

BARROW

REPUBLICAN NEWS

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2020
 BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
 P.O. BOX 1054 WINDER, GA 30680-1054

7:30 PM

January 20, 2020

JESSICA GARRETT FOR TAX COMMISSIONER
 DANNY BROWN FOR PUBLIC SERVICE
 COMMISSION

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MEETINGS

Our Next Regular Meeting – Mon., Jan 20 7:30 PM
@ Winder Woman’s Club (behind Winder Fire Dept.)
 Bethlehem City Council Meeting – Mon., Feb 3 7:00 PM
 Barrow School Board Meeting – Tue., Feb 4 6:00 PM
 Winder City Council Meeting – Tue., Feb 4 6:00 PM
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 6 6:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Feb 11 7:00 PM
 Statham City Council Meeting – Tue., Feb 18 7:00 PM
 Auburn City Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 20 6:00 PM
 Carl Town Council Meeting – Thur., Feb 20 7:00 PM
 County Commission Meeting – Tue., Feb 25 7:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP COMPARISON (as of 12/31/19)

Membership	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19
Regular	44	63	39	36	26	30	26	26	26
Advanced	59	71	59	41	55	55	48	48	45
Barrow 100	17	13	8	13	7	9	7	6	6
Barrow 360	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Students		4	3	2	2	1	2	2	3
Total	121	152	110	92	91	96	84	83	81
Renewals	112	101	95	82	85	77	77	74	68
New	9	51	15	10	6	19	7	9	13

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www.barrowgop.org

VOTING MEMBERS – COUNTY COMMITTEE (26)

Debbie Reid – Chrm.	Kathy Hopkins	David Gunter
Ken Young – 1 st VC	Terry Raber	Terry England
Leonard Koonce – 2 nd VC	Richard Pepper	Clay Kelley
Dianne Craig – Sec..	June Miller	Beverly Kelley
Teeny Allison – Asst. Sec.	Tim Walker	Pat Graham
Bob Lanham – Tr.	Randy Reid	Vanessa Green
Mike Pentecost – Asst. Tr.	John Reavis	Linda Reavis
John Stevens	Lynn Stevens	Power Evans
Gary Taylor	Janice Jones	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Debbie Reid	706-684-0065
	email: debbier72956@comcast.net	
First Vice-Chair	Ken Young	770-827-2887
	email: kenyoung276@hotmail.com	
Second Vice-Chair	Leonard Koonce	706-351-7441
	email: lkoonce1967@gmail.com	
Secretary	Dianne Craig	678-367-9593
	email: dcbooklover332@gmail.com	
Asst. Secretary	Teeny Allison	770-231-7097
	email: teenyallison@gmail.com	
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.	Richard Pepper	770-725-2777
C.C. Dist. 2 Rep.	Gary Taylor	678-449-5775
C.C. Dist. 3 Rep.	Open	
C.C. Dist. 4 Rep.	Clay Kelley	770-560-4523
C.C. Dist. 5 Rep.	Tim Walker	770-231-2652
C.C. Dist. 6 Rep.	June Miller	770-867-5932

NEED 2020 RENEWALS
RENEWALS CAN GET TRUMP SIGNS
FOR \$ 5.00 PER SIGN
(WHILE THEY LAST)

NEW 2020 MEMBERS
CAN GET A FREE TRUMP SIGN
REGULAR - 1 SIGN
ADVANCED - 2 SIGNS
BARROW 100 - 5 SIGNS
BARROW 360 - 10 SIGNS
(WHILE THEY LAST)

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

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jan 20 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Feb 17 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Mar 16 (Mon)	Monthly Meeting
Mar 21 (Sat)	Prc. Mtgs/County Convention
Apr 18 (Sat)	District Convention
May 29-30 (Fri/Sat)	State Convention

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

LOCAL ELECTED REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS ARE EXPECTED TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP!

