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CRBA Newsletter Disclaimer

Hammers-N-Nails is the official publication of the Crow River Builders Association. This newsletter is published and distributed 6 times per year to its members. CRBA is not responsible or liable for misinformation, misprints, typographical errors, etc. herein contained. Suggestions and letters welcome.

New CRBA website:
www.crbahome.org

If you have an address change or you wish to be deleted from this newsletter mailing, please contact the CRBA office at 320-234-8383 or crbaglencoe@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

Reminder: We do not have a general membership meeting again until September 14th – have a great Summer!

Friday, July 10th

Twilight Golf
Tee times start at 4pm
Registration form is in this newsletter – deadline to sign up is July 3rd! Hurry!

Monday, August 3rd

5th Annual CRBA Summer Picnic
6 - 9 PM
Northwoods Park in Hutchinson
Everyone is invited – see the info sheet in this newsletter

Wednesday, August 19th –

Friday, August 23rd
McLeod County Fair in Hutchinson

JULY 2009 Inside This Issue:

- ◆ CRBA Leadership
- ◆ Golf Outing Registration
- ◆ Membership Corner
- ◆ Summer Picnic Info
- ◆ BAM Update
- ◆ NAHB Update

THANK YOU to the CRBA members who participated in the 'Christmas in May' event recently held.

In particular, thanks to Bergmann's Country Interiors, The Builders Choice, Schauer Construction Inc and Gutter Helmet!

2009 Crow River Builders Association Leadership

President



Vicky Langan
MCI Carpet One, Inc.
(320) 253-5078
vlangan@hotmail.com

Vice President



AJ Forcier
Crow River Glass & Signs, Inc.
(320) 587-2868
aj@crowriverglass.com

Treasurer



Bruce Naustdal
Naustdal Construction, Inc.
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Secretary



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Schauer Construction, Inc.
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Past President



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Board Member



Bob Holly
Robar Insulation, Inc.
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Board Member



Lynn Wacker
AgStar Home Mortgage
(320) 864-857
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BAM Board Representative



Scott Schochenmaier
Larson Builders of Hutchinson
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scotts@larsonbuilders.com

Executive Officer



Kristi Hiivala
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(320) 234-8383
crbaglencoe@hotmail.com



check out our website!
www.crbahome.org



4th Annual
Crow River Builders Association
Twilight Golf

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009

Location: Glencoe Country Club – Glencoe, MN

Tee times start at 4:00 pm

3-4 Person Teams for 9 Hole Scramble
Golfers: Entry fees are \$50.00 Per Player
Includes: Golf, Cart, Dinner & Prizes

Not a golfer? Not a problem! This year we invite non-golfers and spouses to join the players after golf for dinner – approx. 6:30pm at the clubhouse!

Golf Team Players:
(\$50 per player)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
(No refunds due to player availability will be allowed)

Contact Name/Number (in case of rain): _____

- Complete registration form and make check payable to Crow River Builders Association
- Send to: PO Box 656, Hutchinson, MN 55350
- **Registration Deadline: July 3rd**
- Contact Kristi at CRBA for more info @ 320-234-8383 or crbaglencoe@hotmail.com.

Glencoe Country Club is located at 1325 1st St E, Glencoe. The phone number is 320-864-3023. They have easy directions available from the east or west on their website, www.glencocountryclub.net.



Doing business with a member
is doing good business.

Membership Corner

Thank you to the following members who recently renewed their membership. Your membership is valued!

Schlangen Custom Cabinets, Inc.

