

National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 4

October, 2008



Special Points of Interest

- NASCLA's 46th Annual Conference Overview
- SPOTLIGHT: Michigan
- NASCLA's 2009 Mid-Year Meeting

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NASCLA President's Message



It has been a pleasure to be involved with such a wonderful organization as NASCLA and an incredible honor to be elected president for fiscal year 2008-2009. I've been given an utmost advantage to a smooth transition into my new role due to the hard work of my predecessors and the NASCLA staff. With the diligence of former president Kathy LeCroix, so many goals have been accomplished. She closed her term with a bang, having the largest conference to date with over 106 attendees at the 46th Annual Conference in Point Clear, Alabama, on September 14th - 17th. We were able to meet so many new members; however, due to the weather problems from the hurricanes, we missed several of our most dedicated attendees.

The Annual Conference week was filled with superior training, memorable events and excursions which could not have been possible without the generous contributions from our sponsors. A special thanks to our Gold Sponsors, CASA Fenix, Professional Examination Service (PES), Prometric and PSI Services, LLC, and also to all the corporate and local sponsors. Due to their generosity, this year's sponsorships surpassed any other conference to date and made the 2008 Annual Conference a huge success!

There were numerous highlights during this year's conference and I hope you enjoy reading all about it. In particular, a special tribute was given at the Banquet to Chuck Marceaux, a longtime member of the association, serving over 12 years! He recently retired from the Louisiana Licensing Board for Contractors and was recognized for his outstanding dedication and service. He has always been a great asset to NASCLA, always willing to help, and just concluded his three (3) year term as Treasurer. As a lifetime honorary member, we look forward to his continued support. In addition, a culmination of the conference has been prepared in the enclosed, identifying the months of hard work from NASCLA's Program Committee and Staff.

More projects and events are in store for the year, as our devoted committee members continue their work, striving to improve the regulation of the contracting industry in all aspects. As NASCLA begins this new fiscal year, I would like to recognize our incoming Officers for Fiscal Year 2008/2009, pictured and noted on page 11 of the newsletter. I am looking forward to another exciting year with these dedicated leaders at the helm of this great organization!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Langenberg

NASCLA's 46th Annual Conference

The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) hosted the 46th Annual Conference on September 14-17, 2008 in Point Clear, Alabama at the Marriott Grand Hotel Resort & Spa.

The Annual Conference was designed to bring together NASCLA members, trade associations, regulatory bodies and industry professionals to discuss and exchange information on licensing and regulation in the construction industry.

The Annual Conference began the morning of Sunday, September 14th for NASCLA's Committee Members who worked hard throughout the day participating in various Committee Meetings. The NASCLA Model Legislation Committee, led by Jamie Durham, completed the NASCLA Model Legislation for Residential Contractor Boards. The Residential Committee was also hard at work the majority of the day working on the creation of the NASCLA Residential Construction Standards. The Membership Committee should be commended as well; the association has received 14 new members this fiscal year alone and over 46 new members over the course of the last 3 years. Other committees, included the Program Committee, National Examination Committee, Publications Committee, Fiscal Policies and Procedures Committee and Executive Committee. NASCLA would like to commend all the Committee Members for all of their hard work and dedication throughout this past fiscal year!

The program officially kicked off on Sunday evening with an opening reception held on the Julip Point Pier.



Grand Hotel in Point Clear, AL



Azalea Trail Maids



Steve Sands, David Fogt and
Azalea Trail Maids



Angie Whitaker, Kathy LeCroix,
Carolyn Lazenby, Robbie Brooks



Jenny Betteridge,
Ginenne Lanese



Kathy LeCroix, Jenny Betteridge, Ginenne
Lanese, Angie Whitaker, Amanda LeCroix

NASCLA's 46th Annual Conference

Reception guests got a true taste of the South by sipping Mint Julips, enjoying the company of Alabama's Azalea Trail Maids and listening to jazz music by Fairhope local Joe Lewis. This "Southern" themed reception gave new attendees and returning participants an opportunity to network and socialize with one another.

Chip Carden, Executive Director for the Alabama Home Builders Licensure Board and Sloane Wright, General Manager for Alabama Interactive, kicked off the general sessions on the morning of Monday, September 15th, with a thorough presentation on *Online Renewals*. Presentations that followed included Rick Ericson, *Speaking the Media Language*; a *Live Mock Arbitration* moderated by Karen Smith with special guest "actors" including Dan Smith, David Fogt, John Curl and Kathy LeCroix. The first day of sessions wrapped with *The State Reports* where NASCLA State Members were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and speak briefly on behalf of their state agency.

