



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REALTORS® Kick Off a New Century

A new year signals the beginning of the future for RAMP in Pittsburgh

(Pittsburgh) Friday, January 20, 2012 – The REALTORS® Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh (RAMP) moved on from its 2011 centennial year and kicked off the next 100 years on Lucky Friday the 13th at The Rivers Casino. The new century began with the installation of the 2012 officers, awards for achievements in the year past and plans for serving the Pittsburgh community and the real estate industry in the future.

James L. Helsel, 2008-10 treasurer of the National Association of REALTORS®, installed the 2012 leadership team: President Shirley Boyd-McNamara, President-Elect Ruthanne Belus and Secretary Treasurer J. Matthew Barone. Honored guests included the Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS® Chief Executive Officer Dave Phillips, Treasurer Ron Croushore and District 8 Vice President Robina “Bebe” English. Master of Ceremonies was R. Dennis McClelland, who is also returning as RAMP’s Executive Vice President.

Anthony J. Cimino was recognized as RAMP’s 2011 REALTOR® of the Year. Mr. Cimino was awarded RAMP’s most prestigious honor by 2010 recipient, Staci Rullo, for his exemplary service to RAMP and the state association and valuable contributions to the industry as the broker-owner of RE/MAX Heritage. RAMP’s 2011 President R. Kevin Brown awarded the Affiliate of the Year honor to Edward M. Sickmund of MyWay Mobile Storage for his support of RAMP activities and commitment to our area’s homeowners and real estate professionals.

President McNamara said, “REALTORS® are at the heart of the real estate transaction. We are here to serve the real estate needs of our region and contribute to the community. One of the most valued ways we do that is by promoting Pittsburgh as *the* place to be. The ‘Pittsburgh...The Right Choice’ media campaign has generated over 13 million positive impressions through www.theliveswetouch.org and that number will grow in 2012 with the continued support of our media partners. Veterans returning from military service also have a friend at RAMP. Our school, the REALTORS® Education Institute, will be offering assistance to Veterans who wish to pursue real estate education.

RAMP is our region’s most ardent voice for real estate and private property rights. REALTORS® have a heart and we will do our best to see that RAMP serves the community and the real estate industry with pride and compassion.”

The mission of the REALTORS® Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh is to be the voice for real estate, enhance its members’ ability to conduct business professionally and protect private property rights. For online media resources about RAMP, visit <http://www.ramprealtors.com>.



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PHOTOS

Photos may be viewed or downloaded directly here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/gallery/24599143/1/2012%20Installation%20Press%20Photos?h=fe58ca>

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

Image Name	Caption
2012-RAMP-Installation-002	RAMP EVP Dennis McClelland, 2002 Past President Terry Wright, Membership Director Jeff Zirngibl, and Sonny Bringol of Victorian Finance LLC striking a pose.
2012-RAMP-Installation-003	Leslie Boyd standing with RAMP's new 2012 president Shirley Boyd-McNamara, and National Anthem singer Scott Boyd of the band SICKSENSE.
2012-RAMP-Installation-048	RAMP 2012 President Shirley Boyd-McNamara and RAMP 2011 President R. Kevin Brown Jr.
2012-RAMP-Installation-053	RAMP Historian Laurel McAdams and Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS® CEO Dave Phillips
2012-RAMP-Installation-054	National Association of REALTORS® 2008-10 Treasurer James Helsel with 2010 RAMP President Bebe English.
2012-RAMP-Installation-066	Dennis McClelland, RAMP Executive Vice President, served as emcee.
2012-RAMP-Installation-077	2010 REALTOR® of the Year Staci Rullo (Northwood Realty Services) presenting the 2011 award to recipient Anthony Cimino (RE/MAX Heritage.)
2012-RAMP-Installation-091	Ron Croushore of Prudential Preferred Realty makes an RPAC donation with RAMP Government Affairs Director Jennifer Cloonan
2012-RAMP-Installation-0157	Longtime REALTORS® Phyllis Spiegel, 2012 President-Elect Ruthanne Belus, 2012 President Shirley Boyd-McNamara, 2008 Tony Mete, and RAMP Candidate Screening Chair Carol Palomera enjoyed the camaraderie.
Realtors Penn B 054	RAMP's 2012 leadership team of Matthew Barone (Secretary-Treasurer), Ruthanne Belus (President-Elect), and President Shirley Boyd McNamara.