

2016 National Convention Exit Report
August 9, 2016

As I look back at the 2016 National Convention I can't help but be impressed and appreciative of the hard work completed by the Iowa Association. I trust that those in attendance also recognized how much effort it took to provide the type of week we all experienced. The national convention provides access to senior members of management and NASCOE leadership that is not available anywhere else.

During a conversation with a first time attendee, they made the comment that seeing the interaction between NASCOE and management made them realize just how much work is truly done with management. When I told them that NASCOE interacts with some member of management almost weekly and sometimes daily, they stated that was incredible. I wish that everyone had the opportunity to witness first hand just how much time is spent by the national and area committee chairs, area executives and their alternates and your officers on behalf of membership.

Now that we have been reenergized, we need to carry that energy back to our county offices, state associations and folks that were not able to attend the convention. We need to share the information that was provided by the Administrator and his team from the National Office. We need to inform our members back home all of the issues and topics that Wes described in his President's report. Direct people to the website and have them click the follow button on the bottom right of the page so they can get immediate updates when new information is added to the webpage.

This past year is behind us and now is the time to look forward to the coming year. In September we will have our Leadership/Legislative conference in Washington, DC. The goal of this leadership training is to build on the excitement members have coming out of the convention and reinforcing that desire to get involved in the future of this association. There are leaders at all levels of NASCOE, starting with a committee position or representing your district at the state level all the way through the President of the Association. One of my favorite definitions of leadership is from Bill Hybels. It says, "Leadership is not presiding over something but moving people from their current reality to a better place." Is there any better way of defining what NASCOE is all about than "moving people from their current reality to a better place"?

I look forward to the coming year and continuing to work with the dedicated team of individuals that have answered this call to service. I am certain that it will be another challenging year but am confident that NASCOE is prepared to address each and every one.

Respectively Submitted,

Dennis Ray
NASCOE Vice President