



MLGMA

<http://www.mlgma.org>

**MICHIGAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 1487, Ann Arbor, MI 48106
Phone 734/662-3246 • Fax 734/662-8083

PRESIDENT

THOMAS J. WIECZOREK
Ionia

PRESIDENT-ELECT

RANDALL BYRNE
Grand Blanc

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

MICHAEL S. HERMAN
Albion

DIRECTORS:

TERI A. ARBENOWSKE
Farmington Hills

JOSEPH P. DUFF
Gaylord

W. MICHAEL FREER
Roscommon

DALE KERBYSON
Lapeer

KENNETH D. KROMBEEN
Grandville

DALE MAJERCZYK
Essexville

LYNN MARKLAND
Durand

JOSEPH H. MERUCCI
Clawson

JEFF MUELLER
Lathrup Village

PENNY S. OSIER
Ontonagon

WILLIAM H. NELSON JR.
Dowagiac

PATRICK K. SULLIVAN
Saint Clair

EX-OFFICIO

JANE BAIS-DISESSA
Berkley; ICMA Midwest VP

ELIZABETH KELLAR
ICMA State Liaison Officer

SECRETARY/TREASURER

COLLEEN LAYTON
Michigan Municipal League

The Manager

The official newsletter of the Michigan Local Government Management Association

Affiliated with the Michigan Municipal League

June 2005

Garland Resort to Host 2005 Summer Workshop

Michigan Managers Performing on the Edge

By Jason Eppler, DeWitt City
Administrator; Chair, 2005 Summer
Workshop Planning Committee

Your 2005 Summer Workshop Planning Committee has been hard at work over the past several months planning what will be a very interesting and energizing summer workshop.

This summer's theme, *Michigan Managers Performing on the Edge*, will highlight how we as managers are not only surviving—but thriving—as we work to reinvent, redesign and restructure our operations and service delivery, despite tough economic times.

The keynote session will be provided by Dr. Joe Ohren from Eastern Michigan University's Institute for Community and Regional Development. Ohren will present a fast-paced interactive program on performance management and measurement.

The keynote will be complemented by sessions focused on examples of how Michigan communities have redefined the delivery of local services.

As is customary, the Planning Committee has developed a workshop schedule which provides time for socializing with family and friends.

There are a variety of recreational opportunities available at Garland, and the Committee is working to schedule a few "organized" family recreational events. The traditional Thursday afternoon golf outing has been organized and will be held on the Monarch, a very demanding course with a layout that makes it one of Michigan's longest golf courses. Practice!

Watch for your workshop registration packet, which will arrive soon.

On behalf of the Planning Committee, I hope that you can join us from Tuesday, July 26th, to Friday, July 29th, at Garland Resort in Lewiston for this year's summer workshop.

Related Topic: The Awards and Recognition Committee is seeking nominations for the annual "Tongue in Cheek" Awards. See page 8.

President's Message

by Thomas J. Wiczorek, Ionia City Manager; 2005 MLGMA President

Three people will attend specialized training following action at the April meeting of the board of directors.

MLGMA has had a seat available at Harvard for programs that, in a number of years, went unused due to a lack of interest. This year, two individuals will attend the Harvard programs, with half of their costs reimbursed by the MLGMA. In addition, we will send one other manager to the Disney Institute with the same arrangements.

Each year a call for persons interested in attending these programs is made. While we may not be able to send this many each year, our goal is to encourage managers to take advantage of these opportunities while recognizing that cost can often be a factor in people not being able to attend.

The Professional Development Committee was excited at the number of applications this year. However, depending on available funds, the awards may be more competitive in future years.

The board also continues to promote recruitment of new members both to the MLGMA and the ICMA. Our goals of recruiting seven new members to each association remain active, and current members are encouraged to invite surrounding managers to join the two organizations.

The board is asking all members to help achieve our goal of "7" by the end of 2005. ICMA has put together a package of incentives to offer new members at this year's conference in Minneapolis. MLGMA has also developed incentives for new members at their conferences.

