

MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022



In God We Trust

Visit <u>www.mcrmc.club</u> Founded in December, 1996...Celebrating 26 years in 2022

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(continued left column next page)



President's Message by Tom Adams:

Well, there for a minute I thought I had finally found something I could agree with Joe Biden about. The subject: US policy regarding the defense of Taiwan in the event of Chinese attack.

When asked by the media would the US defend Taiwan militarily in the event of its attack by the ChiComs, he answered with an unequivocal "Yes". That was the right

answer and a rare moment where he has had a right answer to a foreign policy question in the 18 months of his presidency. Then, just as I was about to have a celebratory cocktail, the White House staff walked his statement back, saying "Our policy has not changed Our one China policy and our commitment is to peace and stability across the Taiwan strait."

Seriously? There are two questions here. First and foremost, who is in charge of this administration? Is it the President? White House Chief of Staff? A cabal of mid-level staffers? Like it or not, we are entitled to have to put up with the guy we put in that big ole house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Even if he is rarely there. (This guy needs more time to recharge his batteries than any 3 random 80 year olds in Pinehurst.) Really, this guy needs to get control of his administration.

Second, What should our policy be toward Taiwan? I have been fortunate to have visited the island on a number of occasions to meet and work with both government and business leaders, primarily in the pharmaceutical industry. I found that they had in common a love for America and Americans and a loathing for the communists that run mainland China. If fact they feel they have more in common with the Japanese that subjugated the island many years ago than the Communists across the strait.

I also learned it has one, if not the most highly industrialized economies in the world, closely linked to the US and Europe. The loss of Taiwan as a free and independent country would be ruinous to our economy, seriously impact our military and potentially cause the revamping the world order. If you want to see how bad the loss of Taiwanese industry would be to the West, just take a look on Google, be sure and review the microchip industry. The numbers are scary.

So Joe, You got it right the first time. We need to stick with our friend and ally. The left won't like it but it's what we need for our country. When which ever Republican steps into the Oval Office in 2024 his or her first order should be (President's article continued on next page)

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COMMITTEES for 2022:

Membership, Communication & Publicity: Todd Maness* Finance: Jim Legg* **Fundraising & Candidate** Finance: TBD* EC Members **Golf Tournament 2022:** Steve Woodward* Nominations: Bill Demastus* **Program:** Patrick Haggerty* **Bylaws:** Bill Scholtes* Veterans & First Responders: John Boesch* & Todd Maness* *Committee Chair

Members are encouraged to join club committees that get the behind-thescenes work done. Please call an EC member if you are interested in helping on one or more committees. (President's message continued from front page)

rebuilding our depleted and aging weapons systems and that should start with a Navy that will continue to stand with our allies. That rebuilding should include a new aircraft carrier. Hey, how about a USS Donald Trump?

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Tom



The 26th Annual John Reburn Memorial Golf Tournament is on June 20 at CCNC.

See more detailed information in the attached application insert and the article following in this newsletter.

Sponsor one or more First Responders as soon as possible so we can get the invitations out.

The **Raffle** is complete, and the winners are announced. See who won the \$5000 first place prize along with the other winners. Learn how much was raised for the MCRMC Federal PAC and how the proceeds will be used. Article on page 4 of this newsletter.





We have LUNCHEON News this month. See the headlines below and read the articles in this newsletter for details:

Join us at the Golf Tournament for lunch in June

Special July Evening Event in place of Luncheon

August Break Planned

September Joint Meeting with MRW

September Luncheon Meeting Back at CCNC

September & October Meetings Feature Candidates

New Luncheon Administrator

THE MAY PRIMARY IS OVER, and the results are in. See the insert for all of the Moore County ballot races; federal, state, and local. See where Republicans face Dem candidates in the fall election. In the Moore County School Board nonpartisan race, you will vote for two. Detailed information and sample ballots will be in the October newsletter.



Golf Tournament Fundraiser – June 20th at CCNC



Plan to play, set the date and put your foursome together NOW! This year we will have a similar format, **scramble**, but a few differences and a couple of significant changes. SEE THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION AND GET A TEAM TOGETHER TODAY.

