



# MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB

NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2021



In God We Trust

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

*Founded in December, 1996...Celebrating 25 years in 2021*

*(Editor's Note: The following 2021 Officers have been nominated but not yet formally elected. The election will be finalized at the January meeting.)*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## President's Message by Tom Adams:

I am honored to be writing my first Presidents letter for a variety of reasons. For one it signifies that 2020 is over and that we can look forward to better times ahead as a people. Second to be part of the largest and most respected Republican Men's Club in North Carolina, if not the United States, and lastly to help start preparing for the bielections in 2022. We can't start too soon. So, as we begin the year here are my thoughts.

**Bill Demastus.** We have been well served the past 2+ years by our now Past President Bill Demastus. Bill had big shoes to fill following Tom Beddow, Jim Lexo and Bob Zschoche. But fill them he did. All left their imprint on the club and Bill certainly left his. Membership remained steady, we contributed from the club to all Republican candidates in the 2020 election, the establishment of a federal political action committee, closer ties to the Moore Republican Women's Club and our largest ever golf tournament. With all that he found time to serve the party as Vice Chair and to mentor me. Thanks Bill, for a job well done.

**The Electoral College.** Little did I realize back when I ran to be the 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Elector to the Electoral College that the venerable institution would come in for the amount of publicity that it has received. While ultimately elected Alternate Elector rather than Elector (Dan Barry, Union County won handily defeating a number of others including me), I did get to attend the meeting of the College on December 14 in the House Chamber of the old Capitol Building in Raleigh. It was a stately ceremony opened by North Carolina's Secretary of State followed by prayer and election of the college officers (Speaker and Secretary). There were nominating speeches and seconds before proceeding to the separate elections for President and Vice President. We had all arrived in Raleigh the afternoon for a rehearsal and then enjoyed a dinner with all of the electors, alternates, Chairman Michael Whatley and some of the central office staffers. It was a bittersweet experience as we were there to vote for Trump/Pence while knowing full well electors in in other states were in their capitals voting for Biden and What's her name. The final act of this year's Electoral College will play out January 6<sup>th</sup> when the Senate conducts the counting of the college votes. All in all, you should feel good about the integrity of the Electoral College vote in North Carolina. It worked the way the founders meant it to work in the Old North State.

**No Time To Waste.** We have two important elections coming up. Local in 2021 and statewide in 2022. Take a look at your town or village council and see if it might be better with you as a member. We need good conservative Republicans at every level. However, I'm most concerned about 2022 when we have the chance to

(President's message continued at the bottom of next page)

(EC Non-Voting Members continued from left column of front page)

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## COMMITTEES for 2021:

### Membership, Communication & Publicity:

Wayne Boyles\*

### Finance:

Jim Legg\*

### Fundraising & Candidate

### Finance:

TBA\*

Executive Committee

### Golf Tournament 2020:

TBA\*

All EC members

### Lunch Administration:

Bob Coates\*

### Nominations:

TBA\*

### Program:

Patrick Haggerty\*

All EC members

### Bylaws:

Bill Scholtes\*

### Veterans:

John Boesch\*

### \*Committee Chair

The above listed committees will become active as we move into 2021. If you would like to be a member of a committee and help conduct the club's business, call or email an EC member and let them know.

## Luncheon Administration:

Bob Coates: Luncheon Administrator – (910) 420-8181 (calls) and (910)-528-8397 (text) email: [rcoates777@gmail.com](mailto:rcoates777@gmail.com)

**Let's Have  
Lunch  
TOGETHER**

As our club begins the new year, we are kicking off with an

outstanding speaker. Pinehurst's own Cleta Mitchell will bring us up to date on all that is happening in Washington, DC as the new administration begins the next four years with control of the White House, the US House of Representatives, and the US Senate. See more details in this newsletter and in email announcements. We will be under number restrictions because of COVID-19, so check the club website as noted below to see if there are still openings available.

The same guidelines for reservations from last year remain for this new year: a) You must have a reservation to attend our luncheons, including one for any guest(s) who attend with you. b) You must show up if you have a reservation or cancel by the Sunday before the Thursday meeting. Failure to cancel will result in being billed for the luncheon you miss. c) Walk-ins without a reservation cannot be accommodated d) Reservation should be made at the club website:

[www.mcrmc.club](https://www.mcrmc.club)

## Luncheon Meetings Information:

**On January 21 we are having our first meeting of 2021 at CCNC. See further information in this newsletter and in email notifications. Check the website for details and to make reservations:**

<https://www.mcrmc.club>

The meeting will be held at CCNC in the normal meeting room with overflow tables in the adjacent bar area. This will allow us to accommodate more attendees during this era of Covid-19 gathering restrictions. We look forward to a full year of monthly meetings including our annual fundraising golf tournament in the late spring or early summer.

