

Treasury Marks

JAN., 2006

The Official Publication of the National Association of
County Treasurers and Finance Officers

2005-2006 OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WOW! The first part of my year as president of this organization has certainly been a learning experience. Nancy Weeks made it look so easy when she was President. I should have known.

I was able to travel on behalf of NACTFO to the Minnesota Auditor/Treasurer meeting in July; the Idaho County Treasurers in August; to the South Dakota Auditor/Treasurer meeting in September; the Nebraska Association of Counties and their Treasurers affiliate in October and to Utah in November to be with the State Association and County Treasurers' affiliate meetings. Each one was a learning experience and verified my belief that local elected officials are some of the best people in the nation. The hospitality of the folks in South Dakota was really gratifying since it was NACTFO's first presentation to that group in many years. Thanks to all of you for your warm welcomes.

If your state association would like to have someone from NACTFO attend an upcoming meeting and explain who we are and the benefits of membership, please email any member of the Executive Board to make arrangements.

In October, the NACTFO Executive Board and the Education Committee met in Perry, Iowa to plan for the March Legislative Conference in Washington, DC and the Summer Conference in Chicago. It was a joy to work with this dedicated group and to see the effort that each one has expended to move NACTFO forward. The training planned for March is in place and should prove to be of great interest to all attendees. Likewise, the August conference has many interesting topics and all are specific to us, as county finance people.

Nancy Krumweide and others from the Illinois County Treasurers' Association are working hard on plans for the August meeting. As is our practice, NACTFO will be meeting ahead of the NACo conference in order to get in our Continuing Education sessions. Check out the information on the education being offered elsewhere in this newsletter or go to our website, www.nactfo.org, and get the latest in news about NACTFO.

Several of you had emailed to me earlier this Fall, asking about friends in the Gulf Coast.

You will find a summary of several emails that I received from Ron Busby and Lorrie Touns from Louisiana, with their comments and reflections on the hurricanes.

I will say it again and again – this group is one of the best that I have had the pleasure of working with and I consider it a real honor to serve with them.

Thanks,
Bob Hagey
President

NACTFO will be featuring a keynote speaker at noon on March 4th . John Burke, Medina County Treasurer (Ohio) has implemented many changes in his office and was recognized for his innovation. Good job, John! John will be joining us in Washington, DC and will be speaking to the NACTFO group. Just one more reason to join us and learn.

HURRICANES KATRINA and RITA

Soon after the hurricanes hit the Gulf region, I started to receive emails from NACTFO members, asking about friends/acquaintances in the area. I did send emails to several NACTFO friends in the area and, understandably, did not hear back right away. Ron Busby from Sabine and Lorrie Toups from Saint Charles parishes did send replies and I will summarize their responses.

Ron Busby wrote:

"Some areas in south Louisiana were wiped out. I understand the business tax bases for the Parishes South of New Orleans have been virtually wiped out. I am in the Northwest part of the state and have not had the problems of New Orleans (from Katrina). We had evacuees."

"Hurricane Rita affected us more here. The wind was pretty bad on Saturday 9/24/05 with lots of trees down. Electricity was out in most of the Parish after that. We had numerous evacuees from SW LA and SE Texas in the parish to get food, water, ice and fuel. That is starting to get better now. We still have problems in getting gasoline and diesel. This caused some problems-fights. etc. The timber industry needs diesel to the stations to do their jobs. The state agriculture people are working on that. The matter will not improve until the refineries are up and running."

"You asked what fellow treasurers/tax collectors can do to help."

"It appears to me that material things, clothing and that sort of thing, are plentiful. It has to be sorted and sized before being provided to evacuees. The evacuees have been moved around so fast they are scattered all over the country."

"I believe that the best and most feasible way to help is to support a charity such as the Red Cross, or Salvation Army. There may be other organizations that are worthy of support (including faith based organizations at local level, etc.) These organizations are able to provide the basic necessities as needed and where needed. We do not have a Red Cross chapter in our parish, but they have really helped the state down south. One organization that helped our parish by sending food was Second Harvest. I was told that corporations support them."

