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

**Little Rock REALTORS**

**MAY 2023**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

May 2nd- YPN at Cantina Laredo

May 18th- Lunch & Learn w/ James Griffin of Edward Jones at LRRA

May 22nd- LAC and BOD Meetings

May 29th- Memorial Day (Office Closed)

**Lunch & Learn**

On May 18th we will have a Lunch & Learn at our office here at 300 Natural Resources Drive from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Our speaker will be James Griffin of the Edward Jones Company. James will be giving a talk called " "3 Wealth Building Pitfalls that Most Realtors Make". The Lunch & Learn is free to all members.

**2023 ORIENTATION**

**Next Orientation**

If you have missed your scheduled Orientation date or missed being inducted in the past year, please notify Nick@LRRA.com so you can complete the process and not have to start the process all over.

Please note that you have two opportunities to attend an orientation from the time that you sign up for membership. If you miss those two opportunities you will be placed on inactive status and your CARMLS access will be inactivated until you have completed orientation. **You will be notified by email when you become eligible to attend New Member Orientation. Our next Orientation will be in person, at our office on March 9th.**

**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 and cc 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!**

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YPN (Young Professionals Network) will now be the FIRST Tuesday of each month, except for January and July of 2023. The next YPN will be May 2ndat Cache Restaurant from 5 to 7 PM! This month’s sponsors are Arvest, ARW Home Warranty and Waco Title. We take cash or credit/debit card at the door: $5 REALTOR®s, $10 Affiliates, $15 Guests. Any Affiliate looking to sponsor please contact our YPN Chair Meg France by emailing Meg@jonunderhill.com

Legislative Affairs



**Session**

After 90 days in session, the Arkansas General Assembly adjourned business on April 7, coming back for final (sine die) adjournment, and to address any vetoes May 1.  Legislators worked into the night throughout the final week of session, giving final passage to dozens of measures, including  the state’s budget, a comprehensive prison reform bill, and a measure to set per-pupil spending for Arkansas students.  Also during the final week of session, legislators approved more than $186 million in tax cuts and referred one constitutional amendment to the general election ballot.

There were multiple measures filed this session impacting the REALTOR community. For example, there were several attempts to change the real estate license law, including creation of a property management license, OR, through later legislation, doing away with any licensure requirement for property managers, which not only impacts the industry, but puts consumers at risk. Thanks to the mobilization and quick action by REALTORS, these measures were defeated.

Early in the session, there was a measure to allow a person employed by a licensed residential construction company to be exempt from licensure. After a battle back in 2021, this bill was negotiated ahead of the session and passed fairly quickly.

Legislators also approved an increase to the homestead property tax credit, from $375 to $425 (the first increase in several years). Lastly, HB1207, the “fast-track permitting” bill received final passage. It requires local governments to approve, deny, or request to revise a permit application within 60 days of receipt.

**CAW Rate Increase/City Board**

The Little Rock Board of Directors recently voted down a resolution to oppose the CAW rate increase. The measure failed by a vote of 4-6. Without formal opposition from both the Board and the North Little Rock City Council, the rate increase will go into effect as approved by the CAW Board. The first schedule of new rates is set to take effect July 1.

**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.

**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.

**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 Libby at 225-1987 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.
* Check last year’s billing invoice in your Brokers administrative office, it is listed on each billing invoice.
* 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!

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**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**

**Realtors:**

**WELCOME TO LRRA OUR NEWEST REALTOR MEMBERS**

Verona Swanigan (Start to Finish Realty)

Yulanda Riley (Nash Realty, Inc.)

Clair Zeiger (iRealty Arkansas)

Annie Hogue (Keller Williams Realty LR)

Brian Miller (Mid South Realty)

Tameka Mitchell (Plush Homes Company - Realtors)

J Andrew Dickey (Whitetail Properties Real Estate)

Patricia Ramos (Casa Americana Realty)

Gabriel King (Keller Williams Realty)

Mya Hunter (Keller Williams Realty)

Samer Kassis (Re/Max Elite)

Marcus Williams (NextHome BHB Property Advisors)

**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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Fletcher Hanson

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Moses Tucker Partners

President Elect

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Matty Ross

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Jon Kennon

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iRealty Arkansas

Secretary

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Mitsy Tharp

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Signature Properties

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