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Winter 2012-2013 ACTION Newsletter

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Message from the President **by Robert Kettering**

The election is now finally behind us, and not much has changed.

Indeed, with President Obama and his administration even more determined to entrench their policies of the past four years, representative, limited government is at risk.

We have already witnessed first-hand the negative effects of the governments' steady march toward authoritarianism. The American people are increasingly feeling the impact of the government's repeated assaults on our religious freedoms and civil liberties, the near-financial ruin of our economy brought about by irresponsible corporations and government officials, not to mention the emergence of a semi-police state that seeks to track our every movement. On the life issue President Obama has made it clear that keeping abortion legal and advancing the radical agenda of Planned Parenthood is his priority.

What we are witnessing is a new paradigm at work in which true freedom is being replaced by tyranny and a federal government bent on subjecting the American people to its will.

Ronald Regan believed that Americans "were possessed of an abiding love of freedom and a special kind of courage." We're going to need every bit of that love of freedom and courage in the days ahead as we work to take back our freedoms. Please pray for our country that God will put us back onto a path that resists tyranny and embraces freedom.

"The privacy and dignity of our citizens [are] being whittled away by sometimes imperceptible steps. Taken individually, each step may be of little consequence. But when viewed as a whole, there begins to emerge a society quite unlike any we have seen - a society in which government may intrude into the secret regions of a [person's] life."

- U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas



Banquet Update:

The ACTION Banquet with U. S. Senator Pat Toomey was postponed due to Hurricane Sandy. The Banquet is being rescheduled for the Spring of 2013. More details will be available in January after the Senate reconvenes and Senator Toomey can establish his schedule for 2013.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."
Edmund Burke

Don't Sound Retreat

By Charles Krauthammer, Lancaster Sundays News (Nov 11, 2012)

Despite defeat, Republican Party has it right, needing only minor fixes. First up, take Hispanic vote with amnesty for illegal immigrants. They lose and immediately the chorus begins. Republicans must change or die. A rump party of white America, it must adapt to evolving demographics or forever be the minority. The only part of this that is even partially true regards Hispanics. They should be a natural Republican constituency: striving immigrant community, religious, Catholic, family-oriented and socially conservative (on abortion, for example). The principal reason they go Democratic is the issue of illegal immigrants. In securing the Republican nomination, Mitt Romney made the strategic error of (unnecessarily) going to the right of Rick Perry. Romney could never successfully tack back. For the party in general, the problem is hardly structural. It requires but a single policy change: border fence plus amnesty. Yes, amnesty. Use the word. Shock and awe — full legal normalization (just short of citizenship) in return for full border enforcement. I've always been of the "enforcement first" school, with the subsequent promise of legalization. I still think it's the better policy. But many Hispanics fear that there will be nothing beyond enforcement. Promise amnesty up front. Secure the border with guaranteed legalization to follow the day the four border-state governors affirm that illegal immigration has slowed to a trickle. Imagine Marco Rubio advancing such a policy on the road to 2016. It would transform the landscape. He'd win the Hispanic vote. Yes, win it. A problem fixable with a single policy initiative is not structural. It is solvable. The other part of the current lament is that the Republican Party consistently trails among blacks, young people and (unmarried) women. (Republicans are plus-seven among married women.) But this is not for reasons of culture, identity or even affinity. It is because these constituencies tend to be more politically liberal — and Republicans are the conservative party. The country doesn't need two liberal parties. Republicans need to weed out candidates who talk like morons about rape. But this doesn't mean the country needs two pro-choice parties either. In fact, more women are pro-life than are pro-choice. The problem here for Republicans is not policy but delicacy — speaking about culturally sensitive and philosophically complex issues with reflection and prudence. Additionally, warn the doomsayers, Republicans must change not just ethnically but ideologically. Back to the center. Moderation above all! More nonsense. Tuesday's exit polls showed that by an eight-point margin (51-43), Americans believe that government does too much. Moreover, onrushing economic exigencies — crushing debt, unsustainable entitlements — will make the argument for smaller government increasingly unassailable. Republicans lost the election not because they advanced a bad argument but because they advanced a good argument not well enough. Romney ran a solid campaign, but he is a Northeastern moderate. More Ford '76 than Reagan '80, Romney is a transitional figure, both generationally and ideologically. The party has an extraordinarily strong bench. In Congress — Paul Ryan, Marco Rubio, Kelly Ayotte, (the incoming) Ted Cruz and others. And the governors — Bobby Jindal, Scott Walker, Nikki Haley, plus former Gov. Jeb Bush and the soon retiring Mitch Daniels. (Chris Christie is currently in rehab.) There may not be a Reagan among them, but this generation of rising leaders is philosophically rooted and politically fluent in new constitutional conservatism. There's no need for radical change. The other party thinks it owns the demographic future — counter that in one stroke by fixing the Latino problem. Do not, however, abandon the party's philosophical anchor. In a world where European social democracy is imploding before our eyes, the party of smaller, more modernized government owns the ideological future. Romney is a good man who made the best argument he could, and nearly won. He would have

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JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST!

Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, January 12, 2013 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Enck's Catering Facility (rear of Manheim Grille - former Kreider's Restaurant), 1455 Lancaster Rd (Rt. 72), Manheim - use south entrance

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-569-0148)

Guest Speaker: Daryl Metcalfe
State Representative



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by Wednesday, January 9, 2013. The cost is \$12.00 per person. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

A Message from the Financial Officer - Is Your Membership Current?

Please take a moment to make certain that your membership is current, by looking at the mailing label on this newsletter to see if your dues are up-to-date. Your renewal date should appear after your name on the label. If it does not or has expired, please fill out the form below and mail to:

ACTION of PA - Lancaster Chapter, Financial Officer, 462 Haverhill Rd, Lancaster, PA 17601

clip and send

- I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.
- I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Governors Club (\$250.00).
- I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Presidents Club (\$500.00).
(Please make check payable to ACTION of PA - Lancaster Chapter.)

I'd like to volunteer for the following ACTION Committee(s):

- Church Contact/Prayer
- Fund Raising
- Legislative Issues
- Newsletter
- School District Coordinator
- Education
- Growth/Membership
- Library
- Quarterly Breakfast
- Voter Guides

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Township: _____ Polling Place: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please clip and return to ACTION of PA - Lancaster Chapter, 462 Haverhill Rd, Lancaster, PA 17601.

Thank you!

REAGAN, BUSH, AND OBAMA

THE WHOLE STORY IN THREE PICTURES



Don't Sound Retreat

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made a superb chief executive, but he (like the Clinton machine) could not match Barack Obama in the darker arts of public persuasion.

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The answer to Romney's failure is not retreat, not aping the Democrats' patchwork pandering. It is to make the case for restrained, rationalized and

reformed government in stark contradistinction to Obama's increasingly unsustainable big-spending, big-government paternalism.

Republicans: No whimpering. No whining. No reinvention when none is needed. Do conservatism, but do it better. There's a whole generation of lead-

PA just might have 'tipped' the election to Obama

The last ballots in the presidential election were cast nearly six weeks ago. But votes in 37 states and the District of Columbia have only recently been counted, with the results yet to be officially certified.

The newly counted ballots have also shifted the relative order of the states. Immediately after the election, it appeared that Colorado was what we called the "tipping-point state": the one that gave Obama his decisive 270th electoral vote after sorting the states from Obama's largest win to Romney's largest.

Obama's margin in Colorado has expanded to 5.5 percentage points from 4.7 percentage points as more ballots have been counted, however: He now leads there by a wider margin than in Pennsylvania, where his margin is 5.0 percentage points. If the results hold, Pennsylvania, not Colorado, will have been the tipping-point state.

Does this suggest that Romney's campaign was smart to invest resources in Pennsylvania in the campaign's closing days? The short answer is yes. The longer answer is that he might have been better served by contesting Pennsylvania throughout the campaign, rather than just at the last minute.

Pennsylvania alone would not have won the election for Romney. But if the national climate had been slightly better for him, he might have won Florida and Ohio. Winning Pennsylvania as well would have given him the Electoral College, even if he lost Colorado, Virginia and other swing states.

There is one additional complication for Republicans in Pennsylvania, though: It has often been a close-but-not-quite state for them. They can find 48 percent of its vote pretty easily, but finding 50 percent is difficult. Romney was hardly the first Republican to make a late play for the state but fail to win it.

Pennsylvania is relatively inelastic. It has few independent voters and large numbers of people who are almost certain to vote for one or another party.

But if the trends of the past few election cycles continue, with Democrats making gains among minorities and white voters with high socioeconomic status and Republicans performing strongly with working-class whites, then Pennsylvania could become more important - and perhaps even essential to Republican electoral math.

If so, it is a state that Republicans will want to concentrate on from the earliest stages of the campaign. And their nominee will need to build a robust turnout operation there, since the strategic imperative in inelastic states is not so much in persuading swing voters but in getting the party base to the polls.

This may particularly hold in Pennsylvania, where the messages that appeal to voters in the central and western parts of the state could turn off those in the Philadelphia suburbs. In a close national race, Republicans will need to identify and turn out an additional 200,000 voters or so to win the state.

It won't be easy, but Pennsylvania has been getting closer to the electoral tipping point, and it represents a

ACTION CHAPTERS INCREASE REPUBLICAN VOTE TOTALS

In the last election vote totals in Pennsylvania showed that Mitt Romney received less votes than John McCain did here 4 years ago. However, the results were quite different in counties that have an active chapter of PA Action. In those counties, the Romney vote totals were actually higher than those received by John McCain four years ago. It appears that having an ACTION chapter increases Republican voter turnout.



“Democracy extends the sphere of individual freedom, socialism restricts it. Democracy attaches all possible value to each man; socialism makes each man a mere agent, a mere number. Democracy and socialism have nothing in common but one word: equality. But notice the difference: while democracy seeks equality in liberty, socialism seeks equality in restraint and servitude.”

- Alexis de Toqueville

