

## Formidable

by Jeff Ward, IFRR President



And so the season of disingenuousness begins. The smokescreens, the doubletalk, the evasions start about the partisan nature of local elections. Since 2009 the Reagan Republicans have sought to inform voters about the candidates (and where they stand politically) but those who wish to keep the voters in the dark by covering their liberal ideology under a blanket of "non-partisanship" are at it once again. The only way Democrats and liberals in North Idaho can win elections is by simply denying they have views that are in contrast to the majority of voters. They do not need to fool all the people all the time. They just need to fool enough people every two years to rule the taxing districts that control hundreds of millions of tax dollars.. When KCRR came along a few years ago and began pulling the cover off the disinformation campaigns, the liberal powers-that-be did not like it in the least. In fact, they hated it with a venom rarely seen in Idaho politics. They tried in vain to silence us.

The same old crowd, addicted to tax and spend government, taking their cues and tactics from the liberal political class in Washington D.C., tell us that the Reagan Republicans are poisoning local elections because we want people to know how elected officials will govern and make them explain how they have governed. In the 2012 Idaho election, the main theme among the Democrats was they could "bring balance" to Idaho. Now their allies in Kootenai County are promoting a new call to "balance" by claiming they are eschewing "partisanship." These are the same people who call for balance until election day but once elected spend their terms in office in lockstep with the Democratic Party Platform. Beware those who herald "balance" because they seek legislative bodies (Boards, Councils and Commissions) that do not represent the conservative nature of the North Idaho electorate. They are willing to create a dense fog of "non-partisanship" to fool the voters into believing they are devoid of any ideology other than civic virtue, public service and a dedication to "hope and change." I recall that tactic was used before.

What their "balance" is really about is balancing the interests of two interest groups. On one side of the scale are the Democratic party/liberal activists with their mouthpieces in the press. On the other side is the money: the organizations, businesses and unions who benefit from expansion of government and uncontrolled spending. One side provides the manpower and the other lots of money (that originated in public coffers) Do not be mistaken, the coalition of these interests is formidable. They arrogantly believe they have a right to rule. They have an army of followers on the public payroll. They have a plethora of lobbyists and contributors with deep pockets dedicated to keeping the government gravy train rolling into their bank accounts.

This May election will be the toughest the Reagan Republicans have ever fought. We will have the best funded and organized liberal opposition we have yet faced. They have shown their willingness to tell tall tales to confuse the voters in whatever way will benefit their schemes. To compete we must be better organized, better funded and more motivated than ever before. Our task is simple: shine the light, expose the truth and the voters of Kootenai County will come home to their conservative values on Election Day. Every conservative and every Republican, not just Reagan Republicans, is needed to make this unified stand. We all must join the cause, give until hurts and unify like never before so the people will not be fooled again.