In other business:

- The Community Education Committee has prepared a new outline for the Fellowship program formerly known as the "Bromage" Fellowship. Thus far Oakland University, Grand Valley State University, and Michigan State University have agreed to participate in the rotating fellowship with Oakland up first.

The board learned that Dale K. Nesbary, MPA Director in the Department of Political Science at Oakland, has expressed his commitment and said the university

is prepared to match our \$3,000 contribution for a paid internship for a 12-week placement. They are prepared to proceed.

The new structure was approved by the board.

The Committee continues to look at ideas for names for the new fellowship program. If you have something of interest, please contact Michael Young, Rockford City Manager.

- With the recent promotion of Dan Gilmartin to Executive Director of the Michigan Municipal League, a request was made and approved to appoint Colleen Layton as the new Secretary/Treasurer for the MLGMA. Dan's new workload precluded some of the time that was, in the past, spent on MLGMA matters. While Dan will continue to be active with our association, the board welcomes Colleen.
- Upcoming MLGMA Board meetings are: July 26, 2005, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Summer Institute; September 22, 2005, (Board meeting & Nominating Committee meeting) at the MML Fall Conference, Grand Rapids, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.; November 18, 2005, 10 a.m.-noon at the MML Lansing Offices.

DEADLINE

MLGMA members are encouraged to submit articles for publication in *The Manager*. Please submit all copy for the Sept. 2005 issue to the editor, Sue Lee, [leeford@comcast.net] by Monday, August 1, 2005.

Wiczorek Heads to Washington D.C.

Tom Wiczorek announced his retirement from the City of Ionia and has accepted the position of Executive Director for the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) in Washington, D.C.

"This all came about because of a memo of agreement between ICMA and CFAI a few

years ago," he said. And while he is looking forward to a new challenge, Wiczorek says he will serve as a consultant to the City of Ionia as they go through the process of hiring his replacement.

MLGMA members will have an opportunity to wish Tom well at the Summer Conference in Lewiston.

'Asset Management' Gaining Support in Lansing

There's a new phrase buzzing around Lansing the last few years that continues to gain support. The phrase is "Asset Management."

The question that is most frequently asked is, "What is Asset Management?" This question is followed, usually by, "How and why do we have to do Asset Management?"

Public Act 499 of 2002 moved the State of Michigan to the forefront of a national trend in managing transportation systems. For the first time, road systems were to be evaluated, managed, and improved utilizing a more traditional "utility system" approach. This approach, while relatively new in the United States, has been used for some time to manage both transportation and infrastructure in New Zealand, Australia and Europe.

Defined by the Act, Asset Management is "an ongoing process of maintaining, upgrading and operating physical assets cost-effectively, based on a continuous physical inventory and condition assessment." [MCL 247.659a(1)(a)]

Under Public Act 499, all roads receiving funding from the state or federal levels were to move to management utilizing the Asset Management Process. In addition, a Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) was created that reports to the Transportation Commission. This council was charged with selecting and creating data collection systems to evaluate the conditions of roads throughout the State; to then report expenditures, conditions, and planned improvements to the Legislature and other groups; and assist in developing transportation strategies for managing the road systems in the state.

All federal-aid eligible roads have now been evaluated two years in a row, with a third year

used for pilot collection studies. The latest report on road conditions is available on MDOT's web site.

The process was expanded in 2004 by the adoption of Public Act 9 which allows entities receiving road funds to move money from the major street systems to the local, provided they have adopted an asset management process. Three communities have submitted their asset management plans and been approved to make such transfers.

Legislation has recently been introduced by Pam Byrnes of the 52nd District to further expand the ability of local government to transfer funds and streamline the process.

Under her proposed legislation, communities that have adopted an asset management process need only report one budget. In other words, local and major streets could be combined into one budget, provided the plans have been put in place and adopted.

Persons who are interested in seeing the elimination of the separate reporting budgets should write their legislators and urge support of the legislative efforts.

