

Photo by Ronnie Hawkins

KIWANIS SPEAKERS - Kings Mountain Kiwanian Jerry Hoyle, right, is pictured with KM Junior High coaches Phil Weathers, left, and David Heffner who gave the program at recent club meeting. Heffner is the school's athletic director and football coach and Weathers is wrestling coach.

History Of National Association Of Realtors

By JERRY KING

The National Association Of Realtors, the nation's largest trade association, was founded in 1908 as the "National of Real Estate Exchanges."

Three earlier attempts to organize a national real estate group had met with failure. The first effort in 1891, resulted in the formation of the National Real Estate Association, which survived only 19 months. Two subsequent efforts also were without success.

On May 12, 1908, 120 men representing 19 boards from 13 states and one state association met in Chicago to try again. Their stated objective was "to unite the real estate men of America for the purpose of effectively exerting a combined influence upon matters affecting real estate interest."

The group authorized employment of an executive secretary, general counsel and "such other assistance as may be necessary" and also provided for an office for association work. Standing committees, demonstrating the founders' intended fields of activity, were formed and included: Code of Ethics, taxation, state and municipal legislation, and the organization of local exchanges.

In 1916, the organization's name was changed to the "National Association of Real Estate Boards,:" and in 1972 it became the "National

ductible from income taxes in 1920 through Realtors efforts as well. After World War II, Realtors worked to defeat the "quick profits tax" on real estate. They also successfully opposed the imposition of a ceiling on the price of real estate.

In 1952, a six-year campaign by the National Association was brought to fruition when home sellers were allowed to defer capital gains taxes on the sale of a home if another home of equal or greater value was purchased within a year. This ruling has subsequently been revised so that at present, sellers are allowed two years to buy or build another home and still retain the right to defer capital gains taxes on the prior sale.

Expansion of tax relief to the elderly in home sales also was promoted widely by Realtors. In 1962, persons 675 years and over were allowed to exclude the first \$30,000 of the profit from the sale of their home from capital gains taxes. This amount was increased to \$100,000 in 1978 and the age limit was lowered to 55 years. In 1982, the amount was increased to \$125,000.

Realtors helped defeat efforts to limit deductions for mortgage interest payments in 1976 and 1984. They continue to lobby against this limitation whenever it is proposed as a means of raising additional tax revenues.

In 1943, the Realtors Washington

industry.

With the addition of 400,000 sales associates in 1972, the National Association Of Realtors became the largest trade association in the country. Three sitting presidents, Nixon, Ford, and Reagan, have addressed Realtor meetings. Today, membership is composed of nearly 800,000 Realtors and Realtor-Associates, including brokers, salespeople, managers, appraisers, counselors, syndicators, and others involved in all aspects of the real estate business. Members belong to one or more of the 1,860 local boards of Realtors located in all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia.

The Association continues providing a facility for education, research and exchange of information among its members and to the public and government for the purpose of preserving the free enterprise system and the right of free people to own and use real proper-

According to Ira Gribin, 1989 NAR president, "The Association takes pride in its responsibility to work with members of Congress and the executive branch of the federal government, monitoring and responding to government actions affecting real estate." The National Association of Realtors is a major force for America's property owners. Collectively, membership serves as a nationwide guardian for private property rights.

Poppy Day Program Will Be Feature Of Auxiliary Meeting

A Poppy Day program will feature Thursday night's meeting of Unit 155, American Legion Auxiliary, at 7:30 p.m. at the Post Home on York Road.

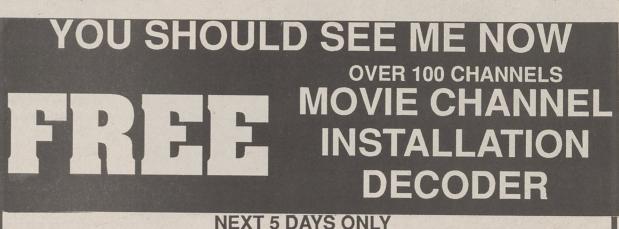
Daphine Starnes and Maybelle made.

