



## From the Desk of Pam Perri Weaver....

Week of July 27, 2009

### **NOTICE: BAM Political Summit DATE CHANGE**

For those of you attending the Political Summit please note **the date has been changed to Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.** NAHB's Political Director Karl Eckhardt will be joining us for this great event. Email me if you would like to attend: [pamw@bamn.org](mailto:pamw@bamn.org).

### **POLITICAL: NEED VOLUNTEERS/STILL THINKING ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR ISSUE ? If SO, I NEED YOUR HELP!**

As we reported a few weeks ago, the Department of Labor & Industry has formed a task force to further review independent contractor and the home warranty issues. The home warranty task force is filled but I am still looking for the members for the independent contractor issue: someone who currently holds an Independent Exemption Certificate, a member who is an LLC and a member who is an employee of a licensed contractor. Please let me know if you are interested in working in this issue with us? My email is: [pamw@bamn.org](mailto:pamw@bamn.org).

### **LEGAL: ANOTHER WIN FOR THE INDUSTRY! TID's ILLEGAL!**

The BAM LAC participated in a case on the illegal transportation improvement district fee that was being extracted "voluntarily" from BAM member Frank Kottschade: *SJC Properties v. City of Rochester*. The City of Rochester required that property owners pay a "voluntary" TID fee as a condition of obtaining development approval. When the property owner/developer failed to pay the voluntary TID fee, Rochester levied a special assessment against the property in the exact same amount as the "voluntary" TID fee. Both the trial court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals struck down the fee. That's a WIN for Frank and our members!

Our next step on the TID issue is to inform cities of the recent court decision. If you are working in a City considering this kind of fee, please contact me immediately so we can send them a letter to remind them of this recent case law. You know how to find me....

## **REGULATORY: New Radon-Energy Code Member Guide Now Available**

[BAM was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Minnesota Department of Commerce to make available information and other free resources about the new residential energy code and radon requirements found at \[www.bamn.org/energycode\]\(http://www.bamn.org/energycode\). These resources are designed to help you and all licensed contractors in Minnesota understand, build, and inspect to the new code in effect as of June 1, 2009.](#)

### [NEW MEMBER GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE: Using Interior Draintile and Sand as an Alternate to A Gravel Base for Passive Radon Systems](#)

The Minnesota Residential Energy Code does not specifically allow contractors to use interior draintile in a gravel bed with a sand base as a subfloor preparation for a passive radon system, so BAM created a **technical document** so you can submit this method as an alternate to AF103.2, #3 to a local building official.

This alternate method is supported by both the Environmental Protection Agency's [Building Radon Out](#) document and [ASTM E 1465-07a: Standard Practice for Radon Control for the Design and Construction of New Low-Rise Residential Buildings](#).

Since this is an alternate method, contractors are required to get PRIOR APPROVAL from each and every building inspection department BEFORE CONSTRUCTION. The alternate code language can be found in Appendix 1 of **this document**. The entire document will help a local building official understand the technical arguments for why the sand/interior draintile option is an acceptable alternate to the current code option of using a sand base and geotextile mat material. Send questions about this document to [karenl@bamn.org](mailto:karenl@bamn.org).

### **Member Guide: Alternate Method for the Gas Permeable Layer Required for Passive Radon Systems in the Minnesota Residential Energy Code (Section AF103.2 Subfloor preparation)**

## **EVENT! RevNRide Just 4 Weeks Away!**

The **BAM RevNRide** is just 4 weeks away! Get yourself registered and come join in the fun!

Click [here](#) or fill out this form to register:

<http://www.bamn.org/Documents/RevNRide2009RegistrationFlyer2.pdf>

Saturday August 22 is the RevNRide and you won't want to miss it! The tour is of the scenic MN

River in Mankato and all vehicles welcome to join the bike run! Come on your motorcycle, vintage auto, new or beat-up pickup truck or van. However you prefer to ride just make sure you come along with us!

#### Cost

\$50 Entry Fee

\$35 for each additional rider

\$25 Evening Event Only at The WOW Zone \*New Option\*

Includes: dinner, awards ceremony and bowling

Riders receive a free t-shirt as well

#### To Register

Click [here](#) or fill out this form:

<http://www.bamn.org/Documents/RevNRide2009RegistrationFlyer2.pdf>

#### Sponsorship

A special thank you goes to Heritage Homes of Minnesota and Steve Meister Construction, Inc. for sponsoring this year's event. If you'd like to sponsor the event or get more information about sponsorship visit: <http://www.bamn.org/Documents/RevN'RideSponsorship2009.pdf>

Get ready and get registered for the RevNRide today! We can't wait to see you - it's going to be a great time!

## **EVENT! BAM Pheasant Hunt September 18th**

Mark your calendars! The 2009 BAM Pheasant Hunt and BAMPAC fundraising event is happening Friday, September 18th at Traxler's in Le Center, MN. [Click here](#) for event details.

Sponsorship opportunities are available:

<http://www.bamn.org/Documents/PheasantHuntSponsorship2009.pdf>.

AND we're going to be holding a silent auction! Please donate an item to the silent auction - it

doesn't have to be worth tons of money but a little goes a long way - and the proceeds help to raise funds for BAM PAC. Do you have extra tickets to a sporting event, a great bottle of wine or service you can provide? The more outdoorsy the item the better!

Please contact Lisa Frenette at [lisaf@bamn.org](mailto:lisaf@bamn.org) to sponsor the event, register or donate a silent auction item. We look forward to seeing you September 18<sup>th</sup>!

## **EVENT! Minnesota Builder and Remodeler**

### **Sales And Marketing Summit Tuesday August 25, 2-7pm**

For more information visit the link below or visit the registration page.

<http://www.nhsalescoach.com/blog/closing-more-sales-and-maximizing-profits/the-minnesota-builder-and-remodeler-sales-and-marketing-summit/>

The second link goes straight to registration.

[http://www.beckerfurnitureworld.com/current/MN\\_Builders\\_Remodelers.aspx](http://www.beckerfurnitureworld.com/current/MN_Builders_Remodelers.aspx)

## **2010 Convention Sponsorship Opportunities Available For All Members**

Planning for the 2010 Minnesota Builders Convention is well underway and we have our first sponsors on board.

We thank and are very happy to welcome the following sponsors back:

#### Gold Sponsors

1. Marvin Windows and Doors
2. Menard's Inc

#### Platinum Sponsors

1. Continental Western Insurance w/ Reynolds and Reynolds Inc
2. Pro Build

#### Silver Sponsors

1. Central Minnesota Builders Association
2. Gislason & Hunter LLP
3. Rinke Noonan Law Firm

#### Bronze Sponsors

1. Larkin Hoffman Attorneys
2. The Builders Group
3. Bayer Built
4. Ferguson
5. Heater Rental Service

#### Activity Sponsors

1. C & D Granite

Convention sponsorship opportunities are now available for all members. If you're interested or thinking about sponsoring the [benefits and forms are here for downloading](#) or contact Jenae Palewicz at [jenaep@bamn.org](mailto:jenaep@bamn.org). Support a great event, the industry and promote your business.