



MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB



FEBRUARY 2023



In God We Trust

Visit www.mcrmc.club

Founded in December, 1996... Celebrating 27 years in 2023

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President's Message by John McLaughlin:



In recent 2023 Polls on Party identification and affiliation, we see there is a growing trend that the youth population appears to be leaning left -- but gender appears to be a MAJOR factor.

In 2021 statistics showed that 44% of young women described themselves as liberal while 25% of men said the same. That gap has grown steadily in the last several years.

Political experts say that the Supreme Court's decision to repeal abortion rights last year likely accelerated the trend. As Generation Z enters adulthood, it might be easy for older, more conservative Americans to dismiss the group as a monolith focus like environmentalism and identity politics. In reality, however, evidence shows that Generation Z remains more dynamic than we might think...in spite of the leanings of liberal college professors who they are exposed to.

Ahead of the 2020 elections, one Business Insider says, of 1800 young adults shown, that the percentage of self-identified conservatives was roughly the same as the liberal group. During this 2020 period Gallop polls reported that the majority of Generation Z maintained an independent perspective and evaluated candidates oftentimes on likability.

During this same 2020 timeline, Gallop also reported that just 1/3 of baby boomers said they were true independents -- compared to 52% for both millennials and generation Z.. Also, Americans were evenly identified between the Republican and Democrat parties (28% each) -- but a plurality (41%) now identified as Independent.

We are facing a political education crisis in Moore County, North Carolina, and United States! Our future as Conservative Republicans lies with MCRMC and MCRWC's ability to guide and educate our youth locally as they assume leadership roles here in Moore County, North Carolina and our nation.

We have a task ahead...Let's all do our part!

John

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Jim Legg*

Fundraising & Candidate

Finance:

John McLaughlin*

EC Members

Golf Tournament 2023:

TBD

Nominations:

Tom Adams*

Programs:

Wayne Boyles*

Bylaws:

Bill Scholtes*

Veterans & First Responders:

John Boesch* & Todd

Maness*

*Committee Chair

If you would like to serve
on a committee, let an EC
member know.

See V.P Programs Wayne
Boyles' article about this
month's program. Don't miss
our special speaker here all the
way from the Raleigh General
Assembly.

Let's Have
Lunch
TOGETHER

Meeting Day, Date & Location changes for 2023



After the Thursday, January 19th
meeting, the club meetings will change
to Wednesdays except April when it will
be on the second Thursday. Note the
**location change to the Whispering Pines
Country Club.** Also note that we may
schedule the annual golf tournament in
June which could change the schedule
that month. Watch for email and
newsletter updates for further information. See the following
luncheon meeting dates and mark your calendar:

Wednesday February 8th

Wednesday March 8th

Thursday April 13th

Wednesday May 10th

Wednesday June 7th

Wednesday September 13th

Wednesday October 11th

Wednesday November 8th

Wednesday December 13th

(see article later in newsletter for more detail)

Dues News:

The 2023 dues should have been paid by January 1st. If you have not
paid your 2023 dues, they are past due and should be paid ASAP.
Those who have not paid dues for this year by April 1 will be
considered inactive and no longer members of the club. If you become
inactive, you will no longer get the newsletter, you will not receive
meeting notices or any other club event information. Please pay your
dues of \$30 by personal check to MCRMC and mail it to PO Box 1812,
Southern Pines NC 28388. If you have any questions about your dues,
contact Treasurer Jim Legg as noted in the left column.

January Meeting Report

Our first meeting of the new year was held at CCNC on January 19, the usual third Thursday. As indicated later in this article, this is our last meeting at CCNC for this year.

The attendees began to arrive early for registration which began at 11:30am. There were about sixty members and guests scheduled to attend. As they completed registration, attendees found a table and continued to meet and greet others as they settled in for lunch and the program. Shown following, seated



at the front table before lunch, is the newly installed MCRMC President, John McLaughlin (left) as he talked with Moore County GOP Chair, Tom Beddow and Pat Haggerty, past VP Programs, who had arranged for the first program speaker this year.

Promptly at noon, President John McLaughlin took the lectern and called the meeting to order. He asked all attendees to stand and called on Executive Committee Member Charles Webb to lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.



