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News & Events from Southern Vermont Board of Realtors®

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SVBR Member News - August 2015

President's Message

Greetings SVBR Members,

Summer is flying right by and before you know it Labor Day will be upon us. I want to let you know that our meeting and education schedule is changing a bit in September. There will be a four (4) hour CE class held on our regularly scheduled date, and then we will hold our Membership Meeting in October. More details can be found on the sidebar of this newsletter.

NAR is still asking us to take action on the "Call for Action" on Patent Reform. This is an issue that faces all Realtors. Please take a moment to send a message to Congressman Peter Welch. It's easy, just click on the link in this newsletter to take action!

At the recent Vermont Board Meeting, the Directors were given the 2015 goals for both the "Call for Actions" and RPAC donations. As of July, 21% of SVBR Members are making the "Calls for Action" when asked. Only 19% of SVBR members participate in RPAC. We need to raise these numbers so that our Realtor voice continues to be heard. This newsletter has links to the Realtor Action Center for your easy use.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Upcoming SVBR Schedule

September 17

9am - 1:00pm

"A New Way of Seeing the Landscape: Tools for Realtors"

4 CE Credits

October 22

SVBR Membership Meeting
Guest Speaker:
David Raphael, VREC Chair

Proposed VREC Rule Changes Could Affect Your Business!

The Vermont Real Estate Commission will be holding a hearing on Thursday, August 27 to take testimony about changes to the VREC Rules. [Click here](#) to read more.

Local Market Statistics

John McPherson, Berkley Veller Greenwood Country
SVBR President

September CE Class

September 17, Hermitage Club, Wilmington

Realtors are key players in land development. As the professionals on the front lines, they provide advice to their clients that can influence how land is subdivided, developed, and managed throughout Vermont. Cumulatively, these decisions about land development create the built and natural landscapes that characterize the state and create the Vermont brand.

Much of Vermont's economy – including real estate, second home development, tourism, working lands, and recreation – is built on this brand and relies on a high-quality landscape. Part of what contributes to a high quality landscape are intact forest blocks, working forests, and healthy wildlife habitat. Given the importance of an intact, scenic, and healthy landscape to Vermont, this workshop-style training will focus on developing with natural resources in mind.

[Click here](#) to register for the CE Class.



June 2015

Vermont Realtors has published its monthly market statistics reports for June 2015. 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](#)

[Stratton Mountain](#)



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!](#)

REALTORS®, Brokers and Multiple Listing Services are targeted by patent trolls who buy up broad overly vague patents and use them to turn everyday business practices into lawsuits. Across the country, the real estate community continually receives threatening demand letters and lawsuits alleging patent infringement based on the use of common business tools such as drop down menus or search alert functions on websites and the scanner function on a copier. We must press Congress to pass H.R. 9, "The Innovation Act" to help close the loopholes in our legal system that permit patent trolls to thrive and prevent REALTORS® and others in the real estate community from becoming victims of extortion. [Take Action Now!](#)



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.

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