

# Historic Achievements Accomplished Under NAPIA President Wes Baldwin

**W**illiam Wesley Baldwin, president of The Baldwin Company, Inc., in Charlotte, North Carolina, accomplished many historic achievements during his term as president of NAPIA. Baldwin served as president of the association from June 2003 to June 2004. Under his leadership, comprehensive licensing legislation was enacted in Texas, Delaware and Washington, D.C. Due to these efforts, 38 states now license public adjusters, as does the District of Columbia.

Over the past two years, Baldwin has overseen association efforts to clarify licensing laws in Nebraska, Maryland, and Florida, and has led endeavors to work with the Louisiana legislature in developing a licensing bill in that state. He also oversaw work in cooperation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) to develop a model bill for public adjusting.

During his presidency, Baldwin was a frequent presenter at

insurance industry events. After spearheading the successful push for a South Carolina law licensing public adjusters in 2000, he was asked to participate in the South Carolina Examination Review Workshop (held at Drake University's Kelley Insurance Center in Des Moines, Iowa) to evaluate licensing exam content. He also participated in a panel discussion sponsored by the South Carolina Wind and Hail Association in Charleston, as well as a roundtable discussion sponsored by Poyner and Spruill, Attorneys at Law, that addressed the topic of "Protecting Your Assets: What Your Fire and Casualty Policy Should Contain."

As the officer in charge of the NAPIA Ethics Committee, Baldwin arranged to have noted motivational speaker Al Walker conduct an ethics workshop at the 2003 Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra, Florida. At that same meeting, he also initiated the first organized team-building experience for NAPIA's leadership.

Baldwin brought to the presidency nearly 30 years of experience in property loss consulting to the insured policyholder, with a specialization in commercial property and high-end residential damage claims as well as business-interruption claims and litigation support. Prior to forming The Baldwin Company in 1976 ([www.thebaldwinco.com](http://www.thebaldwinco.com)), Baldwin was affiliated with two other public adjusting firms, an independent insurance agency in Columbia, South Carolina, and a real-estate development corporation in Gaffney, South Carolina.

Baldwin, who is president of the North Carolina Association of Property Loss Consultants, is a 1971 graduate of the University of South Carolina and a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He presently holds an adjuster's license in North Carolina and a Public Adjuster's license in South Carolina and eleven additional states. Baldwin and his wife, Rizzie, have two children — Charlie and Sarah-Hamlin.

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Barrack to put together a directory for distribution that includes the name, company, address, phone, fax and e-mail address of all committee members. Goals established for the new committees are as follows:

**Legislative** – Determine how to monitor state legislation impacting public adjusting (short-term), and institute above (long-term).

**Membership** – Increase membership by a net of 10% and tie in education (seminars) with membership recruitment efforts.

**Nominating** – Set up a conference call for current committee members at 4 pm (EST) on April 14.

**Paul Cordish Award** – Present an award at the 2004 Annual Meeting.

**Professional Certification** – Cause states to recognize NAPIA as a provider of CEUs for public adjuster licensing.

**Professional Education** – Contact facilitators to draft programs for use at future meetings. Line up the program for the 2004 Mid-Year Meeting.

**Public Relations** – Put together

press releases to respond to catastrophic situations (short-term), and establish a plan to handle catastrophes (long-term).

**Past Presidents** – Identify the NAPIA Person of the Year award winner for 2004.

**Website** – Increase the number of links by ten, and develop a plan to generate revenue on industry links.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Long Range Planning Committee meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm on Friday, February 27, 2004.