County, to come forward and offer an opening prayer. In his prayer, Mashburn asked for guidance in the GOP, our club endeavors and blessed the meal.

After the Pledge, McLaughlin asked guest, Allen Mashburn, Pastor of Asbury Baptist Church in Randolph



In addition to Mashburn being a Pastor, we learned that he will be running for Lt. Governor of North

Carolina. To learn more about Pastor Mashburn, you can visit his Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/jallenmashburn/>

Following the opening prayer, President McLaughlin made a few announcements, then recognized dignitaries and guests. Next he asked Mike Freidel, Luncheon Administrator and EC Member at Large, to come forward for an announcement. Freidel came to the podium and talked about the location of future



meetings this year. He explained that efforts to continue meetings at CCNC were not fruitful due to failure to agree on luncheon costs. Therefore, he announced that we would be moving out luncheon meetings to the Whispering Pines Country Club for the remainder of the year. In addition, he announced that the cost of the luncheon would be \$25, a reduction of \$5 from what we have been paying.

Next, Tom Beddow came to the lectern to make a report on the Moore County GOP efforts.

Beddow talked about the upcoming Moore County Precinct Meetings and County Convention.

Beddow gave information about the upcoming Holshouser Lecture Series presentation held on Sunday, February 5. (More information about Precinct Meetings and the



County Convention can be found later in this newsletter.)

Following Beddow's report, Pat Haggerty, VP Programs for the last two years came forward to



introduce the program speaker. Haggerty said how fortunate the club was to have the Executive Director of the Moore County Partners In Progress, Natalie Hawkins, as the speaker. Haggerty asked Hawkins to come forward for her presentation.

Hawkins used a slide presentation to explain the mission of the Partners In Progress, growth in Moore County, the types of businesses that Moore County wanted to attract and the economic impact that new businesses would have. The mission is: "Increase economic prosperity and improve the quality of life through the creation of quality jobs and capital investments in our communities."



Hawkins answered many questions asked by



attendees as the presentation was being made. She indicated that Growth in Moore County, both businesses and the general population is inevitable. Moore County Partners in Progress will work to assure that we attract the types of businesses that provide the best in job opportunities and salaries.

To learn more about Moore County Partners in progress, go to their website:

<https://www.moorebusiness.org/>

After a question-and-answer period the program concluded, and the meeting was adjourned at about 1:30pm.

A closing comment; please remember that our February meeting in on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, and is being held at The Country Club of Whispering Pines.** Meeting announcements including a map have been provided by email.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Legg

2023 DUES are now Past Due!



If you wish to pay online visit our home page, www.mcrmc.club and click on pay dues now. If you pay online you will be charged \$31.59. The additional \$1.59 covers PayPal processing fees. You can also pay your \$30.00 dues in person at our luncheon or mail a PERSONAL check payable to MCRMC to MCRMC, P.O. Box 1812, Southern Pines, NC 28388.

After the February meeting, those who have not paid dues for this year will begin to receive email and/or US mail notices. Let me know if you get a notice and have any questions or think you have already paid.

Beginning balance January 1, 2023	\$16,670
Contributions received in January	2,102
Disbursements made in January	712

Ending balance January 31, 2023 \$18,060

Money quote of the month from a Washington Post word contest:

"Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a refund from the IRS, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with."

Luncheon Meeting News – February Mike Freidel, Lunch Admn & EC Member



This is a new chapter in the history of our monthly luncheons. We are now going to hold our meetings at the Country Club of Whispering Pines. For our first luncheon we will be serving Tossed

Salad, Beef Chili, Pulled Pork & Beans, Mac-n-Cheese, and Coleslaw. For dessert we will have Apple Dessert or Banana Pudding. But the most exciting news is that the cost will only be \$25, a savings of \$5.

So, I invite everyone, especially those who have not attended a luncheon recently, to come out and check out our new location and then let me know what your thoughts are. You can share your thoughts by emailing me at mefreidelsr@gmail.com.

