



CELEBRATING
55 YEARS

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President's message

June 09, 2010 - Rhode Island

"If you think education is expensive, try ignorance."

Many of us have seen that thought-provoking statement on every medium from television to bumper stickers. Especially in the current economy, it's a statement that's just as applicable in your business as it is to taxpayers and students.

The National Association of Home Builders, to which all members of the Rhode Island Builders Association automatically belong, offers valuable courses, many of which lead to professional designations that not only put you way ahead in the knowledge department but also give you a big edge over your competitors when it comes to marketing.

Designations include: GMB - Graduate Master Builder, CGA - Certified Graduate Associate, GMR - Graduate Master Remodeler, CGB - Certified Graduate Builder, CGP - Certified Green Professional, CGR - Certified Graduate Remodeler, CAASH - Certified Active Adult Specialist in Housing, CSP/MCSP - Certified New Home Sales Professional/Master CSP, CAPS - Certified Aging in Place Specialist, HCCP - Housing Credit Certified Professional, CLP - Certified Leasing Professional, CMP - Certified Marketing Professional, RAM/ARAM - Registered in Apartment Management/Advanced RAM, and MIRM - Member: Institute of Residential Marketing.

RIBA isn't able to offer all the necessary courses locally on a regular basis, of course, but if enough members express an interest in a particular course or designation, arrangements will be made. Some requirements can be fulfilled by correspondence. Otherwise, plan to attend NAHB national events, especially the annual International Builders Show, where all the required courses are offered.

Locally, RIBA offers courses that are vital for all members. Most recently, the 8 Hour Lead-Safe Remodeler/Renovator Course has become essential for any contractor working in a pre-1978 building. RIBA has been offering this course at least once a month, as it is required for licensing under the new EPA lead regulations.

RIBA regularly offers the OSHA-10 Certification Course, the Hoisting Pre-Licensing Class, apprenticeship education programs, safety classes, seminars on building codes, management training, estimating and much more. Visit www.ribuilders.org and watch The Rhode Island Builder Report for details and schedules.

There are already signs of a recovery in the housing market, so be prepared when business picks up. It will cost you far more to remain passively at the back of the line than it will to take a few courses! For more information on RIBA courses, call (401) 438-7400 or visit www.ribuilders.org.

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