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## **GNAR NAMES REALTOR OF THE YEAR, RECOGNIZES TOP INDUSTRY ACHIEVERS**

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (March 5, 2011)** – The Greater Nashville Association of Realtors recently named Hagan Stone of Pilkerton Realtors as the 2010 Realtor of the Year, according to GNAR President Alice Walker.

The Realtor of the Year award is given annually to the GNAR Realtor member who has made the most significant contribution to their clients, to the real estate profession and to the community. The five immediate past Realtor of the Year recipients select the winner. Stone was recognized for his achievements by Walker at GNAR's annual Awards of Excellence Gala held Saturday, March 5, at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Nashville.

"Through the Looking Glass – Celebrating 100 Years!" was the theme for event. GNAR has been affiliated with the National Association of Realtors for 100 years, and in business for 120 years, originally established in 1891. The first attempt to create a national association of real estate boards was actually initiated here in Nashville in 1982, but it was not successful due to challenging economic conditions at the time. The National Association of Realtors was later established in 1908, and GNAR (then known as the Nashville Real Estate Board) affiliated with the organization in 1911.

## **GNAR Names Realtor of Year – page 2**

“It is just a joy to see Hagan honored with this recognition, since he is so deserving of it,” said Walker. “He is a remarkable professional, and a remarkable person. And, it bears noting that he and his family were directly affected by the flood last May. To earn awards recognition this year while rebuilding his home and caring for the needs of his family is simply amazing. He represents what it means to be a Realtor through the service he provides to his clients and customers, through his commitment to improving the real estate profession by his involvement at every level of the Realtor organization, and by investing himself in the lives of people in this community.”

Stone is currently a Vice President of GNAR, and has been on the board of directors since 2009. His involvement at GNAR has included service on a variety of committees, including Membership, Professional Standards, Convention, Awards of Excellence and the Young Professionals Network. He is a graduate of Leadership GNAR and Leadership TAR, and is member of the current class of Leadership NAR.

Stone is engaged at the state and national levels of the Realtor organization, as well. He is a director of the Tennessee Association of Realtors and has served on committees at TAR. And, he is fully engaged in NAR’s YPN program. Also, Stone’s understanding of and commitment to legislative involvement, including political fundraising, has resulted in his being featured in a related national video to be released later this month.

In addition to his many involvements in the Realtor organization, Stone is also very active in the community. He volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, serves on the Belmont University Alumni Board, helped organize the curriculum for Youth Leadership Brentwood, volunteers for the Dawson McAllister Youth Crisis hotline, teaches a Sunday School class for 11<sup>th</sup> grade boys, has a long standing involvement with Young Life, sings in the choir and is planning a mission trip for his church this summer.

“Hagan understands the value of relationships,” Walker said. “He demonstrates that by his keeping in touch with those who have graduated from the youth program at this church by making a quarterly trip to Knoxville just to

### **GNAR Names Realtor of Year – page 3**

have coffee or lunch with them. And, with all he is involved in, he still makes time to read to his daughter Catherine's class once a month. It is a pleasure to see him recognized as GNAR's Realtor of the Year."

Other key award recipients recognized at GNAR's Awards of Excellence Celebration include:

- Top Team Listing: Terry DeSelms, RE/MAX Elite
- Top Team Selling: Terry DeSelms, RE/MAX Elite
- Top Individual Listing Agent: Joe Petno, EXIT Realty 1<sup>st</sup> Choice
- Top Individual Selling Agent: Joe Petno, EXIT Realty 1<sup>st</sup> Choice

In addition to the special awards, there were 79 GNAR members recognized with Awards of Excellence based on their achievements in sales volume, transactions and Association involvement criteria. Earned recognition ranges from Silver Awards for a minimum of \$1 million and 15 transactions to Diamond Awards for more than \$10 million in volume and/or 100 transactions. All GNAR Awards of Excellence winners are posted on the GNAR website ([www.gnar.org](http://www.gnar.org)).

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