the King of the Useful Idiots, Jimmy Carter. “If Jimmuh says something is a good idea, you should do the opposite

thing and you can’t go wrong.... They’ve talked to lots of people to compile their report, as you know. Well, apparently one guy that they thought could share some really valuable insights was none other than Mr. Long Story Longer, John Francois Kerry....”

“The other problem with the ISG,” O’Brien went on, “is that they failed to bring the problem to the one human being who is capable of solving every problem known to mankind, from AIDS to unemployment to energy independence to the dust bunnies under your bed, a preternatural being who could probably heal the sick by just the laying on of his saintly hands. Of course, you know that I’m talking about Sen. Barack Obama, or I should say, Barack Hussein Obama....why doesn’t the Chicago Sun-Times just flip over all the cards and change its name to the Chicago Obama? Have you ever seen such swooning?”

Regarding the “bloodbath”, that is, the election, she had a few words to say about Republicans who stayed home *to teach the party a lesson* by allowing Democrats to win, “I don’t like the food at this restaurant, so, we’ll eat poison!”

Diersen and the TAPROOT Board (www.taprootgop.org) are grateful for the generous help the members gave to make the party a big success. Especially noteworthy is Judith Ross who secured the spacious and comfortable clubhouse. Many thanks also go to Carolyn Connell for decorating the tables with a Christmas Spirit and brewing the coffee. Thanks also for the great food and drinks that the party-goers brought. #

Dream, con’d from page 6

Exploits Black America - Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson, bondinfo.org

Shakedown: Exposing the Real Jesse Jackson – Kenneth R. Timmerman

“Thank you, thank you, you’re in the way of the camera,” – Jesse Jackson at Enron photo op.

Coloring the News: How Crusading for Diversity Has Corrupted American Journalism – William McGowan; see www.mrc.org and www.aim.org for updates on media bias.

A National Party No More: Conscience of a Conservative Democrat – Senator Zell Miller

Creating Equal: My Fight Against Racial Preferences – Ward Connelly www.townhall.com

Lost Battalions: The Great War and the Crisis of American Nationality – Richard Slotkin

The Conscience of Conservative Blacks – Lee Walker, Moderator, www.newcoalition.org #

For Black History Month

I Have a Dream... Diversity (of thought)

TAPROOT Board Member **Rich Johns** assembled the following list of resources:

White Guilt: How Blacks & Whites Together Destroyed the Promise of the Civil Rights Era - Shelby Steele

The Content of Our Character – Shelby Steele, www.hoover.org/bios/steele

A Dream Deferred – Shelby Steele

Up From Slavery – Booker T. Washington

They Think You're Stupid: Why Democrats Lost

Your Vote... – Herman "I used to be stupid," Cain, www.hermancain.com

Books by Thomas Sowell:

Affirmative Action Around the World

Basic Economics

Race and Culture: A World View

Applied Economics

The Economics and Politics of Race

Compassion vs Guilt and Other Essays

The Vision of the Anointed

Barbarians Inside the Gates

Black Rednecks and White Liberals and other Cultural and Ethnic Issues, www.tsowell.com, www.townhall.com (columnists' link)

Related Books

More Liberty Means Less Government – Walter E. Williams – www.walterewilliams.com

Do the Right Thing – Walter "pushing back the frontiers of ignorance" Williams

Losing the Race – John McWhorter, www.manhattan-institute.org/html/mcwhorter.htm

The All-American Skin Game – Stanley Crouch, www.nydailynews.com/news/col/scrouch

Uncivil Wars – David Horowitz, www.horowitzfreedomcenter.org

Hating Whitey – David Horowitz, www.

frontpagemag.com

Left Illusions – David Horowitz

Slouching Towards Gomorrah – Robert H. Bork, www.hudson.org

The Closing of the American Mind – Alan Bloom (just, ask FORMER President of Harvard, Summers)

Black and Right: The Bold New Voice of Black Conservatives in America – Stan Faryna

America in Black and White – Stephen & Abigail Thernstrom, www.manhattan-institute.org

No Excuses: Closing the Racial Gap in Learning – Stephen & Abigail Thernstrom

Our Character, Our Future – Alan Keyes, www.renewamerica.us

Masters of the Dream: the Strength and Betrayal of Black America – Alan Keyes

Showdown: Confronting Bias, Lies, and the Special Interests That Divide America – Larry Elder

From Showdown: "Of all the tyrannies, a tyranny exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It may be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end, for they do so with the approval of their own conscience." – C.S. Lewis, www.larryelder.com "We've gotta country to save."

