

the Messenger

October 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In one of his many inimitable moments Ronald Reagan said, "The American future does not belong to the faint-hearted. It belongs to the brave." Echoing President Reagan's comments, we are now living in extraordinary times that require genuine courage to secure two of our most cherished

Though we are pleased with our recent success, we are even more excited about our future. The Institute has an ambitious schedule planned for the final quarter of 2004 including an analysis of Florida's entire tax structure from Senior Fellow, Randall Holcombe. Likewise, we are producing monthly op-eds on issues ranging from property rights, to education reform, to restoring dignity and personal responsibility to our healthcare system. Finally, you will find in this mailing a voter education guide for the upcoming election that analyzes each of the constitutional amendments on the ballot from a free market, limited government perspective.

The James Madison Institute is your source for information regarding public policy in Florida. Our thoughtful and energetic board has a clear vision for the future of this organization and a bold plan to get us there. As you know, JMI is funded mostly through membership. We take zero government money. Consequently, your membership is the life-blood of this organization. To our members, we say thank you for your commitment. It matters much. If you have received the *Messenger* and you are not a member, please consider joining today, as your gift will allow us to increase our influence and multiply our impact.

Thank you for all that you do for the Institute and please visit our website or call us if we can help you as you, too, engage in the battle of ideas. I look forward to seeing you around the state as we continue to protect freedom and liberty for all Floridians.

Bob



Bob McClure

underpinnings – freedom and liberty. As your new president, I am truly excited about the future of this organization and the ability it has to influence public policy in Florida.

The James Madison Institute has been hard at work in recent months, engaged in the very real battle of ideas. As you will see in this edition of the *Messenger*, we have added energetic and talented board members. Likewise, we have hosted both the Vice President of the United States, Dick Cheney, as well as Club for Growth President Steve Moore. Recently, we hosted a panel debate on the very serious Canadian prescription drug reimportation issue. We have generated multiple media mentions for the Institute, entered into a relationship with United Press International, and updated our website. Yet that is only a part of what has occurred in the last three months.

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See Insert for Florida
2004: A Guide to
the Constitutional
Amendments

Directors Select J. Robert McClure III as President and CEO

On his first full day as the president of The James Madison Institute on June 14, Bob McClure stood as master of ceremonies before an enthusiastic crowd of more than 500 people gathered to hear a policy address by Vice President Dick Cheney. The momentum gathered is indicative of the directness and speed with which McClure has assumed his leadership role here. He has already had lengthy exchanges with several of the knowledgeable policy leaders throughout the state, and has set JMI on an active course of public events and publications.

McClure is no stranger to JMI. A Tallahassee native, he has attended Institute functions for years. As early as 1993, he worked with Institute personnel to plan and carry out a program at The Maclay School, where he was an administrator and teacher, to bring free market leaders to interact with an accelerated group of senior students.

An experienced administrator, Bob McClure most recently served as Executive

Director of the St. John's Episcopal Foundation in Tallahassee, where the assets of the Foundation more than doubled in the two years of his hands-on leadership.

A graduate of Furman University, McClure has an M.S. from Florida State University, and is nearing completion on his doctoral work at the University of Florida. Bob and his wife Julie, an interior designer, are the parents of two daughters, ages 8 and 5.

It is not uncommon for Bob to spend at least one day a week in other areas of Florida meeting longtime JMI supporters and broadening the awareness of the public about the role of JMI in Florida's public policy. In other words, this is a "go to" leader of boundless energy and we are already experiencing the benefit of his leadership. As he makes his way around the state, Bob would be delighted to visit with you or your civic group as a speaker. He thinks of himself and JMI as a resource for all Floridians, and hopes that you will too.*



Julie and Bob McClure



JMI Founder and Vice Chair Stan Marshall introduces Vice President Cheney



Lynne Cheney, Stan Marshall, Rebecca Dunn, Bob McClure, Jon Rawlson, Tom Feeney, Vice President Cheney

