

# Shanti:



# Peace

**LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT - NEVER A COVER  
BLUEGRASS 4-7 EVERY SATURDAY**

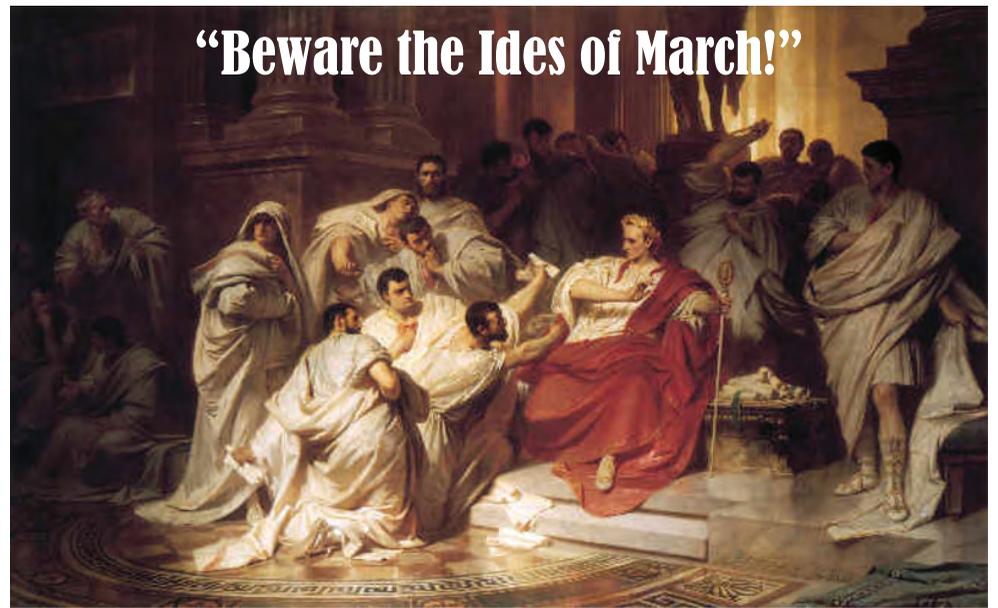
**2 HAPPY HOURS 11-1 AND 4-7**

**INDOOR SMOKING**

**825 ALLEN IN SOULARD, MO - 314-241-4772**

**EVEN DOGS ARE WELCOME!**

## “Beware the Ides of March!”



### ESSAY | Too Late To Say Goodbye by Henry Nicolle

William Shakespeare wrote in his play Julius Caesar, dramatizing Plutarch's Life of Julius Caesar, of the challenges of perspective in governing, ruling and the aspects of leaders and leadership. If one were to isolate the peculiar influences of time, place and personality, we would perceive the fundamental human relationships which frame the ideas upon which the perspectives of life, liberty and property are constructed. The stage and actors move through time and place, the author does not. So, the play repeats, uninterrupted and immutable.

I have heard that lies are mostly cooperative acts. I suspect this is true. Most of us know when we are told lies. We know when we are being seduced and when in one fashion or another, we are being betrayed. We value plausible deniability above all other social tools. With it, we can receive the benefits of a fraud while maintaining our presumptions of innocence by ignorance. We believe we can get laid without getting pregnant. We are simply ignorant, not so innocently, pregnant.

We are easily seduced. We desire our own seduction. We are Sinners. Those before us were Sinners, infected with the same folly. We now revisit the Sins of our Fathers as if Our Own. We reap the harvest of our labors of neglect and indifference for our Liberty. It is a bountiful harvest, generously fertilized by education and information but absent the weeding and tending of crop spoilers. Farming is labor intensive. We spend more energy avoiding labor than the energy of the labor itself. Now, we eat weeds.

We are in a period such as that described by the Seer in Plutarch's and Shakespeare's alarms of change, accepted in theory, unanticipated in practice. Change is now upon us and continued deniability a mortally dangerous folly. To Caesar's flippant remark ". . . the Ides of March has come.", the Seer replied, "Aye Caesar, but not gone." (See [www.issuu.com/stlsinner/docs/issue2](http://www.issuu.com/stlsinner/docs/issue2), The Wild and Wicked Winds of March (Page 4))

We had a choice for Liberty or for convenience. We chose convenience. We had a choice between individual achievement and armed subsidy. We chose subsidy by violent theft. After two centuries of Rights abuse, we chose between equality of individual rights and the practices of exploitation under color of law. We waffled, choosing continued exploitation and rejecting individual, inherent Rights, Liberty and Self-determination. Consistent with prior, hypocritically poor choices, we pretended to "Free the Slaves" as we summarily destroyed the Rights of all Americans. Indeed, we established a "new equality" before the law and in all other aspects at the cost of Liberty.

We have had many opportunities to select peace and prosperity. We have rejected these, all of them. We prefer to wage war upon other People and upon our own. There is no law remaining upon which we can depend to preserve our appeals for justice and gain peaceful redress.

Our political avenues have been corrupted as thoroughly and efficiently as our institutions, courts and academies. We have drowned our many opportunities to self-govern in the sewers of self-service and at expense of self-preservation and self-determination. We have made so many bad choices that today, our choices are meaningless. We are offered choices among options we do not create and of which all serve our Rights and Liberty not a whit.

Our fate no longer rests in our own hands, neither individually nor in the collective of society. Is our sorry state irredeemable? Have we an opportunity yet for remedial action? Maybe.

How willing are you, in the face of ignorant, ambitious opposition, to seize your own personal Liberty? Can you give up the "personal deductions" in reporting "taxes" un-owed except by "policy"? Can you work, travel, own property, marry, raise your children, speak freely, defend yourself and your neighbors without asking for permission and paying tribute? Can you make yourself free from central management and personal servitude? Asking permission, getting a license, paying a fee to exercise a natural and essential Right as a free man or woman has the quality of the begging of a plantation slave or a household indentured servant. If you must ask permission to exercise a Right, you cannot claim "Liberty". You are not at liberty to choose.

You cannot beg and expect to be free. You cannot borrow out of debt. You cannot long prosper from war. You cannot find security in a society governed by violent coercion. You cannot legislate wealth, jobs, security, health, education, environment, safe streets, public tranquility, money, commerce or foreign comity. These things are all voluntary creations of societies composed of individuals who respect the individual and honor inherent individual Rights, Liberty, Property and self-determination.

We have exhausted opportunity. For us, today, it may be too late to say goodbye.