LOOKING AHEAD

Richard Nixon Birthday – January 9 (Thursday)
M.L. King Jr. Holiday – January 20 (Monday)
Roe v. Wade Day of Infamy – January 22 (Wednesday)
William McKinley Birthday – January 29 (Wednesday)
Ronald Reagan Birthday – February 6 (Thursday)
Abraham Lincoln Birthday – February 12 (Wednesday)
Presidents Day – February 17 (Monday)
George Washington Birthday – February 22 (Saturday)
Presidential Primary Election – March 24 (Tuesday)

2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Caroline Evans Ken Young Houston Gaines
Joe Goodman Teeny Allison Mike Pentecost
Kathy Hopkins June Miller Frank Ginn
Power Evans Bill J. Brown

WELCOME - NEW MEMBER



2017 – 2019 BARROW PRECINCT CHAIRPERSONS

Bethlehem Community Center
Bethlehem Church – GA 211 Bronti Rudloff
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
Barrow County Rec. Dept. Bob Lanham
Apalachee High School Kathy Hopkins
Midway Methodist Church Dianne Craig
Winder Community Center Power Evans
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 25, 2020**, 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 25, 2020
9:00 AM**

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As you read this, the impeachment sham is probably over in the House of Representatives. I have just watched the Judiciary Committee vote, along party lines, to refer the Articles of Impeachment to the full House. I have tuned in to as many of the Judiciary and Intelligence Committee’s proceedings as I could – maybe better said, as much as I could stomach – mainly to watch the brilliance of our Republican representatives. The precision questioning of Doug Collins – the pride of Georgia! – Jim Jordan, John Ratcliffe, Matt Gaetz, Devin Nunes, Louis Gohmert and others is the most entertaining thing on TV these days. When compared to the shrillness and prevarication of the Democrat members, our representatives seem the very definition of leadership and wisdom.

Anyone who is honest with themselves and others cannot still believe in the lie of quid pro quo after the release of the call transcripts. Yet the subsequent hearings showcase the real reason for all the kabuki theater that we have been exposed to these last weeks – getting rid of President Trump any way possible. Oh, and remember the Democrats couldn’t make one of the Articles into the quid pro quo fiction – they had to stretch credulity with the “abuse of power” and invent the standard of “obstruction of Congress” articles.

The Democrats have been trying to get rid of President Trump before he was even the nominee – the first mention of impeachment came in April 2016 in an article, “Could Trump Be Impeached After He Takes Office?” by Darren Samuelson for *Politico*. The Russian collusion fell apart after the Mueller report came out – even with the Democrat partisans working on it. Now it appears that Adam Schiff and his staff had this Ukrainian accusation waiting in the wings. I find it a little suspicious that Schiff had hired a “bro” friend of the universally named “whistleblower” to his staff on July 26, the day after the call between President Trump and President Zelensky. And let’s remember Schiff said even he didn’t know the “whistleblower’s” name. Talk about shady . . .

The name of this whole game is Damage. The Democrats know they can’t beat the president at the ballot box next November, so they must depend on making him seem as though he is unworthy of the presidency or a criminal – remember the golden oldies of emoluments, payoffs, banning Muslims, white supremacy, etc. They cannot be trusted in any position of power. All this anger comes to us as they think we are too stupid to make our own decisions – look how we elected President Trump! – and they should be totally in charge.

Let’s keep infuriating them.

Debbie Reid

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!
VOTE REPUBLICAN
NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

FROM THE EDITOR

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2020. If you want to renew, please bring yours to our **January 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. Please be encouraged to upgrade your membership to a higher level, if possible. We appreciate your support!

The dates for the 2020 Conventions have been approved by the State Committee. Our Precinct Meetings and County Convention will be Saturday, **March 21, 2020**, in the Winder Lions Club. The District Convention will be Saturday, **April 18, 2020**, in Marswood Hall in Watkinsville. The State Convention will be Friday and Saturday, **May 29-30, 2020**, in the Cobb Galleria.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, **January 20, 2020** at 7:30 PM in the Winder Woman’s Club. Our guest speakers will be Jessica Garrett, candidate for Tax Commissioner, and Danny Brown, candidate for Public Service Commission. We will also be covering the 2020 convention cycle, and considering expansion of the County Committee (voting members) and proposed rule changes. Bring a friend. Be early for a good seat! It will be worth your time. Make plans to attend!