First note that the golf price is different but the same total as last year with the "kitchen sink" package, which is not being offered this year. Instead, all teams will compete on an equal level without the need to purchase mulligans.

Note that registration starts at 7:30am and there is a FULL BREAKFAST before a shotgun golf start at 9:00am. Again, this year, a delicious lunch will follow golf with guest remarks and awards after lunch.

There is a new fun feature this year which involves two youth representatives from the First Tee of the

Sandhills. Each First Tee youth player will be located on a Par 3 hole tee. When a foursome plays one of these



Par 3s, each player can purchase a chance to win a raffle ticket or two for \$10 cash. When the player purchases a chance, if their ball lands on the green of the Par 3, they will get a raffle ticket. In addition, the First Tee Youth will hit a ball. If that ball lands on the green all players who purchase a raffle chance whose ball is closer than the youth will get a second raffle ticket. At the luncheon, there will be a drawing and the winning ticket holder will get a new custom driver. All proceeds from this extra on course game will go to the First Tee – Sandhills. Plan to participate and **remember to bring two \$10**

bills! Learn more about First Tee by going to:

For those who cannot play golf, you can still participate as a supporter taking advantage of tennis, fitness center, or the pool and then join the golfers for lunch. If nothing else, just join all the others at lunch. For those who cannot otherwise participate on the day of the tournament, we will gladly accept a donation as shown on the application.

Do you or someone you know, individually, or as a business want to sponsor a hole. Hole sponsors will have a sign on a tee for all the golfers to see as they play. Support Republican candidates and be recognized by being a hole sponsor. Ask all your friends and business acquaintances to consider being a hole sponsor for this event.

Finally, also note that we are again accepting sponsorships for First Responders. You can sponsor one or more First Responders in addition to participation in other ways. This is a terrific way to honor the great work and dedication of our police, fire, EMS, and other individuals that put their life on the line to help and protect the citizens of Moore County.

Note that you need to get your applications completed and paid for on the dates shown on the attached application.

May Luncheon Meeting Report:

(Editor's Notes: Special thanks to all who provided input for the meeting report, with special thanks to VP Programs, Pat Haggerty, who took notes in my absence due to Covid quarantine)

The monthly luncheon meeting was held at Little River, the fifth luncheon held there in 2022 while the CCNC ballroom is being remolded and updated. There were just under 100 attendees, a smaller group than the last several luncheons that were held before the May primary elections.

The meeting was called to order at noon by President

Tom Adams. After an opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, Treasurer Jim Legg gave the club's financial report. Adams then thanked all the candidates who entered the arena and run for public office. Adams especially thanked NC Representative Jamie Boles who served Moore county with many accomplishments of the last many years.



Adams then introduced Tyres Tatum, the newly elected President of the NC Federation of Republican

www.firstteesandhills.org



Men's Clubs. Tatum exhorted all to understand that hard work and working together are the keys to Victory in the November general election.

Adams then invited Steve

Woodward, Chair of this year's golf tournament, to the lectern. Woodward gave an update on the progress of participants for this year's tournament. (See golf tournament article on previous page) The tournament is being held on Monday, June 20 on the CCNC's Dogwood



course, the number 4 rated course in all of North Carolina. There will be a full breakfast starting 7:30am served before a shotgun start at 9:00am. Players are encouraged to arrive early for breakfast. Woodward reminded folks that this event is a fun way to play golf as well as an important fundraiser for the club. He reminded all that, as in the past several years, Moore County First Responders will play as guests of the club and encouraged attendees to sponsor a First Responder. Those who participate can register for the golf Tournament at:

https://sites.google.com/view/mensclubgolftournamen t/home

Participants can register as a foursome or as a single.

VP Programs, Pat Haggerty, then introduced Moore county's newly re-elected Sheriff, Ronnie Fields.



Fields (left), Chief Deputy Richard Maness, and Major Andy Conway. They presented an excellent program on law enforcement and public safety in Moore County.

