



# The YOUNG REPUBLICAN



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*The Official Newsletter Of The Young Republican National Federation*

## 2006 YR Leadership Conference a Huge Success

The 2006 Young Republican Leadership Conference came to a close on Sunday, April 23, after four days of events that showcased the best Washington, DC has to offer.

Highlights from the Capitol Hill portion of the conference included a briefing from Congressman Bill Thomas (R-CA) on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, a meeting with Chairman Ken Mehlman at the Republican National Committee Headquarters, and policy panels on immigration reform and tax reform.

In Annapolis, MD, conference participants met with Governor Bob Ehrlich, and were treated to a surprise visit by Lieutenant Governor and 2006 U.S. Senate Candidate Michael Steele. The evening ended with a sunset boat cruise on the Chesapeake Bay.

Rounding out the conference was a visit to the NRA Headquarters, a tour of the National Firearms Museum, and a briefing on Second Amendment rights from gun policy expert John Lott.

The receptions at the Embassies of Romania and Germany provided YRs with some insight into international relations. Ro-

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## Young Republicans Support Our Troops in Nationwide Campaign

Young Republican organizations across the country coordinated efforts to show our support for the troops overseas and abroad during a month long Young Republican National Federation (YRNF) Effort. While clubs across the country support the troops year round, the YRNF kicked off this nationwide effort during Armed Forces Week and concluded it just before Flag Day. The month long endeavor ended on June 11th with a conference call highlighting our national efforts.

“It was incredible to see the turnout we had for events,” said Wayne Bena, Midwest Regional Director and Support our Troops Coordinator. “YR organizations nationwide stepped up their efforts to show support for our men and women abroad, who are fighting the good fight.”

Here are a few of the best events that occurred from coast-to-coast:

The Ohio Young Republicans coordinated with their local clubs to send coffee to the troops. Each club brought gourmet coffee and acces-



*YRs kick-off "Support our Troops Spring" at the end of April's Young Republican Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.*

sories to their state convention and then coordinated to have packages shipped overseas. Sixteen care packages have been sent to our brave men and women to date.

Nevada Young Republicans sent letters and emails to troops overseas to lift their spirits and remind them that we appreciate the heroic efforts they perform on a daily basis. These simple things impact the troops in a big way.

The New York State Young Republicans adopted a soldier, Alicia Burrows and her C Company of 40 soldiers. They have sent numerous emails; four care packages filled with Memorial Day calling cards, magazines, and candy. They also brought homemade baked goods to Veterans at the Vets Hospital in NYC. At their Annual Dinner, YRs honored Major William Colon for his service and dedication to our country.

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## YRLC 2006, *Continued from page 1.*

manian Ambassador Sorin Ducaru kicked-off YRLC and spoke to the group about his country's alliance with the U.S. in the global War on Terror. Later in the week, German First Political Secretary Andreas Kruger discussed our nation's transatlantic relationship.

YRLC's premier event was the Freedom Gala, a

black-tie dinner celebrating the liberty we enjoy in this country. It was held in honor of the men and women around the world dedicated to promoting and preserving freedom. Wayne LaPierre of the National Rifle Association delivered the keynote address, and Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform provided the opening remarks.

The conference closed with a community service event Sunday morning, benefiting the Helping Our Heroes Foundation, which provides grants and services to directly help our injured soldiers and their families. This event was a poignant and meaningful complement to the Freedom Gala.

"The planning committee was very pleased with the success of the conference," said YRLC Chairman Rachel Hoff. "It is our hope that YRs who attended not only had a great



*Members of the Puerto Rico and New York YR clubs as well as United Kingdom and Romanian Delegation participants bond at the YR Alumni Network's Rooftop Reception during YRLC.*

time, but also gained the skills and resources necessary to become top-notch GOP activists, ready to get to work on the 2006 elections in their home states."

As these YR leaders returned to their home states, they are focused and well-equipped to take on the challenges that 2006 presents.

YRLC 2006 would like to thank the following organizations, whose support made this conference possible: Americans for Tax Reform; National Rifle Association; Maryland Young Republicans; The Ripon Society; Kolpien & Associates; Vandenberg Political Strategies; Best Ad Promo; b•seen communications & media

And, finally, the YRNF commends the YRLC planning committee for their time and effort in making this conference a wonderful success.

