

PBBR REALTOR® OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE NAMES 2007 REALTOR® OF THE YEAR

The Realtor® of the Year committee reviewed three nominations of very worthy candidates that were submitted for consideration as this year's Paul Bunyan Board of Realtor's Realtor® (PBBR) of the Year.

The committee bestowed the honor on Bill Alderden, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX Professionals in Lake City.



The nomination criteria is comprised of several areas that include competence, spirit, and experience based on activity at the local and state level of the Realtor® Association and involvement in the community and civic affairs as well as other affiliations such as church and charitable organization activity.

Peggy Rehkopf, along with the support of the other members of the Alderden Team, and without Bill's knowledge, nominated Bill for this esteemed honor.

Peggy has worked for him since he opened RE/MAX Professionals, and says it is wonderful working for someone who is so fair, honest and forever giving of himself to others. She says in spite of how busy he is in a day, he always takes time for others and never asks of others anything that he himself would not considering doing and willingly offers to work along side. She states that he comes to all meetings promptly, prepared and conducts his meetings with a fair and objective attitude, high principles and professionalism. The board of directors would agree with Peggy on this observation and has benefited from these high standards as well at every meeting Bill has conducted this year.

Bill was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He moved to Lake City in 1985, and married his wife Susan in 1989. Bill is a family man, and willingly offers that above all else except Jesus Christ, his family comes first.

Aside from being the broker and owner of RE/MAX Professionals, Bill also owns and operates Stoney Corners Golf Course in Lake City, and loves the game of golf. He has his private pilot's license and hot air balloon pilot's license and owns his own RE/MAX balloon. He uses the hot air balloon for assisting with fund raising activities for local communities and charitable organizations, for the fun it provides him and his family and of course as a great marketing tool! He and Susan have lovingly built a beautiful getaway cabin on a pristine lake near Wawa, Canada, where they go for precious moments of relaxation and rejuvenation.





Bill joined Paul Bunyan Board of Realtors® in 1989 as a sales associate with Everett Realty. Next he became affiliated with RE/MAX Harmony in Kalkaska after obtaining his broker's license. In 1997, he and Susan opened RE/MAX Professionals in Lake City and began building their business.

He is the current President of both the Paul Bunyan Board of Realtors® and Paul Bunyan MLS®, Inc. Bill has served on the Professional Standards Committee, the MLS committee, as Treasurer for the board in the mid 1990's, and continues to serve the members by his willing volunteerism in helping to plan extracurricular events for them such as the Annual Christmas Party and golf outing. He is an active supporter of RPAC and also acts as a state delegate on our members behalf with Michigan Association of Realtors® at their delegate body meetings.

For three years he has taken awards for premier market presence in advertising through the RE/MAX organization. He has taken the Floyd Wickman training course, and holds the designations of Certified Residential Specialist (CRS), Graduate Realtor® Institute (GRI), and Accredited Buyer Representative (ABR). He has achieved the RE/MAX Hall of Fame award and is working toward his lifetime achievement award through RE/MAX.

He is a regular attendee of RE/MAX Conferences, meetings of Paul Bunyan Board of Realtors® and conventions of Michigan Association of Realtors®.

Bill's community and civic involvement is far-reaching. He is a member of Lake City Chamber of Commerce and Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce. He participates in the Annual Governor's Breakfast. Bill has acted as a guest speaker for McBain High School to speak with the high school Seniors on the value of saving to make investments in real estate. He is interested in and participates in activities for community renewal.

The team offers that Bill and his family are very involved in their church, the Lake City Christian Reformed Church. Bill has served several terms on the church council, is a member of their Praise Team, is a member of the church choir, participates in the church's Partner Prayer Group, volunteers his expertise and time to cook and grill for various church activities, and offers his talents as an accomplished singer for weddings, social events, and funerals for his own church and other various area churches and community events, both religious and secular. He has also been involved in organizing community prayer breakfasts for the National Day of Prayer at Wolverine Power and the Timber Wolf Lodge. He has been a "celebrity" waiter at the Hillcrest for a Habitat for Humanity fundraiser.

Sally Baker, our Association Executive Officer says of Bill, *"I've learned what a pleasure it can be working with someone who is so fair, capable and organized. Is it possible that someone can be in a good mood from morning till night? It certainly seems like Bill is. He patiently offers his time to discuss specific issues that impact association business. We believe he is serving you well. We think we can truly say that we now know what is meant by the expression, "If you really need something done, ask a busy person to do it."*

Upon learning the news, Roscommon County Director, former PBBR President and Realtor® of the Year, Jo Ellen Serum, offered:

"As a past recipient of Realtor® of the Year award, I can't think of anyone more deserving. Congratulations Bill !!!"

Bill will be honored and recognized at our September 14th General Membership Meeting at McGuire's Resort in Cadillac and at the Grand Assembly during the Michigan Association of Realtors® 2007 Convention and Expo in Mt. Pleasant on September 26th.

Congratulations, Bill.