

Inventors COUNCIL

OF MID-MICHIGAN

P. O. Box 311, Flushing, Michigan 48433

www.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 by providing education and business networking.

Founded by Robert (Bob) Ross in 1995

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

As a non-profit, Our Meetings are Open to the Public
We appreciate a donation of \$5.00 at the Door

Volume 2018

Next Meeting Thursday, May 10, 2018 - 7:00 pm

#5

May Agenda:

- Report of trip to Washington D.C by the Inventor Groups of America
- e-team report
- Reminder & Information on "Meet the Buyer"
- New Correspondance
 - www.usinventor.org Randy Landreneau gives a rundown on Inventor's rights
 - www.mycoolinventions.com Pitch your product free on radio and internet
- MIC Expo in September – reminder to schedule your table with Rick and also place your product on the MIC website
- Table of products – Show your product and print out a short history of how you reached your goals.
- Guest Speaker will be Pamela Lippitt, Business Specialist for DASI-Solutions, preferred vendor of Solidworks. She will cover the importance of having good CAD drawings, how Solidworks can help an inventor develop an idea, and tips on moving an idea to the next level. It should be a very interesting meeting.
- Networking

Upcoming Events:

- Meet the Buyer 2018 – Flint on May 11. www.FlintandGenesee.org/ptac
- MiQuest May Calendar of Events: www.MiQuest.org
- Upcoming Small Business Trainings in Flint
<https://clients.sbdcmichigan.org/workshop.aspx?ekey=60380003>
- Michigan Inventors Expo – Kellogg Conference Center – East Lansing
Thursday, September 6th www.michiganinventorscoalition.org
- National Hardware Show Inventor Spotlight – May 8-10 in Las Vegas
www.inventortradeshow.com/show/hardware/

Minutes of April Meeting:

- Short reminder of Inventor Groups of America in Washington D.C.
- No e-team report
- New Correspondence
- Get your product on MIC webpage.
- Reminder to schedule a table for the MIC Fall Expo
- Speaker was Paul Steinhauser who, along with his family showed us the inventions he developed and licensed; Roller

Inventor Resources

Michigan Inventor Clubs

- Grand Rapids Inventors Network
www.grinventorsnetwork.org
- Inventors Council of Mid-Michigan
www.inventorscouncil.org
- Jackson Inventors Network
www.jacksoninventors.org
- MidMichigan Innovation Center
www.mmic.us
- Muskegon Inventors Network
www.muskegoninventorsnetwork.org
- Inventors Association of Metro Detroit
www.inventoriamd.org
- Lansing Inventors Network
www.facebook.com/LansingInventorsNetwork

National Affiliations

- Inventor Group of America
www.inventleader.org
- United Inventors Association of America
www.uiausa.org

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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

President's Note

“Seller Notification”. “Congratulations, your item sold”. “Payment received from ...”.

These are the titles you will see in your e-mail account when you sell your product on Amazon, Ebay, or your website, respectively. I continue to stress the fact that as part of developing your idea, you need to make one and sell it (I'll leave out the “to other than your mother” since her day is this Sunday). The point is, though, it is so easy to put a product on the three aforementioned web platforms and just one sale will add to the credibility of your product. Whether you are going to license your product, sell your idea, or run your own company, a shining star on your business plan is “items sold”. Just that one sale can motivate you to move faster on getting that product moving or spark interest in a licensee. Continue to pursue development with the clear knowledge that there are customers out there.

Our speaker last month, Paul Steinhauser, told us, “Don't do it alone”. As you solicit help from professionals, friends, or family members there is nothing more exciting for them than to see those sales coming in.

Another opportunity from selling on the web is the feedback information you will get. First you will develop a demographics of who buys your item and where they live. This will help you or your licensee define the type of packaging and advertising you will utilize. Then, your customers may ask if you have another item in your line of products that they would like to buy which can encourage you to spin off a similar item to what you are already developing. This would be easy for you since you already have developed the basic idea of your “product line”. How enticing is a “product line” to potential buyers and licensees? The more you get your product out there for feedback, the better your product will be developed. So as long as you have whatever protection you feel you need for your product, whether it be a provisional patent application, a patent, or trademark, get that item on the market. The world wide web has given you a masterful opportunity to do just that at very little cost.

We all need encouragement from time to time and, for me, things that excite me seem to stimulate my thought process. I can't think of a better stimulant than a nice clean sale.

Remember, have fun with your invention!