

NOW IS THE TIME

By Don Shrader

Constitution Party of Ohio



In 1867, a typing teacher by the name of Charles E. Weller created the following sentence for aspiring typists to practice for his typing test: Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party. Later, the sentence was changed to %come to the aid of their country+ because that phrase exactly fills out a 70-space line if one puts a period at the end.

Now truly is the time for all good men and women to come to come to the aid of their country by coming to the aid of the Party. Specifically, I am talking about the Constitution Party.

The big political push of %anybody but Obama+ is now over and the %anybody+ side decidedly lost the race. One can try to blame the Constitution Party, the Libertarian Party, and other such %bird+ Parties for giving the election to Obama and the Democrats. But I would submit that the Green Party, the Justice Party, and other similar Parties took as many votes from Obama as the more conservative Parties might have from Romney. In the end, none of the %bird+ parties made a significant difference. What did make a significant difference was that as John Tate, the President of Campaign for Liberty noted, %on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 12 million fewer Americans showed up at the polls than voted in 2008.+ That, folks, is a significant number! I submit to you that most of those were put off by the choices of the two major Parties, particularly %conservatives+ who were fed up with the Republican choice and candidate selection process, including the unprecedented change of procedures at the Republican National Convention to prevent the intended intervention of the Ron Paul delegation. Many of the political pundits, who in my view did not have the wherewithal (i.e. guts) to state such before the election, are now bemoaning these facts and their associated surmises. Go back and check out my editorials published before the election and you will see I was putting forth these observations and conclusions back then although few listened, and I received more criticism than concurrence.

Now is the time, in my view, for a viable third Party. It is time for the Constitution Party at both state and national levels to step up and become that third Party. Certainly, we have our work cut out for us, and we need good men and women at all levels %o come to the aid of the party+ to build it into a credible Party that will attract many of those 12 million disaffected voters along with many, many other disaffected voters that did vote Republican in order to vote against Obama as opposed for Mitt Romney. It is time for the Constitution Party to make the tough choices that will establish a long-term credible, viable Party and then ascertain how to make it known to those who truly want a change.

I submit that there is a huge number, if not a majority, of people that agree with the primary tenets of the Constitution Party to return our nation to the rule of law in accord with the U. S. Constitution. But, we as a Party, at both the state and national levels, need to deal with reality of mapping out a strategy for success.

It is interesting that Herman Cain is now calling for the possible formation of a third party although he notes there are a number of drawbacks including the unfairness of third parties gaining ballot access. As the kids say, %Well, duh!+ Overall, I imagine Cain wants to create a third party in his own image rather than join the Constitution Party that already aligns with many of his stated values and principles. Of course the Republican shills like Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and Mark Levine continue the mantra, %A third party is not an option; it will never be viable.+ Well, I submit to you Mr. Limbaugh, Mr. Hannity, et. al. that Mr. Cain is correct, now is the time for a third party as possibly the only viable opposition to the un-American (in my view) and unconstitutional intentions and actions of Mr. Obama and his liberal cronies. The only bone I have to pick with Mr. Cain is who that third party should be; I submit to you that it should be the Constitution Party as the Party most aligned with the precepts and principles given to us by our founding fathers in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

For those of you who still believe you are going to be able to reform the Republican Party, I give you the latest from the current highest ranking member of the Republican Party, my own Congressman (for whom I did not vote this time even though he was running unopposed) and present (and presumably next) Speaker of the House, John Boehner. As Matt Hoskins, Executive Director of the Senate Conservatives Fund, noted in a recent email:

Fellow Conservatives:

In the past two days since the election, House Speaker John Boehner -- the highest ranking Republican in the nation -- has suggested that his party will abandon its opposition to tax increases, amnesty, and even Obamacare. I'm not making this up. Despite winning another Republican majority in the House, Boehner thinks President Obama has a mandate to enact policies that destroy jobs, ignore the rule of law, and take over our health care decisions. Obama is the first President in modern history to win re-election with fewer states than he won the first time, yet Boehner is waving the white flag on our core principles. On tax increases, Boehner said, *"For purposes of forging a bipartisan agreement that begins to solve the problem, we're willing to accept new revenue, under the right conditions."* On amnesty for illegal immigration, Boehner said, *"A comprehensive approach is long overdue, and I'm confident that the president, myself, others can find the common ground to take care of this issue once and for all."* On the effort to repeal Obamacare, Boehner said, *"Well, I think the election changes that. It's pretty clear that the president was reelected, Obamacare is the law of the land."*

Mr. Hoskins goes on to note: [this isn't leadership.](#) Again I say, [Well, Duh!](#) He then continues: The only way for Republicans to improve their party's image is to boldly stand for the principles of freedom that made this country great. Abandoning these principles and capitulating to liberal policies is not a strategy for success. The Republican Party has tried this approach many times and it doesn't work. The Senate Conservatives Fund is committed to raising up bold, conservative leaders who have the courage to fight for the principles that will truly restore America. You've probably heard the claptrap from the Republican establishment who are singling out a couple conservative candidates who lost their races. But, in their very next breath they brag about the party's bench, which is lined with strong conservatives like Rubio, Paul, Lee, and Cruz -- leaders you helped elect over their objections.

(Mr. Hoskins, have you ever heard of the Constitution Party and the principles for which it stands? I know, a third party is not viable; will never work!)

I submit to you that overall the Republican leadership sees no reason for a change of direction with respect to the Party, and in particular towards a more constitutionally conservative direction. They lost a few races and won a few, so my surmise is that think they are fine. Their turn will come in 2016, and in the meantime they will bemoan the fact that there is nothing they can do to change things or stop Obama and the Senate (as evidenced by Boehner's comments above) but they need our money now in order to begin preparing to capture the Senate in 2014 and the White House in 2016.

It is interesting to note how many of the political pundits are now saying that there would have been little difference in the direction of the country even if Romney was elected. Where were they before the election? If you read the editorials I wrote sometime prior to the election, including one entitled [My Answer to Anybody but Obama,](#) you will see that is what I was saying then. But, at the time, all I generally received was a lot of criticism for not joining the [Anybody but Obama](#) crowd. The pundits are now noting how liberal Romney truly is and how little difference there was between him and Obama and of course further noting that is why such a significant number of people did not turn out to vote for Romney.

I believe now is the time for a third party and I believe that party needs to be the Constitution Party. Are there things that need to change and be improved in order for us to be viable? Absolutely! Do we need to compromise our principles in order to be viable? Absolutely NOT! Do I believe that now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their country and to the Party, the Constitution Party? Absolutely! Thus, I invite all of you who truly want to see our country return to rule of law, limited government, and self-reliance, as prescribed by the principles originally set forth by our founding fathers in the Constitution and Declaration of Independence to come join us and help the Constitution Party become a vibrant force for good and a beacon of light emanating throughout our nation and our nation's governments. Now is the time!