

The Path for Removing a Governor or The Road Not Taken

By Nancy Mann

There was a governor who, desiring a steamy extra-marital affair with a tan, married Argentine woman, lied to a million people in his state, grabbed up some checks printed on the state treasury, packed up his colorful shorts, sunglasses, new sandals, swim trunks, and turned off his cell phone and flew to South America. The lie? That he was going hiking on the Appalachian Trail. He conveniently forgot that he held the reins of government for the state, and that he was a married man, father of four boys.

He relaxed on the beach in Argentina a la David Hasselhoff. He rented luxury cars to drive up and down the coast with her, stopping to buy expensive jewelry (no Avon or Sarah Coventry). He bought her flowers, perfumed sunscreen and champagne.

Meanwhile, helicopter pilots, forest rangers, and emergency medical personnel and sheriffs were mobilized, with tracking dogs, to search for ... Mark Sanford.

His wife waited by a specially installed telephone in a darkened, drapery-drawn living-room, accompanied by counselors skilled in trauma care. A mountain climber speculated that the governor may have slipped and fallen into a rocky ravine, and asked her about the extent of the governor's survival experience ... there was no cell phone ping for days.

A trial was held later, and Sanford was required to pay a portion of embezzled funds back. Sanford was also arrested in his wife's back yard, wearing all-black clothing. He had unscrewed the light bulbs on the back porch, darkening her home and yard.

The Sheriff had to hire media consultants; Sanford's trials were costly for the state. Christopher Hitchens wrote that "Politics is show-biz for 'Ugly people'."

The media kept writing about Sanford's "tall, lanky, broad-shouldered physique." People, we had Gary Cooper?

There are serious problems in his state. A professor of Stellenbosch University found that the median net worth of a working woman in his state, if Native American ... was ... \$5.

Children are living on a diet of food-bank Saltine crackers, and ... Mountain Dew – there is so much poor nutrition and sugar that volunteer dentists have come from out-of-state, to remove the rotten teeth of Appalachian youngsters, according to documentaries.

This reminds me of the movie "The Wild One" with Marlon Brando. A girl steps up to Brando, leaning on his huge motorcycle ... "Hey, Johnny, what're you rebelling against?" she asks ... "Whaddya got?" answers Brando. Governors now behave any way they want, having sniffed the air for ... scandal tolerance by the public.

And that public? They voted him back in office!

We need, in my opinion, Boy Scouts clearing paths on the Appalachian Trail, and put up

wood-burned lettered signs "Mark Sanford was never here." Or "Mark Sanford never hiked here." The disenfranchised, downtrodden, uninformed voters have no understanding of the import of their vote ... and their further reliance on Sanford.

I wonder how to... warn ...or how to ... help. "Am I My Brother's ...Voter?"