Tuesday, September 16th, began with the Round Table Sessions for Attorneys, Board Members and Executive Directors. The general sessions continued with presentations by Roger Bendolph, Frank Lott, III, Eddie Barnes, Melissa Bonds-Wilkins and Richard Minnigh. On Tuesday afternoon, the majority of the group toured the USS Alabama Battleship anchored in Mobile Bay. Just before sunset the group gathered on the beach in Fairhope for a Traditional Seafood Feast. The evening was filled with great music from Brent Burns our featured entertainer, our feet in the sand, food and the breathtaking views of the sun setting over the bay.

On the morning of Wednesday, September 17th, the sessions continued with Linda Clifford on *Project Management*. Vernon Stout and Daniel T. Jones educating the participants on *Continuing Education*, and wrapping up the conference sessions with Greg Crow speaking on *Unlicensed Activity*.

Wednesday evening participants enjoyed the closing Banquet and Installation of Officers. During the Banquet Kathy LeCroix and Greg Crow were inducted as NASCLA Honorary Members. NASCLA's Honorary Membership program was created to recognize Past Presidents, Board of Directors and those members who have been dedicated to our mission. Kathy LeCroix and Greg Crow were recognized for their outstanding service to the association as Past Presidents and current Board of Directors.

There were several other special award presentations throughout the evening including an award to Keith Warren, Executive Director of Alabama Electrical Contractors Board who was the Master of Ceremonies for the third time; Kathy LeCroix for her service as NASCLA President; and a special presentation for Charles Marceaux, Executive Director for Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors who retired earlier this year. The 4th Annual *Community Service in Contracting Award* was presented to Homes for Our Troops and KitCorp Homes, and the 2008 *Innovation in Regulation Award* was presented to the Arizona Registrar of Contractors.

This Mardi Gras themed event brought the 2008 Annual Conference to its conclusion with a hilarious performance by "America's Magical Funnyman" Chris Linn. The conference proved to be one to remember for all who attended! NASCLA is looking forward to our 2009 Annual Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

NASCLA 2008 Annual Conference Photos



NASCLA 2008 Annual Conference Photos



NASCLA 2009 Mid-Year Meeting



The 2009 Mid-Year Meeting is set for March 17-20, 2009 in Portland, Oregon at the Heathman Hotel. The Heathman Hotel was originally built in 1927 during a period of unprecedented growth and development in the city of Portland, and is one of the few remaining hotels dating from that period today.

The Mid-Year Meeting was designed as a planning and project oriented session for NASCLA's Board of Directors, Committee Members and State Members. The meeting is open to NASCLA's Officers, Directors, Committee Members and State Members.

On Tuesday, March 17, the NASCLA Executive and Fiscal Policies and Procedures Committees will hold a preconference meeting in the late afternoon.

The meeting will begin on Wednesday, March 18, when NASCLA will host its first ever 1-Day Leadership Training Program. NASCLA would like to encourage all our attendees to attend!

On Thursday, March 19, our committee members will meet with their respective committees. The attendees will be treated to an evening dinner cruise featuring fresh Northwest Cuisine prepared in the on-board galley! A cruise down the Columbia River with beautiful views of Portland's downtown skyline will be a great setting to network and meet the many state members of NASCLA.

The meeting will conclude on Friday, March 20, by coming together to wrap-up this event with our Committee Chair Reports, NASCLA Board of Directors Meeting and NASCLA Publications Inc. (NPI) Board Meeting.

NASCLA's 2009 Mid-Year Meeting in Portland, Oregon is the place where members will come together to develop goals and objectives for the new fiscal year.

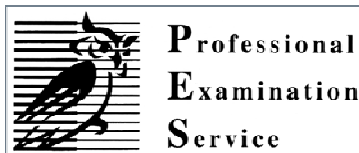
NASCLA is looking forward to seeing you in Portland!

Please visit our website at www.nascla.org for more details, or call the NASCLA office at (866) 948-3363.



Thank You to the 2008 Annual Conference Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



NASCLA Fiscal Year 2008 / 2009 Meeting Calendar

NASCLA's **Strategic Planning Meeting** will be held December 4-5, 2008. The two-day Strategic Planning Meeting is for the NASCLA Executive and Fiscal Policies and Procedures Committee Members to plan for the upcoming year. The meeting details will follow soon to the respective committee members.

NASCLA's **2009 Mid-Year Meeting** will be held in Portland, Oregon on March 17-20, 2009 at the Heathman Hotel. This meeting is open to all NASCLA Board of Directors, Committee Members and State Members. Please visit the NASCLA website at www.nascla.org for more details.

NASCLA's **Budgeting Meeting** will be held in June 2009. The two-day Budgeting Meeting is for the NASCLA Executive and Fiscal Policies and Procedures Committee Members to prepare the forecasted budgets and financials for the association. The meeting details will follow soon to the respective committee members.

