



# MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB

## NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2018 ISSUE

Visit [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club)

***"Be a Voter and Make a Difference"***



**In God We Trust**

***Founded in December, 1996.....Celebrating 22 years in 2018***

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**PRESIDENT: Bob Zschoche**  
949-4250

[bobzschoche@msn.com](mailto:bobzschoche@msn.com)

**V.P. MEMBERSHIP:**

**Jerrell Seawell** 464-2219

or (910) 695-6082 cell & text

[wjseawell@gmail.com](mailto:wjseawell@gmail.com)

**V.P. PROGRAMS:**

**Pat Haggerty** 301-466-7403

[pat@patrickhaggerty.com](mailto:pat@patrickhaggerty.com)

**SECRETARY**

**Steve Woodward** 215-0793

[woodward.stephen@gmail.com](mailto:woodward.stephen@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**

**Scott Sheffield** 295-1108

[ssheff@nc.rr.com](mailto:ssheff@nc.rr.com)

**PAST PRESIDENT**

**Jim Lexo** 949-3566

[jaslexo@gmail.com](mailto:jaslexo@gmail.com)

**AT LARGE MEMBERS:**

**Bill Demastus** 910-585-4449

[ldemastus@nc.rr.com](mailto:ldemastus@nc.rr.com)

**Jim Legg** 757-0348

[leggjim@yahoo.com](mailto:leggjim@yahoo.com)

**Ken Lewis** 690-5819

[lewikj@gmail.com](mailto:lewikj@gmail.com)

**Frank Rodriquez** 693-0117

[imperiumacer@hotmail.com](mailto:imperiumacer@hotmail.com)

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

**MOORE COUNTY GOP Chair:**

**Tom Beddow** 295-2745

[tbeddow@nc.rr.com](mailto:tbeddow@nc.rr.com)

**Rev. Mike Dubbs** - Chaplain

885-3170

[Dubb\\_Z@yahoo.com](mailto:Dubb_Z@yahoo.com)

**Steven Later** - Attorney

692-7971

[sflater@rmrattorneys.com](mailto:sflater@rmrattorneys.com)

**John Rowerdink** - Advisor to

the GOP Chair 235-0644

[jrowerdink@aol.com](mailto:jrowerdink@aol.com)

**Tom Schroeder** - Webmaster

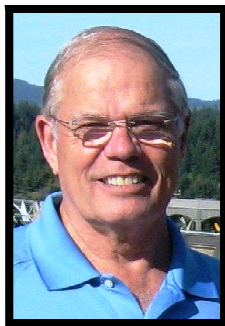
691-2340

[tom@tschroeder.info](mailto:tom@tschroeder.info)

**Paul Shaffer** - Newsletter Editor

295-3804

[Paul.Shaffer@mindspring.com](mailto:Paul.Shaffer@mindspring.com)



### President's Message by Bob Zschoche:

#### Happy Birthday to George and Abe

We should be especially glad this is one national holiday the libs have not managed to pervert to something that is politically correct. And we are also pleased to have our Congressman Richard Hudson as our speaker this month. Thanks for coming, Richard, and may you look and sound presidential on this president's day.

Speaking of presidents, our own Donald Trump is making significant changes to many things at home and to the way in which the country is viewed around the world. While I may not agree with every action the president takes, or every method by which he deports himself, I believe all will agree---he has made changes. (unless you are a lib or unless you believe fake news).

After 8 years of America apologizing to the world, we are now publicly declaring---our citizens should come first. It is amazing what happens to our 'friends' around the world when we stop sending them money. We have poverty and other needs here at home and that is where our money should go.

In the political arena, change is slow, and change is difficult. This is true at the local level and even more so at the state and national level. We need to be 'fired up' in our efforts to retain the gains republicans have made and to make more gains in the future. For certain the libs will be trying to come back. And they have a willing accomplice in their corner---the main stream media. Most of the media cannot accept the fact Trump was properly elected. Much of the news media have such a bias I do not think they realize they no longer just report the news, they make the news in the image they wish the world to be. So sad.

What can we as individual republicans in Moore County do? In previous elections, the winning margin in Moore County has helped some state-wide candidates overcome showings elsewhere. We have a great reputation throughout North Carolina that we must uphold. Every vote counts. Encourage your friends and neighbors to vote.

Please do not be discouraged when we have not yet succeeded on something. Issues such as voter ID will eventually be implemented in North Carolina because it is the right thing to do. How can anyone keep a straight face about needing an ID to do anything else in life, but it is not needed for the most important thing we do---which is VOTE. On the subject of proper control of immigration, I am reminded of the Obama caricature that said, "we need illegal immigrants to do the jobs Americans will not do---that is--vote democratic."

**See you at the luncheon!**

*Bob Zschoche*

## COMMITTEES for 2018:

### Membership, Communication & Publicity:

TBD\*

Paul Shaffer

### Finance:

TBD

### Fundraising &

### Candidate Finance:

TBD

### Golf Tournament 2018:

TBD\*

EC members

### Luncheon Administration:

TBD

### Nominations:

TBD

### Program:

Pat Haggerty\*

All EC members

### Bylaws:

TBD

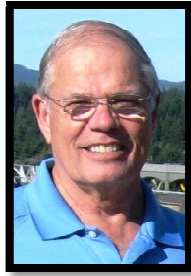
### Veterans:

John Boesch\*

### \*Committee Chairman

As you can see, we are still in the process of assigning new chairs to our standing committees. We will also be adding more members to these committees. If you have an interest in serving, please let an EC member know.

Committees are the engine that makes the club run and move forward. Work that committees do turns into the progress made by the club as a whole. We will again this year continue to support Republican values and attract new members. Think about joining a committee.



