

# The Coalition for the Abolition of Marijuana Prohibition

From the desk of Paul Cornwell, local coordinator of the Great Atlanta Pot Festival

Hello Fellow Activist,

I know I have been out of touch for awhile and it may seem as though nothing has been happening with regards to the movement for reform of cannabis laws. Can I take a moment of your time to fill you in on what has been going on?

We have been busy fighting for **the right to return to Piedmont Park**. We haven't been allowed a legitimate stage for our demonstration in the park since **1994!** Though the city tried to stop the event completely, you will remember that we persevered and held the event with **Cypress Hill** and **Black Uhuru** from Jamaica, albeit on a flatbed truck with a generator. It was only possible through the generous support of our members that we were able to pull it off. **Then we sued the City of Atlanta.**

**We won our Federal case against the city in 1999.** And the city was forced to rewrite their unconstitutional ordinance. They finished this work earlier this year. And this ordinance is worse than the last. Much worse, **it was a hollow victory.** We had to file suit against the Park's administrators who twice last year denied our access to the park for the pot festival. And when they denied it last September 21<sup>st</sup>, and then passed and signed this onerous and unconstitutional **Festival 2003 Ordinance** into law, we filed against the city in Federal Court, **again!**

Even after the city suspended **ALL** applications for use of public property last November, which wasn't resumed until January 14<sup>th</sup> of this year, we kept attempting to get access to the park for our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Atlanta Pot Festival. **And we kept trying to apply.**

It has been a long struggle. **And I thought of giving up many times.** But then I remembered all the victims of this war. And I remembered all the prisoners, and broken families, and of all the patients that want and could benefit from medicinal marijuana. And I remembered all the lies that the DEA and all the other misguided and ill informed zealots who would label the culture we belong to as terrorists.

But most of all **I remembered** the half million prisoners rotting in jails in federal and state prisons or that are on long and torturous sentences of parole or probation. And of all the folks who were discriminated against for public schooling, government student loans, or for public housing, or for employment at all without submitting to piss tests.

My dear friend, I continued because I know that the **First Amendment** is the most important weapon we have on our side in this war. Aside from the fact that certain forces don't want rock and roll in Piedmont Park or hip-hop music for that matter, it is important that we preserve the few freedoms that we have. **Without losing anymore.**

Now I must ask for your help. I have carried the ball this far. **NOW**, I think we can make an important statement, if we all further this cause and support an open and frank discussion in public on whether or not we are **AMERICANS**, deserving equal treatment and equal justice. **I need your financial support.** I need all your resources that you can afford to contribute to this cause. Printing, paper, transportation, anything to make this next pot festival a success. You would be surprised how you can help if you put your mind to it. **And you will feel good for it.**

**WE HAVE OUR PERMIT FOR PIEDMONT PARK. THE 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GREAT ATLANTA POT FESTIVAL** is scheduled for **Easter Sunday April 20 (420)** between the hours of noon and **8pm.** **YES, in Piedmont Park by the bathhouse.** We have secured the pavilion and the gazebo. We have activists coming to speak from all over the south. And we have entertainment suitable for everyone. We have some very special guests presenting a **PETER TOSH TRIBUTE with Andrew Tosh** and a killer backup band. And then we have **LIL JON & THE EASTSIDE BOYZ** coming. Opening will be a great surprise rock & roll jam, you'll recognize the artists when you hear! Food & drink also.

**But it has been expensive to carry this load alone.** Although there have been a few hardy souls who have stood by me, and made the sacrifices necessary, this battle is one we need to win decisively and with great public presence. **Don't let me down.**

**Can you help me?** Can you make that sacrifice this time and contribute to the end of this war. This war that has take so many more victims than could ever be conceivable than the war now in progress in Iraq. **And on our own people.** I **NEED** your help. Please, please consider sending me what you can. We need as much as we can get and soon as we can get it. The south is behind in legislative reform. Now is the time for action. Please consider sending **\$10, \$20, \$50, \$100** or even more to the **Camp Legal Defense Fund, Inc.** It will be put to greatest possible good. Immediately.

We are asking that everyone pass the word and tell them to attend. We are asking those that attend to contribute a meager

**\$10 donation** (cheap) to the event's expense. Call me at **404-522-2267** or at my home and leave me your number. Let me know how you can help. Or email me back and let me know.

We will have posted posters and handbills on the camp website that you can print @ in the form of PDF files and with minimal low resolution JPG's to forward to your own friends by email. We will be meeting on every **Saturday at 3pm** until Saturday Easter **420**. We will be meeting at the **IAG** gallery at 845 Memorial Drive (**404-577-0300**). Our CAMP info HOTLINE again is **404-522-2267**.

I know you won't let me down. I know you won't let our fellow hempsters down. We are united and we will prevail. Call me now.

I am, respectfully and gratefully yours,

**Paul Cornwell**  
Atlanta CAMP

Please send donations to: Camp Legal Defense Fund, Inc. PO Box 5718, Atlanta, GA.30117-5718

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