Ken Young

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ADDITIONAL LINK

“Our Election System vs. Pure Democracy” – *AMAC Advantage* – Michael Kapic – September/October 2019 – [https://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?i=616495#{"issue_id":616495,"page":34}](https://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?i=616495#{)

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ABBREVIATED CALL FOR THE BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY ELECTION DISTRICT (PRECINCT) MASS MEETINGS

Pursuant to the call of the Georgia Republican Party State Executive Committee for precinct, Rule 9.2 District, County, Congressional District, and State Mass Meetings and Conventions, the Barrow county Republican Committee hereby makes and issues this, Official Call, to all legal and qualified voters of Barrow County, Georgia, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, believe in its declarations of policies and are in sympathy with its aims and purposes, to unite under this Call in the selection of Delegates and alternates to the barrow County Convention to be held pursuant to this Call. There shall be Election District (Precinct) Mass Meetings on **March 21, 2020** at 9:00 o’clock A.M., at 354 E. Broad St., Winder, Georgia, at the Winder Lions Club, which shall elect Delegates and alternates to the County Convention to be held on **March 21, 2020**, at the same location. Anyone arriving after 9:00 o’clock A.M. will not be allowed to participate.

COUNTY CONVENTION

The Barrow County Convention is hereby called to convene at 354 E. Broad St., Winder, Georgia, at the Winder Lions Club on Saturday, **March 21, 2020**, at 10:00 o’clock A.M., for the purpose of electing Delegates and Alternates to the Republican Tenth U.S. Congressional district and State Conventions. Only those Delegates and alternates elected in their respective Election District (Precinct) Mass Meetings held on **March 21, 2020**, shall be entitled to participate. The Convention itself shall be open to the public.

Debbie Reid, Chairman
Barrow County Republican Party

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

To be considered at our **January 20, 2020** Monthly Meeting

SECTION I QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN PARTY ACTIONS

CURRENT

“ . . . represent as chairpersons, members, delegates, or voters in mass meetings; except that a temporary Chairperson appointed to preside over a mass meeting or convention until the permanent officers are elected need not be a resident of that district, and must be current in dues paid (except at the odd-year County Convention and mass meetings).”

PROPOSED (same wording, rearranged)

“ . . . represent as chairpersons, members, delegates, or voters in mass meetings, **and must be current in dues paid (except at the odd-year County Convention and mass meetings), except that a temporary Chairperson appointed to preside over a mass meeting or convention until the permanent officers are elected need not be a resident of that district.**”

SECTION II THE BARROW COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

F. The Executive Committee

CURRENT

- 9. Such non-voting members as follows (as approved by the above voting committee members):
 - a. General Counsel
 - b. Parliamentarian
 - c. GOP Women’s Club Representative
 - d. Young Republicans Club Representative
 - e. Black GOP Council Representative
 - f. Other positions as needed and approved by the above voting members

PROPOSED

- 9. Such non-voting members (**as approved by the above voting members**)
drop a through f

MAJOR LEGISLATION TO WATCH IN 2020

Phil Kent, *James* magazine, November/December 2019

Predicting what bills the General Assembly will pass, amend, or defeat is tricky business. With that in mind, consider these major 2020 legislative policy issues.

The State Budget

Gov. Brian Kemp, worried about declining revenue coming into state coffers, instructed many state agency heads to submit budget reduction proposals. In this context, some state lawmakers wonder why so many tax breaks for large corporations are being considered. While Georgia's economy has been growing in recent years, the 2019 General Assembly could only bring itself to pass a water-down version of bills sponsored by state Sen. John Albers, R-Roswell, which would have mandated the state take a closer look at special-interest tax breaks before lawmakers vote on them.

In 2018 legislators passed several special-interest tax breaks worth hundreds of millions of dollars. And earlier this year there were measures to provide tax breaks for Delta Air Lines and other air carriers as well as CSX and other railroads.

