



**Greater
Gateway
Association of
REALTORS®, Inc.**

OUTLOOK

Remember WALL:

- Walk
- Around
- Lights off
- Lock doors

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What's Happening

August

- 2 Broker Course
- 4 Broker Course
- 10 Affiliates Committee Meeting
- 12 New Member Orientation
- 17 Annual Meeting/Election
- 18 Broker Course
- 21 Broker Course
- 25 Broker Course
- 28 Broker Course

September

- 1 Broker Course
- 6 GGAR Office Closed
- 8 Broker Course
- 11 Pre-License Course
- 14 Affiliates Committee Meeting
- 15 Broker Course
- 18 Pre-License Course
- 22 Broker Course
- 25 Pre-License Course



Make Your Vote Count!

**Annual Meeting and Election
Tuesday, August 17, 2010
Villa Marie Winery
6633 East Main Street, Maryville**

\$20 per person

(includes buffet lunch and complimentary wine tasting)

**Registration – 11 a.m. | Lunch – 12:15 p.m.
Special presentation – 11:30 a.m.**

**Don't miss this chance to hear
IAR Legal Hotline Attorney Betsy Urbance
provide information about the License
Law Rewrite licensure, transition, and
continuing education requirements.**

Voting for the 2010-2011 Board of Directors will be available from 11 a.m. until the conclusion of the event.

Menu: Gazpacho, Italian salad, lobster spaghetti, chicken picatta over rice pilaf, grilled asparagus, dessert

**RSVP to GGAR by AUGUST 3: 618-692-8307 (fax)
or jleitschuh@gatewayrealtors.com**

Reservations canceled after August 3 will be charged in full.

Officers:		SIR/MLS Governors:	
Chairman of the Board	Rick Edwards, Century 21 Seniker-Edwards, Godfrey	David Cisler	635-2244
Chairman-Elect	Jenni Beck, Beck Group Realty, Inc., e-PRO, GRI	Norma Kasten, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI	655-1188
Vice Chairman	Joy Wofford, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, RE/MAX Realty Centre	Ed Kleber	654-5575
Past Chairman of the Board	Doug Hartmann, Jr., e-PRO, GRI, Hartmann REALTORS®	Don Lee	397-1082
		Sandy Michel, GRI	283-4436
Directors:		Committee Chairpersons:	
Marna Asbury, Olin Community Credit Union		Affiliates	Gloria Burch 258-3168
Kevin Botterbush, Botterbush & Associates		Awards	Richard Rolfingsmeyer, CRB 655-1188
Jill Cummings, ABR, CRS, RE/MAX Preferred Partners		Budget and Finance	David Lauschke 465-2966
Dave Erutti, Bev George & Associates, Town & Country		Bylaws	Norma Kasten, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI 655-1188
Tammie Fleming, Prudential One Realty Centre, Granite City		Comm. Involvement	Debbie Conreux 656-8616
Rosetta Heavner, GRI, Landmark Realty, Bethalto			Pat Walker 655-4100
Carrie Michalik, GRI, RE/MAX Alliance		Education	Bev George, ABR, CRB, CRS, e-PRO, GRI 656-1188
Richard Rolfingsmeyer, CRB, RE/MAX Gold		Golf Outing	Justin Huneke 656-0057
			Chris Seniker 372-4535
		Grievance	Roger Reeves, ABR, e-PRO, GRI 346-7000
		Legislative	Julie Lading, GRI 655-4100
		Membership	Jill Cummings, ABR 655-1188
		MLS	Doug Hartmann, CPM, CRB, CRS, GRI 344-7900
		Nominating	Chris Seniker 372-4535
		Prof. Standards	Sharon Jones, ABR, GRI 288-7100
		RPAC/IMPAC	Julie Fleck 346-7000
			Kathy Krueengel, GRI 977-2803
GGAR Staff:			
Al Suguitan, e-PRO, GRI, RCE, President and Chief Operating Officer			
Doris Stephens, Director of Administrative Services			
Lori Eder, e-PRO, Marketing and Communications Manager			
Jessica Newbold, Governmental Affairs Director			
Melody White, Membership Assistant			
Jeanie Leitschuh, Administrative Assistant			
Newsletter Staff:			
Al Suguitan, CAE, e-PRO, GRI, RCE, Publisher			
Lori Eder, e-PRO, Editor			

From the Board Room

The Board of Directors met on July 15, 2010 and discussed or approved the following items of business:



Administrative - Al Suguitan:

1. Reviewed the May minutes.
2. Discussed and reviewed the financial report.
3. Suguitan reported that he is working with the Illinois Association of REALTORS® (IAR) to set up a meeting to inform our members about the REALTORS® Property Resource program.

SIR/MLS - Al Suguitan:

1. President/COO Suguitan reported that the MLS keystroke log-in has been implemented with very few problems and that members are positively receptive to the upgrade.
2. Suguitan confirmed that GGAR will either refund the \$15 token deposit or apply it to the member's ActiveKEY renewal fee. All eligible refunds will be processed in early September.

