



**Winter 2016**

Dear Member,

As we wrap up 2016 and look forward to 2017, I have a few thoughts for you. Your new MCPI Board of Directors is complete and eager to serve. The following members were elected to the MCPI Board: Jerry Hardesty, President; Alan Blanchard, Vice President; Cheryl Gelnak, Secretary; Jane Boudreau, Treasurer; Jim Schoenherr, Sergeant at Arms; Mike Cook, Board Member at Large; and Katherine Johnston, Board Member at Large.

We are excited about the upcoming year, especially our plans to assist with adding value to our member businesses. I believe we are truly blessed with such a range of exceptional and specialized talent that is accompanied with the broad and deep experiences within MCPI. I personally feel we have only scratched the surface in terms of helping each other enhance the quality and productivity of our businesses.

One of our value added offerings is the LIST SERVE. It is the most underutilized tool or source we offer. Think of Rick Phillips of Investigative Services of Northern Michigan and of all the different educational video links he has posted. Rick's postings convey a lot of unknown and useful information to those who take the time to watch. The videos are user friendly too.

Another example: Tom Williams of Great Lakes Investigations Inc., is never short on helpful hints. When a MCPI member needs help, Tom is readily available. He always posts extraordinary and helpful information. Recently, he assisted another member on how to handle an upcoming deposition regarding the legality of applying a GPS tracker in a litigated claim. His acumen in this area enhanced the deposed member to successfully navigate the intense deposition experience and helped that member's client's case. That client was impressed with MCPI in general and that member specifically.

I've witnessed members posting questions and many members respond. However, rarely are those respective answers shared with the group (I am as guilty as anyone). We, as a new Board, would like to see much more activity on the LIST SERVE, because we all benefit. I would also like to see answers to questions posted for everyone in the group. Speaking for myself, I would share an idea when a question is posted, but only with the one who posted the questions just in case I'm wrong.

I have several go-to members such as Marty Bugbee (retired MSP) IIA (Investigative Intelligence Group) and Bob Pertuso (retired FBI) and Sherwood De Visser (former paralegal and English teacher) These members and many, many others are always willing to share their experience, though we may not see postings from them.

We understand the nature of our businesses is competitive with each other. Yet, I truly believe the investigative profession can be synergistic. The better-quality work we do for our clients; the more work becomes available for all of us. Let us not be afraid to use MCPI for one of the reasons the organization was originally founded.

Merry Christmas to everyone, looking forward to a wonderful new year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry Hardesty".

Jerry Hardesty - President

## Welcome New Members!

Ruthanne Mosher - Gallagher- Ray LLC  
William Lovell - Lovell Investigations  
Scott Fink - Jane Doe Investigations  
Fred Berg - Century Research Group LLC  
Elizabeth Jordon - American Investigators, Inc.  
Matthew Parker - American Investigators, Inc.  
Edith Boyer - Jerome T Boyer Investigations  
Martin Vander Vliet - Northport Security LLC

### FEATURED SLEUTH

#### Herbert Welser

by Russ Rheume

Herbert Welser was born in St. Clair, Michigan and graduated from St. Clair High School. In 1974, he became a police cadet with the Port Huron Police Department; and at the same time, he obtained his associates in Criminal Justice at St. Clair Community College.

When Herbert was with the Port Huron Police Department, he progressed from Patrol Officer to Traffic Safety Officer, to Detective, to Patrol Sergeant, and then to Patrol Lieutenant. He eventually retired in 2005 as a Detective Lieutenant.

Herb and his wife, Beth, a nuclear medicine technologist, have been married thirty-five years. They have three children and three grandsons. The Welser's are active with Griswold Street Baptist Church in Port Huron. Herb serves on the Elder Board and Beth is involved in several serving ministries.

Back in 1868, Herbert's great grandparents came from Germany and started the family farm. The Welser's still reside on their fifty-acre centennial farm in St. Clair County. They raise beef cattle, have chickens for eggs, and this year they started four bee hives that produced over 200 pounds of honey! Their cattle breeds include Red Angus and Simmental.

Welser Investigations LLC is located at 5842 Nueman Road, St. Clair, MI 48079, phone: 810-326-1393, E-mail [welserh@aol.com](mailto:welserh@aol.com). Herbert is very active in the program Proving Innocence and is an active member of the National Association of Legal Investigators (NALI). WELSER INVESTIGATIONS LLC specializes in criminal and civil investigations, locating missing persons, and background checks. Herbert is definitely an asset to MCPI.