Haggerty ended the program by announcing the September and October MCRMC programs will be forums for all Republican nominees who are sitting for election in November. Candidates will talk about their platforms and the need for support from MCRMC members. The meeting was adjourned at the conclusion of the program and closing announcements.

There will be further announcements about summer Republican Club activities and events before the regular September luncheon meeting. Watch for announcements about those activities/events and more information on our meeting location for September in this and future newsletters as well as email announcements. Also check the Men's Club website, <u>www.mcrmc.club</u>, for updates.

Raffle Results!!

MCRMC Executive Committee Member-At-Large Tom Brady has completed administration of the raffle described in previous newsletter articles.

In recap, Tom recommended that the club undertake a raffle to raise funds for the MCRMC Federal PAC fund. This PAC was



suggested in 2020 and has been formalize over the past couple of years. Money given to or raised for the PAC is donated to conservative candidates and causes.

Brady recommended earlier this year that we have a raffle, selling 300 tickets at \$100 each before the fall electioneering time frame. From these sales, there would be six prizes with winners getting between \$500 and \$5000. The proceeds, after all winners, would be \$20,000 that would be given to the PAC for donations.

Tom, along with all of those who helped in many ways, are happy to announce that the raffle was concluded last month with the expected results. Ticket sales (with one \$300 donation to account for the last 3 tickets) were completed and the winners announced in May. Our congratulations to the following winners:

- Gary Sheperis, Pinehurst \$5000
- Michelle Jackson, Pinehurst \$2000
- Kay Wildt, Pinehurst \$1000
- Mark Demmer, Sanford
 \$1000
- Beth Ann Pratte, Southern Pines \$ 500
- Mike Hardin, Pinehurst \$ 500

This leaves \$20,000 deposited with the PAC for use in making donations. The Moore County GOP Executive Committee along with input from the MCRMC will administer donations between now and the November election.

Thanks to all who purchased tickets and also thanks to all who sold tickets and helped in any way. We want to recognize the following ticket sellers:

<u>Selling 5 or more tickets:</u> John McLaughlin,
 Mike Freidel, Tom Adams, Pat Haggerty, Bill
 Miller, and Matt Hintz

- <u>Selling 20 or more tickets:</u> Bill Demastus and Steve Woodward
- <u>Selling 40 or more tickets:</u> Tom Beddow
- <u>Selling 100 or more tickets:</u> Tom Brady

Once again our thanks to all who sold tickets, to all who bought tickets, and congratulations to the winners!

> Lunch Administrator – Bob Coates When one good thing ends, another one begins:

<u>It's Been Fun</u>

Well, all good things must come to an end. And this is the case with my tenure as your MCRMC Luncheon Administrator for the last four years. It would be downright selfish of me to not share all the fun of this job with someone else. The May luncheon was the last one for me in this role. The new Luncheon Administrator is Mike Freidel. I am confident that he will do a great job. He is very much involved already with the Moore County GOP and runs the Headquarters at Olmstead Village.

The best part of the job for me was getting to meet so many of you in person at our luncheons at both CCNC and Little River during the check-in process. It's great being able to put names with faces.

And I especially want to thank my regular assistants who provided so much quality help in this effort. Pastor Mike Dubbs, Tom Brady and my wife, Carol Coates, have all done a wonderful job and made this task not only much easier but also pleasurable as well. Additionally, our Treasurer, Jim Legg, and Secretary, Bill Scholtes, have worked behind the scenes in doing an excellent job in keeping the financial books and member database in excellent shape. Steve Woodward kept the membership apprised of luncheons on the www.mcrmc.club website and Tom Schroeder provided technical support. Paul Shaffer's email "encouragement" for you to sign-up for the luncheons was invaluable. And, of course, President Tom Adams was always there to provide direction and support. My most sincere thanks to you all!

I am confident that you will give Mike Freidel the same support that you gave me.

My sincere thanks,

Bob Coates

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As noted in Bob Coates' article (left), we have a new Luncheon Administrator, Mike Freidel. You can see



his contact information in the left column of the second page of this newsletter. Note that with this appointment, Mike also becomes a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee. If you have not yet met Mike, seek him out at our next luncheon meeting and introduce

yourself. You will find Mike at or near the registration table at future luncheon meetings. And don't forget to say "thanks" to him for taking on this important and sometimes time-consuming job.

