

The background of the poster is a collage of images. At the top left is a red-tinted image of the US Capitol dome. To the right is a blue-tinted image of the American flag. Below these are several images of protest marches with various signs. The text 'TEA PARTY' is written in a large, black, serif font on a piece of torn, aged paper. Below it, 'THE DOCUMENTARY FILM' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

TEA PARTY

THE DOCUMENTARY FILM

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LIBERTY'S MARCH HAS A NEW GENERATION OF PATRIOTS



PRESS KIT

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TEA PARTY

THE DOCUMENTARY FILM

TEA PARTY: The Documentary Film

Liberty's March Has A New Generation of Patriots

A Production of Ground Floor Video, LLC

in association with Riddled with Bullets Films and Convergence Entertainment, LLC

Executive Producer

Luke Livingston

Directed By

Pritchett Cotten

Project Writer

Joel Aaron Foster

Produced By

Jessica Levai

Luke Williams

Editor

Matthew Perdie

Running Time

90 minutes

Not Rated

Released Worldwide

November 26, 2009

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Short Synopsis

"Tea Party: The Documentary Film" follows the struggles of five grass roots individuals and their transformation from home town rally goers and rally organizers to national activists in the 912 March on Washington. It traces the movement back to the establishment of a Twitter network in mid 2008 that brought together a group of concerned conservatives by social networking tools. These groups inspired hundreds of off shoots around the country as news spread about TARP, increased nationalization of industries like housing and banking and additional stimulus bills were passed. In the process, the film reveals what is at the heart of this nationwide surge of civic engagement - a return to and respect for a Constitutionally limited government, personal responsibility and fiscal restraint at the Federal level.

Extended Synopsis

"Tea Party: The Documentary Film" follows the struggles of five grass roots individuals and their transformation from home town rally goers and rally organizers to national activists in the 912 March on Washington. In the process, the film reveals what is at the heart of this nationwide surge of civic engagement - a return to and respect for a Constitutionally limited government, personal responsibility and fiscal restraint at the Federal level.

The story of the tea party movement begins with the establishment and growth of an online social network in mid 2008 that brought together a group of concerned conservatives and libertarians by social networking tools like Twitter, Facebook and free web blog pages. These groups inspired hundreds of others around the country as news spread of TARP, increased nationalization of industries like housing, banking and the passage of additional stimulus bills.

The first tea party rallies were held in late February in response to rising home foreclosures, unemployment and struggling financial markets despite the influence of TARP and the recent passage of President Obama's \$787 billion dollar stimulus bill. The movement coalesced around media messages including those of CNBC's Rick Santelli and his rant over "government promotion of bad behavior" and Fox News Channel's Glenn Beck with the launch of "The 912 Project". Fueled by news of vast government expansion into the financial sector, industry bailouts for automotive companies and a bevy of Constitutionally questionable czars, over 800 separate April 15 Tax Day Tea Parties were held around the country with cumulative estimates between 500,000 and 1,000,000

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rally goers. The largest rally was held in Atlanta, Georgia where nearly 15,000 protestors gathered at the State Capital alongside Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity, local radio personality Joel Aaron and dozens of elected representatives, local activists and organizers. Over 15,000 pocket constitutions were distributed in the crowd with an emphasis on first principles and understanding, restoring and upholding the Republic Form of Government. A series of Independence Day Tea Parties followed on the 4 of July taking on a variety of policy issues. Tenth Amendment local control had become a focus caused by the stance of Texas Governor Rick Perry and like minded amendments being discussed in over 30 state legislatures. Healthcare reform began to take center stage in Washington with the introduction of HR 3200 and a Presidential call to pass reform before the August recess. The effort failed and an alternative bill, HR 3400, was introduced, to little effect, on the final day before the recess. Growing concern over increased government control inside and outside the healthcare industry as a result of the healthcare legislation erupted at heated congressional townhall meetings throughout August. Enormous constituent crowds were mobilized by local tea party groups to register dissent against the proposed legislation, citing a need for insurance reform without many of the mechanistic measures that were raising concerns about government overreach. Facing the crucible of healthcare and cap and trade legislation when Congress returned from recess, the stage was set for the largest limited government citizen rally in the nation's history on Saturday, September 12 at the National Mall on Capitol Hill. Unofficial estimates by the National Parks Service and the London based Daily Mail reported over 1.5 million rally goers while widespread dissimilarities were reported by many other networks ranging from "tens of thousands" to "hundreds of thousands".

