

**September 12, 2016**

**HBA Announces Remodeler and Associate of the Year  
*STAR Awards Celebrate Remodeling Excellence***

Raleigh, N.C. - The Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County (HBA) held its annual STAR, or Showcasing Triangle Achievements in Remodeling, Awards program on Aug. 18 at Brier Creek Country Club in Raleigh. STAR recognizes local remodelers for their professionalism and excellence resulting from a range of remodeling projects.

“We are very happy to celebrate the accomplishments of our membership and these entries are surely a testament to how strong the remodeling industry is in our area,” said Eddie Casanave, owner of Distinctive Remodeling and the 2016 chair of the Remodelers Council. “Permits continue to increase and we are all busy, which is a great feeling to have.”

Gerald Owens, anchor on WRAL –TV, was the emcee of the event and handed out 40 awards throughout the evening. The projects that were recognized included everything from best bathroom and kitchen remodels to the best whole house renovation, with projects ranging from under \$15,000 to over \$500,000.

During the event, the Associate and Remodeler of the Year are presented to council members who maintain a high level of commitment while exceeding the standards set during the previous year.

Peggy Mackowski, vice president of Quality Design & Construction was awarded the 2015 Remodeler of the Year. Her company also won four STAR Awards during the evening. As previous remodelers of the year recipients, she has gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve and represent the Remodelers Council. Mackowski was recognized for her time and efforts to the council, and has been a key member of the executive committee for many years. This involvement included insuring the continued success of the Remodelers Home Tour during a critical time as it transitioned back into the creation of their magazine.

In addition, Mackowski stays current with industry news and is always one of the first to spotlight an issue or come up with ideas for improvement. If help is needed on a community service project or as a volunteer to make phone calls to garner participation in council events, she can be counted on to assist.

The 2015 Associate of the Year Award was presented to Lee Rothstein, of Kitchen & Bath Galleries. As a non-builder council member, this award recognizes one associate for their exceptional projects, customer service, community involvement, and dedication to professionalism within the industry. Rothstein has been an active member of our council for several ongoing years, serving on numerous committees as chair and co-chair. His company has hosted several networking events that are always well attended and roll the red carpet out for

member attendees. He works hard to develop new ways to improve the council and improve the value of council membership.

Lastly, a third individual was honored during the event with a newer award that is different from the Associate of the Year award as it recognizes one outstanding job by an associate member on a project or series of projects. Gail Taylor, of Rainbow Home Interiors, was presented the 2015 Associate STAR Award. This award is selected by remodelers. She was selected for her customer service and project management work that was above and beyond what was required for a remodeling project.

Information on the remodelers and winners from the 2016 STAR Awards can be found online at [www.wakeremodelers.com](http://www.wakeremodelers.com).

***About the HBA and the Remodelers Council***

The Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County (HBA) is the voice of the home building industry throughout Wake County, and provides members opportunities for business development, education, professional growth, networking and community involvement. The membership, comprised of builders, remodelers, developers, and sales & marketing professionals, is affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, which represents over 160,000 member companies nationwide. Currently the HBA is the second largest home builders association in the country. The members of the HBA are building excellence together for the neighborhoods and communities of tomorrow. The Remodelers Council of the HBA is a group of professionals serving the remodeling sector of the construction industry. The council promotes professionalism in the industry through responsible business practices, community involvement, and quality construction and building materials.