

## The 2nd Civil War

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Even though Rosie the Riveter was a fictitious character, the image of this muscular woman became an enduring wartime icon, embodying the nation's can-do spirit. She was popularized in posters, warbond promotions and the 1942 song, "Rosie the Riveter". Recently the Florida Marijuana Party resurrected her as part of their logo and we felt she also embodied the spirit of the "Army of Ordinary People" and so, used her on this cover. We then added the marijuana leaf tattoo on her arm and a few changed stars on the flag to show some of the states that have relaxed the prohibition on marijuana. Table of Contents Feature Story The 2nd Civil War

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The 2nd Civil War

Never since slavery has an issue divided America like the war on marijuana. Cannabis use is the single largest act of civil disobedience in North America; ever!

Bombarded by conflicting images, Canadians' view of the US is shaped by the the Seventies Show and constant positive references to marijuana that fill the media airways.

They also see the stars getting off with a warning while the little guys on the real cop shows get treated like dangerous murderers; for a roach. Real life police shows slam pot smokers to the ground yelling and screaming in their face.

Canadians see American officials threatening to make it more painful for everyone to cross the border, totally denying medicinal benefits from cannabis and accusing those who organize the resistance of just wanting to get stoned.

We laugh at Americans who are ignorant of things Canadian. Well, some Canadians are wondering if anyone down there is standing up to this repression?

Having some political experience, when first I spoke to Loretta, I was prepared for some paper cowboys, since the US Marijuana Party was loose-knit and substantially a new organization. My Canadian superiority melted away as I talked with Loretta, opened their web site and began to read the personal stories of the willing candidates

Many of us involved in the Marijuana Party in Canada have experienced the excitement of standing up in front of a public meeting and being allowed to explain our position on cannabis in a typical Canadian polite and rational way. To the surprise of many candidates, audiences responded positively, clapping and often commenting on the way out of the hall "good job, very informative, sorry I can't vote for you but you have made me think".

Americans are more patriotic about the flag and the vote, and one can assume some will be insulted that these druggies would dare to use the political process in such a disrespectful manner. Will these brave candidates be received in such a civilized fashion in USA? I seriously doubt it! I see the phenomenon of the rise of the US Marijuana Party as an important indicator that the masses in America are waking up. Ordinary Americans from all walks of life are stepping forward to block the tanks.

Be careful out there. The US Marijuana Party

The U.S. Federal Marijuana Party US Marijuana Party

Loretta Nall / President

"All experience has shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such a government, and to provide new guards for their future security"

Thomas Jefferson, United States Declaration of Independence

Who is the US Marijuana Party?

The United States Marijuana Party is a motivated group of Americans who are tired of living in fear of their government because of marijuana prohibition. We are fed up with the intrusion into our personal lives, with urine testing at work and school, with armed home invasion, and with the possibility of prison because of a plant. We are Americans and we do not piss in a cup for anyone but our doctor!

We feel it is time for the 12 million Americans who smoke marijuana on a regular basis to stop hiding their love for this plant and unite as one large body of voters to demand an end to the unconstitutional prohibition of marijuana and the drug war. The U.S. cannot lock up 12 million people. The War on Drugs causes more harm than the drugs themselves ever will. United, we are a potential 12 million vote political machine. We want to live free and we must be determined to stand up, be counted, demonstrate, rally, and write. Waiting for the government to silence us all in the American prison

system is not an option. Too many of our brethren are there, in prisons right now.

More Americans are in jail today for non-violent drug offenses than at any previous time in American history. More Americans are in jail today for marijuana offenses than at any previous moment in American history. The war against marijuana is a genocidal war waged against us by a government determined to eradicate our plant, our culture, our freedom and our political rights.

What does the US Marijuana Party do?

The United States Marijuana Party is here to help citizens take control of our out-of-control government and to return the power to the people as it should be.

We are patriotic citizens who firmly believe in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

We organize Marijuana Parties in the states across the U.S.

Right now 18 states have Marijuana Parties.

We are striving hard to have all 50 states represented by the end of 2003.

If you do not have a Marijuana Party in your state, start one right now!

