



# GOP

## County Courier

A Newsletter for the Partners in Grassroots Government

January, 2005

### 2004-2005 NCRCO OFFICERS AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS

**President: Marilyn Byers**

Ashland County Commissioner, Loudonville, OH

**Vice President: Glen Whitley**

Tarrant County Commissioner, Hurst, TX

**Secretary: Harry Forbes**

Pike County Commissioner, Milford, PA

**Treasurer: Carol Holden**

Hillsborough County Commissioner, Amherst, NH

**Immediate Past President: Ray Valdes**

Seminole County Tax Collector, Sanford, FL

**Region 1 Director: Bill Doherty**

Barnstable County Commissioner, Harwick, MA

**Region 2 Director: Jean Raymond**

Saratoga County Board of Supervisors,  
Edinburgh, NY

**Region 3 Director: Bill Tansey**

New Castle County Councilman, Wilmington, DE

**Region 4 Director: Dennis Hollingsworth**

St. Johns County Tax Collector, St. Augustine,  
FL

**Region 5 Director: Gary White**

Jefferson County Commissioner, Birmingham, AL

**Region 6 Director: Jeff Dossett**

Montgomery County Clerk, Crawfordsville, IN

**Region 7 Director: Jack Martz**

Dane County Supervisor, Fitchburg, WI

**Region 8 Director: Dave Jamison**

Story County Treasurer, Nevada, IA

**Region 9 Director: Martha Gustavson**

Montgomery County Treasurer, Conroe, TX

**Region 10 Director: Camille Cain**

Weber County Commissioner, Ogden, UT

**Region 11 Director: Michael Long**

Klamath County Treasurer, Klamath Falls, OR

**Region 12 Director: Fran Deane**

Clark County Recorder, Las Vegas, NV

### A Look at 2005 by NCRCO President *Marilyn Byers*



As I look forward to a new year of NCRCO activity, highlighted by the inauguration of President George W. Bush, I am eager to share with you plans for the two regular meetings of NCRCO in 2005.

I do not yet have confirmation of guests and special activities for our meeting and reception during the NACo Legislative Conference March 4-8 in Washington, D.C., at the Wardman Park Marriott Hotel, but I can tell you that we are aiming for some high level speakers and exciting activities. Reuben Barrales, who is a good friend of NCRCO and Deputy Assistant to the President and Director for Intergovernmental Affairs, is helping facilitate our plans. Also assisting are Joe Jaso, our liaison with the Republican National Committee, and Jennifer Wilson, our NACo staff contact.

A form to fill out and submit 2005 dues is on the back of this newsletter. Please become a current member immediately to facilitate keeping an up-to-date membership list. Some activities in March might require social security identification for clearance; however, if that is necessary, a special mailing will be sent to members. This could become a last minute notification.

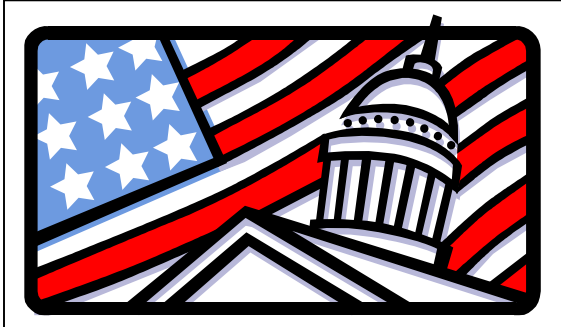
The NACo conference in Hawaii July 15-19 will also serve as the NCRCO annual meeting. An invitation has already been extended to Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle (R) to join us at the NCRCO reception.

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## A Look at 2005—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As a caucus of NACo, NCRCO provides a forum to participate in, comment on, or consider official policies of the National Association of Counties. A major principle of NCRCO is to further the standards and ideals of the Republican Party through regular contact and association with Republican County Officials throughout the U. S.

With the enthusiasm that reigned throughout the great Republican National Convention in New York City in August and the excitement of the Presidential Inauguration, we Republicans have much to be thankful for. Let us continue the impetus that brought us to victory in the election.



### *Marilyn Byers*

NCRCO President  
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Loudonville, OH 44842  
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#### **NCRCO Standing Committees 2004-05 Chairs and Members**

