

Fellow BCAR members,

As the year winds down, I realize what a busy time it has been. With the hard work of our committees, directors, officers and staff we are moving forward to better meet your needs. In an effort to better communicate with the membership, the association has placed the 2009 financial statements online for you to view. Both the profit and loss and balance sheet are available to the member's only side of the BCAR website, the same link you click on for registering for an event or paying a bill.

Another service that our members asked for is online voting for BCAR Officers and Directors. Well the Board of Directors voted to implement online voting for the 2010 officers and directors and the membership supported the bylaw change. Our elections for officers include the 2010 President-Elect, Vice President and Treasurer. We have three (3) Director seats to vote for as well. Staff will send out an email with the instructions for a login in and password. The voting begins Monday, October 5 at 8:00 am and ends Monday, October 12 at 8:00 am. The initial announcement of the winners of the election will be at the October 13 General Membership Meeting, with an email to the entire membership on Wednesday October 14. Please take advantage of this opportunity to vote for your leadership.

Speaking of the October 13, 2009 General Membership Meeting, it is a dinner meeting with a chance to meet local municipal candidates for approximately an hour before the meeting. At the meeting, each committee chair will give a summary of this year's committee actions. There will also be a presentation of the *draft* strategic plan from the Strategic Planning Committee. They developed a new vision statement, mission statement and work program for the association for 2010.

The Board of Directors also voted to hold a special Lunch and Learn Meeting on Tuesday December 8, 2009. The purpose of this meeting is to hear specific details about the new CAMA setback rules that affect all of our beach communities' real estate. Please place this date on your calendars. If your profession is real estate, you need to attend this meeting!

The \$8,000 first time homebuyer tax credit had a profound impact on our industry. Well, that tax credit is set to expire on December 1, 2009. The National Association of REALTORS® is holding a Call for Action so members across the country can tell their congressional representative and senators they need to extend that credit for another year. To date, we only have a 9% response rate. I am not sure that will convince Congress to extend the tax credit. Here is the link to get your voice heard and help our industry: [Take Action in Just 60 Seconds to Help Extend the Tax Credit](#)

Shannon Hill, 2009 BCAR President