Our plan is to run candidates on the Marijuana Party ticket in local, state, and national elections and to debate this issue whenever the opportunity arises.

How can you help this US MJ Party?

The USMJP operates solely from donations made by concerned citizens and from volunteer work.

You can help by making a donation, starting or supporting a Marijuana Party in your state, organizing rallies and protests, and writing letters to editors or your state representatives calling for an end to prohibition and the drug war. Another thing that anyone can do is simply to talk about the issue with friends, relatives and co-workers at every opportunity. The more we push this controversial topic into the spotlight to be discussed, the sooner the nightmare of prohibition will come to an end. Do your part.

Please visit our website at [www.usmjparty.com](http://www.usmjparty.com) for more detailed information on how to get involved. Alabama & USMJP

Alabama

Loretta Nall President

excerpts by Elizabeth Bernard

At twenty-eight years of age, Loretta Nall appears to be a typical wife and mother, but there was nothing typical about what happened to her on September 17. That day her quiet rural Alabama life was invaded by agents of the Alexander City Police Department, the Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department, the Tallapoosa County Narcotics Task Force, the Marijuana Eradication Project, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Alabama Bureau of Investigation. She had been puzzled by the appearance of a helicopter that had hovered over her house for nearly an hour, but the puzzle was solved when all of the police vehicles began pulling onto her property. You see, exactly one week earlier, Loretta had taken a trip to Vancouver, BC, to visit Marc Emery, a well-known Canadian marijuana-legalization activist. She took the trip not to get high, but to learn the art of political activism. Loretta had it in her head to start an Alabama arm of the American Marijuana Party. Upon her arrival in Canada, she notified customs officials where she was going and whom she was going to see, at which point all her papers were seized and she was held in limbo for several hours while the Canadian authorities checked her background to see if they had any reason to stop her from entering the country. Then they returned her passport and told her she was free to go. Loretta had no police record. That is, she didn't have one until last Wednesday.

Loretta is convinced that the sudden appearance of the authorities at her doorstep is a direct result of her trip to Canada. She claims that no one would have had any reason to suspect her of anything. She leads a quiet life rearing two children. Knowing her rights (something the police probably assumed a high-school dropout in rural Alabama would know nothing about), Loretta gave the authorities permission to search outside her house, trying to spare herself a huge hassle, but she insisted that if they wanted to come inside, they would need to get a warrant. When Loretta brought out her video camera to record what they were doing, they high-tailed it off her property.

Less than a month later, Loretta formally founded the Alabama Marijuana Party, and a little more than a month after that, on November 7, she had her first letter to the editor published in the Birmingham News calling for the legalization of marijuana. On November 13, Judge Kim Taylor of the Tallapoosa County District Court received a request from the Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department to issue a search warrant for Loretta's property on the basis of an alleged anonymous phone-in tip that she was growing marijuana inside her house. The search warrant was issued, and less than three hours later, it was executed.

Loretta returned home from a morning of job hunting to discover that the police had broken into her home. What did the police find after breaking in Loretta's front door, looking for a crop that didn't exist? Of course, one wouldn't expect to find a marijuana crop in her diaries, which were seized, or in the plates of catnip, also seized, or in her copy of the November 7 Letter to the Editor, seized, or in the Salvia leaves in the freezer, seized (Mr. Nall is a horticulturist), or in the printed materials regarding marijuana and political action, seized. The police did not even stop to think twice about sifting through the ashes contained in an urn, the ashes of Loretta's son who had died at the age of three months of SIDS.

So what did the police get for all their efforts? They found one marijuana stem, three seeds and a package of cigarette papers, which they claim to have found in an envelope on Loretta's printer. Not content with harassing Loretta by ransacking her house, the police called in the Alabama Department of Human Resources, whose agents declared Loretta's home unfit for her children. They informed her that if she did not have a place to send the children to stay, then the state would take them away. Loretta had not truly been afraid, until then. She had been certain the police would find nothing but an unclean home when they searched. It hadn't occurred to her how far the state would go to punish her for her activism. She hadn't realized she might lose her children. Her son and daughter were

brought to her mother's house, some fifty miles away, but only after the agents of the state questioned her five-year-old daughter and ten-year-old son relentlessly. Loretta was handcuffed and taken to jail where she was formally booked for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. The police wanted to make sure the Nalls knew they were helpless in the face of the state's power.

