

On The Level - September 2007

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TABA Home-PAC & [Rheem Tankless Water Heaters](#) will host our second annual skeet shoot and auction at [Webers Shooting Center](#) in Troy, Texas (just a few miles north of Temple) on Tuesday, September 11th.

Call the TABA office (254-773-0445) to reserve a shooting time. You can let us know if you'd like to shoot in the morning or afternoon. We'll try to reserve you a slot as close to your desired shooting time as possible.

This event proved a great time for shooters and non-shooters alike at our inaugural shoot last year. It is shaping up to be an even bigger success this year as we already have more than 80 shooters committed and it is our hope that many more will sign up in the near future.

If you want your team or sponsorship to be recognized on the event t-shirt, you'll need to make sure and sign up before Wednesday, September 5th. Any team or sponsor that signs up after that date will not be named on the event shirt, but will still be welcome at the event.

TABA members will once again have the run of the shooting center, which this year also includes a paint ball range at which our members will be offered special rates. This should add to the fun, which along with the rifle and pistol ranges, will serve as a side attraction. (Rifle and pistol ranges will be open at no additional cost to our members.) Be sure to bring your deer rifle to get it properly sited in for deer season, which is just around the corner.

Speaking of deer season, the dinner and auction (which will begin between 6:00 and 6:30 pm) will include a variety of hunting and fishing packages along with numerous items that will be of interest to everyone from our builder members to the average sports fan.

For a complete list of auction items, please contact Troy Glasson. We are fortunate to have acquired the services of County Commissioner Eddie Lange, who will serve as our auctioneer.

Teams and sponsorships are still available as follows:

\$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, snacks and beverages, dinner pass, and a door prize entry.



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President's Message

Mike Pilkington

As Derrick Hunt, of Drews Hunt Builders, and I sat down to discuss his board selection committee, I realized how fortunate we are to be able to draw from such a super pool of people in our industry. That process filled me with a general sense of great hope for the future that I have not always had.

As I was growing up I heard many people talking about how the world was going downhill fast. I have heard it attributed to many things, but the most prevalent seemed to be how the next generation will never amount to anything.

Whether it was being too enamored with Elvis's pelvis; too much sex, drugs and rock & roll; too much time spent with our heads in video games, etc--it seems one generation to the next is sometimes looked upon harshly by our predecessors. In my time as president, I have learned that there is still hope for our great country, our community, and consequently for TABA.

One of the best things about our association is that we have people from many different age groups all working hard and working together to accomplish the singular mission of promoting and enhancing homeownership in our communities. I believe this work is paying dividends and TABA is getting stronger every year.

I see the wisdom of advice from experienced leaders is being heeded by our "young pups," and I see the "pups" bringing great new ideas to the table that are in turn being given consideration by our veteran leaders. Most of all I see members of every age working tirelessly to keep our association strong and growing stronger. I am so proud to be a part of this growth.

Speaking of people working hard... There is a much work going on in getting prepared for our annual *Home-PAC Skeet Shoot* on September 11th at Weber's north of Temple on Interstate 35. I hope to see everyone there. It will be a great time even for those of you who don't believe in shooting poor, defenseless little pieces of clay. Also, a lot of work is going on to prepare for the upcoming *Home-PAC Elected Officials Appreciation BBQ*, which will be held on October 16 so be sure and put that on your calendars' as well.

Keep up the great work everyone and I will see you at the skeet shoot!

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Troy Glasson
Executive Officer

Storm Water Training at Wildflower on September 6th

Storm water compliance training will be held on Thursday, September 6th at [Wildflower Country Club](#) in Temple from 11am to 2 pm. Lunch will be included in the cost of the seminar, which is \$25 for TABA members and \$35 for nonmembers.

Training will be geared to reflect the collaboration of Texas Association of Builders, the EPA and the TCEQ in developing a sensible approach to protecting our environment while ensuring that the fine meets the crime.

The seminar will include an overview of the Municipal Storm Water Program, a SWP3 permit summary, a TCEQ checklist worksheet, information about noted problems at Texas construction sites, information about best management practices, and more.

As you might recall from [past reports](#), TABA has been working with the City of Temple in the development of their municipal storm water program and associated best management practices. Special guest, Temple City Engineer Michael Newman will be invited to brief the audience on the status of Temple's MS4 program at the beginning of the meeting. City officials from Belton and Morgan's Point have been invited to attend the event as well.

TABA invites all who are interested to make plans to attend this important seminar.

Home-PAC Season has Arrived

Home-PAC season has arrived at TABA and we are working hard to make this season exciting for all who attend our events.

Home-PAC season normally begins with our annual golf tournament fundraiser, but this year the Home-PAC trustees have decided to mix it up a little and instead put on a skeet shoot.