### Annual Member Meeting

The MCPI Annual Conference was held at the Novi City Hall on November 2, 2016. We had a full day packed with great training, great food, great networking and conversation. Our speakers included: Lori Hinkley of the Michigan State Police; Bill Wilson of Investigative Mechanics, Inc.;

David Tanay of the Office of the Attorney General; Scott Lewis of the Michigan Innocence Clinic; and Mark Lachniet.



Pres Hardesty with departing BOD - Crane, Psarouthakis, Klimek & Milam



Speaker Lori Hinkley from MSP



Bill Wilson - Investigate Mechanics



Scott Lewis - Investigating Innocence



David Tanay Health Care Fraud



Mark Lachniet



Representative Tom Leonard receiving  
the PINNACLE AWARD

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## **2017-2018 Board of Directors**

### **President**

Jerry Hardesty  
Hardesty Private Investigations

### **Vice President**

Alan Blanchard  
Sentinel Investigations, LLC

### **Secretary**

Cheryl Gelnak

### **Treasurer**

Jane Boudreau  
Jane Doe Investigations, Inc.

### **Sergeant at Arms**

Jim Schoenherr  
Recon Management Group LLC

### **Board Member At Large**

Katherine Johnston  
Mackinac Partners, LLC

### **Board Member At Large**

Michael Cook  
Signature Investigations Group

### **Past President**

Linda Milam  
Milam Investigations

**2017-18 Legislative Leadership  
Michigan Senate & House of Representatives**

**Michigan Senate**

Senate Majority Leader	Senator Arlan B. Meekhof	Senate District 30
Senate Majority Floor Leader	Senator Mike Kowall	Senate District 15
Senate President Pro-Tem	Senator Tonya Schuitmaker	Senate District 26
Senate Minority Leader	Senator Jim Ananich	Senate District 27
Senate Minority Floor Leader	Senator Morris Hood III	Senate District 3
Senate Appropriations Chair	Senator Dave Hildenbrand	Senate District 29

**Michigan House of Representatives**

Speaker of the House	Representative Tom Leonard	House District 93
Majority Floor Leader	Representative Dan Lauwers	House District 81
Speaker Pro-Tem	Representative Lee Chatfield	House District 107
Minority Leader	Representative Sam Singh	House District 69
Minority Floor Leader	Representative Christine Greig	House District 37
House Appropriations Chair	Representative Laura Cox	House District 19

First Session Day-Swearing in of Legislature-Wednesday, January 11, 2017

**Congrats to MCPI Members  
that have recruited new members for the association!**

Randy Urbanczyk - 1 recruit (Patricia Prescott)  
Robert Pertuso - 1 recruit (Martin VanderVliet)  
Michael Cote - 1 recruit (George West)  
Jane Boudreau - 2 recruits (Keith Waller & Scott Fink)  
Jerome T. Boyer - 1 recruit (Edith Boyer)  
Steve Crane - 1 recruit (Glenn Durfield)  
Jerry Hardesty - 2 recruits (Susan Hardesty & Ronald Ulko)  
David Meadows - 1 recruit (Fred Berg)  
Tom Parker - 2 recruits (Elizabeth Jordon & Matthew Parker)  
Tom Williams - 1 recruit (Nathen Warrick)

We have mailed your 2017 Membership renewal.  
If you have not received a notice, please contact the office.

## Our Condolences

By Russ Rheaume

Jim Murray, formerly of Midwest Intelligence Services, was a Featured Sleuth back in March 1997. Sadly, he recently passed away, but will never be forgotten. When Gary Sumeracki was President and I, Vice President, Jim was there to keep us going as the Treasurer and Member of the MCPI By-Laws Committee. He was also active with the Michigan State Police PI Advisory Board. We had many fun times together.

Jim was born in Minneapolis, MN and graduated from Central High School. In 1971 to 1978, Jim was in the U.S. Army Reserves working up to a Staff Sergeant. Moving to Michigan with his wife, Susan, he got into Private Investigations, was active with Huron Township as the Coordinator of the D.A.R.E. Program, and was a liaison officer for the Huron Township Applefest.

Jim worked for Huron Township for 17 years and most recently served as Marion Township Treasurer. Jim was a great man, husband, father, and papa. He set an outstanding example of how to be selfless, compassionate, and respectful to others. Jim enjoyed spending time with his family and friends boating and fishing at the lake. Jim Murray will be sorely missed by all.



June 12, 1951  
~ October 22,  
2016

Michigan Council of Professional Investigators, 235 N. Pine St, Lansing, MI 48933