



GOP *County Courier*

A Newsletter for the Partners in Grassroots Government

May, 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 Pat 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 (resigned)

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

Special NCRCO Events Planned for Annual Meeting



Republican Governor Linda Lingle, will be the keynote speaker at the NCRCO reception on Monday, July 18, during the NACo annual conference to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, from July 15-18, 2005. Governor Lingle's amazing rise in politics is detailed on page 4 of this newsletter.

During the reception, NACo President-Elect Bill Hansell (OR) will announce recipients of the "Republican County Official of the Year" awards. This honor is bestowed annually to worthy NCRCO members. Assisting Hansell on this special selection committee are past recipient Sue Berglund (IL), Dave Brand (OH), and Harold Voorhees (MI).

The induction of newly elected officers and regional directors by 1998 NCRCO president Fred Anderson (VA) will also take place during the reception. The candidates for these positions are listed on page 2.

NCRCO Activities

Sunday, July 17, 2005

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Board of Directors Meeting

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

General Membership Meeting

Monday, July 18, 2005

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception (membership required)

Speaker: Hawaii's Governor Lingle

Locations for these activities will be in the Convention Center, as listed in the NACo program.



Life Membership for Valdes

NCRCO President Marilyn Byers (OH) presented NCRCO Past President Ray Valdes (FL) with Life Membership during the General Membership Meeting in Washington, D.C. in March, 2005.

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 Burreis 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.

Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee Chairman, Ray Valdes (FL), announces the following slate of NCRCO Officers and Regional Directors to be presented to the membership at our Annual Meeting:

President: Glen Whitley, Tarrant County Commissioner, Hurst, TX; (817) 994-0060; glenwhitley@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Harry Forbes, Pike County Commissioner, Milford, PA; (570) 296-3476; forbesh@pdt.net

Secretary: Carol Holden, Hillsborough County Commissioner, Amherst, NH; (603) 673-8167; cocommish@rcn.com

Treasurer: Dennis Hollingsworth, St. John's County Tax Collector, St. Augustine, FL; (904) 823-2250; donnish@co.st-johns.fl.us

Immediate Past President: Marilyn Byers, Ashland County Commissioner, Loudonville, OH; (419) 282-4354; mbyers@ashlandcounty.org

Regional Directors

Region 1: No Nominee (ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)

Region 2: Paul Allen (CT, NJ, NY, PA) Cortland County Commissioner, Cortland, New York; (607) 753-5095; pallen@cortland-co.org

Region 3: Bill Tansey (DE, MD, NC, VA, WV) New Castle County Councilman, Wilmington, DE; (302) 395-8343; wtansey@co.new-castle.de.us

Region 4: Paul Senft (FL, GA, SC, PR, VI) Polk County Commissioner; Bartow, Florida; (863) 534-6422; senft1hp2n@aol.com

Region 5: Gary White (AL, KY, MS, TN) Jefferson County Commissioner, Birmingham, AL; (205) 325-5503; whiteq@jcc.co.jefferson.al.us

Region 6: Tom Bennington (IL, IN, MI, OH) DuPage County Commissioner, Downer Grove, IL; (630) 985-6160; tbennington@dupageco.org

Region 7: Charlotte Sandvik (MN, ND, SD, WI) Cass County Treasurer, Fargo, ND; (701) 241-5611; treasurer@co.cass.nd.us

Region 8: Dave Jamison (IA, KS, MO, NE) Story County Treasurer, Nevada, IA; (515) 290-5058; Ddj28@mchsi.com

Region 9: Jim Hamlin (AR, LA, OK, TX) Dallas County District Clerk, Dallas, TX; (214) 653-7149; jhamlin@dallascounty.org

Region 10: Alynn Huffman (CO, NM, UT, WY) Gilpin County Treasurer, Central City, CO, (303) 582-5222; gcttreasurer@co.gilpin.co.us

Region 11: Michael Long (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA) Klamath County Treasurer, Klamath Falls, OR; (541) 883-4269; mlong@co.klamath.or.us

Region 12: Mike Nelson (AZ, CA, HI, NV) Merced County Supervisor, Merced, CA; (209) 385-7366; Dist3@co.merced.ca.us

As allowed by the NCRCO Constitution/By-Laws, any member in good standing may also be nominated from the floor during the Annual Meeting, designated for the purpose of election of officers and directors.



