

FREELAN

Gazette

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The Freelan Gazette

Publisher & Editor
A.C. Cargill

Business Reporter
Debbie Brook

Rights Violation Reporter
John Sargent

Literary Critic
Themba Dinutu

Arts Reporter
Jane Crump

Ag Reporter
Rob Sanders

Ad Manager
Xipiao "Flower" Huckins

From the Editor

Welcome to the first issue of the monthly news publication from the free country of Freelan.



Life in true freedom is far from utopia, but it is also far from enslavement of any kind – not to other men, not to government. In fact, according to clinical psychologist Edith Packer, such freedom requires five prerequisites, which I paraphrase here:

1. Know that you are worth being happy and pursuing what makes you happy.
2. Know that the world is real and that life is not a thing to fear or avoid but explore, understand, and use to achieve that happiness.

3. Know that you cannot achieve your happiness at the cost to other individuals.

4. Know that you are in control of your life, even though at times it seems far from the truth, especially in today's world where government is in every part of our lives.

5. Know that you are unique – the essence of being an individual. Even identical twins, triplets, quadruplets, etc., are unique. That uniqueness can often make us feel unable to relate to those around us, but it is a treasure, not one you should lament or struggle to achieve. It is part of you from birth.

In Freelan, all of the above reign supreme. I hope you will enjoy reading about the valiant residents and their handling of everyday life in a truly free way, incorporating those prerequisites.

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Gang War in Detroit Ended

John Sargent, Rights Violation Reporter

The gang war in the urban area known as Detroit has been ended, according to the captain of the Freelan National Guard stationed in the area. The last members of the two warring gangs were rounded up last night by Guardsmen, local Peacekeepers, and a group put together by local businessmen and property owners.

The gang members are being held in a fenced area that is targeted by those businessmen and property owners for revitalization and are being given the choice of being hired by the companies helping with the revitalization or being exiled from Freelan. The construction companies will be training any newly hired former gang members.

To help in the revitalization project, you can send your donations to Jean Baptiste Baudry of Baudry Fine Meats who is leading the efforts.

See the Baudry site on Privata, the safer alternative to the internet.

Storm Damage in Dallas

Debbie Brook, Business Reporter

In Dallas, Sky Tower, which had its grand opening in May, suffered minor damage when the navsys on a DroneCar failed, causing the vehicle to bump into a glass side of the structure. Architect Ted Waters, who had designed and overseen the construction of the tower, commented that the special glass used had kept damage from being more severe.

“It also blocks excess heat and can be turned translucent or opaque as the people inside require,” he added.

The building owners, Chester and Veda Anne Laramie, stated that the damage would be repaired quickly. They have chosen not to file suit against the DroneCar operator or against GeoMark, the makers of the navsys used in those vehicles and owned by Mark Heddleston with headquarters in Benton Valley just north of Hammil Valley, birthplace of Freelan.

Optimism for Upcoming Harvest

Rob Sanders, Ag Reporter

The harvest forecast issued by farmers in the part of the Nation of Freelan formerly known as the Central Corridor States (the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas) is fully optimistic. No longer under the oppression of the EPA and a host of government regulations, farmers have been able to implement more efficient and cost-effective fertilizers, pesticides, and herbi-

cides. Acreage crop yields have gone steadily up, meeting the growing demand of Freelanians as well as customers in other parts of the world.

When asked if members missed farming subsidies, the spokesman for the Freelan Farmers Coalition stated, “Farming subsidies were a trap. We now profit much more by basing our decisions for which crops to plant on anticipated market demand, not what the government thinks we should plant. And we no longer let fields go fallow because the government doesn’t

want us to plant. We also get control over water usage. In addition, we don’t spend a fortune in time and effort figuring out how much tax we have to pay, since we’re no longer taxed. And we don’t have to rely on a government to work out trade deals. We can work our own deals. The coalition was formed to facilitate that.”

When pressed for details on negotiations for trade, the spokesman said simply that they were ongoing.

