

AS TOLD BY ADELE SCULLY, TOM MORGAN & ERNIE CARROLL

#### Naples Area Board of REALTORS' Presidents

PROCESSED BY NABOR



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Good afternoon, honored guests, ladies and gent or as we might say in real estate jargon--honor-ors

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We're gathered together today to pay homage (pl leave--it doesn't involve paying money) to our estee presidents of the Naples Board of Realtors -- our supe guests.

Those of you who have attended meetings in our of room down the hall or just wandered into that room ha seen the row of portraits lining the walls. Today we you the faces behind the photos. We're going to intro all to a goodly number of those special people and tel bit about the era in which they reigned--and--show you priceless pictures of them that we've borrowed from old albums. We tried to get informal pictures of every sin but we did miss a few.

It's been a fascinating years here in Naples a difficult to cover this much ground under our tight tim Schedule. But we don't want you to miss anything. So take the advice of a bumper sticker I saw the other da said: BE ALERT--WE NEED LERTS

So, if you'll be a lert, we'll start with old-time Morgan, who speaks first-hand about that early period began with our very first board president. History but has done enough research for a fat historical novel but enough minutes today for the Readers Digest version. S get started. Ta, ta...here's Tom.

(Tom's speech)

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Real Estate Exchange .... Contractors ask city 18 FLCOD

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If we are lucky in life, we might have the good fortune to find a buried treasure. When I came across an old carrousel of slides in an old cardboard box sitting in a storage room at NABOR, I realized I had found an utterly priceless treasure. I discovered a vintage slide presentation and a typed script titled, *"Steps through Time"*. It was the historical account of the first 29 years (1949-1977) of the Naples Area Board of REALTORS<sup>®</sup>. This slide presentation was given to a group of past presidents of NABOR at a luncheon in 1978 and is now presented to you in book form. The memories recovered from a NABOR storage room not only serve to preserve the history of our organization, but carry the voices of past members into the future.

- Patsy Vaughn, 1995 NABOR President

at the city wasn't interested...City no traffic fatalities...Episcopal church begun in Glen Samples said "No sno b feeling exists but mon buy property-- two references required" and lots w Getrude Lawrence, honorary chamber president, begai and Gary Cooper came to town to film "Distant Drum: an Indian chief-- The county offered to build a roa

Jon morgan

A year of beginning with Bill Clarke, county commissioner, lon-

ernoon, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen-at say in real estate jargon--honor-ors and honor-ees. thered together today to pay homage (please don't esn't involve paying money) to our esteemed past f the Naples Board of Realtors--our super special

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icked as head of the was first professional city as the new Naples High prin ch Club Apartments, now par i+v street .. Fort Myers cont negro temporary housing un Roy Smith headed the new i aked away \$108,000 the firs held for a crowd of 4,000 ... r and Ad Miller, genial mana legislature...There were opp offered a full beach block a ch as sirloin steak at 69¢ a t Walker and sons Lorenzo an quito infested land and it w

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As you read "Steps through Time", you will understand how the Naples Area Board of REALTORS (NABOR) and the contribution of its members have been instrumental to the growth of the greater Naples area. This book is dedicated to thousands of real estate professionals who have made the Naples Area Board of REALTORS a strong, vibrant, growing, diversified association that serves as the voice for real estate in the Naples area and provides programs, services, continuing education, research and legislative representation to its members.

67 BABY Les Whitaker, Sr. was president that year. He carried o in the same quiet <u>competent</u> manner that he handled all ot was before Les was Chairman of the Board of County Commiss of years. During his term, according to my sources who we 64 GUYS that time, they say there wasn't an awful lot to comment or just went so nicely during that year. The National cthat year and I've heard a few interesti-66 GROUP meeting which I won't read i-

> NAPLES AREA BOARD OF REALTORS withold PRESIDENTS 1961 THROUGH 1972

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One other point of interest is that Chuck Grimm at that time was a in Faber Hair's office and Chuck's wife Annie was secretary to th times do change don't they. Faber Wair the 13th president of the

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Many people have made this book possible. I would like to thank the esteemed past presidents of NABOR for their dedication to the development of this book: Arlene Carozza, Jo Carter, Marilyn Evanish, Marie Harris, Michele Harrison and member Terri Speach. I would also like to thank Tim Kling for his stunning graphic design and Marcia Albert, NABOR Manager of Events and Marketing, for her creative leadership. Most of all, I would like to thank Adele Scully, Tom Morgan, and Ernie Carroll for creating the slide presentation because without them, this cherished account from three very special members of NABOR's past would have been lost and forgotten forever. We are indebted to them for keeping the history of NABOR alive.

