

# A Member's Guide to MUCC's Policy Setting Process



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## **Introduction**

MUCC and its membership is the *ONE VOICE* for conservation in the State of Michigan. We are the stewards of Michigan's vast natural resources; it is OUR responsibility to act in the best interest of those resources and of those who depend upon them. We must create strong policies that promote healthy and abundant habitats, protect clean water, air, and soil, restore our Great Lakes, ensure protection of our ability to access public lands and waters, and promote a strong, enduring sportsmen's heritage. By using this book to draft policy for MUCC, you join the legions of members who have helped MUCC become the first voice for Michigan's out-of-doors.

### **How MUCC's Members Make a Difference...**

MUCC's membership establishes MUCC's policies and priorities for the upcoming year at the Annual Convention. Held at the end of June, MUCC's Annual Convention is attended by over 150 voting delegates representing MUCC's 400+ affiliated clubs and 50,000 members. These delegates are charged with reviewing and voting on resolutions (proposed policy) brought forward by MUCC members, clubs, regions, or by MUCC's Executive Committee.

MUCC's membership is the heart of MUCC and the very lifeblood of the organization. Without our members, MUCC wouldn't have the power to shape change at the Capitol, the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Quality, or any other forum.

Since they establish our policy priorities for the coming year, resolutions are your way of helping direct the conservation goals of MUCC. They should reflect the major conservation issues facing the state/nation. The purpose of this booklet is to help inform our membership of MUCC's policy priority areas and how your resolutions help define those priorities. It is also designed to help you understand the how to draft a resolution and take part in MUCC's policy process.

If you have questions about anything along the way, policy staff members identified on the cover of this booklet are available and ready to help. Feel free to call on any one of them should you need help.

Good Luck, and we look forward to seeing your policy suggestions at next year's MUCC Convention.

Yours in Conservation,

***The MUCC Policy Team***

## **What Are MUCC's Policy Priorities?**

Over the next legislative session, MUCC's policy staff will focus on five priority areas: Habitat, Protection, Restoration, Sportsmen's Heritage, and Access. This section discusses why those five areas are important and how the resolution process has helped shape MUCC's work in these areas.

### **Habitat**

Michigan has long been a sportsman's paradise, providing abundant, healthy and diverse wild game across the state. These game species are supported by Michigan's large tracts of forest lands, critical wetlands, inland lakes, miles of streams and rivers, and other important habitats. Without these critical habitats we lose the foundation for the hunting and fishing opportunities that bring billions of dollars into Michigan's economy every year and provide recreational opportunities and sustenance for Michigan's sportsmen and women.

The importance of habitat as the essential ingredient to healthy wildlife often gets lost in the shuffle as we talk about license fees, public access and management techniques. Habitat is the one element of wildlife management that cannot be ignored. As Michigan's budget becomes tighter every year, the state's funding, and therefore its ability to manage our forests and waters, has declined. Michigan is developing its land at a rate eight times faster than our population is growing. This increasing rate of land development, which causes increased habitat fragmentation and parcelization, coupled with budgetary problems, ensures that Michigan's wildlife is fighting an uphill battle for space to live, eat and procreate.

MUCC's membership has voiced concerns over habitat from its inception to the present day. In 1986, a resolution passed calling for the DNR to develop better programs to provide improved wildlife habitat. In 2006 similar resolutions passed, highlighting the importance of protection and improvement of habitat to Michigan's sportsmen and women, especially restoring winter deer yards to promote a healthy white tailed deer herd. These resolutions challenged MUCC to find ways to work with the DNR to help improve deer habitat.

In response to that call, MUCC staff is working with its members and the DNR to help develop a Volunteer Habitat Program designed to get Michigan's sportsmen and women out on State Game Areas to do volunteer projects that will help improve habitat on those lands. With budget crunches, the DNR is unable to do many of the habitat management and improvement projects that would benefit game and non-game species on state lands. This program will develop a long-term solution that will help enhance and improve all forms of habitat on state game areas,

giving Michigan sportsmen and women the ability to tackle this problem head on with hands-on solutions.

