

Bearings

a newsletter for GKAR MEMBERS

March 2017



At A Glance

Committee Meetings

March 2nd

- Broker Exchange Forum

March 3rd

- [Professional Development](#)
- [Community Relations](#)

March 10th

- [Risk Management](#)

March 14th

- [MLS](#)

GKAR News

Get Your Governmental Legislative Update at GKAR

Will we see you on March 6th? The Governmental Legislative Update Forum is a great opportunity for you to understand how we work together on housing-related legislation and hear what issues our legislators are currently working on. These forums are open to all GKAR Members and are provided as a Member benefit. [RSVPs are appreciated; make yours now.](#)

Guests for March 6th, 2017



Beth Griffin
State Representative
District 66



Jon Hoadley
State Representative
District 60



Brandt Iden
State Representative
District 61



David Maturen
State Representative
District 63



Margaret O'Brien
State Senator
District 20

GKAR Achievements Recognized at Michigan REALTORS®



Michigan REALTORS® held their annual leadership conference this past month in Detroit; we are proud to report the following GKAR Members attended: 2017 President, Alan Jeffries, 2018 President, Suzzette Deaux, 2016 President, Natalie Rowe, Community Relations Committee Chair, Alex Jeffries, and CEO, Robin Pompey.

Ms. Rowe was installed as a newly elected [District 6 Representative of Michigan REALTORS®](#), conducted by 2011 NAR President Ron Phipps. GKAR was also recognized during a luncheon for 2016 Local Association RPAC Achievements, for outstanding participation in 2016, raising over 200% of our goal with 62.6% participation from Members.

CEO Robin Pompey
Editor Angela McMillan

At A Glance

Events

March 6th

- [Legislative Update](#)

March 9th

- [Wine Down Expo Event](#)

March 25th

- [Walk to End Homelessness](#)

April 20th

- [Spring 4:01](#)

Courses

March 16th

- [Course 1800](#)

April 20th

- [Course 1800](#)

October 19th

- [Course 1800](#)

November 7th

- MRP Certification
Registration Info Coming Soon

November 27th

- [Course 1800](#)

December 12th

- e-PRO Certification
Registration Info Coming Soon

GKAR Events

Mix & Mingle with Your 2017 Business Partners at the Annual GKAR Wine Down on March 9th, 2017

Don't miss this popular Member networking, expo-style event! Twenty-five (25) GKAR Business Partners will be showcasing their products and services just for you! Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 9th, 2017; and drop by Cityscape Event Center anytime from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. There is no cost to attend; we will be providing appetizers, drink tickets, and business-building opportunities. [Let us know you're coming.](#)

[Walk to End Homelessness on March 25th, 2017](#)

Help us show the community that REALTORS® make a difference by raising funds for Housing Resources' annual FUNdraiser, the Walk to End Homelessness. It's easy! setup an online donation page, share with your peers, and come out to walk on Saturday, March 25th in downtown Kalamazoo. GKAR will be there; how about you?

[Let's Celebrate Spring at HopCat on April 20th, 2017](#)

Mark Thursday, April 20th on your calendar because you will not want to miss this 4:01 Member Networking event at HopCat! The first 100 in the door will receive TWO drink tickets! Whether you are new to GKAR and want to make some connections or you are a long-time Member and want to catch up with your contacts, Spring 4:01 is the place. [Let your contacts know you'll be there on Facebook!](#)

Upcoming Courses



Four More Opportunities to Get Con Ed in 2017

Your Board of Directors is committed to your success, so they are covering the cost of your 2017 Continuing Education as a complimentary GKAR REALTOR® Member Benefit. Plus, these courses will also fulfill your [NAR ethics requirement for the 2017-2018 cycle!](#)

[Course 1800](#)

March 16th | April 20th | October 19th | November 27th

Instructor: Gwyn Besner

Tuition: \$0/REALTOR® Member Benefit | \$65/Non-Member

Food: Continental breakfast included

Credit: 6 hours of CE, including Legal Update | 2.5 hours of NAR Ethics credit

At A Glance

Classes & Events

- [March Birthday Calendar](#)
- New Member Orientation
March 22nd, 23rd & 24th
- [NAR Ethics Training](#)
During Course 1800
March 16th
April 20th
October 19th
November 27th

Housing Reports

- [Cumulative Sales Report](#)
- Sub-Area Closed
Residential Sales Report
[January 2017](#)
[January 2016](#)
- [Mortgage Rates](#)

Membership News

Welcome New REALTOR® Member

Karen Vandeboss - Parkview Hills Real Estate Services

Welcome REALTOR® Member Reinstatements

Janeen Bertolina - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Mary Beth Sons - Lakes & Country Real Estate

Welcome New REALTOR® Office

Parkview Hills Real Estate Services - Karen Vandeboss
Kalamazoo, MI | (269) 375-0327

Welcome New Business Partner Members

18th Hour Productions, LLC - Jason O'Brien
Plainwell, MI | 18thhour.com | (269) 779-1876

Aardvark Home Inspectors - David Klima
Mishawaka, IN | aardvarkinspect.com | (574) 255-8824

Primary Residential Home Mortgage - Jodi Rozycki
Kalamazoo, MI | myprimeres.com | (269) 743-0956

Star Title Agency, LLC - Lindsey Town
Kalamazoo, MI | startitlemi.com | (269) 366-5332

Change of REALTOR® Office Address

Acura Real Estate - 5985 West Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009
The Barton Group - 8750 Portage Industrial Dr., Portage, MI 49024

Drops - Business Partners

Cottingham Agency
Honigman, Miller, Schwartz & Cohn
Huron Valley Financial
KEB Home Inspections, LLC

Key Box Corner

To keep you and your app in the best working order there will be an update on the app to version 3.0.0 on May 17th, 2017. This version will include the Message Center and modifications to keep with Android and iOS requirements.

SentriLock is working to improve security. That includes passwords and email addresses. By the end of 2017 it will be a requirement to have a password with six characters, one upper case letter, one lower case letter, and one numeric value. With this, they will also require each Member to have their own unique email address associated with their SentriLock account. Plan ahead and update your information before December 31st this year!

MLS News



New Features on flexMLS

As of February 21st, 2017, a new look for Hot Sheets was added to flexMLS. Hot Sheet functions will not change, only the look. You can now find **Run Custom Hot Sheet** at the bottom of the page rather than side by side with the 24 Hour Hot Sheet. This will not affect Hot Sheets you already have set up.

New SSO Links Available

Have the added benefit of accessing REALTOR® Property Resource (RPR), directly through flexMLS. A direct link can be found through the Products tab to have full access to the supplementary website. As before, there will still be direct links on each listing. To go directly to the listed property on RPR, use the link on the listing.

A link between Zillow and the MLS has also been added, for Brokers only, to manage Brokerage listings on their Zillow dashboard.

Finding a Body of Water

To make listing and searching for properties with water access or frontage much simpler, MichRIC has been working to ensure the Body of Water list on the MLS is correct and comprehensive. FlexMLS is using Google maps as the resource for the list of lakes, ponds, rivers, etc. to choose from.

Did You Miss dotloop Training?

If you couldn't make it to the introductory dotloop training, no worries. You can find online guides and tutorials on [dotloop's website](#), or head to [GKAR.com's e-Form page](#) for more information.