



MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017



In God We Trust

Visit www.mcrmc.club

Founded in December, 1996.....Celebrating 21 years in 2017

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Reminder: Our April luncheon meeting is at Pinehurst CC on the 3rd Monday, April 17. Registration begins at 11:30am. Reservations required.



President's Message by Jim Lexo

Several months ago when John Boehner said with a chuckle that the Republicans will not “repeal and replace” Obamacare, I was mad. My thought was that the Republican members are smart and hard workers and they will have a strategy to get us to the finish line. What Boehner said this week to explain the comment is that the Republicans cannot agree on a strategy for health care. They voted 52 times to repeal it over the past eight years and now they could not get it done when it counted.

The problem is that once the Congress creates a new program it takes an act of God to kill it. I think we have killed one agency in over 50 years. It was the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and it was absorbed by Transportation and Commerce. Trump’s budget proposes killing 19 federal agencies. I love the thought, but what are the chances of that happening?

So repeal and replace Obamacare is on the shelf and we can move onto something easier and more popular.... Tax Reform. Wrong. This is going to a horrendous fight too. John Hood in his speech pointed out that the Border tax is very divisive. Every company that imports goods will deploy their lobbyists to kill it. On top of that, they will not have the trillions they hope to save from the Obamacare replacement to offset the tax cuts in the Reform bill. Tax reform is one of the most promising changes the Republicans could make, but it is shaping up to be another circular firing squad deal.

The country seems divided because the far left and the far right have high jacked our political process. I have always considered myself a “traditional” Republican...not Tea Party, not Alt right and not Ripon member (left leaning Republican). Remember John Hood’s comments on this? Decades ago, some Republicans in Congress created the Republican Study Group to move the party to the right. Today, all the Republican members belong to the Study Group and two years ago the Freedom Caucus emerges to move the party further right. We have to move the Democrats as far right as we can, but at the end of the day, they are going to get concessions because of things like the filibuster....which by the way, we loved when the Republicans were in the minority. If we are to make any progress, we are going to have to do like Ronald Reagan did and accept 80% solutions. Maybe 60-70% solutions sometimes. As long as we are going in the right direction, the incremental improvements will pay big dividends. Let’s keep the ball in the fairway.

(continued on lower left side of next page)

COMMITTEES for 2017:
Membership, Communication & Publicity:

Jerrell Seawell*

John Jarrett

Tom Adams

Bob Coates

Paul Shaffer (1)

(1) On committee as a result of being newsletter editor

Finance:

Bob Tweed*

Bob Zschoche

Fundraising & Candidate Finance: TBD

Golf Tournament 2017:

Jim Lexo*

EC members

Luncheon Administration:

Bob Zschoche*

Nominations:

Tom Beddow*

Program:

Pat Haggerty*

Tom Beddow

John Rowerdink

All EC members

Bylaws:

TBD*

Veterans:

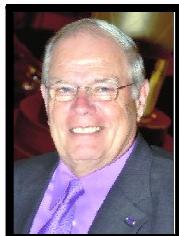
John Boesch*

***Committee Chairman**

Many who have been in a large business, served in local or state government as a volunteer or who are active in church beyond attending worship likely cringe at the thought of serving on a committee. The old saying is that a committee was assigned to design a horse and came up with the camel! Well, not so in your club. our committees get major things done, so consider becoming involved.

(President's message continued from front page)

Last point. I have been asked "why can't President Trump stop tweeting?" Or "why does he make outrageous claims like being wire tapped?" I think he does it with a specific plan in mind. He wants to keep his adversaries off balance. It is probably all in his book, "The Art of the Deal." Who thought he would make the wiretap claim without having any evidence? Who thinks the Obama Administration was not dying to get something on Trump through the guise of surveilling Russians? Of course they were. In these high profile situations, someone



949-4250
Home
Cell for text
(910) 638-8195

Calling Colonel:
Bob Zschoche

Calling Captains:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terry/Belinda | (910) |
| Bryant | 947-3721 |
| Dave Devore | 215-9246 |
| Neil Godfrey | 949-2439 |
| Bill Graning | 235-0535 |
| Roger Hicks | 947-5527 |
| Don Hiscott | 295-9544 |
| Jack McVey | 295-6748 |
| Bob Norman | 215-9555 |
| Bro Park | 255-6091 |
| Glen Roat | 215-0897 |
| Andy Rueb | 295-4908 |
| Jerrell Seawell | 464-2219 |
| Fred Zimmerman | 295-6480 |
| (Your name could be here) | (Your Number here) |

Do you get a monthly Calling Captain call? If not, you should call Bob Zschoche at 949-4250 if you want to get back on the list. We want all members to get calls that want calls!

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



Luncheon Meetings:

Our luncheon meetings for 2017 will be on the 3rd Monday, for April it is on the 17th. We will be at Pinehurst CC (for this meeting only), with registration starting at 11:30am.

We will be called to order about noon and lunch will be served after a few opening announcements. We have US Senator Thom Tillis as our program speaker. See the program article later in this newsletter for more information.

Plan to bring a guest/prospective member and make a reservation(s) as noted below.

The all inclusive lunch price is \$20.00, cash or check to Pinehurst CC.

Make your April luncheon reservation on or before Thursday, April 13 at:

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

and click on the upper right "Luncheon Reservation" tab.

Future Meetings

We look forward to future luncheon meetings this year. We are scheduling outstanding speakers such as John Tuck, a DC insider, for our May meeting. In June we will have our annual Golf Tournament and hope to have NC US Representative, Richard Hudson, join us again this year.

Not getting monthly telephone calls or emails about reservations for meetings?? If not, let Bob Zschoche know you would like to be added back to the calling list.

always spills the beans. Now we are learning that Trump was right. Surprise!