The five main characters in *Tea Party: The Documentary Film* represent a cross section of those involved in the movement. Nate is a young black man from Detroit, Michigan, who voted for Barack Obama in 2008 before a paradigm shift provided by his Libertarian ideals causes him to risk being ostracized by family and friends to join the march against the President's policies. Jack is a father of two, little league baseball coach, insurance agent and former Democrat turned Constitutionalist. Jenny Beth, a spouse and mother who along with her husband lost a multimillion dollar business, was forced into bankruptcy and home foreclosure before taking a leadership role with a start up group called Tea Party Patriots. William, a patriotic renaissance man, currently serves as a pastor with hobbies that include colonial re-enactor, painter and poet. He is a former Vietnam Veteran, a Pentagon employee, member of the Secret Service and man of the march. DR Fred, a urologist, has over 30 years of medical practice and is entering the activist fray for the first time as a citizen lobbyist alongside hundreds of doctors from around the country. Dave is a medical student and former European model.

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The controversy and questions surrounding the tea party movement have been enormous and sustained throughout the year. Who's funding it? What groups are organizing it? Is it a political front? What is its purpose? What kind of people are involved? How many people are coming to rallies? Where is it headed from here? These are some of the questions addressed in *TEA PARTY: The Documentary Film* from the unique perspective of the local activist. A film designed to further the conversation within the movement and be a resource to those who are standing on the outside looking in to understand why millions of people are rallying in the streets.

Director's Statement

TEA PARTY: The Documentary Film is the story of the national Tea Party movement and the largest protest in American history that occurred on September 12, 2009. The story is captured through five grassroots activists as we ask the question: what moved you to action? We follow their lives as they seek to reign in the growth of the central federal government of the United States.

We follow a young black man as he wrestles with isolation from friends as he fights for what he thinks is right. We see a woman who goes from tremendous personal loss to leading hundreds of thousands in D.C. We struggle with a doctor on Capitol Hill as he fights for his patient's rights. We hear the pastor and his passion for a country that offers freedom from religious persecution. We relate to the everyman, who was moved from the sofa to the streets to make his voice heard.

The Tea Party movement is not a top down organization. It has no central board of directors, or national committee, but rather it is comprised of regular citizens who have taken action as they see their Constitutional freedoms being challenged. The people involved have given of their time and resources because they passionately believe in the ideas of freedom, liberty, and limited central government that our founding fathers proclaimed.

This film is an exciting, emotional, and motivating piece told by those who recognize the privileges and fragility a free society and the responsibility the citizens to preserve it. It is not intended as a rally point against the one political party or another, but rather to examine the United States of 2009 and does it stand up to the ideas bought in blood by the founders of this country.

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BIOS of Filmmakers



Executive Producer
LUKE LIVINGSTON

Luke Livingston has more than 23 years of award-winning experience in broadcast and interactive communications.

In 2002 he was a founding partner of Creative Digital Group, an interactive media and video production company in Atlanta, GA. With a focus on interactive, Creative Digital Group became a leading developer of DVD projects for Atlanta's large corporate client base. Companies like Chick-fil-A, Subway, Honda and The Home Depot have benefited from Luke's expertise in business applications of DVD-Video as well as web-based solutions.