Vice President Dick Cheney Addresses Institute Members and Friends

Hosted by the James Madison Institute, Vice President Dick Cheney addressed a large crowd of Orlando-area members and friends at the Rosen Centre Hotel June 14. The Vice President was accompanied by Mrs. Lynne Cheney. This JMI Policy Forum marked the return of active Institute programming for the Orlando area. Mr. Cheney

directed his remarks to the policy issue of terrorism. The

Cheney's were greeted by JMI Founder and Vice Chair Stan Marshall, and board members Rebecca Dunn, Jon Rawlson, former board member Tom Feeney, and President Bob McClure. Also attending were directors George Gibbs, John Kirtley and Bill McCollum.

For additional information on this event with photographs and media links, please visit www.jamesmadison.org *



The audience, including JMI Board members John Kirtley, George Gibbs, (with wife Ann) center row 2, and Bill McCollum, nearest camera row 1.

Steve Moore Addresses JMI Luncheon Forum in Tallahassee

On September 10, Club for Growth President Stephen Moore shared his views about the upcoming November elections with about 70 JMI luncheon attendees. A strong proponent of free market economics and balanced budgets, Moore commented on runaway government spending at the national level and the desirability of electing to office persons who are reliable on the issues that are so critical in advancing prosperity—tax and spending cuts, fundamental tax reform and simplification, school choice, and personal investment of Social Security. A senior fellow at the Cato Institute and contributing editor for *National Review*, Moore is a regular contributor to *The Wall Street Journal* and *Human Events*. ❄



From left facing speaker Steve Moore: Anne Coloney, Earl Durden, Shirley Marshall, George Avant, Jr., Charles Hilton, Bob McClure; Bev Kilmer and Amy Gwartney looking on.

Chairman Hilton (back to camera) chats with (from left) John Kirtley, Earl Durden, Florida Supreme Court Justice Ken Bell, and Don Gaetz.



The James Madison Institute thanks those who sponsored the Steve Moore events ~ Anheuser-Busch Companies, Central Heating Consultants Inc., Demont Insurance Agency and Financial Services, GrayRobinson, and Rowland Publishing, Inc. Please see www.jamesmadison.org for additional coverage of this event.

L. Charles Hilton, Jr. of Panama City Heads Board of Directors; New Directors Named

Charles Hilton first voiced his support of The James Madison Institute as far back as 1992, with a contribution in support of his and the Institute's belief in free markets and personal responsibility. An outspoken advocate of government based on constitutional law, this Panama City attorney, businessman and hotelier never leaves one in doubt about his passionate devotion to the cause of freedom and what America needs to

do to preserve them, and his willingness to stand in their defense.

A constant champion of the Institute's philosophy, Mr. Hilton spent ten years as a member before joining the Board of Directors in 2002. The directors and the Institute's staff are grateful that Mr. Hilton has carved time from an otherwise hectic schedule to take on the leadership of governance for Florida's longtime policy organization. ❄



L. Charles Hilton, JMI Chairman of the Board, welcomes guests at the Steve Moore luncheon in Tallahassee.

In action taken during a meeting of the directors on September 20, the first of several anticipated additions to the board were invited to serve three year terms.

K. Earl Durden of Panama City is Chairman, CEO and Director of Rail Man-



K. Earl Durden

agement Corporation, which owns and operates 16 railroads, a trucking company and a rental equipment leasing company. He presently serves as chairman of the Florida Transportation Commission.

Don Gaetz is the first non-educator to serve as the Okaloosa County



Don Gaetz

Superintendent of Schools, having sought the position "to make a difference" after retiring from 20 years as principal officer and owner of VITAS Healthcare Corporation, the nation's largest provider of hospice services to terminally ill patients.❄

THE JAMES MADISON INSTITUTE

A FOUNDATION FOR
FLORIDA'S FUTURE

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