## YRNF - National Board - *The Board is easily accessible at the following email addresses:*

**Nicolee Ambrose (MD)**  
*Chairman*  
chairman@yrnf.com

**Tim Kolpien (NY)**  
*Co Chairman*  
cochairman@yrnf.com

**Zack Scrivner (CA)**  
*Vice Chair-At-Large*  
vcl@yrnf.com

**Glenn Murphy (IN)**  
*Secretary*  
secretary@yrnf.com

**Heather Harlow (OH)**  
*Treasurer*  
treasurer@yrnf.com

**Patrick Peters (WA)**  
*Auditor*  
auditor@yrnf.com

**Jessica Colon (TX)**  
*Assistant Secretary*  
assistantsecretary@yrnf.com

**Brian Graham (FL)**  
*Assistant Treasurer*  
assistanttreasurer@yrnf.com

**Jonathan Burley (OR)**  
*Western Region*  
Burley@yrnf.com

**Tamara Baker (KA)**  
*Midwestern Region*  
Baker@yrnf.com

**Adrienne Mitford (PA)**  
*Northeast Region*  
northeast@yrnf.com

**Clay Barclay (AL)**  
*Southern Region*  
southeast@yrnf.com

**Steve Gele (LA)**  
*SCA Chair*  
sca@yrnf.com

**Jon Woodard (FL)**  
*Executive Director*  
executivedirector@yrnf.com

*Please email comments & suggestions to Communications Committee Chair Lynn Krogh at communications@yrnf.com*

*A special thanks to Maryland YR Rex Reed of Amberlea Photography & Design for designing this newsletter: Rex@Amberleafarm.com*

## YR Helps Build Accessible Playground in Pennsylvania

Adrienne Mitford, YRNF Northeastern Vice-Chairman, got involved in a community project to build a 100% accessible playground so all children could play side-by-side. Mitford started working on the project in November 2004. She and other members of the community formed a group called Inspired Recreation. From this group, the ideas and design for "Possibility Place" started to take shape.

Possibility Place is special because it was created so all children (and their parents), regardless of their abilities, can play together side-by-side. This is a barrier-free playground where entire families can play together in one area. Filled with creative playground equipment that fosters learning through imaginative play, it is a place where everyone can have fun. The entire project, from design to construction,



*The Possibility Place Playground comes to life in Pennsylvania.*

was a volunteer effort.

Build Week took place June 14-18 and Mitford coordinated over 1,500 volunteers in order to build the playground. "Being involved on the committee for Possibility Place has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Something magical happened out on the playground site as people from

all walks of life worked together to create a very special place," said Mitford.

Individual volunteers, as well as businesses, civic organizations, churches, and members of the PA Air National Guard came out

during build week to construct the playground. Mitford worked with these organizations to schedule volunteers on three shifts per day. "During the first shift we expected 120 volunteers and 247 signed in. I knew then that Possibility Place would be a huge success!"

The playground is scheduled to open in August.

## Texas YR Treasurer Elected to City Council

In May, TYRF Treasurer Scott Jauregui was elected to City Council in Converse, Texas. His race was close -- winning by 26 votes -- and the Young Republicans had a huge hand in ensuring Scott's victory.

Located northeast of San Antonio, Converse is a community with more than 11,500 residents. With a budget of \$3.5 million, its own full-time police, fire, and emergency services, the city has one of the lowest crime rates in the San Antonio Metropolitan area. Converse also has two very active volunteer groups that help with city functions, FOCAL - Friends of the Converse Area Public Library, and the Converse Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association. The City of Converse continues to grow with several single-family



*TYRF Treasurer Scott Jauregui*

residential subdivisions under construction. Converse is a great place to live and work!

"I am proud of Scott for getting into this race. He saw a place in his community where he could make a difference. Both he and his wife Dorian worked very hard and were

committed to doing what it took for Scott to win," said Rex Lamb, Chairman of the Texas Young Republican Federation. "We are also proud that TYRF was able to help one of our own get elected to an office: YRs helping YRs. That is one of the main reasons YRs are here. Texas YRs were able to help Scott both with boots on the ground and financially. Scott is the third Texas YR to be elected to a city council in the last year."

"This is what it's all about," said Nicolee Ambrose, YRNF Chairman. "Electing Republicans to all levels of Government is the crux of our cause and the cornerstone for all our efforts. Good luck to ALL YRs running for office this year and beyond!"

