



Quail Creek Republican Club



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Quail Creek Republicans

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Veterans' Day Tribute

In Your Honor

Unselfishly, you left your fathers and your mothers, you left behind your sisters and your brothers. Leaving your beloved children and wives, you put on hold, your dreams – your lives.

On foreign soil, you found yourself planted to fight for those whose freedom you granted. Without your sacrifice, their cause would be lost, but you carried onward, no matter the cost.

Many horrors you had endured and seen. Many faces had haunted your dreams. You cheered as your enemies littered the ground; you cried as your brothers fell all around.

When it was over, you all came back home. Some were left with memories to face all alone; some found themselves in the company of friends as their crosses cast shadows across the land.

Those who survived were forever scarred; emotionally, physically, permanently marred. Those who did not now sleep eternally 'Neath the ground they had given their lives to keep free.

With a hand upon my heart, I feel the pride and respect; my reverence is revealed in tears that now stream down my upturned face as our flag waves above you, in her glory and grace. Freedom was the gift that you unselfishly gave. Pain and death was the price that you ultimately paid. Every day, I give my utmost admiration to those who had fought to defend our nation.

Author Unknown

October News Recap

Candidates Stumble Over Campaign Don'ts October 10

SEABROOK, N.H. (AP) - Thou shalt not wear a shirt and tie at a lobster shack near a New Hampshire beach. Thou shalt not invoke upscale grocery stores while campaigning in farm-rich Iowa. And thou shalt not call South Carolina's Lowcountry "the lowlands."

For every must-do, must-see tradition or place in the critical states that kick off voting for the presidential nominations, there is an equally important list of must-avoid steps. Some candidates, however, apparently didn't get the memo about what's incongruous or sometimes annoying to voters in New Hampshire, Iowa and South Carolina.

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani made a trip this summer to a tourist-filled lobster shack in Seabrook, N.H. In sweltering heat, the Republican rolled up in his black SUV wearing a bold red tie and crisp white shirt.

As guests with flip-flops on their feet cracked lobster bodies with their bare hands, Giuliani got a laugh by rolling up his sleeves, grabbing a live lobster from a tank and holding it aloft.

"How about the lobster?" he asked, never loosening his tie. "Everybody has the lobster."

Fellow Republican Mitt Romney went through the same hazing ritual, tie tight and lobster in hand. Laughter - including from wife Ann - followed.

Democratic Sen. Barack Obama tried talking business with farmers in Adel, Iowa, in August to demonstrate empathy and win votes. But then he referred to a high-end organic food chain that has no stores in Iowa.

"Anybody gone into Whole Foods lately and see what they charge for arugula?" said Obama, who lives in Chicago. "I mean, they're charging a lot of money for this stuff."

And in South Carolina - where the H is silent in Horry County - the names matter. Democratic Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who mastered most of the names during her husband's campaigns, goofed by calling the state's coastal area "the lowlands" rather than the preferred "Lowcountry."

To be sure, campaigning in the early voting states is an art. Voters want to see would-be-presidents at their neighborhood store, serving up ice cream as Romney did in Kingston, N.H., awkwardly tossing a bright green T-shirt over his dress shirt and tie.

"Oh gosh, I'm not as strong as these girls," Romney said, sliding behind the counter for a photo opportunity. "Just have me do some soft serve."

Such campaign stops are meticulously choreographed, with crowds assembled, stickers in hand and pledge cards ready.

"Part of the problem is that everyone tries to be so disciplined, golly, you worry about the spontaneity," said Kathy Sullivan, a former Democratic chairwoman in New Hampshire.

When Republican Fred Thompson stopped by a Manchester, N.H., sports bar recently, the customers were more interested in watching the New England Patriots than shaking hands with the "Law & Order" actor.

"Down in front," one voter joked to the former Tennessee senator as the 6-foot-5 candidate blocked his view of quarterback Tom Brady and the rest of the Patriots.

The disruption - he and the throng of journalists standing in front of a big-screen television - prompted Thompson to take his cheeseburger back to his bus and forced his host, Manchester Mayor Frank Guinta, to offer up his untouched light beer to a nearby table.