We expect to have a year of programs that will keep us informed and up to date on all things political. It is certainly not too early to learn about and plan for the local 2021 and mid-term elections in 2022. That will be our opportunity to take back control of the US Senate and to gain seats in the US House and perhaps take majority control for the first time in many years.

Plan to stay involved as we welcome 2021. Bring a guest and future member to each monthly meeting.

(President's article continued from front page)

regain control of the State Supreme Court when two seats are up for election. After going through the elections and endless recount in the Chief Justice race you know what the stakes are. The NC Supreme Court that will be seated after that election will be the court that decides the inevitable lawsuit the Dems will bring challenging whatever redistricting maps the legislature draws over the next 18 months. It will also be the court to rule on other legislation such as

voter ID and how we balance the state budget. We need to get behind our candidates early and start the campaign. It is a "must do" for us to elect two Republican judges in 2022.

**The Think Tank.** A couple of years ago two of our members, Tom Schroeder and Jim Legg had the idea to bring a group of Republicans together to plan for future elections. The meetings originated in the bar  
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at the Carolina Hotel and when Party Headquarters opened moved to that location. Meeting on Thursdays at 11:00am, the think tank has produced numerous ideas and projects that have been implemented by the party over the years. If you have not attended a session simply show up. You will come away excited for the future and the think tank needs your ideas. My thanks to all who have put your time and energy into making the Think Tank successful.

**The Moore Republican Men's Club 2021 Version.** The Executive Committee and I are excited about the coming year. We have several new members on the committee along with a few retreads like me and we have in common wanting to hear from you. Know someone who would make a good speaker? Call us. Want to get rid of green beans at lunch? Let us know. Have an idea for a project? Just call and we'll consider it. Want to serve on a committee? Help with the golf tournament? Call me. One thing we have heard is that you would like more time to talk at our meetings. To make that happen our Community in Action (CIA) speaker will no longer be a monthly feature but will happen from time to time. That change starts with our January meeting.

I look forward to the year ahead and serving as your President. Thanks for the opportunity.

### December Meeting Report:

*(Editor's Note: I was unable to attend the December Christmas meeting. To the best of my recollection, this was the first year end meeting I have missed since becoming a MCRMC member just over 17 years ago. The following account is a brief overview of that meeting based on input from other members in attendance. My thanks to all of you who contributed to this short report.)*



As has become the custom in the last decade, the December meeting was held with a Christmas theme including music provided by a string ensemble from the Moore Philharmonic Orchestra. More about that later in this article.

The attendees began arrival around 5:30 pm for registration at our normal meeting location, CCNC. The meeting was in the usual meeting area and a refreshment bar opened just before 6:00pm.

Also, as has become the custom at year end meetings, many attendees brought their spouses to enjoy the seasonal celebration and opportunity to share Christmas cheer with others. There was ample time for Christmas meeting and greeting while observing Covid-19 restriction protocol.

A short business session was conducted after President Bill Demastus called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Scheduled on the agenda was:

- Anthem sung by Ms. Senior North Carolina, Laura Morgan
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Prayer and blessing
- Introduction of guests



After the short business session, the special Christmas dinner buffet was opened and attendees were escorted to the buffet

by table. As all enjoyed the scrumptious food, the ensemble performed Christmas selections and Laura Morgan added to the enjoyment with her songs.



Incoming President, Tom Adams, provided the following commentary about the meeting:

“The MCRMC December meeting departed from custom with an elegant and entertaining evening at the Country Club of North Carolina. A specially constituted string ensemble from the Moore Philharmonic Orchestra performed a variety of



Christmas Music that also featured vocalist Laura Morgan, Ms. Senior North Carolina. It was a perfect evening that evoked memories of Christmas with friends with wonderful music from across the years.”

As the meeting concluded the thoughts and wishes of the entire club were expressed by many, “May we have a Merry Christmas, remember the birth of Christ as the reason and may 2021 be a brighter and Covid free year.”

#### Newsletter Information:



This and future issues of the newsletter are being distributed by email to all members who have an email address. Those members who do not have an email address

get a paper copy in the US mail. If you have an email address but also want a paper copy, just send an email to me, and request one:

[paulshaffer1943@gmail.com](mailto:paulshaffer1943@gmail.com)

#### Program News for January by Patrick Haggerty – VP Programs:

It is my pleasure to be the VP Programs for 2021. Because of Covid 19, many 2020 program speakers were cancelled or postponed. I will work to get as many interesting speakers as possible in 2021. Of course, speakers will be political addressing current issues.



This will start on Thursday, January 21 at CCNC with attorney Cleta Mitchell. Those of you who have heard Cleta speak know she is a powerful speaker. She is an attorney with the Washington, DC law firm of Foley and Lardner. Cleta has spent a lot of time since the November Presidential election trying to reverse the result. Her topic is “The 2020 Election: How the Democrats Used COVID to Change the Election Laws in 6 Key States... and Change the Outcome of the 2020 Election.”

