

Bearings

a newsletter for GKAR MEMBERS

April 2014



At A Glance

Committee Meetings

April 2nd

- [Equal Opportunity](#)

April 3rd

- [Broker Exchange Forum](#)

April 4th

- [Education](#)
- [Community Relations](#)

April 8th

- [MLS/Technology](#)

April 9th

- [Commercial](#)

April 11th

- [Risk Management](#)

April 14th

- [Governmental Affairs](#)

April 25th

- [Board of Directors](#)

GKAR News

GKAR Updates Service Systems

Recently, GKAR updated its telephone system and reactivated telephone routing in order to assist our members with efficient call response. When you call GKAR you will be greeted initially by a recorded message and then will select which department you are calling for.

For MLS Tech Support, Press 1

For Membership, Press 2

For MREA, Press 3

For Accounting, Press 4

For Professional Standards, Press 5

For Facility Rental, Press 6

All others, Press 7

If no one is available, your voice message will be delivered to the respective e-mail of the person you are contacting allowing the staff to respond to your request in a timely manner.

We are also developing a MLS Tech Support System to assist you with efficient responses via e-mail. You will be able to utilize support@gkar.com to send requests for MLS assistance and receive an e-mail reply for your reference. This system is being developed now to assist with the MLS conversion later this year.

We appreciate your patience as we develop our new systems. Our goal is to provide our members with the fastest response to their needs.

GKAR Endorses Member Candidates

March 28th, 2014, the Board of Directors approved the Governmental Affairs Committee recommendation for early endorsement of two member candidates.

Margaret O'Brien for State Senate, District 20

David Maturen for State Representative, House District 63

"Both of these GKAR Members have an outstanding record of service within the Association over a number of years. This compliments their exceptional service as elected officials working on industry related issues", stated Doug Merriam, West Michigan Public Policy Director. "We believe that our involvement as an association would be most impactful sooner, rather than later, by making an early endorsement of each member in these races."

At A Glance

Events

April

- [Birthday Calendar](#)

April 17th

- [Membership Appreciation](#)

May 15th

- [Flowerfest](#)

Classes

April 10th - 18th

- [Real Estate 101](#)

April 14th - 15th

- [ABR Designation](#)
At GKAR

April 16th - 17th

- [ABR Designation](#)
At SWMAR

May 6th

- [Real Estate Marketing Reboot](#)

May 14th

- [Unlocking the Mysteries of Well & Septic Systems](#)

GKAR Events



GKAR's Annual Membership Appreciation Program

Join us so we can celebrate you and appreciate your membership! [More...](#)

GKAR's Annual Flowerfest

Volunteer a few hours of your time to help spread cheer to our local nursing and assisted living homes by planting flowers donated from our area greenhouses. Meet at GKAR at 8:30am for light breakfast and to form your planting group. [More...](#)

March Wine Down Huge Success - [Photo Gallery](#)

Thank you again to the Business Partners who participated and the REALTORS® who came out and supported their local supporters.

Top O' the Mornin' Winners

Congratulations to Brad Wyant and Nancy Whitney who were selected for the Education Committee giveaway at the Top O' the Mornin': Consumers Energy program on March 28th.

Upcoming Classes



ABR Designation LIVE at GKAR

April 14th & 15th from 9:00am - 4:00pm
13 hours of continuing education credit
Instructor: Laura Schlecte

Pre-registration Deadline: MONDAY, April 7th at 5:00pm

Investment: \$225, includes breakfast, lunch, & snacks both days
[Details...](#)

Real Estate Marketing Reboot

May 6th at GKAR from 9:00am - 4:00pm, qualifies as an ABR Elective
Investment: \$105 - SPECIAL DISCOUNT OFFER w/ ABR enrollment
[Details...](#)

Unlocking the Mysteries of Well & Septic Systems

May 14th at GKAR from 11:30am - 1:30pm
2 hours of continuing education credit

Instructor: Heidi Bryant, B.E.S.T. Well & Septic

Investment: \$10 - You bring the sandwich, GKAR will provide the rest!
COMPLIMENTARY FOR NEW GKAR REALTORS® as part of the Get Oriented Program - RSVP with Morghan to qualify

[Details...](#)

At A Glance

Classes & Events

May 14th

- [Get Oriented:
Unlocking the Mysteries
of Well & Septic Systems](#)

May 20th, 21st, & 22nd

- [Orientation](#)

Housing Reports

- [Cumulative Sales Report](#)
- [Sales Statistics](#)
- [Mortgage Rates](#)

Professional Standards

- [2014 Pathways
to Professionalism](#)

Membership News



Welcome New REALTOR® Members

Ryan Belen - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Catherine DiBiaggio - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Jeffrey Everts - Evenboer-Walton, REALTORS®
Kathryn Getman - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Tim Hafner - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Danielle Joftscheff - Chuck Jaqua, REALTORS®, Inc.
Tyler Kellum - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Pat McCullough - RE/MAX Advantage
Dondrae Mims - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Julie Peterson - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Bridget Venus - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Jamie Wilder - West Michigan Real Estate Co.
Amy Wilke - RE/MAX of Kalamazoo
Matthew Woodard - Kalvan Realty

Welcome New REALTOR® Offices

AmeriFirst Home Mortgage Appraisal Division | Marty Wagar
269-324-4240 | mwagar@amerifirst.com | Portage, MI

Welcome REALTOR® Member Reinstatements

Anthony Pendowski - Michigan 1st Realty

Welcome New Business Partner Offices

Major Appliance | Jessica Mendenhall
269-375-9500 | www.majorapplianceoutlet.com | Kalamazoo, MI

Additions - Existing Business Partners

Scott Cowherd - Kalamazoo Mortgage

[Drops & Transfers](#)

[Quarter Century Club & REALTOR® Emeritus](#)



Peak Performance

Why is Having the Correct Legal Description Important?

Anytime you fail to include a proper legal description in a listing or sales agreement, you are exposing your client, your broker and yourself to risk because *you have failed to communicate precisely* what the subject property is. When you include the correct legal description in a document, you are minimizing the chances for problems and maximizing the chances of a successful transaction. [More...](#)

Keybox Corner

New Features Added to SentriSmart App: SentriLock has added the ability create One Day Codes, Assign lockboxes to Listings, and View Access Logs for your lockboxes. If you don't have the app yet, download it FREE as a 2014 GKAR member benefit. [Details...](#)



MLS News



Upcoming MLS Class at GKAR

zipForm Plus & Electronic Signatures - April 24th 2:00pm - 3:30pm
[Details...](#)

See all the SWMRIC Areas on a Map in the MLS System!

Have you ever needed to see where the borders are for an MLS Area? It's very quick and simple to view all the SWMRIC Areas on the map in the MLS. [Details...](#)

Multiple Listing Carts for the Desktop & Mobile MLS

Multiple Carts are now here! You can create as many different Carts as you like as well as rename them and move listings between the Carts. New Carts created in either the desktop or mobile interface can be accessed from both versions of the MLS.

Get Educated!



Attend the MAR Convention & Expo

October 1st - 3rd at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids
[More...](#)

We Want to Recognize You - Your Name HERE!

[Learn How...](#)

Brought to you by the Education Committee

Commercial Real Estate News

West Michigan Commercial Real Estate Golf Outing

Monday, June 2nd at The Moors Golf Club
[Details...](#)

Brought to you by the Commercial Committee