

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Area boards pick Realtors of Year

BY DOUG FUNK, STAFF WRITER
People who stand out among their peers generally take the long view. They go beyond the expectation of the moment, get involved in issues and motivate others to excel.
Outstanding Realtors are no exception. Several recently won special honors for their efforts in the profession.
Curtis Shinsky, broker/owner of Remerick Suburban in Livonia, was selected Realtor of the Year for the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.
Harold R. Buckindall, associate broker and assistant manager with Coldwell Banker Schweitzer in Royal Oak, was chosen Realtor of the Year for the South Oakland County Board of Realtors.
Sue Thorn, associate broker for Century 21 East in Rochester Hills, was named Realtor of the Year for the Rochester Area Association of Realtors.
Professional associations, formed to meet educational, political and social objectives, are only as good as their members.
Shinsky, 53, has been in the real estate business for 20 years. His WWOACAR committee involvement has included political affairs, professional standards, strategic planning, grievance and financial planning.
President-elect of the association, Shinsky was instrumental in structuring a mega-regional multiple listing service in southeast Michigan.
"I take great satisfaction in taking care of people's housing needs, doing a good job for them," Shinsky said. "I especially like working with young people. They need a lot of guidance, first-time buyers."
Shinsky also is active in the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, Livonia Goodfellows and Livonia Church of Christ. He and his wife, Patricia, live in that community.
"His truly is a credit to our profession," said Bill Damon, current WWOACAR president and a former Realtor of the Year. "He's very good at what he does."
Buckindall, 75, started selling real estate 20 years ago after retiring as a plant manager in the manufacturing sector. He has served as a SOCBOR director for 11 years and has held four executive posts including president.
Buckindall also has served on eight different standing board



Shinsky



Buckindall



Thorn

committees and many appointed positions including bylaws rewrite committee, SCOBOR scholarship trustee and MLS regionalization task force.
He also was selected SOCBOR Realtor of the Year in 1989.
"I like to challenge, I like to work in the computer end of it, to try to provide faster, better information for all realtors," Buckindall said. He added: "You can sure make some people happy when they buy or sell."
Buckindall, lives in Clarkston with wife Jean; is father to Karen Schultz, Keith, and Kay Bryson, and grandfather to nine.
He's also active with the North Woodward Shrine (Masonic) Club, the Clawson/Troy Elks Club and as an Elder for the Royal Oak First Presbyterian Church.
"Harold is the kind of individual who asks a question, then gets involved," said Maurice Richard, SOCBOR executive vice president. "He accepts responsibility and carries it out."
The Rochester association traditionally names its current president Realtor of the Year.
Thorn, 39, also has served as secretary and treasurer, education committee chairman and on a regionalization MLS task force for the local board. She has been in the business for 13 years.
Married to Paul and mother to Scott and Michael, Thorn resides in Rochester Hills and is active in the Mary's Church of Royal Oak. Her hobbies are golf and bowling.
"I like having flexibility of hours, flexibility of income," Thorn said. "I make whatever my ability is. I also like meeting people, different situations."
"Due is a young, goal-oriented, natural leader," said Julie Waugh, executive vice president for the Rochester association. "She's also a very upbeat person who thinks yes instead of no."

Stake a property claim via adverse possession

CONDO QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

I own a lakefront lot which is adjacent to my neighbor's lakefront lot. My neighbor owns a 16-foot walkway which my property borders. Eighteen years after we bought, we told our neighbors that we were claiming title to the walkway by adverse possession. We had planted trees and built a fence and a dock on the property. In the winter, we stored recreational equipment there. We never asked the neighbor's permission. In fact, our activities interfered with the neighbor's ability to use the property. Do we have a valid claim for adverse possession?
Yes. The law says that in order for you to obtain adverse possession, you must have continuous possession for 15 years and your possession must be "actual, visible, open and notorious." It would appear based upon the facts of your circumstances that you could win your claim for adverse possession, but you will probably

have to litigate the matter.
We are forming a corporation as a family business and are wondering what tips you have in regard to handling the legal papers. We are thinking about buying an office condo.
The documents necessary, among other things, from a legal standpoint would be the Articles of Incorporation which must be filed with the state, a set of bylaws for the operation of the corporation and minutes of the corporation to reflect a meeting of incorporators, shareholders and the board of directors.
You will also need various other tax forms in order to comply with state and federal obligations and you should consult with your CPA. You will need a corporate resolution, no doubt, to make a purchase of a condo unit for office purposes.
Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate and corporate law. You are invited to submit questions by writing Robert M. Meisner at 30200 Telegraph Road, Suite 407, Birmingham, Alabama 35262. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE

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FABULOUS WABECK LAKEFRONT CONDO Contemporary End Unit, 3 bedrooms, with 1st floor master bedroom suite has white, marble and mirrored Jacuzzi, steam shower & skylight, library, great room has high ceilings and doorways overlooking lake, finished lower level, 2 car attached garage. \$459,000. PLEASE ASK FOR SYLVIA STOTZKY 661-9808 or Pager: 276-4347 THE MICHIGAN GROUP

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