



# MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB

NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2017 ISSUE

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



In God We Trust

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

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017

### PRESIDENT:

**Jim Lexo** 949-3566  
jaslexo@gmail.com

### V.P. MEMBERSHIP:

**Jerrell Seawell** 464-2219  
wjseawell@gmail.com

### V.P. PROGRAMS:

**Pat Haggerty** 301-466-7403  
pat@patrickhaggerty.com

### SECRETARY & ACTING TREASURER:

**Bob Zschoche** 949-4250  
bobzschoche@msn.com

### AT LARGE MEMBERS:

**Tom Adams** 725-1855  
tom\_adams@outlook.com

**Bob Coates** 420-8181  
rcoates777@gmail.com

**Ken Lewis** 690-5819  
lewikj@gmail.com

**Scott Sheffield** 295-1108  
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### PAST PRESIDENT & MOORE COUNTY GOP Chair:

**Tom Beddow** 295-2745  
tbeddow@nc.rr.com

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

**Rev. Bruce Carlson** - Chaplain  
949-5513  
sunwhisper@charter.net

**Steven Later** - Attorney  
692-7971  
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**John Rowerdink** - Advisor to  
the GOP Chair 235-0644  
jrowerdink@aol.com

**Tom Schroeder** - Webmaster  
691-2340  
tom@tschroeder.info

**Paul Shaffer** - Newsletter Editor  
295-3804  
Paul.Shaffer@mindspring.com

**Our November meeting is on the 20<sup>th</sup> at CCNC, registration starts at 11:30am. Bring a prospective member.**



## President's Message by Jim Lexo

Speaker of the NC Assembly, Tim Moore, will be our speaker this month. We have had a string of great speakers this year and Speaker Moore is another example. We tend to focus on the federal issues like Obamacare and immigration, but what happens in Raleigh is really more relevant to our daily lives than what happens in Washington D.C.

When the Republicans gained control of our state legislature in 2010 it was the first time since 1896. Let that sink in. The Democrats dominated the political scene in North Carolina for nearly all of the Twentieth Century. Dale Folwell reminded us that he is the first Republican State Treasurer in 140 years. Under Republican leadership, which included McCrory's term as Governor, North Carolina has made dramatic progress in elevating our economic and social conditions.

Here is how Forbes ranks NC. #2 in Best States for Business; #7 in Regulatory climate; #13 in Quality of Life; #1 in Credit Rating; #4 in Fiscal Stability. Our Public Schools are now ranked #13 in country which is up dramatically from the Democrat years when we were in the bottom 10%. Republicans have been able to increase teacher's pay for the first time in a long time. We average \$49K (not including local supplements) and lag the national average by \$9k, but we are getting there.

The point is that Republicans, by and large, are better managers of your tax dollars. Our biggest challenge is communicating the merits of our governing philosophies. The Tax Reform bill President Trump proposed is being attacked by the Democrats as a boondoggle for the rich people. Of course they have not read the bill yet. This is just their knee jerk reaction to anything economic the Republicans try to accomplish. They forget their all-time favorite icon...President Kennedy...pushed a tax cut through Congress that resulted in a booming economy. More recently, Ronald Reagan did the same.

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**See the article at the bottom of page 2 about upcoming changes in the method used to distribute the newsletter. The changes will begin with the January 2018 issue. Please note that members must determine how they want to get their copy of the newsletter. If you have any questions about this change, please call or email the newsletter editor, Paul Shaffer.**

**COMMITTEES for 2017:**  
**Membership, Communication  
 & Publicity:**

Jerrell Seawell\*  
 Tom Adams  
 Bob Coates  
 Paul Shaffer (1)  
 (1) On committee as a result of  
 being newsletter editor

**Finance:**

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

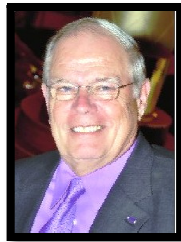
**Bylaws:**

TBD\*

**Veterans:**

John Boesch\*

\*Committee Chairman



**Calling Colonel:**

Bob Zschoche

**Calling Captains:**

Tom Beddow	295-2745
Dave Devore	215-9246
Neil Godfrey	949-2439
Bill Graning	235-0535
Roger Hicks	947-5527
Don Hiscott	295-9544
Jack McVey	295-6748
Glen Roat	215-0897
John Rowerdink	235-0644
Andy Rueb	295-4908
Jerrell Seawell	464-2219
Fred Zimmerman	295-6480

(Your name  
 could be here)

(Your  
 Number  
 here)

