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2009-2010 Regional Directors

Region 1: Pamela Coughlin
Register of Deeds
Hillsborough County, NH
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President's Report
Spring 2010

President Barack Hussein Obama just announced his budget of $1.27 trillion deficit that all of our counties have to face. Also, I take strong exceptions to his seventy-two word sanctimonious State of the Union address that was followed by a standing ovation from his Democrat brethren:

"Last week, the Supreme Court reversed a century of law to open the floodgates for special interests, including foreign corporations, to spend without limit in our elections. Well I don't think American elections should be bankrolled by the America’s most powerful interests, or worse, by foreign entities. They should be decided by the American people, and that's why I ’m urging Democrats and republicans to pass a bill that helps to right this wrong.”

My first objection is his sandbagging of the Supreme Court Justices, who were invited as his honored guests, and had no opportunity to respond to his allegations. My second objection is that Obama’s statement was factually wrong. The Supreme Court decision did not change or even address the long standing prohibitions on contributions by foreign nationals and foreign entities. The decision did not alter the one hundred year-old ban
on domestic corporate contributions to political campaigns.

One of the great moments last month, was the election of Scott Brown in Massachusetts for Ted Kennedy’s senate seat. This is a great opportunity for Republicans to change the course of counties, state, and federal offices in 2010. We need to share our elected leaders’ plans and the grass roots organizations of our nation.

The time is coming for Republicans to regain seats and control of the House and Senate in both the Federal and State governments.

I am looking forward to an upbeat legislative conference in Washington DC. Please join me in encouraging Republican associates throughout your regions to come on board with our association.

Respectfully yours,

Michael R. Long, CFM
Treasurer/Tax Collector, Klamath County OR

2010 Legislative Conference
March 6-9, 2010
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.
Please click on the following link to register and find out more!

http://www.naco.org/

The following NCRCO activities will take place during the conference on Monday March 8, also at the Marriott Wardman.

12:00 pm -1:00 pm  NCRCO Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  NCRCO Membership Meeting
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  NCRCO Reception

President Michael Long and NACo Liaison Ryan Yates are coordinating the activities for the conference. If you are interested in assisting with the preparations, contact Michael Long at mlong@co.klamath.or.us.
BOARD MEMBERS' AND REGIONAL REPORTS

The Nominating Committee is in the process of finalizing a slate of officers and candidates for Regional Directors' positions.

The following regional director seats are vacant for 2011:

Region 2: Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
Region 5: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
Region 8: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
Region 9: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

If you are from one of these regions and seek to be more involved with NCRCO, please contact any of the members of the Nominating Committee either at the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in March, or via Email: Dennis Hollingsworth, Nominating Committee Chairman, dennis@sjctax.us; Mike Long, President, mlong@co.klamath.or.us; Don Wallace, Vice President, donwallacecpa@aol.com; Ray Valdes, republicanray@yahoo.com; Nancy Weeks, hkcotrea@pld.com.

Region 1: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
From www.boston.com:


Republican Scott Brown pulled off one of the biggest upsets in Massachusetts political history tonight, defeating Democrat Martha Coakley to become the state's next United States senator and potentially derail President Obama's hopes for a health care overhaul.

The victory caps a dramatic surge in recent days as Brown, a state lawmaker from Wrentham once thought to have little chance of beating a popular attorney general, roared ahead of Coakley to become the first Republican senator elected from Massachusetts since 1972.

In a race that became the center of national attention, Brown's win is widely seen as a vote against the president's agenda from one of the most reliably Democratic states. And in a particularly ironic twist, Brown, in succeeding Edward M. Kennedy -- the late liberal lion who deemed health care "the cause of my life" -- may well be the 41st vote to prevent the Democratic-led plan from moving forward.
"Tonight, the independent voice of Massachusetts has spoken," Brown told cheering supporters at the Park Plaza Hotel, who broke out into a chorus of "41, 41."

Brown said the first call I made was to Vicki Kennedy, the widow of the late senator, and told her "his name would always command respect in the state of Massachusetts. ...

There's no replacing a man like that but tonight, I honor the memory and I pledge to do my very best and try to be a worthy successor to the late Senator Kennedy."

He added: "We ran a clean, issues-oriented, upbeat campaign and I wouldn't trade that for anything. It was all of us against the machine. And tonight, we have shown everybody now that you are the machine."