## State Spotlight - California!

With a large membership base and a celebrity Governor up for re-election this year, the California Young Republicans, Inc. (CYR) are certainly a force in statewide GOP politics, as well as around the nation.

### *Membership & the Governor*

Founded in 1936, the CYRs are made up of over 2,000 members statewide, with 10 chartered chapters and four in formation status. California's very large size makes for a significant challenge in attending regional events, but Chairman Catherine Brinkman makes it a priority to be in close contact with all YR chapters in the state. "As chairman, I tend to let the chapter chairs plan their own events with the state coming in to hold a few large events each year. We are working on holding a statewide softball game against the California Young Democrats in late summer," Brinkman said.

Brinkman has been working with Governor Schwarzenegger's staff to hold a debate with the chairman of the Young Democrats on key issues that will dominate this election cycle. CYRs are particularly motivated to ensure that the "Governator" is victorious. It's also advantageous to have the Governor attend events, because when he comes, so do the crowds. This

year's events can certainly be used as a tool to get more of the 1.4 million registered Young Republicans in California involved in the CYR organization.

Not only do the California YRs have a great relationship with

Governor Schwarzenegger, but also with many of the elected Republicans in the State Legislature and Congress. CYRs are currently working to support more local Republicans across California and in November, CYRs hope to add new legislators to their support team.

Many CYR Members, themselves, hold non-partisan local offices. CYRs have a few members that are currently serving on school boards, water boards and city council. This year, there are about one dozen members running for local office around the state. Filing deadlines for the November election are nearing, so there will likely be more YRs running for local positions.

### *Alumni*

Support for the CYR also



*California YRs relive the 1980's as they gather at YR Fest at the 2005 National Convention in Las Vegas.*

comes from alumni. They currently have a strong alumni network set up, which includes a couple of key elected officials. The California YRs are fortunate to have these connections and great relationships with members of the senior party who give them unwavering support. These connections also help the CYRs network and raise funds.

### *Upcoming*

The California YRs hold their annual convention in conjunction with the Senior Party Conventions. This idea took shape under the Brinkman Administration and it has been met with great success. The next convention will be in Los Angeles from August 18th – 20th.

For more info please visit [www.CYR.org](http://www.CYR.org) or email Chairman@cyr.org.

## Support Our Troops, *Continued from page 1.*

The Young Republicans in Washington, DC held an event on June 2nd in conjunction with the Helping Our Heroes Foundation (HOHF) where over 50 people donated \$675 to be donated to a wounded soldier at Walter Reed Medical Center. They also sent care packages,

including DVD's and toiletries, to the 101st Airborne Division.

"Our YR clubs came together for the YRNF's Support Our Troops Spring," said YRNF Chair Nicolee Ambrose. "These events demonstrate the commitment that YRs display day-in and day-out to sup-

port those overseas fighting for our freedom. This month long event is an example of how strong we are when we work together as Young Republicans."

*Written by Wayne Bena, Midwest Regional Director and Support Our Troops Spring Coordinator.*

## YR Alumni Network Formed

Several of the most prominent veterans of Young Republican politics have formed an alumni organization. The “YR Alumni Network” formed with former YRNF Chairman (1971-73) and Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist and RNC Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf (1983-89) co-chairing a kickoff reception overlooking the White House on April 21st. In addition to about 70 Alums, some who flew in from as far off as California and Nevada just for the reception, over 100 YRLC attendees participated in the ‘Rooftop Reception.’

The inspiration for the gathering was the 35th Anniversary of the YRNF Convention in Phoenix. At that convention, Sundquist won a narrow victory over Fahrenkopf, following then-Senator Brock’s endorsement—at a convention chaired by then Arizona YR State Chairman, and now U.S. Senator, Jon Kyl!!

YR Alumni Network organizer Terry Campo (YRNF Chairman 1989-91) remarked, “Who knew back in 1971, that the YR experience would propel two of that convention’s major players to become U.S. Senators, two to become RNC Chairmen, one a Governor and another a member of the President’s Cabinet barely ten years later!”

In fact, five of the 34 YRNF Chairmen have been elected to the U.S. House of Representatives—and one to the U.S. Senate, during or immediately after their term as YR Chairman. A sixth may join the ‘Congressional Club’ if California Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy (YRNF Chairman 1999-2001) is elected this year. One of the purposes of the YR Alumni Network is to call attention to the fact that many of the



*YRNF Alumni at the kick-off DC Rooftop Reception which officially began the YR Alumni Network. From left to right, Charlie Black, former YRNF Chairman and YR Alumni Network Chairman Terry Campo, Bill Tucker, and former YRNF Chairman and Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist.*

major players in politics and government today were YRs. Young Republicans are the “Emerging Leadership” of the Republican Party, many of whom already hold elective office.

