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On The Level - August 2007

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On Tuesday, September 11th, TABA Home-PAC would like to invite all shooters (and non-shooters) out to Weber's Shooting Center in Troy, Texas for our second annual skeet shoot. This event is open to the public. Feel free to invite anyone you know that loves to shoot and would be interested in this competition.

Home-PAC will once again have the run of the shooting center, which now includes a paint ball arena. Organized shoots at the skeet, rifle and pistol ranges will ensure opportunities for all of our local shooters to show their stuff.

Invite your friends, neighbors, customers and colleagues to come out and join us for a full day of fun and great entertainment. Our shooters have proven to be very competitive, and as some of you will recall, watching was half the fun of the shoot last year. The exciting shooting events will once again include the skeet competition and secondary events such as Flurry, Long Shot, Five Stand, and the pistol and rifle ranges. There will be things to do all afternoon.

Please [click here](#) to access the skeet entry form or call the TABA office at 254-773-0445, and we will get one to you right away.

Sponsorship availability is as follows:

Primary Sponsorship:

- *Marketing your products onsite at the shoot
- *Big House banner
- *Field Screen banner(s)
- *Shooting field signage
- *Full page ad in the On the Level (September and October editions)
- *3 to 5 minutes at the podium to address the dinner crowd
- *Recognition on the homepage of the TABA website for the month of September

- *Primary spot on the event t-shirt
 - *Four shooter sponsorship
- (Call 254-773-0445 for more information)

\$400 Big House Sponsors (limited)

- *Your company banner on a big house (entire viewable area of each house)
- *Company name on event t-shirt
- *Company's logo in the September and October editions of "On the Level"
- *Recognition during the dinner program

\$250 Field Screen Sponsors (limited)

- *Your company banner on a field screen
- *Company name on the event t-shirt
- *Company logo in the September and October editions of "On the Level"
- *Recognition during the dinner program

\$100 Field Sponsors (unlimited)

- *Company sign in a shooting field
- *Company's name in the September edition of "On the Level"

\$475 Team Package

- *Company sign in a shooting field
- *4 shooter sponsorship
- *Team/Company name on event t-shirt

Cost per shooter is \$100. This covers 50 clay pigeons, two boxes of shells, shuttles to shooting areas, rifle and pistol range targets, food and beverages and a door prize entry.

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President's Message

Mike Pilkington

What a month July was. I am still excited about how well the inaugural reverse raffle went. Jared Bryan and his

committee pulled of f something really special. If you missed this event you may want to get your order in now for tickets for next year. There will only be a certain amount sold and those that went this year, and have seen first hand how exciting it is, will be scrambling to get those seats. Thanks *Membership Meetings and Sponsors Committee* for a super job!

Summer is almost over and we are coming into a season of Home PAC activities. The second annual skeet shoot is going to be a great event. Even if you don't own a gun, this event is a great social time and you will be entertained by some great skills displayed by some of our members.

Also coming up is our Elected Officials Appreciation Banquet. I encourage you to thank all of the officials that have supported our industry whenever you see them but this event is a special time dedicated to that purpose so mark Tuesday, Ocotber 16th on your calendars as well.

Before we get to those events though we have the Associate Member Appreciation Fish Fry on the 14th at the Overlook Pavilion at Belton Lake. I hope that all of our associates will come out and give us the opportunity to thank them for what they do. I really appreciate what all of the associates do to make the builders products look good. None of us could get very far without all the support from associates.

Have a great last few weeks of summer and I will see you at the fish fry.

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Troy Glasson
Executive Officer

Temple Comprehensive Plan Update

This month the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee met to review updates to Chapters 2 (Community Profile/Statistics) and 5 (Transportation). TABA sent a thorough commentary to the consultant regarding both chapters prior to the meeting, and based on the little I've seen so far in scanning the updated drafts, it looks as though our comments were well received.

The committee also received Chapter 3 on Urban Design, I have added it to the [presentations](#) page on our web site. I urge you to read it fully as it presents a departure from what we are used to in Temple in terms of zoning. It also contains recommendations which include integrating development regulations and recommends targeting specific

districts/corridors for strategic projects.

