

BILL HEYDENBERK -- PBBR 2003 REALTOR® OF THE YEAR



At their August 14th meeting, the Board of Directors approved the nomination recommendation of the REALTOR® of the Year committee, comprised of the last five years of PBBR REALTORS® of the Year, for Bill Heydenberk, an associate broker, with Johnson and Associates in Cadillac to be named 2003 PBBR REALTOR® of the Year.

Bill will be recognized and honored by his peers at our Annual Meeting to be held at Noon on October 9th, 2003, at Mr. John's Restaurant in Lake City, MI.

He was also recently recognized and honored as the 2003 REALTOR® of the Year for Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS® on September 21st, 2003, at the Grand Assembly of the Michigan Association of REALTORS® Annual Convention at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI.

Bill was nominated by his Broker, Keith Johnson, who states that Bill "provides a positive role model as a REALTOR®," exhibiting fairness, cooperation, patience and kindness in his dealings with his clients, customers and fellow real estate professionals. He started in real estate in 1990, obtaining his associate broker's license in 1997. He currently serves on the Board of Directors as the Wexford County Director for Paul Bunyan Board of REALTORS®. He has also served on the Board's bylaw committee, MLS committee and Professional Standards Committee.

Keith Johnson, broker/owner of Johnson and Associates in Cadillac, Michigan, and Bill's friend and broker for many years says, "Bill's success in real estate is due to his total commitment to ethical behavior and his compassionate care for people. This coupled with his careful attention to detail has made him a success in all aspects of his life. We are proud to be able to work with him."

Outside of the real estate profession and association leadership service, Bill volunteers as a firefighter for the Cherry Grove Township Fire Department in Wexford County, having received 260 hours of additional training in handling hazardous materials, forest fires, accident victim extrication from vehicles and water rescue to become a state certified firefighter. His fire chief, Gary Pullen, states, "Bill is a huge asset to the department and is 'always there' for the team above and beyond what is expected of him." Bill also received specialized training to become a member of the Greater Cadillac Area Technical Rescue Team (GCATRT). The team works in high-risk situations such as: high angle rescues, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and structural collapse. Most recently, the team was called in for Silo collapse rescue. Mike Mongar, director of the GCATRT, says, "Bill is one of the team's most valuable members. He is a pleasure to work with, eager to learn, intelligent and knowledgeable, and well trained."

And as if Bill wasn't able to find enough ways to fill up his free time outside his career as a successful full-time REALTOR®, husband to Pam and father of two grown daughters, Angie and Kelsey, he has also served with Habitat for Humanity (HFH) in many ways, such as lead person for the site selection committee; part of three person fund raising committee in 2001, bringing in the largest amount of money ever raised by the local HFH association; and also helped with the effort to bring about the Christian Housing Ministry to the local HFH area. While Bill is not directly serving on the HFH Board this year, he is still known to offer his time pounding a few nails now and then.



Bill will also be featured in the member profiles section of the September 2003 issue of the MICHIGAN REALTOR® magazine.

Sally Baker, Executive Officer for the Association says, "I responded to a MAR request as follows: When the M.A.R. put out the request for profiles of members who are active in real estate, the association and of service to their community, Bill's name immediately came to mind. Bill is the type of person who manages his time so well that he is able to work at real estate full time and serve as a director in the leadership of the board, and still be able to offer a tremendous amount of time toward the safety of our community while still making time to enjoy his family life and his leisure-time activities. He is an avid gardner and enjoys all kinds of outdoor activities. He is unassuming about his dedication to community service, and is always ready to offer a helping hand. Bill is a pleasure for all of us to work with."

PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO YOUR MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® MAGAZINE! FAMILIAR FACES WILL BE APPEARING! That same familiar face to the left is a little less recognizable in this photo!

Bill at high angle rescue training!