"FEMA is as much in disarray as it appears on television. Every FEMA person we have talked to has given us a different set of instructions. Just after Katrina they met with the Office of Emergency Preparedness Director and estimated that we should get \$3 million for shelters. Then they revised it downward to \$680,000+ and then sent us over \$522,000. We did not run shelters and I sent the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office a letter. I finally got a letter from the state to send it back including the interest earned."

"I am sure that there will be a lot of finger pointing and problems reported in the media before it is all resolved. We will have some expenses to claim from the second Hurricane Rita."

Lorrie Toups wrote:

"Sorry it took so long to send you an update. The days right after Katrina were really crazy. In working with FEMA now, you really have to concentrate to remember the chaos in that first week. FEMA sends different representatives at different stages of the emergency. At first, during the chaos, the FEMA rep approved expenditures that were definitely needed at that time. Now that we have worked so hard to recover, we have different FEMA people walking around looking at us and asking "Was that expense really necessary?" One FEMA representative told me that the guy that approved a particular expense wasn't here anymore so they probably won't pay it (so what was the point in sending the first guy). I try to stay positive by thinking of how much I am learning during this process; however, once I learn something, FEMA changes the rules."

"During the storm, we lost the roof of the courthouse and had heavy damage on the second floor (the third floor was an old jail so not much damage there). There were few, if

any, phones that worked and we had no power in the Parish. For three weeks, we met twice a day to address concerns and get information out. Representatives from every unit of government and business that had a stake in getting our parish up and running were there. With so much red tape between the Feds, the State, and even the Red Cross, we came up with our own motto "Make It Happen".

"For the first few days the only way out of the city was through our parish. We had stolen city busses and miscellaneous vehicles left on our highways. Our police department was on the road constantly investigating false reports of armed bandits from the city raiding our neighborhoods. Because of those rumors people were afraid to come home and businesses were afraid to open."

"Now, we are still cleaning up debris and negotiating the FEMA reimbursement obstacle course."

When I was in Utah with that State Association of Counties, one of their General Session presenters was from Mississippi. He is a County Commissioner/Supervisor there and gave gripping accounts of disaster response following the hurricanes. The title of his talk was "You Think That You Have a Disaster Plan, But You Don't". If your State Association is looking for an excellent presentation, consider having something like this because it is obvious that all county officials have a hand in it, when disaster hits.

If you have not done so already, take Ron Busby's comments to heart: give, and give generously, to those organizations that are on on-site, giving the relief that is still so badly needed.

NACTFO AT THE OMNI SHOREHAM

Wait just a minute; hold your horses; hang on -- before you register for the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.. DO NOT use NACo's on-line housing form if you want to stay at the NACTFO HQ Hotel. We will have a separate NACTFO housing form on our Website dedicated solely to getting you booked at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. Unlike year's past where we have stayed in various NACo Conference hotels and held our classes at the NACo meeting hotel (Washington Hilton and Towers for March 2006), we have made arrangements to conduct all NACTFO sponsored educational sessions at the Omni Shoreham. If you have attended our meetings at the NACo Annual Conferences, you know how convenient it is to have our lodging and meetings at the same hotel.

Our meeting space will be provided free of charge based on room reservations and other services purchased at the Omni. That's why we are asking all NACTFO members that plan to attend the March 2006 Legislative Conference to make your room reservations separate from the NACo Conference Registration. Even though the Omni Shoreham is an official NACo Conference hotel, we can only track NACTFO reservations and receive credit towards our minimum if you download and print the form at www.nactfo.org; then fill it out and FAX it back to the conference registration center. We are also putting a separate registration form on the NACTFO Website with a separate registration fee of \$25 to help offset food and beverage expenses for our meetings. Regardless of whether or not you register for the NACo Conference, please complete our registration and housing forms so we have an accurate count of those planning to attend NACTFO meetings and meals. We owe Alysoun McLaughlin and Amanda Clark at NACo a BIG THANK YOU for helping get the arrangements made.

