

The Grouse House Gazette

Thoughts and Observations on Music, Nature, and Politics, from the Catskill Mountains

ISSUE #148 – DECEMBER 19TH, 2016 www.GHGAZETTE.com www.GILBERTHETHERWICK.com

MY GAZETTE “GREATEST HITS” FROM THE 2016 ELECTION...

A YEAR-END “LOOK BACK” AT MY VARIOUS PREDICTIONS AND REACTIONS TO THE WORST ELECTION EVER!

I have collected below in chronological order... quotes from my earlier Gazettes... So take a little “trip down memory lane”... see where I got it right and where I got it wrong... but don't say I didn't warn you! GH

JUNE 26TH 2015:

This time Trump has actually filed his paper work and seems to be planning something more “serious” than simply using politics as a marketing tool to boost his reality show ratings as he did in 2012 (and I honestly tried to come up with a word other than “serious” but couldn't think of one).

But never underestimate the ignorance of the American public... and keep in mind that more Americans voted on “American Idol” in 2012 than voted for President.

JULY 6TH 2015:

Trump has cut the leash and is running rabid through America's ugly white underbelly. Losing business deals left and right but vacuuming up potential voters from the darkest corners of racist America. Fox News reported this morning that an analysis of all of the polls put together now shows Trump in the NUMBER ONE position among 2016 GOP primary voters. And these potential voters form a perfect encapsulation of today's American racists.

AUGUST 5TH 2015:

I realize that polls are silly at this point and at this same time in 2008 Rudy had the same kind of lead that Trump does now BUT... the polls are forming some interesting patterns. Although mainly pulling from High School educated white people... Trump is showing gains with others. If you take ALL of the “protest the

establishment” votes polling for Trump, Cruz, Paul, Carson, and possibly Huckabee... you easily get up above 50% and beyond. So whomever these “protest voters” eventually fall behind together... will probably get the nomination. And it could VERY WELL BE Donald Trump! (Please hold your emails on this... I realize no one believes me!).

[AUGUST 13TH 2015:](#)

The most under covered story of all is that Socialist/Democrat Bernie Sanders is drawing far more than ANY OTHER candidate to his rallies. With 27,000 recently in Los Angeles, 28,000 in Portland Oregon, and a total of close to 100,000 on his recent tour of the West coast. “Feel the Bern” indeed! Bernie Sanders is “the real deal”... while Clinton... has no energy... or momentum.

[SEPTEMBER 8TH 2015:](#)

South Carolina came up with an idea to have all of the candidates “sign a pledge” to NOT form a third party and to “support the party’s eventual candidate”. In a last ditched attempt to stop the avalanche of American stupidity now building within the “Trump Wave”... the national GOP “top dogs” took up the South Carolina “pledge” idea and decided to ask for it from ALL candidates NOW. And MOST ceremoniously... TRUMP SIGNED IT! And he waved the paper before the cameras for all of the cable and broadcast networks to run on infinite loops for the next six days. But what Trump was signaling with his “paper waving” was... VICTORY!... As the party “traditionalists” THOUGHT this would make it impossible for Trump to LEAVE THEM... and go third party. But Trump IS leaving them... AND... he’s taking their “party” with him (Someone cue up LESLEY GORE!) With ALL of the Republican candidates now signing the pledge to support whomever their party nominates... it also means that they will ALL soon be supporting a NEW “Trump Direction” for the GOP. Wherever he may choose to take it...

[SEPTEMBER 20TH 2015:](#)

Keep in mind that only 36% of America voted in our last national election in 2014. Which is why Trump could actually WIN the presidency in 2016 if no one shows up.

He really could. Be VERY afraid! Hillary Clinton is a TERRIBLE candidate. And NOT because of the email bullshit. And YES... I love Bernie Sanders... But WE NEED TO WIN... If Biden runs... this could be 1964 all over again... with Trump playing the part of Goldwater... which was a total landslide.... WE NEED JOE BIDEN!

DECEMBER 18TH 2015:

The GOP establishment created this racist monster to give them the voting support for their work behind the scenes to drive forward their REAL agenda of less regulation... lower taxes for the wealthy... and a continuing “war time” economy driven by the never ending expense of a military industrial complex that probably has Dwight Eisenhower spinning in his grave. NOW the “chickens have come home to roost”... as this GOP “base” has risen up against them... is now “stealing the ball”... and running down the field with a modern day mutation of Mussolini, Huey P. Long, and P.T. Barnum. As the GOP’s courtship with America’s racist/nativist fringe comes back to bite them on the ass.