## **Protection**

Protection of our state's natural resources is a pillar of MUCC's policy and a cornerstone of the Conservation Pledge. Clean air, water and soil are critical to our state's quality of life and are essential for healthy environments for humans and wildlife. Over the years MUCC has been a leader in fighting to protect our natural resources from every type of pollution. We supported banning bioaccumulative toxins like DDT that brought our eagle populations to the brink of extinction and fought for curbs on air pollution that cause acid rain and ozone depletion. MUCC supports measures to prevent erosion, an often overlooked source of pollution that fills our rivers and streams with excess nutrients and sediments, including programs that promote riparian buffer zones and storm water filtration. We also have worked with the governor to reduce mercury pollution from coal fired power plants by 90 percent by 2015. This effort will help minimize mercury-infested fish that are unhealthy to eat.

Protection is a broad category and the above-mentioned projects are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to describing MUCC's work in this area since its inception in 1937. MUCC's policy has changed as the threats to Michigan's environment have changed, showing that its membership has a keen grasp on what is really important when it comes to protecting Michigan from pollution and keeping our natural resources healthy.

Our current policy extends into the realm of renewable energy, calling for development of non-nuclear alternatives to fossil fuels in addition to the conservation of all energy sources and promotion of more efficient and cleaner technologies. This year MUCC will be working on a number of initiatives to reduce the amount of phosphorus that enters Michigan's waters. Phosphorus is the limiting nutrient for waters in the Great Lakes basin. High phosphorus levels were responsible for dead zones in Lake Erie in the 1960's and there are alarming signs that these problems are returning. MUCC is seeking legislation that would reduce phosphorus loading into the environment from over-application and misapplication of fertilizer that contains phosphorus to residential lawns. Urban lawns rarely need phosphorus application to be healthy, yet high-level phosphorus fertilizer is often applied to lawns, even when it is not necessary. We are also pursuing a limit on the amount of phosphorus content in dishwashing detergent.

## **Restoration**

While seeking to protect our resources from new sources of pollution by remediating problems caused by old sources, MUCC also looks toward ensuring long-term health through restoration

activities, programs, and policies. For example, Michigan's Great Lakes have been severely degraded by invasive species, pollution and toxic sediments. Critical coastal wetland habitats have been filled-in or degraded and beaches close every summer due to harmful bacteria. MUCC must ensure that the Great Lakes remain the economic driver, tourism beacon, and sportsperson's paradise of the region through the implementation of a strong restoration campaign.

Our membership has made it clear through years of resolutions that restoring the Great Lakes is a priority. Resolutions created and passed by our membership have urged a ban on phosphates because of their impact on the Great Lakes, especially Lake Erie. In 1984, we passed a resolution to encourage farming practices that prevent non-point source pollution. Resolutions passed in 1970 and in 2005 addressed the issue of mercury deposition into the Great Lakes. Over 30 resolutions direct the organization to be involved in improving the treatment of our sewage. Also in 1992, we began to seek treatment of ballast water in ships entering the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Because of this direction, MUCC has taken a leadership role in Michigan's campaign to restore the Great Lakes. Leading a coalition of like-minded organizations, we are working to inform Michigan citizens about issues facing the Great Lakes perhaps more importantly, solutions to those problems. We recently completed an analysis of Michigan's efforts to address such problems as invasive species, non-point source pollution, Great Lakes fishery degradation, wetlands protection, and toxic wastes. We have been actively working with Lt. Governor John Cherry and the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes to create an action agenda for protecting and restoring Michigan's Great Lakes. We have worked closely with our Congressional delegation on implementing the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration, which calls for \$20 billion of new federal funding to restore the Great Lakes. MUCC members have met with state and national elected officials to relay their concerns about the Great Lakes. 2009 will see us continuing these efforts.

## **Sportsmen's Heritage**

MUCC has been the first voice in defense of Michigan's rich outdoor heritage throughout our 71-year history. Now, it seems that every day there is an attempt to weaken the land ethic and outdoor heritage that has been passed down over the last hundred years. Internet hunting, the use of tranquilizers to take game, and anti-hunting ballot proposals have threatened what we have fought for over the years, but MUCC will continue to stand in their way.

