



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Scott Herceg, CAE, Executive Officer

office phone: 231-348-9770

Fax: 231-348-8155

Email: scott@HBAnorthernmichigan.org

Web Site: www.HBAnorthernmichigan.org

Regional Home Builders Association Honors Service with Annual Awards

The Home Builders Association of Northern Michigan (HBANM) has announced this year's recipients of its awards for distinguished service to the association and community.

Each year leaders in the association who devote their time and effort to advancing the home building industry are acknowledged for their contributions in several areas. The 2016 award recipients were acknowledged at the association's annual awards event May 3rd which was hosted by Dave Kring Chevrolet Cadillac in Petoskey.

The Home Builders Association of Northern Michigan includes builders, remodelers, tradesmen, suppliers and affiliated businesses in Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Otsego and Emmet counties. In addition to providing membership support, the primary goals of the association's administration is to promote professional development, offer regulatory and legislative support, and act as administrative liaison between the local members and their state and national level industry groups; the Home Builders Association of Michigan and the National Home Builders Association.

The association's Affiliate of the Year award for 2016 was awarded to Jim Musselman of Great Lakes Plumbing Heating and Air Conditioning for his many years of service and participation personally and through his staff. He has encouraged staff members to be involved in the Tailgate, the High Performance

Building Council, the Professional Women in Building, the HBANM Board of Directors, the Northern Michigan Regional Home Show and the Home Show Preview Party. Even with all the donations of time and talent by his staff, his company is consistently a financial sponsor of many events throughout the program year. Great Lakes Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning team member Jeff Brisson accepted the award for Musselman who was unable to attend.

Associate Member of the Year was Gary Lewinski from Emmet Brick and Block. Lewinski was recognized for his many years of service to the Association as a former board member, treasurer and current active participant in many HBA events and causes. More specifically, he was recognized for the high quality of customer service that he and his team give to their customers. As part of that service it was noted that not only do they carry a product mix that is compliant with the new energy codes but that they make sure their customers are well informed and educated about the products.

John Cupps Jr of Cupps Masonry was recognized as the association's Builder of the Year for 2016. Cupps is a second generation owner of his family business and continuously seeks to grow that business. He represented the members of the HBANM by serving on the Board of Directors multiple times including multiple terms in a leadership role as an officer and is currently serving as Vice President. Extremely generous, whether he is present or not, his business is usually represented by a sponsorship that helps make HBANM events successful. One of the most recognized names in masonry in Northern Michigan. His work can be viewed throughout the area in residential and commercial projects and is consistently lauded for its decorative and functional aspects. "John provides strong leadership in promoting the mission of our association and the building trade." said HBANM President Stephanie Baldwin, of Edgewater Design Group. "He puts his heart and soul into everything that he does with his business and has demonstrated a great commitment to serving the area and this Association time and time again." John Cupps Sr. accepted the award for his son who was unable to attend.

Local CPA, Adam Caron of Rasmussen, Teller, O'Neal and Christman received the association's President's Award for 2016, from President Baldwin, in recognition of demonstrated outstanding dedication of time and talent in service to the construction industry and the Home Builders Association. A multi term board member, and current treasurer, Caron was recognized for his countless volunteer hours behind the scenes supporting the staff of the HBA on financial matters. This past year he was also instrumental in helping to transfer all the data to a new accounting system which allowed for more accurate budgeting and record keeping. President Baldwin went on to praise Caron for his calm level-headed demeanor and good sense of humor while always maintaining a high level of professionalism and commitment to the Association. This commitment was illustrated in the retelling of an episode that happened this past winter where Caron was walking to an HBANM Board Meeting, slipped on some ice in the street and cracked one of his ribs, but refused medical attention until the meeting was completed.

Christy Lyons of the Northern Michigan Review was the 2016 recipient of the Dick Crawford Award, which was developed in 2010 to recognize distinguished individuals who serve the community through their association with the HBA of Northern Michigan, Lyons has been involved in the association for many years but has done most of her support work behind the scenes. In the community though, she is well known and very active. She is currently a member of the Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors, the Petoskey Sunrise Rotary Club, the Northmen Night Committee, and has been very active in Junior Achievement and the local YMCA over the years. For the HBA of Northern Michigan she is key in the production of the newspaper insert and marketing materials for the Northern Michigan Regional Home Show. As Chief Revenue officer of the Northern Michigan Review she helped negotiate a percentage of return to the HBA from advertising dollars produced by the Home Show Tabloid. That revenue is important for the HBANM to provide continued quality programming to its members.

Geri Nelson of DTE Energy received the Clyde Whaley Award for 2016. This annual honor recognizes extra ordinary volunteerism to the HBA of Northern Michigan. Nelson, who lives in Escanaba and covers a large territory for DTE, is a member of 3 different local Home Builders Associations across the UP and Northern Michigan. With the HBA of Northern Michigan, she has served on the Tailgate Committee, is past Vice President and current President of the Professional Women in Building (PWB) Council, and played a huge part in the success of the last two Northern Michigan Regional Home Shows by helping to chair the Preview Party before the main show. On a state level she has helped organize several other PWB Chapters across the state and is a consistent presence at any state wide PWB events. On a national level she also volunteers with the National Association of Home Builders in a nationwide leadership capacity for PWB.

One additional award of the night was a scholarship that the local Professional Women in Building Council developed this year. It is designed to help provide educational support dollars to worthy students pursuing a career in the building trades on a post-secondary level. This year's recipient was Alex Brisson a Senior at Pellston High School and a member of the HBANM Student Chapter that is chartered to the Pellston High School Building and Trades Program. Brisson is planning to continue her education at North Central Michigan College while continuing to work in the building industry.

To view pictures of all the 2016 award recipients or to find out more about the Home Builders Association of Northern Michigan please visit their facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HBAnorthernmichigan>.

###

Photo Credit

Pictured are left to right: Scott Herceg, Executive Officer HBANM, John Cupps Sr., Gary Lewinski, Stephanie Baldwin, Christy Lyons, Alex Brisson, Adam Caron, Geri Nelson, and Jeff Brisson.