The irony is, Loretta doesn't feel helpless. She feels empowered by what has happened to her. She is determined to continue the fight. Her determination is all the more amazing because Loretta and her husband are not well off. They have a modest livelihood, and this fight could cost them thousands of dollars. Loretta might not have an advanced education, but she does have intelligence, and even more important, she has a conscience. She wasn't born an activist; she was made into one. She watched as several friends had their careers and families destroyed by marijuana convictions. To her, such punishment was plain cruelty, and she couldn't and still cannot understand how Americans can sit idly by and watch as the government turns the lives of thousands upon thousands of people upside down over something as innocuous as marijuana. "We as Americans have a responsibility to fight for justice and freedom." California MJP California

Tony Bowles

I am proud to say that I am a third generation Cannabis consumer; I have used this wonderful herb for over a decade now and I feel great!

I live in the wonderful city by the bay, San Francisco, California.

My cannabis activism started after hearing about Ed Rosenthal's trial on Pot-TV News. I went down to the Federal Courthouse here in San Francisco to show my support. It turned out to be the day that the "Juror's Revolt" happened. I listened and watched as these jurors spoke out in favor of Ed. It was then and there that I decided to get involved with Americans for Safe Access. On Cannabis Freedom Day I was helping ASA by passing out literature and getting people to sign a letter of support for the prisoners of this drug war. People kept asking me for information on any organizations that supported legalization, not just for medicinal but personal use. I informed them of the United States Marijuana Party, and passed out literature on the party. People seemed very responsive and generally liked the idea of a Marijuana Party

After giving it some thought, I decided that I wanted to help support the Marijuana Party in the Bay Area.

I would like to say that the brave, courageous, freedom fighters of the Marijuana Party are my heros and make me so proud to be a pot-smoker. All of them set an extremely good example, which we are in short supply of these days. I have seen how we must stand up and fight for our most basic rights or we will not be truly free. I have seen unjust sentences and the innocent imprisoned.

As Henry David Thoreau says, "Under a government that imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also in prison."

I pledge my allegiance to the unfortunate victims trapped within the belly of the beast, locked up in solitary confinement for showing compassion. I have no love for a government without heart that smashes down doors and terrorizes families; a government that uses an extremely excessive amount of force that shatters lives and sometimes ends in death

Smoke Pot & Be Proud! NEW JERSEY MJP New Jersey

Ed Forchion, Njweedman

It's time the average US citizen stands up to our government and demands freedom. Its time for a new

"Tea Party". I openly advocate a campaign of civil disobedience and the utilization of jury nullification to win this WAR ON US!

I'm a 39 year old American of African descent. I'm a US Army veteren and also served in the New Jersey National Guard and USMC, honorably discharged from all three. Released from the army on June 21st, 1990, I went into business for myself as a coast to coast owner operator truck driver. I became aware of how cheap marijuana was in the south western US due to mexican marijuana crossing the border. As a capitalist, it didn't take me long to get into transporting large amounts of marijuana from Arizona to New Jersey several times a year. In 1997 I was arrested after a small 40 pound shipment did arrive via Federal Express.

After I was arrested I insisted on a "fair trial". I attempted to employ a defense called Open Advocaton of Jury Nullification. I wanted the citizens on the jury to judge the law as well as the facts. I wished to present a case that the law was wrong, not I.

On April 20, 1998 I formed the (LMP) Legalize Marijuana Party and to get publicity I started using the moniker of "NJWEEDMAN". I ran for several public offices, sometimes more than one at a time.

It took the state of New Jersey almost three years to get me to trial; during that three years I made a routine of public acts of disobedience. Eventually in 2000 I was convicted at a totally "unfair trial" where I wasn't allowed to use my defense or to present any witnesses to support my contention that the US Marijuana Laws are lies. Eventually I pled guilty with the promise that I would be admitted into a state parole program called Intensive Supervision Program, (ISP) within 3-6 months of imprisonment. I also appealed my unfair trial and the denial of pre-trial motions.