Protesters at Art Show

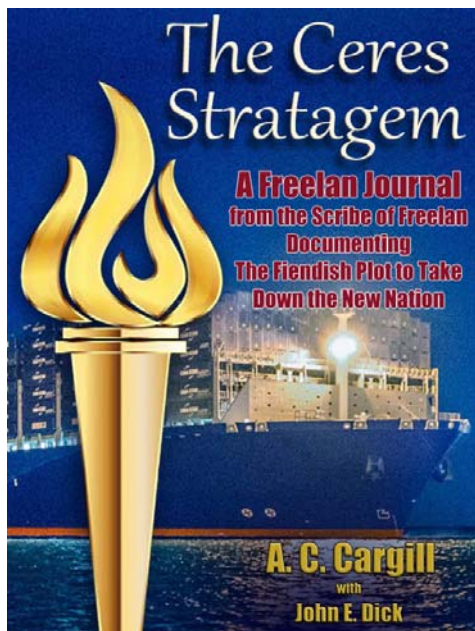
Jane Crump, Arts Reporter

A group of protesters disrupted an art show at a gallery in Reno. At the owner’s request, Peacekeepers quickly removed and charged the group with trespassing on the gallery’s property. Attendees at the show were divided on whether to support the claims by the protesters that the artworks were sacrilegious and a disgrace to the nation. Many, including the gallery owner, upheld the artists’ rights to create what they wanted. Sales were brisk.

Book Review: *The Ceres Stratagem*

Themba Dinutu, Literary Critic

This is the first book by authors A.C. Cargill and John E. Dick in the series of novels focused on the fictional country of Freelan. I was honored to read a pre-publication copy of the manuscript.



The World

The authors have set up a world where people live in true freedom without laws but not without order. Residents of Freelan (called Freelanians)

can make choices for their lives, but along with those choices, they face the consequences. There is no “crime” as we know the use of that word. There are only “violations” of individual rights, including property rights. For example, if you steal, that is a violation of property rights. Assuming that the property owner doesn’t catch you right there and you get away, the Peacekeepers (formerly called “police”) will seek you and, if they find you, take back the stolen items or bring you to court where you will be made to pay for the items plus the cost of the Peacekeepers and the court. There are also no laws banning certain behaviors such as prostitution, swearing in public, being drunk in public, or “hate speech.”

The Conflict

Elitists of the world want to bring Freelanians under their thumb. The scheme is to cause a catastrophe that threatens the world and blame it on “those chaotic freedom lovers” in Freelan. The world’s largest cargo ship, named *Ceres*, is the conduit for this plot. The victims are two people who epitomize all for which Freelan stands.

The Characters

The leader of this plot is a financier

named Nikolaos Giannopoulos. He is old and with a brain warped by envy of any successful person, by hatred and fear of other people, and by the idea of his own superiority to the point that he has made repeated efforts to have a superior child. Most of his children, born of a variety of mothers, are normal or even less. But one stands out: his son Adrianos whose mother was Turkish.

Nikolaos’ envy and hate is focused on Jim and Rose O’Connell who have been lauded as the founders of Freelan, although they both shy away from that title. And the man that Nikolaos very much wants to be part of his organization is the man to whom the O’Connells have been mentors and more: Peter Thorn.

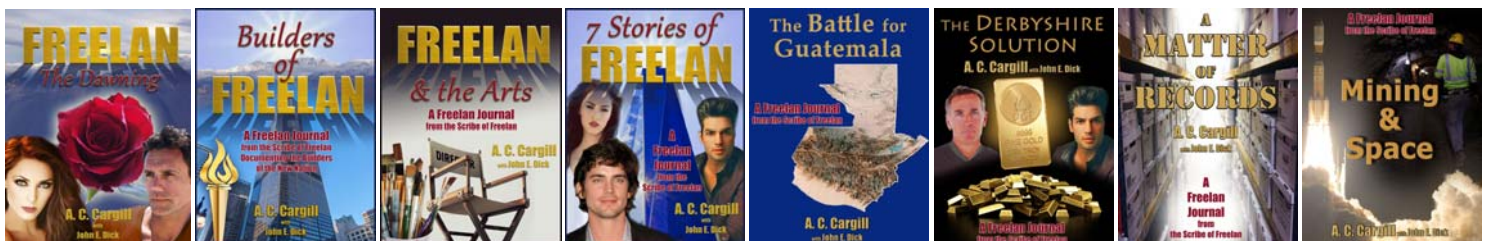
When Jim and Rose fall into Nikolaos’ trap, will Peter be able to save them? Or will he succumb to Nikolaos’ temptation of life as one of the superior people in this world?

My Take

An enjoyable read from start to finish without the excess of graphic violence and sex that seems so popular these days. And at the end, I felt a surge of hope for the world.

Highly recommend once it is published, which will hopefully be soon.

More Novels in the Series



These novels are works in progress. See more information about each on [our website](#).

Coming in the October issue:

Interview with Peter Thorn – More news from around Freelan – The Freelan Quiz
Information on the upcoming Freelan National Guard Day fundraiser

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Note to readers: staff names, except the editor, are fictitious; all ads are fictitious, based on companies in the Freelan books. Edith Packer is a real person.