

Bearings

a newsletter for GKAR MEMBERS
November 2015



At A Glance

Committee Meetings

November 5th

- [Broker Exchange Forum](#)

November 6th

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

November 10th

- [MLS/Technology](#)

November 13th

- [Risk Management](#)

November 20th

- [Board of Directors](#)

GKAR News

Michigan REALTOR® of the Year Recognition

Nancy Fish, your 2015 REALTOR® of the Year, was honored at the recent Michigan REALTORS® Convention & Expo. Local REALTOR® of the Year recipients were recognized for their community service, education, business accomplishments, and service at the local, state, and national levels. Nancy is pictured with Gene Szepeinski, Michigan REALTORS® Board President.



2015 RPAC Participation Office Competition Update

Large Office Category:

Boris, REALTORS® - 100%
Jaqua, REALTORS® - 80%
RE/MAX Advantage - 75%
Evenboer-Walton, REALTORS® - 72%

Medium Office Category:

Cornell & Associates - 77%
MI Real Estate Services - 72%

Small Office Category:

Keller Williams Battle Creek - 83%
Carlson, REALTORS® & Development - 83%

The winning office, in each category, will be presented with an award at the GKAR Installation and Holiday Luncheon on December 10th, 2015. All contributions must be received by November 25th, 2015. [View the Office Participation Report](#)

2015 RPAC Member Participation Update

Congratulations GKAR! You have achieved a new association record with 62% member participation in RPAC. [View the Individual Participation Report](#)

Tim Brown Elected GKAR Representative Manager to MichRIC

Every two years the Board of Directors elects a representative manager to MichRIC to serve alongside your CEO at the MichRIC managers meetings, promoting the best interests of GKAR within MichRIC (per policy). Tim Brown was elected to serve as GKAR Representative Manager to MichRIC for 2016-2017. If you are interested in serving in 2018-2019 please [let Robin Pompey know](#).

City of Portage has Block Grant Housing Assistance

Be a resource for your Portage clients with their home or emergency repairs via the City of Portage's assistance program. [Download Informational Brochure](#)

CEO Robin Pompey
Editor Angela McMillan

At A Glance

Events

November 19th

- [Top O' the Mornin'](#)

December 1st

- [Lawrence Yun, NAR & Tony Rubleski](#)

December 2nd

- [Winter Bus Trip to Chicago](#)

December 10th

- [Installation & State of Association](#)

Classes

December 16th

- [Course 1600](#)

GKAR Events

GKAR Blood Drive Held October 22nd, 2015

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated blood. The Red Cross collected 18 pints which has the potential to save 54 lives! Also, congratulations and thank you to Laura Brady and Natalie Rowe, the winners of our gift card drawing.

Top O' the Mornin', November 19th, 2015

Goal Setting, Financial Planning & Tax Preparation
With Bonus Speaker, Michael Jeffries at 10:45 am

Join us at GKAR from 9:00 am - 10:30 am for this dynamic program, aimed at making your 2016 a success! There is no cost to attend. This program is coordinated by the Education Committee as a member benefit. [RSVP Now](#)

Leadership Program, December 1st, 2015

GKAR presents NAR Chief Economist, Lawrence Yun and Mind Capture Group President, Tony Rubleski from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on December 1st, 2015. Hear the latest developments in the housing market and the economic forecast for the next 12 to 24 months. Then learn powerful lessons on leadership and how to get people to pay attention to your ideas and vision. Bonus: Southwest Michigan First's, Nick Riashi, will talk about Catalyst 2016 and exclusive pricing for members only.

Bus Trip to Chicago, December 2nd, 2015

Registration is now open for our annual bus trip to Chicago, [order tickets now](#).

Installation & State of the Association Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 10th, 2015 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel

Join your fellow members in recognizing and thanking the Board of Directors, Committees, RPAC Investors, and REATLOR® of the Year for their service and involvement in the Association. This is our largest event and we want to see you there! [Go to event page on GKAR.com for more details and to RSVP](#).

Reservations are required by November 30th, 2015.