Just before this year’s YRLC, the YR Alumni Network raised enough to fully-fund a YRLC Scholarship in the name of Audrey Merkin, (YRNF Co-Chairman 1987-89 and Executive Director 1991-93) who passed away in March. Campo recalled, “Audrey was my principal opponent for Chairman in 1989, but there was no one who worked harder for the YRNF during my term. That kind of dedication to YRs, and the example she set for others of treating YR battles as learning experiences—and not a need for lifelong enemies, is one of the things we hope to commemorate. We also hope to teach the YRs by example, with future scholarships.”

Former RNC Chairman Lee Atwater’s widow, Sally, has joined the YR Alumni Network and autho-

rized a scholarship in Lee Atwater’s name. YRNF Chairman Nicolee Ambrose is working with the YR Alumni Network to have Alumni Scholarships become a major feature of future YRLCs.

So far, the YR Alumni Network has a little over 160 members, and more can join at its website, [www.YRALumni.Net](http://www.YRALumni.Net). Members so far include prominent political consultants Charlie Black, Craig Shirley, and Frank Donatelli, as well as Leadership Institute President Morton Blackwell and Fund for American Studies President Randy Teague. The YR Alumni Network — like the YRs themselves -- are fast on the way to becoming the leading institution for GOP insiders.

Other former YRNF Chairmen who have endorsed the project include Ned Cushing (1959-61), Len Nadasdy (1961-63), Jack McDonald (1967-69), Ron Romans (1969-71), Jack Mueller (1975-77), Roger Stone

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## Chairman's Column... *The State of the YRNF*

Congratulations to Young Republicans of past and present ~ the Young Republican National Federation is 70 years old! This organization has contributed to this country in countless ways and we are all proud to be part of this great institution.

As this administration nears the one-year mark, we are eager to honor the past and continue the tradition of shaping the future of this country. Let's begin by focusing on our specific plans for 2006 ~ every YR's participation is needed!

Operation 1000:one. Simply put, this effort is the most significant mobilization our organization has ever undertaken since I've been a Young Republican. Our goal sounds familiar -- to help elect Republicans from coast-to-coast. But what makes this so different? I am asking every YR in the country to donate one weekend this Fall to our national mobilization. If every Young Republican donates one weekend to efforts in a YR nationally targeted state, our organization can and will be credited with making the crucial difference for our Party. Perhaps our work will preserve our Majority in the House or the Senate or allow a Republican Governor to govern responsibly and impact redistricting in 2010. By activating our network, we will accomplish remarkable things in 2006. Local YR clubs, state YR organizations and the national federation will all be able to take pride in the success we made possible and we'll enjoy the credibility and possibilities that become available due to victory and results! Please go to [www.YRNF.com](http://www.YRNF.com) to sign up for one weekend this Fall. Sign up TODAY!

The YRNF's National Voter Registration Summer will run all summer and will wrap-up the week of August 19th - 26th. This second annual effort encourages all YRs to register voters in

their local area. Voter registration is key to winning elections for the GOP. Last year's effort was a great success with YRs registering voters at their county/state fairs, going door-to-door, setting up tables at a variety of events, and the event was crowned with a national conference call with Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee. If you would like suggestions of ways to register voters in your area, please contact our YR Voter Registration National Coordinator BJ Perry, [bjperry2004@aol.com](mailto:bjperry2004@aol.com). The summer-long effort will end on August 26th with a conference call to highlight our national efforts.



The YRNF's Community Service Day will be held on November 18th. Last year, the YRNF conducted a Community Service Day with over 250 events held nationwide. Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum joined a conference call in the evening to congratulate all YRs on our efforts to support our communities. Last year's initiative included volunteering at soup kitchens, helping out at a blood drive, and Montana's deer hunt catch, which was then donated to charity. Contact Tamara Baker at [baker@ymnf.com](mailto:baker@ymnf.com) for more information.

