President's Message

Dear SVBR Members,

It’s that time of year again! Time to let us know who you feel would make a great candidate for the Southern Vermont Board of Realtors® (SVBR) Realtor® of the Year. This person should exemplify what it means to be a Realtor®. This could mean being a great community member, a valuable volunteer within the Realtor® organization, a good person to work with, or any combination of the above. Click here to download the nomination form and email your nomination by the July 29 deadline.

Thanks for terrific attendance at the Quarterly Member Meeting at the Marlboro Graduate Center. We felt the location was terrific for parking, communication, and classroom environment, and hope you all did as well. We will look to hold more classes there down the line. Next time we’ll try to offer more of a substantial breakfast. Clearly people were content, as we were able to raise over $500 for the Women’s Freedom Center, which is an awesome achievement for just one morning. Pat yourselves on the back. I know they are very appreciative and we look forward to holding fundraisers like this moving forward.

Paragon Training
Coming August 11th
9:30AM – 11:30AM
Mount Snow Resort

As you know, NEREN is updating to a new MLS system called Paragon. Based on the project plan provided by Paragon, the system will be made available to all NEREN members on August 1st. At that time, users should use Paragon for everything they would typically do in InnoVia, except for adding and maintaining listings.

On September 26th, listing maintenance will be made available to members and InnoVia will be "read only," meaning it will just be available to search and verify data.

Don’t wait until the last minute to learn the features of the new MLS system. Register for the August 11th training today!
The "Realty's New Reality" class was super informative. It touched mainly on environmental issues involved in real estate purchase decision making and how we can all best work towards making a more positive impact on our environment both in our personal lives and in what we encourage buyers and sellers to consider. We may as a board decide to continue this eco-theme for the remainder of the year in the hopes that we can encourage you, our members, to consider the environment and how we can do our part to leave this world a better place for future generations.

Hope to see you at our next board meeting July 21 at 8:30AM at Four Seasons Sotheby's in West Dover.

Regards,
Adam Palmiter
SVBR President

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**Selling a Home with Propane Service**

*What you need to know*

Propane service differs from oil and other fuels, and is regulated under state law. If a property under contract for purchase/sale has propane service, there are specific steps Realtors® can take to ease the transfer for your client and avoid post-sale problems. The Vermont Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program has developed a Quick Facts and Pre-Sale Checklist to help Realtors® understand the steps that need to be followed.

Download [Selling a Home With Propane Service: Quick Facts and Pre-Sale Checklist](#).

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**Nominations Being Accepted for the 2016 SVBR Realtor of the Year**

It's time to nominate the SVBR Realtor of the Year. [Click here](#) to download the nomination form. Deadline for nominations is July 29th!

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**Register for Paragon Training**

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**Are you interested in Getting your Brokers License?**

SVBR is hoping to bring the Brokers License Class to southern Vermont. We need a minimum of 10 people before we can commit to the course. Please contact [Jen Armstrong](#) if you are interested.

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**May Market Statistics**

The May 2016 Market Statistics reports are now available. A full review of the statewide market report can be seen at [VermontRealtors.com](#).

To see the activity in our area click on these links:

- Bennington County
- Windham County
- Bennington City
- Brattleboro
Tell the Senate to Get to Work for Future Homebuyers

The United States Senate is missing an opportunity to improve housing markets across the country, and we need your help to tell them to get to work and make homeownership a priority!

Take action to urge your Senators to pass H.R. 3700, the “Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016,” a bill that makes needed reforms to the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) condominium loan program, federal-assisted housing programs and Rural Housing Service loan programs. TAKE ACTION

Join in the Conversation about SVBR’s Programs and Activities. Come to the SVBR Board Meeting Thursday, July 21st, 8:30am at Four Season’s Sotheby’s Office in West Dover.

MAKE AN INVESTMENT

RPAC represents nearly one million politically active Realtors® and here in Vermont, RPAC represents over 1,600 Realtors®.

No one knows a Vermont community better than a Vermont Realtor®. Realtors® know the lay of the land, the families, the best schools, the neighborhoods and the leaders of any given area. Vermont Realtors® are on the front line as defenders of real estate issues.

Donate Today!

The REALTOR® Action Center is where you learn how Voting, Acting and Investing in RPAC builds our political strength at every level of government.

Click here for more information on how much you save by being a member of the REALTOR® Party.