



MRW News

Monthly Newsletter of the Moore Republican Women

JANUARY, 2015

MARY ANN MANNING, EDITOR

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

President's Message Kay Wildt

May you and your loved ones have a holy and joy-filled Christmas. We give thanks for all our blessings in 2014, and we wish you a healthy and Happy New Year in 2015.

December 19 was a memorable day for all of those attending the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion party at Fort Bragg! Santa, two elves, and Moore Republican Women, Sandi Carl, Debbie Spelman, and Carole Base distributed all the gifts you so generously gave for the children. We definitely made a statement....we care! There were over three hundred in attendance, with the 82nd Airborne Symphony Quartet playing. The Commander of the WWTB thanked us personally for all the gifts for the children.



Santa's elves, MRW members and Santa participated in the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion Christmas party. Pictured left to right are Carole Base and MRW members, Debbie Spelman and Sandi Carl.

Thank You

Sue Whitley and Chef for the lovely MRW Christmas brunch.

Sandi Carl, Debbie Spelman, and Carole Base for delivering our gifts to the children at Fort Bragg.

Rosemary Weber, Ruth Caldara, Debbie Spelman, and **Sandi Carl** for gift wrapping toys for the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion party.

Diana Barton for donating wrapping paper for the Fort Bragg WWTB children's gifts.

Debbie Spelman and **Sandi Carl** for making and delivering Thanksgiving baskets to needy veterans.

Joan Ward, our Recording Secretary, as she leaves the board for extensive travel. We appreciate your devoted service to MRW and your hard work keeping us on track.

Barbara Para and **Kay Wildt**, who volunteered at the Northern Moore Family Resource Center's Christmas free shopping day for needy families in the Robbins area. Each child received a new jacket, pants, shirt, large and small toys, a book, and a choice of socks, a hat, and other clothing

Georgianna Ketcham for donating your Split-the-Pot winnings to the Voter Integrity Project.

Vice President's Report **Mariann Benway**

MRW will take a break in January, but there's plenty to look forward to when we resume meetings in February.

John E. Skvarla, newly appointed Secretary of Commerce for NC, will kick things off in February.

At the March meeting, **Hal Weatherman**, Chief of Staff to Lt. Gov. Dan Forest, will outline the battle that Republican activists face during the campaign season.

In April, **Mary Clare Kendall**, a Washington-based writer of political commentaries, features, books and screenplays, will present her newly published book, "Oasis, Conversion Stories About Hollywood Legends."

In May, **Dr. Steven R. Patierno, PhD**, Deputy Director, Duke Cancer Institute and Director, Population Sciences and Health Services at Duke University Medical Center, will present information about health care.

Caring for America. **Diane Ingold**

MMIA and Elizabeth O'Brien, Pinecrest HS student, have collected over 400 blankets for homeless vets.

The wreath that we made for the Festival of Trees sold for \$250 to the Sandhills Children's Center. Thank you to our board members who donated the books that accompanied the wreath and to Sandra Kinnunen, wife of member **Ed Dennison**, for creating the book cover decorations displayed with the wreath.

Military Outreach **Sandi Carl**

Once again the Moore Republican Women showed their patriotic colors! After collecting over 60 gifts at the luncheon, four members gathered for a wrapping session. Gifts were wrapped, labeled, and sorted according to age and gender and distributed to children of The Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion at Ft. Bragg at their annual Christmas Party. Santa was there to hand out the gifts. Thank you for your generosity! Your gifts mean so much to the children of our Wounded Soldiers!

Invitation

Steve Bibey will be sworn in as Judge for District 19B at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, January 2. You are invited to attend Steve's ceremony and reception in Room 202 of the Moore County Courthouse in Carthage. RSVP to 910-947-6022 or stevebibey@gmail.com.

Literacy Pam Venet

On December 10, 2014, **Kay Wildt** and I visited Mrs. Lori Johnson's second-period class at Elise Middle School to present awards to three students who completed projects on the MRW books they were given in June.

In addition to an award, each student received a gift certificate to a restaurant in Robbins, and a gift bag of school supplies. Each student briefly discussed their project to the class. The class was very happy for these students and the students were excited to receive their awards. It was a special and exciting day for Kay and me.

We hope to again present a novel to the fourth grades at Robbins Elementary for each student to read as a class novel. I will be checking with the fourth-grade teachers after the holidays to select a book for this activity and how we can do this. It will coincide with their curriculum. We continue to encourage the students to read. Only the educated are free.



MRW President Kay Wildt and Literacy Chair Pam Venet awarded certificates to three Elise Middle School students who completed literacy projects over the summer.

Membership Meg Lindenberger

Starting in January, we will be assembling our 2015 Member Directory. Your membership is important! If you haven't yet renewed, please do so by Dec. 31 to ensure that your name is included in the 2015 directory. To renew, send a check for \$30, payable to MRW, P.O. Box 3654, Pinehurst, NC 28374. If you have any questions, email **Meg Lindenberger**, at meglindenberger@icloud.com or call/text her cell phone 910-603-5505.