After discussing the future, we must recognize the tireless work of YRs past and present who have made our recent successes possible. To begin, an endless thanks to Senator Bill Brock and his wife Sandy Brock, and Reagan RNC Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf, who have jump-started the YRNF's fundraising mechanism. These Republican leaders are phenomenal mentors to the YRNF. They know that this organization is a tremendous asset to shaping the future

of our Party and this country. It is an honor to have such leaders behind us.

To further recognize efforts of YR Alums, former YRNF Chairman Terry Campo (1989-1991) organized and now serves as Chairman of the YR Alumni Network. We are eager to partner with this organization to learn more about all of those who have gone before us.

Now onto all the current YRs ~ we have made amazing progress in the past year. It has truly been extraordinary and it is all due to your hard work! For Support our Troops Spring, YR clubs across the country were called to action to support our uniformed service members. Our Support Our Troops efforts demonstrated the strength in numbers that is the hallmark of YRNF initiatives. YRs made a positive impact in the lives of our military heroes on the home front and those deployed.

This Spring, all YRs were also invited to participate in the 2006 Young Republican Leadership Conference (YRLC) in Washington, D.C. YRs enjoyed events at the Embassies of Romania and Germany, a visit to the House Floor with Ways and Means Chairman Bill Thomas, a visit to the RNC to hear from Ken Mehlman, and an incredible Freedom Gala with the National Rifle Association's Wayne LaPierre and American's for Tax Reform's Grover Norquist.

The overwhelming success of our initiatives displays the depth and talent of the committed people who comprise this organization.

Once again, happy 70th birthday to the YRNF and thank you to the Ohio YRs for doing such an incredible job of hosting our celebration. May the next 70 years be just as great!

*Nicolee*

## Quick Reference List of YRs Running for Office

*If you're a YR or know a YR running for office,  
please contact [Communications@yrnf.com](mailto:Communications@yrnf.com)*

### **Alaska**

Matt Moon - State House District 20  
Mike Pawlowski - State House District 26  
Darwin Peterson - State House District 24  
Robin Phillips - State Senate in East Anchorage  
Phelan Straube - State House District 27

### **Arizona**

Sen. Dean Martin - State Treasurer

### **Illinois**

Jeff Redick - County Board District 2

### **Indiana**

Richard Castele - County Recorder, Clark County  
Yvette Dowd - Township Board, Scott County  
Dustin Houchin - Prosecutor, Washington County  
Toby Johnson - County Council, Clark County  
Jim Joven - Judge, Marion County  
Jennifer Mayfield - Township Assessor, Floyd County  
Todd Rokita - Indiana Secretary of State  
Jacque Singleton - County Council, Clark County  
Jeremy Snelling - Township Trustee, Clark County  
Jim Smith - County Treasurer, Clark County

### **Kansas**

Steve Anthimides - State House District 88

### **Maryland**

Dan Zubairi - Congress

### **Montana**

Mark Blasdel - State House NW Flathead Lake District

### **New York**

Robert Heim – State Assembly  
Richard Hoffman - Congress  
Marc Molinaro – State Assembly  
Philip Pidot – State Senate  
Dan Russo – State Senate  
Italo Zanzi – Congress District 1

### **Pennsylvania**

Raj Bhakta – Congress  
John Bear – State Representative  
Brian Cutler – State Representative  
Karen Emenheiser – State Representative  
Mark Harris – State Representative  
Paul Snatchko – State Representative  
Anthony Tezak – State Representative

### **Washington, DC**

David Kranich - City Council  
Marcus Skelton - City Council

## YR Alumni Network Formed, *Continued from page 5.*

(1977-79), Judge Rick Abell (1979-81), Dave Barron (1981-83), Steve Clark (1983-85), Marilyn Hudson (1985-87), Rich Jacobs (1987-89), and Monica Samuels (1997-99), in addition to Sundquist, Campo and McCarthy.

State chapters of the YR Alumni Network will be organizing at the next YRNF National Meeting from July 7-9 in Cleveland, Ohio, and then in Lexington, Kentucky, from November 10-12.

State and local YR leaders are encouraged to send any old YR lists you have to the YR Alumni Network so that all alumni can be invited to join. Please email contact informa-

tion to YRALumni-Net@cs.com.

YR Alumni Network Co-Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf said, "The YRs were an important part of our lives and who we are today. It trained so many of us to have top-notch political skills, which we applied to incredibly important undertakings, such as electing Ronald Reagan. Now it is important to men-



*Et Tu Vinne: NY Alum Vinnie Noto and 1989-91 YRNF Chairman Terry Campo take turns stabbing CA Alum Roman Buhler in the heart in a reprise of the 1987 Convention's Credentials Report.*

tor this next generation of leaders for the future."