Welcome aboard Mike!

Newsletter Information:

This, and future issues of the newsletter are being posted on the Club Website, <u>www.MCRMC.club</u>. Those having an email address will



get notice that the newsletter is available and a copy by email. Those who do not have an email address will get a paper copy by 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

> Program News for June, Summer & Beyond by Patrick Haggerty – VP Programs:

As is spelled out in past newsletters and again in this issue, there is not a regular luncheon meeting in June. Rather, we are having our annual fundraising golf tournament at CCNC on Monday, June 20. Details are in the previous article on page 3 and in the attached golf tournament application. Plan to participate and attend the golf tournament this year, even if you are not playing golf. Those who do not play golf but want to attend the golf luncheon can do so by completing the attached application or going to the MCRMC website, <u>www.mcrmc.club</u> and completing a reservation.

The plans for a July and/or August meeting are not yet finalized. There is a possibility of an evening event in July or August so watch an announcement and check regularly on the website for more information and details.

We expect to start our regular luncheon meetings

again in September. We will be returning to CCNC for lunches in the renovated and updated grand ballroom. The luncheon price will likely increase to something between the current \$25 and \$30, again more details to follow. We do know that we are having a joint campaign kickoff event with the Moore Republican Women on September 18th at Little River. The timing of that event might affect the date of the MCRMC September luncheon meeting, so again watch for announcements for dates, prices and details for September.

Our September and October luncheon meetings will feature the Republican candidates who will be on the ballot for the November general election. We look forward to getting back to CCNC, seeing our Republican candidates and getting back to a regular schedule for our luncheons. We expect to have a celebration of our Republican winners at the November luncheon and hope to get some of those winners to attend and celebrate with us.

For our December meeting we are looking forward to having the Pinecrest band members with us again to offer a musical celebration of Christmas. We have a busy rest of 2022, so plan to come and join us for the events and luncheons for the remainder of the year.



pat@patrickhaggerty.com 301-466-7403

Elected Officials Contact Information:

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



https://www.moorecountync.gov/images/departments /board-ofelections/elected%20officials%202022.03.03.pdf

Jim Legg – Treasurer

Money quote of the month by Robert Orben:

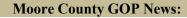
"Every day I get up and look through the Forbes list of the richest people in America. If I'm not there, I go to work."

Beginning Balance, May 1, 2022 Contributions received in May Disbursements made in May



\$17,351.29 9,249.69 2,116.01 Ending Balance, May 31, 2022 \$24,484.97

Please contact me if you want more detailed financial information. Also, you can login to: <u>https://cf.ncsbe.gov/CFOrgLkup/DocumentGeneralR</u> <u>esult/?SID=STA-C4328N-C-001&OGID=4627</u> to review current and past report submissions.







Tom Beddow – Chairman

With the May Primary behind us, our next challenge is the all-important fall general election. We, as Republicans, must stay involved in the election process, get to all other Republicans, conservative independents, and yes even Democrats and convince them to vote for our candidates.

This will be the emphasis between now and November, so we are asking you to do your part. Come to our Moore County GOP Headquarters in Olmstead Village and find out how you can help. We will have campaign information, voting information, candidate signs and much more. We can add you to our database for email information and keep you updated on all of the upcoming GOP events. Stop by during the week and let us tell you how you can help.

Following in one of the articles from our MC GOP website: <u>www.mooregop.com</u>

Visit the website often to stay informed about all things Republican in Moore County and around the country.

Budd leads Beasley in early poll



Rep. Ted Budd advanced out of the May 17 primary without drama into the general election for U.S. Senate in a

race for the seat being vacated by the retiring

Richard Burr.

Budd has an 8-point lead over former North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice <u>Cheri</u> <u>Beasley</u> in the Tarheel State's Senate election in November, according to a new <u>East Carolina</u> <u>University (ECU) poll</u> released May 23.

