



San Mateo County
Association of REALTORS®

-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

April 14, 2006

San Mateo County Realtors® Celebrate 2005 Sales Achievements

San Mateo, CA -- A total of 164 members of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors® (SAMCAR) were honored for their sales achievements in 2005 at SAMCAR's 11th Annual Sales Achievement Milestone Awards (SAMMYs) held Wednesday evening, April 12, at the San Francisco Airport Hyatt Regency Hotel in Burlingame.

Twelve Realtors received the Platinum SAMMY, the most coveted award of the real estate industry. This award was presented to Realtors who closed 50 or more real estate transactions in 2005. Another 12 Realtors received the Gold SAMMY award for closing 35 or more real estate transactions; 51 Realtors received the Silver SAMMY award for closing 20 or more real estate transactions. Five teams were recognized with the Bronze Team SAMMY award for closing 24 or more real estate transactions, and 79 Realtors received the Bronze SAMMY award for closing 12 or more real estate transactions.

Participation in the SAMMYs is voluntary. Only Realtors who are members of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors can participate in the qualification process for the annual awards. The term "REALTOR®" is a registered collective membership mark which identifies a real estate professional who is a member of the National Association of Realtors® and who subscribes to its strict Code of Ethics. Adherence by SAMCAR Realtors to the Code benefits consumers who are buying or selling a home. The Code of Ethics highlights the honesty and integrity that Realtors bring to each and every transaction.

Receiving the Platinum SAMMYs were Donna Marie Baldwin (Coldwell Banker), Mary Bee (RE/MAX Today), Susan Chong (Coldwell Banker), Maxine Dumas (Dumas & Company), Maureen Gilmartin (Prudential California), Jaime Gonzalez (RE/MAX Mid-Peninsula), Rosa Amanda Holm (Prudential California), Haifa Khoury (RE/MAX Today), Alex Lehr (Lehr Real Estate), Stanley Lo (Green Banker), Silvano Loayza (Coldwell Banker) and Mona Naber (Century 21 Alliance).

Special Events Committee Chair and SAMCAR Director Donna "T." Tramontozzi (RE/MAX Dolphin) served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. 2006 SAMCAR President John Giesecker (Prudential California) delivered the welcome remarks, thanked the corporate and event sponsors, and presented the SAMMY awards to the honorees.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Honorary Members-For-Life awards to Mildred Pietschker (Prudential California) and Gene Steil (Rupert Taylor Real Estate). Steil, who was not able to be at the event, was presented the award earlier during SAMCAR's April 4th Combined Marketing Meeting.

Giesecker noted, being acknowledged as an Honorary Member-For-Life, is "probably the highest award" a Realtor can receive from SAMCAR, the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) and their peers.

The evening of celebration concluded with dancing to the sounds of Full Moon DJ, but not before it was noted that the 164 SAMMY award recipients make up just 5 percent of SAMCAR's members. Officials also noted when the SAMMYs started 11 years ago, the median price of a home in San Mateo County was just above \$300,000, compared to about \$900,000 in 2005.

SAMCAR is the largest trade association in San Mateo County and promotes housing opportunities, home ownership and property rights. SAMCAR has more than 3,800 members and more than 400 industry affiliates.

The event's corporate were:

Platinum Sponsors: CitiMortgage – The Michael Haigh Team and Countrywide Home Loans

Diamond Elite Sponsor: The Independent Newspaper Group/The Examiner

Diamond Sponsor: Fidelity National Title Company

Emerald Sponsors: Chicago Title Company, Financial Title Company, First Horizon Home Loans and Step Ahead Carpet

Gold Sponsors: Alliance Title, Arise Realty, Atherton Appliance & Kitchens, C&D Real Estate Appraisal Services, Inc., CALCO Insurance Brokers & Agents, Century 21 Alliance, First American Title Company, Investment Property Exchange Services, Inc. (IPX 1031), LandAmerica Commonwealth, Meriwest Mortgage, North American Title, Old Republic Title, Premiere Executives Realty, Prudential California Realty of San Mateo County, Staging Artists, Stewart Title of California and Washington Mutual - San Mateo HLC

SAMMY Event Sponsors: First American Title, Marshall Realty (San Bruno) and Washington Mutual (Palo Alto)

About SAMCAR:

The San Mateo County Association of REALTORS® (SAMCAR) is a professional trade organization representing over 3,800 REALTORS® and Affiliate members engaged in the real estate business on the Peninsula. SAMCAR promotes the highest ethical standards of real estate practice, serves as an advocate for homeownership and homeowners, and represents the interests of property owners in San Mateo County.

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