Current Membership Roster:

ABC Seamless	AgStar Home Mortgage	Bergmann's Country Interiors
Betker Builders	Compton Anderson Const.	Crow River Glass & Signs
CR Electric Inc	E.G. Rud & Sons Inc	Excelsior Homes
First Class Builders	First MN Bank	First Street Construction
Forcier Builders Inc	Four Square Builders	Grade A Gutters
Gutter Helmet of MN	Haferman Water/Kinetico	Heldt Painting & Contracting
Home Solutions Unlmtd	Insurance Planners	Juncewski Construction
Kevin Schauer Const.	KMAC, Inc.	Laco Enterprize Homes
Lake Air Heating & Cooling	Larson Builders of Hutch	Mathews Bldg/Remodeling
Mathews Sewer System	McLeod CO-OP	McLeod Publishing
Multiple Concepts Interiors	Naustdal Construction	Plato Custom Concepts
Prairie West Builders	ProBuild North	Purmort Homes Inc
Rainy Water Conditioning	Remax Today's Realty	Robar Insulation Inc
RDV Companies	Schauer Construction Inc	Schlangen's Custom Cabinets
Simonson Lumber Co	SMC Handyman Services	Strongback Builders Inc
Team Development	The Builders Choice	The Cabinet Shop
Wells Fargo	Westwind Woodworkers Inc	Ziemer Plumbing & Heating

CODE OF ETHICS:

- Members shall constantly seek to provide better values for the customers they serve.
- Members shall, at all times, share their knowledge with fellow members and the public in the best interest of those they serve.
- Members shall not obtain any business by means of fraudulent statements or by use of implications unwarranted by fact or reasonable probability.
- Members shall comply, both in spirit and in letter, with rules and regulations prescribed by law and government agencies for health, safety and progress of the community.

Members shall not perform or cause to be performed any act that would tend to reflect on or bring into disrepute any part of the industry served by this Association.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Monday, August 3rd – Summer Picnic in Hutchinson

Monday, September 14th – General Membership Meeting in Biscay

Monday, October 5th – General Membership Meeting in Biscay

Monday, November 2nd – Annual Meeting in Biscay

Monday, December 7th – Christmas Party – Location TBD



5th Annual
Crow River Builders Association
Summer Picnic
Builders, Associates, Employees
and Families Welcome

Monday, August 3rd
6:00 – 9:00 pm

Northwoods Park in Hutchinson
(885 Elm St NE – near Burns Manor)

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips
& Pop Will Be Provided
~BYOB~

Please bring a salad or dessert to share!

Please RSVP with a number attending by July 29th to
Kristi at 320-234-8383 or crbaglencoe@hotmail.com





BAM UPDATE

Are You Ready For The New Energy Code? BAM Has Free Resources For You

June 1, 2009 a new Residential Energy Code went into effect and the Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) has made free resources available to help you understand, build and inspect to the new energy code. These resources are available to you because BAM was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Minnesota Department of Commerce. This grant allows BAM to make this information available to all licensed contractors in Minnesota as well.

BAM is honored to be the recipient of a grant to educate Minnesota's residential construction industry and help integrate the new residential energy code and radon requirements. We work hard to be the resource for expertise and experience in residential construction regulation, legislation and education, and being awarded this grant is a confirmation that we're doing just that.

The BAM Member Guide: *Top 20 Changes to the Energy Code for Residential Construction Additions, and Remodels* is available for downloading at www.bamn.org/energycode. The website also has many other free resources including:

- 2009 Residential Energy Code language
- Downloadable version of the Top 20 Changes to the Energy Code
- Free illustrations that help clarify the code
- Commercial Energy Code language
- Field Guide to the Energy Code available May 30, 2009
- Video summaries of the energy code changes and
- A "Frequently Asked Questions" section where you can ask questions and the answers will be posted

Visit the website www.bamn.org/energycode to find helpful information on the new energy code in effect June 1, 2009. Send us your technical questions about the code and we'll post the answer for the entire industry.

BAM is also mailing the website resources to each of the 14,000 licensed contractors in the State of Minnesota accompanied by a letter from 2009 BAM President Monte Mraz. The letter explains that BAM is the trade association representing Minnesota's residential construction and remodeling industry and not only should licensed contractors join the association to make their businesses more successful; but they should also thank our members for their participation and efforts to protect and strengthen the industry.