NASCLA's **2009 Annual Conference** will be held September 15-18, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Union Station Hotel. This meeting will be open to all NASCLA Members, Trade Association and Construction Industry Professionals. Please visit the NASCLA website at www.nascla.org for more details.

NASCLA 2008 Community Service in Contracting Award



Larry Gill accepting the NASCLA 2008 Community Service in Contracting Award



Bill & Donna Russell of KitCorp, along with the Edmondson family and John Gonsalves, President and founder of HFOT

The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) is pleased to announce that Homes for Our Troops and Kitcorp Homes are the winners of the 2008 *Community Service in Contracting Award*.

This national award was created as a way for NASCLA and its many members to recognize the positive impact that contractor and construction related associations have on their communities. All too often homeowners and consumers hear the “bad” stories about contractors. With this award, NASCLA showcases the countless hours and efforts that contractors and construction related associations make by raising funds, contributing time, labor and materials to charities.

Homes for Our Troops is a national non-profit organization that provides specially adapted barrier free homes throughout the United States for severely injured service members. They have completed 32 homes and over 20 more are currently underway. They have also been recognized as a top-rated charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy and have been awarded a grant from the Sierra Club to include green technology and energy efficiencies in the homes they build.

Homes for Our Troops took on a project to build Sergeant Eric Edmundson of New Bern, North Carolina a new home and partnered with KitCorp Homes as the General Contractor.

KitCorp Homes is a 2-person company with just its owners, Bill and Donna Russell. The Russell’s singlehandedly did all the work required to build the home and helped Homes for Our Troops locate donated labor and materials as well as attend fundraising events. With a construction time frame of approximately 5 months, they spent approximately 400 hours working on the home and managing the subcontractors and volunteers.

KitCorp Homes graciously donated their time and services, which was valued around \$25,000. In addition, they went above and beyond the normal scope of work of a General Contractor to aid Homes for Our Troops in finding donations of labor and materials from over 50 local businesses. That effort was worth thousands of dollars, which resulted in over \$200,000 in donated labor and materials.

Larry Gill, Veterans Liasion from Homes for Our Troops accepted NASCLA’s *Community Service in Contracting Award* on behalf of Homes for Our Troops and KitCorp Homes on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at NASCLA’s 46th Annual Conference Banquet and Installation of Officers at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama.

NASCLA 2008 Innovation in Regulation Award



The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) presented the 2008 *Innovation in Regulation Award* to the Arizona Registrar of Contractors (ROC) on September 17, 2008 at the association's 46th Annual Conference Banquet and Installation of Officers.

This national award was created as a way for NASCLA and its many members to recognize innovation, creativity and excellence in the regulation of the contracting/construction industry.

The Arizona Registrar of Contractors believes that effective communication is vital to meeting the needs of contractors and consumers, and for this reason the ROC focused on improving communication through technology. The State of Arizona collaborated with the Google Corporation to make public databases searchable by commercial search engines. By implementing the *Sitemap Protocol*, the State has increased citizen access to important information from the Registrar of Contractors and several other government agencies. The ROC's participation in this effort facilitated an increase in the contractor information accessed via the ROC website.

The Arizona Registrar of Contractors has also improved the usability and added new multimedia to its website including re-organizing links, providing PDF files and forms, online renewals as well as videos on topics such as hiring a licensed contractor and complaint resolution.

Bill Albright, Assistant Director of the Arizona Registrar of Contractors accepted NASCLA's *Innovation in Regulation Award* on behalf of the ROC on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at NASCLA's 46th Annual Conference Banquet and Installation of Officers at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama.



**Bill Albright accepting the
NASCLA 2008 Innovation in
Regulation Award**

SPOTLIGHT: Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth



Builder's Board New Legislation



Board Members ~ back row: Kevin Lewand; Frank DiStefano; James, Haeussler; Robin Sirls, Board Secretary; Joyce Karr, Licensing Director; Stephen Gobbo, Division Director. Front row: Gary August, Marilyn Lane, Mark Glynn, Board Chair; Gloria Keene, Licensing Administrator; Anthony Parker, Vice-Chair; Linda Clewley, Assistant Licensing Administrator and Barrington Carr, State Administrative Manager.

