

# A Cheer for Regional Chairs

by Bill Houseman

The Regional Chairs Committee counts among its many responsibilities the review of all resolutions for NCARB's Annual Meeting and Conference. This core group of six individuals, each of whom represents an NCARB region, is led by the current First Vice President/President-elect.

Spring is the busiest time of the year for the members of NCARB's Regional Chairs Committee. That is when the six Regional Conferences meet to learn what the Council's work force has accomplished since the last year's Annual Meeting. The Spring Regionals are literally NCARB's next-to-most-important meetings, coming as they do just ahead of each year's Annual Meeting.

It is at these meetings that the "visiting team"—NCARB's President, First Vice President, and Executive Vice President—

reports on the activities and recommendations of committees, staff, and the Board of Directors. And it is the Regional Chairs Committee that is largely responsible for seeing that the Spring Regionals are organized to make "the best use of time and opportunity."

As its name makes clear, this committee is uniquely a "committee of chairs." Its members are elected by the member boards as leaders of their respective regions, and they are charged, as a committee, to "work together to share issues of mutual interest

THE 2004-2005 REGIONAL CHAIRS COMMITTEE IS REPRESENTED BY (LEFT TO RIGHT) PHILIP CERRONE, AIA (REGION 1); WILLIAM C. YOKE JR, AIA (REGION 2); JANE Y. FREDERICK, AIA (REGION 3); JAMES O'BRIEN, FAIA (REGION 4); MARK I. ASPAAS, AIA (REGION 5); AND GREGORY L. ERNY, AIA (REGION 6). AS NCARB'S CURRENT FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT, H. CARLETON GODSEY, FAIA, CHAIRS THE COMMITTEE.



and concern.” A measure of the committee’s stature? The chair of the chairs is NCARB’s First Vice President/President-elect—this year, H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA.

Traditionally, the Regional Chairs Committee reviews and publishes all resolutions submitted for consideration at the forthcoming Annual Meeting. The committee may recommend to a resolution’s author editing changes for clarity or to avoid duplication. In addition this year, it has developed job description materials for the position of regional execu-

tive, and it also has reviewed “current efforts” to acquaint new member board members with the workings of the Council.

A major new charge was given the committee this year: “[T]o consider and make recommendations on strategies for identifying and developing future Council leaders.” According to Godsey, the committee could not have been happier to have it. “We feel,” he says, “that this is the first significant step to accomplish the goal of developing leadership at NCARB, from the regional level up

through the Board of Directors and to higher office. It is important to acquaint all of the member board members, especially the new ones, with the intricate workings of NCARB as they pertain to our mission. And it’s also important to develop a plan and a program to allow more people to seek higher offices at NCARB. The time commitment required has to be studied and tempered, so that the opportunity is available to more people without the risk of serious business or family interferences. I think this is an essential element to the long-term future of NCARB.” **DC**

