



MOORE COUNTY, NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB

JANUARY 2023



In God We Trust

Visit www.mcrmc.club

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

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(continued next page left)

President's Message by John McLaughlin:



the Speakership position.

The past 24 hours (Friday and Saturday during the House Speaker vote) have shown us the good, bad and, ugly of Congressional Affairs in the US Congress. Republicans have looked divided and indecisive in the House Leadership role voting. But ultimately the framework provided by our forefathers allowed Kevin McCarthy to ascend to

The reporting today (Saturday, Jan. 7) verified that it took Donald Trump's input and influence with the Republican holdouts in the end to secure the win. His national media profile as the January 6 capital turmoil instigator has placed our party in a negative light with the general populous of America. But, ironically, he assisted in framework removing the potential of a Hakeem Jeffries led House of Representatives.

Elections and Party infighting are not a place for gentility. It is a "rough and tumble" exercise, and 2024 will be another barn burner! Let's always keep Ronald Reagan's 11th commandment in mind: "Thou shalt not speak ill of any fellow Republican."

Here in Moore County, we had great election results in 2022 due to the determination and work ethic of the Moore GOP. We were committed to good candidates, clear campaign visions, and thousands of hours of dedicated work at the precinct level. I would especially commend our Young Republican group led by Bradley Dick. They accept any task required including the dreaded phone bank assignment with a positive "CAN DO" attitude. They are our future and deserve our mentorship and praise. We also should continue to support our Moore County Board of Education as they return focus in our schools of traditional learning and remove any focus on WOKE agendas.

We are a club with 265 members as of January 1, 2023. Please consider becoming more involved through bringing new prospective members to visit with us at our monthly meetings. I will be calling on you to join our various committees. Please step up. (President's article continued on next page)

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COMMITTEES for 2023:

Membership, Communication & Publicity:

Todd Maness*

Finance:

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.

(President's message continued from front page)

I would like to propose a 2023 MRMC slogan coined by Walt Disney . *"The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing."*

Thanks for your efforts to strengthen the Moore County Republican Men's Club.

John

John McLaughlin, President

The Thursday, January 19th
meeting is at CCNC.

Registration starts at 11:30am,
lunch at noon, and the program
to follow. Plan to attend and
greet your fellow Republicans
with a "happy new year."

Let's Have
Lunch
TOGETHER

See V.P Programs Wayne Boyles' article about the program.

Meeting Day and Date 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. 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)

December Meeting Report

The December meeting was held at CCNC on



December 15th in the newly remodeled ballroom. Registration started at 11:30am

giving attendees time to meet, greet and offer Christmas wishes to other attendees. December continues the years long tradition of celebrating Christmas by having a special music program. For the past several years, the Pincrest High School has provided the music with the talented student joining the club members and their guests for lunch. Student Orchestra members, after setting up for their concert, disbursed in pairs to tables throughout the room so they could enjoy lunch before their performance.



At noon, as lunch was being served, President Tom



Adams took to the podium and called the meeting to order. He called outgoing Chaplain, Rev. Mike Dubbs forward to offer an opening prayer and bless the



Christmas lunch. Rev. Dubbs make a few short remarks about his service as the club Chaplain and about his replacement for next year, Rev. James Thyne. Dubbs joked about being asked to serve as Chaplain, thinking it was for one year, only to be standing at the lectern at this meeting many years later! Chaplain Dubbs offered a prayer for the club, its members and the work to be done then closed with a blessing of the meal.

Adams then asked all to stand as together everyone said the pledge of allegiance. Adams then introduced guest and other officials in attendance. He then asked



Jim Legg forward to give the Treasurer's report. Legg reported the starting balance, incoming revenue and expenses with the ending balance being over \$16,000. For a more detailed listing of the club finances, see Treasurer Legg's

article later in this newsletter. As the servers finished bringing lunch, Adams asked all to enjoy the meal and to look forward to our upcoming Christmas program.

As the attendees finished their meal, President Adams came to the lectern to announce several business items that would be done before the orchestra members returned to the front for the program. First, Adams asked Tom Beddow, Chair of the Moore County GOP, to come to the podium and give a report on the GOP activities. Beddow talked about the accomplishments of the GOP in Moore County and across the state. He announced that Mike Pompeo was scheduled to come in February to speak and advised all to watch for email and other media announcements for details.