## Check Out Our Upcoming YRNF Nationwide Projects

The second of the three nationwide initiatives that the YRNF has announced is upon us -- Voter Registration Summer. Please join us!

### ***YRNF National Voter Registration Summer***

**All summer long, concluding the week of August 19th - 26th**

**Contact BJ Perry at:**  
**[bjperry2004@aol.com](mailto:bjperry2004@aol.com)**

This 2nd annual effort encourages all YRs to register voters in their local area. Voter registration is key to winning elections for the GOP. Last year's effort was a great success with YRs registering voters at their county/state fairs, going door to door, setting up tables at a variety

of events, and the event was crowned with a national conference call with Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee. Please join the effort this year. If you would like suggestions of ways to register voters in your area, please contact our YR Voter Registration National Coordinator BJ Perry. The summer-long effort will end on August 26th with a conference call to highlight our national efforts. Save the date and contact BJ Perry for ideas on how to register voters!

### ***Fall: YRNF Community Service Day, November 18th***

**Contact Tamara Baker at:**  
**[baker@yrnf.com](mailto:baker@yrnf.com)**

This is also a 2nd annual event. Last year, the YRNF conducted a Community Service Day with over 250 events held nationwide. Pennsyl-

vania Senator Rick Santorum joined a conference call in the evening to congratulate all YRs for our efforts to support our communities. We encourage YRs across the country to sign up for YRNF Community Service Day. Last year's initiative included volunteering at soup kitchens, helping out at a blood drive, and Montana's deer hunt catch, which was then donated to charity. Save the date and more information will follow. Please contact Midwest Vice Chair Tamara Baker with any questions.

### ***Operation 1000:one***

Donate one weekend this fall to join your fellow YRs in electing Republicans from coast-to coast. YRs should stay as active as ever in your hometowns, but share just one weekend to roll-up your sleeves and work on a nationally targeted state. Go to [www.YRNF.com](http://www.YRNF.com) to sign-up!

## State Updates: YRs Excited for a Busy 2006

**Alabama:** Many YRs individually volunteered many hours on various campaigns. The Greater Birmingham YRs helped in two of the special elections held before the primary. GBYRs are hosting a fundraiser on July 15th that all State YRs are invited to attend. The YRFA are also working on a voter registration drive.

**Alaska:** YRs are focused on fundraising and campaign training. We'll soon be on a regular meeting schedule and get members ready to play active roles in both local races as well as the very contentious gubernatorial race where there are two formidable Republican challengers to the Republican incumbent – the primary is August 22nd. Four YR members are running for State House seats and our former State Chair Robin Phillips is running for State Senate in East Anchorage. Matt Moon (Dist 20), Darwin Peterson (Dist 24), Mike Pawlowski (Dist. 26), and Phelan Straube (Dist. 27) have all begun to raise funds and get their campaigns on track.

**Arkansas:** On July 6th, the Arkansas Young Republicans will host its annual Cocktails-n-Ducktails Reception at the Mallards Bar inside the Peabody following the Republican Party of Arkansas's annual Governor's Dinner featuring Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney. Then on August 5th, join the Arkansas YRs for their annual Legislative Fiesta supporting the GOP caucus at the state level. This event will be held the evening of the Republican Party of Arkansas's state committee meeting.

**Arizona:** YRs held their convention June 24. The main focus was growth, both in building the existing clubs and chartering new clubs. Arizona will also host a reception for all clubs at the Arizona Club on July 27. YRs will continue to work hard on all statewide races, including supporting State Sen. Dean Martin (a North Valley Young Republican) to be our next State Treasurer.

**California:** YRs were hard at work during our primary season. YRs descended on San Diego and Kern counties to help campaign. Looking toward November, we're excited that the Republicans put together a solid slate for all of our statewide races. YRs are currently being asked to volunteer on the Governor's campaign as surrogate speakers and grassroots leaders within their counties. CYR will be focusing on three key issues

this election year: Jessica's Law, Immigration, and the tuition costs in our state. We will also brush upon eminent domain, energy prices, and the War on Terror. We have teamed up with the California Congress of Republicans, one of the largest grassroots networks in the state. They have given us a full page ad in their paper to help us recruit more members.