NCRCO Member is Candidate for NACo 2nd VP



Supervisor Don Stapley from Maricopa County, AZ, is running for NACo 2nd Vice President. An ardent participant in the National Association of Counties, he has served in the following capacities: Board of Directors, Large Urban County Caucus (Chairman), Homeland Security Task Force, Justice and Law Enforcement Committee, and Medicare/Medicaid Reform Task Force.

From a pioneer Arizona family, Stapley carries on a family tradition of serving the state. Currently, he is in his fourth, four-year term on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. He is former chairman of the board and former president of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona. For the Maricopa Association of Governments, he has served on the Transportation and Policy Committee.

American City and County Magazine declared Stapley "County Leader of the Year" and featured him on the cover with the phrase, "Stapley practices his talent for bringing people together to accomplish common goals." He took the initiative to round up a coalition of community leaders for a current project involving identifying Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) inmates in the county jail system and transferring them to programs where they can receive proper treatment and be able to function in society.

In addition to his activities as a public servant, Stapley has contributed to his community as a volunteer for decades. Boy Scouts, YMCA, and Little League are among his myriad involvements. He and his wife, Kathy, have four children and three grandchildren.

Maricopa, over 9,000 square miles in the center of Arizona, is the fourth most populous county in the nation. Don Stapley looks forward to relaying personal greetings from the 48th state when he meets with county leaders from across the country at the 50th state for the NACo convention in July.

Editor's note: Don Stapley was honored in 2004 as a "Republican County Official of the Year."



Hansell to Announce "Republican County Official of the Year" Awards



NACo President-Elect Bill Hansell (OR) will announce recipients of the "Republican County Official of the Year" awards during the NCRCO reception in Honolulu. This honor is bestowed annually to worthy NCRCO members.



Hawaii's Governor Linda Lingle: Biographical Information

Republican governor Lingle will be the keynote speaker at the NCRCO reception on Monday, July 18, during the NACo annual conference.

For nearly thirty years, Linda Lingle has dedicated herself to making life and government better in Hawaii—as a newspaper publisher, a county government leader, an active community volunteer, and now as Hawaii's governor.

Governor Lingle was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1953. When she was 12, her family moved to Southern California, where she attended Birmingham High, a public school in Van Nuys. In 1975, she graduated cum laude from California State University at Northridge, where she was editor of the Journalism Department Newspaper and the Alumni Newsletter. She was also selected to join the journalism honor society Kappa Tau Alpha.

Soon after graduation, she moved to Hawaii, following her father who was building a business in the islands. She served as the public information officer for the Hawaii Teamsters and Hotel Workers Union in Honolulu, where she edited a newspaper for the union's members. She then founded the Molokai Free Press, a community newspaper. As the paper's publisher, editor, reporter, photographer, and typesetter, she reported on community events and covered local government. It was during this time that she realized she could help make a difference in government.

In 1980, waging a grassroots campaign against a well-funded challenger, Lingle was elected to the Maui County Council. She served five two-year terms on the council. Her major accomplishment was creating a Molokai Planning Commission so that the people of Molokai had a means to discuss and decide zoning and planning issues.

Councilwoman Lingle was elected Mayor of Maui County in 1990 and re-elected in 1994. She served the maximum two consecutive four-year terms by defeating the most prominent democrats in the county, a former mayor and a 40-year veteran of the County Council. She was the youngest, the first woman, and the only non-Maui born person ever elected to the office. She is proudest of being able to gather support to implement performance-based budgeting that measures the effectiveness of government programs.

Thanks to her leadership, Maui County received the "Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" for four consecutive years, and she was invited to advise the governments of Guam and Pohnpei on how to implement performance-based budgeting. Throughout her term, job growth was faster on Maui than anywhere else in the state. Because of her innovative and collaborative approach in developing tourism, Maui was voted "Best Island in the World" in the annual "Cond'e Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards Poll" for five years.

In 1998, Mayor Lingle campaigned for governor, losing by just one percent of the vote, and was later named the most respected woman in Hawaii in an independent poll commissioned by one of the state's leading magazines. Determined to continue working for change in Hawaii, Mayor Lingle focused on building the state Republican Party, starting with grassroots meetings of her supporters. As Chair of the Hawaii Republican Party from 1999 to early 2002, she helped more Republicans get elected to the state legislature than at any other time since 1962.

In 2002, Mayor Lingle campaigned again for governor, this time winning the state's highest office. She is the first woman and the first mayor to serve as Governor of Hawaii, and the first Republican to lead the state since 1962.

Thank You, Camera Man!

County Commissioner Gary White (AL) provided the Legislative Conference photos for this newsletter. Thank you, Gary!