- Patsy Vaughn, 1995 NABOR President

Good afternoon, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen– or as we might say in real estate jargon–honor-ors and



honor-ees. We're gathered together today to pay homage (please don't leave–

it doesn't involve paying money) to our super-special guests, the esteemed past presidents of the Naples Board of REALTORS.







Hachmeister of Denver, Colorado, shows the Naples fishing n 1912 as it looked from an upper story of the Naples Hotel.

as the Naples Post Office & Stewart was postmaster. On the avenue was built for C

Those of you who have attended meetings in our conference room down the hall, or just wandered into that room, have probably seen the row of portraits lining the walls. Today, we're bringing you the faces behind the photos. We're going to introduce you to a goodly number of those special people and tell you



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It's been a fascinating 29 years here in Naples, and it's difficult to cover this much ground under our tight time schedule (2 STREET). But we don't want you to miss anything. So—please take the advice of a bumper sticker I saw the other day. It said: "BE ALERT—WE NEED LERTS."

So, if you'll be a lert, we'll start with old-timer Tom Morgan, who speaks first-hand about the early period that began with our very first (3 DINING) Board president. History buff Tom has done enough research for a fat historical novel but has only enough minutes today for the Readers Digest version. So let's get started. Ta-da...here's Tom.



A year of beginning with Bill Clarke (4), county commissioner, longtime mayor and 23 years in real estate, picked as head of the seven-man Board of REALTORS. Fred Lowdermilk was first professional city manager at \$4,500 a year and Bill Reynolds was the new Naples High principal. Larry MacPhail opened the 49-unit Beach Club Apartments, now part of the hotel, and tried to homestead a city street. Fort Myers contractor J.C. McDonald was praised for building six new Negro temporary housing units costing \$600 each. Another REALTOR, W. Roy Smith, headed the new Bank of Naples where barefoot depositors socked away \$108,000 the first day. The first Swamp Buggy (5 BUGGIES) Days were held for a crowd of 4,000. REALTOR Eddie Watson headed the chamber and





Ad Miller, general manager of the Naples Co., was bound for the legislature. There were opportunities – John Pulling and Bob Benson offered a full beach (6 BEACH) block at \$26,000. There were other bargains such as sirloin steak at 69 cents a pound and gin at \$2.25 a fifth. Forrest Walker and sons, Lorenzo and R.L., bought 129 acres of worthless mosquito-infested land and it was named Aqualane Shores in a contract by Joe Wherrett and (7 PAWPAW) the Pawpaw Patch mosquito-infested city jail may be replaced.





5 66 The first Swamp Buggy



Days were held for a crowd of 4,000."



9

First Days In Reading

TROPICAL HOLIDAY ON THE GULF OF M

Bob Benson (8) headed the Board in its second year and city building (9 BABY) passed \$2 million. Arthur Godfrey (10 BOOK) caught a tarpon. It was iced and shipped (11 BOOK) to Miami with a poem

by Casey Miller. Hedy Lamar visited and Gertrude Lawrence fished from the pier (12 PIER). The county population was 6,452 and the city's 1,458. City tax values were \$4.7 million of the county's \$12.3 million total. Sidewalks were required for Fifth Avenue. Thursday summer closing began in April, but the beach hotel (13 BOOKLET) would stay open the first time for the summer. Council listened to real estate people and banned motel kitchens. A road was built to Marco and the county budget soared to \$229,000 with taxes at 13 mills. The north Tamiami Trail was to be widened to 24 feet. Roy Smith beat Bill Clarke in a race for mayor, 360-68. Ad Miller

backed an

10

### Robert Benson

12

Immokalee Road project, headed trail (14 BAR – SEMINOLE ROOM) improvement and Boy Scout committees and lost an election for representative, 885-665, to David C. Jones Sr. SAL sold John Pulling 12 blocks, now Lake Forest, for \$11,700. Naples Construction planned houses three blocks from the beach, with no money down. Cigarettes were \$1.99 a carton at Roger Ford's department store, later known as ChrisTal Food Market, and mullet was 28 cents a pound at Combs Seafood.









