

Carls gets the picture

CARL GOLDEN | Posted: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 2:00 pm

The good news is the national Republican Party has conducted a fairly comprehensive self-examination in an attempt to broaden its appeal and avoid descending into irrelevancy.

The bad news is the national Republican Party has conducted a fairly comprehensive self-examination in an attempt to broaden its appeal and avoid descending into irrelevancy.

There is benefit to be had through a critical and objective re-appraisal to identify chronic problem areas and develop new approaches and messages between two factions, one that believes the party

and another that is convinced it can regain its stature by sophy.

Those who support change argue that it is crucial for the party to expand its reach to attract voting blocs that feel the party is uninterested in offering them a home. Others contend that candidates lost because they failed to draw clear distinctions between their view of government and that offered by Democrats.

The tension is not new, but it assumed greater visibility with the rise of the tea party and protracted and embarrassing intra-party disputes in the House of Representatives in particular over budget and tax issues, most prominently the effort to avert a default, approve an increase in the nation's debt ceiling,

