

ATHENS AREA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2010

VOLUME XLII NUMBER 12



ATHENS AREA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

2010-2011 OFFICERS

President – Brad Stephens

Vice President – Alan Cannon

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Visit us at 1651 Meriweather Drive
in Jennings Mill Country Club



News Flash!

Santa Makes a Hit at AAHBA!

Santa arrived promptly at 4:00 on December 2, 2010 for his second annual visit to AAHBA! He was ready to visit with all of the good little boys and girls. One by one they hopped upon his knee and told Santa of their Christmas wishes. In return, Santa got lots of hugs and was offered a plate full of cookies by the beautiful granddaughter of Mr. & Ms. Joe Couch. Cookies and coloring were made available as extra treats until the “take home” pictures had been processed.

The “Toys for Tots” program was again very active at AAHBA. As families came in to get their pictures taken with Santa, they each brought a special toy that will be given to needy children in our local community.

See the following link for pictures of the whole show and to order prints!

<http://www.pictage.com/969761> *

Thanks to everyone who helped bring Santa to AAHBA

- ▶ Ms. Jean for heading everything up
- ▶ Karen Griffin for scheduling Santa
- ▶ Lisa Teall processed photos for the “Take Home” card
- ▶ Photography by Patrick Blount – Blount Photo patrick@blount-photo.com
706-308-7603
www.blount-photo.com



Phillip Edwards – Sun Trust, **Joseph Bishop** – SunTrust Mortgage, **Susan Bogardus** – First American Bank, **Joel Gregory** – Landmark Properties, pick up our “Toys for Tots.”

COME JOIN US

NO MONTHLY MEETING IN DECEMBER

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

January 18, 2011
Holiday Inn Express
Downtown Athens

SPONSORS

Oconee State Bank and Fortson,
Bentley & Griffin

November Montly Meeting

President Brad Stephens opened the meeting by asking Norm Grayson to say the prayer and pledge of allegiance. Following the prayer, Brad introduced our meal sponsors, Athens Building Supply and Ferguson Enterprises. Special thanks to Ferguson Enterprises and Athens Building Supply for stepping up on short notice to sponsor our November meeting.

Ferguson was represented by Jimmy Brooks and showroom consultant Mandy Wilkins at the meeting. "We have been associated with AAHBA since opening the showroom in 2005" Mandy said

"This has been a great opportunity to tell the membership "one on one" about the recent update of our showroom, we invite you to come by Monday thru Friday 9-5 to take a look around. We will answer any questions that you may have, and keep in mind that we are now participating in the AAHBA Member to Member Discount Program."

"Ferguson is now excited to offer all AABHA members a 10% discount for any *whole house* lighting order that is purchased in *one* transaction. Please let us know that you are a member when making your appointment."

"Over the years we have supported several events that the AABHA offers, including the recent fall golf tournament. We would like to thank the AAHBA for letting us co-sponsor the monthly meeting and raffle in November."

Visit our website at www.ferguson.com

For Athens Building Supply – we enjoyed the company of the whole "crew!" Dennis Hoph said, "Thanks to the Athens HBA for providing us with such a professional platform to talk about our company and to have an opportunity to introduce new things that we are doing here at Athens Building Supply.

With iLevel by Weyerhaeuser, we are bringing new technology to our customers with cutting-edge design software called Javelin. With Javelin, we are able to build every project that comes to us from the ground up through the roof. When the design is done you can view your house 3-dimensionally to see all structural elements and product details. Charles Pierce is the manager of this department and is always available for you to drop by and see him or for him to make a field call with you (706 614 9010).

Over the past few months, we have started bringing inventory back into our Lexington Rd site and will be



Ferguson Enterprises new show room – Mandy Wilkins



Brad Stephens thanks our Sponsors, Jimmy Brooks and Mandy Wilkins with Ferguson Enterprises



To the "Whole Gang" at Athens Building Supply" - President Brad Stephens extends appreciation!





Lucky raffle prize winners from Lowes and Karen B. Griffin Custom Homes



New members with ASAP/Glenn Company

reopening the doors there on a limited basis in the month of December or January. We hope you can stop by as often as possible.

At ABS we have long been a supporter of the AAHBA and enjoy any chance we can get to participate in any activities they have. Thank you to all of our loyal customers who have helped to support us over the years while we have been in business. We look forward to new relationships and opportunities ahead.”

“Call this number for your lumber; 770 867 5000.”