The TAMC is also developing (currently in beta testing) software that communities can use to report expenditures on the transportation system.

When evaluating roads, the data is categorized into three areas: routine maintenance, capital preventive maintenance, and structural improvement. Various work tasks have been evaluated by the TAMC and placed under these three categories. The Council found that data is available by which to determine expenditures (for the most part) in the routine maintenance area and in the

structural improvement levels; but there is very little to substantiate expenditures that fall under capital preventive maintenance. For that reason, the software will assist in capturing this information, which must be reported yearly to the legislature and interested groups.

The software should be rolled out later this year, with communities reporting in 2006. Communities are encouraged to look at the various breakdowns and evaluate their budget reporting methods to determine any changes that may need to be made at the local level. Without the data, making the change from the traditional tactical management of the state's road systems to a more strategic model will not be possible.

To answer the questions that were asked earlier, the TAMC has put out a brochure that lists the fundamental elements of an Asset Management Process:

- Conduct periodic system condition inventories;
- Identify needs by forecasting system conditions based upon reliable rates of deterioration;
- Establish strategic goals and objectives and performance measures;
- Evaluate investment scenarios based upon forecasted conditions and achievement of goals and objectives;
- Develop and implement a multi-year investment program;
- Routinely monitor the performance of system improvements.

For people wanting to get started on the Asset Management process, the City of Ionia has placed its Asset Management plan on the city web site at: www.ionia-mi.gov under the "Frequently Asked Questions" section. The 2005-2006 plan should be available on-line after June 6, 2005.

ICMA News

Midwest Region VP Election Update

A number of years ago, difficulties arose in the process by which the vice-presidential candidate for the International City-County Management Association representative was chosen.

The MLGMA board (MCMA at the time) entered negotiations with regional members of ICMA to determine if a better process could be established so that all states in the Midwest region would have an opportunity to select a representative to the ICMA board. In addition, it was thought that this would eliminate the costly practice of having to campaign for the spots.

Older members can often remember the volumes of mail, pencils, and other items that were distributed to get word out about candidates. In order to run, a person had to actively (and expensively) campaign for the position.

Some might say that an agreement should not be difficult; that the region states would simply identify a process and then follow it. Unfortunately while that is what occurred, because of the bylaws of the ICMA, any member can use a petition process and be nominated as a candidate for the ICMA board. Groups representing minorities or subgroups (such as county managers) can also run candidates in an effort to provide balance to the ICMA board of directors.

The ICMA nominating committee interviews candidates and makes a recommendation. But any member may petition for a spot on the ballot. The nominating committee tries to ensure that all interests are represented on the board. The voting occurs at the national level, meaning all members of ICMA vote on all candidates, regardless of the region. While the Midwest may have nominated someone, there was no legal mechanism to bar others from petitioning for

appearance on the ballot. With nationwide voting, the region may have carried the candidate; that may not happen when all votes are tallied.

The past two years Wisconsin (whose rotation turn on the prior agreement was in place) nominated an individual who was not the nominee after interviews by the nominating committee. The person did not run through the petition process. As a result, the prior rotation agreement was determined to be weak at best—totally irrelevant at worst.

The presidents of the Midwest region states have been meeting over the course of the last two months to determine what, if anything, can be done to establish a process to ensure that candidates coming from the region are active participants in their state associations. This has been an issue with at least one candidate, who was relatively unknown to the state president and board yet was nominated for the ICMA board.

From these meetings, a tentative agreement has developed. The framework of the agreement is:

1. Each year the Midwest Region of ICMA will appoint a Regional Candidate Screening Committee to be comprised of the president of each state association or his/her designee from the state association board.

2. The Screening Committee will follow the ICMA Executive Board's policy to screen nominees who will provide a balanced board that represents the profession and those served by it. The committee will use the following criteria, established by the board, to evaluate candidates:

- Experience in local government;
- Service to ICMA and its affiliates;
- Diversity in the nominees and the continuing board members with whom they will serve in terms of geography, ethnicity, gender, position, and size and type of local governments;

- Demonstration of ethical behavior;
- Support of the profession through the ICMA Fund for Professional Management or by other means;
- Commitment to follow the election guidelines;
- Quality or caliber for board service; and,
- Participation in ICMA's Voluntary Credentialing Program.