**Acting Calling Colonel:**  
Bob Zschoche

### Calling Captains:

Tom Beddow	295-2745
Dave Devore	215-9246
Neil Godfrey	949-2439
Bill Graning	235-0535
Roger Hicks	947-5527
Don Hiscott	295-9544
Jack McVey	295-6748
Glen Roat	215-0897
John Rowerdink	235-0644
Andy Rueb	295-4908
(Your name could be here)	(Your Number here)

**Would you like to serve as a calling captain? If so, please let the Acting Calling Colonel, Bob Zschoche, know.**

**Please be responsive when your calling captain calls. Return the call and let him know if you are coming to the meeting or not.**



(Become a member of our calling team. Call today and volunteer)

(910) 949-4250 Home

Cell for text  
(910) 638-8195

## Luncheon Meetings:

**Our luncheon meetings in 2018 continue to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. The February meeting is at CCNC on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Feb 19. Registration begins at 11:30am, with the meeting being called to order at noon. Watch for more details by email & in this newsletter.**

Our February 2018 speaker is our own Congressman, Richard Hudson. Plan to hear about all things DC. Sign up today!

The lunch price is \$20.00, all inclusive, payable by cash or check to CCNC.

Make your February luncheon reservations on or before Thursday, February 15 at:

[www.mermc.club/home.html](http://www.mermc.club/home.html)

Click on the upper right "Luncheon Reservation" tab.

### Future Meetings and Events:

The remaining meetings this year are scheduled to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. However, be sure to watch for date changes due to potential guest speaker scheduling issues.

In March & April, we are inviting the May 8 Republican Primary candidates for any Republican primary challengers to speak and have a Q & A session.

We are scheduling the 2018 golf outing in June, details to follow.

Please make note, our next meeting is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, February 22 at CCNC

### Newsletter Distribution Changes Implemented for 2018 in January.

Starting with January your newsletter will be coming ONLY by email, if you have an active email address. Those members who do not have email will continue to get a paper copy in the US mail.

If you have email, but still want to get a paper copy By US mail, please let Paul Shaffer know by telephone or email. Occasionally, if you want a paper copy and did not get one at the meeting, just call or email Paul Shaffer and ask for a one-time paper copy to be mailed.

With this change, we are saving the club between

\$300 and \$400 a month, which will increase available funds for Republican Candidate funding. Thanks for your understanding and continue to enjoy your monthly newsletter.

If you have an active email address but are NOT getting the newsletter, let Paul know and you will be added to the paper copy list. We have found that some email servers reject the newsletter because of strong spam settings.

If you have any comments or questions, please call or email Paul. His telephone number and email can be found in the left column of the front page.

#### Steve Woodward, Secretary



Our newly elected Secretary, Steve Woodward, has completed the club records transition from former Secretary Bob Zschoche. In addition, Woodward continues his work to promote our club through the MCRMC Facebook page. If you are a Facebook user, you should go to our club page,

have not already done so, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=moore%20county%20republican%20men%27s%20club>

Learn how to become a friend and get postings to the MCRMC Facebook page on your Facebook page.

Another project by Secretary Woodward, with assistance of club webmaster Tom Schroeder, is a test of an online texting platform called SlickText:

“This text messaging system will help the Club promote luncheons/speakers, and events, push out election notifications, and incentivize new member prospects to grow membership. Research shows that 95% of texts are opened in 10 minutes or less.

The trial texts are free for now. We will subscribe to a monthly package when we need to expand the number of people we wish to text.

To try this out -- and remember, this is just an internal test -- text the key words *moore republicans* to 31996 on your smart phone. AFTER you text the key words to 31996, I will have you in the backdoor system, at which time I can send you a follow up text welcoming you, etc.

Learn more about the potential of SlickText by clicking: <https://www.slicktext.com/login.php>

Any and all feedback is welcome.”

If you elect to try this text platform, if you have any questions contact Woodward as noted in the left column of the front page.

#### VP Membership – Jerrell Seawell

We had a great meeting in January to kick off the New Year for our club. We have seen many positive changes in the last year across our Nation because of Republican leadership. We cannot rest on our success of the past year but must work hard to ensure that it continues to improve. Today’s society is fast paced and ever changing and we must be able to adapt to succeed. The same principles apply as a member of our club. Dedicated and responsible club members is what makes us one of the most successful in the State.



Sustainability and recruiting new members are essential to maintaining our current membership and increasing the number of members in our club. Reach out to friends, family, and co-workers and encourage them to get involved. Involvement brings about change. As members, we must continue to be motivated and show initiative to accomplish great things for our club, for Moore County, and our State.

I want to encourage every member to visit our Facebook page that has been in place for a few months now. Innovative procedures in place such as this are vital in welcoming new members, and by putting into action a more effective means of personal communication to reach out to people interested in our club.

Please take time to visit our website at [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club), not only will you find a wealth of information there but there is an important link to make your luncheon reservations. Last month we had an all-time high number of members who made their lunch reservations by using the website. The process is very simple and I encourage everyone to use it. If you would like to start making your reservations by using the website instead of a calling captain notifying you, please let your Calling Captain or I know so we can remove you from the call list.

If anyone has any questions about membership, signing up for the luncheons, or for any reason please contact me and I will be happy to assist you. I look forward to another great meeting in February and seeing each of you there! May God bless you all!

#### February 19th Meeting and Program Information



by VP Programs, Pat Haggerty

The next Moore County Republican Men's Club meeting is on Monday, February 19 at the Country Club of North Carolina, 1600 Morganton Rd, Pinehurst. Registration begins at 11:30am, the meeting is called to order at noon. Lunch will be served and the program/speaker will begin after lunch. Lunch is \$20.00, all-inclusive. Reservations are required and must be made by Thursday, February 15.



The MCRMC February Speaker will be Congressman, Richard Hudson. Hudson will discuss how Congress debated and passed the historic tax reform legislation, his legislation to make cancel and carry permits valid across state lines, the state of readiness of troops at Fort Bragg and many other topics. As he always does, Richard will answer questions.