In 2007 Creative Digital Group was sold to LBi, a leading interactive agency and Luke founded Ground Floor Video, a production company specializing in HD-Video products

One of Luke's top DVD accomplishments was the development of a proprietary distance learning solution named DAVIDsm (Digital Audio Video Internet Device) which blends DVD and Browser-based online training into solution that provides full screen video and testing. The DAVID system's preliminary task is to provide interactive, rich media training for front-line employees in retail locations. The DAVID system has won worldwide acclaim for innovation from DVD organizations and was the 2003 winner of excellence in e-Learning from Brandon-Hall.com

Before that, he was owner of Creative Convergence, a new media production company specializing in web-based communications. He was also Executive Producer for Internet consulting company iXL. While in New York, Luke served as Sr. VP of Production for Brockway Direct Response, an Interpublic Company, as well as Producer/Director at Home Shopping Network Entertainment

Luke is currently a Director with the IDMA (International Digital Media Alliance).

For more information, please visit www.groundfloorvideo.com

Luke lives in the Atlanta area with his wife Jo Anne and two beautiful children.

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Director
PRITCHETT COTTEN

Pritchett Cotten is an award winning writer, director, and cinematographer. He has been involved in film production for over ten years and has written and directed eight narrative films. His cinematography has appeared in various venues including broadcast television and the Cannes Film Festival. He has been instructor of film production at the Dozier Center for the performing arts, and his photography has appeared in print and television.



Project Writer
JOEL AARON FOSTER

Joel Aaron recently won the 2009 Radio Personality of the Year Award from the Georgia Association of Broadcasters after four year as the local voice on Atlanta-based WGKA radio.

In 2006, Joel began on air as creator and host of The Hub Radio Show –America’s First Competition Talk Show, where he was covered around the talk radio industry in Talkers Magazine, Radio and Records, Al Peterson’s News Talk Sports Media Online. In 2008 he became creator and host of Morning in Atlanta where he introduced the “Atlanta Townhall Panel - The Nation’s First Listener Supplied Morning Radio Team”. In 2009 he began hosting the mini-monologue program Sound Bytes –The Nation’s Shortest Talk Show.

Joel is currently an active force in the nationwide tea party movement as an organizer, frequent speaker and founder of the “We The People REVOLUTION” and “Next Step Training” seminar series. He hosted the Atlanta Tea Party on April 15 with over 20,000 participants where he also served as Program Director for the event and built a volunteer task force to distribute Pocket Constitutions at tea party events around the country. In July, he hosted the Cobb Tea Party with

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over 10,000 in attendance and CO-hosted America's Healthcare Townhall with Herman Cain in August. In September, Joel served as the GA State Coordinator

for the GA March on DC Caravan and a series of "Rendezvous Rallies" held around the state.

Joel recently went independent of WGKA radio to take on an increased presence with the tea party movement and pursue other media opportunities. He is also involved in the forthcoming promotional phase for Our Republic Walk and the All American Citizen Team nationwide civic literacy initiative. He currently works on a contract basis with Americans for Prosperity.

For more information go to www.joelaaron.net.



Producer

JESSICA LEVAI

Jessica studied film at Film Arts Foundation in San Francisco, California and has been working in the industry for nearly a decade. Some of her more recent work includes line producer and camera operator for a documentary on the threat of invasive plant species with a focus on Yellow Star Thistle and Spanish Broom. She continued as Director of a documentary on western expatriates living in the former

Soviet Block at the turn of the century. Her most recent work includes *Diaries of a Minute Mother*, a project about illegal immigration and the work of a "minute-mother" in Chula Vista, California, struggling to balance political activism and family responsibilities. She began working with the tea party film project in August.



Producer/Editor

MATTHEW PERDIE

Matt Perdie is a 23 year old filmmaker and professional editor from New York who recently went independent to produce the film *Perdie Across America*, a documentary

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saga about his trek across America to raise awareness about the dangers of out of control government spending. The film is episodic and shares the stories from the road that trace the core principles that Americans live by, minus the political correctness through which those values are normally filtered. Perdie counts Glenn Beck and as he describes it, “the media’s overt and

manipulative bias”, as an inspiration for his journey. Perdie joined the *Tea Party: The Documentary Film* crew in late September to work as an editor on the film.

For more information go to www.perdie.com.