In addition, the region may consult with current regional vice presidents to identify any targeted board diversity/makeup to be considered in the annual nomination process.

3. The Midwest Region Candidate Screening Committee will only consider candidates who meet requirements of ICMA for board members and who will submit all necessary paperwork for the nomination process.

4. All ICMA Midwest Vice Presidential positions will be subject to the regional candidate screening process, including the non-CEO position. This modification to the previous Rotation Agreement will henceforth open up nominations on a Region-wide basis, and will assist the Midwest Region in achieving appropriate representation on the ICMA Board which is reflective of the diversity of our region in terms of member ethnicity and gender, city/county/township size and location.

5. To achieve representational balance in the region, the candidate screening process will be subject to the following rotation system:

(a) The rotation system among the states in the Midwest Region shall be established according to the following assignment of states:

State Group "A"
Minnesota, Missouri,
Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana

State Group "B"
Michigan, Illinois, Ohio

continued on page 5

(b) Vice Presidential positions shall be screened according to the following rotation process:

Vice President Position #1

Selected by State Grouping "A"

Years to be Elected:
2006; 2009; 2012; 2015

Vice President Position #2

Selected by State Grouping "B"

Years to be Elected:
2008; 2011; 2014; 2017

Vice President Position #3

Designated as Non-CEO Position

Not included in Rotation System

Years to be Elected:
2007; 2010; 2013; 2016

The Non-CEO position shall not be from the same state as one of the "traditional" Midwest Regional Vice Presidents, unless there are no other qualified candidates from the region who meet the requirements for serving on the ICMA Executive Board as established by the policy referenced above in this agreement.

(c) No state may succeed itself on the ICMA Board (there should be a minimum one-year gap for any state's representation on the board), unless there is no qualified candidate from another state in the State Group who meets the requirements for serving on the ICMA Executive Board as established by the policy referenced above in this agreement.

(d) No state in the region shall be represented on the ICMA Board more than twice in any ten-year period, unless there is no qualified candidate from another state in the State Group who meets the requirements for serving on the ICMA Executive Board as established by the policy referenced above in this agreement.

6. The following process is established to ensure that all ICMA members in the Midwest Region are aware of the screening process/rotational nominations and to ensure that all

ICMA members and members of affiliate organizations have been advised of these annually of the need to solicit nominations to be screened by the regional nominating committee:

(a) Annually, a letter or email will be sent to the current state association presidents advising of their role in the process and the need to identify candidates from the region.

(b) Annually a letter or email will be sent to all ICMA Midwest Region members to advise of this screening/rotational nomination process and to solicit nominations for that year for ICMA Midwest VP candidates.

(c) ICMA and the Midwest Region will work cooperatively to ensure contact has been made with affiliate groups to include them in the Regional Candidate Screening Committee process. This process will include an annual letter written to the national office of the affiliate organization and, if appropriate, letters written to the state chapters of the affiliate organization to invite participation in the nomination process.

(d) To ensure continuity of this process, the Illinois City/County Management Association has agreed to manage this process of sending notice to all ICMA Midwest Region members and to the national office of the affiliate organizations each year. All states that are party to this agreement have also agreed to share cost for this administrative expense if requested by the Illinois City/County Management Association.

7. The Regional Candidate Screening Committee will meet annually at the Midwest Regional meeting to interview candidates from the region who are submitted through the above process.

8. The Regional Candidate Screening Committee will submit annually a minimum of two (2) qualified candidates to the ICMA Nominating Committee and in doing so, will

consider the selection criteria as provided in the above-referenced ICMA Executive Board Policy. If there are fewer than two qualified candidates, the Regional Candidate Screening Committee may endorse only one candidate. This process does not discourage the submission of petitions by individuals directly to the ICMA Nominating Committee.