Because of CDC guidelines, seating at CCNC is limited, so make your reservations ASAP.

I look forward to seeing you there and serving you this year.

*Pat*

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

#### Bob Coates – EC Member-At-Large And Luncheon Administrator

#### Luncheon News

As I write this (the morning after the GA Senate election) I wonder if my appetite will ever return so talking about an upcoming luncheon is not at the top of my priority list. But, alas, we must soldier on, right? As I write this, our next luncheon is over two weeks away, but the signup activity has been exceptional. Our guest speaker, Cleta Mitchell, is always a popular draw. If you haven't signed up yet you should try to do so. There is a good chance we will fill up so don't get shut out.

I want to commend our membership for doing a good job in using the online signup form (at [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club)) to make their reservations. It only takes a minute – even for the not so technically savvy. When you use it, you should get a confirmation email sent to the email address that you provide in the first field of the form. It will come from Google Forms (forms-receipts-noreply@google.com). If you don't get a confirmation email there are two likely reasons – either there was a typo in the email address you provided or it's in your Spam folder.

If you can't remember if you made a reservation there are a couple of things you can do. First, look for the confirmation email. But if that doesn't work you can just make another reservation. We eliminate duplicates.

And if you want to add a guest to an existing reservation just make a new reservation and include the guest.

If, however, you need to cancel a guest reservation please contact me by email or phone.

As you are no doubt tired of hearing we have tightened up our no-show policy. If you and/or your guest are unable to attend you need to cancel by 6 PM on the Sunday prior to the event or you will be asked to pay for your missed meal. The Men's Club prepays CCNC for all the reservations made. For cancellations, please call or email Bob Coates – not Paul Shaffer or anyone else.

We look forward to seeing you on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 AM at CCNC.

Bob Coates - Luncheon Administrator  
[RCoates777@gmail.com](mailto:RCoates777@gmail.com)  
910.420.8181

**Moore County  
Republican Women News:**



**Message from the  
President**

**Building on our  
successes**



I can't tell you how many Christmas cards I received that mentioned how glad the sender was to see the last of 2020. I feel the same way. From pandemic to the riots to the election, we were all forced to overcome major challenges.

But as outraged and disappointed we are with what looks like the theft of the Presidential election, there are reasons to look back and rejoice in our many accomplishments in 2020:

**Our Club**

- We dramatically increased membership in MRW, with 274 members and 42 Associates, the most in our club's history.
- In spite of the pandemic, we managed to host most of our luncheons/brunches, and we found a new venue that has received rave reviews, the Country Club of North Carolina.
- We defied local and state authorities to have a Fourth of July Parade.
- We supported and encouraged all of our law enforcement officers throughout the County.
- We solidified our relationship with the Frederick Douglass Foundation of North Carolina and supported its efforts to reach African-American voters with the truth.

**The Election**

- Our efforts contributed to big wins for Republicans in North Carolina and Moore County, including:
  - President Trump beating Biden for NC's electoral votes
  - Thom Tillis retaining his Senate Seat
  - Electing Mark Robinson as our state's first African-American Lieutenant Governor
  - Wins across the board on Congressional races
  - Conservative judges elected or re-elected, including Paul Newby (NC Supreme Court Chief Justice); Phil Berger And Tamara Barringer (NC Supreme Court Assoc.

Justice); April Wood, Jefferson Griffin, Fred Gore, Chris Dillon, Jeff Carpenter (NC Court of Appeals); and Steve Bibey and Skipper Creed (NC District Court Judge).

- Major change in the Moore County School Board to be dominated by Republican conservatives
- Republicans elected or re-elected to the State House, NC Commissioners (Agriculture, Insurance, Labor), NC Superintendent of Public Instruction, NC Treasurer, and Moore County Commissioner and District Attorney.

So, while the Presidential election fiasco rankles us to our cores, the fact remains that there's hope for the future, and Moore Republican Women will redouble our efforts to elect solid conservative Republicans in 2022.

In the meantime, may God bless you in 2021, and I look forward to continuing our tradition of political outreach, great speakers at our luncheons, and best of all, fun and camaraderie as we work to preserve our country!

*Pauline*

#####

*(Pauline Bruno, President of Moore Republican Women, gave this speech at yesterday's (Saturday, January 9) 2nd Amendment Rally in Vass:)*

**Good morning, Patriots!**

For the past three days, I have gotten up with something that feels like a ten-ton rock in my stomach. Where has my country gone? Is there no common sense left? No truth? No dignity?

Two weeks ago, I rented a bus to D.C. to go to the "Stop the Steal" rally. It filled up in less than a day with people begging for a second bus, which I rented - and it also filled up in just a few hours. Up to the time the bus left Pinecrest Plaza at 2:00 a.m., people were frantically begging for a ride.