Defense: A BAM Legislative Session Overview

For the Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) this year's session was spent defending a host of warranty bills introduced against the industry. This session marked the eighth year these bills have been introduced at the Capitol, and with an increased democrat majority in both the house and the senate the odds were against us. Debates saw consumer protection emerge as the predominant concern over the battle-bruised residential construction industry. The good news is the governor vetoed five out of the six warranty bills that would have adversely affected the industry.

The following is a recap of the bills introduced against the industry and their outcome.

Attorneys Fees – This bill as introduced would have required (*must*) the courts to assign costs, disbursement and attorney’s fees to a homeowner who prevailed in a case against a builder. The bill as passed through the legislature allowed (*may*) a court to decide whether or not to apply costs, disbursements and attorney’s fees in favor of a homeowner in a cause of action against a builder. BAM argued the court already has this ability, and changing the tone of the current law would unfairly tip the scales of due process in favor of the homeowner allowing for unequal treatment of decisions on the builder. Governor Pawlenty vetoed this bill May 21st.

Property Damages Uncapped - Current law within the warranty statute allows a homeowner to receive "the amount necessary to remedy the breach" or "the difference between the value of the dwelling without the defect" for an alleged defect. The original bill uncapped these damages and could have required a builder to pay anything from housing costs to food costs and possibly emotional damages. The underlying assumption by the authors and homeowners is that a builder’s commercial general liability policy covers statutory warranty obligations. This is simply not the case. Governor Pawlenty vetoed this bill on May 19th citing the litany of bills introduced against an industry that must recover to get Minnesota’s economy back in line.

Statute of Repose Extension - Another bill introduced against the industry was an extension of the statute of repose from 10 years to 12 years. Under current law, the statute of repose allows a homeowner to file a cause of action after the 10th year but no later than the end of the 12th year if the alleged damage was discovered in the 9th or 10th year from the warranty date. This bill extends the 10-year warranty to 12 years if a homeowner discovers a breach in the warranty statutes after the 10th year. In cases where the breach is discovered after the 10th year, the action **must** be brought within one year of discovery of the (alleged) breach.

This bill was being proposed because many believed clarification was necessary. The story is that a few years ago the legislature “intended” to make the warranty statutes a straight 12-year statute of repose. Testimony provided this year says many plaintiffs were not able to file a cause of action because they filed with the courts after the 10-year timeline had run out. The question BAM asked over and over is when does the warranty end. Governor Pawlenty vetoed the bill on May 19th.

Discovery Date Extended - Current law says a homeowner has six months to notify a builder of the discovery of a breach in the warranty statute. This bill extends the time to notify from six months to one year. BAM opposed this bill for two reasons. The first is we don’t want to encourage homeowners to wait another six months for a problem to exacerbate itself. The second is somewhere along the line homeowners need to take responsibility for their homes. Governor Pawlenty vetoed this bill on May 20th.

Written Notice - Statutory warranty law currently requires a homeowner to put any warranty claims in writing. If they do not put their concerns in writing, the claim may be and have been denied in court, even though a builder may have gone out to try and remedy the issue. This bill would have altered the required written notice provision to also include "actual notice" leading to ambiguity in how notice was given. Did the builder receive the message left on the answering machine? Did the builder try more than once to remedy damages but the homeowner was unhappy with the remedy? The Governor vetoed this bill May 21st.

Express Warranties – This bill requires a builder to give a copy of the warranty statute to homeowners as a part of their contract. Many attorneys are already doing so. This bill was signed into law by the Governor May 16th.

Visit www.bamn.org for more information!



2010 International Builders' Show® FAQs

The 2010 International Builders' Show may seem far away, but there are already important deadlines approaching that you need to be aware of!

General IBS Information

Show Dates: January 19 – 22, 2010 (Tuesday – Friday)

Show Location: Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV

Who Should Attend: Single-Family Home Builders, Multifamily Builders/Developers, Dealers and Distributors, Commercial Builders, Remodelers, Architects, Engineers, Realtors, Subcontractors, Land Developers, all other construction industry professionals.