Budd wins the support of 47 percent of registered voters in the poll, while 39 percent of registered voters back Beasley, the Democratic Party's nominee. Another 12 percent remain undecided, in a sign that the two candidates' standings could fluctuate. <u>Read more</u>.

Remember, be sure to visit our website often to get more information about all things Republican in Moore County and around the country: <u>www.moregop.com</u>.

> Moore County Republican Women News:

Letter from the President by Maureen Krueger



BIDENOMICS – President Biden's Economic Crisis



"It's the economy, stupid." This was the catch-phrase of Bill Clinton's

campaign against President George H. W. Bush in 1992. According to The Washington Post, President Bush enjoyed a 90% approval rating after the successful Gulf War, making him the most popular president in four decades. But domestically, concerns over a stagnating economy troubled voters. On domestic economic issues, President Bush's approval rating was poor. Clinton capitalized on voters' fear of a recession and became our 42nd president.

A recession is typically defined as two consecutive quarters of declining Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) announced in that the U.S. GDP shrank 1.4% in the first quarter of 2022. Do we really have to wait until the experts release their reports and opinions to understand what is going on in the economy? Since the BEA's last report, consumers have seen inflation driving up the costs of ordinary goods and fuel. It doesn't take an expert to realize that our economy is in trouble. All you have to do is look at your grocery bill and the price at the pumps (the average price here in North Carolina is a whopping \$4.35 per gallon of regular). And you don't need an Economics degree to know that fuel prices affect everything else.

President Joe Biden is doing everything he can to make his campaign pledge to eradicate fossil fuel consumption come to fruition. Biden signaled his cultish adherence to the principles of The New Green Deal when he downplayed the harm of his fuel crisis and touted the "incredible transition" that is taking place. It is indeed an incredible transition to not be able to afford to fill up your gas tank. It is indeed an incredible transition for parents not to be able to purchase baby formula. It is indeed an incredible transition for ordinary people to worry about paying their bills. Biden flippantly and callously brushes off concerns that real people, not faceless "consumers," are being hurt by his dogmatic climate change policies.

In the 1600s, William Shakespeare was famously inspired by the Old Testament Book of Ecclesiastes 1:9, "There is nothing new under the sun," when he penned Sonnet 59: "If there be nothing new, but that which is Hath been before, how are our brains beguil'd." President Biden's approval rating on the economy is a paltry 30%. Although there are many important political issues, the Republican road to victory in the midterms and 2024 is simple: "It's the economy, stupid."

Maureen

To learn the "Latest news from MRW" and more, go to: <u>www.mrwnc.org</u>

Tom Schroeder

Tom's News Moore County Conservative News



Thomas Schroeder email: <u>tom@tschroeder.info</u> mobile phone: (910) 687-4501

> Tom's Thoughts The Biden Diesel Hike

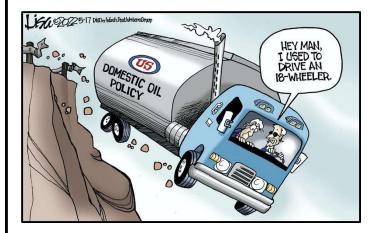
Why are Diesel fuel prices continuing to go up and what does this mean to the economy? Hint - there are issues besides not producing enough oil, for example, not enough refining capability. Increasing the refining capacity would likely take years even if we were to start now.

See the Article Below for More Details.

Key Points are Highlighted

Article

The Biden Diesel Hike



Every American is painfully aware of the <u>high</u> <u>price</u> of a gallon of gas. Well, unless you're one of those intrepid souls saving the planet with the electric car Pete Buttigieg <u>told you to buy</u>. But an equally big economic problem is the price of diesel because it affects the price of everything (remaining) on store shelves.

First, about those gas prices. For nine days in a row now, the U.S. has set new nominal price records. (Adjusted for inflation, prices were higher a decade ago.) Today's national average price is <u>\$4.567 a gallon</u>, which is 16 cents higher than one week ago, \$1.52 higher than one year ago, and \$2.17 higher than when Donald Trump left office. For the first time ever, all 50 states now have average gas prices of more than \$4 per gallon.