I am here to tell you it was one of the most beautiful days of my life. We sang, we prayed, we talked to people from everywhere in the U.S. We were family - united in a great cause. My heart was bursting with pride as we stood at the Jefferson Memorial in a

wave of Trump flags and "Make America Great Again" red hats.

We were freezing and couldn't hear the President's speech except when the wind blew our way. None of it mattered. We were there together in a great history-making moment.

Walking from the Jefferson Memorial down Constitution Avenue toward the Capitol with a great mass of people was the most inspiring moment of my life. *We were not a mob! We were America at its best!*

We never saw anything but a wonderful array of all different color and types of people supporting our country and our President.

Can the Capitol building of the United States of America be that easy to get into? We heard no alarms. In this day and age of technology, can that many people just get in? I maintain that if they got in, they were let in! I will go to my grave believing that this entire thing was staged and planned.

They will never take my wonderful memories of Wednesday, January 6, 2021 away from me. It was a beautiful day. It was a wonderful day.

We supported our President and our country. We were not a mob. We were peace-loving people doing the right thing.

We were lions, not sheep! We were patriots!

#### Latest news from MRW

Please note: There is **no MRW luncheon** in January, and reservations for the February lunch will not be accepted until the invitation goes out to members.

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Click here to [Read January newsletter](#)

For complete information about the MRW, go to their website: [www.mrwnc.org](http://www.mrwnc.org).

#### Elected Officials Contact Information:

To get the most recent elected officials contact information, visit the Moore County Board of Elections Website:



[www.moorecountync.gov/images/departments/board-of-elections/elected\\_officials.pdf](http://www.moorecountync.gov/images/departments/board-of-elections/elected_officials.pdf)

#### Moore County GOP News:

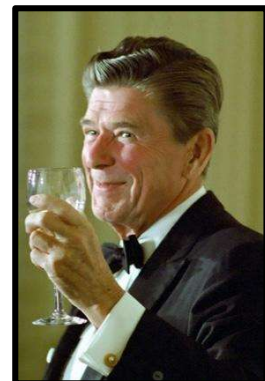


### The Eighth Annual Reagan Dinner

Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Ascendance of our 40th President

*"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on."*  
President Ronald Reagan

On January 20, 1981 -- 40 years ago -- the 40th President of the United States was inaugurated, and so began an era of American prosperity at home and strength abroad. Let us raise our glasses to his legacy even as our freedom is on the brink today.



**Saturday,  
February 6  
5:30 pm Sponsor  
Reception  
6:00 pm General  
Reception**

### The Eighth Annual Moore County Republican Party Reagan Dinner

Why should you be a Reagan Dinner sponsor in 2021?

- It's the right thing to do
- The Sponsor Reception is private and beverages are on us
- Your donation is a "stimulus check" to combat the radical Left
- We are negotiating with a nationally renowned speaker (\$\$)



- **Because 2021 is here and key municipal races must be won**
- **The Country Club of North Carolina is renowned for excellence**

• **SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:**

- **PLATINUM:** \$2,400.00 - One Table, 8 people
- **GOLD:** \$1,200.00 - 4 people
- **SILVER:** \$600.00 - 2 people
- **BRONZE:** \$300.00 - 1 person

**GENERAL ADMISSION:** per person \$120.00

Click on the following link for detailed information and to register for sponsorship/general registration:

**2021 Reagan Dinner**



**MC GOP Chair - Tom Beddow:**

Want to volunteer, want to donate, want to get updated on the latest GOP news, want to know all things GOP?? Just go to the MC GOP website and get up to date:

**[www.moore.nc.gop](http://www.moore.nc.gop)**

**Wayne Boyles, The VPM Corner  
2021 Volume 1**

Happy New Year!!! I hope you all had a blessed Christmas with family, despite the COVID-19 crisis we are in. We will get through this as more and more people are vaccinated this year. My responsibility as Vice President for Membership is to welcome new members into what I call our fellowship. We have such great fellowship with each other. Also, I have the responsibility to recruit new members and provide them with applications to our club. If you know of someone that would like to join send them my way. What a blessed joy it is for me to serve as your Vice President for membership.



Today, January 6, was not a joyful day for me because my workplace of 22 years, the US Capitol was attacked by an angry mob. Our cathedral of democracy was desecrated.

It was appalling to see pictures of the actions of

the anarchists on the floor of the US Senate, where I had spent many staff hours assisting Senator Helms with the people's business helping him represent the good people of our state of North Carolina. It sickened me to the core.

That is not how our democracy works. We debate, talk issues out, and at the end of the day we produce legislative solutions in a peaceful calm matter whose aim is to solve a particular problem or problems.