**Would you be  
 willing to serve as  
 a calling captain?  
 If so, please let  
 Calling Colonel  
 Bob Zschoche as  
 noted at the top  
 of this column.  
 Please be  
 responsive when  
 you are called by  
 your calling  
 captain. If he  
 leaves a message,  
 return his call.**

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



949-4250

Home

Cell for text

(910) 638-  
 8195

**Luncheon Meetings:**

**Our luncheon meetings for 2017  
 are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. The next  
 meeting is at CCNC, November  
 20, with registration at 11:30am  
 and lunch at noon. Watch for  
 full details in emails and in the  
 article later in this newsletter.**

Our speaker this month will be NC  
 House Speaker, Tim Moore. The  
 meeting will be called the meeting to  
 order around noon. After a few  
 announcements and introductions,  
 lunch will be served. Moore will  
 speak after lunch.

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

Make your November luncheon  
 reservations on or before Thursday,  
 November 16 at:

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

Click on the upper right "Luncheon  
 Reservation" tab.

**Future Meetings:**

We look forward to our annual Christmas  
 celebration at the December meeting and  
 expect to hear the Pinecrest High Choir  
 again. We will also be electing new  
 officers and Executive Committee  
 members at the December meeting. See  
 more details in this and future  
 newsletters/emails.

**Newsletter Distribution Changes for 2018**

Your Newsletter Editor recommended and the  
 Executive Committee agreed to a change in the way  
 we distribute the monthly club newsletter. The  
 objective is to significantly reduce the number of  
 newsletter sent to members by US mail. There are  
 currently only a dozen members that do not have  
 email. We are going to send paper newsletters by US  
 mail to those members ONLY. Those with email will  
 get the newsletter by email only. Paper copies will be  
 available at the meeting registration table so

members attending the meeting can pick up a copy if  
 they wish. As a reminder, copies of the last several  
 months newsletters are available to read on our club  
 website.

If you have email, but still want to get a paper copy  
 in the mail, you must let Paul Shaffer know by  
 telephone or email. Please do so by the first week of  
 January in 2018. We suspect that a handful of  
 members with email will still want to get a paper  
 copy by mail. Finally, if occasionally you want a  
 paper copy and did not get to the meeting, just call

or email Paul Shaffer and ask for a one time paper copy to be mailed. Please let Paul know if you have any comments or questions. His telephone number and email can be found in the left column of front page.

With this change, we expect to save the club between \$300 and \$400 a month which will increase available funds for Republican Candidate funding. Thanks for your understanding and continue to enjoy your monthly newsletter.

#### November Meeting and Program Information by VP Programs, Pat Haggerty

#### N.C. HOUSE SPEAKER TIM MOORE TO SPEAK TO MCRMC NOVEMBER 20TH

Tim Moore has been a champion of tax reform, transportation infrastructure, child safety and other efforts to reduce the size and cost of government while maintaining essentials services. The NC House of Representatives has



(Tim Moore)

overturned 11 Governor Roy Cooper's vetoes and Moore has been instrumental in those veto overrides. Speaker Moore has represented Cleveland County since 2002 and is the youngest Speaker of House in NC history. He will address the club and then take questions from the membership. Jamie Boles, who represents Moore County in the NC House of Representatives, will introduce Speaker Moore, if Boles can clear his schedule and attend the meeting.

MCRMC is also pleased to announce that Rebecca Listrom, the Executive Director of Meals on Wheels, will tell us about the goals, procedures and results of Meals on Wheels and how it delivers meals to our homebound Moore Count neighbors. Like Speaker Moore, she will take questions from the membership.

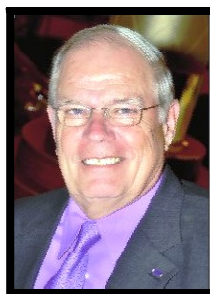
Both will be available after the meeting for informal conversation.

**Bob Zschoche, Secretary, Acting Treasurer**



#### and MCRMC Calling Colonel

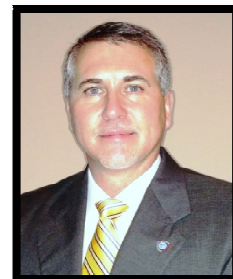
As we draw near the end of this year, we see a definite change in the number of our members using electronic signup for meeting attendance. We now have more and more members who signup by email, text or on the website. If you are one of those, you may have noticed that you are no longer hearing from your calling captain. That is by design. If you use an electronic meeting signup option, you are deleted from the calling list. However, if you want to still get a calling reminder, please let me know and I will add you back to the calling list. For those who still get calls, please be diligent about responding to your calling captain with a yes or no.



Our financial records and our official club documents are all up-to-date and secure. I will be giving my usual "long" Treasurer's report at the November 20 luncheon meeting. Hope to see you there and remember to bring a prospective member.