Congratulations on these incredible records, President Brandon.

But wait – there's more.

<mark>One year ago, diesel was \$3.17 a gallon, but</mark> today's national average is a record \$5.57. "Yeah, well, I'm glad I don't drive a diesel," you may be thinking. True, but truckers do, and that has implications for your budget. As Jim Geraghty <u>astutely observes</u>, "We are now reaching the point where the cost of diesel fuel is making some goods too expensive to transport." He quotes one trucker who said: "If you're getting paid \$2 per mile you're not taking that load no matter if it is baby formula or orange juice because the cost of diesel is \$5 plus. You just can't take that load."

And you thought it was hard to get baby formula <u>last week</u> or the <u>week before</u>.

Indeed, the price of diesel could lead to disastrous shortages and supply chain wreckage worse than what we've already endured.

For his part, Joe Biden <u>sounds like</u> Jenny's abusive boyfriend in "Forrest Gump" — "It's just this war and that lyin' son of a b*tch Putin!" But the president bears an awful lot of blame for the current situation, shutting down pipelines, revoking leases, and insisting that the resulting high prices are all the more justification for realizing his "green" energy utopian dreams. Or that the best way to "bring down inflation" is to "make sure the wealthiest corporations pay their fair share."

To be sure, some of the problems extend further back than Biden's presidency or beyond the reach of his own policies. For example, the cost of refining accounts for nearly a quarter of the cost of diesel, and refining has been a problem for a long time. Another example is that taxes are higher on diesel than on gas both federally and in many of the states (California's diesel tax is nearly \$1 per gallon).

But Biden's party is responsible for those things.

The U.S. has seen six refineries close in the last couple of years, with the result being that, as Geraghty notes, "the U.S. started 2021 with its lowest annual refining capacity in six years." He adds, "We're getting back to pre-pandemic levels of demand, while our refineries are pumping out about a million fewer gallons of fuel per day than they did before the pandemic." That accounts for a 5% reduction in capacity, and it's likely to get even worse over the coming years. Higher demand and lower supply is a bad combination.

Geraghty expands on that problem:

We almost never build oil refineries in the U.S. anymore. According to the EIA, <mark>the newest</mark> refinery in the United States is the Targa Resources Corporation's site in Channelview, Texas, which began operating in 2019 and processes 35,000 barrels per day. Before that, the newest refinery with significant downstream unit capacity was Marathon's facility in Garyville, La. That facility came online in 1977.

Are there plans for new refineries? Nope.

Biden had been a senator for only four years in 1977. The problem isn't all his, but his party's environmental policies and draconian regulations are certainly to blame for this predicament. Oil companies chose not to take the risk of investing in such ventures as refineries because to do so ran afoul of Democrat politics.

"Nothing about the current environment is promoting investments in fossil fuels," <u>said</u> Bloomberg Intelligence analyst Fernando Valle. <mark>"It's a 15 to 20 year payback on</mark> most of these investments."

Why do that when electric cars are the government-mandated future?

What Joe Biden has done to the fossil fuel industry is hitting every American at the gas pump and anywhere they buy anything that now costs substantially more to transport than it did before he took office. But hey, at least we don't have a president who mean-tweets. patriotpost.us

> Tom's News Pinehurst, NC Thomas Schroeder email : tom@tschroeder.info

Your Newsletter Editor – Paul Shaffer



Here we are, already on the verge of summer and the annual Club Golf Tournament just around the corner. See the Golf Application included with this newsletter, find a way you can participate and have fun.

A few words about the rest of this year, an important mid-term

election year. In this newsletter there is a one-page front and back insert that shows the results of all of the Moore County primary ballot(s) races. In addition, it shows who the winners will face in the fall November general election. Those races will pit the Republican winner against the Dem primary winner. There are a few exceptions where the Republican winner will not have a Dem opponent because there was not a Dem candidate(s) in the primary. Another exception is the non-partisan Moore County School Board race which is non-partisan. There will be multiple candidates and you will vote for two from the candidate list.