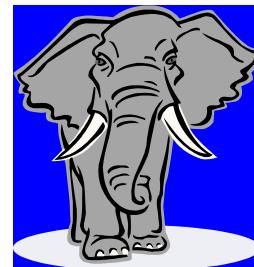
- AUDIT:** *Chair* Dannie McConkie (UT)  
Past President Richard Cecil (DE)  
Betty Knight (MO)  
Sean Roussel (LA)
- BUDGET and FINANCE:** *Chair* Treasurer Carol Holden (NH)  
President Marilyn Byers (OH)  
Michael Long (OR)
- HOSPITALITY:** *Chair* Pearl Burris Floyd (NC)  
Nila Dayton (UT)  
Mike Nelson (CA)  
Benjamin Owens (IL)
- ISSUES:** *Chair* Bill Doherty (MA)  
Camille Cain (UT)  
Robert Vasquez (ID)
- MEMBERSHIP:** *Chair* Tom Bennington (IL)  
Michael J. King (OH)  
Charlotte Sandvik (NC)  
Felicie D. Truscio (AZ)
- NEWSLETTER:** President Marilyn Byers (OH)
- NOMINATING:** *Chair* Immediate Past President Ray Valdes (FL)  
President Marilyn Byers (OH)  
Past President Bob Patterson (TN)  
Regional Director Jean Raymond (NY)  
Member-at-Large Gene Merry (KS)
- AWARDS :** *Chair* NACo President Elect Bill Hansell (OR)  
Prior Recipient Sue Berglund (IL)  
Dave Brand (OH)  
Harold Voorhees (MI)  
(This is designated as a "special committee.")

Committee members were selected by the president according to specifications in the NCRCO Bylaws.

### **Special Thanks to Past President Ray Valdes**

Ray Valdes, from Seminole County, Florida, with his superb style of leadership, guided NCRCO from 2002-2004. He worked hard to establish many criteria for our awards and events and developed a flyer that may be used as a recruitment tool for membership. He published our newsletters and, among many other accomplishments, initiated the development of a website which will serve NCRCO well in the near future.

In appreciation for his dedication and service, NCRCO presented Ray a solid wooden-base clock with a brass elephant on top at the annual meeting.



## Corporate Sponsors are Valuable to NCRCO

A corporate sponsor contributes \$1,500 to \$5,000 for a year's sponsorship of NCRCO. Levels of sponsorship are \$5,000 (Platinum); \$2,500 (Gold); and \$1,500 (Silver).

This year **Seasongood and Mayer**, a 118-year-old investment banking firm that deals in public finance and the municipal market and is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, proudly supports NCRCO as a Platinum Sponsor. Seasongood & Mayer is active in all sectors of public finance including government infrastructure, utilities, education, health care, transportation, housing, and lease/appropriation financing.

Additional sponsors are welcome and will be recognized during our meetings and featured in our newsletters. Special gifts of lesser amounts are also accepted.

### NCRCO 2005 PLATINUM SPONSOR



## Just for the Asking: NEW MEMBERS

Many people you work with in county government would join NCRCO if they knew about the organization and were asked to join. Please copy this newsletter to potential members. The membership reply on the back of this newsletter will assist in recruiting new members. Note that, although there was a thorough discussion at the annual meeting about raising dues, the membership voted that the dues will remain at \$20.00 per year.

## We are E-Mailing & Mailing this Newsletter!

This newsletter will be e-mailed to members when an email address has been provided. Others will receive the newsletter by regular mail. Every effort is being made to communicate with our members.

# NCRCO

## LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE MEETINGS AND RECEPTION

**Wardman Park Marriott Hotel  
Washington, D.C.**

**Sunday, March 6, 2005**

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Board of Directors Meeting

9:00 -10:00 a.m.

General Membership Meeting

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Reception (membership required)

Meeting rooms will be identified in the NACo program. Other NCRCO activities may be announced prior to the conference by special flyer.



## This and That about March's Legislative Conference

- Several NCRCO members are undertaking their own membership drives for NCRCO. Such reports at the March 6 meeting will be exciting!
- Remember to check out the Republican table at the conference hotel during Legislative Conference. You may pay dues there, purchase Republican items from Sue Ann Foster who shares her profit with NCRCO, or just stop to say "hello" to Republican friends.

## **“Republican County Official of the Year” Awards Presented**

During the July 2004, NCRCO annual meeting in Phoenix, four very deserving local officials were awarded “Republican County Official of the Year” awards. They are Union County, Oregon, Commissioner Colleen MacLeod; Shelby County, Tennessee, Trustee Bob Patterson; Jefferson County, Alabama, Commissioner Gary White; and Maricopa County, Arizona, Supervisor Don Stapley.

With **Colleen MacLeod** being active in Republican activities on the county and state level, Oregon Senator Gordon Smith called her “the type of common sense Republican who attracts new members to our party.” For her work and public service, Colleen was named 1999 Union County Woman of the Year. An avowed chronic community volunteer, she spends much personal time involved in projects that contribute to making her county strong and enjoyable.

In 1990, **Bob Patterson** ran for the office of Shelby County Trustee. He became the first Republican to hold the office and the only Republican countywide elected office holder. He had started in 1960 to build the Republican Party in his county and became chair of Central Committee. During his tenure he held 52 workshops to train Republicans how to register voters and make a difference. Bob is committed to Republican ideals and willing to work hard for them. He was president of NCRCO, 1998-1999.