God Bless,

Mike

Program News – February By Wayne Boyles – VP Programs

Our program for this month brings one of the leaders of the North Carolina General Assembly, House Speaker Tim Moore. While Speaker Moore has been a speaker at a past meeting, it has been years and many issues ago. We are all looking forward to his presentation and getting up to date on the legislative issues that are being addressed in Raleigh. I imagine that we will see a spirited question and answer period during and/or after Speaker Moore's presentation.



Speaker Moore represents District 111 which is in south central North Carolina just west of Charlotte just above the South Carolina border. He has served 11 two-year terms in the NC House. There are 120 NC House Representatives. As Speaker, his duties include maintaining order in the House and appointing members to committees. Speaker Moore serves on the following Committees: Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Legislative Research Commission, and the Legislative Services Commission.

I encourage all of our members to attend so you can get a current update on what our State General Assembly is doing and the plans for North Carolina's future on the many issues facing our Representatives. Those who are reading this on email can register to attend at our club website, www.mcrmc.club. Reservations are required and must be made by no later than Sunday, February 5 at 6:00pm.

As a reminder, please note that our meeting is on Wednesday, February 8 at the Whispering Pines

Country Club. For those reading this in email, you can click in the following to view a map showing the way to Whispering Pines County Club:

[Map / Directions](#)

I hope to see you there!

2023 Executive Officer Comments:

(Editor's Note: Starting with this first newsletter issue of 2023 and each issue for the year, we are asking our Executive Committee members to submit an article for publication. The articles can be about the club, current events, opinion, comment on political issues, and, or anything else that they may feel would be of interest to the membership.)

Past President's Report – Tom Adams

Lately, due to events in Memphis and elsewhere we hear a lot about a need "to have a conversation."



A remarkable conversation occurred by the leadership of the Moore County GOP. Our Executive Committee held a special called meeting on Saturday morning, January 28th. We had 17 voting members to attend the meeting, a number of elected officials, who can speak but not vote and a number of others who were also allowed to speak but not vote.

The meeting was called to discuss accountability of our elected officials, particularly at the state and federal levels. In particular almost all of us had been concerned with the voting record of US Senator Thom Tillis, whose record hovers around 70% in conservative analysis. There is a feeling that Moore County and our Republican voters are sometimes forgotten based on votes they take on some issues, for example, the Senator's vote on the recent Marriage Act.

School Board member David Hensley asked GOP Chair Tom Beddow to "have a conversation" about, in particular Senator Tillis voting record, and consider an action to express our discontent with that record. Chair Beddow and the other officers broadened the conversation to talk about what we need to do to fairly judge voting records and elect individuals to office who will vote our conservative philosophy.

The Executive Committee debated these issues for nearly three hours before Moore Republican Women's member Linda Summerall made a motion to (paraphrasing) that the Chair and Vice Chair contact Senator Tillis and express our unhappiness with past votes and concern that he consult with his base on future issues, such as illegal immigration. Ideally, we will have an opportunity to have a face to face meeting with him soon. The motion passed with 11 affirmative votes from the 19 voting members who were present.

There were those who still wanted to censure the Senator and a motion was made by Moore Republican Men's Club member Steve Woodard to present the Senator with a motion of Censure. That motion received only 5 votes and was defeated.

So what was good about this conversation and these votes? Hensley and others were given an opportunity to talk through the issues, they were heard in an open session in a room full of their peers. On this issue the majority of those peers showed justifiable concerns with the Senator's voting record but elected a less confrontational method than censure to try and effect a change. Thoughtful comments were made by many, Wayne Boyles, Ms. Summerall, Sen. Tom McInnis, Hensley and Steve Woodard to name a few, with opposing opinions.

So, congratulations to us. Our Chairman and the officers put the issues out there for us to debate, most of the voting members of the Executive Committee attended and participated in the debate and we reached a conclusion that let us go forward. Thanks to Tom Beddow and Bill Demastus for allowing the debate and to all who gave their time to participate. While not everyone got what they thought best; This was a conversation that worked.

Robert Bortins – EC Member at Large

For this month's update, I would like to alert you to two conservative groups that you may not be aware of that are doing great work behind the scenes.