Edwin M. Watson (15) headed the Board, up from selling bait on the pier. REALTORS limited signs to five per office on improved, and none on unimproved, property (16 STREET). The county's two unemployed people collected \$30 each for a week. Good news, J.C. McDonald will build four more Negro units and council condemned Ditch Bank quarters (now Village Green area) to give him renters at \$6.50 a month. The county (17 STREET) set up a housing authority, but the city wasn't interested. City has six years with no traffic fatalities. Episcopal Church was begun in Port Royal where John Glen Samples said, "No snob feeling exists, but money alone will not buy property-two references required," and lots (18 FLOOD) were \$50 a front foot. Gertrude Lawrence, honorary chamber president, began "The King and I," and Gary Cooper came to town to film "Distant Drums"



#### Edwin M. Watson

with Roy Smith as an Indian Chief- the county offered to build a road to the remote Rattlesnake-Hammock movie set if the city provided two trucks. Eight REALTORS and three Associates attended the monthly meeting. Eddie Watson offered a 26-unit tourist court and gas station for \$65,000, Aqualane Shores lots at \$2,500 and fourand-a-half acre Trail-front lots at \$1,500. Naples Real Estate Exchange had 16 acres on a paved street a block from the trail at \$100 an acre. Christmas trees were 85 cents and up at Sunshine, and M.H. Davis planned the 800-acre Naples Park with \$130 lots.







A CRAIG m

T. PURGE & PUKE

George Lesher (19) headed the Board, and Gloria Swanson came in on the first Pullman, direct from New York. Developers and city people have paid

\$100,000 in five years for new streets (20 AERIAL) and water lines. Young Ben Parks joined the George B. Davis law firm. Eddie Watson had a two-bedroom. furnished house with a floor furnace at \$12,000 three blocks from the beach. Forrest Walker had a 40-acre trailer park with a two-story CBS building for \$52,000. Cliff Anderson, the little fox, listed (21 SIGN) the eight-unit Beachcomber at \$110,000 and Dave Jones, of Naples Real Estate Exchange, sold it at \$98,000– Jack Luse at once planned a \$232,000 addition. Contractors ask the city to ban unlicensed builders, as costs rise to \$10 a square foot for modest

homes. Port Royal has a Treasure Lane home for \$21,000.



## George Lesher

J. Wilson Dyches opened new offices at Third and Broad and offered a home, duplex and guest house at Third and Third for \$55,000. June Sloan opened a branch at the Four Corners (22 BUILDING). George Huntoon wins the 12-hour Vero Beach auto race in a Crosley-Sciata at 56 MPH. REALTORS' Board now has 25 brokers and Associates. Mrs. Ad Miller is president of the Women's Club as they have their first rummage sale, Friday for whites, Saturday for blacks. City now requires garbage cans and mail delivery starts. Kepp's Men's Shop had sport shirts, two for \$3.60.

20







26

24

Hank Watkins (23) headed the Board and was also, at times, county commissioner, school Board and zoning Board chairman and chamber president.

> Naples has U.S. highest per capita (24 CHILD) growth rate and building hit \$2.5 million for second year. The post office now has factorymade mailboxes, three service windows (25 BOY) and a bulletin Board. A television receiver was operated from an antenna atop the water tower and brought in the World Series with Allie Reynolds, Ed Lopat, Johnny Sain and Vic Raschi. Trail frontage (26 BIKE) goes from \$75 up to \$85 a front foot and Fifth Avenue footage is \$135. With opening of Stormey Sharpe's

Avion Park, you can get waterfront (27 dog) lots for \$15 a front foot.





City sprays streets with fog trucks every night and mosquitoes are seldom seen after sundown. Coconut palms are being planted. Surfside Homes can build a two-bedroom house, on your lot, for \$8,750, and lots three blocks from beach are \$1,200. The Naples Co. had \$5,000 Ridgeview Lakes lots at a third off, and a new four-bedroom house, at Gordon Drive and 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue S., was \$19,500. Dial phones come to town.