A package of bills affecting Michigan Residential Builders and Maintenance & Alteration (M&A) Contractors was signed into law on December 20, 2007. Many of the new changes took effect June 1, 2008. Highlights of the new legislation include the requirement for new applicants applying for a Residential Builder or Maintenance & Alteration (M&A) Contractor license, to complete 60 hours of approved pre-licensure education courses and to submit a copy of their driver's license or a state personal identification card with their application. Further, all individuals serving as a Qualifying Officer for a Corporation, Limited Liability Company or Partnership, must hold an active license as an Individual Residential Builder or M&A Contractor. A Corporation, LLC or Partnership must still maintain an active company license, in addition to the qualifying officer holding an individual license. The new legislation also increases the annual license fee and requires the department to change the license cycle for Residential Builders, Maintenance & Alteration Contractors, branch offices and Salespersons to a 3-year license cycle, from a 2-year cycle as it is now.

Additionally, at renewal, current license holders will be required to confirm that they possess a copy of the current Michigan Residential Code. License holders will be required to provide information relating to the company and individual licenses as a part of a contract for services. The legislation also includes a requirement for continuing competency for all licensed builders and contractors, with the number of hours dependent on the length of time the individual has held a license.

Finally, the new law increases criminal penalties for a person who operates as a residential builder or a residential maintenance and alteration contractor without a license and provides for seizure and forfeiture provisions for those convicted of unlicensed activity. It also establishes a Builder Enforcement Fund. A portion of all license fees are set aside for investigation and prosecution of unlicensed activity. In any case where the licensee or respondent fail to appear, participate, or defend any action, the Residential Builders and Maintenance & Alteration Contractors Board shall issue an order granting by default the relief requested, based on proofs submitted to and findings made by the hearing examiner after a contested case hearing.

You may access the full text of the bills on the Builders website at www.michigan.gov/builders.

NASCLA Fiscal Year 2008 / 2009 Officers



PRESIDENT
 Carolyn Lazenby
 Tennessee Board for Licensing
 Contractors
 500 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 110
 Nashville, Tennessee 37243



SECRETARY
 Craig P. Smith
 Oregon Construction Contractors Board
 Post Office Box 14140
 Salem, Oregon 97309



1st VICE PRESIDENT
 John Curl
 South Carolina Residential
 Builders Commission
 Post Office Box 4815
 Florence, South Carolina 29502



TREASURER
 George Whalen
 Rhode Island Contractors'
 Registration and Licensing Board
 One Capitol Hill
 Providence, Rhode Island 02908



2nd VICE PRESIDENT
 Keith Warren
 Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors
 610 Sought McDonough Street
 Montgomery, Alabama 36104



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
 Kathy LeCroix
 Alabama Board of Heating and
 Air Conditioning Contractors
 100 North Union Street, Suite 630
 Montgomery, Alabama 36104



2nd IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
 Greg Crow
 Arkansas Contractors Licensing Board
 4100 Richards Road
 North Little Rock, Arkansas 72117

NASCLA Fiscal Year 2008 / 2009 Board of Directors

Keith Warren, Executive Secretary
 Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors

Stephen P. Sands, Registrar
 California Contractors State License Board

Nancy Routh, Associate Secretary / Treasurer
 North Carolina Licensing Board for General
 Contractors

Kathy LeCroix, Executive Director
 Alabama Board of Heating and Air Conditioning
 Contractors

Anthony Spivey, Executive Director
 Florida Electrical Contractors Licensing Board

Craig P. Smith, Administrator
 Oregon Construction Contractors Board

J.R. "Chip" Carden, Jr., Executive Director
 Alabama Home Builders Licensure Board

Verna Oda, Executive Officer
 Hawaii Contractors License Board

George Whalen, Executive Director
 Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing
 Board

Joseph C. Rogers, Jr., Executive Secretary
 Alabama Licensing Board for General
 Contractors

Steve Pinther, Board Member
 Idaho State Contractors Board

Michael Anderson, Administrator
 South Carolina Contractors Licensing Board

Alfred Tunstall, Executive Director
 Alabama Plumbers & Gas Fitters Examining
 Board

Fran Gilson, Administrator
 Louisiana State Licensing Board for
 Contractors

John Curl, Board Chairman
 South Carolina Residential Builders
 Commission

Greg Crow, Chief Legal Counsel
 Arkansas Contractors Licensing Board

John Sullivan, Executive Secretary
 Mississippi State Board of Contractors

Carolyn Lazenby, Executive Director
 Tennessee Board for Licensing Contractors

Robert Brooks, Jr., Executive Director
 North Carolina Board of Examiners of Electrical
 Contractors

**National Association of State
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The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) was formed in Utah in 1962 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to the mutual assistance of its members in striving for the better regulation of the construction industry to protect the health, welfare and safety of the general public.

The association's membership is comprised of state and local contractor licensing agencies, construction firms, construction trade associations and others associated with the construction industry.

For more information, please contact Angie Whitaker, NASCLA Executive Director, at the association.