Why would you want to attend the Legislative Conference next March? Because we are planning some fun and informative educational sessions where you earn credit towards a NACTFO / University of Missouri – St. Louis professional certificate. (You can learn more about our certificate program at www.nactfo.org). Here is a preliminary agenda for our classes while in Washington, D.C.:

A) Session 1 – Friday, March 3, 2006: 9:00 am – 11:30 am – 3 credits

1) **Fraud Prevention** – Learn how to find flaws in your internal systems

- B) Session 2 – Friday, March 3, 2006: 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm – 3 credits
 - 1) **Negotiation / Mediation** – Learn to overcome interpersonal obstacles
- C) Session 3 – Saturday, March 4, 2006: 10:00 am – 12:30 am – 3 credits
 - 1) **Information Technology** - Learn to “*excel*” with your IT systems
- D) Session 4 – Saturday, March 4, 2006: 1:45 pm – 4:15 pm – 3 credits
 - 1) **Bankruptcy Reform Impact** – Learn the latest and how it impacts you.
- E) Extra Credit Sessions through NACo (held to the Washington Hilton and Towers)
 - 1) **Tax Exempt Bonds** – Sunday morning 9 am - 11 am
 - 2) **Other NACo sessions TBD.**

Hope to see you there.

NACTFO received a request for assistance from one of our members. I am confident that we have all struggled with this issue and will be more than willing to pass on our collective wisdom.

Patrick Padilla, Treasurer of Bernalillo County, New Mexico (Albuquerque), has written to me that Bernalillo County is in the process of re-designing their property tax bill. If you have any suggestions or ideas that you would like to share with them, please email Mr. Padilla at ppadilla@bernco.gov .

Thanks for your help,
 Bob Hagey
 NACTFO President

**David Cifreo of Louisiana died in July of an apparent heart attack.
 David was a great help for NACTFO in the planning for the conference
 that was held in New Orleans.
 To quote Ron Busby of Sabine Parish, "He will be sadly missed by all".**

Martinelli Award Time

It is time again to be thinking about who you want to nominate for the Victor Martinelli Award. This award will be given on Saturday evening at the annual conference in Chicago.

The winner last year was Dennis Hollingsworth from Florida. Congratulations to Dennis!

Your nomination needs to be in to me by March 31, 2006. You can go to www.nactfo.org to get the instructions and application as to the requirements and who is eligible to be nominated.

I will look forward to those nominations coming in. This is a great honor to win this award as the Outstanding County Treasurer or Finance Officer or Tax Collector or Trustee.

Mail nomination to: Nancy Weeks
 Haskell County Treasurer
 P O Box 578
 Sublette, Ks 67877

National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers

2005/2006

	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Annual Conf Account	\$9,000.00	
Donations/Sponsor	\$10,000.00	\$200.00
Dues	\$52,000.00	\$49,345.00
Interest	\$1,000.00	\$211.49
TOTAL INCOME	\$72,000.00	\$49,756.49
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
Training		
Continuing Education	\$22,000.00	
Plaques/Awards	\$1,000.00	
Total Training Expense	\$23,000.00	\$0.00
Conference Expense		
March (combined)	\$4,000.00	
Annual (combined)	\$13,750.00	
President's Reception	\$0.00	
Total Conference Expense	\$17,750.00	\$0.00
Board Expense		
Executive Board	\$4,000.00	
President's Travel	\$12,000.00	\$1,550.75
Past President's Travel	\$2,500.00	
President's Gift	\$350.00	
Total Board Expense	\$18,850.00	\$1,550.75
Operations Expense		
Bank Charges	\$100.00	\$12.35
Newsletter - printing	\$5,000.00	
-postage	\$1,800.00	
Postage	\$2,000.00	\$30.48
Roster/Printing	\$1,000.00	\$1,926.01
Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$337.53
Telephone/Website	\$1,000.00	
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$72.14
Total Operations Expense	\$12,400.00	\$2,378.51
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$72,000.00	\$3,929.26
Excess Revenue over Expenditures		<u>\$45,827.23</u>
Fund Balance 8/1/05		\$78,819.82
Fund Bal includes CD investment 40,000.00		
Fund Balance, Current as of 10/15/05		<u>\$124,647.05</u>

NACTFO
National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers
Hotel Reservation Form

2006 NACo Legislative Conference
March 4-8, 2006
Washington, D.C.

Last Name _____
First Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
Email _____
Arrival Date ____ / ____ / 2006
Departure Date: ____ / ____ / 2006

Hospitality Suites: If you desire to reserve a hospitality suite, please contact the hotel directly for availability and pricing.