This past month I was able to meet with Russ Vaught, former Trump cabinet member and an influencer of the 20 patriots who helped keep Speaker McCarthy on the straight and narrow. He is now running the [Center for Renewing America](#). He applauded the work of Dan Bishop, who is a true conservative champion. He is hopeful

the House GOP will be able to do a lot of good these next two years and believes the work to get the Church committee established is going to be key to that oversight success.

I also meet with Tom Jones who runs [the American Accountability Foundation](#), they dig up a lot of the policy details on Biden's nominees and their former papers and have done the opposition research to stop some of his worse nominees. He is also tied into the freedom caucus and what I didn't know was that there are nearly 10 states with chartered freedom caucuses in the state legislators and growing. We need a strong bench of conservatives in the states if we are going to turn this ship around.

Last month at the meeting we had a question about if we were looking at the ESA scores of companies that were being recruited to Moore County. As Elon Musk put it [the "S" stands for Satanic](#). So if we are, hopefully, it is to weed out any that are championing those standards out of our county.

It is a little embarrassing to start with a correction, but last month I pointed out that we are subsidizing democrat-leaning companies to come to our state, which is accurate, but I did confuse the USGA and PGA in last month's newsletter. The USGA does not have political donations that are available to be seen online, so I don't know where they stand, contrary to last month's update which references the PGA donations. My apologies to those at the USGA.

Newsletter Information:



This, and future issues of the newsletter are being posted on the Club Website, www.MCRMC.club. 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

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-of-elections/elected%20officials%202022.03.03.pdf>



Tom Beddow, Chairman of the Moore County GOP



For those reading this in an email, it is not too late to buy tickets to the Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Speaker Series this Sunday, February 5th. See the following for more information:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

An Afternoon with the Heritage Foundation

featuring updates from one of the nation's leading public think tanks and a presentation on our southern border crisis by Mike Howell, director of the Heritage Oversight Project.



The program will highlight an in-depth presentation about the border crisis including discussion of its facilitators, past and current governmental policies, and state and national effects. and will occur at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 5, at The Bradshaw Performing Arts Center at Sandhills Community College.

Mike's primary focus has been on the border crisis including examination of the non-governmental organizations that are facilitating illegal immigration as well as cartel-led human trafficking and drug smuggling. He will discuss his investigative work, present an insightful assessment of the current crisis, and take audience questions.

The program will begin at 2:30 p.m. with an overview of the Heritage Foundation's broad scope of work and wide-ranging influence upon policymakers in Washington and will be followed by Mike Howell's presentation on the border crisis. The event will conclude with a reception at which attendees can chat informally with Mike and other Heritage colleagues who will be present.

Tickets are \$50 each and seating for this event is general admission **To buy tickets, go to:**

<https://ticketmesandhills.com/events/an-afternoon-with-the-heritage-foundation-a-deep-dive-on-the-southern-border-crisis-2-5-2023>

We hope to see you there!

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Precinct meetings are being held at the Moore County GOP Headquarters. Following is the schedule:

- Pinehurst A1, Pinehurst A2: Saturday, February 11, 10 am - Noon
- Pinehurst B2, Pinehurst C, Seven Lakes, Taylortown, Westmoore: Saturday, February 11, 1 pm - 3 pm
- Pinehurst B1, Bensalem, Cameron, DHR, Robbins: Saturday, February 18, 10:00 am to noon
- Eureka-Whispering Pines, Carthage: Sunday, February 12, 2 pm - 4 pm
- East Aberdeen, North Southern Pines, Pinebluff, Pinedene, South Southern Pines, West Aberdeen: Saturday, February 18, 1 pm - 3 pm
- Eastwood, East Knollwood, Little River, Vass, West End, West Knollwood: Sunday, February 19, 2 pm

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On the HOME page, scroll down to the bottom and you will see a form to complete to be added to our County GOP newsletter. Complete the form and be sure to include you email address. When you have completed the form, click on the button:

[Subscribe](#)

To stay current on GOP happenings in Moore County and to get information on GOP news and other happenings throughout the state and elsewhere, visit our website at: www.mooregop.com at least on a weekly basis.

