



Mutual Alert



Bah Humbug! Says ABA Podcast Guest Movie Critic. “This Man is a Bad Banker”

In what is a particular case of cluelessness, the ABA podcast decided to feature a 20 minute interview with National Review Magazine movie critic Kyle Smith for its last podcast of the year. The topic of the interview is why the fictional character of George Bailey in Frank Capra’s “It’s a Wonderful Life” was a “bad banker”. No it was not a tongue in cheek episode, but a serious brief by Smith as to the many management failures of George Bailey in putting community over self. Indeed, the name sake of the ABA’s distinguished service “George Bailey Award” took quite a beating by Smith suggesting that “old man Potter” was the real role model in the movie. Smith contended seriously that George Bailey was a fool for not deserting the old mutual Bailey Building and Loan and refusing Potter’s job offer. Moreover, if the interview didn’t demonstrate a deep cynicism for community banking, particularly mutual banking, it would be comical. Smith criticizes the key episode in which George is shown what life without him in Bedford Falls would be like; going so far as to bemoan the fact that Donna Reed’s character, Mary, would likely have married millionaire “Hee Haw “Sam Wainwright if she never met George. You have to listen to believe it, Listen to the episode but it is to be expected in this new century as society loses touch with our most cherished principles. Why should mutuality escape revisionist history. Who knows maybe the ABA will change its distinguished service award to the “Old Man Potter Award.” What’s next send Tiny Tim to child services and charge Bob Cratchit with child neglect for not having the talent to work less, make more money and stay at home with Tim? Scrooge was the victim? This podcast is wrong in so many ways. One wonders if the campaign against mutual credit unions has once again become twisted around its own axle at the ABA. After hearing the podcast’s scathing condemnation of Uncle Billy as an incompetent drunk, maybe

AMB should nominate whoever thought this podcast was a good idea for the “Uncle Billy Award.” Merry Christmas!



Can you identify the felon in this photo?

Hint his face isn't shown.

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