



PBBR FRIDAY FLASH

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January 16th, 2009

You learn something every day if you pay attention. ~ Ray LeBlond

LEADERSHIP 2009

PBBR/PBMLS
PRESIDENT
JIM MEIER

PBMLS
VICE-PRESIDENT
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PBBR/PBMLS
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PBMLS CORPORATE
SECRETARY
SALLY BAKER
Ex Officio

STAFF
ASSOCIATION AEO
SALLY BAKER

ADMIN ASS'T
AMBER YOUNGS



MEMBERSHIP

New Firms

Flexit Realty, Reed City – Broker Gary White

New Members

Gary White, Flexit Realty

Hank Johnson, ERA Greater North Properties

Chuck Helmka, ERA Greater North Properties

RESCHEDULED EVENT

GRIEVANCE & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEES CLINIC

March 2nd, 2009 -1:30 to 5 pm
Coyle's Restaurant - Houghton Lake

If you are currently serving on or wish to serve on the Grievance Committee or as a panelist in our Professional Standards Cooperative with other area association or will be in a leadership position during 2009, you will be interested and eligible to attend this clinic.

<http://www.pbbbr.com/events.htm>

This clinic incorporates highly specialized training and is geared to the actual nuts and bolts of roles and responsibilities of grievance panels, professional standards panels, association staff and the role of leadership in Professional Standards matters.

Seating is very limited, since the clinic was designed to include eligible members our cooperative member associations.

If you are interested in attending this class, please be sure you make your reservation with Sally at the board office. Call her at (231) 775-2660 or email her at sally@pbbbr.com

If you were previously signed up, I saved the sign up list and will contact you via the list.

PBMLS DATABASE UPDATES

Database Merger Updates

Township and School District Look Ups
All the townships and School Districts that were reported as missing from the look up lists in the database have been entered to date.

Associated Documents

The link to view the associated documents is not working properly. The error message Page Not Found occurs randomly for listings. It suggests that we download Adobe Reader 9 and EFAX. Amber and I both did that and still can't view the some of the associated documents.

There is a work order (# 64449) associated with this problem. If you call tech support, please refer to that number.

IDX Export

All issues that we have been notified about that are related to the IDX export have been resolved and everything seems to be working well now! Whew! Those were some fire-hoops for us this week!

SentriLock Export

SentriLock tech support is still working on associating the MLS # data to the lockboxes. That was another fire-hoop situation. SentriLock has notified us that they expect to have any remaining issues resolved by late this afternoon or tomorrow at the latest.

Commercial Class Listings

There was a problem reported that people were unable to save new commercial class listings. This problem was reviewed and resolved.

MLS CHANGES

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We all understand that the nation is experiencing some very difficult economic conditions and the housing market is being impacted by these circumstances. So is REALTOR® Association. As is the case with all the other associations in the state and in many other states, we have experienced loss of our membership and MLS users. We have not been hit as seriously this year as many other associations, but we have felt the effects of the attrition since 2005.

Due to those influencing factors, we can no longer subsidize the IDX for our members, as we have over the past six years. We notified everyone last fall that they would receive a billing for annual IDX service renewal and a monthly charge per firm billed quarterly beginning in the first quarter of 2009. However, we do not anticipate that your basic Multiple Listing Service fees will change at this time.

And an even more serious effect will be felt by membership, MLS and board staff. Board staff works conscientiously to keep costs down associated with operating the office and factors in all kinds of services and products they use. Because we keep our expenses so tight to revenue, there was no place else to cut to balance the budget this year other than employees. On January 8th, the board of directors made a very difficult decision. They voted to eliminate the office clerk position, which means we have to let Darlene go effective January 30th. She will be taking vacation days except for Wednesday, January 21st and 28th. Sally and Amber will take over all duties and responsibilities that Darlene performed for our membership.

This is a very sad time for all of us. Please take the time to drop Darlene an email or a note or give her a call on either Wednesday to say goodbye to her and thank her for all her hard work on your behalf over the past 3+ years.

INTERESTING PBBR HISTORICAL FACTS

PBBR CHARTER

PBBR charter was issued to its newly formed group of brokers on November 12th, 1946. At that time, the board's jurisdiction covered a five county area: Wexford, Missaukee, Roscommon, Manistee and Kalkaska. The board also drew members from Harrison and Clare.