There will be sample ballot(s) in the October newsletter prior to the November election. Begin now to learn about the candidates in November and help us have a Republican sweep at the federal, state, and local level.

Reslove Blog:

(Editor's Note: Several newsletters back, we started including an article from the blog: RESOLVE. To see all the most recent articles, go to the following: <u>www.resolvenc.blog</u> (If reading this in the paper newsletter, type the link address in your web browser.)



RESOLVE

Republicans for Security, Opportunity, Liberty and Victory that Endures.

Counting By Steve Woodward

A Washington Post headline on May 30: U.S. marks Memorial Day weekend with at least 11 mass shootings.

Chicago's Memorial Day weekend gun violence tally: 52 shot, 10 fatally, raising the year's fatalities by gunshots to 220.

Aborted births of living babies performed in the United States in 2022: 856,730.

Let us shed light on how the corrupt media and its political idols on the Left define what is "tragic" in the course of human events.

Black and Hispanic (many illegal) street thugs wielding stolen firearms can rampantly target

innocent victims, all ages, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, devastating urban communities and leaving in their wake dead bodies and critically injured survivors. This is life as we know it in 21st Century America. Nothing to see here.

But if a white, deranged, societally alienated teenager opens fire on a supermarket or an



elementary school, wearing military tactical gear and engaging by brandishing so-called assault rifles, we have a crisis that must be exploited before the bodies are buried, a crisis of gun ownership that overshadows a declining, secular culture breeding assassins stalking soft targets.

A letter published in *The Wall Street Journal* noted our media's obsession with sensational evil and indifference toward mundane evil.

President Joe Biden fuels the faux outrage by rushing to Buffalo and Uvalde (Texas) for photo opps and to "comfort" the grieving. He and his surrogates will not be showing up in Chicago to console Memorial Day weekend victims. They will not schedule fly-arounds to visit the 11 locations in the *Post*'s headline.

Yet when it comes to defending murdering babies more barbarically than any legal gun owner could contemplate, Biden's Lefties have a tendency to become as unglued as the ranting psychopaths who forecast their evil intentions across social media. Infamously, Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) threatened Supreme Court justices in a rabid public rant, promising consequences should said justices ever contemplate the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Will you have them shot, Chuck?

Lost amid the deafening vitriol is the fundamental decency that unites Americans. No one on either "side" condones random gun violence that kills innocents. But our unity is tested when we see elected leaders tolerating other causes of suffering and death, mostly among the young, such as smuggled fentanyl, which pours across our unprotected southern border with Mexico. The "mules" who carry the deadly drugs then stick around to commit violent crimes such as rape. These incidents happen every day yet the Presidential entourage has not made one visit to the southern border to observe the chaos.

Americans also are united, or should be, by an insatiable desire to envision a future for our country and, by extension our children and young families, that is full of promise, liberty and prosperity. We do this at the grassroots. We achieve this by restoring Judeo-Christian values in our households and our schools, by returning to faith in Almighty God rather than shunning God's presence, and by taking practical steps to protect one another from the neglected, discarded lives in our midst who dull their agonies by wading into the cesspool of unchecked social media where the seeds of radical behavior are sown. Tech's unrelenting censors let children game-plan their evil fantasies in the open (as did the Uvalde gunman) but shuts down citizens who espouse freedom from medical tyranny and oppose abortion.

We can also take deliberate steps to protect our schools and houses of worship, the softest targets. In Moore County it has come to light that school resource officers have not undergone active shooter training in more than five years, inexplicably. Not only is training a no-brainer but, as Uvalde demonstrated, so are specific



protocols that stop deranged gunmen in their tracks. Dead in their tracks.

(MCS police trained against active shooters. In 2017!)

Evil is in the world. That's the tragedy on which to focus. Secularists and relativists who increasingly dominate governance, corporations and education deliberately tolerate evil as long as they gain ever more control over all of us. Calculated or not, this is where we are in 2022. Thus, the Second Amendment is more vital than ever and worthy of being defended.

From and About our Members:

John Rowerdink – Pilot Column, May 31

Crisis

If you enjoy paying \$4-\$5 per gallon for gasoline, you must love President Biden's energy policies.