27





Eddie Watson scored again as president and opened the Watson-Fuller Building at Crayton Cove

with tenants, including new attorney Bill Berry, and the Lazy Susan delicatessen across from the local weekly newspaper and the Pelican, a leading restaurant (28 POOL). He had 60,000 acres available suitable for farming, cattle or subdividing at \$12 an acre. City lots were \$720 and lots on the Trail at Central were \$125 a front foot, while those on Fifth Avenue at First Street went to \$80 a front foot . Watson (29 AERIAL) also offered 800 feet from Gulf to bay, south of Gordon's Pass, for \$3,500, "and you will have a tremendous profit when the road is put in.". Port Royal lots were \$8,500. Five hundred feet of beach north of the Beach Club sold for \$200,000.













W. Roy Smith (30) – the W is for Walter – became president, as well as mayor where he served 14 years; he also had a Fifth Avenue furniture store, office supply, Standard Oil Dealership and an insurance agency. The living wasn't easy (31 FOOTBALL) with Fifth Avenue going at \$250 a front foot, Crayton Cove at \$110 and Trail frontage at \$200. Investment acreage outside town sold well at \$15 to \$32 an acre in 640-acre tracts. Golden Shores lots were \$3,000, with three years to pay, while Pine Ridge had full acre lots at \$1,800, if you wanted to go that far out of town. A Port Royal lot was \$5,000, with free club membership.







SLIDE

PROCESSED BY NABOR

56-5

in the city. State land sales got bad publicity and the county required developers to post a 110 percent cash bond. An auxiliary courthouse was planned here. The 18 REALTORS okayed MLS (34 KID) after a favorable study by Bob Benson, Bob Murnan and Ki Cox. Sue McClung got the first 60-mile-a-gallon, frontdoor Isetta car. James Lorenzo Walker had 400 feet on the

Trail, at Myrtle Cove Acres, at \$35 a front foot. Cliff Anderson, the little fox (**35 KID Fish**), offered 20 to 20,000 acres at \$100 down and \$75 a month,

# David Crocket Jones, Jr.

including "investment acreage" eight miles east of Copeland at \$46 an acre or land on the south side of Radio Road at \$500 an acre. Doc Loach will pay the \$14,000 cost of a road to the Isles of Capri and planned a ferry to Marco. Eisenhower carried the county, 1,863 to 1,287, over Adlai Stevenson.





E.M. (Brownie) Brown (36) became president. The city had its first traffic fatality in 12 years. Collier still offered acre Pine Ridge lots, but required 800-square-foot houses. Port Royal lots were now \$12,200 and guest houses can't be rented there. The first (37 HALL) county, two-party vote brought a 62 percent turnout, but only 878 of the 2,360 voted Republican. Dudley Gallahue planned a Broad Avenue South shopping center and was named citizen of the year (38 STREET). Oleo was three pounds for a quarter at Sunshine. Ad Miller had a three-bedroom, two-bath house, with pool, at Orchid and Mandarin for \$31,500.









41

In 1959 Charles E. (Ki) Cox (39) headed the Board, an Air Force missile tracking station was begun at Marco. Kwik Chek had sugar five pounds for

> 19 cents. Leo R. Chickering was elected School Board Chairman (40 BABY), double sessions were seen again, and Shadowlawn School was to be built at \$9 a square foot. Study shows 18 percent of Naples people (41 KID) pay 60 percent of the taxes. Jaycee petition brings referendum (42 KID DIG) on moving the courthouse, and East Naples beat Everglades in the runoff. The new courthouse and jail may cost \$450,000 (43 DOG). B.W. Morris offered a free 20acre site, east of the airport, but

Dudley Gallahue (44 SOLDIER) withdrew his two-acre site offer on Eighth Street after the election. Chuck Grimm headed the Jaycee blackface minstrel.