**Connecticut:** YRs held a reception at the CT GOP meeting on May 20 where we provided an opportunity for YRs to network with Senior Party members. We are looking forward to a busy election cycle as CT has many contentious races this year, including our three members of Congress and our Governor.

**Georgia:** Gwinnett YRs hosted a District 4 Commissioner Candidates' Forum. The keynote speaker was State Rep. John Heard, who did an excellent job of giving every candidate a chance to be heard. GA leadership is gearing up for the July 18 primary election.

**Illinois:** YRs played an important role in the hotly contested Illinois primary election this Spring, helping to manage or work on behalf of the campaigns of nearly every statewide candidate. Two local chapter chairmen were also elected to head their county Republican Parties following the primary as well. Jason Barickman and James Barr retired as the founding presidents of their YR clubs to take the GOP Chairmanships in Champaign and DeKalb Counties, respectively. Also, National Committeeman David Carlin has been appointed to lead the staff of the DuPage County Republican Party - widely regarded as one of the strongest organizations in Illinois. DuPage County YR Vice President Jeff Redick defeated a 25-year incumbent to become the nominee to County Board District 2. If Jeff is successful, he will join an 18-member board that already includes four YRs.

**Kansas:** Young Republicans are working hard this summer to paint Cedar Crest Red again (KS Governor's Mansion). The KYRs are planning a statewide micro targeting get out the vote effort in July. Most importantly we have KYR members working on key races in key positions at all levels. One of our KYR Executive Board members, Steve Anthimides, is stepping up to run for the District 88 KS State House seat against a well

known democratic incumbent,

**Maryland:** YRs have been working hard, especially motivated by Governor Bob Ehrlich, running for a second term, and Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele, running for U.S. Senate. Our own Dan Zubairi is running for Congress. We have volunteered at fairs and festivals, baseball games, fundraisers, phone banks, door-to-and door events. We've also carried on business with a leadership retreat, meetings, support-the-troops events, and recruitment events. Our state convention is July 15th in Annapolis with special guests Governor Ehrlich and State Party Chairman John Kane.

**Massachusetts:** The Massachusetts YRs have been busy working with local College Republicans to develop a database of graduating CRs to use for membership recruitment. This resource will help CRs maintain a database of alumnae and YRs reach out to prospective new members. We are also hosting two membership recruitment events where Ayla Brown, American Idol contestant, will be performing. Chairman Karl Burns addressed the Massachusetts GOP at a recent meeting. We are busy planning for a debate between our two Republican candidates for U.S. Senate.

**Montana:** YR Mark Blasdel won his primary for the NW Flathead Lake State House district and looks like the favorite to win in November. Through April and May, the Gallatin Young Republicans volunteered at 10 phone banks, the Bozeman Kick-Off event, the Bozeman Exchange, two door-to-door events, and the Gun Show. Members in Helena volunteered for the GOP 72-hour plan, the Helena Kick-Off event and helped get out signs for the campaign.

**Nebraska:** YRs wrapped up their work on primary elections on May 9th. Individual YR members from across the state were involved in numerous campaigns up and down the ticket. Clubs will spend the summer increasing membership and fundraising in order to be most effective for the Fall.

**New Hampshire:** New Hampshire held its Annual Meeting in April where Chairman BJ Perry was elected to a historic third term. Along with Perry's re-election, Kerry Marsh was elected Vice Chair, Kelly Hurst - Treasurer, Paul Smith - Secretary, and re-elected

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## State Updates, *Continued from Page 9.*

to their national committee spots where Jen Wroblewski and David Hurst.

**New York:** Many NYSYRs are running for statewide office and we're focused on these and other crucial statewide elections. We held a Leadership Conference with over 100 YRs in attendance. A seminar from the Leadership Institute, a candidates forum, a cocktail reception at the Fort Orange Club, and a dinner at Jack's Oyster House topped off the weekend. Three NYSYRs participated in the PAYR Convention campaign school, June 10th. The weekend of June 23-25, the NYSYR Summer Board Meeting was held in Monroe County, complete with a winery tour, clam bake and candidate presentations, the weekend was a great success. YRs participated in the Support Our Troops Spring Effort, by adopting a soldier and her 40 battalion members. YRs are excited about the YRNF's 70th Anniversary Meeting.

