**Little Rock REALTORS® Association provides its membership the opportunity to enhance REALTOR® performance through education, technology and integrity.**

**Little Rock REALTORS® Association**

**January 2023**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS!**

January 2nd- New Years Day Observed (Office closed)

January 13th- (completed) RAD Packets due at our office by 5 PM

January 16th- Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day

January 31st- 2023 Dues are due; Late fee of $100 added starting Feb.1st

**IT IS DUE SEASON!**

Gentle Reminder! Dues time is here. **Dues are due January 1, 2023 and are considered late February 1, 2023**. Below are a few housekeeping notes on the subject:

1. Please remember that any unpaid dues will incur a late fee of $100.00 on February 1, 2023. If they are not received by Feb. 28th that member will be dropped from membership and lose all rights and privileges of membership including form Simplicity and CARMLS access. The Broker then becomes responsible for that agents’ dues. Dues will not be accepted after Jan. 31st without the late penalty attached.

1. Before you delete or add anyone on the dues billing that has left or joined your office, please notify [Jessica@LRRA.com](mailto:Jessica@LRRA.com) of any changes to your statement.

1. Remember, if dues are not paid for any one licensed person in an office, the Broker then becomes responsible for payment and the entire office can be shut off from CARMLS and dropped from REALTOR® membership until those dues are paid and the office is in good standing.

1. Remind your fellow REALTORS® in sales meetings to start saving now in order to meet the dues deadline of January 31, 2023. As of September 2022, dues amounts have changed. At a LRRA Board meeting earlier this year, the board elected to raise dues beginning in 2023 by $10 from $190 to $200 annually per person for local dues.  The dues will be directed toward member and educational services for our 1700+ member association. The National Association of Realtors has also elected to increase the Public Relations fee from $35 to $45 beginning in 2023. The total amount Due for a REALTOR Membership will be $555.00 for 2023.

All dues will be paid online through the agents portal for 2023. Simply visit [www.LRRA.com](http://www.LRRA.com) and click on "Access Membership Portal". You will need your NRDS#~~,~~ and password to do this successfully. If you don't know your NRDS#, you can locate it on our website at [www.LRRA.com](http://www.LRRA.com) and click on "Locate NRDS # Here". Your password was set up to be your last name with the first letter capitalized, unless you have changed it. If you have changed your password, we DO NOT know it. If you have changed it and have forgotten it, click "Forgot your Password" and you will receive an email from the system to reset it. (Check your SPAM folder for this email!)

**AFFILIATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

LRRA is looking for sponsors for the 2023 year. Please contact Libby for sponsorship opportunities. We try not to have sponsors from the same industry, but we cannot guarantee it won’t happen...i.e. 2 mortgage companies, 2 inspectors, etc. Please email [Libby@LRRA.com](mailto:Libby@LRRA.com) and cc [Jesse@LRRA.com](mailto:Jesse@LRRA.com) to let us know you want to sponsor and we will let you know if the sponsorship is open.

We have general Meetings, Orientations, Lunch and Learns, REALTOR® Awards of Distinction, Broker meeting, and many more opportunities to sponsor in 2023. Thank you for all you do to support the Little Rock REALTORS® Association and our members!

To our LRRA members: Please take note of the Affiliate members who sponsor our events. They are investing in you and we hope you will take note and invest in them in return by giving them your business.

**YPN EVENTS BEGINNING AGAIN!**

YPN (YOUR Professional Network) will now be the FIRST Tuesday of each month, except for January and July of 2022. The next YPN will be February 7th with the location TBD from 5 to 7 PM! We are still looking for sponsors for YPN for 2023!!!. Any Affiliate looking to sponsor please contact our YPN Chair Meg France by emailing [Meg@jonunderhill.com](mailto:Meg@jonunderhill.com)

**NEW MEMBERS**

Brokers, we work very, very hard to get your agents onboarded as fast as we can, however, this time of year takes longer, because of the high instances of transfers, new members and new offices at this time. Please make sure to let your new agents know that joining, transferring, or changing information takes longer than normal at this time. Please make sure they know it **may take up to 24 hours to get all the information needed and uploaded** before they can expect to have access to the MLS or forms.