Attendees will also be hearing from Chad Beane, our Community In Action speaker. Chad is the Executive Director of Keep Moore County Beautiful, a governmental agency that has several initiatives to protect both the beauty and environment of Moore County.

Reservations for the February meeting can be made at the MCRMC website: [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club). You may also make reservations by calling Bob Zschoche at (910) 949-4250. You may also email Bob as noted in the left column of the front page of this newsletter.

The March and April meetings will not feature a speaker, as both meetings will be a Primary Candidate Forum. The filing date for all candidates is in late February and we will know which Republican incumbents will have a Primary challenge. One Republican incumbent who will have a challenger is Moore County Sheriff Neal Godfrey. He is being challenged by Ronnie Fields and both have agreed to participate in the candidate forum. Jamie Boles, who represents us in the NC House, has agreed to participate if someone files to run against him in the Primary.

Please contact me, [pat@patrickhaggerty.com](mailto:pat@patrickhaggerty.com) or 301-466-7403 with suggestions for speakers for future meetings.

Website/Facebook News by Tom Schroeder:

If you have not already done so, go back and read the

earlier article by Secretary Steve Woodward about our new text platform being currently tested. As we expand our media presence, we can expect to reach more potential members and program attendees. An added benefit is that we know that younger people increasingly get their news and political information through social media and do not read news stories in papers or magazines. Fewer younger people watch television news or listen to news on the radio, including paid advertising.

With enhancements to our website, implementation of a MCRMC Facebook page and use of a text platform, we expect to get our message out to many additional people, including younger folks. If you are not already visiting our website, [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club), we encourage you to do so today. A regular visit, at least weekly, will help you stay up to date on all things political in NC and nationally. This month you can go to the website, put your cursor on the "Events" tab and click on "Lunch Video" on the dropdown menu. When on that page, you can click on the "January 2018 Lunch = John Hood" line and watch the speaker at the January meeting.

If you have any questions or comments about our website contact Webmaster, Tom Schroeder by telephone or email as noted in the left column of the front page. Facebook questions should go Steve Woodward at (910) 215-0793.

#### Moore Republican Women Meeting News



#### FEBRUARY 5th – FIRST LUNCHEON MEETING OF 2018!

The first meeting of the MRW was held on Monday, February 5, 2018.

On a regular basis, information about the monthly MRW meeting is provided to our members by email. So watch for the March meeting announcement and other future MRW meetings and/or functions. You may also want to visit the MRW website, [www.mrwnc.org](http://www.mrwnc.org), for meeting details and other informative articles/links.

MCRMC members are always welcome to attend the MRW meetings as guests. You can go to the MRW website to make a reservation.

#### Moore County GOP News by Chairman Tom Beddow

As you read this, we have completed our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Ronald Reagan Dinner which was held on Tuesday,



February 6, 2018. It was an outstanding success. Watch for more information about the dinner by email and on our GOP website, [www.mcncgop.com](http://www.mcncgop.com).

Also, this week we hosted three different group precinct meetings. Those members with email saw the precinct meetings invitation. Watch for details about what went on in these meeting coming to our website soon.

As noted in the next news article in this newsletter, Moore County GOP Has Added A BLOG! Find it at [www.resolvenc.blog](http://www.resolvenc.blog). Give us feedback on it and stay tuned!

The Moore County Republican Party has created a new communications tool which will provide interesting and relevant information about today's political issues. It's called RESOLVE, which stands for Republicans for Security, Oppportunity, Liberty and Victory that Endures.

RESOLVE is a new blog where Republicans and Conservatives can find compelling content, post their own information, comment on existing posts, etc. After you subscribe to RESOLVE, you will be notified by email when a new item is posted on the blog. RESOLVE also has links to various social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Click on this link to see for yourself. <https://resolvenc.blog/>

As an example of the items you can see on RESOLVE, there is a new item just posted which lists the major accomplishments of the Trump Administration so far. Just click on this link: <https://resolvenc.blog/2017/09/01/trumps-thriving-presidency/> At the bottom of each item, you can post any comments you would like to make about that item. Go to "Leave a Reply" at the bottom of the item, enter your comments and hit "Enter".

It's easy to be automatically advised when a new item is posted on RESOLVE. Just scroll down to the "Stay Connected" item on the left side of the home page, enter your email address and click on "Follow".

To submit a post to RESOLVE, please do so as an attachment by email to [gop.mcrp@gmail.com](mailto:gop.mcrp@gmail.com). I hope you will sign up for RESOLVE to stay in touch with the important political issues of this important time in our history.

## RESOLVE NEWS:

Have you seen the new Moore County GOP BLOG? Find it at: [www.resolvenc.blog](http://www.resolvenc.blog). See the following recent submission:

### A joyful place

Peggy Grande is keynoting the annual [Ronald Reagan dinner](#), hosted by the Moore County Republican Party, on Tuesday, February 6, President Reagan's 107th birthday. Who is Peggy Grande? She arguably experienced the best first-job-after-college in American history. After earning her undergraduate degree at Pepperdine University, the Los Angeles-area native applied for and was granted an internship in the Office of Ronald Reagan, whose second term as U.S. President ended in January 1989. By 1990, Peggy was employed as a member of the President's post-White House era staff and became his Executive Assistant from 1993 to 1999.



Just last year she published the incredible stories and memories of those years working for and traveling with President Reagan. *The President Will See You Now* is [must-reading](#) for Americans who remember the Reagan era as one of the greatest chapters in our nation's evolution. Peggy remembers the Reagan post-White House office as "a joyful place", where the President's optimism and curiosity uplifted all with whom he crossed paths. She marveled at his inclination to read and understand ideological positions that differed from his own. She remembers how meticulously he prepared for engagements with world leaders, but how he also was well equipped to make a brief interaction with an ordinary citizen personal and memorable.

