

BARROW REPUBLICAN NEWS

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2016
BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
P.O. BOX 1054 WINDER, GA 30680-1054

MEETINGS

Our Next Regular Meeting – Mon., June 20 7:30 PM
@ Winder Woman’s Club (behind Winder Fire Dept.)
Winder City Council Meeting – Tue., July 5 **6:00 PM**
Barrow School Board Meeting – Tue., July 5 **6:00 PM**
Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., July 7 **6:00 PM**
Bethlehem City Council Meeting – Mon., July 11 7:00 PM
County Commission Meeting – Tue., July 12 7:00 PM
Statham City Council Meeting – Tue., July 19 7:00 PM
Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., July 21 **6:00 PM**
Carl Town Council Meeting – Thur., July 21 7:00 PM
County Commission Meeting – Tue., July 26 7:00 PM

VOTING MEMBERS – COUNTY COMMITTEE (27)

Ken Young – Chr.	Lucretia Hughes	Kathy Hopkins
Mike Pentecost – 1 st VC	David Gunter	Teeny Allison
Leonard Koonce – 2 nd VC	Richard Pepper	Sara Pepper
Mark Staley – Sec.	June Miller	Julia Bridges
Terry Raber – Asst. Sec.	Cal Neff	Tim Walker
Clay Kelley – Tr.	Charles Powell	Jimmy Lomax
Bob Lanham – Asst. Tr.	John Reavis	Linda Reavis
John Stevens	Lynn Stevens	Marty Rahinsky
DuWayne Anderson	Dennis Hevener	Fe Hevener

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Ken Young	770-867-5748
	email: kenyoung276@hotmail.com	
First Vice-Chair	Mike Pentecost	770-867-3775
	email: MCPWinder@aol.com	
Second Vice-Chair	Leonard Koonce	706-351-7441
	email: lkoonce1967@gmail.com	
Secretary	Mark Staley	770-539-0976
	email: staley93@hotmail.com	
Asst. Secretary	Terry Raber	678-492-6792
	email: terryraber.lcm@comcast.net	
Treasurer	Clay Kelley	770-560-4523
	email: BKCONSLT@comcast.net	
Asst. Treasurer	Bob Lanham	770-867-5459
	email: lanhamrj@hotmail.com	
C.C. Dist. 1 Rep.	Richard Pepper	770-725-2777
C.C. Dist. 2 Rep.	DuWayne Anderson	404-285-0978
C.C. Dist. 3 Rep.	Cal Neff	770-307-4699
C.C. Dist. 4 Rep.	David Gunter	678-425-4127
C.C. Dist. 5 Rep.	Marty Rahinsky	770-868-8919
C.C. Dist. 6 Rep.	June Miller	770-867-5932

Barrow 10th District Rep. DuWayne Anderson

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Reg. \$ 15, Adv. \$ 25, Barrow 100 \$ 100, Barrow 360 \$ 360

LOCAL ELECTED REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTED TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP!

7:30 PM

June 20, 2016

STATE SEN. FRANK GINN
STEVEN QUINN, STUDENTSFIRST GEORGIA

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MEMBERSHIP COMPARISON (as of 5/31/16)

Membership	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16
Regular	56	48	46	44	63	39	36	26	27
Advanced	75	68	58	59	71	59	41	55	54
Barrow 100	13	17	16	17	13	8	13	7	9
Barrow 360	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Students					4	3	2	2	1
Total	144	134	121	121	152	110	92	91	92
Renewals	106	113	105	112	101	95	82	85	74
New	38	21	16	9	51	15	10	6	18

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www.barrowgop.org

ANNUAL BARROW GOP BBQ

5:00 PM - SATURDAY - AUGUST 27, 2016
WINDER LIONS CLUB - 354 E. BROAD ST.

U.S. REP. JODY HICE & OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADULTS - \$ 15.00 AGES 6-12 - \$ 7.50
AGE 5 & UNDER - FREE

CONTACT KEN YOUNG
FOR TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION
SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

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REPUBLICAN: THE FREEDOM PARTY
LOWER TAXES *** LIMITED GOVERNMENT**
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 3-4 (Fri/Sat)	State Convention (Augusta)
June 20 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
July 18 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
July 18-21 (Mon-Thur)	National Convention
Aug 15 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Aug 27 (Sat)	Annual Barrow GOP BBQ
Sept 19 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Oct 17 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

D-Day – June 6 (Monday)
George H.W. Bush Birthday – June 12 (Sunday)
Flag Day – June 14 (Tuesday)
Independence Day – July 4 (Monday)
Calvin Coolidge Birthday – July 4 (Monday)
1st Official Meeting Republican Party – July 6 (Wednesday)
George W. Bush Birthday – July 6 (Wednesday)
Gerald Ford Birthday – July 14 (Thursday)
Natl Korean War Veterans Armistice Day – July 27 (Wed)