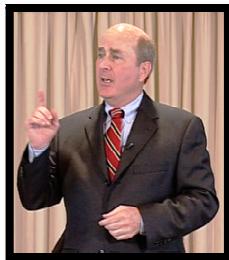
Last, last point. When (not if) Neil Gorsuch gets nominated to the Supreme Court, all our hard work to elect Trump and the Republican Congress will have been worth it.

Senator Tillis joins us this month to give us the inside scoop. Remember, it is April 17th at Pinehurst Member's Club . Bring a friend!

April Meeting Program News

(VP Programs, Pat Haggerty)

Those who attend our April 17 luncheon will hear from NC US Senator, Thom Tillis. Make a note and remember that the April luncheon meeting will be at the **PINEHURST COUNTRY CLUB, OUTLOOK BALLROOM**. Senator Tillis is our primary speaker and will bring an update of happenings in Washington, DC. Expect a firsthand report on the progress or lack thereof of the Trump agenda to date. He has been quoted in TV reports as saying, *“President Trump is a disruptive force, in a positive way.”*



Sen. Tillis has taken a lead role in immigration reform efforts in Congress. He recently joined a bi-partisan group of senators introducing a bill to provide additional visas for Afghans who supported the U.S. Mission in Afghanistan to apply for refuge in this country. Tillis also recently returned from a trip to the U.S. border with Mexico. A trip he says reaffirmed his belief that strengthening the border is paramount to the country's security. Tillis also supports President Trump's travel ban executive orders, which restricted visas for nationals in several majority-Muslim countries and banned almost all refugees from entering the United States. A federal court judge blocked the president's "revised ban" in mid-March hours before it was to take effect.

Tillis served as a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives from Mecklenburg County, and Speaker of the House, and was also the Republican Party's nominee for the 2014 U.S. Senate election in North Carolina, defeating Democratic incumbent Kay Hagan. Tillis serves on the following Senate Committees: Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Special Committee on Aging.

In addition to Tillis, "Community in Action" speaker Suzanne Clendenin will talk briefly about the Life Care Pregnancy Center. Their stated mission: *"Life Care Pregnancy Center is a Christ-centered ministry that promotes the sanctity of human life by providing Christian direction, compassionate care, accurate information and practical assistance for individuals*

and families facing crucial decisions surrounding an unplanned pregnancy or pregnancy related crisis. LCPC also promotes the prevention of unplanned pregnancies and pregnancy related crises through abstinence until marriage education."

The April meeting starts with registration and a meet/greet at 11:30am. The lunch and program start at Noon and everyone is out the door no later than 1:30pm. The cost is only \$20 which includes a full lunch and the program.

The May meeting will feature Washington insider John Tuck who will tell us about his 45 years in DC where he ran the House Floor, the Senate floor, was chief of staff to Sen. Howard Baker when Baker was the Chief of Staff to Ronald Reagan and was Chief of Staff at the American Embassy in Japan when Baker was the Ambassador.



June will be the annual Fundraising Golf Tournament, this year, it will be held at CCNC. State House Representative, Richard Hudson, has been invited to attend, greet golfers and make a few comments at lunch after the tournament.



There will be a two month summer recess in July and August and regular monthly meetings will begin again at CCNC on September 18.

Reservations for the April meeting at Pinehurst CC are required and can be made on the new club website <http://www.mcrmc.club> (click on the **Luncheon Reservations** button, upper right), by email to bobzschoche@msn.com, by text to (910) 638-8195 or call Bob Zschoche at (910) 949-4250. Reservations must be made on or before April 13.

VP Membership – Jerrell Seawell

What a beautiful time of year it is! Spring has sprung and there are beautiful signs of new life all around us. God has given us this special time of year when the bleak remnants of winter turn into the beauty of new blooms and green grass, signifying new birth and life all around us. Let us think about this for a few minutes from the perspective of our club



and how this can relate to us. Now is the time for us to become energized and motivated as current members to stay engaged in club activities, and become more involved with our club. Now is the time for us to work together to Grow the Moore County Republican Men's Club as our "Spring Season" has finally arrived!

How can we accomplish this? First, we must sow the seeds. Tell perspective members about our club and all the positive things associated with it. To be truly effective this can only be done by us working together. Our team efforts have increased and I am very impressed in how current members are working diligently to recruit new members. Let us continue to reach out to like-minded prospective members in the workplace, community, and non-political arenas.

When the seeds sprout they must be nurtured to blossom to their full potential. The same applies to new members. Current members please welcome our new members by engaging them in conversation and show that they are needed to ensure the continued success of our club. Invite them to sit at your table during lunch and introduce them to current members. I would like to have some volunteers to assist me in greeting new members at our luncheons to assist with this process of making them feel more welcome at the luncheons. This is a very important aspect as it encourages club involvement from an early perspective and assists in member retention for the future.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting! God bless you all and enjoy this beautiful time of year that God has created for us!

Bob Tweed - Treasurer

As of this article, we have removed those members who have not paid their 2017 dues as of April 1. This is in accordance with the provisions of our club bylaws. If you are reading this article, either the email version or the hard copy version, it is an assurance that you have paid your 2017 dues and will continue as a member. Those who are not paid, will not get this newsletter or any future issues, club meeting announcements and other club correspondence sent to the members. They will get an email or postcard advising that they have been purged from the membership database but can be reenstated by rejoining and paying 2017 dues.

We had almost \$11,000.00 in the bank as of the

March meeting. We expect that balance to continue to grow as we get the last dues payers posted. Our big fundraiser is the June golf tournament. We are playing this year at CCNC, so watch for more details and plan to participate in some way. You can participate by playing, sponsoring a hole, sponsoring a first responder and/or making a contribution. We need all members to be involved in some way, even if it is only attending lunch after the golf.

