

INVENTORS COUNCIL

OF MID-MICHIGAN

PO Box 232, Lennon Michigan 48449

Web Site: INVENTORSCOUNCIL.ORG

The Inventors Council is an independent, non-profit 501 C-3 corporation formed to help inventors pursue their dreams of bringing new and innovative products to market. Our goal is to help fellow inventors succeed in the most efficient and least costly manner possible by providing education and business networking.

Founded by Robert (Bob) Ross in 1995

We meet monthly at Walli's Restaurant, 1341 South Center Road Burton, Michigan. Just Two blocks south of I-69, Exit 139

VOLUME FIFTEEN

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2010, 7:00PM

NUMBER ELEVEN

Thanks to Our Speakers

We wish to thank all of our wonderful speakers who freely gave of their time and talent to the Inventors Council Mid-Michigan in 2008 and 2009. Our members were able to learn a great deal from their experiences in bringing their inventions to market.

The following Speakers we wish to salute:

Bob Suci
Tim Langan
Bill Thomas
Bob Mazur
Frank Groth
Merrill Guerra
Steve Wasko
Mary Kordyban
Steve Rau
Michele Stocel
Paul Eckhoff
Kevin Sedely
Doug Clayton
Dave Eden
Chris Eden
Donald Beyette

These people set a great example of what it takes to follow through with an idea and take it to market. They had highs and lows, but most of all they have shown the determination to bring their inventions to the world. We salute each of you!!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to All Our Members!!!

2010 Elections to the Board of Directors Reminder

In order to appear on the Ballot, you must apply by emailing either Marty Sovis (msovis@comcast.net) or Michael Ball (michaelball@turbousa.com) by typing the following in the email.

Subject line: ICMM Board of Directors 2010 Ballot

In Text area: "I wish to be on the 2010 ballot for ICMM Board of Directors" and give your name.

The Deadline to file is 1-11-09. This will give us time to print the ballots for the Thursday meeting.

Membership dues

Dues are \$55.00 per year and are due prior to the first meeting of the new year. (Jan. 14, 2010)

Please send them in early to ICMM PO Box 232 Lennon, Michigan 48449

New Policies for 2010

Admission is now \$5.00 per meeting per person for all non paid Members

Review Panel is now \$25.00 per review (effective when new Board Approves changes to final process)

All newsletters will be sent electronically with some printed copies available at the meeting for visitors.

Things on the agenda for new Board of Directors to discuss and approve

Buy and install a new white board for membership meetings

Purchase an overhead slide projector for the membership meetings

Purchase projector to show computer files onto a screen for the membership meetings

Improve our Review Panel process and agendas to deliver real value to the new inventor

Schedule a "Bring Your Invention to Club" Night

Set aside a 10 minute segment for "Invention Action" at each meeting to let members report work or efforts they have completed to furthering their invention ideas the past month.

Form a Speakers Bureau schedule for the coming year with subject so members know who is speaking

Other ideas the members wish the Board to consider to improve the meetings and education of members



MARKETING

Hints from the Fog

by Mike Ball, President



Christmas Time Inventions (someone had to invent them)

Christmas Tinsel Around 1610, tinsel was first invented in Germany made from genuine silver. Machines were invented that shredded silver into thin tinsel-sized strips. The original inventor of tinsel remains unknown. .

Candy Canes The origin of the candy cane goes back over 350 years, when candy-makers both professional and amateur were making hard sugar sticks. The original candy was straight and completely white in color.

Artificial Christmas Trees Towards the end of the 1800's, another variation of the traditional Christmas tree appeared: the artificial Christmas tree. Artificial trees originated in Germany. Metal wire trees were covered with goose, turkey, ostrich or swan feathers. The feathers were often dyed green to imitate pine needles.

In the 1930's, the Addis Brush Company created the first artificial-brush trees, using the same machinery that made their toilet brushes! The Addis 'Silver Pine' tree was patented in 1950. The Christmas tree was designed to have a revolving light source under it, colored gels allowed the light to shine in different shades as it revolved under the tree.

History of Christmas Tree Lights Learn about the history of Christmas tree lights: from candles to inventor Albert Sadacca who was fifteen in 1917 when he first got the idea to make safe Christmas tree lights.

Christmas Cards Englishman, John Calcott Horsley popularized the tradition of sending Christmas greeting cards, in the 1830s.

History of Christmas On December 25, Christians traditionally celebrate the birth of Christ. The origins of the holiday are uncertain, however by the year 336, the Christian church in Rome observed the Feast of the Nativity (birth) on December 25. Christmas also coincided with the winter solstice and the Roman Festival of Saturnalia.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our inventors !!!!!!!

Invention Review Panel

For objective evaluation and priceless feedback, share your invention ideas with an educated group of inventors, business owners, engineers and authors!

Our Panel will sign a non-disclosure agreement to guarantee your ideas are kept secret while we provide you with the input needed to make decisions, no matter what stage of the invention process you're at!

There is currently no cost for this service. ThePanel meets at 6:15pm before each meeting. Call Panel Chairman Mike Wiley at 810-691-4451 for an appointment.

Review Panel Members
Mike Wiley
Jim White Mike Ball

Bob Ross 1919 - 2004
Inventors Education Column

Inventors Event Notices

For Entrepreneur news/events go to:
<http://www.gleg.org/>.

This is the Michigan entrepreneur group based in Ann Arbor

Barcodes Online

Need a UPC or EAN barcode number?
Try online at: www.barcodestalk.com

Social Networking for Inventors via United Inventors of America

Connect with the UIA on [Facebook](#) & [LinkedIn](#). Just another way to communicate with other inventors

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A 501-C-3
All-Volunteer
Corporation

Supplement to Newsletter for December 2009

INVENTION REVIEW PANEL

We have been working on making our Invention Review Panel more beneficial to our applicants.

We have compiled, from past guidelines, a new “Pre-evaluation questionnaire” for the applicant inventors to fill out prior to their review. Thereby, the Panel members have time to collect pertinent information that can be given to the inventors as guidelines to proceed in their endeavor.

We also have a list of suggestions for the inventors to take with them as assignments and complete before they return for a “follow-up” session. The follow-up session gives inventors the opportunity to work on their product and come back with more questions, and receive more defined direction for continued progress. It also gives them the opportunity for a more educated critique of their accomplishments. The follow up session is scheduled when the inventors, themselves, are ready to move forward. We make it clear that our Council is not there to do the work for the inventor, but we are an experienced group of inventors who have gone through the phases of inventing, and know the steps that need to be taken, and those that do not.

Our objective has been to guide the inventors to make the right decisions in bringing their invention to market. That may be in the form of a license agreement, selling a patent outright, manufacturing and selling the product themselves, or possibly realizing the idea is not profitable enough to continue.

Our purpose is not to agree or disagree with the inventors that their idea is good, it is to give them the tools they need to decide whether the idea is profitable. To do this in a professional manner, we are still working on guidelines for Panel Review Members to use during the sessions.

These guidelines will help the Panel Members and the inventors to stay on track during the meeting and give the inventors the best information possible for their decision making. We are on schedule to have the draft completed for our January meeting and have final approval by our new Board of Directors in February.

Until that final stage is completed, our panel review will still be free to members. Once completed, our Invention Review Panel will be professional, extremely useful, and a true value to our novice inventors.