#### VP Membership – Jerrell Seawell

The month of November signifies a special time of the year. A time for focusing on the many blessings our Almighty God has provided to us, and a time to remember our veterans for the many sacrifices they have given for our great Nation. We are such a richly blessed people just to be able to live in America and the ability to live free.



It is also a time for us to begin planning for our club for next year. We have had a good year recruiting new members and need to continue as we go into 2018. In addition, it is not too early to begin getting your club dues in as well. Let us continue our efforts moving forward to ensure that we do not lose the hard earned rights as Americans that so many have sacrificed for. I hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving and God Bless.

#### MCRMC – Website/Facebook News:

When was the last time you visited: [www.mcrmc.club](http://www.mcrmc.club)  
Maybe it was to make your November luncheon



reservation. Maybe it was to read the newsletter. Maybe it was to get to our relatively new Facebook Page. Hopefully it was to read the latest post on the "Political News & Trends" tab on the upper left side of the home page.

We would like to think it was all of the above and more. In this article, we are putting the highlighter on the "Political News & Trends" section, the green tab on the home page noted above. In this section, you can choose to see current and past news articles that relate to US Political News, Trends in the United States, North Carolina News, Moore County News and Political Cartoons & Satire. On this single website you can stay current on the primary issues and happenings in each of the mentioned categories. In addition, you can post your personal reactions and comments that other visitors can view.

Visit our website today and every day to stay in the know! Send a link to your like-minded conservative friends and relatives. And finally, if you have any questions or comments about our website, contact Webmaster, Tom Schroeder by telephone or email as noted in the left column of the front page.

#### Moore Republican Women News by President - Kay Wildt

(Editor's note: As you read this, the MRW November meeting is past. Watch for future emails about MRW meetings. Our members are always welcome as guests, but note that advance reservations are required.)

#### November 6th Meeting Speaker: Stan Bradshaw

Stan Bradshaw, a leader in the business world and our local community, spoke at our November meeting about a global initiative called The ZOE HELPS PROJECT, where he serves on the Board of Directors.

The ZOE HELPS PROJECT serves in seven countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and targets areas of extreme poverty with high concentrations of vulnerable children. Building on a foundation of indigenous staff, community leaders, and local resources, ZOE empowers orphans and vulnerable children to become socially, economically, and spiritually strong, transforming entire communities in the process.

The Luncheon Menu for November was: Breast of Turkey with Southern Mashed Potatoes. Seasonal Vegetables, Pan Jus. Dessert is Tarheel Pie. Luncheons are held at the Pinehurst Members Club, 1 Carolina Vista Drive, at 12:00 p.m. with

registration at 11:30 a.m. Cost is **\$18.50** inclusive, checks payable to Pinehurst LLC. Reserve by noon on Thursdays before the Monday meetings. Cancel by noon Saturday before the Monday meeting. If you do not cancel by this date, you must pay for the cost of the lunch.

Reservations are required; reserve directly on the MRW website, [www.mrwnc.org](http://www.mrwnc.org). You will receive an immediate confirmation. If you prefer, email: [mooregopwomen@gmail.com](mailto:mooregopwomen@gmail.com). For telephone reservations, contact, **Linda Robson**, acting Luncheon Chair, at **910-235-0860**. Linda will confirm your reservations. Valet parking is available.

#### President's Message by Kay Wildt

Every November we give thanks to Almighty God for having created our amazing world and especially for



our beautiful and blessed land, America, which became home to Pilgrims seeking freedom.

Throughout the centuries we have had to fight to retain those freedoms, and we continue to today.

Recent administrations have eroded more and more of our freedoms by controlling our lives with laws and regulations intent on forwarding a leftist, corrupt agenda and dismissing our Constitutional rights. Any hint of religion is forbidden in our schools, unless we are accommodating demands for prayer rooms or teaching the greatness of Islam.

Constitution-loving, God-fearing voters, distrustful of the elite political class, were distressed at the inevitable disaster that another leftist administration would bring. The common man spoke, and for that I am grateful. President Trump is trying mightily to keep his promises to our nation – safety from our enemies, reinvigorating our economy, stopping the waste and destruction of America by corrupt officials. Continue to pray for his success.

November 11th is the day on which our nation honors our veterans for the sacrifices made on our behalf. In conjunction with ceremonies on the 11th, there are a number of other patriotic events outlined in the newsletter. Plan to attend or be part of those activities where true heroes are remembered.

#### We Continue to Support Our President

Each day send an email or make a call to President Trump, Senator Richard Burr, Senator Thom Tillis,

and Representative Richard Hudson. It takes courage in D.C. to stand firm against the Left, especially if no one from our side bothers to communicate with our Members.