Following Beddow's remarks, Adams asked Past President Bill Demastus forward to comment on his



service to the club for the past several years.

Demastus reflected on his time on the Executive Committee including two years as President and this last year as Past President. He thanked all for the help

he received, and for their work time spent helping the club on its many projects.

President Adams then announced that there were two Moore County Officers who had retired after many years of hard work and service. Both were in attendance and Adams said that both deserved both recognition for their service and should be honored for their accomplishments. Former Moore County Commissioner Tim Lea came forward and asked former Register of Deeds, Judy Martin to come forward. Lea talked about Martin's many years of service and his relationship with her as a Commissioner. Lea thanked Martin for hard work



and years of dedication. Martin then took the mike and thanked all for the recognition.

Next, Maureen Zumwalt came forward to talk

about and honor outgoing Moore County Clerk of Court, Susan Hicks. Maureen talked about how



Hicks came to Moore County and the many improvements that came about during her tenure. She honored Hicks and thanked her for the many years of service as the

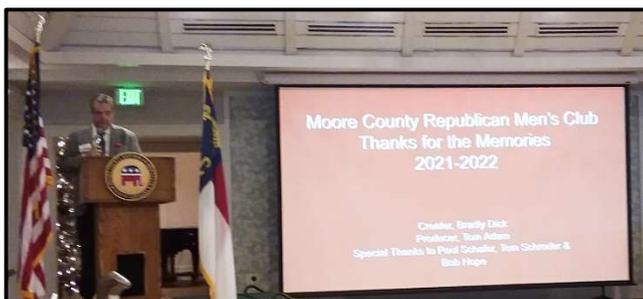
County Clerk. Hicks took the mike and expressed her appreciation for the support she received. She thanked all who were there and the many others not in attendance for them being there when needed. Both Martin and Hicks received resounding applause in recognition of their service.

Adams then asked incoming 2023 President, John McLaughlin, forward to be recognized and make a



few remarks. McLaughlin took the mike and talked about how he was humbled to follow the many former club Presidents and how he looked forward to taking the reins. He expressed his objectives of club growth going forward with an emphasis on bringing in new members. He intends to continue the past work of candidate support and asked all members to bring their conservative friends and neighbors to a future luncheon and ask them to join our Men's GOP club family.

After McLaughlin comments, Adams concluded with



a short slide show featuring pictures of people and events that happened during his two years a club President.

After the slide show, Adams brought the 2023



Executive Committee Officers forward to be sworn in. Judge Steve Bibey had them raise their right hand and then conducted the swearing in. After being sworn in, the 2023 officers receive a round of applause from the attendees.

Next, Adams asked V.P. Programs, Pat Haggerty to



come forward and talk about the Christmas program. Haggerty introduced the Pinecrest High School Orchestra Director, Madeline Birk. He then presented her with a token of our

appreciation, a check from the club for \$500. He mentioned that the Orchestra will be going to Nashville for an invitation only contest and said the club hoped the donation would help with travel expenses. Haggerty went on to explain that this special select group of Orchestra members have to audition to be part of the group and audition each year to stay in the orchestra. Most of the students will audition for and be part of an orchestra in college after they graduate from High School.

The Orchestra then played a selection of music that got all in attendance in the Christmas mood.



Following the Christmas concert, the meeting was adjourned with all leaving in a bright Christmas spirit.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Legg

**2023 DUES are now
Past Due!**



If you wish to pay online visit our home page, [Home | Republican Men's \(www.mcrmc.club\)](#) 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.

2022 FINANCIALS IN REVIEW

Beginning balance January 1, 2022	\$15,933
Contributions received in 2022	38,590
Disbursements made in 2022	37,829

Ending balance December 31, 2022	\$16,694
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Principal contributions are the annual golf tournament (\$28,255) and dues (\$8,275)

Principal disbursements are the annual golf tournament (\$14,428), contributions to political candidates (\$8,250) and support of GOP headquarters (\$6,000). In addition, the Club fulfilled commitments regarding the Reagan Dinner, LEO Hope for Recovery program, MCRWC Wreath's Across America program, published a monthly newsletter providing members with timely information regarding the political scene on the local, state and national level. Also, maintained miscellaneous Club operation expenses.