Every year MUCC receives calls and letters from distressed members who are concerned about proposed local ordinances which will affect their ability to hunt within the communities in which they live or recreate.

By law there is a process by which a community may close its lands to hunting. Currently, if a community wants to institute a hunting closure within their local unit of government they must petition the Department of Natural Resources, which is followed by a public hearing. The Department will then evaluate whether or not the local municipality meets the requirements of the law necessary to move forward with its proposed ordinance. Usually, ordinances are brought forward with regard to perceived safety risks to residents posed by area hunters.

This system was challenged by the City of Saginaw. The city, which wanted to institute a firearm and archery control ordinance in order to limit hunting within its jurisdiction, was initially denied by the Michigan DNR after the completion of the public hearing and associated investigations. However, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that the City of Saginaw need not comply with the rule, which gives MDNR the authority to deny a proposed hunting closure. The court's reasoning was based on a discrepancy on the difference between "firearm control" and "hunting regulation."

If this decision is allowed to stand, MUCC believes it could open the door for any local unit of government in Michigan to simply enact firearm and bow discharge prohibitions, thus leading to the banning of hunting in the state.

At the 2006 Convention, delegates passed a resolution fighting any attempt to limit or eliminate hunting in any local government, including townships, villages and cities.

## **Access**

Michigan boasts the largest holding of public lands for any state east of the Mississippi. We also have one of the largest sporting populations in the region. With 750,000 hunters hitting the woods every fall and millions of people enjoying Michigan's waters, there is a large demand for public access to recreational lands and waters. For this reason, access has been one of MUCC's priorities since its inception in 1937. Landowner disputes, privatization of Michigan's natural resources, and other emerging issues continue to threaten the ability of Michigan's sportsmen and women to access the out-of-doors and will require MUCC's membership to be increasingly vigilant in protecting our access rights.

This year we will be working to extend access to Michigan's quality recreation opportunities to people of all physical abilities. Currently, laws and departmental orders exist to provide some limited support and opportunities for a subset of Michigan's citizens with disabilities.

However, MUCC believes that these regulations can be modified to allow access to more individuals who have difficulty pursuing their recreational interests because of a disability.

MUCC serves on the MDNR Hunter Recruitment and Retention Workgroup which will continue to discuss actions for Michigan lawmakers and managers to help recruit and retain hunters and stem the annual loss of hunters within Michigan. Included in these discussions, as well as those with the MDNR Accessibility Advisory Council, is how to better integrate hunters with disabilities into the outdoors.

## **Upcoming Issues That Need Policy Direction**

### **2008-2009**

#### ***Axiom Entertainment (Grayling Theme Park)***

- To date, the MUCC Board of Directors and voting club delegates have not taken a position specifically on the proposed land sale relative to the Axiom Entertainment development proposal.
- The DNR and Crawford County have an MOU that established an agreement to sell more than 1,400 acres of state-owned land for light industrial development, according to recommendations made by the local economic development offices. This is in reaction to Crawford County's high unemployment and the need to create more jobs in the community.
- Axiom Entertainment's proposal would convert this entire parcel to a theme park (rivaling Cedar Point), along with a corresponding resort and water treatment facilities.
- Many say that this business plan is unrealistic and would significantly change the character of the community if it drew in the millions of people it is counting on.
- Community residents are supportive because of the need for local jobs and revenues.
- Axiom has until February 2009 to verify they have their financing in place (\$4.4 million for the land purchase). If they fail to meet this deadline, the sale will be terminated.
- Money from the sale will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund and be used for additional land purchases.
- A resolution adopted at our 2005 Annual Convention states "MUCC is opposed to the disposal or trade of any parcel 40 acres or more that has public access via public roadways or a public right-of-way, except where there is a sale or exchange which would provide better state access for the State of Michigan," and "MUCC opposes the disposal or trade of any parcel that contains a creek, stream, river or lake frontage."