Upcoming Classes

Course 1600 - 6 hour CE Course with 2015 Legal Update

December 16th, 2015 at GKAR from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Instructor: Jack Waller

Investment: \$55 for GKAR Members | \$65 for Non-Members

Breakfast, lunch, and materials included

[Register Now](#) | [Learn More About the Topics Covered](#)



At A Glance

Classes & Events

- [November Birthday Calendar](#)
- [New Member Orientation Nov. 18th, 19th, and 20th](#)

Housing Reports

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

Membership News



Welcome New REALTOR® Members

Jacqueline Miller - RE/MAX Advantage

Welcome REALTOR® Member Reinstatement

Craig Hart - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI (Stadium)

Welcome New Business Partner Office and SentiLock SmartCard User

John Meyers Inspections

John Meyers | Kalamazoo, MI | (269) 532-6298

Drops & Transfers - REALTORS®

Retiring - REALTORS®

Linda Lewis - ERA Network Real Estate L.L.C.

Wes Mazurek - Evenboer-Walton, REALTORS®

Bobbe Orr - Zuiderveen, REALTORS®

Richard Williams - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI (Oakland)

Quarter Century Club

Congratulations to Roxanne Cantu, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI, who reached 25 years with GKAR on July 6th!

Congratulations to Jerome Kessenich, Diversified Realty, who reached 25 years with GKAR on September 11th!

Congratulations to Michael Kimerling, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI, who will reach 25 years with GKAR on November 6th!

REALTOR® Emeritus

Congratulations to Nancy Fish, Park Place Real Estate, who will achieve her 40 year REALTOR® Emeritus on November 15th!

Keybox Corner

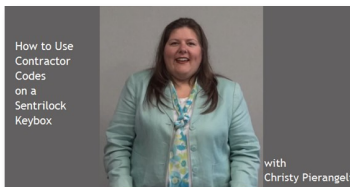
How to turn on and use contractor codes:

When you have a contractor who needs to access your listing, giving out multiple one day codes can be a hassle. Using contractor codes is an easy, time-saving solution for you.

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 one day code or SentiCard, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, until you turn Contractor Mode off again.

[Download our guide to turning on Contractor Mode](#)

[Watch our video on turning on Contractor Mode](#)



MLS News

MLS Training Available at GKAR

[zipForm](#) - November 16th, 2015, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm in the Classroom

[Advanced flexmls](#) - November 17th, 2015, 9:00 am - 10:30 am in the Classroom

Class sizes are limited. Reservations are required. Call (269) 382-1985.

Auto-Emails Changed to Subscriptions in Contacts

The flexmls feature Automatic Email is now called Subscriptions. The feature works the same; allowing an agent to set-up an automatic email to be sent to their contact when listings match the contact's saved search criteria. The change is that contacts must opt-in for listing updates to begin. This is a one-time confirmation email sent to a contact where the recipient must click to confirm the message was received at a valid email address. This gives their consent to receive listing updates via email moving forward and reduces the number of emails from subscriptions being caught by the contacts spam or junk mail filter. [Download our subscriptions feature guide](#)

Improved Quick Launch

FBS has improved the functionality of the Quick Launch feature in the flexmls system so it will now display the top 5 listings matches in Status Date order with the most recent listing first.

Run Times Added to Tutorials on flexmls

Run times have been added to the left of each Tutorial for added convenience. Tutorials can be accessed through the Help menu on any page in the MLS system.

MLS System Changes Coming Soon

A new required field called *Source of SqFt* will be added to the MLS system soon. The selections will be Measured, Public Record, Prior Appraisal, Blueprint, Previous Listing, and Other – specify.

A new syndication option for Homes.com will be added as one of the checkbox options on the *Export* tab during listing input and in the Broker Syndication settings located under the *General Preferences* tab in the flexmls system. This will allow listings that have Homes.com checked to be automatically sent to the Home.com websites.

Peak Performance

Title Commitments: Read Them, Deliver Them to Buyer, and Document Delivery to Buyer

Many title companies include general exceptions on a title commitment, which will ultimately exclude coverage under a title policy for certain matters. One such trend is for title companies to include a general exception for both UNRECORDED and RECORDED oil, gas, and mineral rights. [Learn more about Title Commitments...](#)

Brought to you by the Risk Management Committee