**Your calls or emails are important. The White House & Congress count how many people contact them.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE  
PRESIDENT BY US MAIL:**

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

By Email or Telephone (The faster way to communicate.)

By <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

To Call: The Comment Line is 202-456-1111 – Monday – Friday (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.); express your opinion to a volunteer. As with calls to Congress, the office will note if you are for or against what the President is doing.

**Moore Country North Carolina GOP News  
by Tom Beddow, Chair**



On October 21, a beautiful day in Pinehurst, your MC GOP volunteers set up and worked a booth at the Holly Arts and Crafts annual event. Below is a picture of our booth. We had many visitors, including some of you who are reading this short article. This is just one more

example of our current efforts to reach out to Moore County residents and tell our story. We were able to provide information about our organization and explain our positions on local, state and national issues. If you attended and took pictures of our



booth, please email them to Dee Park at [deeandbro@nc.rr.com](mailto:deeandbro@nc.rr.com).

**Community In Action**

(Editor's note: Community In Action is an initiative started by Tom Beddow to offer our members ways, projects and opportunities for giving to the community in other than political ways. Speakers at luncheons frequently educate us on opportunities to get involved and make our communities better.)

As noted in the previous luncheon and program article, we announced that our Community In Action speaker will be Rebecca Listrom, the Executive Director of Meals on Wheels. In order to get prepared for her presentation, we suggest you visit the following website to learn more about this program:

[https://search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?hspart=iba&hsm=vhsl&type=vjnt\\_6053\\_CHW\\_US&p=www.mealsonwheelsofthesandhills.com%2F](https://search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?hspart=iba&hsm=vhsl&type=vjnt_6053_CHW_US&p=www.mealsonwheelsofthesandhills.com%2F)

**Elected Officials Contact Information:**

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



Or, best of all, go to our MCRMC Website:

<http://www.mcrmc.club/links.html>  
and click on "List of Moore County Elected Officials".

From Your Editor, Paul Shaffer

**IMPORTANT:** If you have not already done so, please go back and read the article at the bottom of page 2 about the change of newsletter distribution beginning in January of 2018.



Having said that, allow me the opportunity to rant about immigration, legal, illegal or other. If some of my thoughts on this subject seem familiar, it is because of expressing some of my points in past newsletters. Let me begin with the bullet point outline of what I believe needs to be done and in what order:

- The law that makes anyone born in the US a citizen should be done away with and replaced with a path to citizenship, to be implemented after all other steps are completed. All those who are born in the US under current law will remain citizens.
- Beginning immediately, we must SEAL (using walls, technology, observation, patrol, etc.) the border, NO exceptions.
- We must identify each and every non-citizen currently in the US, both legal and illegal and determine where they are.
- Legal and illegal immigrants, after being located shall be registered, photographed and a DNA sample collected. A non-citizen ID will be issued with their picture, age, residence and if here legally, how long they can stay. ID to be carried at all times.
- Non-citizen status will be posted on all driver's license.
- Illegals will have a 10-year path to citizenship, and/or offered a one-time payment of \$10,000 to return to their country. If accepted, the US will provide the airfare for return. They may NOT return for a minimum of 10 years.
- Those who stay will be issued a work permit and can seek any employment available. School age children of those who stay will be issued an ID and a permit to attend public school.
- All public schools will be required to verify citizenship of students. If a student is not a citizen, they must have school permit.
- All employers will be required to hire ONLY citizens, legal immigrants and other immigrants who hold work permits. If a person is not in one of those three classes, their employer will be required to terminate them.
- Those choosing the 10 year path to citizenship will NOT be allowed to apply for or receive any government welfare of any kind. No food, housing, medical, welfare, etc. subsidies will be made available until citizenship at the end of the 10 years. Public school lunch programs could be an exception.
- Any person on the 10-year citizenship path who is convicted of a felony will be sent back to their country of origin after completing any prison

sentence. They will not be allowed to return to the US.

- Any person on the 10-year citizenship path can, at any time, choose to take the \$10,000 payment and ticket to return to their country of origin. They will not be able to return to the US for 10 years.
- All non-citizens coming to this country for any reason such as employment, visiting relatives, tourism, etc. must get a visa or be covered by a modified Visa Waiver Program. All such temporary visitors must be registered and check in every month with updates. Those who stay beyond the allowed visit time will be apprehended and immediately deported. Repeat offenders will not be allowed back for a defined period of time, depending on the circumstances.
- We need to eliminate so-called "sanctuary" cities/states. They should not be allowed. I do not know at this time what laws need to be changed, or if there needs to be a constitutional amendment, but I do believe that we need to take whatever steps are necessary to not allow them.

