

# The Grouse House Gazette

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

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## DONALD TRUMP'S "B LIST" LIFE - CAMPAIGN - & CONVENTION...



Donald Trump is from Queens – whether he likes it or not.

Where Donald's father's wealth was “ugly” money.

Acres upon acres of cold grey apartment buildings in Brooklyn and Queens. Not what Donald would call “class”.

Donald wanted more.

Donald wanted the bright lights of Broadway.

And more than that – Donald wanted the acceptance of Manhattan society and the respect of *other* wealthy New Yorkers – and of course “celebrities”.

Donald dreamed of being on the A list.

He could see his sad future (if he followed his father) of beating on doors and demanding money from middle class and lower income tenants (like [Woody Guthrie](#)).

And he knew that shifting to Manhattan real estate would mean only dealing with wealthy buyers and renters – so he wouldn't have to deal with the riffraff of those less fortunate than himself. You know – the little people – that are now lining up in droves to vote for him as their next president.

Building Trump Tower seemed like it might have been “the ticket” in 1983. You know – Fifth Avenue – just south of Central Park – and only two blocks from the Plaza Hotel – one of his *next* targets of conquest in his farcical failed attempt to win big in the Manhattan real estate market.

And his [Plaza Hotel deal](#) turned out to be a disaster when placed under the management of his *first* immigrant wife.

Like so many of the other [bad deals](#) that followed.

And still -- most New Yorkers just looked at him as a joke or a cartoon-like buffoon. The Monopoly Game guy come to life with a bad haircut and a huge overblown ego. “Mr. Page 6”.

Simply – second-generation “new money” gone wild.

And Donald's drug was attention and publicity.

So to score even more – he manipulated his way into the yellow journalism world of sleazy New York tabloid exploitation ([while sometimes masquerading as his own publicist](#)) as he *thrived* on the stories about his divorce – his various “girlfriends” – and his inclusion in the then rapidly fading pathetic world of Studio 54 and other cheap finery.

But Donald Trump – was still *hopelessly* – B List.

But he *did* parlay everything nicely into a career as a media celebrity – and for a while established his name as a brand of quality (for those that didn't know the difference).

And from his position as a “tough guy” reality show boss who fired people for a living – Trump built a fan base of enormous proportions over fourteen seasons of his television show.

And his campaign and upcoming convention does seem like an extension of his “*Celebrity Apprentice*”.

Now I don't mean to in any way disparage the reputations of the following “celebrities” – but check out the list and I think you'll agree that under the common conventional pop-cultural wisdom of today – that these folks are indeed B listers or has-beens. It's just a fact. And the show (though enormously popular with a populace that later became Trump's “base”) was a pretty embarrassing farce – and I'm sure there must have been a sense of desperation in their participation by many of the “cast”. Last chance folks!

Stephen Baldwin, Gene Simmons, Andrew Dice Clay, Melissa Rivers, Dennis Rodman, Ozzy Osbourne's wife, Sinbad, Gary Busey, David Cassidy of the Partridge family, “the survivor” Richard Hatch, La Toya Jackson, Meatloaf, Debbie Gibson, Arsenio Hall... and these are just the names that I recognized. Most I did not know at all. Really sad.

The budget for the show must have been peanuts.

Donald Trump – created jobs for *desperate* B Listers!

But Trump did build himself an *enormous* audience over 14 years of television – which went on to become the perfect demographic to possibly take him to the White House.

He just needed to adjust his political and social views on a few issues a full 180° to fit into the trending wave of disgruntled undereducated white voters. You know – racists.

Which brings us to The Republican Convention.

Where for the first time in modern history – none of the living ex-presidents or past candidates in the GOP are attending their own party's convention. John Kasich is not going and it's happening in his own state. And they are having a lot of trouble finding *anyone* to speak. Sure they got Ted Cruz – but he would swim through a sea of shit for the gig.

The problem is that they have to fill 4 *nights* of prime time.

And Trump only speaks on the final night.

At one time they were considering having Trump speak every night for the ratings boost – but they bent to tradition where the “big dog” comes out at the end.

So who is going to be tuning in for the first three nights of *total* boredom? And it will also be a lot of extreme right-wing rhetoric that Trump probably doesn't even agree with but will turn off an enormous amount of American centrist voters.

Sarah Palin will be conspicuously absent – and Trump actually used as the reason that she lived too far away in Alaska. When the woman would fly to Mars and back to be able to babble incoherently before the masses one more time. That Trump/Palin endorsement event will probably haunt Donald for the rest of his life. She's out of her mind.

Trump immediately began having problems booking talent to perform at his convention – so he proposed a night for “winners” – in which sports stars would testify about the wonders of Trump and his vision for America.

Trump thought that he had Tom Brady lined up – but then Brady turned him down almost on the same day that he lost his appeal in deflate-gate (so he probably won't exactly be a “winner” in the coming year anyway).

Trump did manage to book Natalie Gulbis to speak – who is the 484th ranked woman in golfing. But she *is* blonde and “really hot”. So she should fit right in. What a “get”!

Pro football failure Tim Tebow was “in” – and then he was “out” – and now he is “in” again. Praise Jesus indeed!

But mainly – it's going to be the Trump kids and his immigrant mannequin third wife talking for the first three nights – and God knows who else they might dig up.

So expect it to be long – painful – and unwatchable.

This is essentially going to be a political convention featuring B list talent from across a vast spectrum of idiocy.

Just like Donald's entire life.

And speaking of B listers.

How about those three finalists in the VP sweepstakes?

*ALL* three B listers if you ask me.

I was really pulling for it to be Newt Gingrich so they could pitch the evangelicals on a “six-wives-club” angle.

But Trump going for Pence may well be his biggest mistake.

And he didn't want to do it – the party leaders with the help of his kids persuaded him to do so – and he was trying to get out of it at the last minute. A real political “shotgun wedding”.

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.

They say that the first important decision a presidential candidate makes is the decision of a running mate.

That's where McCain really “screwed the pooch” in 2008.

And Trump's awkward – delayed – indecisive – decision about a VP pick should signal to America that the man does not have the mental capacity or focus to do the job.

Pence had been offered the job – and he had flown to New York City – where he was sitting in a Manhattan hotel room watching Donald Trump on Fox News exclaiming to Sean Hannity at 10:30PM that he had not yet made up his mind.

Pence had until noon the next day to register to run for reelection as Governor of Indiana. He must have been livid!

Pence may help with the right – but it could cost the middle.

The VP announcement speech – a day after Trump had already tweeted the news on Twitter (how historic!) – was 28 minutes of Trump bloviating his usual improvisational rant of pompous boasting before Pence was even introduced.

It was really weird. And I can't think of any two more opposite guys in the entire political world. This was forced.

They are planning *no* immediate co-campaign events.

To Donald Trump – Mike Pence is simply a “place holder”.

A cardboard cut-out – like the one that Trump University used of Donald for photos to be taken with the students.

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