

Bearings

SEPTEMBER 2021
GKAR MEMBER NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

September 3rd

- [Community Relations](#)
- [Professional Development](#)

September 10th

- [Risk Management](#)

September 14th

- [MLS](#)

September 15th

- [Membership](#)



GKAR Elections - This Month!

The annual GKAR Election will be held from 8:00 am, on Tuesday, September 21st, 2021 through 4:00 pm on Thursday, September 23rd, 2021, and will be held electronically. All REALTOR® Members in good standing are eligible to run for any open position.

Open GKAR Leadership Positions

- 2022 President-Elect (one, 2-year position; 2023 President)
- Director-at-Large (three, 3-year positions, 2022-2024)
- Director-at-Large (one, 1-year position, 2022)

[Visit GKAR.com/Elections](#) for the most current GKAR Elections Information, including the Report of the GKAR Nominating Committee.

REALTOR® of the Year Nominations Now Open

REALTOR® of the Year Nominations for 2022, will be accepted through Wednesday, September 15th, 2021, on GKAR.com. The GKAR REALTOR® of the Year is recognized by their peers for their contributions to the real estate profession and to the greater Kalamazoo community. [Nominate a Fellow REALTOR®](#).

Email Change Guide - Keep Your Info Up-to-Date with GKAR

Though we use a variety of channels to communicate, keeping your email address up-to-date with GKAR ensures you receive important association-wide notifications such as policy changes, elections, and more. [Download Email Change Guide \(PDF\)](#).

GKAR NEWS

GKAR Annual Dues for REALTOR® Members

Annual GKAR dues statements, for REALTOR® Members, were mailed and emailed to the preferred addresses on file on August 10th, 2021, and are due no later than September 10th, 2021.

No Monthly User Fees in September or October!

The Board of Directors approved the recommendation from the Budget & Finance Committee to waive all monthly REALTOR® user fees for September and October.

President's Message



Rick Crepas
2021 President
[Email Rick](#)

[Contact a](#)
2021 Board Member

[Contact a](#)
GKAR Staff Member

With Fall fast approaching, and the weather getting cooler, I'm reminded that we're always in constant change. Our industry is much like the seasons, and the weather. As REALTORS® and individuals, we all have our ups and downs. We may not know what tomorrow will bring, however, what we can count on, is a strong Association that will weather any storm.

GKAR is ever evolving, and we are continuously looking for ways to make a better Association for you, our valued Member. We are very fortunate that we have dedicated people, people that are willing to give of themselves for the betterment of everyone. I'd like to encourage everyone to participate in helping to make the Association even stronger than it is today. Our annual elections are right around the corner. For those of you who have volunteered to run for a Board position, I commend you. We all have to take an active role if we're going to have a strong, successful Association. For those of you who are not running, I would encourage you to participate in a committee, or a task force, as they play a critical role in the operation of GKAR.

GKAR continues to strive to provide the membership with the best possible service, and at the lowest cost possible. I can assure you, that our Association is fiscally responsible, and fiscally strong. At the Board of Directors meeting in August the Board approved a motion by the Budget and Finance committee to waive September, and October, user fees for all GKAR members.

I wish you all the very best this Fall. Just remember if it's cold and gloomy out, tomorrow may be a bright sunny day.

UPCOMING

September 16th

[REALTOR® Safety](#)

September 28th - 30th

[Michigan REALTORS®
Convention & Expo](#)

October 7th

Membership Appreciation
Wine Down - Save the Date

October 21st, 2021

Fall 4:01 Networking
Mixer - Save the Date

UPCOMING

September 8th, 2021

[Bravo](#)

September 13th - 15th, 2021

[SRES Designation](#)

September 28th, 2021

[Alpha](#)

September 29th, 2021

[Charlie](#)

PROGRAMS

REALTOR® Safety Program & REALTOR® Safety Month

Join us for this vital program, coordinated by your GKAR Professional Development Committee. This program is offered at no charge to GKAR Members, exclusively as a GKAR Member Benefit. Breakfast and networking begin at 8:30 am and the program will start at 9:00 am. [RSVP now.](#)

There's Still Time - Submit Your Nominations for the Day of Service for Veterans

If you know a veteran who owns a home in the Greater Kalamazoo area, nominations will be accepted until Friday, October 15th, 2021, at 5:00 pm. [Nominate a Veteran.](#)

Interested in volunteering to provide a day of free fall clean-up? [Sign Up to Volunteer.](#)

EDUCATION

2021 Continuing Education with GKAR

As a GKAR Member, you receive up to six complimentary hours of Continuing Education. [Registration is now open for fall courses](#) and we have two formats from which you can choose.

Virtual - Live/Online

Alpha	Bravo	Charlie
September 28 th	October 6 th	October 28 th
10:00 am - 12:00 pm OR 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	10:00 am - 12:00 pm OR 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	10:00 am - 12:00 pm OR 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
September 1 st	September 8 th	September 29 th
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Self-Directed - Online

Take up to six hours of self-directed (online) CE through The CE Shop as part of your complimentary CE GKAR Member Benefit!

You must register with GKAR first to receive your unique CE Shop GKAR Member Code.

[Go to CEMarketplace.net for a Full List of Courses Available in Michigan.](#)

Earn Your Senior Real Estate Specialist® (SRES) Designation with GKAR

The SRES three-day course instills the knowledge and understanding necessary to meet the needs of clients over the age of 50. [Join us virtually September 13th - 15th](#); GKAR Members save \$40 off tuition (\$390/Members; \$430/non-Members).