The event was not long after Thompson's trip to the Iowa State Fair, where the Republican rode around in a golf cart and wore Ferragamo shoes.

Republican Sen. John McCain raised eyebrows among South Carolina GOP voters, who are overwhelmingly religious conservatives, by saying he considers himself a Baptist and attends a Baptist church at home in Arizona. For decades McCain had publicly identified his religion as Episcopalian. His follow-up that he "didn't find it necessary" to be baptized in his adoptive Baptist church further puzzled voters, many of them Southern Baptists.

There are plenty more 'don'ts' on the list:

- Don't schedule a trip without looking at a map, as aides to former Sen. John Edwards apparently did when they promoted a campaign swing through New Hampshire's North Country, but included stops far from that region.

- Don't forget where you are, as Giuliani apparently did when he referred to "the people here in Massachusetts" during a speech in New Hampshire. Not quite as bad, Obama repeatedly called New Hampshire's Belknap County "Bell Camp" during an early trip.

- Don't get the governor's name wrong, as Thompson did with South Carolina's Mark Sanford. (Thompson called him Sandford.)

- Don't get the name of the party chairman wrong, as Romney did with Fergus Cullen at a New Hampshire Republican gala. Romney called him Angus, a name Cullen has embraced as a joke.

- Don't assume food comes ready to eat, as candidates in South Carolina have done. In that state, political barbecue means roasted pig and hands-on messiness. "You peel shrimp and shuck oysters," said Romney political consultant Warren Tompkins. More than 20 years later, some remember when Walter Mondale didn't peel and got more than a mouthful.

Sports are another pitfall, as 2004 Democratic presidential nominee Sen. John Kerry learned at least twice. Kerry called the Green Bay Packers' famous Lambeau Field "Lambert Field" and talked about the Ohio State Buckeyes while in Michigan, home of the Buckeyes' archrival.

But Kerry's biggest of-the-people mistake was visiting South Philadelphia and ordering a cheese steak - with Swiss. It was a punchline for weeks.

Giuliani, aware of that particular challenge, ordered his Geno's sandwich with provolone and onions. At the packed event, he wore a suit and tie.

Cheer Up! Republicans are too gloomy - William Kristol October 22

Republicans are downcast, depressed, and demoralized. Bush is unpopular. Cheney is even more unpopular. Scandals continue to bedevil congressional Republicans, and it's hard to see the GOP taking back either the House or Senate in 2008. History suggests it's not easy to retain the White House after eight years in power (viz. the elections of 1960, 1968, 1976, and 2000). And the Republican presidential candidates seem problematic, each in his own way.

Meanwhile, the Clinton coronation proceeds apace. Normally sensible commentators discourse on her Hamiltonian qualities and on today's liberals' Burkean ways. (If Hamilton and Burke weren't so used to having their memories misappropriated, they'd be spinning in their graves.) The American people, it's presumed, are too befogged by the mainstream media to see through pathetic Democratic stunts like rolling out a not-poor 12-year-old to read a radio script making the case for government-provided health insurance for allegedly poor children. And then Al Gore wins the Nobel Peace Prize. It's too much to bear.

Well, fellow conservatives--grin and bear it. And cheer up! After all, among other recent American winners of the "Peace" prize were Jimmy Carter in 2002 and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War in 1985. These turned out to be pretty good contrarian indicators for how the American people would vote in the next presidential election--to say nothing of what actually produces peace in the real world.

In that real world, conservative policies are working fine, and liberals are providing little in the way of alternatives. The Bush tax cuts have been thoroughly vindicated: National wealth is up, unemployment is down, and the federal deficit is lower than the day the 2003 tax cuts were passed (though the Bush administration seems incapable of explaining any of this). The Republican-passed Medicare prescription drug benefit is working well and coming in under cost. And does anyone lament the fact that the last big Democratic idea--HillaryCare--failed to become law? Would American health care be better off if Republicans had rolled over and let it pass?