If you have any questions about your dues or other financial questions, just give me a call or email me. My contact information is: Bob Tweed, rretweeed@aol.com or (910) 295-3199

Secretary & Calling Colonel – Bob Zschoche

Allow me again to thank all of our calling captains for their monthly work in contacting members about



the upcoming meeting and getting attendance information. As I have stated before, over time, the calling contact effort has expanded to recognize new technology. First adding email as a method of contact and now including text messaging when members request. What remains as important as ever is that our members are contacted monthly using the method they most prefer.

I remain convinced that these monthly contacts, one-on-one communication with our members, is a significant contributor to our good luncheon attendance and the involvement of our members on non-luncheon events and projects. We do, however, have some expected turnover in our calling captain ranks. Most recently, Ed Dennison had to give up his calling duties to have more time to devote to his other activities such as the Moore County Board of Education. We all thank Ed for his calling captain work and also for his work as Chair to the MC BoE.

We are in need of a replacement for Ed and others before him who, for various reasons, had to relinquish their calling duties. So, I am asking all members to consider becoming a calling captain. I will be glad to discuss the requirements and answer any questions you might have about calling captain duties. Just give me a call or send me an email, my contact information is in the left column of page 2.

On another matter, let me assure you that the club records, including EC meeting minutes and other documents are current and in safekeeping. There is

one set of documents in particular that is critical to the successful operation of our club. That would be the membership database. It is in Excel Spreadsheet format and is a living, ever-changing document. For each member, we collect data which includes name, spouse's name, contact information (address, telephone number(s), email address, etc.), join date, dues status and much more. Therefore, it is critical that we keep this information current and accurate.

You can help with just a minimum effort.

Specifically, let us know if you have moved in the last year, have a new email address, got a new or changed your telephone number (both land-line and cell), etc. First, if you have made any changes in the data noted above, call or email me and let me know. Further, we are working on a process where we will contact individual members, probably by email, to ask for missing information, such a cell phone number.

As always, if you have any questions give me a call or email me. I hope to see you at the April 17 meeting. Remember, this time only, it will be a Pinehurst CC.

The MCRMC Veterans/Military Affairs Committee

The MCRMC Veterans Committee, in March, announced the three initiatives that it would focus on in 2017. Following is a brief on progress toward each objective.



Priority 1. The Committee is using veteran-accessible media in the County to extend awareness (and use) among Veterans of a list of 60 assorted services accessible to any Veteran. Also, awareness is being focused on the publication, NC4VETS, which provides detailed information on every known service available to NC Veterans.

The Moore County list of services is being inserted in each copy of NC4Vets that is distributed. Copies are available at the Veterans Service Office in Carthage, and at least one VFW Post. The Committee will be attempting to expand distribution points.

Priority 2. The Committee has learned, from an analysis of Moore County Veteran Services Growth, the office's case load has increased by 367%, since 2008: from 342 claims to 2,726.

Over the same period, the fiscal year budget for the office has declined by 12% (\$23,750.69). The Committee will approach the County

Commissions, through the MCMRC, to encourage Commission review of the situation. Hopefully, there is the possibility for the Moore County Veteran Services Office to receive addition funding to help address the increasing demand.

Priority 3. A meeting was organized and led by Judge Wilkins to discuss the founding of a Moore County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC). It was attended by representatives of the Courts, the DA's office, law enforcement and veterans.

It is established that 1 in 6 Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Veterans have substance abuse problems. Twenty percent of GWOT Veterans experience PTSD; Vietnam Veterans are at 30%. More than 20% of OEF/OIF wounds are TBI. Suicide rates among Veterans have increased above 20 per day. A VTC will help Moore County Veterans by addressing issues related to the above.

There are 5 operational VTCs in North Carolina, and additional ones in development, or being studied. The first was established in late 2013. The Task Force has obtained a detailed report on organization of a successful VTC. It will serve to guide the future study of the current Task Force.

There is consensus regarding the need for such an organization. The concept is proven and it appears this is a significant opportunity to improve the lives of many veterans. In fact, the potential is such that the view is re-focused on a VTC to serve the more than 23,000 (and growing) Veterans in Judicial District 19-B, which includes Moore, Montgomery and Randolph County.

There will be a meeting of interested parties, on April 3, in Carthage, to hear a presentation by the Administrator of the first NC VTC. It will be an opportunity for the Moore County VTC Task force to become more educated about the VTC concept and how it actually works in practice in North Carolina.

April Luncheon Meeting Report

President Jim Lexo called the meeting to order at noon and asked Chaplain Bruce Carlson to open with a prayer. Chaplain Carlson offered the following:

"Good and gracious God who watches over your whole creation and in doing so knows each of us by name and loves us unconditionally. We are grateful for that watchfulness and concern that keeps us in your eternal care. May we know this in the depth of our hearts and may that knowledge give us the strength and courage

to live our lives with the fullness and abundance you wish for each of us.

God, we ask you to walk with our President and those he has chosen to serve with him. Keep them honest and faithful to the precepts they hold and have advanced as their pattern for leadership and change. Many people in our nation are engaged in advancing their particular view of what our nation should be without any concern for what is really the best for all our citizens. Help them to rethink their ideas and actions that they might moderate their pronouncements and activities.

Be with all Senators in the process of approving a new member of the Supreme Court. May they be interested in advancing a jurist who will interpret the law to the benefit of all our citizens and not someone who will simply support their ideology.

We also remember our military veterans, we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and we salute all those who put themselves in harm's way to keep our country safe and free to make others free to live as they choose. We thank you for their resolve and bravery.

We began by thanking you, God, for being a loving and caring provider and protector. May we enjoy that gift in the remainder of this day as we share with those at our tables and as we return to our associates and families. We thank you for this food and those who have prepared it and serve it. God, bless us all. Amen.”