Region 2: Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

State Republican Chairman Chris Healy Statement on Reports Chris Dodd will not seek re-election to U.S. Senate

New Britain – Connecticut Republicans State Party Chairman said the following about reports that Chris Dodd is dropping out of the race for U.S. Senate:

“Whether its Chris Dodd, Dick Blumenthal or any other Connecticut Democrat, the reality is the voters have had enough of the bail-outs, the buyouts and government takeovers and they are ready for a change in Washington.”

“The Democrats in Washington have had their way with the people’s money for far too long. While voters in Connecticut grew tired of Chris Dodd’s VIP deals and unethical behavior, they are more weary of the out of control spending and big government solutions that have done nothing to create jobs or rebuild the economy. People are angry about what's going on in Washington and the way the Democratic majority has spent their tax dollars and they are looking for change.”

Dick Cecil, Director Region 3: Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia

The biggest thing happening in Delaware is the scramble for the US Senate seat formerly held by Vice President Joe Biden. Biden had hoped his son Beau, currently the Attorney General would run. However he has declined. Our Congressman, Michael N. Castle, Republican has declared. He has been in Congress for many years and is a former Governor. Now Chris Coons, the Democratic County Executive of New Castle County has declared for the Senate seat, It should be an interesting race to watch. Stay tuned.

Region 4: Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

Latest poll: Rubio over Crist for GOP nod in Senate race

Out-funded but apparently not out-campaigned, former Florida House Speaker Marco Rubio has pulled ahead of Gov. Charlie Crist in the U.S. Senate race. The two are competing for the Republican nomination in August's primary election. The winner will go on to the general election in November.

A Quinnipiac University poll released today shows Rubio leading Crist 47 percent to 44 percent. The poll has a margin of error of 2.4 percentage points. That beats a Rasmussen poll from December that had Crist and Rubio in a dead heat.

Pollster Peter Brown, in releasing the figures, said the numbers make for an exciting turn in a race where Rubio was once behind by 31 percentage points.
Brown credits Rubio with a thus-far powerful grass roots run. Still, federal campaign finance records as of right now show Crist has at least $5.3 million more than Rubio to burn in his fight for the nomination. The poll also showed either candidate winning against the top Democrat, Kendrick Meek.

Don Wallace, Vice President, reporting for Region 5: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
A lot of people in the media and elsewhere have been questioning where the Republican leadership has been for the past year and what we will do to fill the void for 2010 and 2012. After recent victories in Virginia and New Jersey gubernatorial state offices, we have now seen a “second shot heard around the world” in the Massachusetts Senate race. This last victory was a federal election and a nationalized election that further gives Republicans and America an idea from where that leadership vacuum will be filled. It’s called the “grassroots.”

In virtually all these recent victories, it has been what Democrats have demeaned as “tea baggers”, and independents, and disaffected conservatives who have stood up to the massive expansion of the federal government, exploding deficits that are mortgaging our children’s future to China and other countries who, face it, may not have out best interests at heart, and are concerned about our security. True, some GOP leaders helped get the problems rolling, but under President Obama it has been, “Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!” toward big government and socialism.

The lesson and encouragement that we need to take from these recent wins is to allow the grassroots to flourish and the leader we need will rise to the top. Unlike 1994, we don’t have to have a “Contract”, we simply need to allow the people a voice, support them, and use some common sense judgment. We can also take heart that it should be local leadership, like ourselves, that can rise to the top. We are closest to the people, we understand their frustrations with government inefficiency and bureaucracy, and we can run for higher office ourselves or find those to support who understand what is going on. Simply put, we don’t need national Republican leadership in DC getting in the way too much! This time, the people seem to be taking charge and we need to let them drive for a while. To me, it’s a little bit exciting and nervous at the same time. That’s how I usually get before a big win! Keep up the great work.

Don Wallace
NCRCO Vice President

Ben Owens, Secretary, from Region 6:
ILLINOIS - THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY
Illinois has been known not only as the Land of Lincoln but rather the Land of Corruption. In the past year we have seen the first impeachment of a governor in our state when Governor Rod Blagojavich was charged with several indictments, including trying to sell Barack Obama’s vacated Senate seat. With the recent Republican win of the Senate seat in Massachusetts I believe that momentum has carried over to Illinois.

Several days following the primary election, Illinois Democrat U.S. Senator Dick Durbin made the comment that the Democrats know that they will be outspent by the Republicans in the race for the U.S. Senate seat once held by President Obama.