Today, Peggy tours the U.S., sharing her behind-the-scenes memories of an American icon, all the while looking forward to heading home to her husband and their four children.

To submit a post to RESOLVE, please do so as an attachment by email to [gop.mcrp@gmail.com](mailto:gop.mcrp@gmail.com). We hope you will sign up for RESOLVE to stay in touch with the important political issues of this important time in our history.

## January Luncheon and Program:

The first meeting for 2018 was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, January 22, at CCNC. Members and attendees began to arrive just after 11:00am for registration and social time.



The meeting was called to order at noon by newly elected President, Bob Zschoche. Following announcements and the Pledge of Allegiance, Chaplain Dubbs took the podium and gave an

opening prayer and blessed lunch. The Community In Action speaker was Leslie Clothier who spoke about the Ellie Jean Project (EJP). See the separate article about the EJP following this article.

Lunch was served, followed by VP of Programs, Pat Haggerty, introducing the speaker, John Hood. Hood is a regular having been a speaker early in the year for most of the past dozen years or so. Hood spoke about the state of politics since President Trump's election and offered observations about the antics in Raleigh.

After his remarks, Hood took questions for another 10 to 15 minutes. The meeting was adjourned at about 20 minutes past 1:00pm. To see a video of the luncheon speaker, go to the MCRMC website:

<http://www.mcrmc.club/home.html>

place your cursor over the "Event" tab on the upper left side of the Home page, click "Lunch Video" on the drop down menu, then click on "Most Recent Video-January 2018-Click Here" tab near the top center of the page.

#### Elected Officials Contact Information:

The most recent elected official contact list is attached to the email copy of this newsletter. If you want a paper copy, email or call the Newsletter Editor and ask for a copy to be mailed to you. You can also visit the Moore County Board of Elections website: [www.moorecountync.gov/board-of-elections](http://www.moorecountync.gov/board-of-elections) then click on the "Elected Officials" icon, then click on "View a List of Elected Officials" text.



Or, best of all, go to our MCRMC Website: <http://www.mcrmc.club/links.html> and click on "List of Moore County Elected Officials".

#### Community In Action Speaker: Leslie Clothier

Vice President Programs, Pat Haggerty introduced our CIA speaker, Leslie Clothier. Clothier shared her story about her special needs daughter, Ellie Jean. Young Ellie was unable to use any of the play-

ground equipment here in Moore County because of her disabilities. Clothier was aware of playgrounds in and near Raleigh NC that has equipment useable by all children, including those with disabilities.

Clothier founded a non-profit to raise funds to acquire disabled children friendly equipment for use in Moore County. Her initial goal was to raise a modest amount, \$25,000, as a start. Those interested in learning more about this project can visit their website at: [www.theelliejeanproject.org](http://www.theelliejeanproject.org) or visit their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/TheEllieJeanProject/](https://www.facebook.com/TheEllieJeanProject/). There are ways to get involved and events that support this project.



#### From Your Editor, Paul Shaffer



If you have email, you will get the newsletter only by email going forward. If you want a paper copy by US mail, let me know by phone or email.

Last month, I wrote about what one talk-radio show host revealed about why the Dems were so against stopping illegal immigration and deporting any current illegal immigrants; i.e. future Dem voters, particularly the so-called Dreamers or aka DACAs. Allow me to continue with that theme again this month. However, I will concentrate on something I have written about before, stopping additional illegal immigration and what to do with those who are already here. Let me outline, in bullet point form, my previous article highlights:

- First and foremost, close the border, particularly the southern border
- Change the law as regards citizenship just because of being born in the USA
- Identify, fingerprint and get DNA from all current and future non-citizens, legal or illegal
- Stop all employment of illegals
- Stop all eligibility for government payments to illegals, including school attendance
- Offer current illegals a dollar amount benefit for voluntary return to their country of origin; i.e., self deportation
- Regularly track all registered non-citizens whether legal or illegal, at least semi-annually
- Allow exceptions on a case-by-case basis



- **NEW:** Find a solution for the illegals that were brought here as children (must have a hard reasonable definition of child; i.e. those called Dreamers and or DACA and proof they were brought here as a child).

Having said that, let me make some further observations about two of the above: 1) Close the border and 2) Dreamers/DACA.

About the border, please, please stop using the phrase “build a wall.” It always leads to the false or misleading arguments about whether walls work, the cost, the places it won’t work, etc. This diverts from the very purpose of addressing the issue, which is really what needs to be done, that is, STOP illegals from crossing of our borders, particularly the southern border.

Instead, I have always used the phrase “seal the border.” This terminology is all inclusive and includes walls, sensors, drones, electronic surveillance, additional border guards; i.e. whatever it takes. We must quit debating what we build and substitute debating what we can do to get the job done.

Regarding Dreamers/DACA, allow me to make start with the obvious: For as long as this issue has been debated, we have been told there are somewhere between 700,000 and 800,000 Dreamers. However, when President Trump and Republican leaders in the House and Senate began to talk seriously about coming up with a legislative solution, the number suddenly jumped to a possible 1.8 MILLION!! This makes no sense with an estimated increase in numbers of that magnitude. Too much of discrepancy between these two estimates without a clear understanding why.

This tells me that we need to do nothing at all until we have identified and recorded each and every person currently in the US who would be categorized as a Dreamer and why. When and only when this is completed, there can be NO new Dreamers added to the list, even if they came here as we worked on the resolution.

I DO support a solution to the Dreamers that allows them to stay. However, they must have a long, multi-year period to become a full legal citizen and we should not have any path that allows more Dreamers to come into our country. We have to bring illegal immigration to a HALT!

We have some interesting days in front of us, so stay engaged, get involved and educated, including voting. See you on February 19.

