



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 by providing education and business networking.

Founded by Robert (Bob) Ross in 1995

P. O. Box 311, Flushing, Michigan 48433

[www.inventorscouncil.org](http://www.inventorscouncil.org)

We meet on the second Thursday of every month at:  
Walli's Restaurant, 1341 S. Center Rd Burton, Michigan  
Two blocks south of I-69 at Exit 139

Volume 2017

Next Meeting Thursday, May 11, 2017 - 7:00 pm

#5

## ***Inventor Resources***

### **Officers & Directors**

President: Marty Sovis 810-659-6741

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### **Michigan Inventor Clubs**

Grand Rapids Inventors Network

[www.grinventorsnetwork.org](http://www.grinventorsnetwork.org)

Inventors Council of Mid-Michigan

[www.inventorscouncil.org](http://www.inventorscouncil.org)

Jackson Inventors Network

[www.jacksoninventors.org](http://www.jacksoninventors.org)

MidMichigan Innovation Center

[www.mmic.us](http://www.mmic.us)

Muskegon Inventors Network

[www.muskegoninventorsnetwork.org](http://www.muskegoninventorsnetwork.org)

Inventors Association of Metro Detroit

[www.inventoriamd.org](http://www.inventoriamd.org)

Lansing Inventors Network

[www.facebook.com/LansingInventorsNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/LansingInventorsNetwork)

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Jumpstart 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – May 11, 2017**
- MiQuest May Calendar of Events: [www.MiQuest.org](http://www.MiQuest.org)
- SBDC workshops available:  
<https://clients.sbdcmichigan.org/events.aspx>
- National source for Inventor Education [www.uiausa.org](http://www.uiausa.org)
- Michigan Inventors Network Expo – scheduled for Sept 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

### **May Agenda:**

- E-team update: No meeting because of Jumpstart
- Discussion on Jumpstart 2017
- Update on Michigan Inventors Coalition Expo – Sept 15, 16
- Report on CMURC
- Shark Tank audition by Rick Mason
- Sharing information on Genesee Career Institute

### **Minutes of April Meeting:**

- E-team update: Marty Sovis
- Orlando Home & Garden Expo – Rick Mason
- Introduction to “PAIR” program on [uspto.gov](http://uspto.gov) – Mary Kordyban
- Podcast with Chris Tanner, Patent Attorney, former Patent Examiner, inventor
- Discussion of podcast by members
- Networking

ICMM

Home of the Happy Inventors

### **Invention Review Panel**

For an objective evaluation and priceless feedback, present your invention ideas to 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 input you need to make decisions during the stages of getting your product to market.

We ask for a \$25.00 donation for non-members. The Panel meets at 6:00 pm prior to each meeting. You must e-mail our Panel Chairman Rick Mason to request a Pre-evaluation form and schedule a time. [xyzmason@aol.com](mailto:xyzmason@aol.com)

### **President's Note**

This week is the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Jumpstart Exhibition sponsored by the Genesee Flint Chamber of Commerce entrepreneur team. We are a part of that “e-team” and as members we are sad to announce this year will be the last Jumpstart exhibition we will be having. Whether it is lack of sponsorship or participation, or whatever the reason, we have decided it has not gained enough attention in the community to continue on. With all the effort and dedication our group has put into the exposition each year, it is an emotional time for us.

Jumpstart has been a very good source for our inventors who were contemplating launching a business based on their product. Even those who looked for a licensing agreement found the exhibition gave them the connections for the arenas that would give them the disciplines needed to present their product to a company for consideration.

So as we close the curtain on this final grand presentation, I do want to highlight what our e-team has been instrumental in coordinating for the mid-Michigan area. By organizing the “powers that be” that can assist small businesses we have a rock solid organization that can direct people to the proper organization to help them. We are blessed in the Flint area with many organizations that help entrepreneurs and I want to list the most formidable:

- Mott Community College FAB Lab –Computer Aided Design, rapid proto-typing, and package design.
- Michigan Small Business Development Center – based at Kettering University, a subsidy of the SBA All training on running a business from creating a business plan to marketing, etc.
- Procurement Technical Assistance Center - Detailed training and assistance in introducing your product or service to the Government
- VetBiz Central - For Veterans and their dependants; training and connections to walk you through launching your business.
- Local Universities offering training, workshops, and assistance
  - University of Michigan-Flint
  - Kettering University
  - Baker College
- Skypoint Ventures – has developed the Ferris Building in Downtown Flint into an innovation hub that attracts talent and investment from across Michigan and beyond.
- Genesee Flint Chamber of Commerce – a premier business organization unlike most chambers since they lead economic development for Flint and Genesee County.
- Commerce Connect, Automation Alley, SCORE, Metro Community Development
- Inventors Council of Mid-Michigan – longest continuously running inventors group in Michigan guiding the novice inventor through the steps needed to get their product to market.

The e-team is still running; we can help

Remember to have fun with your invention!