

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE CONVENTION



ROBERT E. MILAM - 1948-1961

Born of Texas parents who had migrated to the Northwest. His father was pastor of Oregon churches. Early schooling in Oregon; B.A. and D.D. degrees, Howard Payne College of Texas; Th.M. degree, Southwestern Baptist Seminary; pastor several years in Texas; Field Secretary for Howard Payne College; pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon 1944-1948; active in missionary expansion of churches in Northwest area through Interstate Baptist Mission; Executive Secretary of Oregon-Washington Baptists from 1948 to February 1961; Secretary of Capital Needs for Oregon-Washington Convention, 1961 until retirement in April 1968; author of several books and many doctrinal articles and tracts; Coordinator for Southern Baptist work in Canada.



FRED B. MOSELEY - 1962-1965

Native of Gloster, Mississippi, A.B. degree, Miss. College; Th.M. and Th.D. Degrees, New Orleans Baptist Seminary; pastorates in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana; Associate Exec. Secy. of Louisiana Baptist Convention 1956-1959; Secretary, Dept. of City Missions, Home Mission Board, 1959-1961; Executive Secretary, Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington, 1962-1964; became Assistant to the Executive Secretary of Baptist Home Mission Board in January 1965.



ROLAND P. HOOD - 1965-1968

Native of Thornton, Texas; B.A. Degree, Baylor University; Th.M. degree, Southwestern Baptist Seminary; pastor in Texas from 1927 to 1948; General Missionary in Oregon-Washington from October 1948 to October 1952; Director of Cooperative Missions and Associate Executive Secretary of Oregon-Washington Convention, 1952 to 1966; also interim Executive Secretary, March through December 1961 and January 1965 to April 1966; Executive Secretary from April 1966 to time of retirement at end of November 1968. No man during his twenty years had as much direct contact with the starting of new churches which affiliated with Oregon-Washington Convention, including those of Western Canada.



WM. EUGENE GRUBBS - Dec. 1968-Dec. 1970

Native of Foley, Alabama, but grew up in Florida from the age of six years; A.B. degree, John B. Stetson University; B.D. and Th.D. degrees New Orleans Baptist Seminary; pastorates in Florida, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi and California; missionary service in the Philippines terminated because of health problems of member of family; Director of Evangelism for Southern Baptist General Convention of California, Feb. 1965 to Nov. 1968; Executive Secretary/Treasurer of Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington, December 1, 1968 to December 31, 1970. Resigned to accept position with Foreign Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention.



DAN C. STRINGER - 1971-1979

Born 1927 while his father was pastor in Cordell, Oklahoma; grew up in New Mexico. Educated at University of New Mexico, Wayland College, Baylor University, Southwestern Baptist Seminary and Southern Baptist Seminary. Married Harriett Rogers, Florida native, in 1948 in Albuquerque. Ordained by First Baptist Church of Albuquerque. Served as Convention president and Board member in Arizona; trustee of College, Baptist Foundation, Hospital, Children's Home, and Southwestern Baptist Seminary. Served in five different staff positions with Baptists in Arizona, including Associate Executive Secretary. Elected to Northwest Baptist Convention position in April 1971. Resigned to accept position of Executive Secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention.



CECIL C. SIMS - 1980-1995

Native of Mineola, Texas, Cecil C. Sims came to the Northwest in 1954 to pastor the Wenatchee Valley Baptist Church in Washington. For nearly 25 years he pastored including First Baptist Church of Lakewood, Tacoma, Washington, and Richland Baptist Church, Richland, Washington. Prior to coming to Wenatchee he had pastored three churches in Texas. A graduate of Baylor University in 1948 he received his degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1951. Born in 1928, Sims married Jeannine Becker in 1951. He served as Northwest Baptist Convention president, 1972-74, was a member of its Executive Board for eight years, and a member of the SBC Executive Committee and the Sunday School Board. In 1978 he became the first Convention staff member to serve in Canada as Associate Director of Missions: Canada. He was elected Executive Director/Treasurer June 6, 1980, and served until retirement in early 2005.



JEFF IORG-1995-2004

Jeff Iorg was elected as the Executive Director-Treasurer of the Northwest Baptist Convention, February 1995. Prior that current responsibility, he was the founding pastor of Greater Gresham Baptist Church, Gresham, Oregon, which began in 1989. He has also served as pastor of a church in Missouri and as a staff pastor in Texas. Beginning in 1990 he taught preaching and evangelism at the Northwest Campus of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Portland, Oregon. Although Jeff was born in Georgia, he grew up in Abilene, Texas. He is a graduate of Hardin Simmons University (B.A.), Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (D.Min.). His published works include numerous articles and the leader's materials for *Lifeanswers*, a course for developing a Christian world view. He is married to Ann and has three children - Casey, Melody, and Caleb. His hobbies include coaching youth sports, golf, reading, and traveling. Resigned June 2004 to become President, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.



GUSTAVO V. SUÁREZ 2005-2007

Gustavo Suárez has served as Executive Director-Treasurer of the Northwest Baptist Convention since April 16, 2005. Prior to his leadership role in the Northwest, he served as Director of the Missions Division at the Baptist Convention of New Mexico from 1997-2004. Dr. Suárez was also the BCNM's language missions director for five years.

He served seven years before that as a Home Mission Board language catalytic missionary for the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware. He also started churches in Maryland, New York and Tennessee.

Becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1975, Dr. Suárez earned a doctor of ministry from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in 1997, a master of divinity from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary of Tennessee in 1982 and a bachelor of science from the University of Maryland in 1978. He has written for various Southern Baptist publications and authored "Connections: Linking People and Principles for Dynamic Church Multiplication."

Dr. Suárez and his wife Diana, who is a surgical nurse, have two sons, Phillip and Matthew. Resigned to accept teaching position at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.



WILLIAM O. CREWS - 2007

William O. (Bill) Crews was elected as the Executive Director-Treasurer of the Northwest Baptist Convention in November 2007, after serving as Interim Executive Director for seven months. Prior to his current responsibility, he was elected the sixth president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in December 1986, and was elected Chancellor in October, 2003. He came to the Seminary from Riverside, Calif., where he was pastor of the 2,300-member Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church for eight years. His background includes a wide range of pastoral and denominational experience. For 14 years he was a pastor in Texas, having served five different churches. In 1967 he moved to Seattle, Wash., to become pastor of Victory Baptist Church until 1972, when he became pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church in Portland, Ore., until 1977. He served as Director of Communications and Editor of The Northwest Baptist Witness for the Northwest Baptist Convention from 1977-78.

From 1982-86 he served on Golden Gate Seminary's Board of Trustees. Additionally, Crews has been chairman of the executive board and served as president of the Northwest Baptist Convention and the California Southern Baptist Convention. He also served as a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee from 1984-88.

He has been an active member of Rotary Clubs where he has lived for 40 years. Currently, he is a member of the Vancouver Rotary Club. He served on the board of directors for the Marin County Chamber of Commerce and the North Bay Council. He also served as a member of the Board of Directors of Marin General Hospital.

Dr. Crews and his wife Jo Ann, live in Camas, Washington, along with their son Ron.