### Election Year News:

While it seems this year just started and elections are way out there in the future, think again! We are going to have a primary in May, which means electioneering has already begun. On local talk radio, we are hearing commentary and election ads on a daily basis. Our Congressman already has an announced general election Dem opponent, and there are strong rumors that he may yet get a Republican Primary opponent. Our NC State Rep may also have a Primary opponent.

NOW is the time become engaged and educated about the election schedule, who is running, and up-to-date on the issues. As noted earlier in the newsletter, our club has already planned to hold Republican candidate forums as the program in March and April. Following is an outline of the election events from the Moore County Board of Election website. At the end is a link to the website where you can find more details about the election, including where you can go to vote:

### 2018 Elections

#### Filing Period

Feb. 12 at Noon - Feb. 28 at Noon

- Board of Elections office
- During normal business hours
- Seats Available

#### Primary ~ May 8, 2018

- UOCAVA Election Notice
- Books Close: 4/13
- Absentee by mail: 3/19 - 5/1
- One Stop (Early Voting): 4/19 - 5/5

#### General Election ~ Nov. 6, 2018

- Books Close: 10/12
- Absentee by mail: 9/7 - 10/30
- One Stop (Early Voting): 10/18 - 11/3

[www.moorecountync.gov/board-of-elections](http://www.moorecountync.gov/board-of-elections)

### From and About Members:

#### Tom’s News by Tom Schroeder

(Editor’s note: The following is from Tom’s News Blog. There are many more interesting and informative articles

on the blog. See the links at the beginning and end of the following to access more articles.)

### *Tom's News*

[Tom's News Blog - Click Here](#)

*"Be a Voter and Make a Difference"*

#### Headline:

U.S. Supreme Court Halts Redrawing of N.C. Election Maps

#### Comments:

It appears that the both of the redistricting (US Congressional and NC General Assembly) issues have been put on hold by the US Supreme Court. This will likely take away a lot of the uncertainty from the 2018 elections.

NC Redistricting is headed for the Supreme Court.

Now if the NC General Assembly can resolve the NC Judicial Redistricting issue even more of the 2018 Election uncertainty would go away. (See <https://goo.gl/UpmRJn> for current status)

Here is quote from the article:

The [short order](#), stated:

The application for stay presented to The Chief Justice and by him referred to the Court is granted, and it is ordered that the order of the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina, case Nos. 1:16-CV-1026 and 1:16-CV-1164, entered January 9, 2018, is stayed pending the timely filing and disposition of an appeal in this Court.

More details in the below article

Article: Here is the web link to the below article:

U.S. Supreme Court halts redrawing of N.C. election maps

[nsjonline.com](http://nsjonline.com) · by NSJ Staff and Andrew Chung

Representative David Lewis fields questions from across the aisle on the new redistricting map on the floor of the North Carolina House at the Legislative Building in Raleigh, Monday, August 28, 2017. (Eamon Queeney / North State Journal)

RALEIGH — The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday blocked a lower court's order for North Carolina to redraw its congressional maps.

The Supreme Court granted a request by state legislators to suspend a Jan. 9 order by a federal

three-judge panel that had given the General Assembly until Jan. 24 to come up with a new map for U.S. House of Representatives districts.

Two liberal justices, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor, would have denied the application for stay, according to the opinion issued by the high court.

The Supreme Court's decision to stay the order reduces the chance that the current district lines will be altered ahead of the November mid-term congressional elections.

The [short order](#), stated:

The application for stay presented to The Chief Justice and by him referred to the Court is granted, and it is ordered that the order of the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina, case Nos. 1:16-CV-1026 and 1:16-CV-1164, entered January 9, 2018, is stayed pending the timely filing and disposition of an appeal in this Court.

Justice Ginsburg and Justice Sotomayor would deny the application for stay.

The three-judge panel had ruled that previously adopted districts violated the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of equal protection under the law by reducing the electoral strength of non-Republican voters. Two of the three judges also said the plan ran afoul of the Constitution's First Amendment by discriminating based on political belief and association.

Those judges on Tuesday had refused to put the ruling on hold.

North Carolina's congressional maps were challenged in two lawsuits by more than two dozen Democratic voters, the North Carolina Democratic Party and other groups.

The Supreme Court is currently examining two other cases from Wisconsin and Maryland involving claims that electoral districts were manipulated to keep the majority party in power in a manner that violated voters' constitutional rights. That practice is called partisan gerrymandering.

In the Wisconsin case, Democratic voters are challenging Republican-drawn legislative districts. In the Maryland case, Republicans are claiming Democratic lawmakers drew a congressional district in a way that would prevent a Republican candidate



from winning.

Rep. David Lewis (R-Harnett) and Sen. Ralph Hise (R-Mitchell), chairmen of their respective chambers' redistricting committees, issued the following statement in response to the Supreme Court's decision:

"We are grateful that a bipartisan U.S. Supreme Court has overwhelmingly halted the lower court's 11th-hour attempt to intervene in election outcomes, restored certainty to voters, and ensured that, in the coming days, candidates for office can file in the least gerrymandered and most compact Congressional districts in modern state history."

[nsjonline.com](http://nsjonline.com) · by NSJ Staff and Andrew Chung

*"Voters Do Make a Difference"*

Tom's News Pinehurst, NC

Phone: (910) 687-4501

Email: [Tom+News@tschroeder.info](mailto:Tom+News@tschroeder.info)

[Tom's News Blog: Click Here](#)

**From Member Linda Jarrett by Email.....**

(Editor's note: The following is the text from Linda's email and a re-print of the referenced article)

"FYI: This is a good summary of the outcomes of a State which implements 'proper wealth-producing Liberal policies'. Makes for appropriate content for general dissemination or newsletters or our blog - as certainly contrasts with Republican policies."



