

BARROW REPUBLICAN NEWS

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2018
BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
P.O. BOX 1054 WINDER, GA 30680-1054

MEETINGS

Our Next Regular Meeting – Mon., Jan 15 7:30 PM
@ Winder Woman’s Club (behind Winder Fire Dept.)
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 1 6:00 PM
 Bethlehem City Council Meeting – Mon., Feb 5 7:00 PM
 Barrow School Board Meeting – Tue., Feb 6 6:00 PM
 Winder City Council Meeting – Tue., Feb 6 6:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Feb 13 7:00 PM
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 15 6:00 PM
 Carl Town Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 15 7:00 PM
 Statham City Council Meeting – Tue., Feb 20 7:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Feb 27 7:00 PM

VOTING MEMBERS – COUNTY COMMITTEE (29)

Clay Kelley – Chrm.	Lucretia Hughes	Kathy Hopkins
DuWayne Anderson – 1 st VC	Teeny Allison	Terry Raber
Leonard Koonce – 2 nd VC	Richard Pepper	Sara Pepper
Debbie Reid – Sec.	June Miller	Beverly Kelley
Mark Staley	Tim Walker	Dianne Craig
Bob Lanham – Tr.	Charles Powell	Ken Young
Mike Pentecost – Asst. Tr.	John Reavis	Linda Reavis
John Stevens	Lynn Stevens	Marty Rahinsky
David Gunter	Gary Taylor	Janice Jones
Terry England	Pat Graham	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Clay Kelley	770-560-4523
	email: BKCONSLT@comcast.net	
First Vice-Chair	DuWayne Anderson	404-285-0978
	email: reb7771@windstream.net	
Second Vice-Chair	Leonard Koonce	706-351-7441
	email: lkoonce1967@gmail.com	
Secretary	Debbie Reid	706-684-0065
	email: debbier72956@comcast.net	
Asst. Secretary		
	email:	
Treasurer	Bob Lanham	770-867-5459
	email: lanhamrj@hotmail.com	
Asst. Treasurer	Mike Pentecost	770-868-6046
	email: MCPWinder@aol.com	
C.C. Dist. 1 Rep.	Lucretia Hughes	404-422-2558
C.C. Dist. 2 Rep.	Gary Taylor	678-449-5775
C.C. Dist. 3 Rep.	Open	
C.C. Dist. 4 Rep.	David Gunter	678-425-4127
C.C. Dist. 5 Rep.	Dianne Craig	678-367-9593
C.C. Dist. 6 Rep.	June Miller	770-867-5932
Barrow 10 th 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

January 15, 2018

JIM BECK
CANDIDATE FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE SEN. MICHAEL WILLIAMS
CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

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MEMBERSHIP COMPARISON (as of 12/31/17)

Membership	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17
Regular	48	46	44	63	39	36	26	30	26
Advanced	68	58	59	71	59	41	55	55	48
Barrow 100	17	16	17	13	8	13	7	9	7
Barrow 360	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
Students				4	3	2	2	1	2
Total	134	121	121	152	110	92	91	96	84
Renewals	113	105	112	101	95	82	85	77	77
New	21	16	9	51	15	10	6	19	7

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www.barrowgop.org

The American Civil Liberties Union has proven itself half-com-mendable in recent weeks. On the plus side, the outfit has assid-uously ignored calls to drop its staunch commitment to the First Amendment – even when the amendment protects neo-Nazis. But then along came some men who elected to exercise two rights at once, and the ACLU’s resolve failed. Henceforth, the group explained, it would not be defending the speech rights of those who “hate” if they are simultaneously carrying firearms. Hostility to the Second Amendment trumped devotion to the First. Should gun owners be denied their *Miranda* readings or deprived of an attorney if arrested while carrying a weapon? The ACLU’s version of the Constitution is evolving before our eyes. (*National Review*)

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

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jan 15 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Feb 19 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Mar 19 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Apr 16 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
May 21 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
June 18 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
July 16 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

Richard Nixon Birthday – January 9 (Tuesday)
M.L. King, Jr. Holiday – January 15 (Monday)
Roe v. Wade Day of Infamy – January 22 (Monday)
William McKinley Birthday – January 29 (Monday)
Ronald Reagan Birthday – February 6 (Tuesday)
Abraham Lincoln Birthday – February 12 (Monday)
Presidents Day – February 19 (Monday)
George Washington Birthday – February 22 (Thursday)

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2017 – 2019 BARROW PRECINCT CHAIRPERSONS