Prior to being elected commissioner in 1990, **Gary White** served on the Homewood City Council and the Alabama State Legislature. He is an elected member of the Alabama Republican Executive Committee and the Jefferson County Executive Committee. He is very active campaigning for Alabama Republicans and participating in numerous civic and community activities. He distinguished himself by securing NCRCO corporate sponsors that help defray conference expenses.

**Don Stapley** is a declared candidate for NACo Second Vice President. We look forward to having him join Republican Bill Hansell on the NACo Executive Team. Active on committees and task forces of NACo, Don also chairs the Large Urban County Caucus. At the opening session of the Phoenix conference, Don was named “American City and County Official of the Year.” Don is past president of the Arizona County Supervisor Association.

Bill Hansell of Oregon served as chairman and presenter of the awards. He was assisted by Danny McConkie of Utah, Darrell Decker of Missouri, Patricia Geissman of Ohio, and Carol Holden of New Hampshire.

Hansell will again serve as chair of the NCRCO Awards Committee and soon will be accepting nominations for “2005 Republican County Official of the Year.” All nominations and resumes should be submitted to Bill by May 1, 2005. The award will be presented at the NCRCO annual meeting in Hawaii in July. Applications may be picked up at the general membership meeting in Washington, D.C., during the NACo Legislative Conference or may soon be accessed from the NCRCO website.

## **Byers Speaks at Republican National Convention**

County government was featured on the first day of the Republican National Convention in New York City last August. Traditionally, the president of NCRCO is given a brief time slot during non-prime time.

President Marilyn Byers stressed the importance of local government as she spoke of responsibilities of county government. She related President Bush’s accomplishments that enhance the work of county government, and concluded by asking all county officials to help get out the vote for President George W. Bush.

Dean Irwin, an Ashland County, Ohio, businessman, took this TV photo of his county commissioner. The convention was covered on C-Span.



# NCRCO's New Tradition: the Passing of the Gavel



Ray Valdes was an innovator of many things during his tenure as president of NCRCO. One was the newly established tradition of “passing the gavel.” When the chair was transferred to the newly elected president, part of the installation ceremony was the passing of the gavel from past NCRCO presidents who were in attendance to the new president.

The 24-inch-long gavel with historic engravings of the name of each NCRCO president and year served was passed from Fred Anderson to Reed Madden to Bob Patterson to Ray Valdes to Marilyn Byers, current president.

The Honorable Fred Anderson, retired treasurer from Roanoke County, Virginia, and 1987-88 NCRCO president, conducted the installation ceremony for all officers and regional directors. NCRCO member and county engineer Dave Brand, of Ohio, provided the digital photos of the annual meeting used in this newsletter.

## **State/Regional NCRCO Designations**

- Region 1* Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
- Region 2* Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
- Region 3* Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia
- Region 4* Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands
- Region 5* Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
- Region 6* Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio
- Region 7* Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin
- Region 8* Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
- Region 9* Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
- Region 10* Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
- Region 11* Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington
- Region 12* Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada

## **Barrales and Ciliberti: Special Guests of NCRCO**

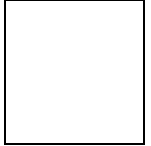
Sent by President Bush to the NACo Conference in July of 2004, Reuben Barrales and Eric Ciliberti brought greetings from the President during our NCRCO reception.

Reuben shared re-election talking points concerning the President's policies, such as his creation of more jobs and tax breaks to small businesses that stimulated the economy. He is well-known to NCRCO members and someone we local elected officials may call upon in the President's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Eric had just returned from assignment in Baghdad, attached to the Ministry of the Interior in the Office of Security Policy. He previously had worked for Reuben and kept in touch with local governments throughout America. He reported on the improved conditions in Iraq and held everyone captive with his *true* stories.



NCRCO  
 MARILYN BYERS, PRESIDENT  
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 LOUDONVILLE, OH 44842



*As we savor the re-election of President George W. Bush in 2004, we must realize that Republican County Officials have an obligation to keep up the impetus that brought us to victory in the election. As NCRCO continues to grow, our participation in the election effort becomes more noticeable. Our leadership is needed. As we increase membership, we can play a greater role in the election process. **Please renew your membership in NCRCO for the 2005 year.** Many of your peers will be pleased to join NCRCO if the invitation is extended to them. **Please copy this correspondence and enlist new members!***

**MEMBERSHIP REPLY**

YES, I want to be an active participant in the National Conference of Republican County Officials (NCRCO) and help support the programs that will benefit all local elected and appointed Republicans. Enclosed is my membership fee of \$20.

Please complete the following information. Send your reply along with your \$20 check, payable to:

**The National Conference of Republican County Officials**  
**NCRCO TREASURER, CAROL HOLDEN, P. O. BOX 13, AMHERST, NH 03031**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Office Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home or Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

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