Moore County Republican Women News:



Maureen
Zumwalt
President



February is Precinct Time

February may be for love, but it is also Precinct Time. Just when it seems that absolutely nothing is going on in the political world, some of the most important activity is occurring. Moore GOP holds annual precinct meetings during the month of February. A lot of people have never been to a precinct meeting. There is a lot of confusion and misconceptions about precincts.

Precincts are the smallest subdivision of our political party. They are composed of Republicans in a neighborhood or a group of nearby neighborhoods. Each precinct has a chair, vice chair and secretary who are elected every other year and hold office for two years. This is an election year for precinct officials.

Precinct chairs have a voting seat on the Moore County GOP Executive Committee. This is a powerful vote, as the Executive Committee makes important decisions such as nominating candidates for vacancies in office, setting the GOP platform, shaping GOP policy and practices, voting on censure or other resolutions, and much more.

Precinct chairs also represent the action arm of the party by keeping their precinct members informed of issues and events, recruiting volunteers, hosting events, and campaigning. While a single precinct may be small, it is very strong and powerful.

If you want to Love Thy Neighbor this Valentine's Month, come meet them at your local precinct meetings. For convenience, meetings will be held at the Moore GOP Headquarters.

Maureen

Note: Dates and times for precinct meetings are listed in the Moore County GOP article above.



"Second Chance Prom"

A fundraiser for Moore
Republican Women

Saturday, February 25, 2023
7:00 - 10:00 PM
Freedom Hall

310 Keyser Street, Aberdeen, NC 28315

Cost: \$35.00 per person

Why "Second Chance?" It's a second chance to feel romantic and relive your youth; a second chance to be crowned king and queen; a second chance to just have a fun time with friends and drive away the winter blues!

More information and get tickets go to:

<https://secure.anedot.com/moore-republican-women/secondchance>

Tom Schroeder

Tom's News

*Moore County Conservative
News*

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Government

Numbers Skew Debate Over American
Inequality carolinajournal.com

Much of our political discourse involves the subject of inequality. Yet that discourse suffers from a lingering misconception. The federal government's own numbers make the situation worse.

"The problem is that the Census Bureau, in its calculation of household income — on which the poverty rate is based, on which inequality measures are based — counts only cash payments as income."

Those are the words of Phil Gramm. The 80-year-old economist represented Texas in both chambers of Congress. He served as both a Democrat and a Republican. He helped write the budget that implemented Ronald Reagan's economic program in 1981.

Now Gramm has co-authored "The Myth of

American Inequality: How Government Biases Policy Debate.” The book explains how the government’s data mislead people about the extent of American inequality.

It’s a problem that dates back to 1947. “They don’t count two-thirds of transfer payments as income to the recipient,” Gramm told *Carolina Journal* in a [one-on-one interview](#). “They don’t count any taxes paid as income lost to the taxpayer. They don’t count refundable tax credits, where you get a check from the Treasury.”

“Food stamps — when you get a debit card — [it’s] not counted as income,” Gramm added. “Medicaid — where government pays your hospital and medical bills — not counted as income.”

The same is true for housing subsidies, along with more than 100 other federal, state, and local programs.

Factor all of those missing pieces into your income calculation, and you see a much different picture of inequality. “Whereas the Census Bureau says the top 20% make 16.7 times as much — or has 16.7 times as much as income — as the bottom 20%, we show that actually it’s 4-to-1,” Gramm said. “The poverty rate is not 12%, but between 2-3%.”

Facts about household income contradict arguments from left-wing politicians like Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. He claims that growing inequality is “obscene and unsustainable.” “Inequality of income in America is actually slightly lower today than it was in 1947,” Gramm said.

“We’re having this big debate about remaking the economy to deal with inequality, when it’s actually lower today than it was 70 years ago. I know it’s incredible, but it’s true.”

The government’s calculations create an additional problem. Any new effort to address inequality is unlikely to make a dent in the official statistics.

“Do you remember last year, when President Biden and the Democratic leadership said that if we raised the child tax credit, we’re going to cut child poverty in half?” Gramm asked. “I wrote an article in the *Wall Street Journal* saying, ‘No, you’re not.’ In fact, when the official numbers came out — guess what? It didn’t really change. Why? Because they don’t count it.”

