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June 2003

Dear Vision America Friends,

As I write this letter, I have just returned from Washington, D.C. for the third time in a month. God continues to give us favor with a growing list of godly, Christian legislators and leaders of national ministries. On May 22nd, at 8:30am, I met in the Capitol Hill Club with 17 Congressmen and Chiefs of Staff to discuss how Patriot Pastors and elected officials can work together to move this nation back toward our wonderful Christian heritage and moral sanity. Their response was very affirming. Lanier Swann, Communications Director to Congressman Walter Jones, forwarded to me the following note: *Last night at 9:30, I ran into some members on the Hill and they commented again on how much they enjoyed meeting you and looked forward to working with you in the future! God is going to do great things....*

Earlier last month, I joined 11 other heads of national ministries for a meeting that has been widely reported in the press. We gathered in the headquarters of the National Republican Party for a meeting with Marc Racicot, the National Chairman of the Republican Party, to express our collective dismay over his earlier meetings with the Human Rights Campaign, a leading coalition of Gays and Lesbians. Don Wildmon, of the American Family Association, Richard Land, with the Southern Baptist Convention, Gary Bauer, with the Campaign for Working Families, Robert Knight, representing Concerned Women for America, and Dr. Jack Willke, with the National Right to Life, were among those present for the meeting. We met for an hour and expressed our concern that a national political party, known for its platform clearly endorsing the sanctity of marriage, is now courting those whose agenda violates that stated goal of the party. We also expressed our dismay that the highest echelons of the party distanced themselves from Senator Santorum and his remarks supporting traditional values and upholding the sanctity of marriage, when their support would have encouraged many people of faith that there are leaders in Washington who uphold our Biblical values.

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"Restoring the Original American Vision"

Beloved, our goal of raising up an army of Pastors who will . . . *stand up, speak up and refuse to give up*, is finally beginning to gain momentum. We are beginning to develop allies of like mind in unanticipated ways. During one of my recent trips to D.C., I was summoned to meet with a gentleman who informed me that Vision America had been chosen to be the recipient of a grant to underwrite a national direct mail campaign to share our vision with up to 1 million people across our nation. That campaign is now underway. Please join us in prayer for this important venture. Our prayer is that God will use this effort to raise up tens of thousands of regular supporters for our work, enabling us the financial ability to hire the staff so badly needed to continue to develop our Patriot Pastor network, as well as expand our radio ministry.

On May 8th, Vision America hosted our first dinner and gala in East Texas, at the historic Fredonia Hotel in Nacogdoches, Texas. Bo Pilgrim, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, which employs 24,000 people in the U.S. and thousands more worldwide, was our keynote speaker and recipient of our *True American Visionary Award*. He challenged the 250 attendees to allow their faith in Christ to permeate their daily lives and to make a difference. Honorable Susan Combs, Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Judge Dale Wainwright, of the Texas Supreme Court and State Representatives Wayne Christian and Bryan Hughes were among our special guests. There were numerous County and City elected officials from the Nacogdoches area, as well as more than 25 pastors. It was a blessed evening of sharing information and providing inspiration that resulted in many people signing up to become a part of Vision America's growing family.

Friends, none of this is possible without the help and assistance of people who believe in the mission of Vision America. George Barna of Barna Research reports that people giving to support Christian ministries is off by more than 50% since the tragedy of September 11th. By human reasoning, Vision America should have already folded, but we are still viable because so many of you have chosen to help. We need and depend on you. Please give your first gift to your church, and then if you can, send a gift to Vision America.

I love and appreciate you. Thank you for praying for Vision America and me. I remain ...

Your friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scarborough". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "S" at the end.

Rick Scarborough

P.S. Our annual Hero of the Faith dinner and gala is scheduled for July 1, 2003, at the Aquarium Restaurant in downtown Houston, Texas. This year's National recipient will be the Honorable Tom DeLay, the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives. Please call our office and reserve one of the limited seats for this wonderful event.