

Greetings PC,

The date I performed w/Howard Dean was June 6th, and that week he was on the cover of both Time and Newsweek as the front-runner in the pres. campaign. I met with him for 1/2 hour a few hours before the gig. The news coverage the following day had a similar photo of Dan & I performing on the front page of major newspapers from coast to coast.

You can read a good 'local color version' of the story here:

<http://www.hawkeyeherman.com/news03.htm>

Dean taught himself to play, chords and a bit of fingerpicking, on some Dave Van Ronk ("Come Back, Back") and Dylan tunes when he was in college and except for a one-song performance as gov in his home state at a dinner featuring 'talented' state officers ... he had never performed. He did a pretty good job of fingerpicking Dylan's "Don't Think Twice..." He also plays a bit of harmonica. We did two songs together, both bluesy shuffles. He played along on guitar on one, and the harp on the other. There were only 3 of his aids present when we met to rehearse.

Before we parted I told Dean to be sure to smile during the entire time we were to be on stage together, regardless of what was going on in the room or with the music ... to always just keep smiling, that a good time is contagious, and so is a bad time. That I'm a pro and that he can just relax and trust me to make us look good and carry the 'show.' Then he left the room to go to the Iowa State Fair for an hour before the 'gig' to press the flesh with the public. When he left the room his chief aide-de-camp for the state came over to me, shook my hand and said, "I'm really glad you said what you said to Gov. Dean about 'be sure to always smile, no matter what. He needed to hear that, and none of us are really 'empowered'/confident enough to give him such advice." That was gratifying, as was the 'gig.'

A few weeks later I got a nice post card in the mail, handwritten from Gov. Dean, thanking me for my music and efforts on his behalf.

You may think that he 'fell from grace' as front-runner in the campaign after the media showed a clip of him 'ranting' at his supporters about his loss in Iowa and the need for them to strongly march on, like a crazy/angry cheerleader. In truth, Demo. cabal sabotaged his campaign from the inside, releasing the out-of-context 1-minute edited video to the press to attack his campaign and popularity. Why would they do this? The reason is because Dean was the first person to raise a huge amount of campaign funds via the Internet, raising over \$650,000 in a very short time. This independent action of effectively doing his own fundraising meant that he could campaign on his own 'platform' without having to promote the party's platform or 'owe' the party platform his allegiance. The upper-level mainstream Demo. party mucky-mucks believed Dean's financial independence, and as a result, his freedom from adhering to the platform to be 'dangerous' ... a 'loose canon.' This was 'explained' to me, after the fact, by an upper-level Dean campaign worker. Dean was the first to use the Internet to gain such financial and political freedom. Now, it's big part of the 'game.'

You can't hold office in the USA without selling out to somebody, corp., or otherwise.

The lack of limits on campaign fundraising and donations has broken the democratic process. And by the way, after the /campaign/election that Dean participated in, and lost, was over ... whom did the Democratic party install as national chr. for the party? Gov. Howard Dean. They couldn't trust him to 'tow the line' as a candidate ... but they sure recognized that they needed his experience and expertise in initiating national Demo. party fundraising via the Internet. ;-)  
He set that up for the Demo. party ... and then "retired" as Demo. nat. chr. ;-)

Off to Dallas soon for a week + of in-school music presentations, a festival gig, and a concert at House of Blues/Dallas.

Spring is here, weather in the 70s.

Hope you're enjoying the season.

Cheers,

Hawkeye

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 25, 2015, at 5:45 PM, Patrick Casey <patrick.casey@live.com> wrote:

Great collage of memories! Can Dean play at all?