

# Realtor Emeritus, Realtor of the Year awarded at CAR meeting

By Samara Litvack

The first Chattanooga Association of Realtors (CAR) meeting of 2008 was held Wed., Jan. 30, at the Chattanooga

Choo Choo.

The prestigious Realtor Emeritus award, marking 40 years in the industry, was given to three CAR members – Charlie Walldorf, George

McGee and Mary Anne Rennick. Each of these Realtors is with Herman Walldorf and Company. The firm began in 1926 and its namesake received CAR's first Realtor Emeritus

award in 1991.

Charlie and his brother, Rudy, who achieved Realtor Emeritus status in 2000, are now owners of the family company and are proud to have kept the family business successful. His son, Nathan, is the third generation Walldorf to enter the industry.

Charlie has received many honors and held many prominent positions, including Realtor of the Year, president of CAR and director of the Tennessee Association of Realtors. He is proud to have survived so long in the industry and gave good advice to those who want to follow in his footsteps.

"I think that sales people will be successful if they show integrity and honesty and update themselves on the market," he says.

Rennick agreed, saying the thing she is most proud of is "being a woman in a man's world at that time." When she entered the industry, there were only three or four other female Realtors in the region. Both



George McGee, 2008 Realtor Emeritus recipient; Rudy Walldorf, 2000 Realtor Emeritus recipient Mary Anne Rennick, 2008 Realtor Emeritus recipient; Charlie Walldorf, 2008 Realtor Emeritus recipient; and Nathan Walldorf, third generation Realtor. (Samara Litvack)

Walldorf brothers commended her work ethic and longevity in the business.

Before she joined the Walldorf team, Rennick worked for McGee, who is among the fourth generation of his family in this area.

"When I started, there were probably 15 offices, maybe," said McGee, "and a part-time person would not even belong to the board." He said the key to success in the industry is understanding the need to put in enough time and effort.

"Forty years goes by fast if you stay busy, work hard, have fun and you love your work," he said.

Rudy Walldorf agreed, saying the business was still a great one to be in, but the times had changed. "It's very challenging, much more than it used to be. It's very detailed – much more involved."

The group shared some laughs about how much things had changed, reminiscing about when it took ten minutes to close a deal at Milligan Reynolds

and contracts were one page long.

"I know the computer is wonderful," said Rennick, "but I still miss those multiple listing books. Oh, I miss them!"