The momentum is also evident in the recent primaries held on February 2. The incumbent Democrat Governor, Pat Quinn, won over Comptroller Dan Heins by 5,000 votes, with my Republican State Senator, Bill Brady, winning the nomination by 409 votes in a field of seven candidates. The Republicans have a downstate ticket for Governor and Lt. Governor as they are from Central and Southern Illinois. Several years ago in Illinois all constitutional offices were being held by Republicans. At this time, the Democrats hold control of all constitutional offices and, being the majority in the State House and Senate, people of our state are distraught and frustrated and are looking for a change in the way our state government is being run.
A group of declared and potential candidates for public office participated in the inaugural Political Leadership Academy in Tuscola County on January 23, 2010. In a work and information filled day the attendees were exposed to public speaking, media relations, organization, fundraising, thinking on their feet and networking. Candidates for County Commission seats to State Senate races attended. “It was well worth the time commitment. I strengthened some campaign techniques and had the opportunity to network with other candidates throughout the academy,” Justin Faber, Candidate for Michigan House of Representatives for the 83rd District.

Organizers are already making plans for follow-up training and future academies. “It is exciting to see people at the grass roots level being proactive and taking steps to prepare for a strong, positive campaign,” said Amanda Roggenbuck, Academy Instructor.

The non partisan training was hosted by the Tuscola County Republican Party. “Whether you’re seeking a seat on the local school board or state or federal office, running for office is a challenging endeavor. Your county political party is an excellent resource.” said GOP Chair Lisa Valentine. “It’s encouraging to see people stepping up to serve their community by running for office.”

From Charlotte Sandvik, Director Region 7: Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin
North Dakota Republican Governor John Hoeven will run for the North Dakota Senate seat that Sen. Byron Dorgan holds. He has an excellent chance to get that seat. We also have three Republicans that are going to see who gets the North Dakota endorsements to run against Rep. Earl Pomeroy.

Article submitted by Charlotte Sandvik from The Forum:

**Leader Pledges No Loss of Clout**

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell vowed Monday that North Dakotans won't lose their influence in the U.S. Senate if John Hoeven is elected in November.

McConnell pledged to appoint Hoeven to two Senate committees – Appropriations and Energy and Natural Resources – and vowed to see to fruition the construction of permanent flood protection in the Red River Valley once Hoeven is in office.

"North Dakota's not going to lose any clout the day John Hoeven is sworn in. He'll be there for you in every way,” McConnell said before a crowd of some 200 supporters at a campaign rally for Hoeven in Fargo.

The rally officially kicked off Hoeven’s campaign and comes one week after the governor made known his intent to seek the Senate seat being vacated by Democratic incumbent Byron Dorgan.

Region 8: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
From [www.theiowarepublican.com](http://www.theiowarepublican.com):

**The Republican Resurgence**

A new TIR/Concordia Group poll shows the political environment in Iowa has improved for Republicans in the last six months. The poll was commissioned by TheIowaRepublican.com in conjunction with Concordia Group LLC, an Iowa based public affairs company. Voter Consumer Research, a highly respected polling firm based in Washington D.C., conducted the poll between January 25th and 28th, 2010. The previous TIR/Concordia Group poll was conducted in July of 2009.
The results show that Governor Culver’s polling numbers continue to plummet, but now it seems that the Governor’s poor showing in the poll has begun to erode the Democratic brand in the state, which will hurt Democrats up and down the ballot. In recent years, Republican have lost a number of legislative seats by a small margin. The improved environment may lead to more legislative victories in the fall.

The most encouraging news for Iowa Republicans is the improvement in their party brand. While the favorability of Republicans in the state remained at 46% in both the 2009 and 2010 polls, those with an unfavorable impression of the Republican Party decreased from 43% in 2009 to 36% in the latest poll.

Democrats, on the other hand, have seen their brand take a big hit in the last six month since the last TIR/Concordia Group poll. In July 2009, Democrats had a favorable rating of 49% and an unfavorable of 41%. Now those numbers are upside down. Only 41% had a favorable impression of Democrats, with their unfavorable rating jumping to 44%.

Not since 1994 have Republicans had such a favorable political environment. In Iowa that year, voters elected two new Republican Congressmen in Tom Latham and Greg Ganske. It was also the last time that Terry Branstad was on the ballot. If the current environment holds true, Republicans should be well positioned to have a similar haul, which would likely include defeating an incumbent Governor for the first time since the 1960's.

Iowa Republicans are primed for a good year, but RPI Chairman Strawn thinks that Republicans must remain aggressive. “For the Republican resurgence to carry through November, our legislators and candidates need to continue drawing a clear and unmistakable distinction between our vision for improving the lives of Iowans and the failed leadership of Chet Culver. We will be successful in November if our Republican candidates stay on offense while offering the voters a compelling, principled and solutions-based agenda," said Strawn.