President Lexo called Pat Haggerty, VP Programs, to the podium to introduce our Community in Action speakers, Carie O’Quinn and Tina Gibbs. Together, they discussed the Moore Regional Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care programs.



(FirstHealth Hospice House)

FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care is a not-for-profit hospice serving Moore and Montgomery counties and is the only hospice associated with FirstHealth of the Carolinas. Palliative (PAL-e-a-tiv) Care is provided by a team of professionals dedicated

to relieving suffering and improving quality of life for patients and families affected by serious illness, but not deemed terminal. Palliative Care is offered along with all other appropriate medical treatments, and provides education for the patient and family on the expected disease progression and prognosis, and assists in developing a plan of care including assistance with decisions related to future medical treatments. The focus is on the needs of the patient, whether those needs concern pain and symptom control, counseling, spiritual needs or coordinating links to other community services. Services include nursing (in home visits), social work, aides, spiritual care and volunteer support.

These services are offered based on need, not ability to pay. The FirstHealth Foundation provides the resources and financial support to keep these services available to all in the service area. Support for the Foundation was emphasized. To learn more about these services, click on the following [LINK](#) (for those members who get only the paper copy of the newsletter, type in the following link in your web browser:

<https://www.firsthealth.org/specialties/more-services/hospice-and-palliative-care>

Following lunch, our primary speaker, John Hood was introduced. His talk was spiced with humor, as he opened with saying that he has spoken to us before... “once or twice.....well maybe more like 10 times.”

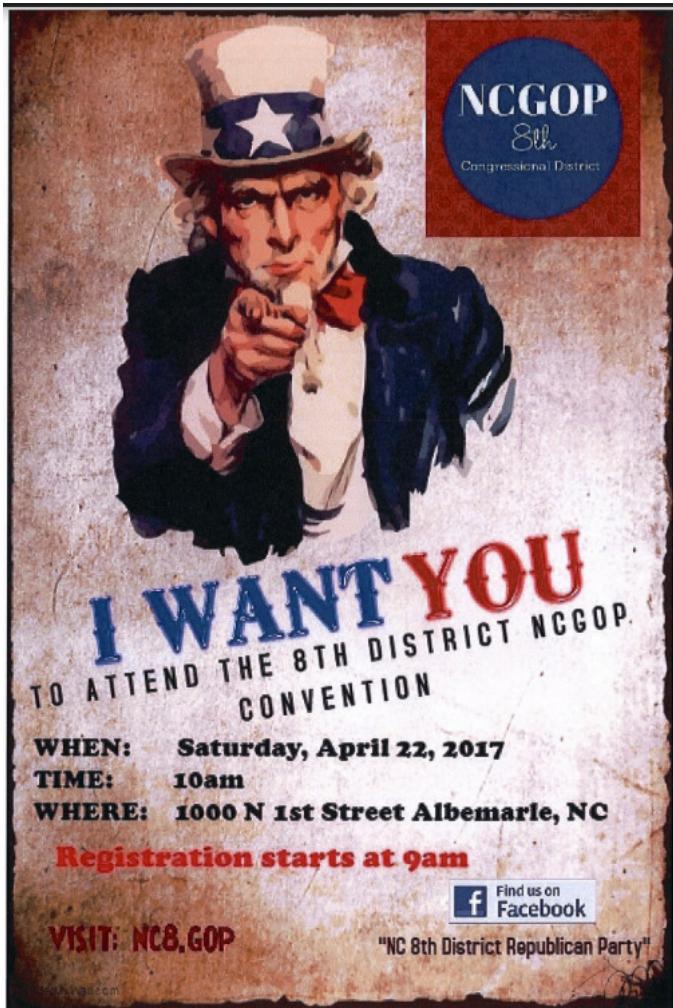
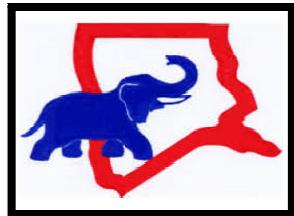


He proceeded to talk about the three faces (editor’s words) of the Republican party in Washington, the Trump supporters, the Republican establishment and the conservative Republican Freedom Caucus. He then made an interesting parallel of a similar split of three factions of the North Carolina politicians in Raleigh. He predicted that, over time, progress will be made on Trump’s promised agenda, including healthcare, taxes, immigration and military readiness. He cautioned, however, that not every promise will be fully fulfilled and consensus will take time and some compromise.

After a spirited Q & A session, the meeting was adjourned about 1:20pm. A video of the meeting was taken by Matt Horsley, the Chair of Moore Tea Citizens. We are working with Matt to get that video posted and will advise members where it can be viewed as soon as it is posted.

North Carolina GOP News

The Moore County GOP convention has been held as reported in the MCRMC March newsletter. The next convention is the District 8 GOP convention as further described in the following poster:



The NC Republican Party state convention will be held June 2 – 4 at the Wilmington Convention Center. The NCGOP will be staying at the Wilmington Hilton Riverside. Those who are planning to attend should visit the following website to get further information:

www.convention.nc.gop/about-convention

There you will find details, a schedule, hotel accommodation information, NCGOP Committee Ideas submission form and more. If you have further questions or input, you may email:

StateConvention@nchgop.org

Moore Republican Women News



The April 3rd meeting speakers were: Michelle Nix, Vice Chair NC GOP, who reported on her visit to the White House on 3/29/17 with President Trump and Melania, who hosted a symposium on empowering women. In addition, Susan Bellew, Executive Director of Family Promise of Moore County spoke. Family Promise is a charity working to alleviate homelessness in our county.

