



Tool Box

Ames Homebuilders Association

September 2005

Inside this issue:

1

President's Message

Get into the Loop

2

Membership Meeting
Welcome new Members

3

Schedule of Events

4

President's Message

Morning chill and warm afternoon sun prompts us to start preparing for winter. It also tells us that our General Membership meetings will resume. Tuesday, September 20th will be our first meeting back from our summer break. Please plan to attend our meeting as our program committee has been hard at work lining up interesting and informational programs to make attending worthwhile. The meetings are also a chance to meet other members out of the workday environment. We also are very open to suggestions on speakers and topics you would like to see for our meetings. Just contact myself or a board member with your ideas.

We had another great golf outing at Veenker Golf course on Monday the 12th. I would like to thank the golf committee, Matt Barr, Brett Linder and Cathy Schwichtenberg, for their work for our association. I would also like to thank the sponsors for their donations. It is always a good time to get away from work for an afternoon.

We are now looking for people willing to serve on the board and committees for the upcoming year. We have up to four positions to fill and are looking for individuals that want to add their experience to our association. I think most of you would find it a very rewarding experience. Any builder or associate member is welcome to throw their name into the hat for the available positions.

Finally, September is Associate Member Appreciation Month. We all need to thank our Associate Members and thank them for what they do for the Ames Home Builders Association. Associates donate their time and money to help the cause of the Builder. They do it out of appreciation of the Builder and recognize the value of a strong organization that unites the building community for a strong voice. Please take time at our September meeting to thank the associates you see.

Please feel free to contact myself or a board member with any questions or concerns.

Mike Schmit
AHBA President
515-203-6769

2005 Board of Directors

President: *Mike Schmit*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Randy Rathert*

Associate Directors *Matt Barr, Jon Zeigler*

1st Vice President: *Mark Hanson*

State Directors: *Scott Brower, Kirk Geist, Ben Strotman*

2nd Vice President: *Dean Axland*

National Directors: *Jerry Cable, Steve Shuey*

Get in the loop...

Calling all interested members...

The Ames HBA Board of Directors is now seeking interested members for the Ames HBA Board of Directors. We currently have four positions open for the 2006 year. If you are interested in helping your association by serving on the Board or would like to nominate someone, please contact Mike Schmit at 515/203-6769 or Stacy at 515/460-5550. The slate will be announced at the November general membership meeting.

Holiday Cheer is just aound the corner...

The Ames HBA Holiday Party is just around the corner. Please plan to join us Friday, December 16 at 7 pm for an evening of food and fun at the Hotel at the Gateway Center. The Ames Women's Council will be hosting the event along with the Ames HBA and they are encouraging you to come out and bring your employees along as well. Why not have your company holiday party be the Ames HBA party!!! If you would like to sponsor the event, please contact Mary Fitch at 515/232-8884. A sponsorship form will be mailed to all members soon.

The 2006 NAHB International Builder Show...

Look out for the Ducks and watch out for the flying Coconuts! That's right the 2006 Iowa Night hospitality event will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2006 from 5-7 pm at the Orlando Peabody Hotel in the Coconuts Lounge. For those of you familiar with the Peabody tradition – you will enjoy the daily march of the ducks from their penthouse suite to the lobby fountain. With the new location directly across the street from the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC), we are expecting a fantastic turnout. This is the 4th consecutive year the HBAI has provided top quality networking, refreshments and hospitality for our Iowa members attending the NAHB sponsored International Builders Show. The host for this year's event will be Gary Werle, HBAI 2006 President. The 2006 NAHB International Builder Show will be held in Orlando January 11-14, 2006 (Wed-Sat). The HBA of Iowa has secured a room block at The Rosen Centre Hotel \$220 per night plus tax. This hotel is on the south side of the Convention Center and within walking distance of both the OCCC and the Peabody Hotel. This block of rooms is part of the normal NAHB block and therefore rooms must be reserved on line at www.buildersshow.com.

Budget, budgets, budgets...

It is that time of year again - time to think about the company budget. Please remember the Ames HBA as you are setting aside your donation and event participation line items. We couldn't continue to offer the programs, events and speakers that we do without the financial support of our membership. We thank you for your support over the past year and hope that when you are planning for 2006 you keep the Ames HBA in mind. Some opportunities to consider are: Home & Garden Show; Parade of Homes show book; golf outing sponsorships, holiday party; website advertising; newsletter advertising; table top promotion; and more. Thanks!

Don't Miss the Septmeber Membership Meeting!

The first meeting of the Fall promises to be a fantastic one! Please plan to join your colleagues and friends this Tuesday, September 20 at the Quality Inn & Suites to hear Rob Denson, DMACC President, as he speaks about the new DMACC Career Academy Hunziker Center. In addition to President Denson we will have Rochelle Burnett of Net Image with us to share information and ideas regarding our new website - www.ameshomebuilders.com. She will let our membership know how they can generate business by using the website.

And finally we are pleased to have Don Van Houweling, CEO of the Van Wall Group, to speak about tax advantages for equipment buyers in 2005. He will focus on the tax savings from depreciation involved with machinery, truck and tool purchases and how to take advantage of this year's changes. Section 179's first year deduction for 2005 has increased to \$105,000 from last year's \$102,000 limit. Find out what is included for this year's deduction and how it can help your business.

The Meeting will be held at the Quality Inn & Suites (Buford's) with social hour at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm and the program at approximately 7:30 pm.

**Please contact Stacy at 460-5550
or ameshomebuilders@msn.com to make a reservation. Thanks!**

Welcome New Members

**Affordable Quality Roofing & Construction - Billy Leelteinkel,
515/201-4384**

F&M Bank - John Jennett, 515/233-3130

Jim's Carpet One - Jim Porter, 515/955-2207

Ames Home Builders
PO Box 864
Ames IA 50010

Upcoming Events

- September 20 - Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm, DMACC President Rob Denson, *Quality Inn & Suites (Bufords)*
- October 18 - Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm, “The Role of Insulation in the Home”, *Quality Inn & Suites (Bufords)*
- November - Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm, Board Election, location TBD
- December 16 - Holiday Party, 7:00 pm, *Hotel at the Gateway*

For more information contact Stacy at ameshomebuilders@msn.com