Suzanne Henderson, Director, Region 9: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

We have a March 2 Primary in Texas. Candidates for Governor have been running vigorous campaigns! There is the incumbent, Governor Rick Perry, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson and former Chair of the Republican Party, Wharton County, Texas, Debra Medina. If Senator Hutchinson should win her race for Governor, her Senate seat will be vacant. Democrats are hopeful they might have a chance to win this seat back? Local races for Commissioner, County Clerk, District Clerk and judicial spots have been spirited with Tea Party activists out in full force.

Early voting begins February 16, 2010.

Jack Hilbert Director, Region 10: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming

Things in Colorado are shaping up to be a great year for Republicans. The sitting democrat Governor has announced he will not run for re-election. The reason is the new Pelosi-Reid Democrat Platform has people very angry and he trailed the Republican opponent by 22 points. Of course it didn't help that he almost doubled every State fee and/or penalty on the books. He hired over 2000 new employees while we run a $264m deficit. The very same mentality of tax and spend that we have at the national level. In addition, if the election were held today Democrat US Senate candidate Michael Bennett would lose to either of the Republican candidates. The same is happening across the state.

A recent local example of citizens and Tea Party movements making a difference, was a recent School Board election that featured a Union endorsed tax & spend slate that was completing replaced by an all new republican board. Things are exciting and getting better everyday.
Cyndi Johnson, Treasurer, reporting from Region 11:
Montana held their annual Winter Kick-Off in February. There are excellent Republican candidates in all but 7 of the 125 state legislative races with many great Senators and House members running for re-election. Montana was one of few states that kept or created a Republican majority in the State Senate and achieved an even 50-50 balance in the House during the 2008 election cycle. The Winter Kick-Off is held to generate enthusiasm, train candidates in campaign law, and organize and connect volunteers to political candidates. While Montanans were looking forward to a visit from Chairman Michael Steele, Mother Nature had other plans and he was unable to leave the D.C. area in time for the event. As back-up though, the conference attendees were treated to an hour long phone conference with Chairman Steele and phone addresses by both Representative Michele Bachmann of Minnesota and Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio. The three leaders were impressive in their enthusiasm, captivating and motivating the entire crowd of 300. Their message was similar - as Republicans we need to define our message clearly and speak to those issues most important to Americans - put people back to work, develop American energy, pull back on spending, reduce business tax and eliminate the death tax, reform Social Security and Medicare, and REDUCE the size of government.

David Ferdinand Director, Region 11: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington
Canyon County Idaho is the most Republican County in the State which is the most Republican in the Nation. Here is the explanation from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia online:

The Idaho Republican Party, the Idaho state affiliate of the United States Republican Party, is the dominant political party in the state of Idaho. Republicans control all constitutional offices, with C.L. "Butch" Otter as Governor. They also control by large margins the state Senate and House.
Idaho's Congressional delegation are led by US Senator Jim Risch, Senator Mike Crapo and in the US House of Representatives Idaho is represented by Mike Simpson and the only Democrat is in the 1st Congressional District (Democrat info added), Walt Minnick.

All elected officials in Canyon County are Republican…with the Governor, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction and State Controller all came from Canyon County. All Canyon County State legislators are also Republican.

Michael Jeanes Director, Region 12: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada
This week former Congressman J.D. Hayworth has announced he is going to challenge Senator John McCain in Arizona's August 24th Republican primary. The McCain campaign has much larger fund balances in their campaign account and is already running a significant number of media campaign ads.

Our annual conference in July will take place in Region 12 in Reno! Congressman Heller from Nevada's 2nd Congressional District has been invited to be our speaker at the NCRCO reception on July 18th. While we are all in Nevada, we will have to see what we can do to defeat Senator Reid!

In Arizona, it looks like we will have a very spirited primary for governor. Our incumbent governor, Jan Brewer, will be opposed by our current state treasurer, Dean Martin, the current mayor of the town of Paradise Valley, and former state party chairman, John Munger. The winner of the August 24th primary will likely face our current democrat attorney general in November.

There is a solid Republican majority in both the Arizona House and Senate. This is not likely to change in the 2010 elections.
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!!

Please submit nominations for Outstanding Republican County Official of the Year!

The application follows or it can be downloaded from the FORMS section of the www.ncrco.org website. All Candidates, or Candidate sponsors, must submit a data form not later than April 1st of each year to the Chairperson of the NCRCO Annual Achievement Award Committee.