Wes Downing (45) new REALTORS' president, led a three-D year of Donna, Dudley and Downing. Downing went from mayor to county commissioner, as the first successful Republican in days when the party was so small, it actually advertised for candidates. Donna was (46 WRECK) the 190-milean-hour hurricane that did \$24 million damage, but whose insurance payments ended a local depression, started partly by Dudley Gallahue, who had bought up and wouldn't resell 85 percent of city commercial land. The city made a good storm recovery (47 CHAIRS) with Ad Miller selling a lot from his smashed office 48 hours after the storm. And GAC also came to town with a lockeddoor presentation pitch at the Beach Club, from which one lady banker had to escape through the kitchen to reach the ladies' room

> And now on to Ernie Carroll with more...




Now Ad was one of the people who was involved in the early days of real estate in situations out of which grew the Naples Board of REALTORS and in the suing years wasn't always 100% in agreement with everything that moferred to himself the B about Mi11 who abi CHAIR

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k was the 1953 and the 1967 nk Watkins pretty well in during 1967.

Just prior to his time as MLS of Naples Area Board and t the Naples Board ahead of mental in getting the Multiple

back and forth. At that time the Collier Company offices were in Everglad and so George would fly over and work and then fly back home. Now he was the 14th president, 1962 was the year he was in office and one of the outtanding things about George which carried over for a number of years was s ability to work with other people and his ability to communicate with ers in the Board about certain things regarding MLS and Board By-laws Rules and items of the Code of Ethics. These conversations generally along when some individual had obviously shown a great deal of ignoranc ing the text of those documents..George had a way of calling it to ttention that usually solved the whole problem right there and for of years George was virtually the Grievance, Arbitration and onal Standards committee to the Board and things went pretty A

o lump a couple of years together..1963 and 1964 because you t a two-timer coming up here..a unique person. The only far, that served two years in succession. I dug around and e was a reason for this..it seems that the other presidents ar, and then later on came back and served another year, n acclamation where their services were needed again. In "Bubba" Wood it seemed that he had a rather modest program le to get completed in the first year, so it was necessary months instead of 12 to carry on the normal business s would have handled in a year. So here we have 2 years

In 1962 George un.

still is connected with the Collier --

He raced automob

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1961 was a very good year. Now this was so for a couple of reasons. The first was that Hurricane Donna had come in 1960. It did a lot of things, among which was make '61 a good year. I guess the Board staff at that time was still drying out the papers that got wet during the hurricane when Faber Hair (48) took office as president. Now, Faber Hair's office was located in Naples Park. In fact, it was located in the same building that Caribbean Realty maintains a branch office in at the present time. One of the people I talked to about Faber Hair mentioned that he drove a Cadillac (49 STREET). Now, I guess in 1961, not everybody was driving a Cadillac. Things were a little bit different at that time and I can remember some of them









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In 1962, George Griggs Huntoon (50) became Board president. Now George was, and still is, connected with the Collier Development Corporation,

> but he has had a varied career. He raced automobiles (51 RACER) and motorcycles as a hobby and got to operate some of the magnificent equipment that existed in the early days of motorcycle and automobile racing. He also did an interesting thing. (52 BABY), He lived on the east coast and worked on the west coast of Florida and commuted

by air. He was a pilot, had a plane and would fly back and forth. At that time, the Collier Company offices were in Everglades and so George would fly over and work and then fly back home. Now, he was the 14<sup>th</sup>

president. 1962 was the year he was in office and one of the outstanding things about George, which carried over (53 FOOTBALL) for a number of years, was his ability to work with other people and his ability to communicate with others in the

### George Griggs Huntoon

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I'm going to lump a couple of years together, 1963 and 1964, because you see, we've got a two-timer (55) coming up here, a unique person. The only

president, so far, that served two years in succession. I dug around and found out there was a reason (56 BOYS) for this. It seems that the other presidents who served a year, and then later on came back and served another year, did this through acclamation where their services were needed again. In the case of John "Bubba" Wood, it seemed that he had a rather modest program, (57 SPEECH) which he was unable to get completed in the first year, so it was necessary to let him have 24 months,

instead of 12, to carry on the normal business that most presidents would have handled in a year. So here we have two years in a row. Well that makes it kind of interesting. John was a bit controversial, too (58 GIRLS). Some of the research that I've done indicates that he had something to do with cute little ideas, like getting rid of part-time salesmen and requiring desks and telephones for each salesperson in an office, and it tightened up the business a bit. I'm not quite sure we could get away with that kind of thing today. Also, about that time, according



to my source, was when the REALTORS quit asking the Associates to leave the room during the business meetings. Times changed in the Board. There was one time when the business meeting came up, all the Associates were asked to leave and the REALTORS went into Executive Session. So a number of changes happened during those 24 months that John Wood was the president of the Board.