The raffle prizes donated by Athens Building Supply and Ferguson were incredible. We had several

big winners – thank you again to our Sponsors!!

Without our sponsors, these monthly meetings which gives us the opportunity to network and have fellowship with others in the building industry would not be possible.

Alan Cannon introduced our new members who were present and gave them a moment to address the membership. He reminded us of the many discounts that you as a member are entitled to. Your NAHB discounts – see the link below for *Member Advantage at a Glance*. http://www.nahb.org/fileUpload_details.aspx?contentTypeID=3&contentID=8041&subContentID=192689

All that you will need to get started is your *NAHB Pin number* to take advantage of these discounts. If you don't have your number, please contact the AAHBA office at 706-543-5760.

Don't forget your “AAHBA Member to Member” discounts too!

Susan Bogardus spoke to us on behalf of The Salvation Army. She said, “These people are screened very carefully to make sure that your gifts are going to very needy children in our community.”

Our very generous membership accepted “Angles” to bring gifts to many local children. Everyone brought their gifts by the AAHBA office for pick up on December 8th. As our members brought their gifts to the office they told of the great experience that they had involving their family in the spirit of Merry Christmas for others. Children also learned of budgets and shopping and acknowledged how fortunate they were to be able to share with someone else.

A big thank you to everyone who donated money at this meeting to the “Christmas Fund”. This year the money that you gave went to the Salvation Army for buying gifts that is sure to brighten the faces of children on Christmas day.

Our Annual Awards Event will be held on January 18th at our next monthly membership meeting. It will be at the Holiday Inn Express downtown Athens. Congratulations to all of our nominees!

The raffle drawings were held at the end of the meeting and included some great prizes from Athens Building Supply and Ferguson Enterprises. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets before the next meeting at the registration table. *



Susan Bogardus passing her Home & Garden "Reign" to Melanie Griffin

2011 Home & Garden Show

AAHBA is looking forward to another incredible Home & Garden Show year in 2011. This show will be highly publicized in the Athens Banner Herald, billboard and radio. This is a great forum to promote your business to the public. As you recall, Susan Bogardus handed down the crown to Melanie

Griffin of Dalton Carpet One, after many years of heading up the show. The 2011 Show booth sales are on target to be one of the best ever!



Home Show Testimonial

"The AAHBA Home and Garden Show has been a great opportunity to expose our products and services to people who are actively in the market. The attendance has been terrific every year and the interest continues to grow. Every year we more than recoup our investment in new sales and clients. I wouldn't miss a year!"

– Dalton Carpet One – Mike Blanton

Deborah Purcell Serves the Homeless Shelter

In November AAHBA Member Deborah Purcell with Power Partners Solar, gave of her time and efforts to benefit the local Homeless Shelter.

Donated meals are a special gift to those at the Shelter. There are many AAHBA members who are concerned and want to help by being a part of serving the shelter.

We always appreciate our members that so willingly help and are interested in the welfare of others. Thank you Deborah for your kindness.

"When you become detached mentally from yourself and concentrate on helping other people with their difficulties, you will be able to cope with your own more effectively. Somehow, the act of self-giving is a personal power-releasing factor."

—Norman Vincent Peal

Thank you to our AAHBA Members who donated their time and a meal to the Athens Homeless Shelter in 2010

The Cabinet Man – Jessica Webber
 Roll-Off Systems – Jessica Smith
 Walton EMC- Jennifer Broun
 Jackson EMC – Brian Patton
 First American Bank – Susan Bogardus
 Karen B. Griffin Custom Homes - Karen Griffin
 Fortson, Bentley & Griffin – Mike McCleary
 Pro Granite, LLC – April Bonner
 T.M. Dekle / State Farm Insurance – Dana Kerr
 Athens Building Supply – Dennis Hoph
 Power Partners Solar – Deborah Purcell
 North Georgia Bank – Clark David

We would also like to extend a huge Thank-You to Carrabba's Italian Grill and Mirko's Pasta for donating full meals to the shelter on the behalf of AAHBA.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The following new members were approved for membership by the AAHBA Board of Directors. Please help us welcome them to our Association:

Dennis Williamson
D&D Heating & Air Conditioning
 PO Box 333
 Hull GA 30646
 706-546-1810 Business
 706-546-1901 Cell
 ddheatingaircond@bellsouth.net
 Sponsor: Jared York

Les McCrary
Les McCrary Construction
 475 Willow St.
 Athens GA 30601
 229-881-1641 Business
 706-425-8921 Cell
 lesmccrary@yahoo.com
 Sponsor: Jared York



AAHBA President Brad Stephens receives "Life Spike" award

Congratulations to Brad Stephens who received his Life Spike Award at the November monthly meeting.