Bethlehem Community Center	
Bethabra Church	Marty Rahinsky
Bramlett Elementary	John Stevens
Westside Middle School	David Gunter
Statham Fire Dept.	Richard Pepper
Winder-Barrow High School	
Statham Elementary	
Winder First Baptist Church	John Reavis
Winder Lions Club	DuWayne Anderson
Barrow County Rec. Dept.	Bob Lanham
Apalachee High School	Kathy Hopkins
Midway Methodist Church	Dianne Craig
Winder Community Center	Terry Raber
Cedar Creek Baptist Church	
County Line Elementary	June Miller
The Church at Winder	

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NEXT POLITICAL BREAKFAST

Everyone is invited to participate in a monthly political breakfast group at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Winder. The next group breakfast will be Saturday, **January 20, 2018**, 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, JANUARY 20, 2018
9:00 AM**

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Hong Kong was supposed to enjoy an exemption: to be an island of democracy and liberalism, attached to a one-party dictatorship (with a gulag). That exemption has proved chimerical. The government has now jailed three students who have led democracy protests. The judge in the case said that the sentences were necessary to deter a "sick trend": namely the belief of some Chinese that they should live in a democracy. Such thinking is "arrogant and self-righteous," said the judge. One of the students – Joshua Wong – said, "You can lock up our bodies, but not our minds! We want democracy in Hong Kong. And we will not give up." (*National Review*)

FROM THE EDITOR

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2018. If you have not already renewed, please bring yours to our **January 15** 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. Please be encouraged to upgrade your membership to a higher level, if possible. We appreciate your support!

We are sad to report that our Secretary Mark Staley has resigned that position, effective **December 5**. Per our rules, Asst. Secretary Debbie Reid will move up to Secretary immediately. The position of Asst. Secretary will be open until an election is conducted by the voting members of the County Committee to fill this position for the rest of the 2017-2018 term.

We had a nice crowd attending our 2017 Annual Holiday Dinner on **December 4**. Lots of food, fun, and fellowship. We heard from State Rep. Terry England. Also, he and State Rep. Tom Kirby presented Ken Young with a House Resolution passed in the last session honoring him. Santa had a large number of door prizes as well. The date for the 2018 Annual Holiday Dinner will be Monday, **December 3, 2018**.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, **January 15, 2018** at 7:30 PM in the Winder Woman's Club. Our guest speakers will be Jim Beck, candidate for Insurance Commissioner (rescheduled), and State Sen. Michael Williams, candidate for Governor. **THERE WILL BE AN ELECTION FOR ASST. SECRETARY BY THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE AS WELL.** Bring a friend! It will be worth your time. Make plans to attend! Be early for a good seat.

Ken Young

ADDITIONAL LINKS

"Millennials Need This (GOP) Break" – *Forbes* – Amity Shlaes – February 28, 2017 – <https://www.forbes.com/sites/currentevents/2017/02/21/millennials-need-this-gop-break/#782b435153b9>

"Pew Report Shows Broad Support For Gun Rights In America" – Pete R. Brownell – *American Hunter* – September 2017 – <https://www.americas1stfreedom.org/articles/2017/8/29/president-s-column-pew-report-shows-broad-support-for-gun-rights-in-america/>

"When The Fight Comes To You" – *AFA Journal* – Tim Wildmon – October 2017 – <https://afajournal.org/past-issues/2017/october/when-the-fight-comes-to-you/>

GEORGIA'S LEGAL ENVIRONMENT ON A CONSISTENT DOWNWARD TREND

Kade Cullefer, *James Magazine*, March/April 2017

When Georgians think about what is good for their communities, the economy and quality of life, we're proud to tout the state's competitiveness, business friendly practices and innovation. Georgia has become a diverse global marketplace with a vibrant economy. Unfortunately, the state's competitive global presence will diminish if we don't address our unhealthy legal system.

According to the U.S. Chamber's Institute for Legal Reform, Georgia's legal climate has ranked 31 out of 50 nationally – with a significant drop of seven places in three years. There are several reasons for Georgia's poor ranking, with the primary one beginning and ending with personal injury attorneys. The business model is designed to maximize their profits by creating and taking advantage of a civil system that tilts unfairly in their favor.