**Socialist California, Not Mississippi, Now Poverty Capital of America**

**BY CILLIAN ZEAL JANUARY 20**

If you've spent any time on your liberal relatives' news feeds, you've probably seen a meme or five noting how Mississippi — a state where residents overwhelmingly vote Republican — is the most poverty-stricken state in America.

Of course, this meme ignores historical factors as well as the very salient fact that the Democrats, until relatively recently, treated Dixie [as their own private fiefdom](#). [However, all of those memes can now go](#)

away, because there's a new poverty capital of these United States.

This time, America's poverty capital is a state that's had a history of wealth, both in terms of human capital and natural resources. It's where several of our biggest industries — including defense and tech — have been based. It was a place where many people went in the 20th century to seek their fortunes. And yet, after the state turned into the most liberal — dare we say socialist? — place in America, it also became our country's epicenter of economic misery.

Ladies and gentlemen, I present your new poverty capital: California.

"California — not Mississippi, New Mexico, or West Virginia — has the highest poverty rate in the United States," the [Los Angeles Times](#) notes in a Jan. 14 piece by Kerry Jackson.

"According to the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure —which accounts for the cost of housing, food, utilities, and clothing, and which includes noncash government assistance as a form of income — nearly one out of four Californians is poor."

So, why are Californians so poor? After all, job and GDP growth is good, although most of that is based around the tech sector. Part of it, Jackson argues, is that "state and local bureaucracies that implement California's antipoverty programs ... resisted pro-work reforms" that began in the 1990s to [get people off of welfare](#).

"It's not as if California policymakers have neglected to wage war on poverty, Sacramento and local governments have spent massive amounts in the cause, for decades now. Myriad state and municipal benefit programs overlap with one another; in some cases, individuals with incomes 200 percent above the poverty line receive benefits, according to the California Policy Center," Jackson writes.

"Unfortunately, California, with 12 percent of the American population, is home today to roughly one in three of the nation's welfare recipients. The generous spending, then, has not only failed to decrease poverty; it actually seems to have made it worse," Jackson continued.

"It's as though welfare reform passed California by, leaving a dependency trap in place. Immigrants are falling into it: 55% of immigrant families in the state

get some kind of means-tested benefits, compared with just 30% of natives.”

Other reasons for California being the new capital of poverty? Californians spent 30 percent of their income on housing in 2015, in part because of government regulations around land use and the environment.

“Counties and local governments have imposed restrictive land-use regulations that drove up the price of land and dwellings,” analyst Wendell Cox said. “Middle-income households have been forced to accept lower standards of living while the less fortunate have been driven into poverty by the high cost of housing.”

That’s not the only place where the state’s [exigent environmental regulations](#) have hurt the middle class and poor. Some estimates have energy prices at 50 percent more than the national average due mostly to regulations.

“In 2012, nearly 1 million California households faced ‘energy poverty’ — defined as energy expenditures exceeding 10 percent of household income. In certain California counties, the rate of energy poverty was as high as 15 percent of all households,” read a 2015 Manhattan Institute study titled “[Less Carbon, Higher Prices](#)” authored by Jonathan A. Lesser.

And things are only poised to get worse: “By 2020, California will require that one-third of electricity consumed in the state be generated from renewable sources,” the study read. “California households’ electricity prices have risen as a result of the state’s renewable-energy mandates and carbon cap-and-trade program — and will likely continue to rise at an even faster rate in coming years.”

The great irony at work here is that this has been the Democrat playbook for decades now. We’re told that if we give the poorest among us welfare, it will spark the economy more than tax cuts because the impoverished will put that money back into the economy. Green energy — adopted in expedited fashion due to environmental regulations — was supposed to create new industries and economic growth as far as the windmill-trained eye could see.

Instead, what we’ve seen is [homelessness](#), [shantytowns](#), extreme income inequality, joblessness, deficits, and all without discernible benefit to the state and the nation at large. Which raises the

question: isn’t this what they said the conservative agenda would lead to?

**John Boesch, Chair of Veterans Committee:**

**Tillis & Warren Successfully Urge IRS to Protect Lower-Income Military Retirees from Losing Retirement Benefits**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuesday, January 23, 2018**

**CONTACTS:**

[Daniel Keylin](#) or [Adam Webb](#) | (202) 224-6342

Washington, D.C. – United States Senators Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) recently announced they were successful in urging the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to reconsider a decision that would have caused lower-income military retirees to lose federal retirement benefits. In response to an [October 2017 Tillis-Warren letter](#) to the IRS, Acting IRS Commissioner David J. Kautter stated that the agency had re-analyzed its data and would change its decision "in line with your request."

"Military retirees who have dedicated their lives to protecting our country should not be subjected to a more rigorous standard than their federal civilian retiree counterparts," said Senator Tillis. "I applaud the IRS for reversing a decision they made last year that would have put these brave men and women at risk, and I will continue to advocate on their behalf as long as I am in Congress."

"Most military retirees have spent 20 years or more serving their country - the IRS shouldn't be withholding the retirement benefits they've earned and need just to get by," said Senator Warren. "I'm glad the IRS agreed to protect these veterans in response to our bipartisan letter, and I'll continue to look for ways to partner with my colleagues to make Washington work better for veterans and working families."

The senators initially wrote to then-IRS Commissioner John Koskinen in October of 2017,

explaining that "the IRS recently expanded its application of the Federal Payment Levy Program (FPLP) to include military payments." By expanding the FPLP in that manner, the IRS could "impose a levy on retirement payments to veterans in an effort to recoup back taxes." But unlike its application of the FPLP to other federal benefits, the IRS did not apply a low-income filter to exempt military retirees who would suffer economic hardship from having their payments levied. The senators argued that the IRS should apply the low-income filter to military retirees - the same way the IRS applies the filter to lower-income Americans receiving Social Security benefits - so that lower-income military retirees are not denied critical benefits they need to stay afloat financially.

