



P. O. Box 311, Flushing, Michigan 48433

[www.inventorscouncil.org](http://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:  
Venues in the Flint area

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

Volume 2019 - #10 Next Meeting: **Thursday, October 10, 2019 - 7:00 pm**

**Venue: Capital Coney Island**

### October Itinerary

- Sharing more of what members got out of the Inventors Expo in East Lansing
- Update on future venues
- Discussion on Product Search at Edison Nation – inventors: contact by email Aimee Carroll  
[acarroll@edisonnation.com](mailto:acarroll@edisonnation.com)
- [uiausa.com](http://uiausa.com) vs. [Uiausa.org](http://Uiausa.org)
- Podcast
- Networking

### Upcoming Events:

- Factory Two October events - [www.info@factorytwo.org](mailto:www.info@factorytwo.org)
- MiQuest October Calendar of Events: [www.MiQuest.org](http://www.MiQuest.org)
- SBDC Business Workshops: [www.sbdcmichigan.org](http://www.sbdcmichigan.org)
- How to sell your product or service to the Federal Government.  
Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup>, Clarkston District Library. Registration required  
<http://vetbizcentral.org/sellfed.php>
- SCORE of Southeast Michigan - Helping small businesses get off the ground. Look for times and dates for their events [www.scorevolunteer.org](http://www.scorevolunteer.org)
- Learn to be cyber-secure with the Michigan SBDC - Blog by expert Scott Taber. Email at [sbdcmichigan@gvsu.edu](mailto:sbdcmichigan@gvsu.edu)

### September Minutes:

Our field trip to Mott Community College FAB Lab was very interesting. We learned, first hand from Tom Herold all that the LAB has to offer, from 3D CAD work, rapid proto-typing, computer wood scrolling sheet metal cutting, vacuum forming and more. For inventors looking to develop their own products, this is a dream come true.

We also covered some of the interesting things from our Expo in East Lansing and will expand more at our October meeting.

Hand-outs were given for those who missed them at the Expo.

### ***Inventor Resources***

#### Michigan Inventor Clubs

- Grand Rapids Inventors Network  
[www.grinventors.com](http://www.grinventors.com)
- 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)

#### Affiliations

- Inventor Groups of America  
[www.inventleader.org](http://www.inventleader.org)
- United Inventors Association of America  
[www.uiausa.org](http://www.uiausa.org)
- Michigan Inventors Coalition  
[www.michiganinventorscoalition.com](http://www.michiganinventorscoalition.com)

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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 Marty Sovis to request a Pre-evaluation form and return it at least one week prior to a meeting to schedule a time.

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### **President's Note:**

I want to direct our column this month to our membership and also to those novice inventors out there who don't know where to go for help. It's not only for those who don't know how to get started, but for those who have partially developed an idea but don't know how to advance from there. A saying that has been around for years (and I don't know if someone is supposed to get recognition for this) is, "you don't know what you don't know". This seems self explanatory enough, but what it is eluding to is, "Ask Questions, go to the experts, share the problem you're having". So I ask our members to share the problem they happen to be encountering at the time and let our group help you. That's what we are there for. And on a broader view, that's what all Inventor Groups are there for. We can't help you if we don't know what your issue is. In today's digital society it is so easy to find information on advancing an idea. However, it is also easy to be led in the wrong direction. That is why you search out an inventors group and have them sort out the pro's and con's of the information you found and then add what may be more pertinent to your needs.

Our Inventors Council of Mid Michigan is fortunate to be affiliated with so many organizations that are helpful to inventors. We are an active member of the Michigan Inventors Coalition. We have access to Mott Community College's Fabrication lab for inexpensive rapid proto-typing and 3D CAD work. We are a member of the IGA, Inventor Groups of America, and belong to the United Inventors Association. We have connections to Michigan organizations that help inventors and entrepreneurs. We know of credible patent attorneys, successful inventors, and companies that work with inventors, and those who look to license or buy your ideas.

This is a massive amount of networking at your disposal and introduction to these groups is free. All you have to do is raise your issue and there are folks who can help.

And for those who have successful products out there, share what roadblocks you were able to destroy in your adventure to success. Helping others is not only gratifying but a stimulus to put that next idea you have been hiding unto the table and getting it rolling.

I think it is beneficial to be continually reminded of the assistance at our disposal and to hear the journeys of those who made it.

Remember, have fun with your invention!