2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

C.J. Johnson Mark Still Debi Krause
Suzanne Angle Isaiah Berry Regina Quick
Tom Kirby

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2015 – 2017 BARROW PRECINCT CHAIRPERSONS

Bethlehem Community Center	Jimmy Lomax
Bethabra Baptist Church	Marty Rahinsky
Bramlett Elementary	John Stevens
Westside Middle School	Linda Powell
Statham Fire Dept.	Leonard Koonce
Holsenbeck Elementary	John Reavis
Lions Club	DuWayne Anderson
Barrow County Rec. Dept.	Bob Lanham
Apalachee High School	Kathy Hopkins
Winder Community Center	Terry Raber
County Line Elementary	June Miller
The Church at Winder	Cal Neff

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**YOU ARE INVITED
TO BREAKFAST!**

Everyone is invited to participate in a monthly political breakfast group. It is currently meeting at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Winder, on the Saturday following our monthly meeting. The next group breakfast will be Saturday, **June 25, 2016**, at 9:00 AM. Please make plans to attend, and bring a friend!

This is an informal group of conservatives who gather to eat, fellowship, and discuss the issues. This provides a chance for our members to meet, in addition to our monthly business meetings. It is a great way to recruit new members, and stay up on what’s going on.

**GOLDEN CORRAL - WINDER
SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016
9:00 AM**

FROM THE CHAIR

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2016. If you have not already renewed, please bring it to our **June 20** meeting, mail it to our P.O. Box 1054, Winder, GA, 30680-1054, or go on-line to our web site for a credit/debit purchase.

The State GOP Convention is Friday and Saturday, **June 3-4, 2016** in Augusta. We appreciate all of our 20 Delegates and 14 Alternates who will be making the trip to represent Barrow County. Elections for National Committeeman and National Committeewoman will take place, along with other important business.

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Congratulations to the Republican winners in our 2016 Primary Election on **May 24, 2016**. Fortunately, we will not need a Primary Run-Off in July. Most of our new nominees are unopposed in the General Election on **November 8, 2016**, and will take office next January. In addition to the races for President and U.S. Senate, we have 3 local races with Democrat opposition in November: Commission District 2 (Bill Brown – R), Commission District 3 (Roger Wehunt - R), and School Board District 6 (Rickey Bailey – R).

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We had a great meeting last month with great attendance. We heard from Maria Strollo Zack, candidate for Georgia RNC Committeewoman, and State Rep. Regina Quick. We also considered a proposed resolution opposing the National Popular Vote proposal which does an end-around the Electoral College. This resolution was passed unanimously. We also elected a new Asst. Secretary, Terry Raber, to fill that pen position.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, **June 20, 2016** at 7:30 PM in the Winder Woman’s Club. Our guest speakers will be our State Sen, Frank Ginn, and Steven Quinn of StudentsFirst Georgia. The latter will address the upcoming ballot amendment in the fall general election.

Be early for a good seat! Bring a friend. It will be worth your time. Make plans to attend!

Ken Young

ADDITIONAL LINKS

“The candidate’s character, the citizen’s call” – *AFA Journal* – Rob Chambers – April 2016 – www.afajournal.org/past-issues/2016/april/the-candidate-s-character-the-citizens-call/

“Rare Happy Political Story” – *Forbes* – Rich Karlgaard – February 29, 2016 – www.forbes.com/sites/richkarlgaard/2016/02/10/rare-happy-political-story/#7aache8f60bf

“How Does Young America’s Foundation Recruit Students?” – *Libertas* – Amy Lutz – Fall 2015 – https://issuu.com/young.americas.foundation/docs/libertas_36.2

GEORGIA AT THE INTERSECTION OF EDUCATION AND AGING

Kelly McCutchen, Georgia Public Policy Foundation

Georgia and the rest of the country are experiencing a significant demographic change: We're seeing more grandparents and children, with fewer folks in between.

The Census Bureau projects that Georgia's elderly population will nearly double between 2010 and 2030. Meanwhile, the number of children ages 5-17 is predicted to rise by 26 percent. This shift will place a serious strain on a decreasing percentage of working-age adults.

Georgia has one of the most generous retirement exclusions for income tax purposes in the nation (\$130,000 per couple) and, in most counties, those over 65 are exempted from school taxes. So Georgia's anticipated 1 million-plus increase of retirement-age residents will be particularly significant as state and local budgets struggle to provide quality health care services for the elderly and education for the young.