I would truly like to know your thoughts. Please let me know if you have any questions relating to the Plan. If you would like to comment in person on any part of this chapter, there will be a public meeting on it at 6 p.m. on September 25th in the Temple Public Library.

Code Council Update

Chairman Phillip Snyder and the TABA Code Council have once again met with Temple Construction Safety Director Richard Therriault and Fire Chief Lonzo Wallace to go over all concerns and recommendations that stemmed from the Council's earlier reviews of all 2006 Code books.

You'll recall that the Code Council was formed to review the new Code in preparation for the City of Temple's transition from the 2000 Building Code(s) to the 2006 Building Code(s).

At the July 17th meeting, issues were presented and discussed thoroughly. Comments have been sent back to TABA leadership and the Code Council for review. The next step will be for the new code and requested amendments to be taken to a public meeting before the Building Board of Appeals. This meeting should occur toward the end of the summer.

Storm Water Training in September

The Texas Association of Builders has been working with the EPA and TCEQ to develop a sensible approach to protecting our environment while ensuring regulatory fines meet the crimes.

With a commitment from EPA and TCEQ to focus on actual building site shortcomings that result in direct environmental harm rather than paperwork violations, TAB wants to make sure you have the tools you need to keep disturbed dirt on the building site.

TABA will host a storm water seminar on Thursday, September 6th from 11 am to 2 pm to provide our members with the latest information on this issue. I will invite local building officials from Temple, Morgan's Point, and Belton. [Click here](#) for more information. Also, be on the lookout for email flyers and postcards in the mail as the seminar draws near.

Speaking of Storm Water...

City Engineer Michael Newman recently contacted me to let me know that the moment has arrived and the TCEQ is set to begin their review of the Small MS4 General Permit. [If the TCEQ adopts this permit on 8/8/07, that would put the deadline to submit Storm Water Municipal Plans at 2/4/08.](#) Therefore, the City will likely be required to start implementing the municipal program during this next fiscal year.

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Reverse Raffle was a tremendous success...

TABA's first Reverse Raffle was a huge success and we have the TABA Board of Directors, Jared Bryan and the *Membership Meetings & Sponsors Committee* to thank for that. All 190 tickets were sold prior to the event. Several of the tickets were auctioned off by their owners throughout the evening and those who did walked away with more than what they paid for them.

The K.C. Hall was full of people and our auctioneer, County Commissioner Eddy Lange did a fantastic job of running the raffle and the auctions. *"Thank You Eddy!"*

Now for the winner! Keith Odom of Compass Bank purchased the winning ticket and since he was unable to be there, he had Chris Alexander of Texas Tradition Homes represent him. Chris, upon the direction of Keith via cell phone, eventually sold his ticket to Mat and Anyce Naegele who left the event in their brand new John Deere gator!

It was a very exciting evening--the last ticket owned by Robbie Johnson sold for \$2800 and Toby Farr walked away with second prize. As you can likely imagine, that deal and many others made for some nail biting fun. We are definitely up for it again for next year. The committee has already met to recap this year's raffle and noted things to do to improve upon it.

Check out our pictures of the evening's goings on:



Mat & Anyce Naegele Drive Away Top Prize Winner!! CONGRATS!!!



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Associate Appreciation Fish Fry Scheduled

It's that time of year again. The time when our TABA Builders get together and sponsor a fish fry in honor of our very generous and hard working Associate members. Associates make up 85 percent of TABA membership and we have some of the best in the country. This is our way of saying **"THANK YOU"** for all that you have done over the past year. This includes everything from sponsorships, to supporting our building initiative, to helping get homes complete for opening day of the *Parade of Homes*.

Although the year is only a little over half way through, all of TABA's major projects are completed. It's our associates that have sponsored the majority of our events and contributed a great deal to the success we've had this year.

The Fish Fry is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 14th at the Overlook Pavilion** on Lake Belton and will again be catered by Chuck's BBQ. Fish will be served at 6:45pm and a brief program will follow dinner where we will recognize our associates and hopefully be able to introduce some new members. Mark your calendars. This event is **FREE** for all who attend, so bring your entire crew! They work hard too - they deserve it!!