9. Along with the two qualified candidate names, the Regional Candidate Screening Committee will submit annually to the ICMA Nominating Committee a report that outlines the qualifications of the submitted candidates, as well as any comments it feels are appropriate regarding other candidates who were not submitted as the recommended candidates from the Region. Additionally, this report will include a discussion on the process undertaken by the Regional Candidate Screening Committee to solicit nominations from both the ICMA Midwest membership and the affiliate organizations as identified by ICMA.

10. The ICMA National Nominating Committee will retain final approval on any endorsed candidates. However, in the interest of good communications and in assisting the region in better identifying future candidates, the Midwest Regional Candidate Screening Committee would appreciate any feedback on reasons for the regional candidates not being endorsed by the National Nominating Committee to ensure the process works better in the future.

11. In 2016, this agreement shall be reviewed by the State Associations and the ICMA Midwest Vice Presidents before the 2016 Annual Midwest Regional Meeting to determine if amendments to ensure that ICMA members from all states in the north-east region have a fair opportunity to serve on the ICMA Executive Board. If

ICMA News

there are no amendments agreed to by at least two-thirds of the State Associations at the 2016 Midwest Regional Meeting, this screening and rotational nomination process agreement shall automatically continue.

This process is similar to processes used in other regions. It allows the region an opportunity to “vet” the candidates before their nomination process moves to the nominating committee of ICMA. Certainly, another option would be to change the nominating process or election process to limit voting to the region from which the candidate is nominated but such action will require amending the bylaws—a lengthy and time-consuming process (not that this process has been neither).

The goal is to encourage candidates from the region while not allowing monopolization from any one state in the region. It should be noted that Michigan is the largest ICMA membership state but, close on our heels, is Illinois with 7 fewer members. Minnesota and Wisconsin are growing and could someday be close! We also hope that by this agreement, we can support candidates and make the process easier to achieve election to the ICMA board.

If you have comments or questions, the issue will come before the board of directors in July. Member states of the Midwest region are: Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri.

Schedule for Annual Midwest Candidate Screening Process

Early January—Letters to State Association Presidents and ICMA Affiliate Groups providing information on the ICMA nomination process, Midwest Regional Candidate Screening Process, and requesting the nomination of potential candidates from these groups for the Midwest Screening process.

Mid-February—Deadline for receiving Midwest Region nominations for Midwest Regional Candidate Screening process.

March/April—Regional Candidate Screening Committee meets at Midwest Regional Meeting to interview candidates that have been endorsed by a State Association, an affiliate organization or by petition as required by the rules governing the election of ICMA Vice-Presidents.

June—Regional Candidate Screening Committee report to ICMA Nominating Committee (report to include a minimum of 2 recommended candidates as well as discussion on the process followed to solicit applications for the regional screening process from the state associations and the affiliate organizations).

Sample Letter to State Associations/Affiliate Groups Requesting Candidates

Dear _____:

The Midwest Regional Screening Committee cordially invites you to consider nominating a person/persons from your association that you would like to have considered as an ICMA vice presidential candidate from the Midwest Region. The deadline for these nominations is _____.

From these preliminary nominations, the Committee will conduct interviews at the Midwest Regional Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, and then prepare recommendations of at least two (2) regional candidates to the ICMA Nominating Committee.

The Midwest Regional Screening Committee and the ICMA Nominating Committee are looking for Corporate Members of ICMA who can provide a balanced board that represents the profession and those served by it. Additionally, the following criteria will be used by both the Regional Screening Committee and the ICMA Nominating committee to evaluate candidates:

- Experience in local government;
- Service to ICMA and its affiliates;
- Diversity in the nominees and the continuing board members with whom they will serve in terms of geography, ethnicity, gender, position, and size and types of local governments;
- Demonstration of ethical behavior;
- Support of the profession through the ICMA Fund for professional management;
- Commitment to follow the election guidelines;
- Quality or caliber for board service; and
- Participation in ICMA's Voluntary Credentialing program.