**RAD PACKETS DUE JAN 13TH!**

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| |  | | --- | | Friday, January 13th, is the last day to drop off your packet, photo and payment for our 2023 REALTORS® Awards of Distinction. Please read the information below carefully.  We will not be able to accept any applications after Friday January 13th at 5:00pm. | |

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| |  | | --- | | STEPS: 1.) Look over our RAD requirements to make sure you qualify for our program and determine what level you are. 2Fill out our application (find the link on our website under the tab ‘Realtor Awards of Distinction’) Fill it out completely and accurately. Once you complete the application and have pressed 'SUBMIT' a page will pop up with options to save the application, print, email etc. Print out TWO copies of your application form.  3.) Either log onto your membership portal and pay the $85 application fee there before you turn in your packet or bring cash or check for $85 with you when you turn in your packet to us at the LRRA office.  \*IMPORTANT: IF THE APPLICATION FEE IS NOT PAID BY JAN 13TH AT 5 PM YOUR APPLICATION TO RAD WILL BE VOID\* 4.) By Friday, January 13th at 5 PM turn in the following to our office at 300 Natural Resources Drive Little Rock, AR 72205:   * TWO copies of your RAD application * TWO copies of you CARMLS Sales Detail Report and/or TWO copies Excel Spreadsheet if needed for sales outside of CARMLS * High resolution headshot submitted on either a thumb drive, CD or you may now submit to our DropBox BEFORE TURNING IN YOUR APPLICATION IN PERSON * Check or cash for $85 Application fee IF you have not paid online through your portal \*NOTE all applications turned in without paying application fee by Jan 13th at 5 PM will be void\*    A FEW NOTES:   * NONE of the application nor your headshot can be submitted by email * Each registration comes with ONE ticket and ONE certificate. If you are on a team you will need to log onto your portal and purchase additional tickets and certificates for each team member. Tickets for guests can also be purchased through your portal. To buy more tickets or certificates log into your portal and click on 'shop'. Click 'Add to Cart' as many times as needed. NOTE: There are three products! RAD Ticket (which includes registration fee), RAD Additional Tickets and RAD Additional Certificates. Make sure when purchasing additional tickets to click on the correct product. Additional tickets are $35 each and additional certificates are $5 each. * If you are unsure whether your Broker submits on your behalf or not PLEASE ASK THEM!! We had several members last year that assumed their Broker would turn in an application for them... please note that most of our member office's ask their agents to turn in their own application and fee. * When you fill out the application you are required to check boxes that say 'I have personally checked all figures and agree with the total', 'In case of error, I have listed more transactions than needed as part of my application to qualify for the RAD program', and 'I understand that the application is due to the LRRA office  by 5pm on January 13, 2023 and no late applications will be accepted' WE HAVE YOU DO THAT BECAUSE THOSE THREE THINGS ARE VERY IMPORTANT SO PLEASE PAY ATTENTION WHEN FILLING OUT AND SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION!   **If you have any questions please e-mail our Marketing & Events Coordinator Jesse at**[jesse@lrra.com](mailto:jesse@lrra.com) | |

**TRANSFERS**

If you are planning on transferring, please remember that it may take a few days longer than usual because the AREC is very busy at this time. If transferring offices, please submit the LRRA office transfer form and $35 to the Little Rock REALTORS® Association once you’ve transferred with the AREC. Please remember anything else may take longer than usual and everyone should expect it to take at least 24 hours to get you onboarded.

**Legislative Affairs**

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There was quite a bit of activity at City Hall to round out the year. The Little Rock City Board ended 2022 by approving the proposed $315 million 2023 budget for the city. The measure included a pay increase for police officers and firefighters. There would still be a $10,000 recruiting incentive in place. Non-uniform city staff would receive a 3.5% across-the-board increase. New positions in the LRPD would be deputy police chief, lieutenant, two civilian background investigators, a crime scene specialist, a police subpoena technician, and a network coordinator.

At its meeting December 6, the City Board approved a measure giving directors more oversight of city contracts. Previously, the city manager could approve most contracts under $50,000 without board approval. The manager can still engage in those contracts, but he must now provide the Mayor and city board a weekly list of those contracts. The ordinance was sponsored by Director Lance Hines.

At a City Board meeting late December, Mayor Scott told directors to put a potential sales tax increase on their radar for sometime in the next 18 months. The mayor made the remarks following comments by some board members expressing concern about the poor state of the Little Rock Fire Department’s fleet. The “Rebuild the Rock” proposal voted down last September would have added 1 percent to the local rate.

Meanwhile, Central Arkansas Water (CAW)’s Board voted last week to delay the vote on a proposed rate schedule increase. The new 10-year rate schedule would be put in place July 2023, with a rate increase every year after through 2032. The measure will now be voted on in January. The monthly rate charge for customers inside city limits would nearly double over the next 10 years for residential and commercial customers alike. There will also be an infrastructure fee of $0.50.

The Arkansas General Assembly will convene in regular session January 9. Governor-elect Sarah Huckabee Sanders will be sworn in January 10. Several bills have already been pre-filed, and members of both the House and Senate have selected committee membership. Rep. Matthew Shepherd (R-El Dorado) will again serve as Speaker of the House, with Sen. Bart Hester (R-Cave Springs) serving as President Pro-Tempore of the Senate.