SALES REPORTS



Sales reports are published the following month, once all data is received.

[Cumulative Sales](#)

[MarketStats](#)

Sub-Area Residential Sales

[July 2021](#)

[July 2020](#)

Create a Custom Report

[Ranking](#) | [Production](#)

REALTOR® MEMBER BIRTHDAY CALENDAR - [SEPTEMBER](#) -

Welcome New Member - REALTORS®

Jeremy Armstead - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Renay Deering-Horton - RE/MAX Advantage
Lynne Holtz - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Gavin Homer - EXP Realty
Edwin Johnson - EXP Realty
Brad Knobloch - Knobloch, REALTORS®
Amy Landsberg - CENTURY 21 Affiliated
Maureen Leslie - EXP Realty
Mark Liddle - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Nick Lucchetti - CENTURY 21 Affiliated
Angie Penney - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Myles Preussel - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices MI
Karsen Withers - Jaqua, REALTORS®

Reinstatement - REALTOR®

Caley Noble - Keller Williams Kalamazoo

Transfer - REALTORS®

Craig Babb - Five Star Real Estate to
RE/MAX Advantage
Dorothy Hatfield - Live Local Properties to
Five Star Real Estate
Steve Mattingly - Keller Williams Kalamazoo to
Five Star Real Estate

MEMBERSHIP

Ryan Post - Keller Williams Kalamazoo to
Five Star Real Estate
Nate Robinson - Jaqua, REALTORS® to
Every Corner Realty
Venus Tomczyk - Five Star Real Estate to
Bellabay Realty

Drop - REALTORS®

Denise Ashman - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Jennifer Brown - Berkshire Hathaway
HomeServices MI
Elizabeth Kahle - ERA Reardon Realty
Tina Kandler - Jaqua, REALTORS®
Amber Kucerak - Keller Williams Kalamazoo
Brittany Monroe - Chapple Realty
Jerry Thick - Keller Williams Kalamazoo

Retiring - REALTOR®

Ron Centers - Jaqua, REALTORS®

Retiring - Business Partner Individual

Mike Higdon - Summit Home Mortgage

Are You Registered to Vote?

You are a Member of the REALTOR® Family and we want you to be heard! Make sure you're registered to vote in Michigan and then exercise your right on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021.

Your GKAR Advocacy Committee will send an email with their candidate endorsements prior to November 2nd.

[Michigan Voter Registration Guide](#) | [Register to Vote](#)

KEYBOX CORNER

SentriLock batteries are quoted to last between seven and nine years. We hope this means you will not have a need to change batteries in a Bluetooth lockbox for a good deal of time. With that being said, some batteries are bound to fail before the quoted time frame, whether the batteries are defective, placed in a heavily used lockbox, or there is accelerated draining of the battery due to weather.

What do I do if the battery is dying or dead in a lockbox?

In the event you receive an email notification that the battery is dying, or you come upon the lockbox and it simply won't light up after trouble shooting, you'll need to collect replacement batteries and possibly an external Power Port kit. These can be found at your office or at GKAR.

PEAK PERFORMANCE ARTICLE

What's Different About Getting Well, Water, and Septic Evaluations in Barry County?

[Read full article...](#)

MLS NEWS

RPR®: The Wow Factor

Realtors Property Resource (RPR®) underwent a large update earlier this year. Learning how to navigate the updates can take time. [View The Wow Factor: Episode 10 for RPR® tips and tricks.](#) Or, if you prefer a printable guide, [RPR® has curated several printable guides here.](#)

ShowingTime Waitlist Feature

ShowingTime recently released a new waitlist feature. The feature allows you to place yourself on a waitlist for the property if there are not currently available showing times. When a new timeslot becomes available, you will be notified so you may request the showing. [Learn more about the waitlist feature.](#)

MLS Field Updates

MichRIC® has made additions and updates to MLS fields. These changes were recommended by the Specifications Committee which is made up of MLS users at all MichRIC® boards. These changes are now live in flexmls.

New Fields	Updated Fields
<i>High-Speed Internet in Utilities Attached</i>	<i>Marketing Remarks to Public Remarks</i>
<i>Second Garage in Outbuildings</i>	<i>Main Floor Master Bedroom to Main Floor Primary Bedroom</i>
<i>Aluminum, Asphalt, Concrete, Copper, Fiberglass, Flat, Flat Tile, Green Roof, Mixed, None, Other, Shingle, and Tile in Roofing Detail</i>	<i>Master Bedroom/Master Bathroom to Primary Bedroom/Primary Bathroom</i>

MLS RESOURCES

MLS Training Available at GKAR

Searching with Realist – October 19th, 2021
9:00 am - 9:30 am | Zoom

InfoSparks – November 2nd, 2021
10:00 am - 10:30 am | Zoom

MLS Training is a valuable benefit included with your GKAR Membership. Trainings are conducted by Sam Bartlett, your Director of Multiple Listing Service. Course sizes are limited, so reservations are required.

[Visit www.gkar.com/mls](http://www.gkar.com/mls) or call (269) 382-1597.

Frequently using Supra lockboxes?

[You are able to lease the Supra app by contacting the Southwestern Michigan Association of REALTORS®.](#) They will assist you in a monthly lease to have full access to the Supra app without the need of One-Time Only access from the Listing Agent.