

Shawnee State University

Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University

Speeches

Ohio Speaker Vern Riffe Collection

6-9-1981

Increased Role of State Government Based on Budget Restrictions, June 9, 1981

Vern Riffe

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.shawnee.edu/vern_riffe_speeches



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Riffe, Vern, "Increased Role of State Government Based on Budget Restrictions, June 9, 1981" (1981). *Speeches*. 226.

https://digitalcommons.shawnee.edu/vern_riffe_speeches/226

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Ohio Speaker Vern Riffe Collection at Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Speeches by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Shawnee State University. For more information, please contact svarney@shawnee.edu.



INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO Mr. Speaker DATE 6/9/81
FROM: Ann
SUBJECT: Speech for Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

OVRDC June Appreciation Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 1981
6:00 P.M. - Cash Bar
7:00 P.M. - Dinner
8:00 P.M. - Speech

Held at the Elks Country Club on Route 73 North of Portsmouth

Speech topic is: the increased role of state government based on the budget reductions and block grant programs supported in Washington.

Contact person: Bob Schwable - 354-7795

(Map attached)

SPEECH FOR OVRDC

IF I HAD KNOWN WHAT BOB SCHWABLE WANTED ME TO TALK ABOUT AT THIS MEETING, I MIGHT HAVE REFUSED HIS INVITATION TO SPEAK. I'M JUST KIDDING, BUT TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, THE TOPIC IS NOT A PARTICULARLY PLEASANT ONE. HOW WILL STATE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE BE AFFECTED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PROPOSED BUDGET REDUCTIONS. I WISH I COULD PAINT A "ROSY" PICTURE FOR YOU, BUT I CAN'T. I MAY NOT TELL YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR THIS EVENING, BUT I WILL HONESTLY EVALUATE WHAT I SEE GOING ON.

THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN TO BALANCE THE BUDGET BY FISCAL YEAR 1984 BY SHARPLY REDUCING EXPENDITURES AFFECTS NOT MERELY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS BUREAUCRACY, BUT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT - EVERY SECTOR OF SOCIETY WHETHER IT BE PUBLIC, PRIVATE, OR NON-PROFIT.

PROJECTS BEING CUT INCLUDE PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES, HIGHWAY FINANCING, WASTE WATER AND SEWER PROGRAMS, HOUSING PROGRAMS, AIRPORT SUBSIDIES, ASSISTANCE FOR TRANSIT SYSTEMS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.

THE CUTBACKS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS WILL AFFECT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS HOUSING REHABILITATION, SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, WEATHERIZATION PROGRAMS, AND COMMUNITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.

ALSO AFFECTED WILL BE PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT JOBS, SPECIALIZED JOB TRAINING, GUARANTEED STUDENT LOANS, EDUCATIONAL GRANTS, FOOD STAMPS, MEDICAID, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, FAMILY PLANNING, THE HEAP PROGRAM, DAY CARE - THE LIST GOES ON AND ON - AND FOR THE MOST PART FOCUSES ON THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY WHO ARE FINANCIALLY NOT ABLE TO BEAR THE CUTS.

BASICALLY, IT BOILS DOWN TO THIS ON THE STATE LEVEL:

1. EITHER INCREASE TAXES TO REPLACE FEDERAL DOLLARS WHICH ARE BEING CUT.
2. OR CUT AVAILABLE SERVICES.

STATE LAWMAKERS ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES ARE FINDING OUT THAT MANY OF THE PROPOSED FEDERAL CUTS ARE COMING AT THEIR EXPENSE. THE MORE AND MORE I SEE OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN, THE MORE IT LOOKS LIKE IN ORDER FOR NEEDED SERVICES TO CONTINUE, THE TRANSLATION IS HIGHER TAXES AT HOME.

THE MIDWEST IS PARTICULARLY GOING TO BE HARD HIT BECAUSE THE MIDWEST IS IN A LONG INDUSTRIAL DECLINE. PEOPLE ARE MOVING TO THE SUN BELT BECAUSE OF THE ADVANTAGE OF WARMER WEATHER IN THE TIME OF AN ENERGY CRUNCH. KEY

INDUSTRIES IN THE MIDWEST SUCH AS THE AUTO AND STEEL
INDUSTRIES ARE CONTINUING TO LAY OFF AND ELIMINATE JOBS.
A FEDERAL STUDY PROJECTS A LOSS OF 500,000 AUTO MANU-
FACTURING JOBS THIS COMING DECADE. BLUE COLLAR EMPLOYMENT
IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY IS WAY DOWN AND CONTINUING TO DECLINE.

THE PROBLEM IS FURTHER ACCENTED BY THE FACT THAT WHAT'S
GOOD FOR THE NATION AS A WHOLE MAY, IN FACT, BE VERY PAINFUL
TO SEVERAL OF THE STATES WITHIN IT. THE REAGAN ADMINISTRA-
TION HOPES TO SLASH \$4.7 BILLION FROM CETA AND TRA PROGRAMS
IN FY 82. THESE PROBLEMS HELP SUPPORT FALTERING LOCAL
ECONOMIES LIKE THOSE IN THE MIDWEST. MAJOR CHANGES IN
THESE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE GOING TO OCCUR. THESE CUTS
ARE GOING TO HIT OHIO HARD.