Please welcome our new members:

- Betty DeMeglio
- Paula McEachen
- Harold Mendelson

Legislative Update Peggy Smetana

The Senate passed HR83, The Consolidated and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 late Saturday, December 13. The House had passed it on the evening of Thursday, December 11. The bill includes 11 appropriations that will fund most of the government through September 2015. It also includes a continuing resolution (CR) that funds the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through February 27, 2015.

Conservatives' main objection to the bill was that it did not defund activities related to President Obama's November 20 announcement of mass amnesty (delayed deportation) of 4 million illegal aliens related to DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program.

Some Democrats objected to the bill for two reasons: it repeals part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform law to allow banks to directly engage in derivatives trading, and it loosens limits on the amount of money people can contribute to national political parties.

Votes by North Carolina Representatives. In the House, all NC Republicans, except Jones and Meadows, voted for a procedural vote that allowed the bill to be brought to a vote. The total vote was 214 for, 212 against, with 9 not voting. On the bill itself, only Jones voted against the bill. The total vote was 219 for, 206 against, 10 not voting.

Votes by North Carolina Senators. On a Constitution point of order brought by Senator Cruz on the executive amnesty, Senator Burr voted with Cruz, Senator Hagan against. The total vote was 22 for, 74 against, 4 not voting. On the bill itself, Burr and Hagan both voted for it. The total vote was 46 for, 40 against, 4 not voting.

I had contacted Congresswoman Ellmers' office about the effect of this bill on amnesty. Her office said that the Continuing Resolution part of the bill, which funded DHS through February 27, 2015, only funds those programs that Congress had already approved in the past as of the last CR and that were already receiving funds. The executive amnesty announced on November 20 had not been approved by Congress and was not receiving funds. Therefore this bill does not fund the November 20 executive amnesty.

In a December 15, 3:00 p.m. letter to constituents, Congresswoman Renee Ellmers said:

“Additionally, this legislation freezes funding at the Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Center for Immigration Services, which are two of the primary agencies tasked with carrying out Obama's executive orders on immigration. In freezing funding at these agencies, we are ensuring they have no money necessary to implement Obama's executive orders, which allows for us to directly challenge the president's unilateral action in the new Congress.”

She had said earlier: “This appropriations bill freezes funding at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), ensuring they receive no new funding necessary to implement Obama's executive orders.”

Senator Reid's office says that unless the CR specifically prohibits it, funds appropriated to certain agencies within DHS can be used to fund the program announced by the President on November 20. Some Republicans say they will address and defund the executive amnesty before the February 27 deadline when the CR for DHS runs out.

Republicans who oppose the executive amnesty and voted for candidates based on their promises should continually contact their representatives and senators to be true to their promises. Send Christmas cards to your Senators and Representatives, wishing them Merry Christmas and Happy New Year -- and asking them to work with honesty and integrity in the New Year and uphold their oaths of office.

Americanism Nancy Fiorillo

Cuba - a short history.

Fulgencio Batista was elected president of Cuba from 1940-1944. From 1944 to 1952, he traveled abroad and returned to Cuba where he became a brutal dictator via a military coup in 1952. During the 50's he welcomed organized crime to Cuba and then decided that only his corrupt military government would retain his power.

Both Fidel and Raoul Castro rejected Batista's regime and fought a guerrilla war to defeat him. However, when the Castro brothers took charge on 1/1/59, they rejected all citizen/fighters who, along with them, defeated Batista! They embraced the corruption they had just pledged to defeat and embraced communism. No one was trusted and even Castro's most intimate confidantes were arrested, tortured, imprisoned and thousands were executed without trial.

Many wealthy Cubans were sure that Castro's reign would last only months and encouraged by the United States, sent their unaccompanied young children to America expecting to join them later. Months turned into years and decades - many parents were never reunited with their children due to Castro's ban on travel. Read the story of these "Peter Pans" or as Cubans called them, "Pedro Pans," in "Waiting for Snow in Havana," by Carlos Eerie and other books written by these now-grown Cuban refugees.

Castro took over practically all private enterprise and nationalized utilities, bus systems airports and other needed services. His actions were taken to protect his citizens from America! Poverty and rationing of food soon overtook Cubans who were formerly proud of their achievements, careers and position in the world. Any dissent was swiftly punished by a midnight knock on the door, police questioning and usually imprisonment. Political prisoners by the thousands remain imprisoned to this day.

Decades have elapsed and though some remarkable events - the release of criminal and mental patients to the US, the case of Elian Gonzales, and the defection of Castro's own daughter - have occurred, little has changed in Cuba.

Now, President Obama decided to "normalize" relations with this island Nation. Why? That's all I can ask, why?

Ways and Means Andrea Moore

Thank you to all our members who supported our Ways and Means Table. We earned \$450.47 from sales. Having PayPal available was a real boost to our sales! SPLIT THE POT: The club earned \$92 and **Rosemary Kuntz** and **Georgianna Ketcham** won \$46 each.

At December's brunch, we were honored to have Zan Bunn, state president of the NC Federation of Republican Woman as our speaker. We put Zan to work pulling the winning numbers in our \$2,500 fundraiser. Congratulations to all the eight winners, and thank you to those who participated. You are all winners because those funds are used to support our military and literacy outreach. Our Grand Prize \$1,000 winner was **Maureen Krueger**; two other winners received \$500 each, and five additional winners won \$100 each.