We sincerely hope that your association will put forward one or more candidates for our regional screening process. Please send your suggestion by February 15, _____ to the Midwest Regional Screening Committee, c/o Illinois City/County Management Association,

Lastly, our Midwest Region has a new agreement that governs the nomination of candidates to ensure appropriate rotation of candidates throughout the region. Attached is a copy of that agreement which explains in detail the regional rotation as well as the process for screening nominees from our region.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in identifying qualified candidates for our upcoming ICMA Midwest Region Vice President candidate screening process. Your continuing assistance in ensuring appropriate representation from the Midwest Region is very much appreciated. We look forward to hearing from you on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Michigan's Economy—Moving Sideways?

On May 19th, the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference took place in Lansing. This meeting, held by law twice a year in mid-January and mid-May, is used to estimate revenues for the coming year.

The principals of each meeting include the State Treasurer and Directors of the House and Senate Fiscal Agencies. Reports are given by economists from these state agencies, the private sector and by the University of Michigan's Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics.

This particular meeting featured presentations by General Motors economist David Teolis and Williams Strauss, a senior economist and economic advisor with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

The state's economy continues to be fragile, with revenues on the upswing one month and down the next and never moving ahead as fast as the national economy; hence the conclusion that we're moving "sideways" as coined at the conference by David Teolis. It is clear that Michigan's economic structure continues to be in a state of change.

University of Michigan economists reported that after losing 100,000 jobs over the last two years, they estimate the state will lose just over 9,000 jobs in 2005 and rebound in 2006 with 46,000 new jobs. Of course, that doesn't even amount to half the jobs that have been lost. Job growth will actually be aided by productivity reductions, as there is only so much you can squeeze out of the current work force. This will force employers to hire more people.

Based on the information gleaned from the conference, the Treasurer and Senate and House Fiscal Agency Directors agreed on a consensus revenue estimate of \$8.13

billion for 2006. This is not that far off (\$21 million less) than the estimate made in January. That's the good news, because over the last few years, estimates from one conference to the next have been far too optimistic leading to further reductions in state appropriations.

The bad news is that revenues are still far below state government funding obligations. The governor's 2006 fiscal year budget called for \$8.875 billion in spending. This leaves a shortfall of about \$750 million when considering the new revenue estimate. The governor's proposal called for revenue enhancements and fees to balance the budget. However, these are not looked favorably upon by the Republican majority in the legislature. As budget discussions continue into the summer, something will have to give. This is why it is important to continue communicating the importance to legislators of community funding programs such as revenue sharing and its connection to creating an environment where Michigan's economy will continue to grow.

Michigan's Budget Process — A New Approach?

The beginning of this budget cycle saw a lot of energy around a "new" way of looking at the process. The principles espoused in the book "The Price of Government" initially became the bible for many involved in the appropriations process in Lansing. From the administration to legislators, it first appeared as if the "POG" process would drive all appropriation matters this year.

Over time however, the House and Senate have decided to go their separate ways. The Senate has returned to the method by which

the process has worked over the years: looking at the state budget department by department and making funding decisions based on available revenue. It is through this process that the Senate General Government Subcommittee proposed reducing revenue sharing by \$22.5 million for 2006 in an effort to meet expected revenues and address the budget shortfall.

The House, on the other hand, has stayed committed to the POG process, incorporating the discussion of initial result teams into the work of the appropriations subcommittees.

The subcommittees are now releasing their rankings of various programs under their review. These rankings will then be used to determine program funding levels. Using this process, the House General Government Subcommittee gave revenue sharing a number one ranking in its category, scoring 3.8 out of a possible 4 points. It remains to be seen how this will relate to actual funding.

The House is also considering how to compile the rankings and funding recommendations into actual legislation. There is talk that the House will place all funding recommendations into one large "omnibus" budget bill; break it into four bills; or use nine bills to reflect the POG result areas. Whichever process the House uses, it will eventually need to be reconciled with the process the Senate has chosen.