Michael and Me – DVD Larry Elder challenges Michael Moore's Bowling for Columbine documentary

Uncle Sam's Plantation: How Big Government Enslaves America's Poor ... – Star Parker www.urbanecure.org

Pimps, Whores, and Welfare Brats: From Welfare Cheat to Conservative Messenger – Star Parker

SCAM – How the Black Leadership (See page 5)



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TAPROOT's Next Breakfast Meeting

Bob Clapper

President, Chicago Chapter of Reasons to Believe

For the February 17 TAPROOT Meeting Bob Clapper will give a talk on Intelligent Design.

A SCIENTIFIC PURSUIT OF INTELLIGENT DESIGN

As reported in the *Washington Post*, President Bush indicated that people ought to be exposed to Intelligent Design. He further fueled the debate of whether Intelligent Design should be taught in the public schools. This presentation will look at what the intelligent design controversy is all about. You will find out more what intelligent design is and is not. Hear more what the scientific and religious community is saying. This presentation will be given by Bob Clapper, president of the Chicago Chapter of Reasons To Believe, an organization seeking to show that science and faith can be compatible. As a science educator, Bob has long been interested in the issues surrounding intelligent design. A question and answer time will follow.

8:00 am, the talk starts at 8:30 am

Old Country Buffet, 551 East Roosevelt Rd., Lombard (630-916-8808),
in the High Point Shopping Center, south side of Roosevelt Rd.,
about 5 stop-lights west of Route 83, and about 1 1/2 miles east of Rt. 355.

Questions: Dave 630-653-0462; Bob 630-357-4846

Next breakfast meeting.....March 17 (Topic TBA)

TAPROOT Trumpet

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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your check out to TAPROOT REPUBLICANS OF ILLINOIS and send it to PO Box 643, Downers

Grove, IL 60515.

“Extremist” Beats “Moderate”

By George Kocan,
Communications Director

The Democrat mouthpiece press termed Republican Judy Baar Topinka a “moderate”, while it labeled the more conservative Republican, Alan Keyes, the “extremist”. To prove her credentials as a “moderate”, she supported Democrat candidates over Republican ones, as for example her endorsement of Democrat Bill Lipinski over Republican Jim Nalepa for Congress.

Her moderate positions include support for legalized abortion and opposition to a constitutional amendment that would prohibit the deconstruction of marriage as a legal union of male and female. She even supported “civil unions” for homosexuals. She regularly participates in homosexual “pride” parades.

Although the abortion issue has raised constitutional questions about judges legislating their values from the bench, Topinka has revealed no such doubts. On the other hand, Keyes is an unabashed constitutionalist who has even called into question the validity of the 17th Amendment, which directs that U. S. Senators be elected by popular vote.

Both Keyes and Topinka are known to be Catholics. Topinka sees no problem with defying Catholic teaching on the right to life. Keyes whipped Obama relentlessly on his votes against protecting the lives of aborted babies born alive.

Keyes came to Illinois from Maryland to run for the office of U.S. Senator. Topinka was always here, having won

the only state-wide office, Treasurer, for the Republican Party. Keyes made the abolition of abortion his top issue. He also fiercely opposed the normalization of homosexuality. Some reporter from the Democrat mouthpiece press cornered him into admitting that Vice President Dick Chaney’s daughter, an admitted lesbian, was a “selfish hedonist”. “Moderates” were aghast.

Topinka is a woman. Republicans worry about a “gender gap.” They want women to vote for them. Keyes is an African-American, a descendant of slaves, the most oppressed and reviled group of human beings in the history of the United States. Everyone likes Topinka. She is colorful. She is outspoken. She plays the accordion. She even danced the polka with former Governor of Illinois, the “moderate” George Ryan (a convicted felon), who also showed a special fondness for homosexual rights. **The “moderates” tells us, over and over again, that “extremists” like Keyes cannot win.**

Yet, the last election for Governor showed that the “extremist” Republican received more votes when he ran for the Senate against the Democrat Golden Boy, Barak Hussein Obama, than did the “moderate” Republican who ran against the Democrat Boy-Wonder, who is being investigated by the FBI, Rod Blagojevich. The “moderate” Topinka received 1,332,735 votes, while the “extremist” Keyes received 1,390,690. (Thanks to Tom Roeser’s eagle eye, Nov. 14, 2006.) There must be a lesson here. #

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