The meeting was held on Monday, April 3, 2017 with 11:30 a.m. Registration and a 12:00 Luncheon. This meeting and future meetings are normally held at Pinehurst Country Club on the first Monday of the month. Cost is \$18.50 payable to Pinehurst LLC, and valet parking is available. Reservations required; and they are unable to accommodate walk-ins. Future meeting information will be sent by email and our members are always welcome as guests. Reservation may be made by: 1) On this website in the right-hand column. You will receive an immediate confirmation. 2) Email: to mooregopwomen@gmail.com. 3) Phone reservations: Lisa Sheridan, Luncheon Chair, at 910-400-5520.

President's Message - Kay Wildt:



Moore Republican Women (MRW) is funding a \$500 scholarship for a Moore County high school student to attend summer camp in 2017 at the Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge of the Jesse Helms Center. The scholarship will provide room, board and program costs to attend a five-day session at either Wingate University or Campbell University. Interested high school students, who will be rising sophomores, juniors or seniors in high school at the start of the 2017 and want to learn more about free enterprise through hands-on business experience, are encouraged to apply. SEE THE APRIL NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

(Posted on the website: www.mrwnc.org)

MCRMC members are always welcome to attend the MRW monthly meetings, so watch for meeting announcements by email, including reservation information.

Elected Officials Contact Information:

The most recent elected official contact list is attached to the

email copy of this newsletter. Paper copies will be available at the April 17 luncheon meeting on the registration table. You can also visit the Moore County Board of Elections website: www.moorecountync.gov/board-of-elections



From Your Editor, Paul Shaffer



You read in Treasurer Bob's article the status of those members who have not yet paid dues for 2017. It falls on me to be the person to send out email notice to those who are not yet paid. If you are reading this, it means your dues are paid and you are still on the active member list; accordingly you are receiving this newsletter by email and/or hard copy. Thanks you for your continued club support and involvement!

If you have club member friends that do NOT get their newsletter, it is because they had not paid 2017 dues by April 1. That caused them to be purged from the active member status and put on a list of inactive, non-members. We will be contacting them and hope they will pay 2017 dues and become active again. If you hear from someone who says they did not get their newsletter, have them contact me by phone or email and I can let them know what they need to do to become active again.

On a final note, SAVE MONDAY, JUNE 19 on your calendar, this year's golf tournament date. More details to follow, but plan to participate in some way!

From and About Our Members

By John Rowerdink Guest Columnist to
The Pilot March 21, 2017



Advice for Donald Trump Word From a Republican: Keep Draining That Swamp

The author, of Pinehurst, served until recently as chairman of the Moore County Republican Party.

I keep waiting for the phone to ring with President Trump on the line, asking me what I think about his

presidency to this point. So far, no call. Maybe he reads The Pilot, so I'll try this route.

My advice would include the following:

Keeping his campaign promises: I'd tell him that I really like that he's doing what he said he would do. He promised that in his campaign and his inaugural speech, and now he's doing it. And I'd tell him how sad it is that people find that unusual among today's politicians. I'd remind him that's why the people voted for him. They believed he would do what he said.

There's a lot of work to do, and he's in a hurry to do it. Good.

Jobs and the economy: I'd tell him how important it is that he's bringing business leaders into his administration and consulting with business and labor leaders from various industries. These are the people who understand how seriously anti-business the Obama administration was.

Two months into his presidency, we're already seeing positive results. Jobs are being created in America instead of elsewhere in the world, and his tax reform plans and deregulation will help kick our economy into high gear.

Health care: This is high risk. I'd advise him to work carefully with Congress to repeal and replace Obamacare. The Democrats are going to sit on their hands and take shots from the sidelines, even though they created this mess. Meanwhile, some of the Republicans are fighting with each other like juveniles.

I know patience isn't his strong suit, but someone is going to have to push this thing through. That's why we elected him. Find ways to get people to agree on the most important things, and don't let perfect be the enemy of good.

Obamacare is in a death spiral. And if there is a way to do it, find at least a few Democrats to support the bill. Laws of this importance should have bipartisan support. That's one of the mistakes the Democrats made when they crafted Obamacare.

On his travel ban and immigration, I'd tell him not to let the naysayers get him down. The people who voted for him know our immigration problems have been ignored for years. It's common sense that we shouldn't let people in from those six Middle Eastern countries until we can get them properly vetted. What do they think we should do, wait until the next terrorist attack and then stop them?

And the southern border? Get the wall built or find other ways to secure it. I'd remind him that the number of people coming across our southern border illegally is already down 40 percent since he took office. They know there's a new sheriff in town.

On military spending, I'd tell him it's about time our president started supporting our military. More spending for a stronger military? Good. The bad guys in the world respect only one thing: strength. And carrots work better when there's also a stick. President Obama never understood that.

Regarding his critics: Mr. Trump is taking criticism from all sides — the media, the Democrats and some Republicans. When they mock him, I'd remind him that they mocked Reagan too. I'd tell him that the people who supported him in the election still support him and even more strongly.

The media? They need to get their act together. Their ratings are in the basement for a reason. The people know they're biased. The Democrats? They're killing themselves. Keep doing your job, and the voters will take care of them in the next election. He got a lot of Democratic votes in the last election, and he'll get even more next time. And Republican critics? We'll take care of them in the next election too. They're trying to protect a status quo that the voters rejected.

On foreign policy, Obama left you a hell of a mess around the world — Syria, Iran, North Korea, China, Russia. You've appointed excellent people to your most important national security positions: Jim Mattis at Defense, John Kelly at Homeland Security, H.R. McMaster as national security adviser, Rex Tillerson at State, Mike Pompeo at the CIA, and Nikki Haley at the U.N. You have the best talent available. Your job is to listen to them and make the final decisions.

It's a tough job, but somebody's got to do it. And Obama left it for you.

And Twitter? Cool it a little. You're hurting yourself. I know you need a way to get your message directly to the people because you can't trust the media. Nevertheless, scale it back a little. You're the president now, and the people want you to succeed.

They want you to Drain The Swamp and Make America Great Again.