Government Affairs - Jessica Newbold:

1. Newbold reported that IAR CEO Gary Clayton recently spoke at a member luncheon regarding the 100% Ask RPAC Campaign that is currently underway.
2. Heard a report that IAR RPAC trustees unanimously voted to endorse Senator Bill Brady for Governor of Illinois.
3. Heard a report that Highland is now requiring landlords to register their rental property with the city.

Government Affairs Update

By Jessica Newbold

The Village of Godfrey has expressed some concern regarding the placement of signs in their public right-of-ways. The current Village Code allows for directional signs for open houses to be placed in public right-of-ways during certain hours, but it does not allow placement of directional for-sale signs for the duration of a listing. Members of the Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS® will be meeting with Village officials in August to create an equitable solution to this problem.

There are still a number of ongoing issues that I continue to monitor. The City of Collinsville has not yet moved forward on their proposed inspection ordinance. Collinsville is currently

addressing some budget concerns and will pick up the inspection ordinance at a later date. The Village of Swansea also has not moved forward on their inspection ordinance. In addition to inspections in Swansea, I am also working on a sign ordinance issue that will be discussed in August. I will keep you updated as these issues continue to move forward.

If you have any questions about the issues mentioned above, please don't hesitate to contact me at 618-692-8300 or JNewbold@iar.org.

As a reminder, if there is something happening in your community that you think I should be aware of, please contact me immediately.



Are You the Next Reality Star?

HGTV's hit series My First Place is coming back for another season and is looking for singles, couples, and families and their REALTORS® in the St. Louis metropolitan area to be part of the show.

Producers are looking for fun, high energy people who are just beginning the process of looking for their FIRST home and would like to share their story with HGTV. The goal of the show is to capture all of the trials and tribulations of looking for, bidding on, and buying your first place.

Taping of the show begins this summer. Ideal candidates

will be enthusiastic buyers working with a REALTOR® who have a great story to tell and a desire to share their experiences.



Candidates who complete the taping will receive a surprise housewarming gift as part of the

show and a DVD copy of their episode as a keepsake of their first home-buying experience.

My First Place follows a set of first-time home buyers and their REALTOR® along the stress-filled, exciting search for the perfect home. Throughout the journey, they will receive the latest information about financing in today's market, plus proven know-how straight from real estate professionals.

To learn more about this exciting opportunity, contact Amy Stoehrman at astoehrman@highnoontv.com or 303-712-3145. To learn more about HGTV, visit hgtv.com.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Congressman Jerry Costello

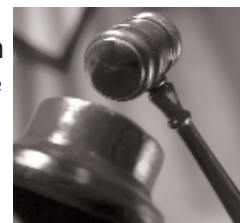
In mid-July, we saw an important legislative victory for our region as the U.S. House of Representatives voted to pass H.R. 5114, the Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act of 2010, which will reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program for an additional five years. I have worked on the issues of FEMA flood remapping and its effects on flood insurance for several years, and as a co-chair of the newly formed Congressional Levee Caucus, this legislation has been one of my top priorities.

Included in this bill are provisions I authored that would prevent mandatory purchase requirements for flood insurance from taking effect for five years. It also phases in flood insurance rates over an additional five years, and it requires local jurisdictions to have an evacuation plan and an outreach and communication plan in place, advising residents about local flood risk, the availability of flood insurance, and the potential consequences of

not purchasing insurance.

This is a major step forward in our effort to give communities the time necessary to rebuild levees and address other flood control projects. In our region, local leaders have moved quickly to address the decertification of our levees, and the federal government should assist them in that process. This bill provides incentives for local jurisdictions to take on this work, and it allows our constituents to make their own decisions regarding the purchase of flood insurance.

I was proud to help usher this legislation through passage in the House, as it will help our region and communities across the country. The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.



Rural Housing Loans Available

By Congressman John Shimkus



The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development has a program called Rural Housing Direct Loans. Eligible applicants can access 100 percent financing through participating lenders.

The loans are available in rural areas served by the Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS®. Urban areas of Madison County are not eligible. There are also local banks who participate in the program.

These loans are designed for low and very-low income families and individuals to encourage homeownership. The maximum income is 115 percent of the median income for the area.

A local Rural Development office is located in Edwardsville at 7205 Marine Road; 656-7300. Much more information is available online, including street-level maps outlining eligible areas; a list of participating banks; and income eligibility worksheets at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/il/grh.htm>.

SIR/MLS SCOOP

Have you ever been working on a contract and would like to see what the other agent looks like? Only to go into the MLS to learn there is no picture of the agent available?

We'd love to have you input your picture on the MLS. It's a very simple process.

1. Click Miscellaneous from the top menu
2. Click Agent Photo Upload and locate your name
3. Click on your login ID
4. Select Update Photo
5. "Browse" and locate your picture - wherever you have it - on your computer, a thumb drive, or a CD
6. Double-click your picture and then select "save"
7. Your picture will be visible in the MLS instantly

Don't forget, we have training every month at the MLS office in Collinsville. It is hands-on (we have the computers) and free of charge. Call the MLS office at 618-343-3030 or e-mail debi.peel@sirmlsinc.com to reserve your seat. Our training schedule is listed on the MLS Siren every week.