Also, we reach out to the other side of the political aisle and never ever make things personal. While we have strong political differences with the other side, we develop friendships and working relationships that benefit our democracy. As a Senate staffer for 22 years, it was essential. Some of my best friends worked across the aisle.

In her history North Carolina has always had, within its Congressional Delegation, republicans, and democrats, working together to find solutions to problems facing our state and its people.

We have had our elections, and in our state, the issues that we republicans campaigned on carried the day and we should be thankful for that.

Now it is time for our local, state, and federal representatives to do the people's business. Let us pray for them and as we go about our professions and we think of something that would be helpful, let them know.

Thanks for dropping by the VPM corner. See you in the next newsletter and at our luncheons.

Sursum Corda!!!

**Treasurer, Jim Legg  
\$\$\$ Club Dues News \$\$\$**

**It is past time to pay dues for 2021**

Dues are \$30 payable by personal check only, made out to MCRMC with dues in the memo line. Mail checks to MCRMC, PO Box 1812, Southern Pines NC 28388.



Please pay early to save the club the expense of sending an invoice. Dues payments cover our operating expenses which allows us to use fundraising proceeds to support Republican candidates and issues. Thanks in advance for paying you 2021 dues before we have to send

invoices.

The check book balance as of the December EC meeting was \$3567.75.

Tom Schroeder

## Tom's News

Moore County Conservative News

Thomas Schroeder

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## Tom's Thoughts

Enforcement Against Illegal Aliens Drops to 15-Year Low:

The Reason Is Even More Insane

Please, before you read this article find a good place to set down. You do not want to read this standing up. Especially the last part of the article.

The Dem's definitely won and most of the US Congress voted for it even if they could not have read it let alone understood it. For example all but 6 US Senators voted for this bill. That included both NC Senators voting for it.

Keep that in mind as you read the last part of the article below.

Key Points are Highlighted

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Article

Enforcement Against Illegal Aliens Drops to 15-Year Low: The Reason Is Even More Insane

Ready to have your hair set on fire? Again? Or should that be *still*?

Despite tough talk on illegal immigration from President Trump and various members of his administration over the last four years, including repeated promises to deport millions of illegal aliens, the facts don't support the claims. While immigration jails are packed, deportations of illegals are lower under Trump than during the Obama administration.

The purpose of this piece is neither to place blame nor debate the facts; I simply included them as a point of reference. In fact, in fiscal 2020, ICE deported just 185,000 people, the lowest number since 2005 — which cannot be laid at the feet of Donald Trump.

ICE deportations hit a 15-year low in 2020, primarily due

to the COVID-19 pandemic, data from the agency shows <https://t.co/wNve6fbFMy>

— WJZ | CBS Baltimore (@wjz) [December 24, 2020](#)

As reported by [Daniel Horowitz of The Blaze](#), we can blame the COVID pandemic for much of 2020's numbers. More precisely, we can blame draconian governors like California's Gavin Newsom, New York's Andrew Cuomo, Michigan's Gretchen Whitmer, and a handful of other power-crazed Democrat autocrats who have taken it upon themselves to determine who survives COVID — and who does not — and in "survives COVID" I include "without being financially, emotionally, and mentally destroyed" in the process.

Via The Blaze:

As law enforcement is increasingly deployed to arrest business owners for earning a living, criminal aliens are getting a free pass to remain in the country illegally. The same virus that is being used as pretext to criminalize the lives of everyday Americans has also been used as an excuse to keep tens of thousands of additional illegal aliens in this country, many of them with serious rap sheets.

Horowitz being the outstanding investigative journalist he is, cited *facts*. Imagine that. Facts referenced by Horowitz come from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) [annual report](#) on enforcement activities for the fiscal year 2020.

According to [the report](#), ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) conducted just 103,603 administrative arrests, a 28% decline from FY 2019 and the lowest number in years.

On the removal side, ICE deported 185,000 people, the lowest number since 2005. Also, ICE issued just 122,233 detainers, down from 165,487 detainers in FY 2019.

90% of those arrested by ICE have criminal charges or convictions other than immigration violations. Among those arrested this year were illegal immigrants with criminal histories including more than 1,800 homicide-related offenses, 1,600 kidnappings, 3,800 robberies, 37,000 assaults, and 10,000 sex crimes.

In total, there were more than 374,000 criminal convictions and pending charges — an average of four per alien.

It's not just COVID.

Lest we blame it all on the previously-mentioned drunk-with-power Democrats and others as despicable, here are a few more "inconvenient facts" to consider.

"As we speak," there are roughly 3.25 million illegal aliens under ICE's undetained docket — *comprised of aliens who have been released from detention with final deportation orders or are awaiting final court* — which amounts to little



more than a “wink-wink” pathetic joke. An overwhelming number of these illegals undoubtedly have criminal records — many of them, violent — in addition to immigration violations

Wanna know how many of them are currently being detained? Just 19,000. Per ICE.