Ed Dennison – Chair of the Moore County Board of Education

The Truth about State Funding for Moore County Schools



Much has been talked about recently in regard to Moore County Schools' budget for the upcoming 2017-2018 fiscal year. We have seen an incredible outpouring of support for our schools and it makes me proud to serve this great community as chair of the Moore County Board of Education. In that capacity, I'd like to review some of the challenges we have faced as we have worked through our budget development process this year.

In 2015-2016, MCS's appropriation from the state was \$69.7 million. In the last seven years combined, MCS has received an increase in state funding of \$2.6 million; that's an average annual increase of just \$371,429 or 0.56% per year. Over that same time period, teacher raises and benefits have gone up by \$3.3 million and retirement contributions have grown by 87%.

In addition, the state allotted eight fewer teachers in 2015-2016 than it did in 2008-2009 even though our enrollment grew by 659 students, resulting in the district needed to hire 54 additional teachers funded by the county at a cost of \$3 million.. Clearly, the increase in state funding has not been proportional to Moore County's growth in enrollment. And, while we are appreciative of the state's efforts to enhance our teachers' salaries and benefits, this also creates a greater local obligation to extend those raises and benefits to those locally funded teachers that we needed to make up for a declining state allotment.

Because our state funding has increased less than the increased salary and benefits for our teachers, we have received less funding for other areas for which the state is responsible. This is compounded by having to use \$3 million from the funding we receive from the county to pay for the additional teachers needed to keep our teacher-pupil ratios at a reasonable number. This is \$3 million less funding from the county that we can apply to other needed programs and services for students.

You may ask how we have reduced expense over this same time period to offset the impact on our students. Just to name a few, the district closed Academy Heights and eliminated its year-round program, much to the chagrin of many parents. We have significantly reduced our central office staff and eliminated top administrative positions. We also reconfigured our bus routes, reducing the number of buses needed and less time for students going to and

from school. Just these initiatives alone saved \$1.6 million, and these are just a few of the actions we have taken to reduce our expenses.

We appreciate the funding received from our county and look forward to their continued support in enabling MCS to meet our statutory responsibility of providing all our students the opportunity to receive a sound basic education and graduate well prepared for college or a career.

Member Jack Olsen sent to The Pilot

Mr. Steve Bouser, Editor The Pilot

Re: (No Transgender issues?, the Pilot – 3-22-17.)

HB2 and transgender issues continue to be hotly debated. Mr. Rhodes reveals the hypocrisy of the NCAA regarding their Basket Tournament policy, Professor Thomas Sowell just wrote an interesting article on the unintended consequences of the of the transgender identification, a boy taking transgender hormones just won a Girl's State Wrestling championship, etc.. Since everyone seems to be offering their opinion, I thought I would join the chorus.

The Bible tells us that GOD created man in his image, then decided (thank GOD) to make a woman to keep man on the straight and narrow. Now some enlightened liberals wish to take issue with God's plan and create another human being they have labeled "transgender". The whole debate reminds me of Gertrude Stein's famous dictum "a rose is a rose is a rose".

Using Ms. Stein's logic, a "man is a man is a man" and a " and "woman is a woman is a woman". Sounds simple to me, but for those more secularly, intellectually or scientifically inclined, it could be expressed another way.

Scientists who have delved into the mysteries of life have discovered all life forms, including human beings, have little particles called chromosomes, and it turns out, that all men have chromosomes which they have labeled XY and all women have a different combination of chromosomes they labeled XX. Therefore, we can express Ms. Stein's dictum for those so inclined, as "XY is XY is XY" for man, and "XX is XX is XX" for woman. To my knowledge, no one has found any chromosomal combination that can explain the term "transgender". Those skeptics who may feel they have a better handle on life's mysteries may disagree, but, for me, until they come

up with such a chromosomal combination, I will stick with God's plan.

Member Harold Mendelson

March 14 on Facebook about Healthcare:
Everyone is up in arms over the new Republican Healthcare Plan. Here's where we are as a nation trying to figure out how to get the right healthcare plan in place.



The one submitted by the House is a starting point, it's not the finish line. There is still a lot of work to be done before we get the finish product.

After looking at this for a good amount of time, I'm beginning to form an opinion on how to fix our healthcare provider and payment system. I don't have all points covered yet, but I have formed a basic idea.

For decades we had private healthcare insurance. It was paid for by either employers or employees. If a person was retired, they either got a plan as part of their retirement plan or the person bought their own insurance. Reaching 65, they signed up for Medicare and either got a separate plan to pay for drugs they needed, or paid for them out of pocket. Then plan D came along and retirees could choose the drug plan. With ACA a lot of the options went away and everyone ended up with the same coverage (how socialist). There were penalties, fines and premiums that matched mortgage payments.

ACA was so flawed, it is in the process of collapsing under its own weight.

The current plan submitted by the House Republicans got rid of most of the ACA penalties and fines, and added a few new ones.

The question that keep coming up in my mind is a very basic one. Why do we need the government getting involved in healthcare. As a conservative, I am a strong believer in "a government that governs least, governs best."

Most Republicans want to reduce the number of regulations. This plan while less invasive than ACA, does what every government plan does. It adds regulations.

So I ask, do we need to have any Federal government involvement in our healthcare system?

Medicaid provides healthcare to the poor. Medicare covers those over 65. That leaves everyone else somewhere in the middle.

To me setting a few requirements like covering children up to the age of 26 and preexisting conditions and a few other requirements, then let private enterprise take over and do what it does best. Free competition among insurance companies will keep price as low as possible and will require the competing companies to provide excellent customer service.