We hosted our first ever Affiliates Meet and Greet Happy Hour for all affiliate members, and unfortunately did not have a large turn-out. If you're reading this and have never attended an Affiliates Committee meeting, please consider joining us. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the association office in Glen Carbon. **We would love to have you in attendance to provide us with your insight, ideas, and experience!**

We will be having our annual election at the next meeting, so be sure to attend on August 10th. Come out and support your fellow affiliates by voting.

Join us for some fun and sun at the Summer Celebration Volleyball Tournament on Saturday, August 7 at DeCamp Junction in Staunton. Get a team together and show us what you've got! Visit gatewayrealtors.com for details and a registration form.

Finally, don't forget to make your reservations for the Annual Meeting and Election being held on Tuesday, August 17 at Villa Marie Winery in Maryville. Contact GGAR at 618-692-8300 to reserve your seat.

The Affiliates Committee is composed of lenders, appraisers, housing inspectors, home improvement companies, title companies, community and government offices, local newspapers, and construction services. Our goal is to enhance vendor relationships with REALTORS®.

Gloria Burch, Chairman
Gary Hoggatt, Vice Chairman
Alicia Oberneufemann, Secretary
Marna Asbury, Board Representative



Our next Affiliates Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 10 at 8:30 a.m. at the association office. Any affiliate member may join the Affiliates Committee. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact GGAR at 618-692-8300.

Member News

The Board of Directors will act on new applicants subject to completion of the required New Member Orientation class and notice to members. If any member knows of any reason why these applications should not be accepted, please write a letter to Chairman of the Board Rick Edwards, 10 Ginger Creek Parkway, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034.

New REALTORS® Members:

Mark Harman, Travis Tarrant, Broker
Michelle Hawthorne, RE/MAX Alliance
J.B. Wallace, J. Bradley Realty



Transfers:

Kevin Barbier, Barbier Agency
Kim Benda, Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Edwardsville
Shane Bowen, Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Edwardsville
Jim Dodd, Barbier Agency
Terry Dooley, Terry Dooley, Broker
Larry Hoffman, RE/MAX Realty Centre
Harry Willman, Rhonda Willman, Broker
Rhonda Willman, Rhonda Willman, Broker

Drops:

Bill Fisher, RE/MAX Integrity
Ted Pierce, Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Edwardsville
Celeste Rueter, Coldwell Banker Nester, Columbia
David Seilheimer, Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Edwardsville
Virginia Williams, Coldwell Banker Nester, Swansea

New REALTOR® Offices:

Barbier Agency
J. Bradley Realty
Rhonda Willman, Broker
Terry Dooley, Broker

New Affiliate Offices:

Bob R. Self Home Inspections
Sure-Lock Home Inspections

Broker Course Series

Be prepared for the License Law Rewrite changes - enroll in our upcoming broker course series. Saturday classes are now forming.

Visit gatewayrealtors.com for details and a registration form.



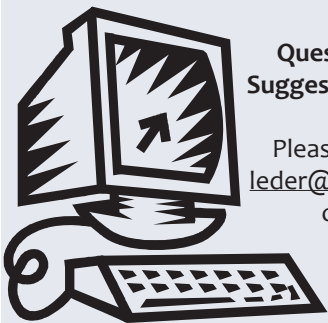
August 2010

Mission Statement

The Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS® is dedicated to promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct and ethics in the real estate profession.

We're on the Web!

www.gatewayrealtors.com



Questions? Comments?
Suggestions? E-mail change?

Please contact Lori Eder:
leder@gatewayrealtors.com
or 618-692-8300

Volunteering in America

According to the Volunteering in America report prepared by the Corporation for National and Community Service, volunteering rates have increased in the United States for the second year in a row, representing an additional 1.6 million new volunteers.

The report reveals that the most popular types of volunteering include basic volunteer work (26.6 percent), collecting or distributing food (23.5 percent), general labor (20.5 percent) and tutoring (19 percent).

The report also cites that mid-size cities, particularly those in the Midwest, have on average higher volunteer rates than large cities, and residents of mid-size cities contribute more hours to volunteering. And although women are more likely than men to volunteer - in fact, working mothers have the highest volunteer rates of all - men are more likely to participate in their community in less formal ways.



"In this time of economic distress, we need service and volunteering more than ever to build a new foundation for growth," said First Lady Michelle Obama, who founded Serve.gov. "This report suggests that Americans . . . [are] giving their time when they cannot give their money. It reminds us of the generosity of the American spirit . . .," she added.

Visit volunteeringinamerica.gov to see the complete report. To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area, visit Serve.gov or VolunteerMatch.org.



GGAR Snapshot

As of July 15, 2010

Affiliate Offices/Members	98
Full Member Appraiser Offices	82
Full Member REALTOR® Offices	135
TOTAL FULL MEMBER OFFICES	217
Full Member Appraiser Members	89
Full Member REALTOR® Members	935
TOTAL FULL MEMBERS	1,024
Total GGAR Offices	315
Total GGAR Members	1,122