As mentioned in our cover article, TABA Home-PAC will work with [Rheem Tankless Water Heaters](#) to put on a skeet shoot for our members this month. Personally, this was my favorite event of the year last year, and I don't expect to be disappointed with the action this year.

We had numerous shooters at the event last year that could impressively powder the clays and the smell of gun

powder in the air made me more than ready for hunting season.

Be sure to join us at the shoot, as it will not only provide you with an opportunity to network with our members, but with our area elected officials who will hopefully make their way out to Troy to join us at the event.

Elected Officials Night will wrap up Home-PAC season at the annual barbeque that will be held in honor of our elected officials. Since this is not an election year, we will take the opportunity to not only recognize our officials, but to provide them with some information about our industry. This should be of interest to TABA members, city staff, and area elected officials alike.

Make sure to mark your calendars for the skeet shoot on Tuesday, September 11th and Elected Officials Night on Tuesday, October 16th.

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Associate Appreciation Fish Fry - A Fun Time For All!!

A great time was had by all in the relaxed atmosphere of the Lake Belton Overlook Pavillion as introductions of our newest TABA members were made at our Annual Fish Fry. The live music at the event was a great addition, and we very much appreciate new member, Paul Cox of Mortgage Acceptance Corp for providing the live entertainment.

Paul, and his band *Texas Acoustics*, play regularly at the Stagecoach Inn in Salado. Be sure to go out and support them whenever you can.

The *Annual Associate Appreciation Fish Fry* was held in August to thank all of our Associate members for all that they do for TABA during the year. This event is a 'builder' sponsored event and many of our builders jump at the chance to be one of the sponsors because they know that without our associate members, they just couldn't conduct their business.

TABA also appreciates our associate members as they provide so much of our committee support, sponsorships and leadership on an annual basis. We couldn't do all that we do without them and we take every chance we can to say **"Thank You!"**

Check out our photos from this year's fish fry.



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KRISTI SUTTERFIELD of TAB WINS NAHB EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Kristi Sutterfield, Executive Director of the Texas Association of Builders (TAB), recently received the 2006 Executive Officer of the Year Award from the Executive Officers Council (EOC) of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

The EOC serves the more than 800 executives who manage NAHB's state and local home builders associations, primarily through professional development and association management education opportunities.

The Executive Officer of the Year Award, named for NAHB's former Chief Legal Counsel Gary Komarow, is presented annually to an executive officer whose accomplishments in association management have been extraordinary and who has gone over and beyond promoting the goals of the EOC, while assisting the advancement of fellow executive officers.

"The Texas Association of Builders is fortunate to have such a caring and dedicated Executive Director as Kristi Sutterfield," said Jerry Carter, President of the Texas Association of Builders. "She is tireless in her efforts to support the home building industry in Texas and we are pleased that NAHB has recognized her as the 2006 Executive Officer of the Year."

Sutterfield, who has been with the Texas Association of Builders since 2002, oversees the third largest statewide home builders association in the United States, with over 14,000 members and 31 local associations.

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It's That Time of Year AGAIN!!!!

Can you believe it? It is already time to book booth space for the *2008 Home & Garden Show*. It feels like we just recuperated from the 2007 show!!! This year's show was a great success with attendance of around 5,000 people over the course of three days.

Although we did not completely sell out booth space this year, adding booth space was crucial as we used some of what we added and created opportunity for the Show to grow. The layout in the Exposition Building was a great "change-up" to a 10 year old floorplan and we believe that attendees really felt like it was a good change.

One exhibitor has already called to say that at the beginning of the show last year, he wasn't sure about the new floorplan but by the end of the weekend he loved it and he booked an extra booth for the 2008 show.

The dates of the event are February 23rd and 24th with the Preview Party on the 22nd. The center booth is again up for sale and the committee hopes to get in several interested exhibitors who have a plan to utilize the center stage. A decision will be made by October 15th as to who will occupy that location for the 2008 show.

If you are interested in taking part in the *Home & Garden Show* next year, but did not participate this year, please call around the first of October to get a booth location. 2007 exhibitors have until September 30th to book their 2007 location for 2008. After this date, new exhibitors will be added.

You can find a show layout and booth price guide by clicking [here](#). Please note that booth prices have changed slightly this year and special member pricing is available.

If you have any questions regarding the *2008 Home & Garden Show* please contact Cheryl Copeland at 254-773-0445.

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The *2008 Parade of Homes* dates have been set and the committee is meeting to ensure other details are laid out for the upcoming tour. Following the 2007 *Parade*, builders and committee members gathered to discuss the show to determine if anything needed to be changed, added or otherwise improved upon.