Special Note to Jennifer Wilson:

Jennifer Wilson, the NACo staff member who is assigned to NCRCO as our liaison, has been extremely helpful in planning and implementing NCRCO activities. She produces the flyers placed in each NACo registration bag, arranges with NACo for the large sign that identifies the NCRCO table at conferences, helps coordinate menus and schedules, and more. Jennifer is one of the few Republicans on the NACo staff, and word is out that she asked for the privilege of working with NCRCO.

We appreciate you, Jennifer!

Highlights of the Legislative Conference in D.C.

Enthusiastic NCRCO members and guests gathered in Washington, D.C., March 5-8, 2005, at NACo's Legislative Conference. Following are highlights of our activities:

▶ Michael DuHaime, political director for the Republican National Committee, spoke during the reception on Sunday, March 6. He enthusiastically sparked the crowd with his challenges on creative campaign techniques and grassroots politics.



▶ Ruben Barrales, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director for Intergovernmental Affairs, White House, also was a reception speaker. A special friend to NCRCO, Ruben spoke of President Bush's initiatives to strengthen America's communities and optimize the influence of the market place.



▶ Kathy Rust, Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, County Liaison, explained procedures for the White House Briefing.

▶ NCRCO members filled the auditorium in the Old Executive Office Building on Monday, March 7, for a 1½ hour White House Briefing:

- Ruben Barrales stressed that President Bush desires an ownership society and that personal accounts are voluntary.
- Sara Taylor, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Political Affairs, White House, (introduced as Carl Rove's "right hand"), discussed tax cuts, social security reform, health care, and the President's desire to make families stronger.
- Dr. David Sampson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, Department of Commerce, explained the President's Strengthening America's Communities Initiative with the focus on leveraging the power of the market place.
- Jeanie Mamo, Special Assistant to the President and Director of Media Affairs, White House, spoke of her responsibilities.

**Visit our website:
National Conference of Republican County Officials**



<http://www.ncrco.org>

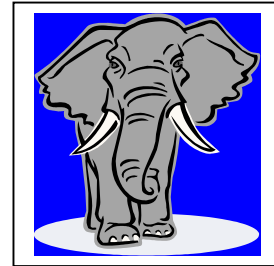


Minutes from the NCRCO General Membership Meeting, March 6, 2005, Washington, D.C

Submitted by Harry Forbes, NCRCO Secretary (PA)

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. with prayer by Glen Whitley (TX) and the pledge led by Grace Merkes (AK) and her grandsons, Mitchell and Matthew. President Marilyn Byers (OH) welcomed members and introduced guests. She then introduced the officers, NACo liaison Jennifer Wilson, and district directors. Marilyn then proceeded to recognize NCRCO past presidents and past recipients of Republican of the Year awards.

- Secretary's Report was presented by Harry Forbes (PA).
- Treasurer's Report was presented by Carol Holden (NH), showing a cash remaining balance of \$13,416.99 as of February 28, 2005. A membership report was also presented.
- President Marilyn Byers reported that **Seasongood & Mayer** will be this year's Platinum sponsor of NCRCO. She also announced that there is an opening for a Region 2 Director; Gary White will be the official photographer at this year's legislative Conference; and the RNC Winter Meeting was reported on, along with other various items.
- Reports were given by the Regional Directors.
- Jennifer Wilson gave an update on the NACo Liaison Report.
- Standing Committee Reports were given as follows:
 - 1) Audit — Chair Dannie McConkie (UT)
 - 2) Budget and Finance — Carol Holden (NH)
 - 3) Hospitality — Pearl Burns Floyd (NC)
 - 4) Issues — Bill Doherty (MA)
 - 5) Membership — Tom Bennington (IL)
 - 6) Newsletter — Marilyn Byers (OH)
 - 7) Nominating — Ray Valdes (FL)
 - 8) Awards — Bill Hansell (OR)
- Unfinished Business: Ray Valdes reported that the NCRCO website is www.ncrco.org. The startup cost of the website is \$795 with update fees of \$75 each. Glen Whitley (TX) advised that sponsors can be added to the website.
- New Business: Life Membership in NCRCO was bestowed upon Past President Pay Valdes. Annual memberships are available at \$20.00 per calendar year.
- The following announcements were made:
 - 1) Reception — 5:30-7:00 p.m., Cotillion North (your membership card is your ticket for admission), with speakers Michael DuHaime, Political Director of the Republican National Committee, and Ruben Barrales, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director for Intergovernmental Affairs.
 - 2) White House Briefing Monday, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Old Executive Office Building; membership required.
 - 3) Annual meeting — Honolulu, Hawaii, July 15-19; the invited reception speaker is Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle (R).