Immigration and illegal immigrants are totally out of control. As you can see, the steps noted above are intended to HALT further illegal immigration and remove the incentives for more illegals to come to the US. I am sure that someone reading this will think (maybe even say) that we need immigrants for many reasons. I agree, but only those who come here legally, get the proper visa and abide by the terms of the stay. Others say that the illegals pay taxes and contribute to our country. I am sure some do. But every article I read and study I've seen conclude that illegal immigration cost the US more in government expense (welfare programs, medical, etc.) than is paid in taxes.

Hope to see you at the November 20 meeting and don't forget to bring a prospective member.

### October Meeting Report:

(Editor's note: October was the last meeting for long time member and club Chaplain Bruce Carlson. Bruce and his wife Jean are moving to a senior living community in Florida. Following is his mailing address if anyone would want to send him a letter or card:

Bruce and Jean Carlson  
8333 Seminole Blvd. #360  
Seminole, Florida 33772

In the following article about our October meeting, there is the full text of his opening prayer. In addition, I have included the full Pilot Newspaper article about our luncheon speaker, NC State Treasurer Dale Folwell.)





The October 16 meeting was called to order by President Jim Lexo at noon. Following a few announcements, recognition of dignitaries and introduction of guests, Lexo called on club Chaplain, Bruce Carlson, to open the meeting with prayer and lunch blessing.

Following is that prayer in its entirety:

*“Almighty God, the giver of every good and perfect gift: We praise and glorify your name for your gracious care and concern for each of us. You walk with us through every moment of life—you share our joy in times of accomplishment and celebration; you cry with us in times of disappointment and discouragement; you bind up our wounds when we are hurt. Your graciousness and love know no bounds.*



*In these days of crisis in our world: Guide the actions of the national leaders. Assist them to be wise and discerning. Assist them to be calm and careful in their decision making and in their public discourse and actions. Assist them to put personal pride and desire for historical renown aside as they work with one another to provide stability and peace among the nations.*

*Our nation needs your involvement in the lives of our leaders as much now as anytime in our history. You led our founding fathers in establishing a social compact that gives its participants life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That compact is unraveling at an ever increasing pace due to a lack of leaders dedicated to restoring and preserving that compact and the ignorance and non-engagement of its citizenry.*

*Be with us in our fellowship around these tables. May our friendships and acquaintances add to the meaning of our lives. Thank you for this food, and for those who have prepared it and serve it. May it nourish*

*us and strengthen us to meet today’s duties and challenges. God bless us all. Amen.*

Following the prayer, John Rowerdink and Louis Gregory took the stage and Rowerdink announced that Carlson was moving. After they thanked him for his work as Chaplain and his work on the



Executive Committee, Carlson was called back to the stage to receive a small elephant trophy as a token of the club’s appreciation.

Pat Haggerty, VP Programs, stepped up and announced the program as being in three parts. First Haggerty introduced NC State Senator Tom McInnis

from Rockingham. McInnis spoke briefly about the NC State Senate re-districting that is being challenged in court. He could or could not be our Senator depending on the ruling of the court.



Next, Haggerty introduced member Connie Lovell who spoke about her work on

Community In Action for the club. She introduced Jennifer Dial from SCC and Chris Maples from NC Rep. Richard Hudson’s staff to talk about Rep. Hudson’s local office set up at Sandhills Community College.

President Lexo then returned to the stage to introduce out keynote speaker, NC State Treasurer Dale Folwell. Following please find a reprint of The Pilot Newspaper article about Folwell’s remarks:

State Treasurer Talks of Reining In Cost

BY LAURA DOUGLASS | Staff Writer  
Oct 20, 2017

N.C. Treasurer Dale Folwell wants to turn the tide on rising costs for health care and pension premiums for state employees.

“We are spending about \$500 million every 30 days on pension benefits and we spend \$250 million each month on medical costs and prescriptions,” Folwell



said. “I am finding that whether it is Wall Street or health care, we have been signing other people’s contracts. We are now in the business of signing our own contracts: not theirs.”

On Monday, Oct. 16, Folwell visited with members of the Moore County Republican

Men’s Club before stopping by The Pilot to present a progress report on his efforts.

The state Treasurer’s office manages the 26th largest pool of public money in the entire world, overseeing approximately \$110 billion in investments. Folwell was elected in 2016, and is the former Speaker Pro Tem of the N.C. House of Representatives, where he served four terms.

“When I applied for the job as Treasurer — I say ‘applied’ because that is how I see it — I put on my job application that I would reduce fees, reduce complexity, apply buying power and bring transparency to the job,” Folwell said. “Our pension is one of the best funded in the country and our state health plan is one of the worst. We have a \$35 billion unfunded health care liability in North Carolina. That is one of the largest in the country.”