I know President Trump campaigned for repeal and replace. The major effort should be focused on repealing ACA. Remember regardless of which party champions a pet program, the results are less than optimal. So before we rush to come up with a replacement for ACA, how about stepping back and take a long deep breath and think what is the best plan for the most number of people. Think like a carpenter and measure twice and cut once. Republicans should remember two things. First, there will only one chance to get it right. Second, if the wrong plan is put in place the 2018 election results will be ugly for Republicans especially for President Trump.

Harold Mendelson again, this time on illegals

Sunday, March 12 Facebook post:

This past Saturday there was a peaceful demonstration in Raleigh by illegals that were complaining about the uptick in deporting illegal aliens. They further complained as a result of the increased action on deporting illegals has caused them increased stress. What I got out of the new report was somehow these illegals feel entitled to be here and should be left alone to continue to live here without the threat of being deported.

My response to their protest is this. Regardless of how you got into this country illegally. It doesn't matter how old you were or how great you are doing in the US, you don't belong in this country. This is not because of their ethnicity, their gender, their religion or their politics. It's because they are here illegally, nothing more, nothing less.

The Denver Post published an article written by Ms. Tina Griego. The article What would happen if 20 million left?

In the article, after extensive research, she broke down the annual cost involved with the 20 million illegals staying in the US. She broke down the various

parts involved. Some of these costs include the amount of money sent their families, the impact of gang activities, the financial impact on educating illegal children, lost taxes. She posted between \$200 to \$250 billion annually. This doesn't include the impact on victims.

We have laws and regulations controlling immigration. We as a nation have to follow these laws. No sanctuary cities, no schools force to educate illegals and not reporting them to immigration, no LE looking the other way when illegals are arrested. Even the reporter's research showing couldn't calculate the total number of illegals. The best guess is 20 million illegals and that's only an estimated number. The actual number could be higher.

Member Norm Zanetti on Facebook:

Diane Feinstein at today's (over a week ago during the televised hearings) Neil Gorsuch nomination hearing claimed Mr. Gorsuch only interprets the constitution as it was written, not as a living document. Mrs. Feinstein and those who believe as such do so to impose their social engineering plans on we the people. They trash our revered Constitution as they always want to empower the government to regulate what the Bill of Rights granted to us. To solve every social issue, as a moral imperative. It was embarrassing to listen to this as there a repository, a treasure trove of historical examples of movements where an all mighty governing class setting new and outrageous rules for their citizens to live by, Stalin, Hitler, Castro, Hussein , and others who initiated genocides of their people. So void of history are people like her.

Member Norm Zanetti in The Pilot:

Cable News Abuses the Public Trust

Mar 10, 2017

Historically, the national press has been our radar, our intelligence service into national political matters. Then along came nightly news, clarifying further on headline news, as well as reporting on breaking stories of the day.

Then came cable adding a new dimension, 24-hour coverage, with anchors and panels dissecting and framing issues and most regrettably voicing a myriad of opinions. Factual data on how our nation is evolving, laws on the books, and civility have become dispensable baggage if it serves their purpose.

These national and cable anchors have great

mentors, progressive politicians with bucket lists overflowing with fusillades, dubious conspiracy theories and tiresome innuendos.

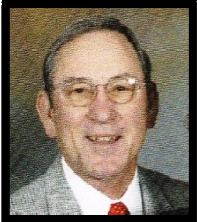
No longer do fair-minded detractors have a free pulpit. If your political views lean to the conservative right, your moral compass is crucified by the left. If you lean to the progressive left, you are a media guest on cable news welcoming your views and opinions.

I base my opinions on what I hear directly from the person I am interested in hearing from, not from what a news anchor reports on what was said. It is a sad time for journalism. I can't find a copy of The New York Times anywhere in a 5-mile radius of Pinehurst (which speaks volumes, doesn't it?), and I won't listen to cable news, especially CNN and MSNBC. I have taken a new liking to National Public Radio and local newspapers.

In closing, cable news deserves to be put in the penalty box for flagrant abuse of the public trust and has caused a growing chasm in the country's attachment to liberalism.

Email from Member Rod Ward, CIA Retired

State Department employee charged with spying for China (for last 5 yrs)



Washington Examiner 3/29/17
Joel Gehrke

Posted on 3/30/2017 by markomalley

A veteran State Department employee took payments to spy for China over a five-year period, according to Justice Department officials.

Two Chinese intelligence officers handled the employee, who had a top secret clearance, the department said. The staffer, Candace Claiborne, allegedly acknowledged that the officers were "spies," but collaborated with them in exchange for money and tried to hide her connections with them. "Claiborne used her position and her access to sensitive diplomatic data for personal profit," acting Assistant Attorney General Mary B. McCord said Wednesday. "Pursuing those who imperil our national security for personal gain will remain a key priority of the National Security Division."

The official expected to make as much as \$20,000 a year from the illicit work, according to the Justice Department. The spies sent her almost \$2,500 in exchange for "internal U.S. government analyses on a U.S.-Sino Strategic Economic Dialogue that had just concluded."

The announcement is the latest example of foreign intelligence operating against the United States. U.S. intelligence officials have been fighting the problem with particular intensity ever since National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden stole millions of documents and fled the country.

The release of a trove of internal CIA documents has raised new fears that WikiLeaks has a human source within the intelligence agency.

"U.S. government employees will be held accountable for failing to honor the trust placed in them when they take on such sensitive assignments," U.S. Attorney Channing Phillips said Wednesday.

