



P. O. Box 311, Flushing, Michigan 48433

www.inventorscouncil.org

The Inventors Council is an independent, 501-c-3 educational non-profit 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 7:00 pm at Mott Community College – Regional Technology Center Room RTC – 1107 **When we resume meetings!**

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

Volume #6 - 2020

Next Meeting: **Zoom**

Venue: at you PC

June Information

- Thank you Mary Kordyban for hosting the June Zoom meeting.
- Mott College is conducting classes remotely. They are in discussion on when they will reopen. When I get that information, we can decide if we want to begin meeting at the Regional Technology Center.
- What can our group do during this confined period?
 - What are the topics your are interested in
 - What suggestions do you have for our Zoom meetings
 - What are the items we need to discuss each month
- Panel Reviews may have to be on hold until we meet physically again
- Karen Smoots, Inventor and CEO of Green Glove Dryer conducted a very informative presentation. Highlights are covered in the “President’s Notes” below. www.thegreenglovedryer.com

Upcoming Events:

- Physical meetings cancelled due to the Covid 19 Pandemic
- Future Zoom conferencing meetings Webinars and Podcasts as they are scheduled
- ICMM July Zoom meeting – Speaker: Kedma Ough, author of “Target Funding”
- Inventors Group of America conducts monthly webinars on Wednesdays
- The MIC Expo this year will be a Virtual Expo and 5 Speakers have already been booked. The Keynote Speaker will be Warren Tuttle. More information in next months newsletter.

May Minutes:

- Look for invention videos on YouTube. One example: “What happens behind the scenes after you submit your idea”, by Stephen Key, from InventRight
- Networking
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Michigan Inventor Clubs

- Grand Rapids Inventors Network
www.grinventors.com
- 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

Affiliations

- Inventor Groups of America
www.inventleader.org
- United Inventors Association of America
www.uiausa.org
- Michigan Inventors Coalition
www.michiganinventorscoalition.com

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Director: Dwayne Towns

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Director: Patrick Donlon

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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.

msovis@comcast.net

President's Note:

Most of our membership were not able to attend our Zoom presentation with Karen Smoots. I am asking for feedback on what the various reasons were. Some of the reasons, and one member has already confirmed one, can be the following:

- Was not able to get signed unto the Zoom presentation
- Have difficulty getting logged unto unique programs
- Had some family issues and totally forgot about the meeting
- Last minute issue came up that required my attention
- Had to brush my teeth

Whatever the reason, we, as a council, need to decide if we should continue web based meetings or wait until the "all clear" has been sounded by our leaders.

Now a brief outline on the presentation by Karen Smoots:

Karen invented the glove dryer to keep from having to put gloves in the dryer every day. She has an agreement with Consumers Energy who has purchased hundreds of units and donated to elementary schools in Michigan.

Some of the unique things Karen does is:

- She carries a notebook and tape measure with her wherever she goes
- She judges inventions at Western Michigan and works with design groups
- Has her products in stores like Dunhams, Bed Bathe & Beyond
- Continues to work on revising and making her products "fresh" to the customer
- She now has an "eco-dryer" featuring Sanafor Antimicrobial Protection
- She spends a lot of time reading about companies before she contacts them
- It took 2 ½ years to get into Consumers Energy
- The first area Consumers set up was the Jackson County Elementary schools K thru 5
- The inventor must have the expertise and "drive" and be willing to do the footwork to get the product out there.
- After finding some of the schools had children who didn't even have gloves, she started a non-profit to supply needy children with gloves.
- She is collecting her material to write a book on her experiences. (I can't wait)
- She said to get on LinkedIn to make connections. If you don't know how, Learn!

For more information on Karen and her products: www.thegreenglovedryer.com

Remember, have fun with your invention!