On the investment side, Folwell is looking at ways to reduce annual fees paid out to Wall Street.

“Our fees have gone from \$50 million to \$650 million in the last 16 years. I am looking to cut that down,” he said. “I am starting a program called ‘Are you Serious?’ because people don’t believe this. What I’m finding, since I’ve been Treasurer, is that not all the fees are baked in there. I am finding that there are additional costs on top of the \$650 million!”

During a recent renegotiation in retiree premiums, Folwell said he was able to hold a flat rate and anticipated maintaining that through next year.

Looking ahead to 2019, he wants to see lower state health plan insurance rates.

“We have one of the lowest participation rates for our family plan that any other state in the country. What does that mean? It means for a lot of entry level employees — people like our teachers and our prison guards — based on these premiums, they have to work 5 days per month to cover this cost. It means they are having to make the choice between food and health care, their house and health care.”

In 2018, state employee-only health plan premiums will jump for those who have been paying nothing to \$300 a year, with the increased fee aimed at helping cover costs for family coverage.

“It is absurd to me that I have been in office for nine months and that we, as the largest purchaser in the state for health care, cannot do it better or more efficiently on behalf of our participants and tax payers,” he said.

Folwell noted there is a national push to get the health insurance tax to sunset next year. He urged the North Carolina delegation to extend the one-year moratorium.

“It will impact everyone, this is a premium tax that will cost North Carolina \$380 million and no one has ever heard of it,” he said. “I don’t want them to repeal it. I want them to leave it in the freezer, to sunset next year, until they can figure out what they (Congress) are going to do with overall health care reform.”

Altogether, the state health care plan carries approximately 800,000 participants.

“We also need to turn our participants into customers, then into fans, and then into watchdogs,” he said. “The clothes you are wearing, the gas you bought today, you know the price and value of it. But with your consumer health care plan, you can’t tell what you paid for. To fix the plan this has to happen.”

Folwell said the amount of money spent on state health care, this year, exceeds the entire appropriation to the university system. It also exceeds the entire state appropriation to public safety.

He cautioned that increasing fees could eventually begin to shift money away from other core functions of state government — schools, public safety, roads — to fund pension and health care obligations.

“Fees are going up, life expectancies are going up, payouts are going up and interest rates are going down. This is not sustainable,” he said. “It is not emotional. It is not political. This is mathematical.”

Contact Laura Douglass at (910) 693-2474 or email [lauradouglass145@gmail.com](mailto:lauradouglass145@gmail.com)  
(article courtesy of The Pilot of Southern Pines)

After a short Q & A session, the meeting was adjourned. If you were unable to attend the



October meeting, it can be viewed on video on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8U19YhZsCr0&feature=youtu.be>

### Nominating Committee Report (to be presented at the November meeting)

The Nominating Committee for our 2018 slate of Executive Committee members consisted of Tom Beddow (Chair), John Rowerdink, Neil Godfrey, Louis Gregory, and Bill Demastus. Their recommendations are as follows:

President - Bob Zschoche  
Membership Chair - Jerrell Seawell  
Programs Chair - Pat Haggerty  
Treasurer - Scott Sheffield  
Secretary - Steve Woodward  
At Large - Ken Lewis, Frank Rodriguez, Jim Legg, Bill Demastus  
Past President - Jim Lexo  
Moore County GOP Chair - Tom Beddow

The election will take place at our December meeting.

### From and About Members:

#### Harold Mendelson on Facebook



Oct 13, 2017  
I watched the President state the truth about the Iranian nuclear agreement and gave a blow by blow description of what the current Iranian government has done against the U.S., it's

neighbors and the rest of the world both before and after the agreement was signed. Because the agreement was never presented to Congress, it never became a treaty. President Trump employed the same process when he refused to certify Iran was living up to the agreement in spirit because of the current regime's action in promoting terrorism around the world. He also stated the obvious about the agreement. Within the next decade, Iran will be able to start developing nuclear weapons and is currently developing missile delivery systems. The President has vowed that the U.S. will never allow that to happen. He has enacted sanctions against the Iranian military and is working with Congress to create and pass a bill to make these actions permanent.

The Democrats have reacted as expected condemning the President's action as bringing us closer to war with Iran. That maybe so, but even Iran realizes entering into war against the U.S. will only lead to the current regime in Iran on a path to its destruction.

### Thomas Schroeder Selected Article from the Tom's News

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

\*Need Help Contacting Elected Officials - See below

Headline:

Homeless Explosion on West Coast Pushing Cities to Brink

Comments:

It is interesting that the left (West) Coast is the one area that has this "explosion."

