

Bearings

a newsletter for GKAR MEMBERS

May 2014



At A Glance

Committee Meetings

May 1st

- [Broker Exchange Forum](#)

May 2nd

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

May 5th

- [Governmental Affairs](#)

May 7th

- [Equal Opportunity](#)

May 9th

- [Risk Management](#)

May 13th

- [MLS/Technology](#)

May 14th

- [Commercial](#)

May 30th

- [Board of Directors](#)

GKAR News

2014 Fair Housing Poster Contest

Each year NAR designates the month of April as Fair Housing Month. GKAR's Equal Opportunity Committee and the Fair Housing Center of Southwest Michigan invite area 5th graders to participate in educating the community regarding Fair Housing Laws by designing colorful posters defining Fair Housing. With the posters, the Committee designs a Fair Housing Calendar giving recognition to the business sponsors to fund the following year's contest. Contact Paula Novess at 382-1597 ext. 107 or PaulaN@gkar.com if you would like to order the 16-Month 2015 Calendar and/or accompanying note cards.

Announcing this year's school winners:

Alamo Elementary: Sydnee Vess
Dix Street Elementary: Allison Murphy
Indian Lake Elementary: Emma Dexter
Kalamazoo Country Day School: Sadie VanderMolen
Kazoo Elementary: Laryn Kuchta
Oakland Academy: Mikayla Slavin
Sunset Lake Elementary: Megan Myrick
Tobey Elementary: Megan Holmes
Washington Street Elementary: Abriana Mckeown

A New MLS is Coming to GKAR!

We will be releasing information to the entire membership shortly via mail and e-mail, but in the meantime, please note a trainer from our new vendor, FBS, will be holding classes at GKAR on September 8th and 9th.

July 15th - Flex MLS Launches (running concurrently with Rapattoni)

September 8th & 9th - Flex MLS Training

September 15th - Rapattoni is No Longer Available

At A Glance

Events

May

- [Birthday Calendar](#)

May 15th

- [Flowerfest](#)

June 5th

- [Blood Drive at GKAR](#)

June 1st - 11th

- RPAC Online Auction

June 13th

- RPAC Picnic at GKAR

Classes

May 6th

- [Real Estate Marketing Reboot](#)

May 7th - 14th

- [GRI-III](#)
At BCAAR

May 14th

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

June 19th - 27th

- [Real Estate 101](#)

June 27th

- [Course 1500](#)

GKAR Events



GKAR's Annual Flowerfest is May 15th

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

Save-the-Date - RPAC Picnic is June 13th

Annual GKAR Summer Golf Outing is July 14th

We're headed back to the Gull Lake Country Club - sign up today because tees are filling up fast! Not a golfer? Not a problem, we have relaxing boat rides available all day. [Golfer/Non Golfer Form](#)

Sponsorships available: 2 Hole Sponsorships, 1 Boat Sponsorship, 1 Lunch Sponsorship, and 1 Dinner Sponsorship. [Sponsorship Form](#)

GKAR Tiger Game Day August 28th

Watch Derek Jeter's last game at Comerica Park! Only 16 tickets left. [Details and Ticket Order Form](#)

Membership Appreciation - [Photo Gallery](#)

Upcoming Classes



Real Estate Marketing Reboot

There is still time to register! May 6th at GKAR from 9:00am - 4:00pm
Instructor: Laura Schlecte
Investment: \$50
Qualifies as an ABR® Elective Course: \$105 to receive credit
[Details...](#)

Unlocking the Mysteries of Well & Septic Systems

LUNCH n' LEARN: 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...](#)

Course 1500

June 27th at GKAR from 9:00am - 2:45pm
6 hours of continuing education credit w/ legal update
Instructor: Jack Miedema
Registration Deadline: June 20th at 5:00pm
Investment: Eligible for Member Benefit Con Ed Program
[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](#)

Membership News



Welcome New REALTOR® Members

Elizabeth Andre - Lakes & Country Realty
Dawn Beltz - Golden Star Realty, Inc.
John Pappas - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Chase Perricone - Jaqua, REALTORS® (Drake)
Jessica Taylor - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI (Oakland)
Benny Wesley - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI (Stadium)
Kristie Young - RE/MAX of Kalamazoo

Welcome REALTOR® Member Reinstatement

Joseph Oswalt - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Theresa Bond - ERA Network Real Estate LLC

Welcome New Business Partner Offices

Huron Valley Financial, Inc. | Beth Grochowski
269-321-3332 | www.HuronValleyFinancial.com | Portage

New Business Partner SentiLock Smart Card User

Robert Bushouse - Bushouse Inspections

REALTOR® Member Name Change

Angela Carlson - Angela Jackson

[Drops & Transfers](#)

Quarter Century Club

Congratulations to Margi Burnham (Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI - Oakland) for 25 years with GKAR on May 9th!

Professional Standards

Pathways to Professionalism

- [Respect for the Public](#)
- [Respect for the Property](#)
- [Respect for the Peers](#)

Peak Performance



Who May Evaluate a Property's Well, Water and Septic System?

The standard language in the GKAR Buy & Sell Agreement calls for well, water and septic evaluations to be completed by the County Health Department. If a private contractor is to be used, written agreement between Buyer and Seller is required. [Details...](#)

Keybox Corner

How to turn on & use contractor codes: As the Listing Agent, once you turn on Contractor mode, anyone you give your Contractor Codes to can use them to open the key compartment of your lockbox without the use of a SentiCard 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until you turn Contractor mode off again. If you have a contractor that needs access to your listing and giving out multiple 1-Day Codes is too much to manage, Contractor Codes may be a solution for you. [Details...](#)



MLS News



Client Portal Searches and Additional Enhancements

Rapattoni has updated the Client Portal with a new look and more features. The 'Save' and 'Reject' options have been emphasized, agent branding displays more prominently, and additional changes have been made to improve the Client Portal's graphical user interface.

Your clients can now create their own custom searches within the Client Portal. When one of your contacts creates a new Client Portal search, this information will be included in the Client Portal Activity Report. Note that this new search feature may be enabled or disabled for each individual contact, but it is enabled by default.

Client Portal invitation email subject line and message text, as well as the Client Portal/Auto-Prospecting Update Text can be customized. Communication with your clients is now easier than ever as new comments display prominently for both the agent and client, and email alerts are automatically sent to the other party when a new comment is entered by the agent or client. [Play Video Tutorial](#)

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