Money quote of the month by Zig Ziglar:

“Money isn't the most important thing in life, but it's reasonably close to oxygen on the ‘gotta have it’ scale.”

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

Hi everyone:

For the upcoming January 19, 2023, luncheon we will be serving Roasted

Let's Have
Lunch
TOGETHER

Chicken Crepes with Asparagus. For dessert we will have NY style cheesecake. Please remember that if you register for the luncheon and find out later that you need to cancel your reservation, please do it by 6 PM on Sunday January 15th. Otherwise, you will be required to pay the \$30 fee since we will be obligated to pay CCNC for your missed meal. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Now that we have had a few luncheons at the renovated CCNC facility I would like to hear from everyone what they like and dislike about CCNC. We will be negotiating with CCNC the 2023 price for meals during the next couple of weeks so it would be good to know what our members think. Please email me your thoughts, both good and bad. My email address is MEFREIDELSR@gmail.com.

As it stands now this is our luncheon schedule for 2023.

January	Thursday	19 th
February	Wednesday	8 th
March	Wednesday	8 th
April	Thursday	13 th
May	Wednesday	10 th
June	Wednesday	7 th
September	Wednesday	13 th
October	Wednesday	11 th
November	Wednesday	8 th
December	Wednesday	13 th

Please note that the June luncheon will probably be cancelled if we hold the annual golfing event.

I hope you did not have any issues making luncheon reservations. However, in the future if you have any issues with reservations or questions about the luncheon please call or email me:

Mike Freidel – Lunch Administrator
mefreidelsr@charter.net
(910) 722-6436

I look forward to seeing you at the January meeting.

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



January 2 – 4 were miserable days for those of us who love the Republican Party. The spectacle that played out in the US House of Representatives to elect a Speaker to lead our thin majority in the House was unbecoming a great political party.

I do not know Kevin McCarthy. On the surface he seems like a good man who served us well as Minority Leader during the long, sad years of Nancy Pelosi's Speakership. When the Republican Caucus voted on who they wanted to lead them for the next two years over 85% voted for McCarthy. He was endorsed by both Senate Leader Mitch McConnell and former President Donald Trump. Obviously, something is there that everyone should be able to like.

But no. A rump group of twenty of our elected representatives have spent these early January days holding up McCarthy's election and putting our agenda in jeopardy. Watching the action (or lack of it) on Fox News we have witnessed democrat members of congress laughing, yes literally laughing, at Republican's failure to coalesce around McCarthy and get to work.

We need to get this done and start making the country whole again while making democrat officials face their failures of the last two years. Let the Republican House lead the battle to eradicate inflation, halt the trillion dollar slew of spending bills, plug the border, all while looking into the Biden family business, you know the list. Do the important things. Work with the Speaker. Make it happen.

As I sit here I wonder if maybe this is retribution for our national party's failure to create the red wave we expected in the last election (North Carolina excepted). Ronald Reagan taught us never to say ill about another Republican. Our party's members in the House of Representatives need to live that admonition.

As I assume my seat on the back bench I want to extend my very best to John McLaughlin as he assumes the leadership of our club. Our families have been friends for over six decades. Leadership is in John's genes. I have no doubt he will take the club to new heights starting now.

Charles Webb – EC Member-At-Large

I, Charles S. Webb III, am pleased to be elected to the Executive Committee of the Moore County Republican Men's Club. I have done 65 years of service to the Republican Party as well as serviced my country and government.



My political and government services involved 4 years as Assistant Attorney General of New York State. Legislative Counsel to the Speaker of the NY State assembly for 10 years. Republican Counsel to the New York City Board of Elections for 12 years and Campaign Chairman for elective offices in New York for 20 years.

I would like to see the MCRMC take positive public positions regarding corrections and additions to the election process and election law. Issues that could be addressed are early voting, mail-in-ballots, voters ID and same day registration. All of these issues permit voter fraud.

Robert Bortins – EC Member at Large



In the lame-duck session congress betrayed us, sadly both our current GOP senators played along. I tell you do not be disheartened from doing good. 2024 is not that far away, and now is not the time to stop moving our movement forward. We need to

help change conservatives' attitudes on voting early so that we are not hoping for good weather to win, as long as those laws are in place (we need to put in better and more secure laws) we have to play by the rules of the game. We need to register republicans to vote. The PGA HQ coming to Pinehurst will make it harder to win local elections, while they don't give a lot, it has been to democrats:

<https://www.opensecrets.org/political-action-committees-pacs/pga-tour/C00196428/summary/2022>. Apple, Amazon and etc coming to Raliegh will make it harder to win the state-wide elections. So, we must outwork the Socialists and outsmart them. Together we can continue to make Moore Country the leading example of how to get things done and how to win elections for other groups around the state and country.

