

GROUND SWELL

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MISSIONS ACCOMPLISHED AT NCSL IN ATLANTA, GA

By Al Katzenberger, St. Louis, MO

The first mission was to get LVT information to state legislators. The second was to seek and receive contact information for having an educational workshop at the next NCSL gathering.

The National Conference of State Legislatures was held in Atlanta, GA at the huge Georgia World Congress Center next to the George Dome. The center was very well designed and we had no problem getting our heavy boxes of Georgist literature to and from our exhibit booth. Public Revenue Education Council (PREC) has been exhibiting at the NCSL every year since starting 1996 in St. Louis.

PREC hosted booths in 1996 in St. Louis, 1997 in Philadelphia, 1998 in Las Vegas, 1999 in Indianapolis, 2000 in Chicago, 2001 in San Antonio, 2002 in Denver, 2003 in San Francisco, 2004 in Salt Lake City, 2005 in Seattle, 2006 in Nashville, 2007 in Boston, 2008 in New Orleans, 2009 in Philadelphia, 2010 in Louisville, 2011 in San Antonio, and 2012 in Chicago.

PREC's booth was near the front entrance of the exhibit hall next to the Amtrak booth. The Amtrak booth was a good neighbor because many legislators were visiting their booth and because the legislators were concerned about not having Amtrak services after October 1, 2013. After listening to that bad news they slowly moved to our booth.

We had a lot of Georgist literature provided by Common Ground-USA, Schalkenbach Foundation and the Center for the Study of Economics. We ran out of the pamphlet "The Economic Effects Of Today's Property Tax" by C. Lowell Harris, the Common Ground-USA "Online Resource Card" listing fourteen Georgist websites, and "42 Objections and Responses" to LVT by Steven Cord. Don Killoren, Vice-President of PREC noticed most of the Georgist literature with biblical titles also were popular. We had the land value color coded map of Greenwich, Connecticut and told visitors to look at it as a Monopoly board and also to visualize the map as a way of receiving and understanding their real estate tax bills. We also explained to them that such colorized maps could show neighborhood values and make it easy for them to compare the land values in their area and see if the values looked correct.

PREC has been seeking to have a Georgist educational workshop at NCSL to inform/train the state legislators about the value of implementing Land Value Taxation in their state. Mr. Arturo Perez, NCSL's Program Director of Fiscal Affairs is waiting for a proposal from our leading Georgists Joshua Vin-

cent and Ted Gwanney. Next year the NCSL will be at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. PREC selected a booth for next year that will have two sides available to access visitors. Having a straight line booth sometimes makes it difficult to see the literature on the display table when visitors stand in front of the table and block the view of other visitors. Next year we are hoping to have visitors walk into our booth from two sides.

Representatives Dwight Evans of Pennsylvania and Anne Healey of Maryland are eager to receive more LVT information from people in their areas. The Polaris Project an exhibitor near us is seeking to end world slavery. They became interested in our booth when we told them we were seeking to free wage and debt slaves.

While in Atlanta, Don Killoren's wife booked us at The Highland Inn an Old English Inn, visit <http://www.thehighlandinn.com/>. One end of the Highland Corridor District was Yuppies and the other end was Hippies with a lot of tattoos. Yes, we went to the hippy Vortex restaurant and were served by girls with "sleeves" meaning arms covered in tattoos. The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum was visited. The Library is open only by invitation to researchers. The Museum had very few visitors. It was strange the Museum was void of the Economic Problems Americans Experienced During Carter's Administration. When the staff was asked about the lack of information concerning Carter's Economic Policies/Problems the reply was everything can not be shown and such information was removed in 2008 and is now in storage. We met a Carter researcher and he was very interested in our observation and told us he will seek out the Museum curator and will question her thoroughly about the lack of Carter's Economic Policies/Problem in the Museum.

When in the Atlanta, GA area visit the beautiful new Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, GA.

While in Pittsburg at the CGO Conference the new National Cemetery of the Alleghenies was visited and when asked why was the cemetery so far from Pittsburg the story was told that when the dairy farmer was selling his farm that question was asked, so he asked the VA administrator to walk to the top of the hill that was part of his pasture and when they got to the top of the hill and looked through an opening in the trees to see the U S Steel Building in downtown Pittsburg, the VA administrator said that was close enough and bought the farm. It was a joyful experience to climb the hill and see the U S Steel Building. While out of town (continued on pg. 15)