Georgia's unhealthy legal environment is caused by uncertainty. Without clarity, businesses are unable to determine their needs – from hiring employees, to investing in the development of new products or improving services provided to consumers. The objective of personal injury attorneys is to create enormous uncertainty in the system because it directly benefits their financial interests. To level the legal playing field, the business community has created a new organization: Georgians for Lawsuit Reform (GLR). Established to improve Georgia's increasingly expensive and ambiguous civil justice system, GLR will focus on streamlining the decision making ability of Georgia businesses, nonprofits, and public entities. GLR will also focus on ensuring a fair, balanced, and efficient civil justice system for all citizens; and improving Georgia's competitiveness for small businesses, expanding companies, and new industries.

The business community recognizes the inherent challenges that currently exist. Recently, settlement factories have begun to pop up all over Georgia simply to extract money from businesses. These firms sue parties to extract settlements quickly; if the party being sued decides to litigate, these firms often outsource the claims filed to other firms. In many cases, individuals who appear with attorneys and claim injuries on television, over the radio or on billboards have never been a client of the attorney.

Georgia is the No. 2 market for personal injury advertising in the country. Any Georgian who watches daytime television or listens to the radio is guaranteed to see or hear aggressive advertising strategies to solicit individuals to bring unnecessary litigation which inevitably clogs the courts and delays the timely administration of justice for all citizens. To make matters worse, many cases are brought without concern for potentially bankrupting small businesses no matter how ridiculous the claim.

For example, a doughnut shop in Columbus was recently sued for something that had nothing to do with their products, services or premises – one of their employees who was driving one of the owners' vehicles caused a motor vehicle accident, resulting in no long term injuries to the plaintiff. The plaintiff in the case demonstrated medical expenses that totaled \$49,000 and could have potentially totaled \$100,000. Despite the actual expenses incurred, the jury returned a staggering verdict of \$7 million against the doughnut shop placing it on the verge of

bankruptcy. Confusing legal standards and an unfair legal climate are contributing to runaway verdicts like these being levied every day in Georgia.

Furthermore, the American Tort Reform Association's "Judicial Hellholes" report placed the Georgia Supreme Court on its Judicial Watch List. In recent years, there has been an expansion of civil liability, a lack of clear dismissal standards in litigation, eagerness to certify class actions and record breaking verdicts – all issues GLR aims to tackle.

Georgia's unhealthy legal environment doesn't exclusively impact big business, it also impacts industries such as agriculture, transportation, education and innovation. This great state must have a legal infrastructure that is fair, balanced, and accessible. Georgians for Lawsuit Reform looks forward to leading the way in making our civil justice system one that makes all Georgians proud. For Georgia to maintain its top ranking as the No. 1 state to do business, we must aggressively reverse the current imbalance.

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2018 RACES

Republican Candidates Known To Date
(may be incomplete)

U.S. Rep. – 10 th District	Hice (I)
Public Service Commission	Wise (I) is not running
Public Service Commission	Eaton (I)
Governor	Cagle, Kemp, Hill, Williams, Urbach
Lt. Governor	Shafer, Duncan, Jeffares
Secretary of State	Brockway, Raffensperger, Belle Isle, McKoon
Attorney General	Carr (I)
Labor Commissioner	Butler (I)
Agriculture Commissioner	Black (I)
Insurance Commissioner	Beck, Mobley
State School Superintendent	Woods (I)
State Senate District 47	Ginn (I)
State House District 114	Kirby (I)
State House District 116	England (I)
State House District 117	Gaines
County Commission District 4	Berry (I)
County Commission District 5	Parks (I)
County Commission District 6	Hendrix (I)
Barrow School Board District 1	Krause (I)
Barrow School Board District 3	Wehunt (I)
Barrow School Board District 4	Shelley (I)
Barrow School Board District 7 (AL)	Angle (I)
Barrow School Board District 9 (AL)	Still (I)

CANDIDATE QUALIFYING - **MARCH 5 - 9, 2018**

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION - **MAY 22, 2018**

PRIMARY RUN-OFF ELECTION - **JULY 24, 2018**

GENERAL ELECTION - **NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

IF THEY CAN REPAIR I-85 IN SIX WEEKS . . .

Rob Jenkins, *Gwinnett Daily Post*, June 1, 2017

As we’ve all heard, the Interstate 85 bridge collapse was repaired in record time: barely six weeks from start to finish.

That was certainly good news for Atlanta commuters, as traffic on that key thoroughfare returned to normal – although the celebrations might have been muted somewhat by the fact that “normal” traffic on I-85 is still stroke-inducing.

I’ll tell you who WAS celebrating, though: contractors, who earned themselves a pretty bonus, and local officials who, when they weren’t being congratulated by others, were busy congratulating themselves.