LEADERSHIP

In 1946, Rudy Bourget (Cadillac) was elected as the first President of Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS® following its formal receipt of a charter. He held this

position through 1947. In 1962, Mr. Bourget carved a table top statue of Paul Bunyan to present to the group. Sometime in the late 70's or early 80's the statue simply "disappeared." There are only a few relics of the early years. One is a felt banner someone made for the association. It's somewhat moth eaten, and definitely displays a characteristic folklore theme (can't tell exactly what it was meant to represent, but both Amber and I think it looks like a Halloween haunted house or an outhouse on a hill).



In 1948, Alice Burwell (Cadillac) was elected President of Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS®. She held this position for 2 years and was one of the first women President's in the state and the US. At that time only brokers could be REALTORS®, hold office and instead of it being called the REALTOR® Association, it was called National Association of Real Estate Boards (NAREB). Agents were referred to as Associate REALTORS® and didn't appear on the rolls except at dues collection time.

In 1967, Manistee County members proposed to align themselves with the coast line association associated with Mason and Oceana Counties. It was yet a few years after that that Kalkaska was reassigned under the same jurisdiction with Antrim and Charlevoix counties by NAREB.

NEWSLETTER

In the 1960's, the newsletter for Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS® was a monthly publication known as "The Corn Plaster." In the late 1970's and early 80's it was known as "Tales of Paul Bunyan." In the late 80's early 90's it had no name and just used the title of Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS®. When Sally started in 1992, she renamed the newsletter to PBBR REALTOR® Hotline. It evolved from there to PBBR Realtor Community News, then to PBBRTalk. In 1997, we instituted a weekly update by FAX and email known as the Friday Flash. When the newsletter became a weekly publication in 2004, PBBR Friday Flash became the electronic newsletter.

Below is the cover of the June edition of an unknown year of the newsletter as "Tales of Paul Bunyan."



In 1956, the October minutes of a General Membership Meeting held at the old Northwood Hotel dining room in Cadillac revealed some interesting points of view from over 50 years ago that you might find interesting and relative to today.

Then President, Ed Yorty, from Higgins Lake, introduced the field rep for NAREB (NAR) who was the speaker that day. His name was Mr. Cronin. The minutes read: Mr. Cronin "...gave us a very interesting and informative talk with regard to the many activities and functions of a local Board." The minutes go on to state, "among the many points he touched on were the expansion of our board, the responsibility of every member to assist in carrying out the policies and activities of the Board thru cooperation with the Board officers; promoting Realtor education of the general public; strengthening of our State license laws; and, cooperating with local Chambers of Commerce and other agencies to interest new industry to locate in our areas." During round tables during the meeting, other important matters were discussed: Association participation in governmental, legislative and involvement in local civic affairs; the importance of having "lady Realtors" serve as officers and represent the association; and availability of mortgage financing.

In 1962, a rather momentous recognition took place. Alice Burwell was named PBBR's Realtor of the Year, a new program initiated by MAR.

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This location of this offering may be convenient for some of our Roscommon County Members

2008-2009 LEGAL UPDATE

Presented by the
Northeastern Michigan Board of
REALTORS®

GREG McCLELLAND

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2009

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Hale United Methodist Church in Hale

Cost: \$25.00

2 hours of Legal Con-ed Credit

For a registration form please contact the
Northeastern Board office 989-728-5165

2009 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS WORKSHOPS SPONSORED BY MAR

Taking this class counts for the next block
January 1, 2009 through December 31st, 2012
of required COE Quadrennial Training. *Why
not get 'er done now and not have to worry
about it again for 4 years?*

Wednesday, February 4

Fetzer Center

Western Michigan University

Kalamazoo, MI Phone: 269-387-3232

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Check in

1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Workshop

Wednesday, February 4

Video Conference Link - Room: LRC 109

Northern Michigan University, Marquette

Registration: 12:30 – 1:00 pm

Workshop: 1:00 – 4:30 pm

Thursday, February 5

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort

3800 Soaring Eagle Blvd.

Mt. Pleasant, MI - Phone: 888.732.4537

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Check in

1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Workshop

Friday, February 6 (AM Session)

Laurel Manor

39000 Schoolcraft Road

Livonia, MI 48150

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Check in

9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Workshop