STATES ARE OPERATING WITH VERY TIGHT FISCAL CONSTRAINTS AND NOW ARE BEING HIT WITH FEWER DOLLARS FROM WASHINGTON. STATES ARE JUST NOT IN A POSITION WHERE THEY CAN REPLACE LOST FEDERAL DOLLARS. THE BOTTOM LINE IS, IF THE FEDERAL DOLLARS AREN'T COMING IN FOR PROGRAMS, THE PROGRAM PROBABLY ISN'T GOING TO EXIST.

LET'S TAKE FOR EXAMPLE THIS STATE, OHIO. DUE TO THE ECONOMY AND DUE TO CUTBACKS IN FEDERAL CUTS, WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO FUND STATE PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATION, MENTAL HEALTH AND RETARDATION, CORRECTIONS, ETC. WE ARE FACING SEVERE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

- I. HIGHWAYS - INCREASE IN THE GASOLINE TAX
 - AGREED ON A 5¢ CEILING IN 3 YEARS.
 - GAS TAX HADN'T BEEN RAISED SINCE 1959.

- ODOT IN A TERRIBLE FINANCIAL SITUATION
- CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS VIRTUALLY HALTED
- CONDITION OF ROADS DEPLORABLE

NEW GAS TAX WILL RESULT IN COMPLETION OF THE
APPALACHIAN HIGHWAY.

II. FUNDING OF STATE PROGRAMS - BUDGET

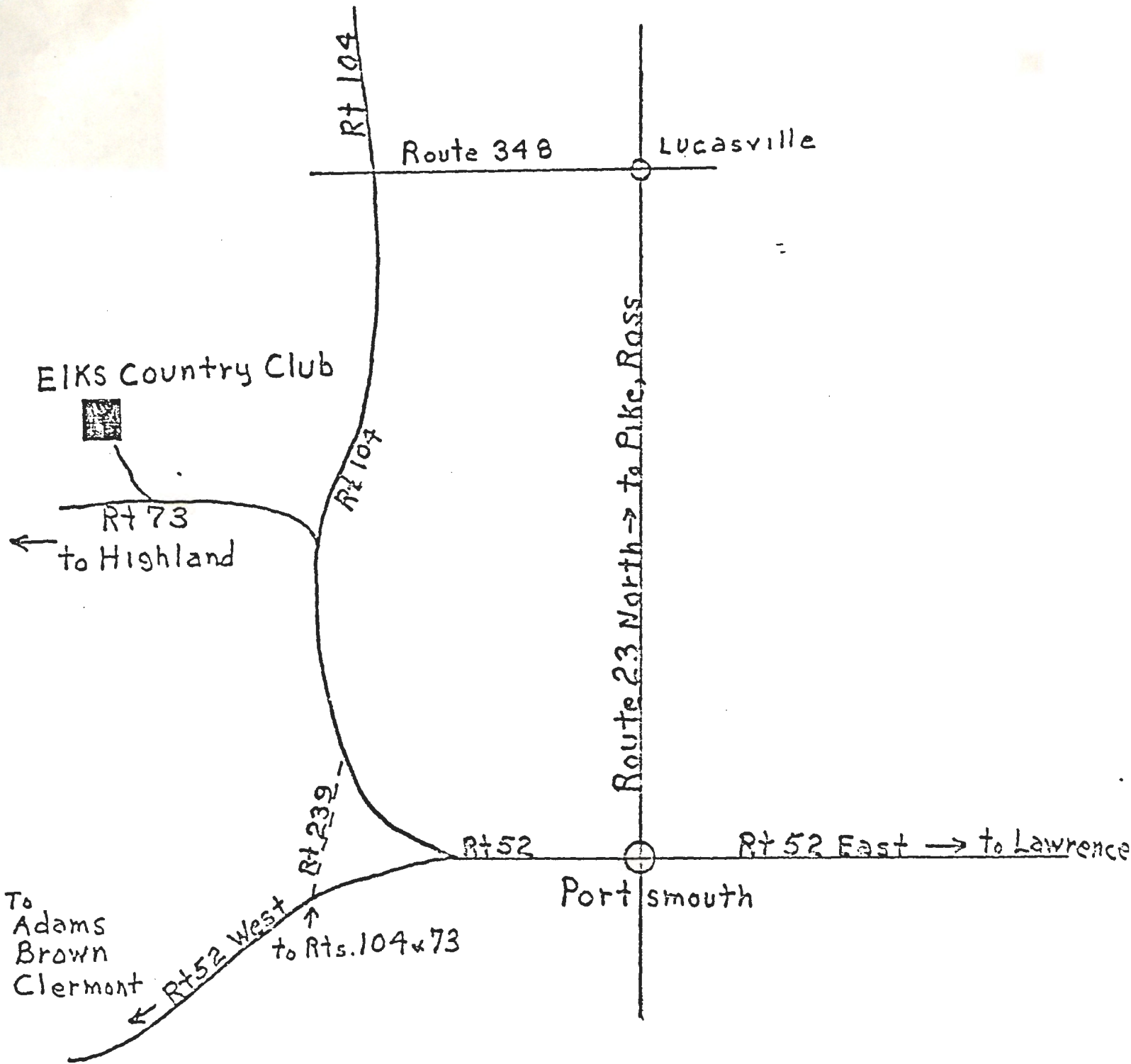
- PROPOSALS HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE
- NOTHING WILL BE DECIDED UNTIL LATER THIS YEAR
- PROMISE WAS MADE THAT THE TEMPORARY TAXES WOULD
BE TEMPORARY - THEY WILL EXPIRE AS PROMISED
ON JUNE 30TH
- WAITING TO SEE EXACTLY WHAT THE FEDERAL CUTS ARE
AND WHAT THEY WILL DO.
- IF REDUCTIONS IN FEDERAL FUNDS ARE MADE BUT MORE