A report by Dr. Matt Ladner of the Foundation for Excellence in Education (ExcelinEd) addresses this demographic shift and examines how well Georgia is prepared for the coming storm. The report, "At the Intersection of Education & Aging: Baby Boomer Retirement, Student Enrollment Growth and the Future of Georgia Education." suggests how Georgia can prepare today's students to become the innovative and skilled citizens needed to overcome the challenges of tomorrow.

Preparing students for college and careers: Georgia and the rest of the world face the challenge of developing a modern workforce equipped to excel in 21st-century jobs. How well our schools prepare today's students for the challenges ahead will determine Georgia's fate.

Knowing that many young Georgians lack crucial skills, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal created the High Demand Career Initiative (HDCI). State partners involved in training Georgia's future workforce – primarily universities and technical colleges – hear directly from the private sector about degrees, certificates and skillsets needed for future jobs.

Expanding on this, ExcelinEd's report suggests awarding school bonuses for high school students earning college credit by exam and/or high-demand professional certifications. Florida has used this strategy successfully; Georgia could also greatly benefit.

For example, Florida ranked second in the nation on the overall increase in Advanced Placement passing rates between 2003 and 2013. And while passing is important, even students who take but fail AP exams show more persistence in college. In 2013, Georgia students took 523 AP exams per 1,000 junior and senior students, while Florida rate was 712.

Improving public schools: Governor Deal's Education Reform Commission reinforces Georgia's quest for bold and innovative ways to prepare students. Earlier this year, the group urged legislators to equitably fund charter schools, a desperately needed move; such facilities currently are excluded from most government capital funding programs.

In that vein, ExcelinEd's report recommends ways to turn around underperforming public schools through the creation of an Opportunity School District, reach more students with high-quality charter school options, and enhance academic achievement for students. Policies sparked by the Commission could be the beginning of the strategic change that will protect Georgia from the coming demographic "storm."

Offering Education Savings Accounts: Currently, just one in three of Georgia's special education students graduate from high school. ExcelinEd's report suggests Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) can address this troubling issue, offering Georgia parents the opportunity to select the best education for their child.

ESAs place the state dollars designated for a child's education into a special account that parents can use to cover the cost of customized learning. This allows parents to find the right courses, schools, programs and services to meet their child's unique learning needs.

In the coming years, Georgia will face a historic challenge. If policy-makers act *now* with innovative and visionary change, we can equip all students with a high-quality education at a price taxpayers can afford.

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"Norms of voting have changed over the last 200-plus years. Eighteenth-century elections were conducted at county seats by voice vote; the candidates themselves were often on hand to thank supporters, while hecklers jeered all who voted the wrong way. The secret ballot was a bulwark against both flattery and intimidation. But a recent innovation, in the name of convenience, risks undermining the process. Early voting, sometimes weeks in advance, insulates voters from last-minute developments and in primaries risks "orphaned" votes for candidates who subsequently drop out. Make Election Days as convenient as possible (e.g., with long hours to accommodate 9-to-5 workers). But keep voting an act that is both individual (private) and communal (roughly simultaneous). The laws that the winners will enact affect each of us, and all of us." (*National Review*)

"Isn't this ironic? A former Tax Court judge has been indicted for tax evasion. Diane Kroupa, who was a judge for 11 years, and her husband, a self-employed lobbyist and consultant, are facing criminal charges for fraudulently claiming personal expense and for obstructing two IRS audits. Among the items they're accused of deducting on Schedule C: Exotic vacations. Music lessons. Home renovation costs. Wine club fees. Personal clothing and jewelry. Also, Pilates classes, spa treatments and massages. And on audit, they tried to cover up their misdeeds, according to the authorities." (*Kiplinger Tax Letter*)

"Feminism was my religion," says Alexandra Kimball. But when Kimball, a freelance writer, miscarried in her mid 30s, she was startled to discover that 'feminism had nothing to say to me.': 'The more I considered it, the more I became convinced that the silence around miscarriage was connected to feminism's work around abortion. How could I grieve a thing that didn't exist? If a fetus is not meaningfully alive, if it is just a collection of cells – the cornerstone claim of the pro-choice movement – what does it mean to miscarry one?' Kimball's miscarriage and the months of a grief she could not explain form the subject of her powerful essay 'Unpregnant: The Silent, Secret Grief of miscarriage,' published in December in Canada's *Globe & Mail*. The essay is no anti-feminist screed, but reminds us that any ideology that insists on denying the truth will ultimately prove false to human experience." (*National Review*)

THE QUESTION IS: “PROGRESS TOWARD WHAT?”

Rob Jenkins, *Gwinnett Daily Post*

Perhaps you’ve noticed that I avoid referring to Leftists as “liberals,” a term that suggests open-mindedness and generosity. Not to be unkind, but those are not qualities I normally associate with the left, unless you count being generous with other people’s money.