I spent a 35-year career in the energy industry and I find President Biden's energy policies

incomprehensible. Virtually everything he's done on energy since taking office has been the opposite of what he should have done, starting with his first day in office in January 2021.

He began that day by killing the Keystone XL pipeline, which had been delayed for several years by the Obama administration and then approved for construction by President Trump. The purpose of the pipeline was to transport Canadian crude oil into the United States for refining and use.

Some of that crude is still coming into our country by rail, which is far dirtier, more costly and prone to accidents than pipelines. Ask the people of Casselton, ND, where a 2013 oil train derailment caused a massive explosion and fire.

Canada isn't going to keep that oil in the ground as naive environmentalists think. It either comes into the U.S. by rail or moves by pipeline to Canada's west coast, from where it is shipped to China for refining. Guess whose refineries operate cleaner, China's or ours?

Killing Keystone XL and other pipelines makes the climate worse, not better. The Keystone XL pipeline is unlikely to ever be built, a big mistake.

Also on his first day in office, Biden suspended oil drilling on federal lands, including offshore areas and large sections of the western United States. Biden's supporters say that oil companies have thousands of acres under lease on which they haven't begun drilling. But they don't mention that the Biden administration has slow-walked the issuance of permits to enable the drilling to begin.

Also, the fact that the leases have been awarded doesn't mean the lease is a good prospect for producing oil. Oil companies conduct seismic testing to identify the prospects for finding oil and if the prospects are not great, they don't drill, even though they have a lease. Obviously, you drill where you think the oil is.

Then there's his attitude toward hydraulic fracturing, better known as fracking. This is the process that expanded greatly in recent years and is largely responsible for transforming our country from dependence on (mostly) Middle East oil to energy independence at the end of the Trump administration.

At the behest of climate activists, the Biden administration has done everything in its power to eliminate fracking and as a result, our oil dependence on other countries is back on the rise. This is a national security and economic tragedy.

As a result of the anti-oil and gas policies of the Biden administration, large banks and other investors are now reluctant to provide capital for oil exploration. The oil and gas business is a very capital intensive business, and huge amounts of new capital are required to explore and drill for oil.

This problem was compounded by the pandemic, which greatly reduced oil demand and decimated the profits of the oil industry. It takes time and money to ramp up drilling after massive drilling cutbacks.

Then comes Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia is the world's third largest oil and gas producer, producing about 10 percent of the world's oil and 40 percent of Western Europe's natural gas. To their credit, Western countries have eliminated or reduced oil purchases from Russia.

However, oil and gas are global commodities, and 10 percent is difficult to make up from other sources. Because of the Biden administration's policy mistakes described above, the United States, the world's largest oil producer, is ill-prepared to quickly meet this shortfall.

Incredibly, rather than unleashing the capabilities of the U.S. oil industry, Biden is now pleading with

Saudi Arabia, Iran and Venezuela to produce and sell us more oil. He viciously attacks our domestic industry and restricts purchases from Canada — a friend — then buys more oil from the despots in Saudi Arabia, Iran and Venezuela instead.

Even among climate alarmists, a little common sense is helpful. First, "clean energy" isn't all that clean. More than 80 percent of our total energy production, including electricity, comes from coal, oil and gas and less than 6 percent from renewable sources, mostly solar and wind. We can move to more renewables over time but let's not get rid of the oil, gas and coal before renewables can take their place. That'll take longer than some people think. We're going to be dependent on oil and gas for a long time.

Finally, what about our electric grid? Some states, especially California, are already short of electricity and are experiencing outages and brownouts. Where is the extra electricity going to come from to power all those electric cars?

So if you're unhappy about spending \$75 to fill your tank, blame Joe Biden.

From Outside the Club

This and That

Gas is so high the mailman is working from home. He called me yesterday to read my bills to me a a





\$1.80 gas, 1.7% inflation, and a Mean Tweet right now.

Be sure and participate in the June 20 Golf Tournament. See the attached application or go to our website for details: <u>www.MCRMC.club</u>

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