This & That

FREEDOM OUTPOST

DON'T TREAD ON US

ICE Report Lists Cities Releasing Dangerous Criminal Illegal Aliens Back On The Streets



TIM BROWN — APRIL 1, 2017

As the issue of illegal and unconstitutional sanctuary cities is taking center stage in American politics, a recent report from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency is not only demonstrating that those who say that sanctuary cities don't create a dangerous atmosphere for their communities are wrong, but the ICE report names the biggest offending cities. "Pursuant to section 9(b) of Executive Order 13768,

| County | State | Issued Detainers |
|----------------|------------|------------------|
| Los Angeles | California | 162 |
| New York City | New York | 73 |
| Kern | California | 65 |
| Clark | Nevada | 54 |
| San Diego | California | 44 |
| Orange | California | 42 |
| San Bernardino | California | 32 |
| Santa Barbara | California | 24 |
| Travis | Texas | 23 |
| King | Washington | 21 |

States, and section H of the Secretary of Homeland Security's subsequent implementation memo, Enforcement of the Immigration Laws to Serve the National Interest, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is making available for public (continued on insert)

April Newsletter Insert:

(continued from back page)

release the non-Federal jurisdictions that release aliens from their custody, notwithstanding that such aliens are subject to a detainer or similar request for custody issued by ICE to that jurisdiction," the report begins. "For instances of such release, the report also includes the associated individual's citizenship, detainer issued and declined dates, and notable criminal activity. ICE compiled this report based on jurisdictions with detainees that were recorded as declined between February 4, 2017 and February 10, 2017, regardless of detainer issuance date."

The report, which draws data from the week of February 4-10, states that "law enforcement agencies (LEA) do not generally advise ICE of when a detainer is not honored, and therefore this report represents declined detainees that ICE personnel have become aware of during their enforcement activities."

Therefore, even the numbers that ICE provides in the report are not fully accurate, but are less than reality.

The report lists jurisdictions that declined 47 detainees issued by ICE. It also lists a plethora of jurisdictions that have enacted policies that limit cooperation with ICE. That list makes up the bulk of the report.

According to the report, "During the week of February 4, 2017 and February 10, 2017, ICE issued 2,825 detainees throughout the United States. The following table reflects the jurisdictions that do not comply with detainees on a routine basis, which had the highest volume of detainees issued during the reporting period (540 to these ten jurisdictions during the reporting period). While these counties have a policy of non-cooperation or restrict cooperation, the outcome of these specific detainees is yet to be determined. Consistent with these counties' policies, ICE expects these detainees to reflect as declined in Section II of future weekly reports." The report adds, "currently, uncooperative jurisdictions prevent ICE from knowing when an alien has been released from custody. Consequently, active detainees exist for aliens who are no longer incarcerated. The field offices are in the process of reviewing outstanding active ICE detainees, potentially affecting the list of jurisdictions listed in future reporting periods."

These areas are now facing the withholding of billions of dollars for continually harboring those who are breaking US immigration law. On top of that, the numbers demonstrate that they are also endangering the people they are supposed to be serving by doing so.

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FREEDOM OUTPOST

Texas Looks to Jail Sheriffs of Sanctuary Cities

MICHAEL WARE — APRIL 1, 2017

How far do you think the government should go to make people comply with immigration laws? For many, the idea that the federal government could force things on cities and counties is going too far. But, what about the state?

If immigration laws are a federal affair, then can states impose penalties on Sanctuary Cities and Counties? Governor Abbott of Texas seems to think so.

Breitbart reports

On Newsmax TV's "The Steve Malzberg Show," Gov. Greg Abbott (R-TX) said he will confront the issue of cities that refuse to comply with immigration law by signing legislation that could jail sheriffs of sanctuary cities.

Abbott said, "We have been pushing a piece of legislation in Texas that is going to pass that I will be signing into law that imposes even sterner penalties on counties. It will include things such as further defunding them. It will impose fines. And it could impose jail time for these sheriffs to enforce the laws.

Oddly enough these sheriffs could wind up behind the very bars they are releasing these criminals."

The thought that these sheriffs could face jail time for not complying might seem harsh. No doubt, many on the Left will cry foul if this bill becomes law. But, once again, we see that the Left does not like it when the shoe is on the other foot.

Just a few years ago, many of those who will oppose this law were all for magistrates facing jail time for "not doing their job." The forced conformity of magistrates like Kim Davis over the same-sex union issue was good in the eyes of most Democrats.

Now, will they show their hypocrisy on this issue?



(Editor's note: Growing up in Arkansas, I found the following and am including this, just for fun!)

TIPS FROM THE REDNECK BOOK OF MANNERS

1. Never take a beer to a job interview.
2. Always identify people in your yard before shooting at them.
3. It's considered poor taste to take a cooler to church.
4. If you have to vacuum the bed, it is time to change the sheets.
5. Even if you're certain that you are included in the will, it is still considered tacky to drive a U-Haul to the funeral home.

DINING OUT

1. If drinking directly from the bottle, always hold it with your fingers covering the label.
2. Avoid throwing bones and food scraps on the floor as the restaurant may not have dogs.

ENTERTAINING IN YOUR HOME

1. A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
2. Do not allow the dog to eat at the table no matter how good his manners are.



Comedian Rob Schneider Made Liberal Heads Explode with One Tweet

By Onan Coca March 30, 2017



The very funny Rob Schneider has been making people laugh for years. Whether during his time on Saturday Night Live, or on one of the many TV shows he's been a part of, or in movies like Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo, the Waterboy, Down Periscope, the Benchwarmers, 50 First Dates, etc., he's always found a way right to the funny bone.

Recently, he crafted a Tweet that made conservatives laugh and liberals weep.

Rob Schneider

*2010 Dems lost the House
2012 Dems lost the Senate
2016 Dems lost the White House
2017 Dems lost ability to reason
It's not Russia, it's YOU*
12:21 PM - 29 Mar 2017

Once the liberals stopped their tears, they began lighting up the Twitterverse with misdirected anger. It seems that Schneider's hilariously on-point tweet was not appreciated by all.

MCRMC,
PO Box 1812
Southern Pines NC 28388



Remember, our meeting is on Monday, April 17 at PINEHURST COUNTRY CLUB. Registration starts at 11:30am. Attend and bring a guest!