Before those two groups sprain their arms patting themselves on the back, however, they might want to think about something: The cat is now out of the bag.

To say that those of us who live in Gwinnett and other parts of metro Atlanta have grown accustomed to road construction would be an understatement. It’s an ever-present fact of life, to the point we’re never surprised to encounter “unexpected” delays on any road, at any time of day.

Frustrated perhaps, but not surprised.

Indeed, many of those projects seem virtually interminable. We rearrange our lives around them for years at a time. Years!

Take the two new overpasses on Ga. Hwy. 316 at Collins Hill Road and Buford Drive. Construction on those projects began in 2011 and concluded only recently. For six years I avoided that stretch of Ga. 316 whenever possible, frequently taking longer and less expeditious routes.

I understand that, theoretically, a little temporary inconvenience should be offset by long-term gains. But SIX YEARS?

I can’t tell you how many times, when I couldn’t avoid taking Ga. 316, I drove through there and saw not a single soul at work. The same goes for numerous other highway construction sites over the years.

Nor is metro Atlanta unique in that regard. Last month, my wife and I motored out to Boise, Idaho, to visit our daughter and her new daughter (grandchild No. 3, for those keeping score at home). That’s just short of 2,200 miles.

Along the way, we drove through probably 500 miles of construction, in places like Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska and Wyoming (where we also encountered snow on May 26). Do you know how many people we saw actually working on those sites?

Zero. Zilch. Nada. Not a single one.

Apparently, that’s the beauty of government work: Contractors, knowing they’ll get paid – hey, the taxpayers are good for it! – disappear for months at a time, leaving said taxpayers to stew in a hot mess of construction gridlock.

But now we know: If they can replace a bridge in six weeks, why does it take six years to build two bridges?

Answer: It doesn’t.

So even while they’re congratulating themselves, and rightly so, our elected officials need to know that from now on, we’re not going to tolerate six-month projects that turn into six-year nightmares.

We’re going to hold them accountable for holding the contractors accountable.

STUDENTS THINK “HURTFUL” SPEECH IS PROTECTED

A survey conducted among 1,500 undergraduate students at four-year colleges found that an alarming number of students are misguided regarding free speech provisions of the U.S. Constitution’s First Amendment.

Forty-four percent of students said “hate speech” is not protected by the First Amendment, and 16% said they do not know if it is protected. It is. Fifty-one percent said it is permissible to shout down a speaker known for “offensive and hurtful” statements. Sixty-two percent believe that a campus event hosting a speaker known for “offensive” statements is legally required to have a speaker who presents the opposing view.

The survey, conducted August 17-31, included response of students who are U.S. citizens from 49 states and Washington, D.C. It was funded by the John Koch Foundation through University of California-Los Angeles.

Question: A public university invites a very controversial speaker to an on-campus event. The speaker is known for making offensive and hurtful statements. A student group opposed to the speaker uses violence to prevent the speaker from speaking. Do you agree or disagree that the student group’s actions are acceptable?

	<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>
All	19 %	81 %
Democrat	20 %	80 %
Republican	22 %	78 %
Independent	16 %	84 %
Female	10 %	90 %
Male	30 %	70 %

From the UCLA survey, one in five respondents say using violence to disrupt a controversial speaker is acceptable.

washingtonpost.com 9/18/17, world.wng.org 9/26/17, brookings.edu 9/18/17

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“MINORITIES HARDEST HIT”

Searching for a new way to move the needle on waning global warming enthusiasm, environmentalist wackos are targeting minority communities. According to *The [Fort Lauderdale] Sun-Sentinel*, Rep. Alcee Hastings (D, FL) held a conference at the Urban League of Broward County, FL to whip up racial tension on the issue. Caroline Lewis, director of the Climate Leadership Engagement Opportunities Institute, claimed that the environmental movement is no longer the province of “white tree huggers.” Now it’s “bubbling up tremendously” in Southeast Florida, where “it is almost flipping.” Make that flopping. A grand total of 75 people showed up for the big event, including panelists and politicians. *The Sun-Sentinel* warns that African-American, Caribbean-American, and Hispanic communities better get involved, because their neighborhoods – miles away from the affluent coastal towns – will soon be overrun by the rich, fleeing the rising seas. This could “end up hurting people who live in inland minority communities who could get priced out of their homes by people with more money looking for places to live.” Uh-huh. For some reason, this “rich-people-taking-over-your-hood” doomsday scenario isn’t selling. (*Limbaugh Letter*)