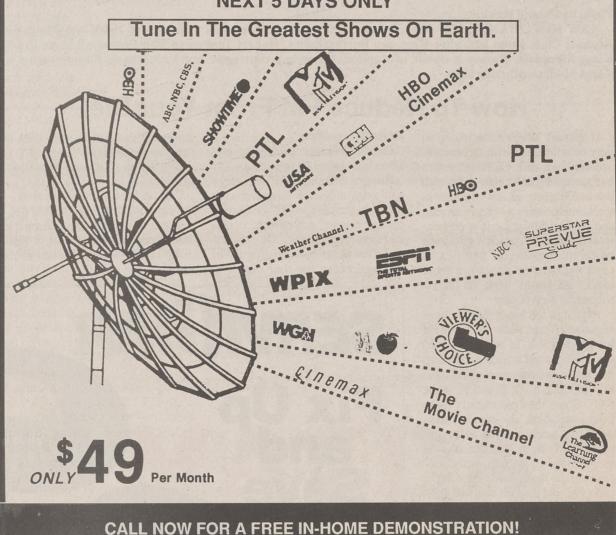
Jones. Hostesses are Dot Houston, Willie Howell and Myrtle Christenson.

Plans for the Memorial Day Program co-chairmen are Poppy Day distribution will be

The red paper flowers are made by hospitalized veterans at the state's VA hospitals.

Proceeds from the distribution of poppies are used for veterans' projects, including presentation of a scholarship to a veteran's child.





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Association Of Realtors," and its present "R" logo was adopted.

Throughout history, the National Association has been working for America's property owners, exerting pressure on government for better housing standards, improved home financing, the prevention of real estate fraud, the reduction of federal deficit spending, community revitalization, protecting private property rights, fair taxation and encouraging property

beautification and protection.

As the Association celebrates its 81st year, its members are proud of the many accomplishments and achievements at every level - national, state and local. Some of the Association's carlier achievements include:

- Making use of the "Golden Rule" as its theme, the Realtors adopted a strict Code of Ethics in 1913. The National Association was only the second business group in the nation to follow the professions of medicine, law and engineering in the formation and enforcement of a code for its members.

- In 1916, Charles N. Chadbourne, a Minneapolis real estate broker, coined the term "Realtor " to identify real estate agents who are members of the National Association Of Realtors and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics. The Patent and Trademark Office registration of the collective marks, Realtors and Realtor were approved in 1949 and 1950, respectively.

Improvement in the flow of mortgage may always has been a major objective of the National Association. In this respect, Realtors provided leadership in the development of the Home Owners Loan Corporation, the Federal Home Loan Bank System, the Federal Housing Administration and the Federal National Mortgage Association. Throughout the 1950s, Realtors supported credit efforts to help more families afford housing. They also were involved in liberalizing FHA requirements to make FHA loans available to more people.

Since its founding, the National Association has opposed excessive government spending and unfair taxation, and remains heavily involved in political affairs to this day.

In 1912, Realtors formed a tax committee and succeeded in having the dual taxation on property value and mortgage amount repealed.

Realtors worked for the elimination of federal excess profit tax on real estate sales in 1920. The interest paid on real estate mortgages became de-

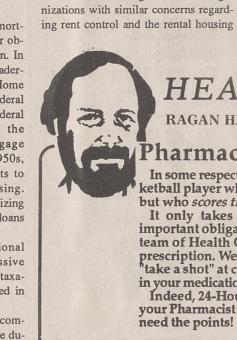
Committee, which later became the **Realtors Political Action Committee** (RPAC), was formed. In 1988, it raised over \$2 million through average contributions of \$23 per members. Citizens benefit from this program by the election of legislators who support the principles of private property ownership and the free enterprise system.

The National Association began calling for lower federal deficits and tax relief in 1952 and continues working toward that end.

After a massive advocacy campaign in 1980, "The 2% Solution" was adopted by President Reagan as the initial basis of his economic recovery program. The program was designed to benefit the public by reducing federal spending, eliminating federal deficits and bringing down mortgage interest rates.

The federal government in World War II imposed rent control. Although Realtors abided by the law, they worked for its repeal. NAR research has demonstrated that rent control adds to the shortage of apartments and prevents the renovation of units. In some areas, this fight continues today. Realtors participate in task force teams to assist localities in defeating rent control initiatives.

Realtors also assisted in the creation of the Rental Housing Industry Coalition, consisting of national organizations with similar concerns regard-



Unemployment Rate Low

Cleveland County had a a low rate of unemployment-2.7 percentduring March and the Gastonia-Charlotte-Rock Hill metropolitan area was 3.0 percent, down from 3.1 percent.

Eighty-four counties had unemployment rates at or below 5 percent for the month of March 1989compared to 59 in March 1988-reflecting the decrease in the state unemployment rate from a year ago. Analysts with the **Employment Security Commission** regard 5 percent as a near full-employment situation.

The county with the lowest rate in March was Greene at 1.7 percent. The county with the highest rate was Graham at 15.2 percent.



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