



## NEWSLETTER, 12 JANUARY 2007

### **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!**

Although the Christmas and New Year Holidays have passed, there is good news to report from the Association! Please read on. Upcoming activities that you will not want to miss include the 2007 MichAHI elections! There are several positions that are open! President, Vice-President, and five at-large Board positions are open! I will take a quick moment to announce here that I will run for re-election in 2007. There is much to do, and continuity for the Association will be very important as we work our way into the 2007 sessions of the House and Senate.

Many of you have given to the Association, and that has not gone without notice. Some of you have given more, and I am personally grateful for that, as I believe our Board is as well. But we must remain ever vigilant if we are to live up to our Mission Statement:

Advocating consumer protection by promoting continuing education and exemplary standards in the home inspection industry.

If that doesn't sway you to step up and run for office, or become more involved with the Association, then consider this quote from Len Munsil, a candidate for Arizona governor this past fall who lost his bid for election:

“When I began to participate in battles over important policy issues 20 years ago, one of the first political axioms I learned was this: **no political victory or defeat in final**. Every thing is up for grabs all the time. It is up to us to engage for the things we believe in and for the great principles of our democracy. If you are discouraged tonight – and you should be – let that motivate you to be more engaged, more active, and more dedicated next time.”

What is being hinted at, folk, is that **the battle over home inspector licensing is far from over**. I do believe that it has only begun, and this year will be more important than last year was. And 2008 will perhaps be more important than 2007 will be! If you remain unswayed, then please read on!

### **2006 in Review**

In 2006, your association, through its Legislative Committee headed by Les VanAlstine and later, Mike Goewey, put together a draft bill and produced rationale for the points in that draft bill. MichAHI met several times with Representative Frank Accavitti, the sponsor of House Bill 4076 and 4077 – the Home Inspector licensing bills. We conducted a saturation lobby effort mid-year at the House Office Building, hitting nearly every representative, and several key senators, with our input on this bill. The success of this lobbying effort was immense. We testified at committee hearings on HB 4076-77. We worked with Representative Accavitti to change this bill after it came out of committee. We conducted several mass facsimile broadcasts. And when things did not come out as we had hoped, we asked Representative Accavitti to withdraw these bills; and at our request, he did so.

Representatives of MichAHI also attended and assisted at several fund raisers throughout the state, spreading the word of MichAHI and garnering support. Regional meetings were held throughout the state to foster membership and solicit input from membership regarding legislation. Educational presentations were held in various areas. And these things mentioned here are not all inclusive! This could not have been accomplished without the help and support of you, the membership, along with board members, membership committee, legislative committee, and members at large who stepped up to help spread the word of the work MichAHI is doing. Thank you to every one of you, for a very successful 2006!

### **Educational Tidbit**

Electrodes - by Mike Holt

A supplementary electrode is an electrode that is not required by the NEC. This electrode is not required to be bonded to the building or structure grounding electrode (earthing) system. In addition, the supplementary electrode is not required to be sized to 250.66, and is not required to comply with the 25-ohm resistance requirement of 250.56. However, the earth cannot be used as an effective ground-fault current path as required by 250.4(A)(4). Because the resistance of the earth is so high, very little current will return to the electrical supply source via the earth. If a ground rod is used as the ground-fault current path, the circuit over current protection device will not open, and metal parts will remain energized.

It's important to note that the requirements contained in 250.54 for a "supplementary" electrode should not be confused with the requirements contained in 250.53(D)(2) for the underground metal water pipe "supplemental" electrode. Typically, a supplementary electrode serves no useful purpose. In some cases, it may actually create equipment or performance failure. However, in a few cases, the supplementary electrode is used to help reduce static charges on metal parts. For information on protection against static electricity in hazardous (classified) locations, see NFPA 77, Recommended Practice on Static Electricity.

more on-line at [www.mikeholt.com](http://www.mikeholt.com)

### **Announcement**

MichAHI is accepting nominations for President and Vice President of the association to serve a one year terms. And will accept nominations (6) for the Board of Directors for a three year terms.

Qualifications: The Nominee must be a home inspector with full voting membership in The Michigan Association of Home Inspectors who will agree to serve. You may nominate yourself or someone else.

Write name/s identifying which nominee for which office and mail to MichAHI, 22225 Nixon Ave, Brownstown Twp. MI 48193 or telephone (Melvin Jacobs) at 734-281-1600, Fax 734-281-0886, e-mail [inspector@houseinspection.com](mailto:inspector@houseinspection.com). Nominations cannot be included on the ballot if received after January 31st , 2006.

Volunteer to serve on the Nominations Committee, or any other committee, by contacting Randy Aldering at [hsmtheco@iserv.net](mailto:hsmtheco@iserv.net) or 269-342-1273.

## Legislation Update

As was previously mentioned, House Bills 4076 and 4077 have been withdrawn at the request of MichAHI by Representative Frank Accavitti. A new session is under way, and we anticipate working with Representative Accavitti in formulating new legislation that he will very likely introduce early this year. MichAHI intends to be on our game and work to make any legislation introduced reasonable, enforceable, and workable for the consumer and the professional home inspector.

## Information

### Standing Committees:

Nominating and Election Committee	Chairman:	(you!)
Membership Committee	Chairman:	Steve Schlicker
Rules and By-Laws Committee	Chairman:	(you!)
Audit Committee	Chairman:	(you!)
Legislative Committee	Chairman:	Mike Goewey

### Additional Committees:

Education Committee	Chairman:	
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for a list of Board Members, and membership list, visit our web site at [www.michahi.org](http://www.michahi.org)