Life Spike Awards are given to those members who have recruited 25 new members. Brad has been very active in obtaining new members for AAHBA.

Our thanks go to Brad for all of his hard work and for helping to keep AAHBA strong.

Coming Soon... 2011 Directories

With the New Year coming, that can only mean one thing. The new 2011 Membership Directory will be printed and available to all the membership. How can you get one?

We will have them available at the monthly meetings for members to pick up. Also, members can come by the AAHBA office anytime to pick one up, or we will be happy to deliver them to your office.

These directories can be your industry phone books. Keep one in your truck, one in your office and one at home to make sure that you can always find the services you need to make your business successful.*



Jared York and the new family additions

Congratulations – Two New Babies!

Mr. and Mrs. Jared York are the proud parents of two more little girls, for a total of three daughters!

Brand new to the family are, Samantha and Anna York.

Jared says, "Feeding time gets a little hectic, but what a joy!"

Suspension of "The Athens Home Improvement Guide"

Fellow AAHBA Members:

I just wanted to let you know what a pleasure it has been the past 2 years getting to know many of you. I have made many friends that I hope will last a life time.

With that being said I wanted to let you know I have suspended publication of "The Athens Home Improvement Guide." I ventured into this knowing things were tough but I did and still do think this is a good product and could have been a great vehicle for those that offer a great service to get the word out. (Enough selling)

I sincerely thank those who have given me an opportunity, and I will continue to promote all the members of such a great group, "AAHBA". I hope we can continue to see each other and maintain a "Friendship" that will last. Good Luck in the present and the future will be "Great".

Best Regards
David Sykes
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to You and Your Family!

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Mandatory Blower Door Testing – Codes Effective January 1, 2011

Georgia DCA Board Approves 2009 IECC,
2008 NGBS; Effective January 1

by Paul Karrer

On November 3, the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Board voted to give final approval to adopt the 2009 IECC with 2011 Georgia Amendments (including mandatory blower door testing) as a minimum code and the 2008 National Green Building Standard (NGBS) with 2011 Georgia Amendments as a permissive code. This followed the July 29 recommendation of the State Codes Advisory Committee (SCAC) to approve the codes.

The codes are effective January 1, 2011.

A summary of major changes has been developed by Tony Donald and Darrell Howell of Georgia Power with assistance from Bettie Sleeth and DCA staff. The summary can be viewed by clicking [HERE](#).

The new Energy Code will require a building envelope/duct tightness test for one-and-two family dwellings. Working Georgia Power and Southface, HBAG created an amendment for a Certified Duct and Envelope (DET) Verifier. A person can become certified by attending an approved one-day class and conduct the blower door/duct testing. This certified person does NOT have to be independent of the builder or HVAC contractor to conduct the testing.

Funding and approval of this DET certification class and other Energy code training has been delayed by GEFA. HBAG is working diligently on options to delay or some other relief for the blower door testing to have time to get more DET verifiers and equipment throughout Georgia.

Membership will be voting on Builder and Associate of the Year. Be on the lookout for your ballot which will be e-mailed for your vote soon.

Builder of the Year Nominees

Alan Cannon

Alan started Cannon Residential Services in the fall of 2000 as a small remodeling and repair company. It has since grown to a company offering full service remodeling and renovation capabilities. Cannon Residential Services has worked hard to earn a quality reputation in the area and all employees live by the company motto "We Measure by the Golden Rule".

Alan has been involved with a variety of projects, mostly residential in nature, and has been involved with some commercial built-out projects as well. The company strength remains in residential clientele and repeat customers. In an effort to further integrate his business platform, Alan recently acquired the Cultured Marble manufacturing facility in Athens. He has worked to create new styles and aesthetic looks for Cultured Marble and Cultured Granite during the past year to better help satisfy customer's needs.

Alan has been married for 29 years and has two children ages 28 and 26. He is an active member of Athens First United Methodist church and also supports several charities in Athens.

Early in Alan's career as a remodeling contractor one of his jobs was the renovation of the Project Safe women's shelter. This has been an ongoing project for Alan with between six to ten thousand dollars per year in repairs, upkeep and improvements donated to the organization.