On the Hill, we're about to have a big debate over eavesdropping and wiretapping--areas where Bush's policies have kept the country safe, and helped foil terror plots abroad too. The Democrats haven't figured out that they are being led over a substantive and political cliff by the ACLU. Bush's two Supreme Court appointments are turning out to be exemplary--the Court should be a big issue in 2008--and Clarence Thomas's memoir is the No. 1 bestseller in America.

Have you noticed we're winning the war in Iraq--despite the assurances of Democrats, including their Senate leader, that the war was already lost? It's going to become increasingly clear in the next year that the problem with the Bush administration has not been too much force, too much strength, too much support for democrats abroad. The problem, especially in the second term, was too little of all these. Bush's first-term policies liberated Afghanistan and Iraq, convinced Libya to give up its nuclear program and Pakistan to stop proliferating, and inspired liberal, democratic forces in Lebanon and Ukraine. Passivity (outside of Iraq) in his second term emboldened dictators from Iran to Syria to North Korea to Burma. But the solution to the failures of the Bush administration is a reinvigorated conservatism, strategically grounded and competently executed, accompanied by a thoroughgoing conservative/neoconservative (Burkean/Hamiltonian!) reform of the institutions of the U.S. government so as to secure America's interests in a dangerous world.

The Democratic nominee looks likely to be either Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama. Hillary is furiously triangulating (it's a family tradition), criticizing Obama for saying he'd meet with the Iranian mullahs and then saying she would, voting for a hawkish resolution on Iran then cosponsoring a dovish one. But even Bill's triangulation got him only 43 percent of the vote in 1992 and 49 percent in 1996--and in terms of political skills, Hillary's no Bill. Obama, for his part, seems no more experienced in dealing with serious affairs of state than Jimmy Carter did in 1975. Obama could conceivably follow in Carter's footsteps and get the nomination--but America learns from her mistakes.

That's partly because the GOP nominee will be stronger than Gerald Ford (with all due respect to the memory of that decent man, who would have been a better president than Carter). While a half-term senator and a one-term senator fight it out for the Democratic nomination, the GOP candidates include an experienced senator who's a war hero, the most successful political chief executive in recent times, an impressive businessman/governor, and a canny lawyer/senator/actor with Washington experience and a nice, middle-American background and manner. Here's what's likely to happen: When the nominees are selected next year, the Republican will be behind--just as the GOP nominee trailed, at various times, in the 1980, 1988, 2000, and 2004 campaigns. Then the Republican will rally and probably win. Look to 1988 for a model: a tired, two-term presidency, a newly invigorated Democratic Congress causing all kinds of problems for the administration, an intelligent, allegedly centrist Democratic nominee, and a bruising Republican primary with lots of unhappiness about the field of candidates. This resulted in a 17-point early lead for Michael Dukakis over George H.W. Bush, but an eventual Republican victory. True, the current Republican incumbent, George W. Bush, isn't Ronald Reagan. And the 2008 Republican nominee is going to have to chart his own path to victory. It will be a challenge. But it's a healthy one. Let McCain, Giuliani, Thompson, and Romney have at it. The competition will be good for them and good for the party, ensuring that the winner will be up to the task both of winning the presidency and leading the country.

An Update on Canada's Illegal Immigration Crisis
The Manitoba Herald, Canada October 20

With an American military victory achieved in Iraq, the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton imploding after an unending stream of scandals, House Speaker Pelosi under indictment for treason, and Democrats facing total disaster in the upcoming elections, the flood of American liberals sneaking across the border into Canada has intensified in the past week, sparking calls for increased patrols to stop the illegal immigration.

Canadian border farmers say it's not uncommon to see dozens of sociology professors, animal-rights activists and same-sex couples crossing their fields at night.

"I went out to milk the cows the other day, and there was a Hollywood producer huddled in the barn," said Manitoba farmer Red Greenfield, whose acreage borders North Dakota.

"The producer was cold, exhausted and hungry. He asked me if I could spare a latté and some free-range chicken. When I said I didn't have any, he left. Didn't even get a chance to show him my screenplay, eh?"

In an effort to stop the illegal aliens, Greenfield erected higher fences, but the liberals scaled them. So he tried installing speakers that blare Rush Limbaugh across the fields. "Not real effective," he said. "The liberals still got through, and Rush annoyed the cows so much they wouldn't give milk."