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One Member at a Time

TABA's *Annual Membership Blitz Day* occurred on Wednesday, July 25th and our goal was to bring in 15 new members. It seems that we will make that goal however, turnout for the drive wasn't what we normally see. Three people made themselves available to work the phone bank at the TABA office, while a couple of others worked out of their own offices.

As with associations throughout the country, recruiting has become an issue that TABA will be forced to address. We fully realize that members are what gives an association its strength. If an association stops attracting members, something needs to be done to address the issue. TABA leaders will get together in the near future and brainstorm on how to make recruiting and retention more of a focus point.

It's been stated many times, "there is strength in numbers." No words are truer spoken as far as we are concerned at TABA. We can be as strong as our members will make us. The more members we have the stronger our voice is on issues that concern housing affordability and our ability to make a living creating the "American Dream" one home at a time.

While we have done a fantastic job so far, things could change faster than we know it. Housing markets all around this country are struggling, and while the Temple/Belton area continue at a fairly steady stride, we will still have hurdles to overcome along the way. Do you truly believe we are completely prepared to get over that hurdle when we reach it? Surely, it will be a lot easier with everyone lending a hand.

The facts are that TABA's membership has been fairly flat over the past 5 years; it has neither increased nor decreased. *No change means no growth*. Our area of the state is definitely growing and so is our industry. It is quite evident if you look around when driving through the community. So why isn't TABA growing with it? The answer: **"we have lost focus on membership."**

While TABA leaders prepare to tackle this issue, please ask yourself if you might know just one company that should be a member; one company that could benefit from becoming a member; one company that you can call and talk to about TABA - who we are, what we do and how they can play a role in that. If you would like our help, just call and we'll be glad to contact an organization on your behalf. Please help us to grow--it just takes **one member at a time**.

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

Reverse Raffle - Whew!!

It was GREAT!!! I have never been to a reverse raffle but I can see how someone could get addicted to going to these events. It was alot of fun (even though my number was drawn out). TABA benefited greatly from the success of this event and I have to thank Jared Bryan and publicly tell him that I'm sorry for being such a doubting Thomas. I am not a gambler by nature and was last to jump on board when everyone wanted to have a Reverse Raffle but **Jared - You were right and I'm sorry I doubted you. Thank you for doing such a fantastic job and I can't wait to do it again next year.** The committee and board did a great job of selling the raffle tickets and I have heard nothing but good comments about the entire event. I only wish I would have won the gator. Oh well there's always next year.

Membership Drive

It looks like we will reach our goal of 15 new members thanks to Chris Alexander, Kim Swindall, Pat Patterson and Mike Pilkington. We did not have many participate in the drive this year, but membership should be a year long focus. We should never stop recruiting companies that we feel should be members of TABA.

Fish Fry - August 14th

I hope to see everyone at the Annual Fish Fry on August 14th at the Overlook Pavilion. This is a special dinner sponsored by the builders for the associates to say "Thank You" for their dedication and hard work. This event is FREE so please bring your employees.

EOC Conference

I will be out of the office the first week of August attending the Executive Officers Council Conference in California. My primary objective is to come back with fresh, innovative ideas geared towards recruiting and retention. I'll report back in September on the conference.

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NEW HOME STARTS

	July '07	July '06	'07 YTD	'06 YTD
Temple	40	32	303	364

Belton	8	13	61	86
Morgan's Point	1	5	13	36
Totals	49	50	377	486

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

July '07	241	'07 YTD	1,456
July '06	232	'06 YTD	1,416

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All NEW! TAB Storm Water Compliance Seminar



Compliance

is
Reasonable

and

Attainable

and

It's the Law

TAB is working with the EPA and TCEQ to develop a sensible approach to protecting our environment while ensuring that the fine meets the crime.

With a commitment from the EPA and TCEQ to focus on actual building site shortcomings that result in direct environmental harm rather than paperwork violations, TAB wants to ensure that you have the tools you need to keep disturbed dirt on the building site.

Register today for the Storm Water Seminar taught by a professional from Paradigm Engineering and offered to you by the Temple Area Builders Association

Thursday, September 6th

11am to 2 pm

Tentative: TABA Office

Contact: Troy Glasson 254-773-0445

This seminar brought to you by:



For a complete schedule of TAB's 2007 Storm Water Seminars go to www.TexasBuilders.org.

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