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Distribution Strategy

The distribution strategy for *TEA PARTY: The Documentary Film* centers on efforts from the community networks that it profiles and a first-of-its-kind online technological strategy involving the new Gigaplex platform from the Apple AppStore

Tea party groups are being encouraged to host “cinematic tea party” sneak peek nights between Nov 2 and Thanksgiving Day. These events will screen a portion of the film and then feature speakers, Q&A sessions and/or moderated panels focusing on the principles of the tea party movement. The functions are open to any group to sponsor and will occur nationwide in homes, community centers, civic club meeting places, et cetera.

The film is also being promoted through email and online networks associated with several organizations involved in the project. Online social networking tools are being used as well as traditional radio and television interviews wherever available. Rally goers are being encouraged to use resources available at www.TeaPartyMovie.com on the “Get Involved” page to hand out promotional materials at tea parties and other community functions.

When the DVD becomes available for purchase on November 2, it will be through a variety of groups using the film as a fundraising tool and www.TeaPartyMovie.com. When it is released direct to DVD on Thanksgiving Day, it will also be available for download through the new Gigaplex film distribution platform, which is downloadable from Apple’s AppStore. The Gigaplex app is the first ever application which allows independent film makers access to over 80 million mobile and desktop users. *Tea Party: The Documentary Film* will be the first documentary films in the U.S. to use this new technology.

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CHARACTER Analysis



NATE

Nate, a young black man from Detroit, Michigan, voted for Barack Obama in 2008 from an upbringing that taught him to mistrust America because of the color of his skin. As a Libertarian with a paradigm shift and a newfound understanding of the nation he loves, he is risking the anger of family and friends by joining the march against a President's policies he feels would victimize the very people he loves the most.



JACK

Jack is a father of two young children, a little league baseball coach and a health insurance agent. He risks losing his job under current healthcare reform. He is a Democrat turned Constitutionalist and the younger brother of a Vietnam Veteran who is marching for his children and the future of the America in which he believes.



JENNY BETH

In 2008, she and her husband lost a multimillion dollar business, were forced into bankruptcy and home foreclosure. Nine months later, she is working as a national leader in the tea party movement, organizing events through Tea Party Patriots, an activist organization she helps lead, and taking her message to the steps of the National Mall with the company of millions behind her.

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WILLIAM

William is a patriot renaissance man, a pastor, colonial re-enactor, painter, poet, Vietnam veteran, former Pentagon and Secret Service employee and a man of the march. He can be outrageous and funny or somber and reflective, full of antics and unpredictability. He marched for the Vietnam Memorial during the Reagan Era and this time, his journey back to Washington, DC leads him to the front lines of the march down Pennsylvania Avenue on September 12.



DR FRED SHELSEL

Dr Fred Shessel is a doctor moved to action against a government threatening to undermine the doctor-patient relationship with suffocating beaucracy and increased taxpayer spending. Now, with over 30 years in practice as a highly respected urologist, he is stepping out of the hospital corridors to lead an army of fellow physicians into the halls of power and corruption to fight for his patients on Capitol Hill.



DAVE

Dave is a 20-something young professional studying to become a doctor. He spent time as a fashion model in Milan and beyond and is sick of big government and the apathy within his own generation. He is now moved to action in the tea party movement by a government gone too far.

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Contributors

FreedomWorks
Tea Party Patriots
Americans for Prosperity
Tea Party Express

Credits

Directed by
Pritchett Cotten

Produced by
Jessica Levai

Executive Producer
Luke Livingston

Project Writer
Joel Aaron Foster

Production Manager
Jo Anne Livingston

Associate Producer
Luke Williams

Graphic Artist
Allen Oliver

Director of Photography
Pritchett Cotton

Additional Camera
Luke Williams
David Tapper

Edited by
Matthew Perdie

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Additional Editing
Matthew Perdie
Luke Williams
Pritchett Cotton

Music
Calvin "Hi Caliber" Tanelle
Jeremy Hoop
FirstCom Music

Narration
David Roberts

Picture Postproduction
Ground Floor Video – Woodstock, GA

Marketing Intern
David Thompson

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Tea Party Patriots
FreedomWorks
Americans for Prosperity
Tea Party Express
Smart Girl Politics
The 912 Project