The bottom line:

More than 3 million illegal aliens, many of whom have violent criminal records, remain in-country indefinitely — left to their own devices — and that number continues to grow.

When you see that this marxist 5,300-page bill cuts funding for ICE, just understand the context and consequences are worse than you think <https://t.co/s4UDzb6w6H> The Left has already won. They have already abolished ICE. Interior enforcement below any year during Obama.

— Daniel Horowitz (@RMConservative) [December 28, 2020](#)

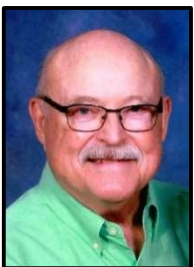
Oh — I almost forgot.

The omnibus/COVID bill Trump decided to sign on Sunday, as noted by Horowitz, limits ICE’s ability to make further deportations, by prohibiting the detention or deportation of illegals who are “a sponsor, potential sponsor, or member of a household of a sponsor or potential sponsor” to UAC — [Unaccompanied Alien Child](#) — as long as they have not been convicted of a felony.

Sweet. Nothing could possibly go wrong with *that* little nugget, either, right?

[redstate.com](#) · by Mike Miller

Your Newsletter Editor – Paul Shaffer



Greetings to all in 2021 and Happy New Year. My hopes for this year are that we are seeing the light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel. May we end the year virus free, with restrictions gone, and businesses of all kinds and sizes open and thriving!

With that said, allow me to express some thoughts on the mess we are in with social media smashing the expression of conservative thoughts and voices. Twitter, Facebook, Google, and others have closed accounts of conservative voices and are attempting to annihilate social media startups that cater to the conservative view. This all seems to have started in earnest with the permanent closing of President

Trump’s personal Twitter, Facebook, and other accounts.

My natural instinct is to wonder why and listen to the conservative media pundit’s ideas and explanations. The social media sites are businesses first and then political second. That is, they may very well have a strong political position, but the will almost always first do that which is in the best interest of their business.

Social media is predominately used by younger folks (that may be 60 and younger to me) as their primary means of communication and window to the world (meaning news). Some also depend primarily on social media for their entertainment, i.e., social media sites are their window to the world, their reality.

For me, the reasons that Twitter, Facebook, et al are doing what they are doing are rooted in (maybe among others) in these things:

- Shutting down Trump and banning other conservative “talk” is a way to pander to the political left and curry favor from them. With the Dems controlling the Executive Branch and both the US House and Senate, I believe that “Big Tech” as they are called, believe that this will lessen and/or stop efforts going forward to bring anti-trust and regulatory actions against them.
- Other new conservative social media platforms such as Parler pose a threat to the current Big Tech monopoly. Making them inaccessible, i.e., removing their apps from access to the public stops new social platforms from taking away business.
- I heard on a Fox News report that the customer base for the current Big Tech companies is roughly one third in America and two thirds in the rest of the world. It may make sense to Big Tech to do what will be viewed favorable by the biggest portion of their customer base who are folks who do not have the same freedom of expression as do we.

My three theories about why social media giants are doing what they are doing may not be all, or any of the reasons, but at this time they seem to make sense to me.

With those thoughts, Happy New Year and I hope to see you at the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Resolve Blog:**

(Editor’s Note: Several newsletters back, we started

including an article from the blog: RESOLVE. To see all the new articles, go to the following:  
[www.resolveenc.blog](http://www.resolveenc.blog) If reading this in the paper newsletter, type the link address in your web browser. For this newsletter issue, we have two articles:)



#### Resolve Blog January 6<sup>th</sup> - By Steve Woodward

Dulles Airport Terminal D appears almost normal on this historic January 6. Gate areas are at capacity in many cases as 5 pm approaches. But then, of course, this is a mirage. Nothing is normal. All of the useless masks prevail, even hiding the glowing faces of children. And a constant parade of Trump ski caps, baseball caps, buttons and banners go by, which most certainly is not a common sight in the deep blue D.C. area.

A nearby group traveled from Los Angeles, I overheard. One demanded that the TV monitor within her view in a bar be switched to ESPN from CNN. Waiting for President Trump to speak earlier today during the Saving America March near the White House, I heard patriots share tales of overnight drives from Kansas, Ohio, Illinois and Massachusetts, and seemingly everywhere from coast to coast.

They stood for hours, shivering in brisk winds under gray skies.

But what matters is that they came, determined, fearless and, largely, angry. They came with dogs, with strollers and with smiles amid their despair. It was a beautiful expression of the spirit that defines the United States citizenry in spite of what we have been going through since China unleashed the Wuhan Virus. These fervent travelers have been told for four years to be quiet. But who feared they would be silenced by government tyrants, tyrants who shut down their businesses, separated them from aging loved ones, denied their children the opportunity to learn in a classroom, and their neighbors the right to worship almighty God?

