

REALTORS® ASSOCIATION OF MAUI NEWS**RAM Presents Annual Awards, Installs 2011 Officers**

A capacity crowd—including HAR President Tracy Stice, HAR CEO Nancy Donahue-Jones, and other dignitaries—filled the ballroom at the Kamehameha Golf Clubhouse on September 10 to feast, to cheer for the winners of four 2010 awards, and to witness the installation of the 2011 officers of the REALTORS® Association of Maui.

In addition to the three annual awards, an occasional award was presented this year. RAM Chief Executive Officer Terry Tolman said it is not given every year, but... "only with the knowledge that the person has gone way above and beyond the normal definition of volunteering." That certainly describes Tom Brzozowski of Roos Realty who has been on RAM's Professional Standards and Arbitration Committee since 1985, having become a licensed REALTOR® only four years earlier. He was honored with the Special Recognition Award.

The Affiliate of the Year Award was presented to Lloyd Canty of Island Title Corp. The REALTOR® Broker of the Year and REALTOR® Salesperson of the Year are Debra Merle and Mino McLean, respectively, both with Island Sotheby's International Realty.

All those present who have served or are serving on any committee of RAM or HAR were recognized, but special attention was given

vendors.

A special thanks to all the committee members, lane sponsors, vendors, and various Kaua'i businesses who supported the event through



Outgoing RAM President Bruce Faulkner didn't really threaten 2011 President Sarah Sorenson of Whale's Tail Realty with the ceremonial gavel he was presenting. The appearance of a threat was just one more joke between the two of them.

to the members of RAM's Government Affairs Committee. The recent successes of the committee were highlighted, particularly work dedicated to preventing a "highest and best tax category" proposal from becoming law, potentially raising condo property taxes by about 66 percent. "You have to have a seat at the table," Tolman said, "or you are going to be on the menu." The Government Affairs Committee definitely has a seat at the table of Maui County government.

The installation of 2011 RAM officers was not free of humor, not by a long shot. When outgoing President Bruce Faulkner of Maui HI Realty was introducing Sarah Sorenson of Whale's Tail Realty, the new president, he pointed out, "This is the first time we've had a president that repeated, and Bob is following suit."

That naturally led to a story of recycling, including the recycling of RAM presidents.

participation and donations. Your hard work and generosity make this year's fundraiser a great success.

If you know of a 2011 graduate looking for a schol-

Faulkner and Sorenson were chatting with 2009 RAM President Bob Lightbourn of Coldwell Banker Island Properties. "Every three years, we could just recycle as president. Ha-ha! And it's become a self-fulfilling prophecy." Sorenson was president in 2008, then president-elect in 2010, and president again in 2011. Bob Lightbourn was president in 2009, and will be president again in 2012. The tangle was more funny than confusing, and everyone seemed genuinely glad to have Sorenson, founder of the remarkably successful REALTORS® Wishing Well... for Maui Students, back in office.

Other officers installed at the luncheon included Secretary Guida Anderson of Island Sotheby's International Realty, Treasurer Rhonda Hay of Coldwell Banker Island Properties, Treasurer-elect Keone Ball of Carol Ball & Associates, and, of course, Immediate Past President Bruce Faulkner.

arship, please encourage them to inquire with the Kaua'i Board of REALTORS® for more information in January. It's never too early to start planning your future!