

INTEGRITY



BUILDERS PLAN

SEPTEMBER, 2008

P.O. Box 745

Ashtabula, Ohio 44005-0745

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www.ashtabulacountybuildersassociation.org

ASHTABULA COUNTY BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

" The Voice of the Industry in Ashtabula County"

GENERAL MEETING

\$25.00 PER MEAL

INCLUDES:

Happy Hour, Choice of :

Prime Rib, Chicken or Fish with
Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad and Roll

COMMENTARY

Dear Friends and Builders,

Frank Curtin is on vacation and has asked me to write this month's letter.

On August 14th, eighty three fortunate individuals got to legally venture onto the County's newest shining jewel. From those who attended the Builders Annual Summer Social that beautiful evening, we would like to tip our hats to the staff of Union Industrial Contractors and all the other companies involved in this great project. It is not often that a company gets to be involved in a project that is in the public's eye as much as this one, and not to mention the amount of tourists that will travel from points far and wide to see, walk, and drive across the newest and longest covered bridge in the United States. You truly have built something to be proud of! And we, the Builders Association, are humbled that you allowed us the opportunity to have our Social in the shadows of your project. We would also like to thank Rick Miller for all his efforts in making this a very successful event.

September is the start of clam season and Drew Thomas of Thomas Fence is promising to deliver to the builders our Annual Clambake. If you did not attend last

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 11th	Clam Bake Elks Club
October 9th	General Meeting Elks Club
November 13th	General Meeting Elks Club
December 11th	Christmas Party Elks Club
January 8th	Celebration Elks Club
February 12th	General Meeting Elks Club

Happy hour is 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Dinner 7:00pm

RSVP by Monday prior to meeting date and if you need to cancel please call by Tuesday evening.

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years Clambake, you missed a great one. If you know Drew, as I do, rest assured that this year will be better than last year, why you might ask, because that is what Drew does, He is always trying to improve on perfection. And if that is not enough of a reason to attend come and see the newest piece of equipment??? Drew has added to culinary arsenal. The price of admission is worth it just to see his newest addition. This a great meeting to invite guests and to bring a possible new member, so please call or email Michelle with your reservations. You will not be disappointed.

In closing, please remember that school is back in session and keep an eye out for our little ones as they prepare for the rest of their lives.

Sincerely,

Bill Romanko

Secretary and Past-Past President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers

Frank Curtin, President

Rick Miller, Vice-President

Paul Crease, Immediate Past President, Treasurer

Bill Romanko, Secretary

Trustees

Bill Claycomb

Bill Douglas

Gayle Loftus

Mike Redmon

Terry Strong

Dan Theiss

Rich Vanek

Tim Vogel

Director

Michelle Laveck

WEBSITE

CHECK OUT THE NEW AND IMPROVED
WEBSITE

Let us know if you would like
one of your projects featured on the website.
Also make sure your information is current.

CONTACT US

997-1866 or ashtabulacountybuilders@alltel.net

NEWSLETTER

**If you have any updates about your
company or any articles you would
like to see featured in the newsletter
please e-mail
ashtabulacountybuilders@alltel.net**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ASHTABULA COUNTY BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL CLAM & KING CRAB LEG FEST



Thursday, September 11, 2008

at

**Elks Lake Front Lodge
3115 Lake Road West
Ashtabula, Ohio**

\$45.00 per person

6:00p.m. Happy Hour and Clam Chowder

7:00p.m. Dinner-One Dozen Clams-King Crab Legs-
Grilled Standing Rib-Grilled Leg of Lamb-
Grilled Rosemary Chicken-
Fresh Redskin Potatoes-Fresh Ohio Sweet Corn-
Salad-Fresh Bread



OPEN BAR 6:00p.m. - 10:00p.m.



Live Entertainment by "The River City Jazz Band"



A GREAT TIME TO BRING A GUEST
For reservations please call (440)997-1866 or
e-mail ashtabulacountybuilders@alltel.net
by Friday, September 4th

If you have any questions concerning the Clam Bake, call Drew Thomas at (440)998-4747

Builder Confidence Holds Steady In August

Sales Expectations Improve For Next Six Months

August 18, 2008 - Anticipating positive impacts of newly enacted housing stimulus legislation, single-family home builders registered some improvement in their outlook for home sales in the next six months, according to the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) for August, released today. The overall confidence measure held even this month at 16, while the component gauging sales expectations rose two points to 25.

“With the passage of crucial housing legislation last month that created an attractive home buyer tax credit, there is a sense that home sales may soon be reaching a turning point,” noted NAHB President Sandy Dunn, a home builder from Point Pleasant, W.Va. “Builders are anticipating the stimulative effects of this legislation and are optimistic that the tax credit will give those buyers who’ve been sitting on the fence the reason they need to jump back into the market.”

The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, signed into law by President Bush on July 30, implemented several critical reforms to the housing finance system, provided aid to troubled homeowners facing foreclosure, and created a temporary \$7,500 tax credit for first-time home buyers who meet certain income requirements. NAHB has developed a Web site at www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com to promote the tax credit and answer commonly asked questions about it.

“While our overall measure of builder confidence remains at a record low at this time, it is a good sign that two out of three of the HMI’s component indexes rose in August, and this may be an indication that we are nearing the bottom of the long downswing in new-home sales,” said NAHB Chief Economist David Seiders. “Our current forecast shows stabilization of sales during the second half of this year, followed by solid recovery in 2009 and beyond.”

Derived from a monthly survey that NAHB has been conducting for more than 20 years, the NAHB/Wells Fargo HMI gauges builder perceptions of current single-family home sales and sales expectations for the next six months as “good,” “fair” or “poor.” The survey also asks builders to rate traffic of prospective buyers as “high to very high,” “average” or “low to very low.” Scores for each component are then used to calculate a seasonally adjusted index where any number over 50 indicates that more builders view sales conditions as good than poor.

Two out of three of the HMI’s component indexes posted gains in August, including a one-point rise in the index gauging current sales conditions, to 16, and a two-point uptick in the index gauging sales expectations for the next six months, to 25. The component gauging traffic of prospective buyers remained unchanged, at 12.

Regionally, the Northeast and Midwest each posted gains in builder confidence, with the Northeast up two points to 16 and the Midwest up four points to 14. Meanwhile, the South remained unchanged at 20, and the West, whose new-homes market has been heavily impacted by an upswing in foreclosure sales at cut-rate prices, posted a decline of three points to 11.