

1992

## 1992-93 UNOPA, NAEOP Conference and Institute

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NAEOP CONFERENCE AND INSTITUTE  
DELEGATE TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT  
Biloxi, Mississippi July 21 - 14, 1992

July 19, dawned hot and humid as we got ready to leave for Biloxi, MS. Deb Hendricks, Lola Young, Maggie Kahler, Sheila Perry and I started out early for the long trek. We drove the University of Nebraska van while Sandy Lineberry, Linda Gersib and Jeanne Andelt stayed behind to fly down on Tuesday. I think those of us in the van had more fun than those who flew, but it's probably a matter of opinion.

We traveled for more than two days, staying the night in Branson, MO., and Baton Rouge, LA. It rained on us a lot and the further south we went, the more humid it became. When I got out of the van, my glasses steamed over. On Tuesday, we lunched in New Orleans, before driving on to Biloxi. What beautiful scenery. Rolling hills, and I do mean rolling, lush green vegetation, thick marshes and sandy beaches. However, we never saw any alligators. A few dead armadillos and several deer, but no alligators.

Once we reached our destination, we were joined by other Nebraska delegates. Joyce Graybill, Pat Podjenski, Mary White, Marcella Shotwell, Doris Merriman and Eileen Knudsen were there to greet us. Some of our Nebraska friends had been in Biloxi since the previous Saturday and had been on several tours throughout the area. We didn't have time for tours. Once we got checked into our hotel and got settled, it was time to go, go, go. Tuesday evening the Mississippi delegation hosted an open house. Several of our group attended, enjoying the time for socializing and getting reacquainted.

Wednesday morning started with Briefings, which I didn't get to attend, and the Advisory Council. As delegate for UNOPA, I was and am very proud to have served this year. I attended the Advisory Council and learned more in that one day than I have at several meetings in the past. I was chosen to act as a teller for the Advisory Council. There were six people to a group and three groups of tellers. Each time voting occurred, one group of tellers collected ballots and counted to see who would be elected. Each team took turns and I believe we each counted three times.

Agenda items are presented to the Executive Board of NAEOP through the year and all the items are brought to the Advisory Council for discussion. This year there were 11 items to be discussed and voted on. It is the job of the Advisory Council delegates to work through the agenda items and either pass them on to the General Membership as they are written, to make ammendments, or to ask that the wording be changed or the agenda item withdrawn. The delegates are divided into groups and each group is given a particular agenda item to discuss. I was in the group to discuss Agenda Item #2. To remove the requirement of presentation of a high school transcript from the scholarship application. The

take the basket home with her to their fall workshop and sell raffle tickets on the basket in Iowa. The winner will get the basket of goodies and the proceeds will be donated to the Louise Henderson Nelson Building Fund. A plaque will be put up at the national office in Wichita, KS., in honor of the Nebraska vs Iowa challenge.

After a fun filled breakfast, we went into General Session, where Sandy Lineberry acted as a counter. Sounds exciting, doesn't it. It's a very important job. Sandy had to make sure that every voting member of NAEOP was counted and given voting cards. She also had to make sure that all members had checked in with the membership table and picked up their membership ribbon. It is this process which allows the general membership to vote on each of the agenda items I talked about above. The General Session was very well run. Charlie Mae Holland, our Immediate Past President, did an excellent job during General Session. Several dignitaries stopped by to welcome us to Biloxi. Many extended invitations to spend our money while we were in town, but most just came to say "hello". We had speakers on both days, but my favorite came on Friday morning. The General Session ended on Friday at noon. We attended the Awards Luncheon, where Nancy Grasmick was named Administrator of the Year. She was honored with a beautiful plaque and many little gifts. Nancy was very gracious and as the "boss" of Patricia Fleming, CEOE, her speech was wonderful. Nancy never hesitated to commend Patricia for her hard work, friendship, and everlasting devotion. It was a great way to end the conference.

The five of us got back in the van and headed home on Friday afternoon. We travelled as far as Memphis, Tennessee. We decided to take the interstate home, rather than wind around and around the hills in Arkansas again. We left Memphis later than we planned and drove as far as Columbia, Missouri for the night. However, we could not find a room anywhere. It seems they were holding the Missouri State Games, as we had held the Cornhusker State Games the week before. There was a baseball game in St. Louis and law exams in Columbia and Jefferson City. Lola Young saved us all. She contacted a relative and bless their hearts, they put us all up for the night. I don't know of any administrator at the University of Nebraska who can say they attended a conference and spent the night in the cemetery on the way home. Lola's brother-in-law, is a caretaker of the cemetery in Columbia. His home is located inside the cemetery gates. We didn't care. It was midnight and we were thrilled that these gracious people were willing to let total strangers into their home. Thank you, Lola and to your family.

We arrived home on Sunday, all still talking I might add. We were all tired, dirty (there are no showers in the cemetery) and ready for some relaxation. It was a busy week, but I always come home from one conference already looking forward to the next one. Next year the NAEOP Conference and Institute will be held in Tucson, AZ., at the Los Paloma Resort. Anyone interested? Sandy, Sheila and I have already started saving our pennies.

Seriously, anyone wanting information on NAEOP, or the conference, please do not hesitate to give me a call. (472-3656)

*Linda Pearce*