NESS





In 1965, this is getting to be almost modern history. In 1965, W.A. "Cap" Burton (59) was Board president. I didn't know "Cap" Burton, but I'd heard the name many times and I asked, "Where did the 'Cap' come from?" It turned out that he was a Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, and retired. Apparently, he brought a little military discipline to the organization and got things organized

and got things moving, and one of the real milestones in the history of the Board of REALTORS occurred at that time. It was while "Cap" Burton was president (60 AERIAL) that the second, full-time Board executive officer was confirmed in that position. The first Board executive was Rhys Beatty who served on a part-time basis and following him, a gentleman by the name





of Haven Hammer, who still lives in Naples, was Board secretary. Then, an ambitious young man by the name of Norman Harris, was hired as an assistant to Haven and, I understand, during "Cap" Burton's term as president, Haven retired and Norman became the full-time Board executive. This was 1965 during the presidential year of "Cap" Burton.





In 1966, we had the first half of the only father-son team of presidents. Les Whitaker, Sr., (61) was president that year. He carried out that responsibility in

the same quiet competent (62 BABY) manner that he handled all other things. Later, Les was Chairman (63 CAR) of the Board of county commissioners for a number of years. During his term (64 GUYS), according to my sources who were familiar at that time, they say there wasn't an awful lot to comment on, because things just went so nicely (65 INDIANS) during that year. The National Convention was in Miami that year and I've heard a few interesting stories (66 GROUP) related, regarding that meeting, which I won't read into the record at this time.









STEPS through TIME – NABOR from the beginning 40



1966: Les Whitaker and Casey Miller confer with colleagues at the National Realtors convention in Miami.

**G***The National Convention was in* 

Miami that year and I've heard a few interesting stories???





#### Hank Watkins

1967 - a second term for Hank Watkins, Jr. Hank was the 1953 and the 1967 Board president and I know Tom has covered Hank Watkins pretty well in his presentation, but Hank's second term was during 1967.





1968 was the year Bill Loach (67) was president. Just prior to his time as president, Bill had worked very hard in the MLS of Naples Area Board and had accomplished something in 1964 that put the Naples Board ahead of most of the country. Bill was very instrumental in getting the Multiple Listing switched from a percentage fee, where member offices paid a percentage of their commission as a fee to Multiple Listing, to a flat fee such as we have today. So much per month and so much for each listing. In doing this, he anticipated the National Association by about six years, because in 1970, the National put out its 14 points where Multiple Listings throughout the nation were required to go on a flat fee basis. At that time Naples was already there. Bill also was very instrumental in getting us to experiment with Realtron, a computer service, and due to his urging, we spent nine months on the service. One other thing happened during that year, the Board again changed executive officers. This happened under the Bill Loach administration. Norm Harris decided that Caribbean Realty was a place he'd like to spend his time in the future and left OutBoard Marine Corporation and went to work for the Naples Area Board of REALTORS with Bill Loach as his first president. It was a memorable year.





1969 brought Earl Frye (68) as president of the Board. Earl was enjoying some favorable moments in the area of condominium development at that time and was also contributing

his time to support the

Board of REALTORS. Earl contributed substantially to the business-like organization of the Board and brought progressive thoughts (69 KID) to the organization, not the least of which was an ability to delegate both responsibilities and authority to get things done. It was a progressive year with Earl Frye. During his administration, we went off Realtron (which a number of people thought was a good

idea) (70 GUY). We also started a project of several years' duration, in getting the Board (71 GROUP) of REALTORS and the Multiple Listing Service right, that is, in compliance with everything from the National Association and the IRS. It couldn't be done in a year and a great deal of this work was left to Earl's successor, who was Ad Miller in the year 1970.





