



October Newsletter



A s s o c i a t i o n L u n c h e o n

The next Association Luncheon will be Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 12:30 pm at the First Baptist Church in Augusta. Please be sure to make your reservations with the Association Office. This is so important because they need a count to be able to prepare the food. We will be having the election of officers and directors for 2017.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Bill Boatman for receiving the Realtor of the Year Award for the Georgia Association of REALTORS.

Congratulations to Ryan Brashear who will be serving as vice chairman of the Federal Taxation Committee of the National Association of REALTORS in 2017.

COMING October 11, 2016 *Gadgets and Gizmos for REALTORS / Balancing Act Taking Care of Real Estate Clients and Self*

Six hours of continuing education. Be sure to watch for the flyers that will be going out soon!

COMING November 10, 2016.....YOU CAN'T FIX STUPID 2016

Six hours of continuing education. Be sure to watch for the flyers that will be going out soon!

2017 COMMITTEES

It is not too late to sign up for a committee. We would love to have you serving on a committee. We have attached a committee sheet request to this newsletter for you to complete.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Association Luncheon
- CE Classes
COE Class
- Notes from GAR
- Notes from
MLS Committee
- Luncheon
Reservation
Form

We want to know about our members!

Please notify the Association Office if you know or hear of a member being ill, in the hospital or might just need a phone call.

CALL US!
(706) 736-0429

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2017

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Greater Augusta Association of REALTORS, the following is the proposed slate of officers and directors.

President.....Andrea Bowles
Vice President.....Dennis Smith
Secretary/Treasurer.....Philip Jones
Past President.....John Chambers

LOCAL DIRECTORS

Faye Davis.....2017/18/19
Terri Thomas.....2017/18/19
Tom Blanchard.....2017/18
Larry Miller.....2017/18
Janet Robinson.....2017 (Fill the unexpired term of Philip Jones)
Brock Hughes.....2017 (Fill unexpired term of Faye Davis)

STATE DIRECTORS

Kim Bragg.....1 year
John Chambers.....1 year
Frank Mears.....1 year
Barbara Sanders.....1 year
Melvis Norman1 year
Lili Youngblood1 year
Teresa Tiller1 year
Julie Brunkow1 year
Ira Tindall1 year



ELECTION

All of you know the election is in November and if you are not a registered voter it is not too late. According to NAR 17% of the NAR members are not registered to vote. Please remember to vote!

ATTENTION BROKERS AND SALES MANAGERS

Mark your calendars for November 15th, because we will be having a Brokers and Sales Managers Meeting and our speaker for this will be Craig Coffee, the deputy commissioner for the Georgia Real Estate Commission and this year he is serving as the President of ARELLO, Association of Real Estate License Law Officials. I know you won't want to miss this! A sandwich lunch will be served. We will be sending an email a little later for reservations.

CODE OF ETHICS

Beginning in 2017 NAR has just made it mandatory that all members of the association/board will have to take a Code of Ethics class every other year.

WANT TO HEAR FROM THE BOARD? GET ALL THE CLASS NEWS?**EMAIL ADDRESS**

Navica is our sole communication tool for our members. This is one of many ways that we communicate with you. Please make sure that there is an accurate email address in Navica, under the Office/Management section. We have recently discovered that agents are not receiving emails. This is the email address that shows on printed documents from the Navica system. This also, applies to when you are transferring from one company to another company, it is important that you verify your Office/Management section to insure that all your new company information is correct.



JUST A FEW TID-BITS OF INFO

While attending the Georgia Realtor Convention a couple of weeks ago I was in a meeting and Paul Brower, the past chairman of the commissioners of the GREC spoke and told us that the majority of complaints the real estate commission receives have to do with trust accounts and earnest money and that if you are found in violation the fine is \$1,000 per violation. He says that the license law is to protect the public. On the “Coming Soon” signs he told us that the IRS is snooping around trying to get info on how they are managed. I understand that some board fined a member \$5,000 for using a “Coming Soon” sign. Agents you need to be very careful and make sure you check your advertising.

OWNERS SMARTEN UP THEIR HOMES IN REMODELS

The Houzz Smart Home Trends Survey conducted with CEDIA of about 1,000 home owners planning or in the midst of a home renovation project are reaching out for more “smart home technology”. Nearly half of renovating home owners say they’re incorporating smart home technology, such as systems or devices that can be monitored or controlled via a smartphone, tablet or computer. The top smart home security devices being installed include fire and gas alarms, cameras, motion/glass breakage and door sensors, door locks and video doorbells. About 12% of renovated homes include a smart thermostat.



SOME NOTES FROM YOUR MLS COMMITTEE

While members may not realize it, the MLS Committee is constantly reviewing our MLS rules originating from reported listings or from requests by an agent for help in searches. We thought it might be of interest to list a few items we have recently been working on.

Am I being Monitored as I show this house?

Unfortunately, this is happening more than we would think! We would ask the listing agent to note in the REALTOR REMARKS that monitoring may be going on, but when you are showing a house, you may want to reconsider discussing the condition of the listing as you are walking through, **BEWARE!** You really must assume your conversation is being monitored. The days of sitting down at the kitchen table and discussing your strategies of the house or an offer are long gone.

Searching for Lake Property

We have had requests for some help in the listing criteria for agents looking specifically for Lake Property. We are looking into a possible additional block that would be entered if say the property was at Clarks Hill.

How many rooms does this listing have?

Have you ever wondered how a three bedroom house has 14 rooms, and a 6 bedroom house has 8 rooms? We have had some complaints that there is no standard for how any agent enters and counts the number of rooms (I don't think a pantry is a room). The answer is there are no rules given for this entry, and we could not see a need for it. The MLS committee has decided to remove the block.

Lastly, please note that all showings need to have an appointment made.

Also, please give some professional courtesy if for some reason you cannot make the appointment and call the agent. It's not uncommon to have the seller driving around in the car with 3 kids and 2 dogs waiting to be able to go back home!!!

OCTOBER
LUNCHEON RESERVATION



WHEN: OCTOBER 12, 2016

TIME: 12:30 P.M.

WHERE: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

COMPANY: _____

HOW MANY: _____

GAAR