



NEWSLETTER, 24 MAY 2007

President's Corner

Here we are, a month away from summer already! My apologies for not getting a newsletter out the past few months. Life has been busy. MichAHI has been busy.

So far this year, MichAHI representatives have conferred several times with Representative Frank Accavitti regarding a new bill that he is working on. The MichAHI general membership meeting in March, with the associated election, netted several new board members. Welcome Don Bergman, Robert Dombroski, and Dennis Durrandetto. Guys, thanks for your commitment to the profession. Members, please call them or write to thank them for volunteering to serve on your board!

As MichAHI continues to stand by our Mission Statement and the MichAHI Values, an impact is being made in Lansing. Our state legislature and several departments are starting to realize just how firm and serious our stand is on home inspector licensing. In case there is any question or misunderstanding, the "official" MichAHI position on licensing home inspectors is that we generally do not support it, primarily due to lack of evidence that it will accomplish any thing meaningful for consumers or the profession. However, we are aware that some folk would like to license home inspectors. So, we are making every effort to educate and influence those people to discourage the introduction of inappropriate or poor legislation.

Lastly, it is so very important that each one of you participate in the association in any way that you can. Renew your membership for 2007-2008. If full membership is too costly right now, renew as an associate member. Our form is on our web site at www.michahi.org. Do what you can to bring new home inspectors into the association. This is YOUR association, representing YOUR profession and YOUR livelihood. Please contact me if you are looking for a spot to volunteer some of your time. You will never know what you are missing, until you get involved!

Politics

MichAHI has spent a great deal of time this year dealing with the prospect of home inspector licensing. This is one of the primary reasons MichAHI was founded. To date, your Legislative Committee Chair, Mike Goewey and myself, as spokesperson for the association, took advantage of an opportunity to meet with staff from the Legislative Services Bureau and Representative Frank Accavitti's office to discuss the items that MichAHI feels must be part of any new bill drafted. This meeting was very productive, as the bill writer from LSB seemed to have a much better grasp of what MichAHI would like to see, and the "why" of our position. Representative Accavitti is intent on introducing a bill to license home inspectors again this year. Though we do not support licensing, as there is no data supporting improved consumer protection from existing licensing in states that do have it, we must educate and influence the legislature regarding licensing, so that if it does come, it will be as positive as possible.

To date, there has not been a bill out of Legislative Services Bureau, that we have seen. Our Legislative Counsel, Mat Dunaskiss, advised this week that Frank Accavitti's office has not seen a product from L.S.B. either. MichAHI is not pushing for a bill, in accordance with our position. Hopefully, the legislature will occupy themselves with other things. As I write this newsletter, I am informed by another legislative con-

tact that there is a good likelihood that one of those items occupying the legislature is an increase in sales tax, income tax, or both. If you think that MichAHI should go on record opposing either or both of those, e-mail or telephone me: president@michahi.org or 269-342-1273.

Association News

MichAHI has lost two board members this year. This spring, Larry Troxel passed away due to stomach cancer. His memorial service was attended by the association president, and several small donations were made in memory of Larry and his work for the association, according to his wishes.

Bruce Thompson notified the president recently of his resignation from the board and the association. Bruce closed his home inspection firm. MichAHI will miss him greatly. Bruce was instrumental in the forming of our association, and played very important roles in the south-east Michigan group, as well as the board of directors and the legislative committee. We wish Bruce good luck in all future endeavors!

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:	(you!)
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for a list of Board Members, and membership list, visit our web site at www.michahi.org

Additionally, vote able polls are posted from time-to-time, and your vote will help determine how MichAHI responds to various state activities that affect our membership. Click on the MichAHI Bulletin Board link on the lower left-hand side of our web site!

Meetings

Board meetings are scheduled for :	14 June 2007 at 1600, Flap Jack in DeWitt
	13 September 2007 at 1600, Flap Jack in DeWitt
	13 December 2007 at 1600, Flap Jack in DeWitt
General Membership meeting:	13 March 2008 at 1600, Baker's of Milford

Please mark your calendars with these dates! They will be here before you know it!