JANUARY 4TH 2016:

I’ve been writing that Clinton was a BAD candidate for over six months now.... with 59% of Americans not trusting her. And with independents that number climbs to a whopping 79%. And you MUST get the independent voters to win. Over half of America HATES her. Bernie Sanders has a net favorability rating that is actually 9 points higher than Hillary Clinton’s! Despite his lack of media attention... his HUGE “Trump like” enthusiastic crowds and TRUE “grass roots” support show that Bernie Sanders CAN indeed WIN “the whole enchilada”! IF his own party would only give him the chance.

JANUARY 18TH 2016:

Keep in mind that 43% of Republicans believe that Obama is a Muslim and not from America. Which means that by obvious connection... nearly half of the Republican Party believes we are being governed by a foreigner whom they also undoubtedly believe is an ENEMY of the United States. This is SCARY stuff.

MARCH 11TH 2016:

Last summer everyone thought I was crazy when I was telling people that Trump had a very real shot at the nomination. And once Trump started gaining momentum he took to DESTROYING all of the establishment candidates in his first political panzer raid through their “three ring circus” of so called political “debates” of increasingly juvenile ineptitude. Trump is a MASTER at media manipulation. So how did we get to this point where the two highest polling candidates (Trump and Clinton) are also the ones with the two highest “negative” ratings? It is our current ridiculous system. As Sanders has the highest “positive” rating of any candidate! In either party. After their disastrous 2012 election... the GOP redesigned their primary/caucus calendar and system to allow for a strong candidate to rise to the top much more quickly. The theory was that this would end the months of front-runner changes and in-fighting that proved so damaging and embarrassing for the party in 2012. AND... their plan worked. But unfortunately... the candidate that has risen quickly to the top... is the GOP’s WORST nightmare... Donald J. Trump!

The Trump movement... like many other demagogue movements of the past... is obviously laced with racially charged hatred and bigotry mixed with nationalistic fury and spite... AND... the Democratic voter turnout for the primaries and caucuses has been WAY DOWN! Despite the HUGE Sanders rallies and major signs of genuine enthusiasm from the left. WHERE ARE THE DEMOCRATIC VOTERS? This means that Trump has a VERY REAL shot at winning the whole thing. People need to wake up and realize this.

MARCH 20TH 2016:

And now ALL Republicans are going to have to ask themselves some pretty basic questions. Will they allow themselves to become the party that is against freedom of religion... in favor of racist policies... supported by Neo-Nazis and KKK members... degrading toward women... and in favor of TORTURE? Can they accept THAT? Are they Republicans? Or are they Americans? It’s their choice. As a Trump presidency will surely destroy America.

APRIL 19TH 2016:

I've been a big supporter of Bernie Sanders and have also expressed my views clearly about my distaste for Hillary Clinton and how BAD she was as a candidate. Half the country HATES her. I was actually all set to fully support Bernie Sanders until a couple of weeks ago when my thoughts began to shift to the overall GLOBAL political situation and who would be best for actually getting the job done (and laws changed) rather than whom I may agree with more succinctly in my admittedly extremist leftwing political leanings... And then when Sanders came out and said that Clinton was "NOT QUALIFIED" to be President... I REALLY LOST IT for him. If ANYONE is qualified for the job... IT IS CLINTON. And I expect a tirade of angry emails...

MAY 9TH 2016:

Trump could actually win! MSNBC... CNN... and MOST of the media are just as responsible as Fox News... Twitter... and the endless online hate filled racist and "master race" sites and email strings... for the success of the Trump "campaign" so far. As they have ALL been "breaking in" with "MAJOR NEWS!" alerts whenever Trump has gotten within fifteen feet of a camera and a microphone. It's a total media circus of clowns. On the VERY DAY that Trump won the nomination with his success in Indiana... the man that has a very real shot at becoming our President of the United States in January... actually came out and claimed that his final primary opponent's father was somehow involved in the assassination of an American President!

And all of those Trump supporters who have been FILLING arenas and stadiums around America at his rallies... WILL vote. And from early polling it looks like a lot of the "Deadhead" like young Sanders lemmings will go back to their dorm rooms and basements to sulk and "sit this one out". As Gazette readers know... I have been saying since last summer that Trump had a real shot at the nomination. I had come to that conclusion early on when I realized that his supporters had NOTHING to do with "The Republican Party"... and that these same supporters possibly hated the GOP MORE than the Democrats.

MAY 15TH 2016:

I'd like to be clear... that Trump's "narcissism" is a VERY REAL psychological disorder... as many people think calling someone a "narcissist" is simply like calling them a jerk or an asshole. But it is much deeper and darker than that. And it is very serious stuff that has much historical precedent. Donald Trump is insane.

MAY 20TH 2016:

Frighteningly... Republican politicians are now lining up to support Trump now that he has proven that he can win... as the GOP's leaders... previously lost in a fantasy world... are finally waking up to the reality that they have totally lost control of the actual MEMBERS of their own now racist party. It appears they believe that ANYTHING... the destruction of the world economy... impulsive military decisions... or even the loss of our closest allies of England and France... would be BETTER for America than the election of Hillary? WTF?