The state bamboozled me, and refused to release me to ISP for 17 months and then once I was released, they tried to use the Intensive Supervision Program as the Inmate Silence Program. After 4 months on ISP, I was arrested and held in jail for talking about legalization on my website: njweedman.com and making 3 Political commercials calling for the end of the War on Drugs.

Eventually a federal judge ordered the state to release me back into ISP without the unconstitutional violations of my free speech. Upon getting released, I filed a \$4 million dollar lawsuit naming state officials.

The US Marijuana Party asked me to join them and I did in September. I'll be formally released from ISP on Dec. 3rd and will hold a demonstration on Dec. 6 where I will obviously ingest marijuana, and announce my decision to run once again

for office. I will be running for the 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey against a Republican &ldquo;war hawk&rdquo; named Jim Saxton. I will not only point out that our &ldquo;War on Iraq&rdquo; is based on a lie, but our &ldquo;war on potheads&rdquo; has always been a lie! Mississippi MJP Mississippi

Anita Mayfield

First, I want to say that I was not born an activist. I have been made into one. I am 47 years of age and have witnessed more atrocities to human rights than a person of a free democratic society should ever have to.

I was born in Memphis, Tennessee to a Mississippi woman and an Alabama Man. Now, folks, that&rsquo;s southern. There's no way over, under or around it. At the ripe old age of 6 months, my mother moved me into the home of my maternal grandmother in Holly Springs, Mississippi. From that point on, I have been traveling the US. I always come back here. Most all of the members of my family have either moved away from here or died. Not me, not yet.

I grew up on a cotton farm with a grandfather who was a Mississippi Legislator and a grandmother who could get ANYTHING accomplished. She was the first and foremost persistent woman I ever knew. She fought hard for the underdog and almost always won. I guess a lot of her had to rub off on me. She made it very hard for me to be taken advantage of for any length of time.

I&rsquo;m also a singer, songwriter and play a little guitar. I have a grown son from my short-lived first marriage. I am a lover of great music, family & friends, critters, humor, and to say the least, human rights.

I have been married to a Mississippi man for about 12 years. He is not an activist. He is a hard working, caring veteran of the United States Marines. It was to be his career until an active-duty injury caused him to have to leave his service of country. He is still fighting the VA for what was and is promised to every man or woman fighting for the freedoms of our land. He upholds all human rights and is a very fair and funny man.

I certainly do not insist on anyone indulging in marijuana, tobacco, alcohol, caffeine, ephedra, hallucinogens, prescription tranquilizers, amphetamines, anti-depressants or any other mood altering substance. If one is legal, then all must be legal. How can one be criminal and another not? This is completely illogical and downright stupid!

PEOPLE OF OUR LAND, LET'S GET THIS 65 YEAR OLD PROHIBITION LIFTED OFF CANNABIS / HEMP / MARIJUANA AND STOP THE TRUE TERRORISTS OF THE WORLD.

THE &lsquo;WAR ON DRUGS&rsquo; IS MORE HARMFUL THAN WE THOUGHT! Kentucky MJP Kentucky Gatewood Galbraith

I can't think of a more honorable venture, educating and organizing individual citizens to get involved in the political process to protect other people, especially the sick and dying.

Medical marijuana, our Constitutional right to privacy within our own homes, human rights across the board, prison and sentencing reform, all of these and more are compelling planks that constitute the US Marijuana Party&rsquo;s National Platform. These issues need to be articulated everywhere possible and voters activated around them to force change, not only nationally, but locally.

&ldquo;All politics is local.&rdquo;

I am considering the possibility of running as a US Marijuana Party candidate for President next year. This past November 4, 2003, as an Independent candidate for Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, with no party affiliation and \$20,000, I received 10.6% of the vote, 109,085 votes. That is the second most successful showing of an Independent candidate for a major office in America in the past 50 years. The most successful showing was my race for U.S. Congress in 2002 as an Independent when I received 27% of the vote. (Jesse Ventura was not an Independent. He belonged to the Reform Party that supplied him with \$500,000. If I had that much money, I&rsquo;d be the Attorney General for Kentucky right now.)