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 County Board of Elections Website:



<https://www.moorecountync.gov/images/departments/board-of-elections/elected%20officials%202022.03.03.pdf>

**Program News – January
By Wayne Boyles – VP Programs**

This month we will have Natalie Hawkins, Executive Director, Moore County Partners in Progress. She will speak to economic development in Moore County. You will not want to miss this event.



If you have not registered for this luncheon, please do. I hope to see you there and Happy New Year.

Moore County GOP News



Tom Beddow, Chairman of the Moore County GOP



Happy New Year to all from the Moore County GOP. We are starting the year strong, working with the Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Speakers Series. I encourage you to look at our MC GOP website: <https://www.mooregop.com/> for

information about this and other important events coming up this year. The website is ever-changing so you should bookmark it in your web browser and visit at least weekly. Following is information about the Holshouser event mention above:

**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

BUY TICKETS NOW
[CLICK HERE](#)

All events are held at the Bradshaw Performing Arts Center located on the campus of Sandhills Community College

Moore County Republican Women News:



Maureen
Zumwalt
President



**New year, new resolution:
No time to rest on our
laurels**

Now that we've had a
chance to celebrate our

Moore County and North Carolina mid-term
victories, and ruminate over seemingly unfathomable
losses in other states, it's time to get back to work.

What?! Isn't 2023 an off year with nothing but
municipal elections?

Yes and No.

There are 34 municipal seats up for grabs in Moore
County in 2023. Arguably, municipalities have more
impact on our daily lives by regulating the use of our
property and providing (or not) municipal services
such as trash pick-up, recreational opportunities, and
fire and police services. Short term rentals, outdoor
lighting, and the fate of the traffic circle are but a few
of the important issues that are in the hands of
municipalities, not the State Legislature, Congress or
the President.

We saw a nearly two-year lead time in campaigning
in our recent successful sweep of statewide judicial
races. So, it comes as no surprise that candidates are
already announcing their intentions for statewide
2024 races. And there are plenty more potential
candidates who are publicly flirting with the idea of
running. By next Christmas, the brief window of
candidate filing will be closed.

In January 2024, voters can request absentee ballots
for the Presidential primary, with One Stop Voting
beginning in mid-February. Like smart shoppers
hunting now for after-Christmas sales, smart
candidates are planning ahead.

Let's be smart, too, and embrace the long game. The
work that we put into candidates and causes now are
building blocks for the big prize in 2024 – a return to
conservative values in the White House.

Maureen

Wreaths Across America

Many thanks to the MRW members, associates and
friends who helped us lay wreaths at the Sandhills
Veterans Cemetery on December 17. It was a moving
and rewarding experience for all! MRW members
purchased 560 wreaths to ensure that no veteran's
grave was left bare. In fact, there are over 8,000
graves at this cemetery, and all received a wreath and
heartfelt gratitude. Many thanks to Mariann Benway
for spearheading this big project!

To learn more about the MRW and keep informed
about news, events and activity, visit the MRW
website: <https://www.mrwnc.org/>

Tom Schroeder

Tom's News
Moore County Conservative
News

Thomas Schroeder
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Tom's Thoughts

More Like This Seen Everyday!

I am not making a judgment on their vote. What I am
making a judgment on is the GOP's apparent lack of
explanation as to why these 18 Republican US
Senators thought that this was an appropriate
action. Much of the Republican/conservative voting
public is confused and angry simply because they
do not understand why this happened.

If anyone has direct knowledge of why these 18
Republican US Senators voted in favor of this bill
please let me know so that I can let others know.
Note, I am not asking for opinions - just direct
quotable knowledge as to why 18 US Senators voted
for this \$1.7 Trillion spending bill.