Officials are particularly concerned about smugglers who meet liberals near the Canadian border, pack them into Volvo station wagons, drive them across the border and leave them to fend for themselves.

"A lot of these people are not prepared for rugged conditions," an Ontario border patrolman said. "I found one carload without a drop of drinking water." They did have a nice little Napa Valley cabernet, though.

When liberals are caught, they're sent back across the border, often wailing loudly that they fear retribution from conservatives. Rumors have been circulating about the Bush administration establishing re-education camps in which liberals will be forced to drink domestic beer and watch NASCAR races.

In recent days, liberals have turned to sometimes-ingenuous ways of crossing the border. Some have taken to posing as senior citizens on bus trips to buy cheap Canadian prescription drugs. After catching a half-dozen young vegans disguised in powdered wigs, Canadian immigration authorities began stopping buses and quizzing the supposed

senior-citizen passengers on Perry Como and Rosemary Clooney hits to prove they were alive in the '50s.

"If they can't identify the accordion player on The Lawrence Welk Show, we get suspicious about their age," an official said. Canadian citizens have complained that the illegal immigrants are creating an organic-broccoli shortage and renting all the good Susan Sarandon movies.

"I feel sorry for American liberals, but the Canadian economy just can't support them," an Ottawa resident said.

"How many art-history majors or sociology professors does one country need?"

Newt Gingrich - October 22

Do All Democrats Agree With Congressman Pete Stark?

Of all the leftwing calls for surrender in Iraq -- of all the insults to our troops and hysterical attacks on our President -- one stood out this week.

It was even more outrageous because it came from an 18-term member of Congress.

And it was more outrageous still because it was said on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

But first, let me give you some context, so you understand the full disgracefulness of the statement.

Last Thursday, House Democrats tried and failed to override President Bush's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) expansion bill.

Just as the President's rejection of the bill was about to be supported by a vote of the House, Congressman Pete Stark (D-Calif.) took to the floor and showed that just when you think the level of debate among the leftwing lunatic fringe can't sink any lower they surprise you.

Sending Kids to Iraq 'to Get Their Heads Blown off for the President's Amusement'

Here's what Congressman Stark said on the floor of the House, accusing Republicans of funding the war in Iraq but not children's health:

"You don't have money to fund the war or children. But you're going to spend it to blow up innocent people -- if we can get enough kids to grow old enough for you to send to Iraq to get their heads blown off for the President's amusement."

Unbelievable.

By my count, in one ugly statement, Congressman Stark manages to level at least four vicious attacks: He accuses Republicans of indifference to children's healthcare needs; he demeans the sacrifice of our troops in Iraq; he grotesquely accuses the President of being amused by the deaths of our troops in Iraq; and he attacks the honor of the House of Representatives by uttering the words in the first place.

Of course Republicans immediately objected to Congressman Stark's comments. They demanded that he retract his statement and apologize. So what did he do?

Stark issued a statement saying Republicans should apologize for voting against SCHIP.

Congress Should Vote to Censure Pete Stark

It's clear that no expressions of regret will be forthcoming from Congressman Stark. He obviously stands by his comments. But what about his Democratic colleagues? Do they agree that the sacrifice of our troops in Iraq is meaningless? Do they agree that the President is "amused" by it?

One way we can know for sure is if the House votes immediately to censure Congressman Stark.

The Constitution gives the House the right to censure a member for misconduct or inappropriate words or behavior.

According to the Congressional Research Service, the majority of the 22 censures of members in House history "concerned issues of decorum, that is, the use of un-parliamentary or insulting language on the floor of the House or acts of violence towards other members."

In other words, precisely what Congressman Stark did last week.

Congressman Pete Stark has dishonored the entire House with his despicable remarks.

By voting for or against censure, House members can go on the record. Do they agree or disagree that America is sending its young people to Iraq to fight and die for the President's "amusement"? Do they agree or disagree that this is language worthy of a member of the House of Representatives?

Americans deserve to know the answer.