Other government data show just how much the household income figure distorts the real picture of inequality. While the Census Bureau compiles

household income by quintiles — top 20%, bottom 20%, and so on — the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates household consumption by quintiles.

“Last year, the bottom 20% of income earners consumed twice as much as their income,” Gramm said. “The second 20% consumed 11% more than their income. The top quintile consumed only half of its income, even though there’s no record that people saved that amount of money.”

“How did that happen? Well, they didn’t count two-thirds of the transfer payments as income, which affected their consumption,” Gramm explained. “And they didn’t take taxes into account, so the top quintile never had the money to begin with. It was deducted from their paychecks.”

Gramm and his co-authors are not arguing that American inequality doesn’t exist. They are correcting a record skewed by the government’s own number crunchers.

“We just want to get the facts straight,” Gramm said. “Let’s have a debate based on the facts, not based on numbers that don’t have any real connection to the facts. The census income number leaves out 40% of the gross domestic product of the country. That’s pretty astounding.”

“The debate when the inequality between the top and bottom 20% is 16.7-to-1 and the debate when it’s 4-to-1, you can still have the debate, but it’s a quite different debate,” he said.

Federal numbers present a story that’s more fantasy than reality. The facts tell a different tale. “The picture you get of America is a picture that makes more sense than the picture painted by government statistics,” Gramm said. “If you’ve got a question of whether to believe your eyes or government statistics, believe your eyes.”

Ongoing debates about inequality, tax policy, and the social safety net will all improve with a clear-eyed focus on facts.

Mitch Kokai is senior political analyst for the John Locke Foundation.

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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: www.resolvenc.blog (If reading this in the paper newsletter, type the link address in your web browser.)



20 + 1

By Steve Woodward

Although far too many Americans know nothing about our nation's history, we would not have one — a nation or a history — were it not for a determined collection of men, who might in another era have been celebrated for their intellect but were, because of the time in which they lived, best known for their courage.

The Founding Fathers. I suppose, today, we might encounter more than a few in academia who dismiss these men as racist white supremacists. They were indeed supreme. They envisioned a nation born of independence from tyranny — an idea that in that day was seen as ludicrous.

Here we are in 2023. History is repeating. Twenty members of the U.S. House of Representatives gathered their ranks, stood in the breach and, in the spirit of our founders, said, HELL NO!

It has been hilarious to watch cable TV morons calling out the “chaos” being imposed on our government because **20 Americans**, duly elected, decided to crush the status quo. Who elected them? Why were they elected? To carry out the will of citizens across the land who have no voice.

The 15 rounds of voting that resulted in Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) becoming Speaker of the House were not a side show, were not disruptive, were not scandalous. The Declaration of Independence was not etched with a rubber stamp. It was fought for by wise individuals who knew how to deliberate.

The “20” have restored the fight inside the corridors of power and in doing so honor our Founders. Among them was North Carolina's Dan Bishop, who represented Moore

County during his just concluded term and was elected to represent a different district (NC-08) in November.

During 11 rounds of voting for Speaker, Bishop stood firm against McCarthy. On January 5, Bishop (photo nearby) nominated young up-and-comer Rep. Byron Donalds (R-FL). After “the 20” squeezed McCarthy's camp on concession after concession to empower conservatives on key House committees, Bishop relented on the 12th vote and swung to McCarthy — but not without having the last word.



“Let me help my colleagues in the minority understand, we are doing the peoples' business,” Bishop said. “We are committed to (bring) change to this institution that has lost its way. It is epitomized in the \$1.7 trillion omnibus rammed through this institution just two weeks ago. Ladies and gentlemen, I came to fix this broken system.”

Challenges to McCarthy led by Reps. Lauren Boebert (CO), Matt Gaetz (FL) and Chip Roy (TX), among others, were not personal in nature. They were designed to restore order to the governing process and end the operation of the House as a “fiefdom”, as observed by Real America's Voice contributor Frank Gaffney.