For more information about the process, please contact President Mike Long, mlong@co.klamath.or.us.
This form is intended to provide the panel of judges with information on candidates for the NCRCO “Republican County Official of the Year” Award. All Candidate sponsors must submit a data form not later than April 1st of each year to the Chairperson of the NCRCO Annual Achievement Award Committee. **No self submitted application will be considered.**

Candidate's Name: ___________________________ Date: ______________________

Current Elected Position: ______________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Candidates Email Address: ______________________________________________________

Work Phone: ___________________ Home Phone: _________________________________

How many years has the Candidate been a paid dues member of NCRCO? ____

Has the Candidate attended at least one prior year NCRCO meeting?  □ Yes  □ No
When? __________________________ Where? ________________________________

Please list any endorsements for the “Republican County Official of the Year” Award that the Candidate has received (You may attach up to 4 letters):

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Please describe the Candidate’s Republican service experience including all elected and appointed positions: (Limited to 1000 words. May also attach up to 5 pages political resume or biography):

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

(Note: Please refer to back of page for qualification requirements.)
Qualifications to receive the NCRCO “Republican County Official of the Year” award include:

Sponsor of Applicant must:

(a) Verify the Candidate is a current and prior year paid dues member in good standing of NCRCO.

(b) Verify the Candidate has attended at least one NCRCO meeting or reception prior to the Candidate Data Form submission date.

(c) Submit this “Republican County Official of the Year” award application form at least 90 days prior to an NCRCO Annual Meeting, directed to the Chair of the Achievement Award Committee. This includes a maximum 1,000 word explanation of why the Candidate should be considered, followed by a resume or political biography of the Candidate of not more than 5 pages.

(d) Submit not more than four (4) letters of Candidate support endorsement for the award, in which must be included:

   (1) One from an NCRCO Officer or Regional Director

   (2) One from an elected Republican County or State Official from the Candidate’s home state.

(e) Identify the applicant sponsor as a qualified Republican.

No self submittal application will be considered. However, the nominated Candidate may provide any information or documentation requested by the submitter and may assist in accumulating all data to meet the applicant qualification requirements.
NCRCO SPONSORSHIPS

Platinum ($5,000)

- An opportunity to address NCRCO members with up to a 5-minute presentation, at the General Membership meetings at the Legislative Conference in Washington, DC in late February or early March, and the Annual Conference in various county locations within the states in July of each year.
- Four free tickets for sponsor employees or guests at both membership receptions held at the Legislative Conference and the Annual Conference.
- An opportunity to have literature (or a packet) on products distributed at both General Membership meetings at the Legislative and Annual Conferences.
- A quarter page (4” x 5") advertisement printed in at least two of the NCRCO newsletters created and distributed to NCRCO members during the year, via email or US mail.
- An electronic or hardcopy of the annual NCRCO paid dues membership list.
- The sponsor will be listed in all NCRCO printed program agendas during the year as a Platinum sponsor.

Gold ($2,500)

- An opportunity to address NCRCO members with one 3-minute presentation at either the NCRCO General Membership meeting at the Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, or at the Annual Conference wherever held, in July of each year.
- Two free tickets for sponsor employees or guests at both membership receptions held at the Legislative Conference and the Annual Conference.
- An opportunity to have literature (or a packet) on products distributed at either the NCRCO General Membership meeting of the Legislative Conference or the Annual Conference.
- A one-eighth page (2" x 2") advertisement printed in at least two of the NCRCO newsletters created and distributed to NCRCO members during the year, via email or US mail.
- An electronic or hardcopy of the annual NCRCO paid dues membership list.
- The sponsor will be listed in all NCRCO printed program agendas during the year as a Gold sponsor.

Silver ($1,500)

- An opportunity to be introduced to NCRCO members and a one minute presentation at either the NCRCO General Membership meeting at the Legislative Conference, or at the Annual Conference.
- Two free tickets for sponsor employees or guests at both membership receptions held at the Legislative Conference and the Annual Conference.
- An opportunity to have literature (or packet) on products distributed at either the NCRCO General Membership meeting of the Legislative or Annual Conferences.
- A one-eighth page (2” x 2W") advertisement printed in one NCRCO newsletter created and distributed to NCRCO members during the year, via email or US mail.
- An electronic or hardcopy of the annual NCRCO paid dues membership list.
- The sponsor will be listed in all NCRCO printed program agendas during the year as a Silver sponsor.