

MARCH NEWSLETTER

March 24, 2011



Monica LaVerdiere
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A Message from President Monica LaVerdiere

Despite the recent snowflakes that have been flying thru the Western Maine area, it appears that buyers have begun to wake up from their winter naps! Many brokers who I have chatted with in the last couple weeks are busy! Happy Spring and Happy Sales!

As many of you have heard, the Maine Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors approved a “Clearance Event” designed to generate interest in properties presently on the market. To participate, sellers will agree to reduce the price of the property by \$10,000 on or after March 25 through April 3. For those of you who have been trying to get your sellers to lower their asking price, this might be the opportunity you need. The Clearance Event will appear in a special link on <http://mainelistings.com/clearance>. Promotion of the Clearance Event will appear in radio ads, Facebook and in company print ads.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® has also jumped on board with the National Association of REALTORS® Open House Weekend being held on June 4–5. The Maine Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors approved allocating funds to all local boards/councils for local promotion of the open houses in our area. If you have any marketing ideas for promoting the Open House Weekend that you would like to share, please let me know.

As I said when I first became President of the Western Maine Board, I want to concentrate on a “year of giving”. Thank you to all who have continued to bring in canned and non-perishable items to our meetings. For the next membership meeting, on April 13, please bring in any used clothing ... clean and in good condition. We will be donating the clothing to the Stephens Memorial Hospital Thrift Shop. There is a great need for clothing in our Western Maine area. I will leave the back door open of my Bearfoot Realty car so you can fill her up!

The Board is considering offering a social media class this Fall. However, you must have a laptop and be able to connect to the internet wirelessly in order to participate. Please let me know if you have one so an informed decision can be made.

If you would like to contact me with ideas or comments, please e-mail monica@bearfootrealty.com or call me at Bearfoot Realty at 539-6060.

Upcoming Membership Meeting & Education Course:

The next meeting of the Western Maine Membership is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13. This meeting is sponsored by Waterfront Appreciation. Registration: 8:00 a.m.; Breakfast & Membership Meeting: 8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m. “Beyond the Purchase and Sale Agreement” (Approved by the MREC for 3 clock hours of continuing education credit): 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Registration information is available at <http://westernmaineboard.com>.

Cancer Relay for Life of Sebago Lakes Region:

The Western Board is looking for a team of members to participate in the Cancer Relay for Life of Sebago Lakes Region from 6:00 p.m. on June 25 to 6:00 a.m. on June 26 at the Windham High School. We have all been touched by cancer through family, friends & colleagues. Go to our the [Western Maine Board Team Page](#) to join our team or just make a donation. It explains what Relay for Life is, has our fundraising goal and show's how much has been raised so far. Please help us fight back and make more birthdays in Maine.

REALTOR® of the Year:

It's that time of year again to nominate who you believe should be the 2011 REALTOR® of the Year. Nominees should be active in their communities and active participants in the Board. State/National activities and educational accomplishments may also be considered. Please e-mail your nominations, along with rationale to cindy@mahoosuc Realty.com. Nominations **MUST** be received by May 11.

Membership Information:

There are currently 202 REALTORS® and 14 Affiliate Members. Last year at this time, we had 214 REALTORS® and 12 Affiliate Members. Members may request a current membership roster in Adobe Acrobat format by e-mailing tanya@mainerealtors.com.

Meeting Schedule:

April 13	Breakfast	Olde Mill Tavern	"Beyond the Purchase & Sale Agreement"
May 11	Breakfast	Olde Mill Tavern	"Do I Really Need to Know That?"
June 15	Dinner	Migis Lodge	REALTOR® of the Year Dinner & REALTOR® Appreciation Event
Sept. 14	Breakfast	Olde Mill Tavern	Course TBD
Nov. 2	Breakfast	Olde Mill Tavern	Annual Meeting, MAR Update & "2011 Legal Update: Extended Version"
Dec. 7	Dinner	Olde Mill Tavern	Holiday Party & 2012 Officer Installation

E-Mail Staff: tanya@mainerealtors.com

Board Website: <http://westernmaineboard.com>

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~ Plan to attend the April 13 Membership Meeting ~