In the end, the House and Senate will organize program and funding priorities and address the continued revenue shortfall as they look to present a balanced budget to the governor before the start of the 2006 fiscal year on October 1.

Back page news



Calendar

Regional Managers Groups

BORDER BANDITS

Hillsdale/Branch/Calhoun Counties. *Contact:* Bill Stewart, CM, Coldwater.

GENESEE COUNTY

Genesee County—meetings held first Thursday of the month. *Contact:* Michael Senyko, CM, Fenton.

LAKE AREA

Macomb County, parts of St. Clair County and the Grosse Pointe area—lunch meetings held 3rd Thursday, every other month. *Contact:* Brian Vick, AA, Grosse Pointe.

MIDDLE OF THE MITTEN

Lansing metro area—meetings held 1st Thursday of the month. *Contact:* Theodore J. Staton, CM, East Lansing.

MID-MICHIGAN CITY/COUNTY

Upper Central Lower Peninsula. *Contact:* Ken Hibl, CM, Clare.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN L.P.

Meetings held 4th Thursday of the month. *Contact:* George Korthauer, CM, Petoskey.

OAKLAND COUNTY

Meetings held 2nd Tuesday of the month, excluding July and August. *Contact:* Carolyn Lehr, CM, Keego Harbor.

SAGINAW COUNTY

Saginaw County—meetings held last Friday of the month. *Contact:* Ron Lee, Saginaw Township Manager.

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Wayne/Washtenaw/Lenawee/Monroe Counties—meetings held 3rd Wednesday of the month. *Contact:* George Brown, CM, Adrian.

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

Berrien/Kalamazoo/St. Joseph/Cass/Van Buren Counties—meetings held 3rd Wednesday of the month. *Contact:* Frank Walsh, CM, St. Joseph.

THUMB NUTS

Thumb area—meetings held three times each year. *Contact:* Charlie Graham, CM, Frankenmuth.

U.P.

Meetings held twice each year. *Contact:* John Siira, CM, Wakefield.

WEST MICHIGAN

Kent/Muskegon/Ottawa Counties; Ludington/Portland areas—lunch meetings held in Grand Rapids, 3rd Wednesday of each month, except July and August. *Contact:* Ken Krombeen CM, Grandville.

Calendar

2005

June

- 8- MML Region 7 Meeting
- 10 Ishpeming

July

- 26- MLGMA Summer Workshop
- 29 Garland Resort, Lewiston

September

- 20- MML Annual Conference
- 23 Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids
- 25- ICMA Annual Convention
- 28 Minneapolis, MN

2006

January/February

- 31- MLGMA Winter Training Institute
- 3 Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo

Awards and Recognition Committee Seeks 'Tongue-in-Cheek' Awards Nominations

Assuming summer might actually arrive in Michigan, many of us will soon gather at the Garland Resort for the annual summer conference. The Awards and Recognition Committee is seeking nominations for the annual "Tongue in Cheek" Awards.

Requirements are simple. Send a note to Scott Huebler in Whitehall with the nominees name and a reason for the dubious distinction. There needs to be enough information for most of the members to "get it" and not some little-known inside joke.

The nominations can be professional or personal—but not *too* personal; many families will be in attendance and they think the world of us!

Nominations are due by July 8th. Sorry, no self-nominations; and nominees must be present to win—now there's all the reason you need to register!

2005 MLGMA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The remaining 2005 MLGMA Board meeting times and locations are listed below.

Please send agenda items, correspondence, etc. at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting, to MLGMA President, Tom Wiczorek [e-mail: tom@city.ionia.mi.us or Fax: 616-527-0810].

- **Tuesday, July 26, 2005**
6:30– 8:30 p.m., Garland Resort, Lewiston
- **Thursday, Sept. 22, 2005**
8:00–9:30 a.m., Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids
- **Friday, Nov. 18, 2005**
10 a.m.–Noon, MML Lansing