MAY 30TH 2016:

Trump IS the greatest "con man" in American political history. As this week we watched just about every elected Republican lining up like lemmings heading toward the cliff... to pledge their support to Donald Trump. They are shameless!

JUNE 30TH 2016:

It was ALL lies about the "self funding" (of his campaign) ... and it was one of the single most effective "myths" perpetrated on his fans. As Trump is about to attend his first Wall Street fundraiser... America's older white blue-collar voters need to KNOW this. The Clinton machine needs to pound these messages hard into Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and EVERYWHERE!

JULY 18TH 2016:

I honestly don't think that Trump believes in any of the conservative social issues crap. And I think that deep inside he despises guys like Pence. Trump actually defended Planned Parenthood in one of the early debates but no one seems to remember that. And from his own books about deals and business we know that he will twist the truth in any direction to make the deal or get the sale. He is a

spiritual and ideological chameleon when it comes to any kind of belief system. And he is dangerously good at it.

JULY 23RD 2016:

Pence considers himself “a Christian first – a conservative second – and a Republican third”. Which sums it all up – and of course – Donald Trump is none of those things.

JULY 25TH 2016:

Over the past 47 years – We Americans have become accustomed to describing nearly every political scandal as a particular president’s personal “Watergate”. We had “Reagan’s Watergate”, “Bush’s Watergate” – “Clinton’s Watergate” – “Obama’s” – and on and on. So now we have someone breaking into the headquarters of the DNC before a presidential election to steal documents from the party – Haven’t we seen this movie before? Is this Trump’s “Watergate”?

JULY 30TH 2016:

Although Trump didn’t speak out against any of the multiple offensive political social issues in the party platform – he did object to (and had removed) one “plank” of the platform which involved the Republican Party vowing to support the arming of Ukrainian troops against a possible Russian invasion. So this single “plank” was removed. My fear is that Trump could win the election – and then like Nixon and Watergate end up getting impeached over the next year or two. Which would probably be led by the Republicans in Congress – joined gleefully by the Democrats – with nothing getting done for two years.

AUGUST 15TH 2016:

Trump’s support of Putin and Russia is the real scandal. In his recent Ryan/McCain endorsement speech — which looked like a hostage video — the only things that made the news were the soundbites of the actual endorsements of the two Republicans that he had snubbed previously. But in that same speech – Trump also stated... “Wouldn’t it be great if we got along with Russia”. As he went on to say that we could both defeat ISIS. Trump wants America and Russia to run the world together!

SEPTEMBER 9TH 2016:

Hillary Clinton's email server is obviously a much lesser matter when you consider the urgency of stopping Donald Trump from crashing the world economy... spending wildly on military defense... firing generals that don't agree with him... lowering taxes on the wealthy... blowing the deficit and the debt through the ceiling... and of course... teaming up with Russia's Putin. And why was Russia only hacking the DNC and not the RNC computers? Add to this Trump's previous campaign manager's pro-Russian stance and connections... plus the fact that there is Russian billionaire/mob money behind some recent Trump projects... and you have all of the plot points perfectly in place for a brilliant Tom Clancy novel...

May I present... "The Siberian Candidate"!

Russia is a gangster nation... with the most dangerous billionaire thugs in the world running their whole country as one giant criminal enterprise. Would it really be a surprise to learn that this has all been a "shakedown" of Donald Trump? He's certainly acting like "Putin's tool". It is certainly possible.

SEPTEMBER 13TH 2016:

23% of America is making most of our Congressional decisions these days. They run the game... Because they vote...

OCTOBER 17TH 2016:

We now have Russia hacking into the Democrat's private Email accounts (according to our intelligence divisions)... giving the Emails to WikiLeaks' Julian Assange... like Trump... an accused sexual deviant... to release to the entire world. This has got to be the biggest election scandal in modern history.

"I love WikiLeaks!" Trump proclaims time and time again as he holds up yet another "devastating" Email... which usually contains little if any substance.

OCTOBER 25TH 2016:

When he first started running for president Trump claimed to be worth \$11 billion dollars while Forbes put the number closer to \$4 billion (Mark Cuban looked into it quite a bit and estimates that Trump's liquid assets equal about \$165 million dollars). To Trump... the difference between \$4B and \$11B is that his "brand" was worth \$7B... But what would that "brand" be worth now? And if the "Russian Connection" can ever be made... Trump may indeed go to jail.

Now to go back and climb under my rock... This is going to be some tough times.

Love... hugs... and most of all hope...

Gilbert Hetherwick

www.GHGAZETTE.com

Follow me on Twitter @Hetherwick

And check out my music at www.HETHERWICK-MUSIC.com

Or my romantic and private B&B at www.GROUSEHOUSE.net