

## Awards Committee Report, Steve Ray

The REALTOR of the Year Selection committee noted a few changes that could help improve the recognition of our outstanding contributors. They recommended, and the Board unanimously approved, the following changes to our awards policy:

The separate Good Neighbor and Realtor of the Year Selection Committees were merged into one Awards Committee. Further, 3 additional awards were added as to our policy:

**Awards Selection Committee:** A five (5) member committee shall be appointed by the President and chaired by the most immediate past 'Berkshire REALTOR of the Year' able to serve. The President shall select past award winners for service on this selection committee and committee appointments shall be ratified by the Board of Directors. Once formed, the group will review nomination applications received and select one deserving candidate for each award. If no nominations are received, the committee may ask potential candidates to apply for any award or may forgo naming an award winner.



- **REALTOR SPIRIT AWARD:** *The REALTOR Spirit award is given to the REALTOR that consistently demonstrates the ideals that embody the very meaning of the term "REALTOR®". The ideal nominee is an unsung hero within the real estate profession who supports other industry practitioners through actions, words and cooperation. Recipients are known for their strong professional ethics and willingness to go above and beyond in support of the association and the members. Honorees are known and respected for their optimism and enthusiasm, integrity and work ethic, and civic involvement, charitable contributions, and leadership in the local business community. The REALTOR Spirit winner from Berkshire County will receive a plaque in honor of their service, a commendation from our State Representatives, and a one hundred (\$100) donation to the charity of their choice.*
- **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD.** *The Distinguished Service award is the ultimate recognition for ongoing, dedicated service of that very special REALTOR® who has always set themselves apart as a leader. They are individuals who have held membership in the board for 15 years or more, and are recognized as a local leader whose performance of service and involvement on the Board, the local real estate industry, and civic organizations is extraordinary. They are the member who is always called to serve on special task forces and work groups to resolve matters of a critical nature. They are respected by those in the industry and community, and are a source of knowledge and experience to business colleagues and within the community.*
- **AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD:** *The Affiliate Member of the Year Award acknowledges the involvement of industry professionals who are not REALTORS but actively participate in the Berkshire REALTOR's programs and activities, and support the association, its mission and the REALTOR® membership. Nominees will be judged on volunteer service and personal contributions made in support of association's strategic objectives and programming, which may include charitable and community service activities, public policy advocacy, committee service, sponsorships, and support of the REALTORS® Political Action Committee.*