



Wabash Valley NARI

www.WabashValleyNARI.org

PO Box 4152
Lafayette, IN 47903

Volume I, Issue X
Meeting date: May 15, 2007

President—Tim Schrock
Vice President—Rodney Troxell
Treasurer—Gale Payne

Board member— Jeff Tyson
Board member— Bonnie Mantle
Board member— Bob Talbott

Lafayette Inspectors share their goals

The Lafayette Inspectors were kind to join us during our May meeting. Steve Fisher and Bob McKinniss shared, as did Ron Highland in one of our past newsletters, that Lafayette, West Lafayette, and the County

inspectors are indeed gathering once per quarter and reviewing codes—and more specifically, the interpretation of the codes—so as to help all of us deal with the issues of remodeling and construction in a consistent

manner.

Both Steve and Bob are somewhat new to the job, but, as you know, have experience in their fields of expertise.

...See "Inspectors" p. 2

NARI Website is #1!

It seems that our work has paid off. And not too shabby either! Amongst all the work to promote our website, and work on content, Google has recognized that effort and placed us as #1! You can try it yourself. At Google.com, enter a search for "professional remodeler Lafayette Indi-

ana" and you will notice that ours is FIRST on the list. Searching the same for West Lafayette brings us up as #1! right now. Take heart, the page that appears most frequently in the search is the MEMBERS listing! They click on that, and see your names first!

Stats for the month of May: 110 people came to our site (90 in April) a total of 462 times. 60 of those were looking at the site between 2-30 minutes.

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Attending this meeting:

Members:	Guests:
Tony Batta	Melissa-Lowes
Ken Dismore	Steve Fisher
Bonnie Mantle	Bob McKinniss
Gale Payne	Ben Mullikin
Tim Schrock	Sean Feavel
Bob Talbott	
Dick Traeger	
Jeff Tyson	
Dan Walker	
Mick Owens	
Ron Thomas	

Calendar:

June 19

General Meeting @ 6:30
Logan's Roadhouse
Habitat's SHARP program
Election slate of officers

July 17

Annual Picnic @ 6:30
Dan Walker has graciously allowed us to use his home for our picnic this year.

Watch our website for announcements and information regarding these events.

www.wabashvalleynari.org

Do you want to let NARI members know about you, your company, or your product / services? Maybe you want to show off a project.



Get it printed in this monthly newsletter.

Email us: wvnari@wabashvalleynari.org



From the Commissioner

Ron Highland

Decks

R-311.1

Did you know that wood decks must be attached to your house? The answer to this question is yes. A physical attachment is necessary.

For example, the homeowner decides instead of a concrete pad they would like to have a wood deck. This is ok except that the contractor needs to check with the local building department first. There may be a slight fee increase for this change. Most of the

time an addendum to the existing permit can be done. The next step would be to have the post holes inspected for depth. A final inspection is also needed to inspect the finished product.

...See "Commissioner" p. 3



Joke of the Day—

A cannibal entered the meat market to buy something nice for dinner. The owner greeted him and told him to look around. The cannibal began to inspect the meat case and noticed the market specialized in brain.

Upon further inspection he noticed a marked disparity between the costs of brain meats. A carpenter's brain sells for \$1.50 per pound. A plumber's brain sells for \$2.25 per pound. He noticed with alarm that a politician's brain sells for \$375.00 a pound. With not a little curiosity he asked the owner why the huge difference in price between the similar meats.

The owner responded with a deadpan look on his face, "Do you realize how many politicians it takes to get a pound of brains?"

President's Column

Education—What Value?

The next two statements in our mission statement are thus:

#4) To sponsor educational programs and activities for the benefit and enlightenment of its members. #5 also speaks of education, but to a different audience. It says:

To conduct programs to inform the public of the need or advantages of maintaining homes in good condition and to thereby help improve the nation's housing inventory. We have some good educa-

tional meetings each month for our members. There are also educational opportunities thru the NARI Certification programs. Our

There are costs and risks to a program of action, but they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction.

John F. Kennedy

own members have offered training and seminars from time to time. How does this help our members?

One might ask those who have taken advantage of these opportunities.

One could also state that this benefits our industry to make better businessmen and women. These improve the business skills and craft skills in dealing with clients and construction issues.

The internet is also a great place of education. One of my goals is to gather information for our members in the "members only" section of our web-

...See "Education" p. 3

Inspectors ...cont'd from p. 1

They realize that they do not have all the answers, and as such, they are open to discussion. They do not want to have an adversarial relationship with the contractors in Lafayette, they would like to help both the contractors and the residents of Lafayette.

Bob did mention that they have noticed several issues with electrical service up-

grades that is moving them to ~~strongly~~ suggest (and I believe maybe require) a pre-inspection on these jobs. The best advice is to call them to get their input before starting the job.

Directory Distribution

A couple of months ago, we printed 1000 member directories to distribute to our community. We also sold sponsorships with the expectations that we would distribute them. I believe we need to distribute aggressively.

It would not be unreasonable to be out of directories by the end of the year. At the last meeting, we discussed several locations that could possibly benefit the distribution effort: the chamber of commerce,

Realtor's offices, and Bank loan officers were the three main avenues discussed. Several members volunteered to talk to people in these positions, and get our directories out! Please help us in getting out the word.

Commissioner ...cont'd from p. 2

In conclusion, decks are very important. There are rules on how they can be built. So the next time your customer wants to make a change. Let the building department know so your building permit can reflect the change.

Once again, if you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at (765) 423-9225 anytime. Inspectors are usually in the office in the morning from 8:00am -9:00am and stop back in during lunch from about 12:00pm-1:00pm.

Sincerely,
Ronald L. Highland
Tippecanoe County Building
Commissioner

Education ...cont'd from p. 2

site. I'm sure we can do more to educate our members.

Working on educating the public can be difficult. Mostly because we need to attract them. Our members are paying to be here, the public only comes if they see personal benefit. We have started the ball rolling with the seminar in April. In a small way, our

directories also educate, but not completely. Education of the public is important to our organization and our community. As our mission statement says, to educate the community keeps the local housing inventory doing well. The whole community benefits with value by keeping the houses maintained and in order.

We also need to do more in educating the public. I would like to see that we do at least one more seminar this year. Maybe a different venue, definitely a new topic, but always the same value—benefit the community. That's the value of education.

-Tim

Public Exposure

Do you want exposure as an expert in your field? Maybe you have a relevant story of how a client can expect to deal with a professional remodeler. Vendors: do you want to show-

case a new product line—say a special screen, coating, material, color options, etc.? Wabash Valley NARI can help you get your name and

thoughts into the public eye. Call Tim @ 765-482-6371 for more info. No tricks, no cost, no joke. This is open to members only.



Special Note:

Please review our website Members listing to make sure that we have all your correct contact information. If not, email us
wvnari@wabashvalleynari.org
Let us know what you think of the look and feel of the site, or share your ideas so that we can improve it!

Elections:

Our calendar says that we hold elections in June. And we will. Please join us at Logan's Roadhouse to vote and determine the direction and future of Wabash Valley NARI. Your vote DOES count!! (No hanging chads nor lawsuits will follow) If you are willing to serve, please contact us.

SEND FEEDBACK!

Would you like to see additional information in the newsletter? Should we pull educational articles from various sources and include it here?

VENDORS!

Do you want some space to tell the members about your services or products? Call me @ 765-482-6371 or email wvnari@wabashvalleynari.org