They seem to be losing Republicans / Conservatives and gaining homeless. One has to wonder what it is about what they are doing that is causing this to happen.

All the left's claims that they are doing what they do for the "people" does not seem to be doing so well.

Tom S

Article: Here is the weblink to the below article:  
<https://goo.gl/Hnrv13>

Homeless explosion on West Coast pushing cities to brink

**SFGATE** · by Gillian Flaccus and Geoff Mulvihill, Associated Press Now Playing: [Here is link to video: <https://goo.gl/PXXwKy>]

As the West Coast's economy booms and more people move to the area, the number of homeless people has spiked to crisis levels. The Associated Press found that the number of homeless people is now 168,000 in California, Oregon and Washington. (Nov. 6)

SEATTLE (AP) — Housing prices are soaring here thanks to the tech industry, but the boom comes with a consequence: A surge in homelessness marked by 400 unauthorized tent camps in parks, under bridges, on freeway medians and along busy sidewalks. The liberal city is trying to figure out what to do.

"I've got economically zero unemployment in my city, and I've got thousands of homeless people that actually are working and just can't afford housing," said Seattle City Councilman Mike O'Brien. "There's nowhere for these folks to move to."

That struggle is not Seattle's alone. A homeless crisis is rocking the entire West Coast, pushing abject poverty into the open like never before. Public health is at risk, several cities have declared states of emergency, and cities and counties are spending millions — in some cases billions — in a search for solutions.

San Diego now scrubs its sidewalks with bleach to counter a deadly hepatitis A outbreak. In Anaheim, 400 people sleep along a bike path in the shadow of Angel Stadium. Organizers in Portland lit incense at an outdoor food festival to cover up the stench of urine in a parking lot where vendors set up shop.

Homelessness is not new on the West Coast. But interviews with local officials and those who serve the homeless in California, Oregon and Washington — coupled with an Associated Press review of preliminary homeless data — confirm it's getting worse.

People who were once able to get by, even if they suffered a setback, are now pushed to the streets because housing has become so expensive. All it takes is a prolonged illness, a lost job, a broken limb, a family crisis. What was once a blip in fortunes now seems a life sentence.

Among the findings:

—Official counts taken earlier this year in California, Oregon and Washington show 168,000 homeless people in the three states, according to an AP tally of every jurisdiction in those states that reports homeless numbers to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. That is 19,000 more than were counted in 2015, although the numbers may not be directly comparable because of factors ranging from the weather to new counting methods.

—During the same period, the number of unsheltered people in the

three states climbed 18 percent to 105,000.

—Rising rents are the main culprit. The median one-bedroom apartment in the San Francisco Bay Area is more expensive than it is in the New York City metro area, for instance.

—Since 2015, at least 10 cities or municipal regions in California, Oregon and Washington have declared emergencies due to the rise of homelessness, a designation usually reserved for natural disasters.

The West Coast's newly homeless are people who were able to survive on the margins — until those margins moved.

For years, Stanley Timmings, 62, and his 61-year-old girlfriend, Linda Catlin, were able to rent a room in a friend's house on their combined disability payments. Last spring, that friend died of colon cancer and the couple was thrust on Seattle's streets.

Timmings used their last savings to buy a used RV for \$300 and spent another \$300 to register it. Now, the couple parks the RV near a small regional airport.

They have no running water and no propane for the cook stove. They go to the bathroom in a bucket and dump it behind a nearby business.

After four months, the stench of human waste inside the RV is overwhelming. They are exhausted, scared and defeated, with no solution in sight.

"Between the two of us a month, we get \$1,440 in disability," he said. "We can't find a place for that."

Nationally, homelessness has been trending down, partly because governments and nonprofit groups have gotten better at moving people into housing. That's true in many West Coast cities, too, but the flow the other direction is even faster.

"So everybody who was just hanging on because they had cheap rent, they're losing that ... and they wind up outside," said Margaret King, director of housing programs for the nonprofit DESC in Seattle. "It's just exploded."

Above all, the West Coast lacks long-term, low-income housing for people like Ashley Dibble and her 3-year-old daughter.

Dibble, 29, says she has been homeless off and on for about a year, after her ex-boyfriend squandered money on his car and didn't pay the rent for three months. She sent her toddler to live with the girl's paternal grandparents in Florida. She and her new boyfriend were sleeping under tarps near Safeco Field, home of the Seattle Mariners, when an outreach team referred them to a new shelter.

With an eviction on her record and little income, no one will rent to her.

"I've had so many doors slammed in my face, it's ridiculous," Dibble said, wiping away tears.

All along the West Coast, local governments are scrambling for answers — and taxpayers are footing the bill.