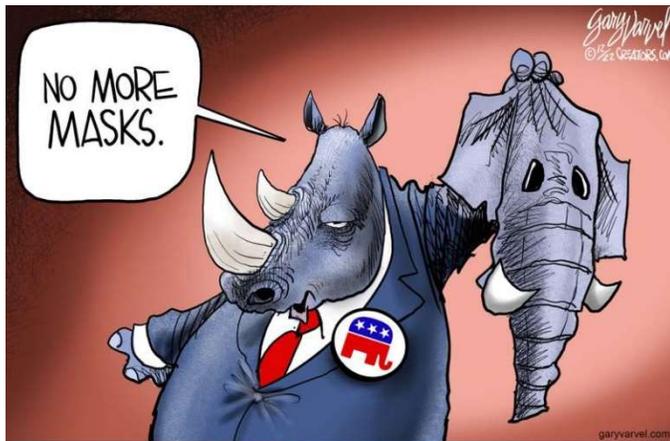
If it is because they got a lot of "pork" for their
districts by doing so, I am not sure that answer will
do much in changing people's opinions.
(Personally, if it was for the "pork, I don't believe
that would be an ethically or morally good reason
and the GOP management should be held
accountable for not taking action the correct action.)

If there is no public explanation out there then I
would expect to see more and more memes much
like this. Voters are angry and it doesn't seem to be
going away.

Just my thoughts!!

See the Meme Below for More Details.

More Like This Seen Everyday!



18 GOP SENATORS VOTED FOR \$1.7 TRILLION SPENDING BILL

Tom's News
Pinehurst NC
Thomas Schroeder
email: comment@tomsnews.mozmail.com
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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.resolvecnc.blog (If reading this in the paper newsletter, type the link address in your web browser.)

Two years later

By Steve Woodward

While generally skeptical about so-called resolutions prompted by one month bleeding into another, I nonetheless resolve to torment hypocrites and Marxists (Democrats) as never before in 2023.

What other choice do we have? Anthony Fauci is retiring but his legacy — gain-of-function, fear, masking, boosters — is not going away. In fact, it is going to places heretofore un contemplated. Vaccinated sheep (citizens) we are told now are *more vulnerable* to



upcoming “variants” of the Wuhan virus. And pay no attention to vaccinated healthy young adults becoming ill or dying “suddenly”.

The blank canvas that is 2023 should not be frittered away at the hands of status quo Republicans. The battle in the U.S. House of Representatives to name its speaker reinforces a pressing need to deflect establishment forces. Our Founding Fathers did not create their framework to limit conflict within a party; they envisioned a battlefield upon which bold ideas and deep passion would overwhelm hypocrisy and political fraudsters.

Were we to summon a fraction of the determination that drove the Founders just think what we might accomplish. Locally, we would create a coalition to insure that a drag show never would darken our community again. We would direct our school board to eradicate gender grooming and race theory from public education. And we would challenge our county commissioners to marginalize the county board of health — over which it presides — so that it never again intrudes on public education by recommending school closures, masking and subjecting children to experimental mRNA injections.

But we also must stand resolute against purveyors of revisionist history as we approach the second anniversary of the unity rally of January 6 in Washington, where your correspondent traveled to chronicle what would unfold. We know many brothers and sisters who came and went without so much as raising their voices an octave, while raising objections that D.C. government chose to limit rest facilities apparently in an effort to disperse the “mobs” of seniors, families and young Republicans. The choice was clear: urination or defend the nation.

Apart from the planted, scripted disrupters who raged into the Capitol two years ago, those who merely showed up are now, two years on, still sobered by what our nation looked like after the crowds went home and the Biden Administration ascended. Where we are in 2023 affirms that our motivation to assemble in Washington on that fateful January day in 2021 was prescient.

To the extent that a few hundred people swelled into the Capitol we now see how that modest demonstration pales in comparison to the trampling and burning down of societal norms in the aftermath. We might ask, where was the outrage on that January afternoon amid news that the lone fatality was an unarmed military veteran (Ashli Babbitt) who was gunned down in cold blood by a Capitol police officer? Why does January 6 merit a “commission”? Where are the commissions denouncing violence on America’s streets that, by comparison, make that citizens’ rally look like a county fair? Innocents who participated that day still rot in D.C. jail cells charged with taking selfies. But who was doing the plundering of our democracy in reality? Facebook and Twitter, of course. When will those

digital accomplices be shackled and sent away?