Something had to give on this bittersweet day when Georgia voters apparently handed control of the U.S. Senate to the radical Left by “electing” (largely via mail-in ballots, again) a black Marxist and a hyper-privileged white elitist. The optimism of Wednesday morning following Trump’s remarks was soon

crushed by news that Vice President Mike Pence declined to so much as try to mount a challenge to the stolen elections in the major swing states. He sent his intentions in a letter. Another Republican who can’t — will not — fight. It’s an epidemic.

We keep electing them as the lesser of two evils, and perhaps that is, in fact, the only choice before us. Sen. Thom Tillis or a scumbag Dem?

As afternoon arrived, January 6 was swept into history. The corrupt media will insist it was a tragic day, though tragedy never characterized the numerous weeks and months of Antifa and BLM rioting, looting and burning. Nothing tragic to see here. Move along. That was “social justice”.

After an untold number of people (probably fewer than CNN will report), around mid-afternoon, penetrated security boundaries, filling the steps of the Capitol, and then the chambers of Congress and the offices of elected officials, the disgust aimed toward these “Trump marchers” shifted to outrage.

But as one who was surrounded on January 6 by attendees of the Save America March, and as many other Moore Republicans will attest, it is beyond my comprehension that these were the people who stormed the U.S. Capitol. Texts I received from the coordinators never fomented violence. “We are on our way to the Capitol. Join Stop The Steal as we demand that our Representatives #DoNotCertify!”

The questions for which we must in this aftermath demand answers are these:

- Who are the people who swarmed barriers and the Capitol Police to seize the steps outside and penetrate the chambers of Congress inside?
- Why were Capitol Police and supporting law enforcement so vulnerable to these unarmed attackers?
- Who shot and killed an Air Force veteran, Ashli Babbitt, in a corridor of the Capitol? Will this patriot be defended as a victim of brutality or dismissed as a member of the mob who had it coming?

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who perhaps symbolizes better than anyone why Americans assembled today in Washington, took a defiant stand late in the day as the Senate re-convened to certify November 3 results.

McConnell applauded the “clockwork of our democracy” and insisted that certifying an election stolen by the Left is a “peaceful expression of the popular will”. He described the patriots who assembled beneath the Capitol steps as “an unhinged crowd”.

And, finally, The Turtle sent a shot over the bow:  
"The United States Senate will not be intimidated."

The Republican Senate not only has been intimidated throughout the Trump era, it has been trampled by the agenda driven media, and by the Left. And, today, it has been overthrown. Not by crazy people wearing bandanas and brandishing signs, but by the very people we elected to protect it.

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#### **An unholy alliance - By John Rowerdink**

As an American and especially as a Republican, the events of January 6 in Washington, D.C., make me sick in the pit of my stomach. It was a jarring reminder of the unrest and turmoil that exists in our country and the extreme partisanship that infects our political system these days.

It's easy to see and even easier to say that President Trump incited this reaction among his supporters. That is no doubt true. But that's also the easy answer, the one that sits on the surface where anyone can see it. But there is a deeper problem. Remember that the reason Donald Trump was elected in the first place was because millions of Americans were fed up with politicians and their failure to address the real problems facing our country and everyday Americans.

For the huge throng that traveled to Washington for this protest, their current anger was directed at an election they feel was corrupt and stolen. But it's deeper than that. The protest had its genesis in Democrats' refusal to accept the 2016 election and that they pursued non-stop resistance for four years. It has its genesis in an unholy alliance between Democrats, the media and members of the government bureaucracy to unseat a president duly elected by the people. It has its genesis in the witch hunt that became the Mueller investigation, which tied our government in knots for two years. It has its genesis in the impeachment of the president on the flimsy "evidence" of a phone call. It has its genesis in the image of the Speaker of the House ripping up a president's State of the Union speech on national television. It has its genesis in the former president unlawfully using the FBI to investigate a rival political campaign. And it has its genesis in vicious attacks on a Supreme Court Justice nominee for a vile charge that could not be verified. These things all contributed to the anger that erupted in Washington today.

So blame President Trump for inciting the violence in Washington. He might deserve that criticism. But that's the easy answer. It's deeper than that.

#### **Ed Dennison – Moore County School Board Member**



#### **Moore County Schools How well did we do?**

The Moore County Schools Board of Education is responsible for educating our Kindergarten through 12th grade students. We monitor the progress our students are making through these years and make the changes necessary to improve student performance. We certainly have had challenges and many times have had to revise our plans, but we are always looking for continuous improvement. We have many measures we use to evaluate how we are doing, but the ultimate measure for how we have done is graduation. Even though we have had many challenges during their 13 years with us, graduation is the end result of our efforts.