Voters have approved more than \$8 billion in spending since 2015 on affordable housing and other anti-homelessness programs, mostly as tax increases. Los Angeles voters, for example, approved \$1.2 billion to build 10,000 units of affordable housing to address a homeless population that's reached 34,000 people within city limits.

Jeremy Lemoine, an outreach case manager with REACH in Seattle, called it the situation a refugee crisis.

"I don't mean to sound hopeless," he said. "I generate hope for a living for people — that there is a future for them — but we need to address it now."

Associated Press writers Janie Har in San Francisco, Amy Taxin in Anaheim, Julie Watson in San Diego and Chris Weber in Los Angeles contributed to this report. AP photographer Ted Warren and AP videographer Manuel Valdes in Seattle also contributed.

Part of an ongoing examination of the homeless crisis along the West Coast.

### This & That

(The following have been collected from emails to the Editor, the Web and numerous blogs)

## CONSERVATIVE T R I B U N E

In defense of Western Civilization



**Socialism at Work: British Feds Ban Surgery for Smokers and the Obese**

BY BENJAMIN ARIE ON OCTOBER 18, 2017

Socialized medicine is a wonderful, compassionate system that brings important care to everyone... at least, that's what leftists in the United States and Europe keep insisting.

As the United Kingdom is finding out, however, everyone is *not* actually equal under health care socialism. As soon as the system starts running out of other people's money, people are quickly pushed out... and you'd better hope that you're not one of the unlucky ones who gets thrown aside!

That's exactly what happened this week in Britain, as the socialized National Health System announced that patients are being banned from important surgeries if they happen to be a bit overweight or smoke tobacco.

Yes, oh-so-caring socialism is now discriminating against its subjects and deciding who receives surgery and who does not based on personal lifestyle decisions.

"The restrictions — thought to be the most extreme yet to be introduced by health services — immediately came under attack from the Royal College of Surgeons," explained the U.K. Telegraph.

"Its vice president called for an 'urgent rethink' of policies which he said were 'discriminatory' and went against the fundamental principles of the NHS," the British newspaper continued.

Many British patients have already seen long delays for care, with some operations being put on hold for months as the socialized system struggles with financial instability.

Medical experts bashed the government's decision, and made it clear that the bureaucracy was not helping patients.

"This goes against clinical guidance and leaves patients waiting long periods of time in pain and



discomfort. It can even lead to worse outcomes following surgery in some cases,” declared Ian Eardley, senior vice president of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The national health system insisted that the surgeries being delayed were non-urgent, but patient advocates were not convinced.

“The new rules increase the amount of weight the heaviest patients must lose — and crucially, they mean those who fail to lose weight or give up smoking could wait indefinitely,” reported the Telegraph.

In other words, a patient who is overweight and not able to drop the exact number of pounds dictated to them by the government might *never* receive surgery he needs.

Conservatives were routinely mocked during the run-up to Obamacare when they warned about “death panels” and the dangers of giving the state complete control over health care.

Who’s laughing now? Telling one segment of the population, “Sorry, you don’t qualify for the surgery you need, too bad” is precariously close to health panels and yes, even “death panels” that Americans rightly fear.

If socialized health systems keep losing money — and they will — then where is the limit? What prevents the cost-cutting measures from increasing to the point of a nightmare?

Every single person is unhealthy in some way. Almost every part of life, from driving a car to eating red meat to riding a motorcycle or downhill skiing can all be labeled “risky.” Will those disqualify patients from surgery soon?

If the government can cut off a patient’s access to surgery based on a weight number, why can’t it do the same for an age number? One of the biggest strains on the health care system is the elderly.

What happens when an accountant in London or Washington decides that trying to extend the life of an 80-year-old grandfather just isn’t worth the cost?

If you don’t think that is on the horizon, then take one look at the Charlie Gard case, where a sick child was denied possibly life-saving surgery by the government, even though doctors were willing and ready to take a chance for the young boy.

Nobody disputes that being overweight or smoking are poor health choices. However, a free country should focus on maximizing personal liberty and allow individuals to live their lives as they wish, in as many ways as possible.

Under a free market health care system, those who make unhealthy choices may face higher insurance expenses, but they are free to live life on their terms. They can choose to smoke and pay for it, or quit and reap the benefits, but it’s *not the government’s decision*.

A “Big Brother” state that tells every person how to live is the opposite of American tradition.

The more we ask the government to give us “free benefits” paid for by others, the faster we wrap chains around ourselves and give up our own freedom to live life as we wish.



Remember to make your luncheon reservations for the November 20 meeting, no later than November 12. Bring a guest and prospective member. Membership applications will be available on the registration table.

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