**North Carolina:** YRs are working to grow the federation and prepare for November elections. Ten clubs have been chartered and/or renewed, two of which cover more than one county. We anticipate at least another five clubs will petition for their charters over the next few months, and we are excited at the growth in our federation. One of our own is running for the Supreme Court and we'll be working to ensure we efficiently and effectively work on this and all other key spots.

**Pennsylvania:** The PAYRs held the annual convention in Harrisburg, June 9-11. Congrats to the new officers: Chairman Adrienne Mitford, Vice Chairman Brandon Danz, Secretary Tom Baker, Treasurer Michelle Rajsic, National Committeeman Kevin Kelly, National Committeewoman Lindsay Pfister. YRs raised over \$300 to be used to send items to troops overseas as well as to support a local family. Resolutions were passed in support of YRs who ran for public office this year and YRs who have served our Country. We're preparing ourselves for

significant efforts in 2006, including seeing great things happen for our talented Senator Santorum and maybe even visiting the Governor's Mansion by next year!

**Puerto Rico:** We have focused our efforts in providing assistance to our Republican Delegation at the House of Representatives in what should be the fiscal and tax reform for next year. We had activity in front of the US Veterans Memorial located at the South Gate of the Capitol; we also had a dinner, with the GOP of Puerto Rico, commemorating the 150 anniversary of the GOP; we held parties supporting the US Soccer team at the World Cup at Shannan's Irish Pub; we are preparing to reorganize the GOP locally (we are in charge of 78 counties). Last, but not least, we would like to help all Republican candidates win this Fall. Here is how we can help: we can make phone calls to Hispanics, walk house to house, talk to them personally, and tell them why we Latinos/Puerto Rican-Americans are Republicans.

**Tennessee:** The Volunteer State is moving into one of its most significant election seasons ever! The State House is in play for the first time since the great war of Northern aggression. Only four seats make the difference! Three Republican heavy hitters are battling it out for the U.S. Senate nomination. After August 3, the winner will take on liberal media sweetheart Harold Ford, Jr. With the tenuous balance in the U.S. Senate, and the federal money already pouring in, this will be one of the most heated races in the nation. But that's not all. The liberal Governor will have a fight on his hands too. Come get in on it!

**Texas:** YRs are busy planning our state convention Aug. 11-13 in Dallas, TX. All YRs from around the national are invited. Go to tyrf.org for more details. Three Texas YRs were elected to our State Republican Executive Committee, Chairman Rex Lamb, Former Chair Jason Moore, and Club Development Director John Fowler at our recent state Republican convention. In addition,

TYRF hosted a YR Alumni Reception at the convention which was well attended by elected officials and former YRs. Finally, we are proud of our TYRF Treasurer Scott Jauregui who was recently elected to the Converse, TX City Council, near San Antonio

**Virginia:** YRFV hosted a reception before the State Party's Commonwealth Gala on June 3 and was attended by future potential presidential candidates Senator George Allen and former Governor Mark Warner. Neil Miller, Arlington/Falls Church YR Grassroots Co-chair's comments were noted in the Washington Post. The Arlington/Falls Church YRs continue their ongoing project of collecting items for care packages for the troops in Iraq. Items are collected at the monthly meetings and are packaged and sent on a regular basis. On July 12, YRs from across the commonwealth will join forces with the state party for a campaign blitz and the YRs are looking forward to rolling up their sleeves and turning the tide in Virginia Beach!

**Washington, DC:** YRs have been busy since YRLC! We commissioned a new website and are eagerly awaiting our new membership database capabilities it will provide! We fielded two great candidates to run for mayor and DC City Council, Marcus Skelton and David Kranich. On Tuesday, June 6th, we held a fund-raising happy hour to benefit the Helping Our Heroes Foundation. Over 50 people attended, and we raised about \$675, 100% of which will all go to support a wounded soldier returning from Iraq or Afghanistan and his family as he goes to recover at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. We also sent care packages to soldiers currently deployed with the 101st Airborne Division in Iraq. The Motion Picture Association of America is donating a number of recently-released DVDs, and DCYR members brought toiletries to our membership meeting on June 12th. Additionally, we are gearing up for the 2006 elections.

### ***And Now... The Thank You Box:***

*A huge thanks to the Ohio Young Republicans and the Cleveland YRs for planning a tremendous YRNF 70th Anniversary Gala and Summer Meeting. Special thanks to Event Chairman Lisa Stickan for her tireless dedication to this effort!*