Special Services (check if applicable)

Yes, I will require special assistance ...

Please let us know your requirements by attaching a separate sheet of paper outlining your needs.

Rooms are being held for **NACTFO at the Omni Shoreham Hotel:**

NACo Conference Rate is \$183 single/double

Please check one of the following:

__ Single __ Double Preference: __ King __ Double Bed (2) __ Non-Smoking __ Smoking

If requesting a double room, please let us know your roommate's name:

The NACo Housing Center will send you an acknowledgement of your room request within two weeks of receipt of this form. A one night's room deposit is required to guarantee your room. Proper payment must be received by the hotel by February 1, 2006 or your room will be released.

If you are submitting a check to cover your deposit or payment of your stay, **your check must be mailed directly to the hotel. Do not mail your hotel deposit check to the registration center or to NACo's office.**

In mid February you will receive a confirmation number from the Omni. Please bring your confirmation to the hotel for prompt check-in.

Credit Card Authorization

Visa MasterCard American Express

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

Cardholder's Name _____

Signature _____

The NACo Housing Center is authorized to use the above card to guarantee my hotel reservation. I understand that one night's room charge will be billed through this card if I fail to arrive for my assigned housing at the confirmed date, or if I depart earlier than I have confirmed, unless I have canceled my reservation with the hotel at least 72 hours in advance. I also understand that one night's room charge may be billed immediately to hold my reservation.

Please return your completed housing forms to:

NACo Conference Registration Center

PO Box 12862

Philadelphia, PA 19101-0862

Or Fax your completed form to: (919) 882 -1570

Questions? Please call: (866) 503-4369

ALABAMA

Barry Stephenson, Jefferson
Jay Duke, Clark

ALASKA

Alvin Hall, Ketchikan

ARIZONA

Dora Goodmiller, Kingman
Marsha Bonham, Cochise

ARKANSAS

Joelena Villines, Jasper

CALIFORNIA

Susan Reather, Siskiyou
James Kennedy, Yuba

COLORADO

Charlene Cockrum, Alamosa
Alynn Huffman, Central City

CONNECTICUT**DELAWARE**

David Baker, Sussex

FLORIDA

Dennis Hollingsworth, St. John's
Ray Valdes, Seminole

GEORGIA

David Persuad, Chatham

HAWAII

Russel Miyake, Honolulu

IDAHO

Lynda Fischer, Ada
Tom Malzahn, Kootenai

ILLINOIS

Kirby Ballard, Greene
Nancy Krumweide, Ford

2004 – 2005 STATE**INDIANA**

Amy J. Roberts, Hendricks
Greg Jordan, Marion

IOWA

Judy Miller, Pottawattamie
Bob Knowler, Woodbury

KANSAS

Eileen King, Manhattan
Jeannine Bateman, Marion

KENTUCKY

High Walmalcy, Caddo Parish
Marilyn Carter, Knox

LOUISIANA

John Gable, Iberville
David Cifero, Point Coupee

MAINE

Robert Lakin, Hancock

MARYLAND

Louis Jackson Jr., Cecil

MASSACHUSETTS

MICHIGAN
Sally Brooks, Allegan
Eric Schertzing, Mason

MINNESOTA

Joan Neyseen, Benton
Steven Rohlik, Steel

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Patricia Lensmeyer, Boone
Stephen Holt, Jasper

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UTAH

Nila Dayton, Weber
Glen Thompson, Summit

VERMONT**VIRGINIA**

William Orndoff Jr, Frederick

WASHINGTON

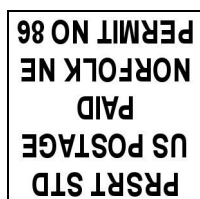
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