Stinkbugs, Tea Parties, and Socialists

By John Clayton

I’m sick and tired of all of them. They seem to be everywhere, and clearly no good can come of them. Perhaps with the cold weather and the November 2 elections, we won’t hear from any of them for a while. Let’s hope.

Of course, the biggest fear for all of us is that they only seem bad this year, and they will be worse next year, and the year after that. In all fairness to the Tea Parties and the Socialists, who from all indications now rule American politics, the stinkbugs might actually be growing faster.

I think as adults we can be frank and get this out into the open: the Chinese are behind all of this. It is a documented fact that the stinkbugs are from China and arrived in Pennsylvania (never been too sure about them, either) around 2001 (another pattern emerges) in shipping containers, probably through a porous, unsecured port controlled by foreign nationals and staffed by illegal immigrants. I think we can rule out both evolution and intelligent design on this one. Clearly, stinkbugs are Satan’s spawn. (If evolution is afoot here, I have no desire to see a rendering of their five-hundred-pound ancestors.)

I think the backing of the Tea Party People by the Chinese is pretty obvious. Where do all those costumes come from? The Uncle Sam outfits, the beards, the three-cornered hats, the powdered wigs, the toy muskets, the George Washington plastic wooden teeth? The Obama masks and the paint for all those misspelled signs? China, my friends—in stinkbug-infested shipping containers.

If you can’t see a connection between Chinese Communists and all those Democratic Party Socialists, then I just don’t know what to say.

Returning to the stinkbug situation, I read that, also in China, there is a wasp that is a natural enemy of and preys upon Chinese stinkbugs. Top minds are working on whether these wasps might be a solution here in the USA. That’s just wonderful. Many times, while battling swarms of stinkbugs trying to get into my house, or corralling and dispatching the ones that did, I have thought, “Boy, I sure wish we had more wasps around.” I say, let’s move on to Plan B.

Congress is already on the job. I see that Congressman Roscoe Bartlett, our neighbor from Frederick County, the stepping stone to Middle America, is mobilizing the government to combat the horde. Just to be bipartisan about it, Democrat Steny Hoyer of Prince Georges County, home of the Redskins, stands firmly behind him. Clearly, government occasionally serves a positive role or is willing to spend some money trying to do so.

I’m extremely relieved the mid-term elections are upon us. I’m not sure it really matters to me which party wins at this point, in the grand scheme of things. There is a pretty solid list of Republicans that I can’t abide; however, I suspect that even if the Republicans retake our federal government, and they probably will, the adults among them will ultimately prevail. When the dust settles, someone other than raving powder-wigged tea partiers and lily-livered European-style socialists will control the agenda.

Perhaps it doesn’t pay to study the tea leaves too closely in any one election. Our country is, politically, in an oscillation between extremes that is hopefully leading to some sort of synthesis. The 2006 and 2008 elections were clearly a vigorous reaction to a presidency and a political party that had lost its way and no longer had the confidence of the American people. Now, a scant two years later, we have a presidency and a political party that has lost its way and no longer has the confidence of the American people. I can’t wait to see what’s next. I’m still an optimist.