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On The Level - December 2012

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THANK YOU MIKE PILKINGTON AND YOUR 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On November 16th, TABA held its final event of the year in which official TABA business was conducted. President Mike Pilkington handed out his Presidential awards and the new 2013 TABA Board of Directors was voted in. One item we did not get to address was expressing our sincere appreciation to Mike for all he has done this past year. Mike has been a great president for TABA always watching out bottom line but at the same time working to give our membership something fun and different to do that doesn't cost the member a whole lot. So we say

THANK YOU MIKE!! For a great year. We truly appreciate your service and support of this Association.

Mike did get the opportunity to recognize some very important people in our Association who truly went above and beyond the normal call of membership.

Builder of the Year went to Pat Patterson of Patco Construction

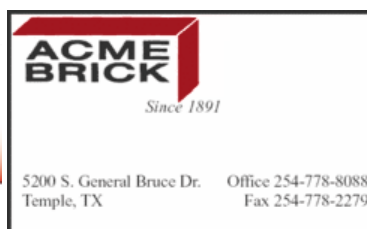
Associate of the Year went to Jerry Tyroch, Jr of Lott, Vernon & Company

President's Award of Excellence went to Debbie Swift-Alejandro of Kiella Homebuilders

These members are truly VIP's in our book!

Also awarded during the evening was Real Estate Agency and Agent of the Year. Receiving Real Estate Agency of the Year was RE/Max Temple-Belton. The Real Estate Agent of the Year went to Ryan Smith. TABA and TABA Builders appreciate everything our realtor community does for the builder and the building industry.

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Director of Government Affairs

Blair Anderson

It has been a very busy year, and as we wrap up I wanted to take a minute to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you to **ALL** our sponsors, members and participants who made our major Government Affairs/HOME PAC events, the 2012 Lengefeld Lumber Skeet Shoot and our 2012 Elected Officials Appreciation BBQ such great successes. You have helped place our association in a very good place as we ring in 2013. I'd be remiss if I didn't specifically thank Bruce Walker of Lengefeld Lumber, Weldon Vybiral of Tri Supply, and Jim Zion of Jeld-Wen Windows and Doors for their significant financial contributions in this regard. These fine gentlemen go above and beyond in support of our association and its members', and it is certainly appreciated. If you aren't already, I encourage each and every member to utilize their businesses, and if you see any of them-- thank them for all they do!

City of Temple

While we are very sad to see them go, we continue to wish both Richard Therriault and Michael Newman success as they retire from the City of Temple. Our members have been actively involved in providing stakeholder feedback to the city as they look to fill different vacancies. Special thank you to Pat Patterson (LVR Management) and Chuck Lucko (All County Surveying) who have provided technical support in this regard. We are so grateful to have such dedicated members whose backgrounds and qualifications can provide such valuable feedback.

We also continue to work with the city as they implement a new fee structure on residential and commercial building permits. The new fees will be taking effect January 1, 2013. Our technical stakeholder group has been meeting with the city for several months and realize that these changes are necessary to begin planning and implementing several things that will make our members' (and th City staff) lives much easier, including automated inspection scheduling (and notification), the ability to review and submit documents and applications online, the ability to pay for all permits online, among a host of other items. This is certainly not a "fast" timetable, but is a necessary and prudent step to beginning the process. As a comparison, our overall fee comparison within the City of Temple versus neighboring jurisdictions will remain very low. We will keep all members up to date as these fees are implemented, and we do plan to hold regular meetings to insure that everything is operating smoothly.

In Closing

I am extremely happy with the progress the Government Affairs Committee and HOME PAC team made this year. I couldn't be more happy to have Cheryl back at full speed as well, and am thankful that her health remains strong. I know she is deep in the middle of preparations for another very successful Home and Garden Show for 2013. We had some very fun events this year, most recently a horse racing event that the Executive Committee tried for the very first time. I hope all those who came out enjoyed it as I did! Cheryl, Jerry Tyroch, and Jared Bryan did an excellent job coordinating this very successful event.

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I continue to wish each and every one of you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Season's Greetings,

Blair Anderson

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2013 Lobbying Tax Deduction

In 1993, the US Congress enacted the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act that contained provisions affecting trade associations. The Act provided that taxpayers will no longer be able to deduct from their federal income taxes any portion of the association dues attributable to that association's "lobbying activities" as an ordinary and necessary cost of doing business.

For 2013, NAHB estimates that the non-deductible portion of national dues - the portion that is applicable to lobbying is 17%. Thus for a member who pays their NAHB dues of \$150 in 2013, 17% or \$25.50 will not be eligible for deduction as a business expense.

For 2013, the Texas Association of Builders estimates that the non-deductible portion of state dues, which is applicable to lobbying, is 70%. With dues of \$111, the amount not deductible as a business expense is \$77.70.

If you pay TABA dues of \$400 you can only deduct \$296.80. If you pay \$500 dues you can only deduct \$396.80. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the TABA office.

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Booking remains open to everyone who wishes to participate in the 2013 Home & Garden show but did not have a booth this year. Call early for the best booth locations. The booth cost is required to be paid in full at time of booking and we take all major credit cards or you can send us a check.

To book a location please call Cheryl Hunka at the TABA office at 254-773-0445 with the show layout in hand. The show layout can be found on the TABA website on the Home & Garden Show page.

The show is scheduled for February 23-24, 2013 at the Bell County Expo Center. The Preview Party will be Friday, February 22nd.

If you cannot participate in the Home & Garden Show as a vendor, you might consider participating as a sponsor. There are still 2 spots left for the Show Partner sponsorship at \$2000 which gets you total media coverage or you can become a banner sponsor which costs \$250 and gets your banner hung in the Expo Hall during the show. Please call Cheryl about these opportunities.

Keep reading future *On The Level* Newsletters for more information regarding the *2013 Home & Garden Show*.

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NEW HOME STARTS

	Nov '12	Nov '11	'12 YTD	'11 YTD
Temple	27	14	346	323
Belton	1	5	90	70
Morgan's Point	0	0	2	6
Totals	28	19	438	399

[Note: this data represents a compilation of the statistics that are reported by the Temple Daily Telegram every Sunday.](#)

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

Nov '12	127	'12 YTD	1161
Nov '11	102	'11 YTD	963

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

Our final event of the year turned out to be a great time! Everyone who attended seemed to really enjoy the horse racing event and people really got into the spirit yelling for the horses that they bet on to win. We would like to thank First State Bank, Extraco Bank and Compass Bank for sponsoring our teller windows. A Big Thank You goes to Dr. Fossom, DDS, Ferguson Enterprises, Las Casas, Weber's Guns, Amos Electric and Texas Bright Ideas for donating our auction items. I would like to thank Jerry Tyroch and Jared Bryan for all of the work they put into organizing it. If you attended we would appreciate your feedback - shoot me a quick email or call me on the phone. We are giving serious consideration to having this event again next year.

Booking for the 2013 Home & Garden Show is going really well. We have lots of interest and only have about 20 booths left to rent on the domed room floor. If you are interested in being in the show please give me a call - we would love to have you.

Well this is our final newsletter of the year and as the one year anniversary of my heart attack approaches I must give everyone a huge THANK YOU for all of the love, support and prayers that have been given in my name throughout this year. I feel very blessed and humbled to have so many wonderful people in my life. I wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

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© 2016 Temple Area Builders Association
254-773-0445 257-774-7273 Fax
12 N. 5th Street P.O. Box 2002
Temple, TX 76501 Temple, TX 76503