71





EPS through TIME – NABOR from the beginning 53



Now Ad (72) was one of the people who was involved in the early days of real estate in situations out of which grew the Naples Board of REALTORS. In the ensuing years, Ad wasn't always 100 percent in agreement with everything that the Board did, but



in 1970 he was the president, and referred to himself about that time, I believe maybe that year for the first time, as Mellow Miller (74 KIDS). He brought to the presidency the experience and dignity of one who has seen things from all sides. Ad was a president that also had the ability to see that things were competently (75 CHAIR) done and to pass the responsibility and authority for taking

care of things on to others. Along about this time, an expansion occurred in the Board office. We found that there just wasn't enough room and we needed more space so we increased the area by 50 percent and felt very comfortable that



this would take care of things for about 10 years. As it was, it was good for about twoand-a-half years. About this time also some serious thought was beginning to be given to the acquisition of a Board building. 1970 was a good year with Mellow Miller at the helm.





1971 brought Dick Goodlette (76) as Board president. Dick had spent much of a lifetime in serving his fellowman one way or another. He'd been a member of the Board of county commissioners and had been involved in a local radio station prior to being in real estate. Dick was one of the charter members of the Ad Miller Alumni Association and very proud of it. Dick brought to the presidency a strong desire (77 BABY) that his term be one that contributed to the membership and it did. The Board continued to grow and 1971 was a good, solid year in the real estate industry. Dick was one of the finest presidents I have had the pleasure of working with as Board exec. Much of the program of getting the Board right with the IRS and the National Association of REALTORS was completed during Dick's term. This was the work that had been started by Earl, and carried through by Ad, and pretty much finished up by Dick. Also talk of a Board building got stronger during this time The Board was fortunate to have a man of Dick Goodlette's abilities as president during the year 1971.









80

83

In 1972, the second half of the fatherson team came along, Les Whitaker, Jr. (78). I don't know just what all this involved. There's got to be some carry over between the two generations (79

> **BABY)** in the same family. If it occurred in Les' situation it was all good. Les was a strong president and a man who was dedicated to Board service. He believed in it and he worked hard for it. He also, at that time, was probably the leading authority in the state of Florida on Multiple Listing. This is something few people know, but I worked with Les as Board exec and know

that many of the things today that are involved in our uncomplicated (80 BOY) and unrestrictive Multiple Listing operation were concepts that he had that weren't generally understood throughout the state or the country (81 GROUP). He was very sound in his Multiple Listing theory and many of the good things that you enjoy in Multiple Listing today, in the Naples area, are directly responsible to the input of Les Whitaker, Jr. (82 COUPLE). This occurred, not only during the years he was president,

# Les Whitaker, Jr.

but from the several times that he served as Multiple Listing chairman. Les was one of the presidents that pushed for involvement and was himself very involved (83 SOLDIER) in always being willing to give the time necessary to see a job not only through, but well done. 1972 was a good year.

(Ernie's speech)... then back to Adele...





SLIDE

1973

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In the very beginning of the movement for the new Board building, in which we are meeting today, was a president named Tom McBride (84). If it weren't for Tom and his successor, Bob Jaeger, this building probably wouldn't be here. I'm told that Tom (85 BOY) bet Bob Jaeger \$100 that the new building wouldn't be completed by a certain date and announced the wager publicly. Tom lost. The \$100, however, was donated to

the Board library fund by wagerwinner Jaeger. Tom spent many hours at the courthouse, working (86 COUPLE) to defeat the proposed changes in density restriction. His theme for the year was "Love Thy Neighbor." And by the way, Tom and his wife, Betty, have played Santa Claus (87 SANTA) to many a foster child in their home, throughout the years.



## Tom McBride

Year 1973 was also memorable because a Naples High School English lit teacher, named Carter Bryan, (88 BUILDING) came to work full-blast as executive director for our Board of REALTORS.