FLEXIBILITY IS GRANTED ON HOW THE DOLLARS CAN
BE USED, THIS WILL HELP WITH THE PROBLEM -
EVALUATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE.

WE ARE FACED WITH A SITUATION WHICH CAN BEST BE
DESCRIBED AS THIS: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS BEING
APPLAUDED FOR CUTTING THE BUDGET. HOWEVER, FEDERAL MONEY
TO STATES IS JEOPARDIZED. BECAUSE STATES SUCH AS OHIO ALWAYS
OPERATE IN THE BLACK, WE HAVE NO MONEY TO SPARE, SO WE ARE
FACED WITH RAISING TAXES OR CUTTING SERVICES. IT REMAINS
TO BE SEEN HOW WE WILL BE JUDGED FOR OUR ACTIONS.

THIS IS INDEED NOT A VERY PLEASANT SITUATION IN WHICH
WE FIND OURSELVES. PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PROPOSALS POSE
DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL CHALLENGES FOR STATE GOVERNMENT.
THEY WILL FORCE A MAJOR SHIFT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND OBLIGATION

FOR PUBLIC SERVICES TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT. WE
WILL HAVE TO FACE THE CHALLENGE BEING FORCED UPON US
ALTHOUGH IT WILL BE AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT CHALLENGE TO
MEET.



May 26, 1981

To: Members - Ohio Valley Regional Development
Commission

From: Clark S. Alexander, OVRDC Chairman

Subject: June Appreciation Meeting

The June Appreciation Dinner Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 1981, at the Elks Country Club on Route 73 north of Portsmouth, Ohio.

A "Cash Bar" social hour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7. The business portion of the meeting should begin at approximately 8 p.m. Since this is our annual appreciation meeting, cost of the dinner will be assumed by the Commission for all OVRDC members and authorized guests.

The Hon. Vernal G. Riffe, Jr., Speaker of the State House of Representatives, will be our featured speaker. His address will be on the increased role of state government based on the budget reductions and block grant programs supported in Washington.

Since a dinner meeting requires advance preparations, please sign and return the enclosed card prior to June 12, 1981.

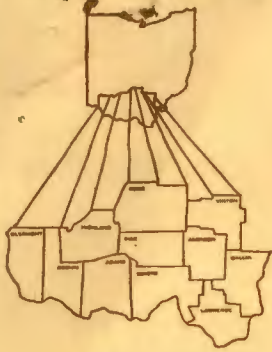
Ann
June 12, 1981
Clark S. Alexander

MAY 01 1981

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

740 SECOND STREET GRIFFIN HALL
PORTSMOUTH, OHIO 45662

ADMINISTRATION PLANNING & RESEARCH
HUMAN SERVICES
614 354-7795



Laurie
See *Wra*

OV RDC dinner

April 29, 1981

Hon. Vernal G. Riffe, Jr.
Speaker of the House
State House of Representatives
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Vern:

This will confirm the arrangements for the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission's June Annual Appreciation Dinner Meeting. I am delighted that you have accepted my invitation to attend as our featured speaker for the evening. The affair will be held at the Elks Country Club, west of Portsmouth, on Wednesday, June 17, 1981. A social hour, with cash bar, will be available from 6:00 till 7:00 p.m., with dinner to be served at 7:00.

As we discussed on the phone earlier this week, I feel it would be appropriate for you to speak about the increased role state government will have based on the proposed budget reductions and block grant programs which are being supported in Washington. As you know, the majority of our Commission members are local elected officials and I know they will be anxious to hear your views on how new federal policies will affect state government. In addition, I would appreciate your comments on the part regional planning commissions can play in this process. *of budget reductions.*

Please let me know how many additional people will be attending with you so that my staff can confirm dinner reservations in advance of the meeting. We sincerely look forward to your presentation, and please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions about these arrangements.

Sincerely,

BS

G. Robert Schwable, Executive Director
OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

GRS:kjb

cc: Mayor Clark S. Alexander, Chairman

7170