**LRRA EDUCATION ROOM RENTAL**

LRRA rents its Education Room and Board Room out to interested groups in need of a classroom or lecture space. The Education Room is perfect for meeting space and seats up to 55. Our Education Room comes equipped with a large white board, a projector, overhead projector, podium, screen, 55 “television and Internet connections for all your connection needs. Our building is also equipped with Wi-Fi. Please call Jesse at 225-1987 or email at [jesse@lrra.com](mailto:jesse@lrra.com) for competitive rental rates.

**Financial Wellness Webinars**

The NAR is offering Financial Wellness Webinars which are designed to help REALTORS® understand financial topics on a deeper level.  No matter the career stage or level of financial planning, these webinars are helpful and informative to all members. Go to their website to learn more and get signed up.

**CODE OF ETHICS vs. CE**

The Code of Ethics….is a course each NAR-ARA-LRRA member takes upon joining the association and every three years after, for the duration of your membership. The Code of Ethics is what distinguishes our members from being just a licensee. Passing the Code of Ethics is what distinguishes a REALTOR® from a real estate agent. In order to reaffirm your commitment to being a REALTOR® you must retake the course every three years. It is on line and free. The current cycle ends December 31st, 2021.

Your Code of Ethics is not necessarily a continuing education class. It can be, but is not CE unless clearly stated by the instructor.

Each time you take Code of Ethics courses, either on line or through a licensed instructor, it is the agent’s responsibility to send a copy to their local board for coding into the NRDS system.

Code of Ethics does not go to the Arkansas Real Estate Commission**…..**it goes to your local board for entry into the NRDS database.

CE is what is required by the Arkansas Real Estate Commission for you to maintain a license to practice real estate in Arkansas.

**NAR CODE OF ETHICS REQUIREMENT**

We want to make you aware of a new NAR rule concerning Code of Ethics. Please make sure your agents are aware of this new NAR requirement.

If your agent believes he/she has taken it then they will need to provide us with a copy of their certificate showing the course included NAR required Code of Ethics.

We do not necessarily get notice that the agent completed the requirement when the educator turns the course list into the Commission. It is up to each agent to provide LRRA with a copy of their certificate to show they have completed the 2.5 required hours.

Noncompliance will force us to inactivate your membership. We do not want to do that! Please make sure you take the course at least 1 time every 3 years.

**NEED YOUR NRDS NUMBER?**

Do you need your NRDS number to pay dues, make a reservation, log on to REALTOR®.org?

If you joined the REALTORS® association through LRRA, your NRDS number will begin with 1280.

If you don’t have it here are some simple ways to find it:

* Look at the white address label on the cover of **YOUR**  ***REALTOR® magazine*** . Your NRDS number will be there.
* Go to our website at [www.LRRA.com](http://www.LRRA.com) and click on the box in the top left-hand corner of our homepage that says ‘Locate NRDS# Here’
* Once you have it, write it on the back of your pocket card for safe keeping.

**REALTOR® TEAM STORE- LRRA DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

Want to order REALTOR® merchandise and receive a discount?

Well now you can!  Go to the address listed below!

**[](http://www.realtorteamstore.com/index.php?main_page=page&id=75&chapter=0)**

**LRRArealtorteamstore.com**

Buy REALTOR® logo merchandise and **save 5%** using your Little Rock REALTORS® Association discount code.

Enter **LRRA** under the area marked “Discount Coupon” during checkout at step 2 of 4.

**WELCOME TO LRRA OUR NEWEST REALTOR MEMBERS**

Rashunda Bowers (Keller Williams Realty)

Daniel Brewer (Carolyn Russell Real Estate)

Danielle Bratton (Keller Williams Realty)

Jonathan Worthen (Keller Williams Realty)

Haley Mathews (Compass Rose Realty)

**NEW OFFICES**

Eagle Rock Realty Little Rock (Zach Saxion)

Signature Properties (Tracie Walker)

McGraw Realtors – Little Rock (Carol Sparkman)

**LRRA Mission Statement:** Little Rock REALTORS® Association provides its membership the opportunity to enhance REALTOR® performance through education, technology and integrity.

**LRRA Vision Statement:** Little Rock REALTORS® Association strives to serve as a voice for local REALTORS®, encourage a high level of ethics, education and professionalism among its members and to advocate on behalf of the profession.

**LRRA Core Values:** Education, Professionalism, Support of Members, Value to the Membership, Integrity, Property Rights, Voice to lobby and promote, Serve and Support our members and community, Advocacy and Ethics.

**LITTLE ROCK REALTORS® ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

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-

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Moses Tucker Partners

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