IBS Website: www.BuildersShow.com

Registration

Online Registration and Housing: This will open Monday, August 3, 2009. Online registration, through www.buildersshow.com, is the simplest way for members to register and book hotel rooms.

Member Full Registration Package: Registration for a Member Full Registration Package, allowing attendees to go to any of the 175+ education seminars, and including access to the exhibit floor all four days, will be \$295 IF they register by January 18th. After January 18th, the fee will jump to the onsite price of \$425.

Member First-Time Attendee: Once again, members who have not registered for the show as an NAHB member in the past are eligible for the first time attendee rate of \$100. This is a Full Registration, allowing attendees to go to any of the 175+ education seminars, and includes access to the exhibit floor all four days.

Registering Spouses: Spouses may register at no additional fee. If the primary registrant cancels, the spouse's registration will be cancelled automatically.

Education Options

1-Day Education Pass + 4-Day Exhibits Registration: NEW this year
Includes admittance to the Exhibit Floor all four days of the show, plus unlimited access to one (1) day of Education Seminars. Members will need to pick which day they are buying the pass for when they register. ALL FRIDAY SEMINARS ARE COMPLIMENTARY.

2-Day Education Pass + 4-Day Exhibits Registration: NEW this year
Includes admittance to the Exhibit Floor all four days of the show, plus unlimited access to two (2) days of Education Seminars. Members will need to pick which days they are buying the pass for when they register. ALL FRIDAY SEMINARS ARE COMPLIMENTARY.

Hotel Information

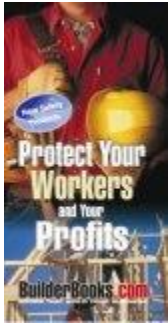
NAHB secured rates at most of the hotels in Las Vegas for under \$200 a night!! These great rates will be available online when registration and housing open on August 3rd. The rates are only guaranteed for the month of August, so you definitely want to take advantage of them as quickly as possible.

New Lead Paint Rule Website

If you do almost any kind of construction or installation work in homes or child occupied facilities built before 1978, you need to know about the EPA's new *Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting* rule.

NAHB has a number of resources to help members comply with the new lead paint rule. Remodelers and builders who conduct renovation or remodeling projects in homes built before 1978 must soon comply with new lead paint safety requirements set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Any company doing work in these homes must be certified, follow specific work practices and keep detailed records. At least one employee in these companies must be trained in these new requirements by April 2010.

Visit www.nahb.org/leadpaint for the latest news on the rule, requirements of the rule, training and preparing your firm for the rule, and how to educate consumers about it.



Save 15% on NAHB Safety Products at BuilderBooks During National Safety Month

BuilderBooks.com is offering 15% off all safety publications purchased online during the National Safety Council's annual National Safety Month campaign in June, and extending the offer through July.

The failure to properly train workers is one of the 15 most frequently cited Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards in residential construction and could cost a company up to \$7,000 for a single violation.

OSHA requires employers to train their employees to recognize and avoid safety hazards on the job and to understand the applicable safety regulations.

To Order: Visit www.BuilderBooks.com/Safety and enter the discount code **SAFE15** on the checkout page to receive an additional 15% discount.* Offer expires on July 31.

NAHB, CEDIA, and CEA to Sponsor Free Webinar on Builders and Home Technology

Even in a slower economy, home technology continues to be an important aspect of the home building *and* home buying process. The Consumer Electronic Association's (CEA) 7th Annual State of the Builder Technology Market Study shows that despite a softening of the home building industry, builders still find home technology influencing their business decisions and those of their customers.

The NAHB, the Custom Electronics Design & Installation Association (CEDIA), and the Consumer Electronics Association invite you to take part in a **free** webinar that will look at the study's key findings and what they mean for builders, remodelers, and their home technology partners and contractors. A panel of experts representing these areas will offer their views about home technology's growing importance, the trends they see emerging, and insights into how home building professionals can use these to their business advantage.

The program is being offered on **Wednesday, July 22 from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Eastern**. Registration is free and available at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/177480025>. Upon registering, you will receive a confirmation notice and detailed instructions about logging in.