In the response to Senators Tillis and Warren, Acting Commissioner Kautter noted that "based on a re-analysis of our data, the number of military retirees who would qualify to be excluded from the FPLP based on the low-income filter is high enough that we will move to apply the low-income filter to all military retiree payments as soon as we can." Acting Commissioner Kautter projected that the change would be implemented in early Fall of 2018. Based on data provided by the IRS, more than 10% of military retirees subject to the FPLP in recent months will have their retirement benefits protected by application of the low-income filter.

To read the IRS' response, [click here](#). Or type this link in your web browser:

[https://www.tillis.senate.gov/public/\\_cache/files/a956a-fae-35cd-45eb-bd4d-4033c007b2a6/senator-tillis---irs-response](https://www.tillis.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/a956a-fae-35cd-45eb-bd4d-4033c007b2a6/senator-tillis---irs-response)

Harold Mendelson to The Pilot – Jan 10

## False Firearms Claims

Last fall, HR 38 passed the U.S. House and has been passed to the Senate for a vote. This bill will allow CCW (carrying a concealed weapon) permits issued by any state to be valid in all 50 states.

States that do not require a CCW permit to carry concealed weapons will need a valid state-issued ID to carry a concealed weapon in any state. In North Carolina, there already exist reciprocity agreements with 36 other states.

The response from the Democrats is typified by Nancy Pelosi, with her comment that CCW is "inviting violent criminals to carry concealed

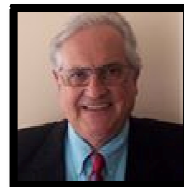
weapons," which is totally false. The Washington Post gave that statement three Pinocchios. For those that obtain a CCW permit, while the laws vary from state to state, all require a full background check.

The Crime Prevention Research Center conducted research and gathered information on firearm-related deaths and violent crimes. The result clearly showed CCW permit holders have committed fewer crimes, compared to the general population and even the police.

The general population commits 3,813 firearm crimes per 100,000. The police population commits 16.5. The CCW permit holder population commits 2.4. These statistics show that the argument by those who fear a violent major crime increase because of reciprocity is a false argument.

Another argument is that this law will override state and local firearms laws. This is also false. All state and local firearms laws are to be followed, and is the responsibility of CCW permit holder to know and follow these laws. Statistics show that states having CCW laws with "shall-issue" laws have 31 percent fewer murders than states having "may-issue" laws. People have the right to self-protection anywhere in this country.

Felice Schillaci on Facebook:



LEXOPHILING....

- Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!
- How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.
- England has no kidney bank, but

it does have a Liverpool.

- I tried to catch some fog, but I mist
- They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Typo.
- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.
- I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?



- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- Broken pencils are pointless

## 2018 Dues of \$25.00 Due Now

Keep your membership current by paying your 2018 dues now. Bring a \$25.00 PERSONAL check to the January 22 meeting. If you cannot come to the meeting, send your check by mail to MCRMC, PO Box 1812, Southern Pines NC 28388. Remember to put 2018 dues in the memo line.

Jan 26 Facebook post about the Resolve blog:



### Moore County Republican Men's Club

Subscribe to RESOLVE, the blog that keeps you connected to the events and

debates that define our times. Did you know that the recent tax reform bill signed into law by President Trump is already reaping a tangible benefit among North Carolina's retirees? Click below to read more. <https://resolvenc.blog/2018/01/26/a-5-7m-windfall/>

Jim Lexo to The Pilot Jan 21:

### Deep State' Poses Many Dangers

The term "deep state" has several meanings, but I believe it was President Eisenhower back in the 1950s who told us that the federal bureaucracy really runs our government, not the White House or the Congress.

I always thought that the Defense Department, Justice Department and intelligence agency officials took their constitutional oaths seriously and focused on protecting us from the bad guys.

Now we know that FBI and Justice officers clearly tried to prevent President Trump from getting elected.

I experienced something similar when a friend was abused/ruined by the Department of Justice.

He was Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, who was charged nearly 10 years ago with failing to disclose and reimburse services rendered by a construction contractor in Alaska.

At the time, Stevens was president pro tem of the U.S. Senate, one of the highest-ranking Republicans

in the country. In retrospect, it was clear that some DOJ lawyers wanted a big scalp, so they decided they would bring him down by any means.

Initially he was convicted by a jury in Washington. Then it was discovered that the DOJ prosecutors withheld evidence that would have substantiated the senator's claim that he paid for all services. Six prosecutors were investigated. Two were suspended (a slap on the wrist), and a third committed suicide during the investigation.

Where there is a potential crime, we need our federal officers to follow the evidence and document the facts. If it leads to a conviction, good on them.

So if they have something of substance on Trump, bring it forward. If not, stop wasting our money.

We also need one justice system. How can a sailor who took a photo of his workstation for posterity go to jail, while Hillary Clinton and Huma Abedin clearly exposed and mishandled classified information?

### John Rowerdink in The Pilot, Jan 24

### There Is No Real Evidence of Collusion or Illegality

Anyone not living in a cave for the last year or so is aware of various investigations to determine whether and how the Russian government interfered in our 2016 presidential election.

The biased media have narrowed their reporting to possible Trump campaign collusion with the Russians, hoping to gather evidence to impeach the president. Four investigations are underway. The FBI's began in July 2016, the Senate Intelligence Committee's began in January 2017, the House Intelligence Committee's started in March 2017, and Special Counsel Robert Mueller's has been underway since May 2017.

These investigators have interviewed dozens of witnesses and looked under every stone in America in their search for evidence of collusion, spending millions of taxpayer dollars. After all this, what have we found, and what have we not found?