The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

***NCRCO thanks Seasongood & Mayer for their
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Update from the Republican National Committee

By Wade Lairsen, Republican National Committee

With the election of Ken Mehlman as Chairman and JoAnn Davidson as Co-Chair of the RNC on January 19th, the RNC is working hard to move the Republican agenda forward. The Republican Party, led by Chairman Mehlman, has raised a record \$32.3 million from January to March, which is more than double the amount Democrats have raised in the same amount of time. Chairman Mehlman, in his first 100 days, has already visited 41 cities, 18 states, traveled over 31,000 miles, and attended 60 events in order to help grow the party and spread our party's message of freedom and progress.

Republicans have had an accomplished "First 100 Days." The Congress passed and the President signed into law two major pieces of legislation: the Class Action law which creates a "bill of rights" for plaintiff members of class action law suits, and Bankruptcy reforms that make the system fairer for creditors and debtors so that more Americans can get access to affordable credit.

The President and members of his Administration recently completed the "60 stops in 60 days tour" to discuss the need to fix Social Security to ensure that future generations receive benefits equal to or greater than today's seniors, protect those who depend on Social Security most, and replace the empty promises being made to younger workers with real money. Still, Democrats have offered no plans to ensure the long-term financial security of future generations.

Republicans in the Senate are also working hard to ensure that the President's judicial nominees receive a fair up or down vote. For 214 years, the U.S. Senate fulfilled its Constitutional duty to "advise and consent" on these appointments. In 2003, that tradition was broken and a new tradition of obstructionism on the part of Senate Democrats behind the lead of then Minority Leader Tom Daschle began with the blocking of the nomination of a well-accomplished appointee, Miguel Estrada. Today, we find Senate Democrats are applying the same double standard which has led to President Bush's four-year confirmation rate for appellate judges being the lowest of any president in the last 30 years.

As Republican County Officials, you are at the front lines working hard each day to push the Republican agenda forward. We appreciate the work you do each day for the Party and for the President. The President's leadership, along with hard working Republicans such as yourselves, has transformed government for the challenges our families face today and tomorrow and has made the Republican Party the party of progress and freedom.

Minutes from the NCRCO Board of Directors Meeting, March 6, 2005, Washington, D.C

Submitted by Harry Forbes, NCRCO Secretary (PA)

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Marilyn Byers (OH), with an invocation by Region 10 Director Camille Cain (UT), followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Past President Ray Valdes (FL). 22 people were in attendance.

- President Marilyn Byers welcomed special guests.
- No Secretary's Report was given by Harry Forbes (PA). Carol Holden (NH) presented the Treasurer's Report, showing a cash balance of \$13,416.99 as of February 28, 2005. A membership report was also presented.
- President's Report was given by Marilyn Byers. She also announced that Joe Jaso, the RNC liaison, has left RNC and been replaced by Wade Lairsen. Photo ID will be required on Monday when attending the White House Briefing at 3:30 p.m. The cost of breakfast at the meetings was discussed as well as what measures can be taken to reduce costs.
- Ray Valdes reported that the NCRCO website is www.ncrco.org. The startup cost of the website is \$795 with update fees of \$75 each. Glen Whitely (TX) advised that sponsors can be added to the website.
- Regional Director Reports were given. Ray Valdez will head the nomination committee for a replacement for a Region 2 Director. Committee Reports were given.
- Unfinished/Old Business: Applications for Republican for the Year for 2005 must be submitted to Bill Hansell (OR) by May 1, 2005.
- New Business: Former North Carolina State Association President Richard Stone introduced the new North Carolina president, John Fogert.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m.



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mbyers@ashlandcounty.org

NCRCO Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Carol Holden, NCRCO Treasurer (NH)

I am pleased to announce that **our membership is currently at 252, up from 198 last year.** If you have not joined for the current calendar year, I encourage you to do so. The membership list is available from the Regional Directors and Officers. If you have questions about your status, please do not hesitate to call me at (603) 673-8167 or e-mail me at ccommish@rcn.com. **Please consider paying the dues so you can attend the annual meeting in Hawaii** and our reception with Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle. Even if you are not going to Hawaii, please **join to help support the work of Republican County Officials.** Your membership entitles you to receive the GOP County Courier and read about what is going on with Republicans in county offices.

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

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Address _____ County _____
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Email Address _____ Fax # _____
Home or Cell Phone # _____

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