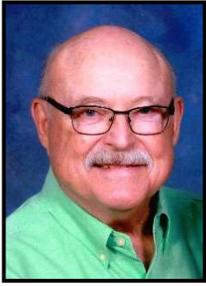
To prove that he is serious and was not merely caving under the intense scrutiny imposed by Freedom Caucus zealots (which are needed in greater supply), McCarthy now must shepherd through an extensive “**rules package**” that he agreed to preserve his ambitions to be Speaker. These are not ground breaking new rules that will remake the House but are, in fact, a return to fundamental tenets of governance. In other words, a complete denunciation of Pelosi-era iron fist rule.

Accepting his ascendancy to Speaker in the wee hours of January 7, McCarthy revealed that there was a 21st individual who helped sway the outcome. He also is known as 45. President Donald Trump. McCarthy said Trump influenced a scenario in which five others joined Florida's Gaetz in voting “present” on the 15th vote for Speaker, which lowered the number of votes McCarthy needed to prevail.

McCarthy praised Trump for being “with me from the beginning.” On that point the Speaker missed the point. It is more plausible to assume that Trump's artful dealing behind the scenes intended to defang McCarthy and impose rules on House conduct that will contain impulses among uni-party Republicans in Name Only (RINOs) to betray conservatism.

Seems that rumors of MAGA's death were greatly exaggerated.

Your Newsletter Editor – Paul Shaffer



Just a little history for those who are this far in reading the newsletter. This year, toward the end, I will have been a member of the MCRMC for 20 years. I was brought to a monthly luncheon meeting by my brother-in-law and joined that very day. I have been a regular attender since then and

can say without reservation that I have enjoyed virtually every meeting since.

During that almost 20 years I have had the honor to serve as a Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee, serve on the Moore County GOP Executive Committee, attend the Moore County GOP Convention, and serve as a delegate to the Republican Party State Convention. I was drafted to become the club Newsletter Editor and have been doing that for over 10 years.

I say all this for one reason only. That is, had someone not asked me to a meeting and then ask me to join, I likely would not have been involved for the last almost 20 years. I strongly encourage each member to find one like-minded conservative friend or relative and ask them to a luncheon meeting. Then, while you have them at your table, ask them to join our club. Help keep MCRMC the best and largest Republican Men's Club in North Carolina!

From Inside The Club – Our Members

John Rowerdink – Letter to The Pilot



I find it interesting that President Biden constantly uses the phrase “MAGA Republicans” to criticize Americans who disagree with him.

“MAGA,” of course, is an acronym for Making America Great Again.” Is he saying it's bad to want to make America great again?

From Outside The Club

(Editor's Note: See the following article and ask yourself as did I, is this where the DEMs want to go?)

Court Decides To Let Non-Citizens Vote

(NewsReady.com)
– The US Constitution prohibits non-citizens from voting in federal elections.



However, the founding document doesn't say anything about the local ones. That has led to some places passing measures allowing immigrants to cast ballots. A court recently issued a decision on one of those measures.