Alan has been involved with AAHBA for over eight years, is an active board member, and has also donated his time to take a leading role as chairman of the membership committee. His continuing commitment to the AAHBA is reflected in his willingness to step into an officer's position as the Vice President this year. Alan has continued to develop his industry education by attending several seminars and attaining certification for the NAHB - CAPS (Certified Aging in Place Specialist) qualification, the RRP EPA lead paint renovation qualification. He continues to seek ways to better serve his customers through ongoing educational opportunities.

Brad Stephens

Brad Stephens began his building career with John Willis Homes in Athens 9 years ago. He graduated from UGA in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Real Estate and started Beacon Property Management in 2003. He began Manor Holdings, LLC with Matt Richardson in 2006 as a firm concentrating on student housing development. He has completed the L.E.A.D. Athens Program through the Chamber of Commerce, and has volunteered at the Homeless Shelter.

Brad joined AAHBA in 2003 and shortly thereafter became a member of the Board of Directors. He served as

Vice President for the past 3 years, and has now gained the position of AAHBA President. He has been actively involved on numerous other AAHBA committees as well as ongoing support with the Athens Home & Garden Show. Brad has served as AAHBA representative to the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce PAC s. He is currently serving on the Athens Clarke County Water Conservation Committee

His projects include Park Avenue at Normaltown, Princeton Court Townhomes, Beech Creek Preserve, Beacon Hill, The Enclave and Madison Heights. He has also built in Settler's Ridge, Rocky Branch Farms, Georgia Club, Oak Grove, and various in-fill lots in the Athens area.

Dickens Builders, Jason & Matt Dickens

Jason and Matt Dickens have been in Business with Dickens builders for 14 years. A family business, they have worked hard to establish a reputation of giving their clients a top quality product. They have built in many neighborhoods in the Athens Area. These include Christian Lake, Bridlegate, Founders Grove, Hickory Lake, Boulder Springs, Power Ridge, and Mallard Lakes. Their newest development is Harperfield Subdivision, which recently opened.

Matt and his wife, Stacy, have two sons, McKay Dickens and Ben Hardigree. Jason and his wife, Stephanie, have four children, Jake, Luke, Abby and JR. Matt and Jason have been members of AAHBA since 1997. Matt has served on the Board of Directors since 2000 and Jason joined the board in 2004. Jason served three consecutive years as AAHBA president as well as being the current HBAG treasurer.

Matt and Jason are both graduates of the University of Georgia, Matt in 1989 and Jason in 1996. They are both very involved in the community. These involvements include the Oconee County Chamber of Commerce and the Oconee FFA Alumni Association. They support the Oconee County Little League, the Oconee County High School and North Oconee High School and the American Cancer Society-Oconee County Chapter. They have also been involved with Leadership Oconee and have served on the Oconee County Land Use and Transportation Committee.

Matt and his family are members of Hebron Christian Church in Oconee County, and Jason and his family attend Briarwood Baptist Church, also in Oconee County.

Karen B. Griffin

Karen has been in the building business for 28 years as Karen B. Griffin Custom Homes and Renovations

Her project involvements include, Bentwood, Oakmont, Ashton Place, Cedar Pointe (developer and partner) and Griffin Farms (developer and partner). Karen has worked



Builder of the Year Nominees continued

on many other projects with individuals requiring custom homes or renovations in Clarke, Oconee, Madison, Greene, Oglethorpe, Hart, and Gwinnett Counties and also Destin, Florida.

Karen is married to Doug Griffin and they have 2 children. Doug is employed with Westminster School in Oconee Co. and also UGA,'s Math Education Dept. where he is the Undergraduate Coordinator. He also holds a Light Commercial Building License. Jesi their daughter is an engineer for HCA and Centennial Hospital in Nashville, TN. She is married to Ryan Malloy, and they have one child, Adalyn, who is 8 months old. Our Son Jake is with Production Fenceworks in Valdosta, GA and is engaged to Missy Michaels from Wisconsin. They are planning a late Summer wedding.

Karen served on the "Choice Committee" with the Clarke Co. Board of Education, contributing her time to community service. She has also had extensive involvement with the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, serving from 1993 – 1997.

After twenty five years of involvement with AAHBA, Karen has acted as past Treasurer and Secretary, Membership Chairman, Vice President and President for 1992 – 1993. She has served several times as Builder Bash Chairman with the last being this year in 2010. Karen has been honored previously with the Builder of the Year 1992 – 1993 Award, Spike Club, Life Spike, and in 2003 was recognized with a Lifetime Membership Award.