87





Bob Jaeger (89) was president the following year—1974. He, with Tom McBride, made the BIG push (90 SKINHEAD) for construction of the Board building. At every meeting, and in

> between, Bob kept after Board members (91 COUPLE) like a bulldog, until they finally had to give in. Bob was known as the song-and-dance man (92 GROUP) of the REALTORS' circuit. He and his wife. Londa, were known far and wide as a result of their lively appearances (93 PAIR) at state and national REALTOR meetings. Too bad we can't see it in our slides, but when Londa gets to singing (94 GUY BABY) in high gear, I understand she keeps time madly with her elbow (95 **PILOT**). You'll also remember that

Bob was always a genial host at the golf tournaments.



90







read him (97 PONY). Paul has good strong convictions about issues and writes as well as talks about them. Paul, Ad Miller and Dave Jones are the men most responsible (98 KID) for the Board's becoming politically oriented. Most of the other Boards around the state have now fallen into step, but we were ahead of the others, thanks to Paul (99 CAR) and Ad and Dave. Paul has personally seen two pieces of legislation passed in Tallahassee, from giving birth to the bills to the final lobbying.

That's quite a feather in his cap and in our Board's cap (100 GUY), too. Paul and his wife are remembered for a series of unusual parties at their Everglades City home at which scores of prizes were awarded—in many instances before the events were staged. It does sound confusing. I think you had to BE there.

98

SLIDE

PROCESSED BY NABOR









Now we come to the only expresident with pink booties-Casey Miller (101), in 1976. Did you know that during her year in office Casey (102 BABY) at a national meeting was introduced as Naples Board President Mr. Casey Miller, and his wife, Ad Miller? Ad and Casey, of course, are our only husband and wife presidents. (City council addition – then "Here she is (103 PIPE) dressed for Swamp Buggy Parade"). What a break that Casey was at bat during the year in which the new building actually reared its handsome head. She finally got that ribbon cut. She was responsible for finishing and financing—and moving in. Casey (104 CHILD) (her name is really Mary Josephine) is a supreme organizer. Those billboards could read, "Naples sells itself and Casey Miller helps it get

organized." Her office is like the Library of Congress. You should see her extensive files, (105 TENNIS) nestled among her collection of lions. Wonderworker Casey is that fabulous

Casey Miller

combination of Indian and chief, all rolled into one. She not only dreams up worthwhile projects, but jumps into them (106 SWIM) with both feet and inspires—I should say drags many of us unsuspecting souls in with her. She's still involved (107 FAMILY) up to her ears in Board affairs, so although Casey's term has ended, the Miller melody lingers on.







We're into the home stretch now—up to 1977. Last year we're under the reign of 4-wheel drive President John Vaughn (108). He has just what every swamp

peddler needs. In his high, white chariot he can laugh (109 GROUP) during the rainy season when the water reaches the running Boards. Listen for him on your CB. His handle is "Land Man". In his year, John was actively promoting a computer system for our MLS and traveled to Washington to further (110 GUY) the cause. In his year, the NABOR School of Real Estate came into being. That Vaughn face should have been among those

111



## John Vaughn

carved into Mt. Rushmore. Remember that year around 1974, when he was voted (111 BEACH) Mr. Centerfold or whatever? Would you believe he is writing "I love you" in the sand? Now look closely at this shot. We don't want you to miss those crossed eyes. Just look at him. Dreadful what a few years can do to a guy.







Steps Through Time-NABOR from the beginning

NABOR corporate offices, circa 1977



Steps through Time is a remarkable recollection of the Naples Area Board of REALTORS<sup>®</sup> past presidents from 1949 through 1977. Originally premiered as a slideshow presentation in 1978 to Board

members, over 100 slides were discovered in a NABOR storage room. *Steps through Time* reveals a fascinating history of the Naples area real estate and NABOR<sup>®</sup> from the people who shaped it. Hear their fascinating stories. Rare vintage images and lively text bring to life the events, characters and colorful past of NABOR and the unique beauty that is Naples, Florida.



"Doesn't it seem like the dark ages when a prospective customer expressed interest in a "for sale" sign on a house you were passing in the car and you had to find the next store for a pay phone? Remember pay phones? Or bringing the MLS books up-to-date? New listings were hand delivered in a loose-leaf stack and you added them to your 3-ring binder and tore out the out-of-date listings. Ah-history. How did we ever sell anything? But wasn't it fun? And, we made a lot of new friends. Thanks for the memories. I really enjoyed this book."