The 2020 Graduation Rate for Moore County Schools was 93.5%, the highest it has ever been in Moore County. MCS ranked #12, out of the 115 Public School Districts in North Carolina for graduation rate and ranked #1 of the 42 districts graduating over 700 students. Our Black graduation rate was 92.8%, up 31.4% from 70.6% in 2010, and was 5.2% above the graduation rate for ALL North Carolina Public High School Graduates. Our Hispanic graduation rate was 90.5%, up 49.8% from 60.4% in 2010, and 2.9% above the graduation rate for all North Carolina Public High School Graduates. Our White graduation Rate was 94.5%, up 11.8% from 84.5% in 2010, and 6.9% above the graduation rate for all North Carolina Public High School Graduates. Our English Learner graduation rate was 81%, up 44.1% from 56.2% in 2010. The majority of our students attending our lower performing schools are economically disadvantaged, and our 2020 economically disadvantaged graduation rate was 87.5 %, up 25.2% from 69.9% in 2010 and only 0.1% below the graduation rate of 87.6% of all 2020 NC Public Schools 2020 graduates.

Moore County Schools was the #1 School District, in the Region and Affinity Group, for Career and Technical Education and was the only school district in the Region and Affinity Group to exceed the state goals for all 8 Performance Indicators. The number of credentials earned by our students increased from 534, in 2015/16, to 3,923, in 2018/19.

Does this prove MCS has made excellent progress in improving student achievement, for the class of 2020, and that we have fulfilled our responsibility of



ensuring our students graduate well prepared for college or a career?

#### From Outside of the Club:



FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst, Pinehurst Medical Clinic and the Moore County Health Department are scheduling COVID-19

vaccinations for eligible community members this week as part of Operation FirstShot. FirstHealth and the Health Department will begin vaccination clinics next week (Jan 11).

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services announced in late December an updated vaccination plan that aligns with new federal recommendations. The next phase of vaccinations will open in groups, starting with Phase 1B Group 1: anyone 75 years old or older regardless of medical condition or living situation.

FirstHealth's primary care clinics and Pinehurst Medical Clinic are currently calling their 75-year-old and older patient population to schedule them for vaccination clinics that begin on Tuesday, January 12 and will run every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the month of January. The vaccination clinics will be held at the Fair Barn in Pinehurst.

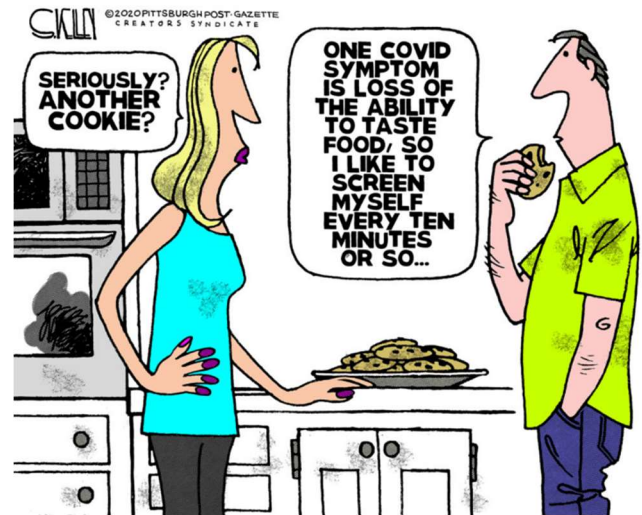
Those eligible in Phase 1B are required to have an appointment to receive the vaccine. FirstHealth vaccination clinics are only for patients who have scheduled appointments. Due to volume and vaccine availability, FirstHealth's vaccine clinics will not be able to accommodate walk-ins.

Patients are encouraged to wait to be contacted by their primary care physician's office. Patients will be scheduled for their second dose of the vaccine after they receive their first dose at the Fair Barn location. Second doses will be scheduled 21 days after the first dose is administered. FirstHealth will continue coordination of vaccination clinics with other primary care clinics in Moore County for their patients age 75 years old or older in the coming weeks.

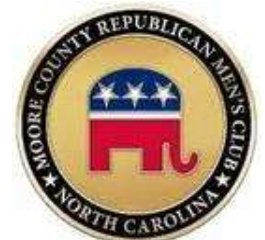
For more details on the FirstShot program, go to the following link:

<https://www.firsthealth.org/lifestyle/news-events/2021/1/operation-firstshot-vaccination-effort-to-begin-in-january-appointments-are-mandatory>

#### This and That!



**MY WIFE ASKED ME WHY I  
SPOKE SO SOFTLY IN THE  
HOUSE.  
I SAID I WAS AFRAID  
MARK ZUCKERBERG WAS  
LISTENING!  
SHE LAUGHED.  
I LAUGHED.  
ALEXA LAUGHED.  
SIRI LAUGHED.**



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