Associate of the Year Nominees

Dana Kerr

Dana Kerr is the Financial Services Representative for Mike Dekle's State Farm office. He has been with Mike's office for the past 7 ½ years, and helps clients by providing personal and commercial insurance and financial services products offered by the State Farm Companies. Dana's efforts have helped Mike's office achieve Chairman's Circle designation and Targets of Excellence recognition. Chairman's Circle is awarded to the top 1% of all State Farm agencies, and Targets of Excellence recognizes the work an agency provides to its clients in financial services. Dana is currently in the State Farm Agent's Pool, and plans on opening his own office in the near future.

A resident of Athens since 1991, Dana met his wife Jodi while they were both attending the University of Georgia. They have two girls; Andi who is almost six, and Alli who is three and a half.

Dana has been an active participant of AAHBA for 5 years and contributes his time and energy in the promotion of our industry.

Member of the Associate Council since 2006, where he's served as Associate Council Vice-Chair 2008-2009,

Chairman of the Associate Council in 2009-2010, and member of the Board of Directors 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. Dana has chaired the spring and fall golf tournaments, and has served on the Golf Tournament Committee 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. He has also served on the Budget Committee 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Dave Sykes

David Sykes is owner and publisher of the Athens Home Improvement Guide. Previously, he was in the apparel industry for thirty five years. He is married with two children and five grandchildren, one DAWG and one cat. David and his family moved from Virginia thirty four years ago and now reside in Monroe GA.

He has been an active member of AAHBA for two years and has been heavily involved in the 2011 Home & Garden Show, AAHBA After Hours, Monthly Meeting Raffle, Membership, Associate Council and Golf Tournaments.

He is a member of the local BNI group in Athens and serves as membership chairman.

Joe Couch

Joe Couch of ABC Supply has been with the company since its conception in Athens and opened the local branch in 2006.

He has been married for thirty-eight years. Joe and his wife Lanice have two sons, Trey and Drew and two beautiful grand-daughters. Makayla who was two in October and Emily will be two in January.

Joe has been an active participating member of AAHBA for 4 years and has contributed much time and energy to AAHBA. He is currently serving on the Membership Committee and is Vice Chairman of the Associate Council. He also is a member of the Golf Committee which has had two very successful tournaments this year. He is a member of the AAHBA Board of Directors.

Habitat for Humanity has benefited from Joe through ABC Supply by providing roofing materials for the last "Habitat Build" which is a great help in our local community.