What we have not found is any evidence that the Trump campaign colluded with the Russians to influence the election. Mueller's team indicted Trump's former campaign manager, Paul Manafort, (continued on the INSERT – front)

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for things that took place several years ago and have nothing to do with the Trump campaign. Manafort has pleaded not guilty.

Mueller's team charged former National Security Adviser and retired Army Gen. Michael Flynn with giving false testimony to the FBI. Flynn has pleaded guilty to the charges, which also have nothing to do with the Trump campaign.

Former low-level Trump campaign adviser George Papadopoulos pleaded guilty to lying about his contact with the Russians to gather dirt about Hillary Clinton. Of course, there's nothing unusual about political campaigns gathering dirt on their opponents. For comparison, read below about Hillary's efforts to gather dirt on the Trump campaign.

That's all, folks — no evidence whatsoever that the Trump campaign colluded with the Russians.

That's what we have not found. Now, look at what we have found:

\* That the "Trump dossier," a compendium of salacious, unverified dirt about President Trump prepared by a former British spy, was based on information gathered from Russians connected to the Kremlin. His work was paid for (several million dollars) by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee. Doesn't this say that it was the Clinton campaign, not the Trump campaign, that colluded with the Russians?

\* That the FBI and the Mueller team are staffed with people who support Hillary Clinton and hate President Trump. Mueller's team has many staff members who made large contributions to the Clinton campaign but none who contributed to the Trump campaign.

\* That some of the key players on the Mueller team, Peter Strzok, Lisa Page and Andrew Weissman, exchanged text messages expressing hate for Trump and a plan to develop an "insurance policy" to prevent his unlikely election. Anyone want to guess what that "insurance policy" might consist of?

\* That the Trump dossier was prepared by Fusion GPS, which employed the wife of Bruce Ohr, a key FBI person involved in all of this. During the investigation, Bruce Ohr met with Fusion GPS at the

FBI offices, suggesting that the FBI was involved in the dossier. He has since been fired.

\* That some of these same people were heavily involved in the FBI's investigation of Hillary's email practices and let her off the hook.

\* That Andrew McCabe, a high-level FBI employee involved in both the Trump dossier and the Clinton email investigation, is married to Jill McCabe, who received \$700,000 in campaign contributions from Terry McAuliffe, a longtime Clinton confidante. Do you suppose this might have made Andrew McCabe favorably disposed toward Hillary Clinton and unfavorably disposed toward Donald Trump?

There is evidence that the FBI may have helped pay for the Trump dossier, and that it began its 2016 investigation based on this "trumped-up" dossier (pun unintended). There is also evidence that the FBI and the Justice Department used the dossier to illegally surveil American citizens.

The FBI and Justice Department both flagrantly withheld evidence from the House and Senate investigative committees looking into this. Do you think concerns about "Deep State" resistance to President Trump are unfounded?

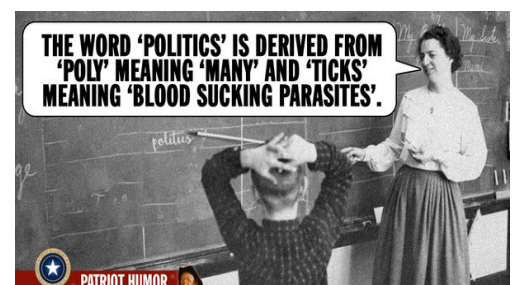
Furthermore, if the Russians helped Donald Trump get elected, why has the Trump administration consistently taken a tougher line toward Russia than the Obama administration did? Remember President Obama's open-mic comment to Russian Prime Minister Medvedev about having "more flexibility" after the 2012 election? It looks like it was Democrats who colluded with the Russians, not Republicans.

So after all the investigating so far, we've found no evidence that the Trump campaign colluded with the Russians, but plenty of evidence that the Clinton campaign did; and that the Mueller investigative team is filled with Clinton supporters.

President Trump calls this whole thing a "witch hunt." The evidence so far tells me he's right.

### This & That

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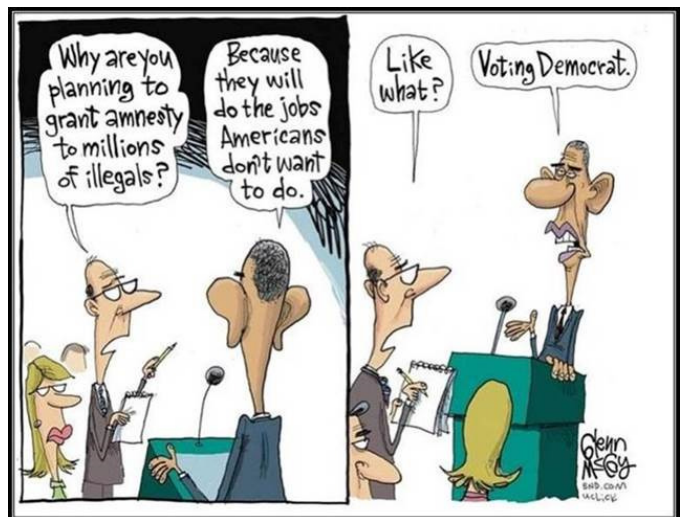


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#### More Lexophile Phrases:

1. I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
2. Police were called to a day care, where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
3. Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
4. The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.
5. To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
6. When fish are in schools they sometimes take debate.
7. The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
8. A thief who stole a calendar... got twelve months.
9. A thief fell and broke his leg in wet cement. He became a hardened criminal.
10. Thieves who steal corn from a garden could be charged with stalking



Remember, our meeting this month is on the 3rd Monday, February 19. We are meeting at CCNC with registration at 11:30am and the meeting being called to order at noon. Our program speaker is our own Congressman, Richard Hudson who will bring us up-to-date on all things Washington DC. Make your reservations at [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club).

MCRMC  
PO Box 1812  
Southern Pines NC 28388