BTW, during these races, I revealed that I smoked marijuana daily, for treatment of my emphysema and that I relied on my right to privacy within my own home to remain free of police interference. I believe this privacy in ones own home is a Constitutional right shared by all citizens. Illinois MJP Illinois

Richard Rawlings

I was born in Peoria, Illinois on July 20, 1961. As a child I was raised on Peoria's south side in the Harrison Homes. At age six, my mom remarried and we moved to the east coast, Maryland. While there, I got to visit Washington, D.C. I have stood in front of the Whitehouse, and walked up the steps of the Washington Monument. What really stands out in my memory is being next to John F. Kennedy&rsquo;s grave.

Cannabis should not be illegal. There are drugs that our government has approved the sale of, that are far more damaging then cannabis. As a recreational drug, marijuana is safer then alcohol. This weed does not hurt anyone, other than the pains brought on by its prohibition. Cannabis hemp can be made into clothing, paper, foods, fuel, you name it and this plant can most likely produce it. Hemp fuel burns cleaner than the petroleum that we currently use. Hemp grown for paper and building materials would help in protecting our forest. Hemp is environmentally friendly!

It was in 1997 when I noticed all the pro-marijuana web sites on the internet. This inspired me to build my own site, Legalization Of Cannabis Organization (L.O.C.O.). I became a member of the Libertarian Party in 2000. Earlier this year I became a member of the U.S. Marijuana Party and soon after this in March, I started the Illinois chapter. Again, there are many things that motivate me; medical marijuana patients being denied a drug that helps them, and our government showing no compassion for the chronically ill or dying patients needs. Now with overwhelming evidence that it helps people with Aids/HIV, cancer, MS, and glaucoma, they should not be denied any medicine that could help them.

Students have lost their chance of federal grants, because they got arrested for possessing marijuana while people convicted of violent crimes are eligible for these funds. Denying anyone a chance of a higher education, well, we are just denying ourselves a better way of life. The U.S. Marijuana Party is the voice for all these people who are afraid to speak out against the unjust laws on marijuana or of being incarcerated over a plant. Until the U.S. Government stops putting out its propaganda lies about marijuana, I will remain motivated to putting an end to the senseless war on those that

grow, need, or want marijuana. We are not afraid of the governments or their jails. Pennsylvania MJP Pennsylvania Vincent Alvarez My name is Vincent Alvarez and I live in western Pennsylvania about 60 miles east of Pittsburgh. I moved here with my wife, Kim in 1993 to start a horse business on the family dairy farm. I am an electronic technician with experience in security systems, satellite TV and telecommunications equipment. I have built and flown radio controlled airplanes as a hobby for 24 years.

I found pot-tv.net in 2001 and quickly learned how far the government goes to suppress the truth about cannabis. What kind of family values supports destroying families over a plant? When Loretta Nall founded the US Marijuana Party, I decided to join right away. I decided to do something instead of waiting for my turn to get railroaded. Goose Creek Noticing something suspicious while monitoring the 70 school surveillance cameras, the principle called in police officers who, along with police dogs, conducted a drug sweep at Stratford High School in Goose Creek, South Carolina, a suburb of Charleston. Police found nothing, not even a joint, no drugs. Police reported that their dogs found 12 book bags worthy of sustained sniffing.

Drug sweeps are not uncommon in schools and the majority of students and parents want drugs of all kind kept out of schools. What shocked North America was not just the way the raid was conducted with guns drawn and scenes of children screaming in fear as some are handcuffed and others have guns pointed in their faces, but in a subsequent internet survey 33% of the parents thought the action was appropriate and sent a strong message to students.

McCrackin, the principle who has a history of repressive authoritarian tactics, says he didn't know police would draw their guns and police were just doing their jobs, so who's to blame? <http://www.pot-tv.net/archive/shows/pottvshowse-2320.html>.

I want to thank Cannabis Health Journal for running this back in 2004, and you can visit their website at: <http://www.cannabishealth.com/site/>