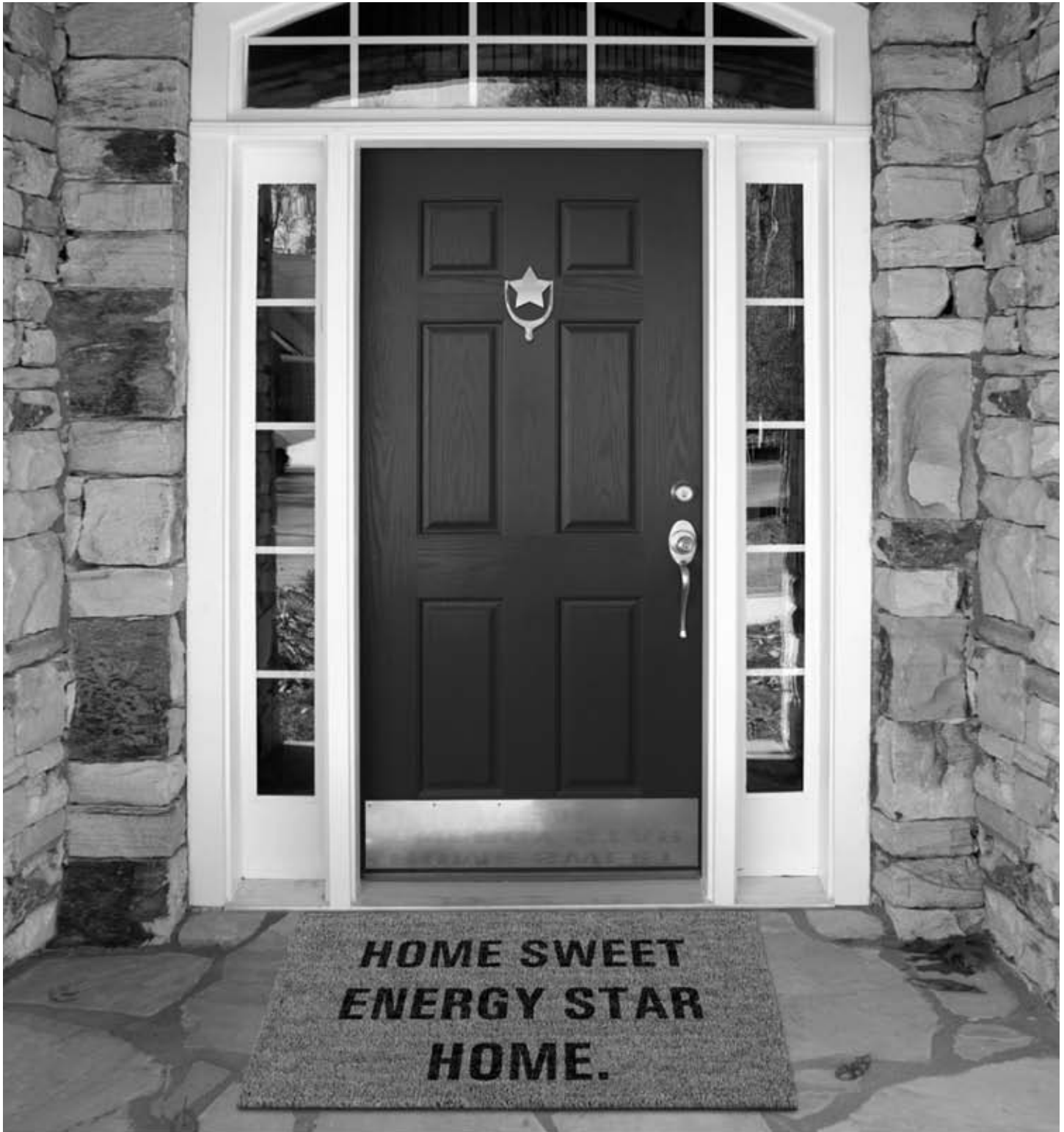
Melanie Griffin

Melanie Griffin has been in the business for fourteen plus years and with Dalton Carpet One for twelve and a half.

A Native of Knoxville, TN Melanie received a Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in interior design. She enjoys outdoor sports and activities as well as, a great love for traveling and good food.

Melanie has been involved with the Jackson County Builders Association and was active on the Board of Directors for ten years.

She has contributed much time and enthusiasm to the Athens Area Home Builders Association in the last ten years. In her involvement she has been an extreme asset to the Associate Council and most recently, this is Melanie's first year heading up the Athens Home & Garden Show for 2011.



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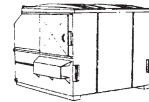
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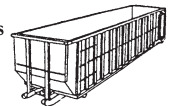


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MISSION STATEMENT: The Athens Area Home Builders Association, chartered in 1957, is a not for profit trade association representing and uniting the building industry in Clarke, Oconee, Madison and Oglethorpe counties. As the voice of the industry, we strive to create and promote a favorable climate for quality, affordable construction to assure a positive economic future for the communities we serve.

C A L E N D A R

DECEMBER

- Santa Photo Opportunity** 2
4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
Association Office
- Associate Council 9
12:00 Noon
Association Office
- Board of Directors Meeting 14
12:00 Noon
Association Office

**NO MONTHLY MEETING
IN DECEMBER**

JANUARY

- Associate Council 6
12:00 Noon
Association Office
- Board of Directors Meeting 18
12:00 Noon
Holiday Inn Express,
Downtown Athens
- Regular Monthly Meeting 18
11:30 Registration • 12:00 Lunch
Holiday Inn Express,
Downtown Athens

If you have any questions concerning the above meetings or activities, please call the Association office at 543-5760.

Hidden Hammer

There is a Hidden Hammer located in the Newsletter. The size of the Hidden Hammer is much smaller than this one. If you find it, call our office with the location at 706-543-5760, fax it to 706-549-7203 or e-mail it to gac_aahba@bellsouth.net before the next Monthly Meeting. We will have a drawing during the Monthly Meeting for the winner of \$25.*

Name _____

Company Name _____

Location of Hammer (page #, etc.) _____

*** You must be present at the next Monthly Meeting during the drawing to win the \$25.**



This is the actual picture you are looking for, just much smaller.