As part of the planning, a survey was sent out to builders who have participated in past events asking them for comments on event dates and judging guidelines since these were the two items most discussed in that wrap-up meeting.

Once comments were received, the committee reconvened and went through all completed surveys and

made decisions based on the information they received. They also considered housing sales data and calendar of area events is coming up with the best dates for the *2008 Parade of Homes*.

The dates for the 2008 Parade of Homes will be April 19, 20, 26, and 27th. The committee decided to push back the awards party to the Friday in between the first and second weekends, which should give builders and subcontractors an additional week to complete their homes.

The awards party is therefore scheduled for April 25th. The location has not yet been determined.

Parade entry packets will be mailed in December. If you have any questions concerning the 2008 Parade of Homes please contact either Cheryl Copeland, Executive Officer or Justin Scott, 2008 Parade Chairman.

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

As we are in the thralls of Home-PAC season, the Association is taking time to plan for the coming new year. A Nominating Committee was appointed by President Pilkington and it has met to begin discussion about the 2008 Board of Directors. Judging from the talk around the table, it's going to be another fantastic Board.

Committees and projects are also in the planning stages. If you have interest in serving TABA on a committee, please contact me and I'll get your name to the appropriate people.

Home & Garden Show is BACK

Can you believe it is already time to book booth space for the 2008 Home & Garden Show? I can't. It seems like I just closed the book on this year's event. Information has gone out to the 2007 exhibitors and response has been swift. It's great to see everyone get excited about the upcoming show. If you did not participate in the show this year and would like to be in next year's show, please contact me about the first of October.

We always give our returning vendors first shot at reserving their booth. If they do not respond by the deadline date, the booth goes up for sale and that will occur on September 30th. Last year we had approximately 5,000 people attend the event over the three days and booth space was added to accommodate the growing demand to be in this show.

Don't delay as space is limited and demand is high!

Parade of Homes 2008 Date Set

The *Parade of Homes Committee*, chaired by Justin Scott of Trinity Homes has met several times since the end of the 2007 Parade to discuss dates and other issues concerning the 2008 show. Dates have been set for 2008 and are April 19, 20, 26 and 27th. From the information that was gathered during the discussions, the committee found this to be the best time frame to accommodate our builders and the public.

Building Update

The building renovation is almost complete and I'm in my brand new office!!! I love our new building

(and my office). John Kiella of Kiella Homes, has done a fantastic job of coordinating the effort to provide TABA with a state of the art conference room with ample meeting space; and Chris Alexander of Texas Tradition Homes has done a wonderful job of dressing up the building, selecting everything from masonry to furniture.

If you have not come by to take a look, it's a must see!! We are shooting for a grand opening in November to honor all those that have given so much of their time, effort and money to this project. Troy and I have huge plans for our new space and we can't wait to implement them.

That's it from my desk. Hope to see everyone at the Annual Elected Officials Appreciation BBQ at Clyclone Corral BBQ.

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NEW HOME STARTS

	August '07	August '06	'07 YTD	'06 YTD
Temple	41	33	344	407
Belton	11	22	72	108
Morgan's Point	5	5	18	41
Totals	57	60	434	556

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

August '07	235	'07 YTD	1,691
August '06	217	'06 YTD	1,633

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Picture yourself a TABA member...

TABA leadership has been working hard to determine ways that we can tell the TABA story. We want everyone to know who we are and what we do, and everyone has heard that a picture is worth a thousand words.

In that vein, we have decided to reach out to our members and ask you to provide a group photo of you, our TABA member, and your employees. Please get this to us by September 20th for incorporation into a presentation that is being prepared for the open house of our new office complex, and for use at Elected Officials Night.

Please send your photo to Cheryl Copeland or Troy Glasson (preferably in digital format) so that they can add it to the presentation that will show the public the faces behind TABA.

TABA members play an important and influential role in this community, and we want everyone to understand that our 350 plus members represent thousands of employees in our local area.

Though the presentation will only represent a sampling of our membership, it should provide folks with a reminder that TABA members are the people this community send their kids to school with, go to church with, play local sports with, sell their wares to, buy their homes from, receive professional advisement from, and often see regularly in similar venues on a day to day basis.

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- Tank type water heaters fire at full Btu's whenever the thermostat calls for heat. A Rheem tankless water heater has a modulating gas valve and only fires at the Btu's necessary to meet the demand.

- Tankless water heaters only heat the amount of hot water necessary to meet the demand. A tank type water heater heats the entire contents of the storage tank to meet large or small demands.

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- Rheem Tankless Water Heaters have been recognized and rated for energy efficiency by the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA), the most well respected gas industry association.



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