Two years on, the Left is waging its own insurrection. Look no further than an essay I endured in a recent, Dec. 31-Jan. 1 weekend edition of *The Wall Street Journal*. It is worth noting that, in order to fill up the sections in weekend Journals, editors give voice to authors who would prefer to be published in *The New York Times*. The *Journal* helps them audition.

Zachary Karabell, who is the founder of the ominously named Progress Network, wrote to praise 2022 as a year in which “far more went right ... than most of us recognize”. One can only imagine from which penthouse or city brownstone the author was perched as he typed fervently to remind us that 2022 was the year “climate technology was supercharged” by \$400 billion allocated through Biden’s absurd Inflation Reduction Act. (In China, the equivalent would be the Oppression Reduction Edict).

Mr. Karabell is positively giddy in reminding readers that voter suppression laws failed (but misses the point that no such laws existed). Without a hint of irony, he claims “voters surged to the polls in (2022) despite fears (expressed only by left wing media) that laws passed in states such as Georgia and Texas would lead to voter suppression.”

The illogical Mr. Karabell goes on in his rambling essay to praise wage gains for citizens he disparages as “workers” — up by 6% in 2022 — “that *did not* (emphasis added) for most of the year keep pace with inflation.” Not to worry, he writes, “inflation moderates”. Just as urban crime waves sweeping our nation moderate. Some nights are less deadly than others.

2022 was a train wreck but, apparently, Mr. Karabell blissfully travelled on a parallel track.

The reliably moderate Gerard Baker, in his weekly *Journal* column, tried to ease into a new year by calling for an ideological truce. “Can we start to work to eradicate the binary mind-set that has seized our thinking about the kind of society and world we think we should live in?” Baker asks.

He answers his own question near the end of the column — as if the more he kept typing the more he was talking himself out of the premise. (As editor emeritus, Baker should impulsively have sent the column back for a re-write).

Baker continues: herein is “the great conundrum for the more skeptical among us: Advances in the lot of humanity have rarely come from calls for moderation and humility, but from true believers — zealots who convinced enough people that the choice they faced really was a binary one between good and evil.”

Citizens who endure wages ravaged by bad economic policy, and law and order dysfunction driven by the

“woke”, deserve our fierce defense of their liberties, no matter the cost.

If parents with children in government run indoctrination centers (schools) must become zealots to reform the system, let them do so boldly. If mechanical ballot tabulation presents a binary choice between integrity and fraud, we must go full binary to expose the Left. If U.S. border security is de-emphasized even as Ukrainian border security is funded by an American Congress to the tune of \$100 billion; if medical tyranny advanced by thinly veiled lies threatens livelihoods, mental health and the well-being of healthy young adults; if we observe the normalization of transgenderism and the rejection of Judeo-Christian values in our communities; if the very foundation of American exceptionalism is crumbling under the iron boot of the Left’s Great Reset in pursuit of a one-world order; well, then what?

With grudging apologies to Mr. Baker, the task is not to eradicate a mind-set. The task is to eradicate enemies within.

Your Newsletter Editor – Paul Shaffer



Let me start by adding my “Happy New Year” to the many others in this newsletter and from your friends, relatives, and neighbors. May 2023 bring you personal peace, goodness, and prosperity. Also, may this new year bring our nation some rational governance.

With that said, let me set the stage for the newsletters for the rest of this year. I would like, in fact strongly request, all members consider sending me your articles for inclusion in future issues. Other members would like to hear your thoughts and comments about current issues, political matters, and recommendations on what we should be doing to improve government at all levels. I will consider your articles for publication on most any issue. I do, however, reserve the right to not publish any article that, as Editor, I judge to be inappropriate for publication. If you wish to send in an article, just email it to me; formatting is not an issue, just put in your thoughts and I will do the formatting. I will attempt to make any needed spelling corrections and do other corrections to the best of my ability. Finally, if you want a picture to go along with your article, just include one in jpg format. Submissions for any issue should be to me no later than the first day of the

month that you want to be published. I look forward to getting your articles.

I cannot let this issue go to press without a few of my own words about the Republican debacle in electing a Speaker of the House. I am not concerned that it took more than one vote. There was some needed debate and the process followed what our founders set forth when setting up our form of government. However, it seems to me that much of the discussion could and should have taken place outside of the public eye in advance. Further, there was plenty of time last fall for closed door meetings and one-on-one discussions to occur and resolve issues in advance. We, the GOP, suffered some level of public stain that I believe could have been prevented. Let's hope we can find a way to do better in the future. Having said that, it is now over, and we have our House leadership in place. Let's all jump on the proverbial "bandwagon" and give Speaker McCarthy our support.