While the House leadership appears to support a fuel tax break for Delta and other airlines, Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan and a state Senate majority remain opposed. Key senators interviewed by *James* question such breaks, especially since the loss of this significant revenue into state coffers from previous exemptions is now being felt.

The governor hopes to garner through budget cut savings \$200 million this year and \$300 million next year. A big question: How much of this will come from eliminating currently vacant jobs or because of high turnover rates in some agencies?

Mass Transportation

Legislation has already passed paving the way for transit expansion in 13 metro Atlanta counties. Seeking to expand state-wide is a House-passed bill by Rep. Kevin Tanner now awaiting action in the Senate. It would allow counties to raise sales taxes for transit expansion. It also creates pilot programs to help unemployed residents get transportation to jobs, as well as combining six state agency transit functions into one new agency.

Earlier this year the tanner bill was opposed by the state Department of Transportation. GDOT said the mergers would have unintended consequences and thus seeks to preserve its transit functions. "GDOT is fully committed to being fully efficient and effective in all transportation programs," DOT Commissioner Russell McMurry says.

Watch for this bill to be tweaked and debated again.

A Hartsfield-Jackson State Airport Authority

The Senate passed a bill by Sen. Burt Jones, R-Jackson, creating a state authority to oversee Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. It removes control over airport operations, especially its corrupt contracting system, from Atlanta's mayor. But the Senate and house Speaker David Ralston couldn't find common ground.

Last spring Ralston thought it "premature" to go with a state authority and just wanted a state airport oversight committee. Yet proponents note airport bid-rigging, vendor bribery and airport jobs for unqualified mayoral cronies span over 40 years –

and that an oversight panel doesn't correct a continuing mess affecting the entire image of the state.

The bottom line: The bill is in a conference committee and there will be 12 days in January to ascertain if the Senate and house can agree to move the bill forward in whatever form. Or if it will die on the vine.

E-Scooter Regulation

The invasion of the electric scooters, which took Georgia cities by storm almost two years ago, caught local governments off guard. Users were getting attached to the service before regulations could be implemented to protect safety, whether on streets or sidewalks. Atlanta was especially unprepared – and many say it still is.

Last March state rep. Kevin Tanner, R-Dawsonville, told the state Senate Public Safety Committee that he was holding off on proposed statewide rules for e-scooters while negotiations with scooter companies continued in various locales. But regulations of electric bikes passed the committee by a unanimous vote and could be acted upon in January.

The Senate's study committee may develop basic rules of the road – especially where, when and how the devices can be used. Twenty-two states have some e-scooter regulation. According to a presentation to the Senate committee, many states set a statewide maximum speed for scooters at 15 or 20 mph. A major complaint is that the scooters block sidewalks and crowd out pedestrians. That's why Atlanta moved the scooters to the streets but, as this is written, four scooter street deaths have occurred since then. Some states impose age limits to operate the scooters and two require teenage riders to wear helmets.

So be ready for more rumblings about regulation during the 2020 General Assembly – although a consensus may be building among state legislators that localities are best at making their own decisions and/or regulations about electronic transportation options.

What Else?

Unlike years past, religious freedom legislation goes nowhere. Casino gambling will be up for debate, and the question to the General Assembly will be whether to put a constitutional amendment authorizing gambling on the ballot for voters to decide. Legislation by Sen. Brandon Beach, R-Alpharetta, and Rep. Ron Stephens, R-Savannah, would ask voters to approve a constitutional amendment legalizing destination casino resorts, pari-mutuel horse race wagering and even sports betting. All this would be tied to boosting revenues for the Georgia Lottery's popular HOPE scholarship.

Meanwhile, the governor's commitment to education will be on display to potentially increase HOPE funding and have additional teacher raises. And healthcare reform is always a topic.

Also look for legislation reforming so-called "criminal justice" laws that have loopholes allowing for the release of violent criminals. A Senate-passed bill would allow restoration of voting rights to "non-violent" felons. But it's not clear if that applies to categories ranging from drug pushers to burglars and shoplifters.