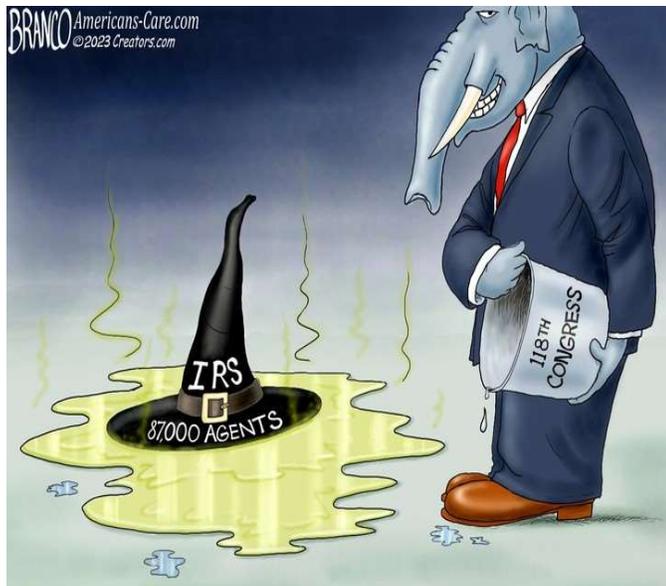
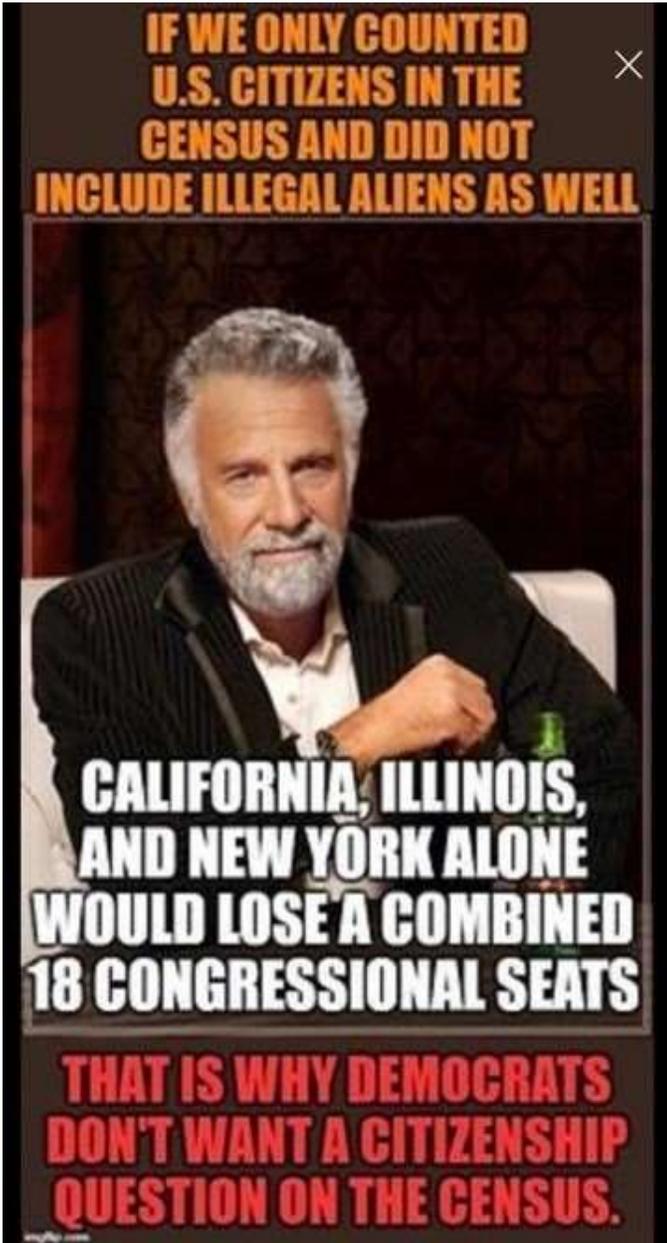
In 2021, Democrats in the Vermont legislature approved measures allowing noncitizens in Montpelier, the state capital, and Winooski to vote in municipal elections. Governor Phil Scott (R) vetoed the measures, but the legislature overrode him. On Friday, January 20, the Vermont Supreme Court upheld a lower court's verdict that dismissed a challenge to the measure allowing immigrants to vote.

The state's high court determined the statute allowing noncitizens to cast ballots did not violate the constitution because the provision in the state constitution requiring citizenship for voters doesn't apply to local elections.

Jack McCullough, the Montpelier City Council president, issued a statement reported by the [Associated Press](#) that said the city was “gratified” their decision to “welcome participation by all members of” the city was upheld by the court. He went on to say that he was going to continue working on getting noncitizens registered to vote so they can “fully participate in our democratic institutions.”

Vermont isn't the only state that has passed measures allowing immigrants to vote in local elections in recent years. Several towns in Maryland have also allowed it. New York is another one that allows noncitizens to vote.

In 2022, Justice Ralph J. Porzio, a New York State Supreme Court judge from Staten Island, [determined](#) a measure allowing noncitizens to vote on the island was unconstitutional. He explained that the law passed by the City Council violated the constitution, which required voters to be citizens only. In order to change the law, he said they would have to pass a referendum.



Reminder: Our February meeting is at the Country Club of Whispering Pine

Dues for 2023 can and should be paid now. They are \$30 payable by personal check to MCRMC with "2023 dues" in the memo line. Bring the check to the next meeting or mail it to MCRMC as noted following:

MCRMC, PO Box 1812
Southern Pines NC 28388