Hope to see you on January 19th at our first meeting of the new year!

From Inside the Club – Our Members

Steve Woodward Letter to The Pilot

December 6

Reform Message Resonated:

Fortunately, The Pilot's headquarters occupy a one-story building or Democrats would be on the street, urging Nagy and Co. to step away from the ledges. But first, attend to your hair. It's on fire.

Let the record show that only one week passed before The Pilot launched into revisionist history to explain how voters reacted to this year's school board races. The winning candidates correctly pointed to failing C-, D- and F-rated schools in Moore County, tied to, among other variables, horrendous shortcomings in math and reading proficiencies. They also hammered away on waning discipline and undermanned security on school campuses.

One thing The Pilot was right about: These are "national" issues, reflecting lowered standards that have been accepted for many years, and fell even further during ill-advised pandemic school closures and the farce known as "virtual learning."



As for the complaint about campaign signs that align with core values (parenting, Christianity, military service), perhaps The Pilot soon will be calling for equal time for socialists, drag queens and drug dealers.

The winning candidates' messages resonated with voters leading to Nov. 8 because they focused on a dire need for public education reform. As board members, they will begin that reform process on day one.

Connie Lovel Letter to The Pilot – Dec 17

Letter: A Grave Disservice

On Dec. 3, Moore County joined the rest of America in fear and in loathing. A crazy person shot up the substations and disabled our power grid.

Officials have long anticipated a terrorist attack on our infrastructure, but little protection has been implemented.



The loathing part started immediately when a Facebook post insinuated that this attack was tied to people protesting the Downtown Divas drag show in Southern Pines.

The Pilot legitimized this notion in the Dec. 7 editorial and Mr. Bouser confirmed it in his adjacent column. No matter that the sheriff, the FBI and SBI have not disclosed information about who perpetrated this act of terrorism.

Hopefully, when this letter appears in The Pilot, the criminal that did this will be identified and incarcerated. His part in this awful play will be over, but the seal has been broken.

Irreparable damage has been done by the editors of The Pilot. Imputing that this act was tied to a group of people protesting a transgender stage show will remain a bitter affront in the county long after the lights come on.

Sheriff Fields has done a great service to the citizens of Moore County by refusing to inflame the situation with conjecture. The Pilot has caused harm to our communities by engaging in gossip and irresponsible speculation.

A message from Pauline Bruno



If your New Year's Resolutions will include "Make the world a better place in some small way," here's how you can do it: Become a reading volunteer in the

Moore County School system!

As one of the newly elected School Board members, I am looking for creative ways we can improve reading ability and comprehension throughout our schools. And YOU can help by reading to or with students who are struggling.

- You can volunteer whenever you're available.
- You must fill out a form, and a background check will be conducted, but no fingerprints are required.
- You can choose the school nearest you or be assigned where needed.

Thank you for being a grandma, aunt, Mom, or friend to these kids. We need to get them started off better in their lives - and READING is key to all their future success!

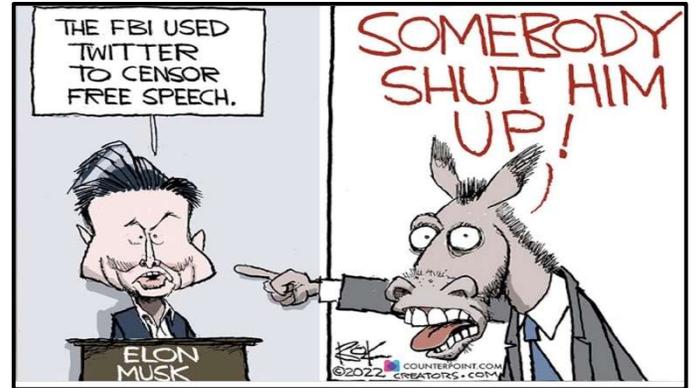
If interested, please contact me as soon as possible by replying to this email: pbruno46@gmail.com



Resolve to make a difference!

Thank you,
Pauline

From Outside The Club



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