Now leftists have begun calling themselves “progressives.” I suppose they think that sounds better than “socialists,” but it raises an obvious question: “Progress toward what?” Because if the goal is more freedom and prosperity for all, we’re certainly headed in the wrong direction.

Once upon a time, when someone questioned your actions, you might retort, “It’s a free country.” These days, I hesitate to make that claim. It’s not as free as it used to be.

That’s not just my opinion. According to the Legatum Institute, an international think-tank headquartered in London, the United States now ranks 21st in the world in terms of personal freedom. That represents a sharp decline from 2010, when we ranked ninth.

Another disturbing indicator comes to us from the international journalism organization, Reporters Without Borders – hardly a bunch of tea partiers. In the RWB’s 2014 world rankings of press freedom, the US occupies 46th place. That, by the way, constitutes a plunge of 13 spots in just one year.

Remember what Thomas Jefferson said about this particular, constitutionally-protected freedom: “Our liberty cannot be guarded but by freedom of the press, nor that be limited without danger of losing it.” Basically, according to Jefferson, this is the freedom on which all other freedoms hinge.

So what is responsible for the precipitous decline in our individual liberty over the last decade or so? The obvious answer lies in considering who’s been in charge of the country during that time: self-styled “Progressives” in the Democrat Party. From 2004 to 2014, the Democrats either controlled both houses of congress or held at least one house and the presidency.

That’s not to give George W. Bush a complete pass. Two of the government policies that most impinge upon our freedoms originated under him – the Patriot Act and No Child Left Behind – which is why many on the right regard him as a progressive. But President Obama has doubled down on those policies and added Obamacare as well.

All of which brings us back to the question we began with: “progress” toward what? The economist Friedrich von Hayek provides the answer in his book, “The Road to Serfdom”: “When economic power is centralized as an instrument of political power, it creates a degree of dependence scarcely distinguish-able from slavery.”

That, my friends, is what represents ultimate “progress” in the leftist world-view: a society in which we’re all basically sharecroppers on the government plantation – except for them, of course, because they’re the intellectual elites who get to tell the rest of us how to live.

The real question is: How far are we away from that scenario right now?

ALABAMA SCORES CRASH AFTER COMMON CORE

Alabama students crashed from 25th place in 2011 to “dead last on math and English” scores in 2015, says an open letter to state senators from Eagle Forum of Alabama. In the letter, EFA president Eunie Smith laments the stunning decline “from where we were before Common Core when Alabama had been trending upward.” The scores reflect data from testing administered by National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Smith’s letter to senators goes on to say, “It’s not just NAEP scores that confirm the inferiority of Common Core.” For example, ACT scores of Alabama students dipped from 21 in 2014 to 16 in 2015. She urged Alabamians to contact their senators and ask that they support SB360 to repeal and replace Common Core. (alabamaeagleforum.org, 2/3/16)

UNHAPPY FEET

“Thousands of Penguins Die After Iceberg Traps Colony” screams a CNN headline. Okay, so it’s not global warming that’s threatening the penguins; it’s *too much ice*. According to the report, Adelie penguins in Cape Denison, Antarctica have been dying off in droves since an iceberg trapped a penguin colony in 2010. The 1,120-square-mile iceberg supposedly forced the penguins to travel nearly 40 miles to find food, according to the journal *Antarctic Science*. This hardship caused the penguin population to plummet from 150,000 in 2011 to 10,000 now, according to “satellite images.” So the rest must all be dead! But these same satellite images show that another penguin colony only five miles away from the bay is thriving. So did the genius scientists theorize that perhaps the “iceberg-trapped” penguins safely migrated there? Nah. The likelihood that penguins moved because their food source ran low isn’t a catastrophe, so it didn’t make the news story. Instead, we get bloviation: “environmental shifts because of climate change” give scientists “insight into the wider implications on the effects of increasing sea ice in the area.” Yep, we’re supposed to believe that global warming causes excess sea ice. Well, it obviously melts scientists’ brains. (*Limbaugh Letter*)

“In July 2010, Guantanamo Bay detainee Ibrahim Qosi – also known as Sheikh Khubayb al-Sundani – pleaded guilty to charges, brought by a military tribunal, of conspiracy and material support for terrorism. Two years later, he was released. Unsurprisingly, two years after that he joined al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, which recently released a new video featuring Qosi among its ‘Guardians of Sharia.’ Qosi makes 196 former detainees either confirmed (117) or suspected (79) of returning to the battlefield after their release – a recidivism rate of about 30 percent. Still, the president hopes to empty out the prison before his time in office ends. Perhaps the 107 remaining detainees will embrace a quieter retirement. (*National Review*)