#### ***Assisted Hunt Recommendation***

- MUCC has the following resolutions related to hunters with disabilities:
  - 1989: MUCC supports the continued enjoyment by handicapped individuals. MUCC will try to educate and help to restore the ability for handicapped individuals to continue to enjoy outdoor recreation.
  - 1991: MUCC assist, identify, and resolve problems relating to handicapped individuals and those physically restricted in participating in outdoor recreation.
- Currently, Michigan does not have a system for allowing sportsmen with a cognitive or learning disability, that are not able to pass the hunters safety test even with accommodations, to purchase a hunting license.
- The MDNR Accessibility Advisory Council is discussing a program, similar to the Apprentice Hunter Program, that would allow an individual with a learning or cognitive disability to continue hunting with the direct assistance of a licensed hunter.
- In the past, the MUCC Board has been very supportive of the requirement of hunter's safety; staff would like policy guidance on this kind of program designed to assist hunters with disabilities that would not make hunters safety mandatory for them.

### ***Wind Turbine Siting***

- Since at least 1976, MUCC has been on record as supporting the development of solar, wind, and geothermal energy supplies.
- White Pines Wind Farm LLC has a proposal to place 20 to 28 large wind turbines near the Lake Michigan shoreline in the Huron-Manistee National Forest.
- To date, the MUCC Board of Directors and voting club delegates have not taken a position specifically on the siting of wind turbines, which may include guidelines on:
  - the use of public lands for such purposes,
  - consideration of migratory bird species and wildlife habitat,
  - loss of recreational land/access,
  - blocking or infringing on scenic views,
  - off-shore locations in the Great Lakes, or
  - other natural resource considerations.

### ***Geological Carbon Sequestration***

- Underground injection of CO<sub>2</sub> for purposes such as enhanced oil recovery (EOR) and enhanced gas recovery (EGR) is a long-standing practice.
- CO<sub>2</sub> injection specifically for geologic sequestration involves different technical issues and potentially much larger volumes of CO<sub>2</sub> and larger scale projects than in the past.
- Are you supportive of geological carbon sequestration as a practice and are their policy guidelines you could suggest to provide staff with direction?

# **The Resolution Drafting Process**

## **Why are resolutions important?**

Resolutions set the policy position that MUCC takes on conservation issues.

They represent our collective voice where MUCC stands on the multitude of conservation issues facing the state. Because we speak with one collective voice, representing the consensus of our 50,000 members, we remain a powerful and important player in Lansing and Washington D.C.

## **What is a resolution?**

A resolution is a document requesting action to:

1. ADOPT new policy on state or federal legislation, management regulation/policy, or practice;
2. SUPPORT a policy or practice already in place; or
3. OPPOSE a policy or practice already in place

## **Who can author a resolution?**

Resolutions can be offered by:

1. MUCC Affiliate Clubs
2. MUCC Districts
3. MUCC Regions
4. MUCC Officers
5. Executive Committee
6. Standing or Special Committee
7. MUCC staff

## **Is a resolution necessary?**

The first step in the resolution process is determining the necessity of a resolution.

Questions to consider include:

1. Has an attempt been made to resolve the issue with local officials or MDNR/DEQ personnel?
2. Is the resolution relevant to the overall mission of MUCC?
3. Does MUCC have an existing resolution (policy) on the issue?

Follow-up questions should examine the purpose of the resolution:

1. Will new policy be established?
2. Will existing policy be changed?
3. Is the issue site specific or of statewide concern?
4. Is the resolution necessary to support/oppose pending legislation/regulation?

### **How to write a resolution**

A resolution consists of two sections:

1. The first section is known as the “WHEREAS;” section
2. The second section is known as the “BE IT RESOLVED;” section

### **Draft the “BE IT RESOLVED;” first**

The “BE IT RESOLVED;” portion of the resolution will be the foundation and **MUST** contain statements describing:

1. WHAT action is to be taken?
2. WHO is to take the action?
3. MUCC’s role in implementing the resolution. (Suggestions; “seek”, “encourage”, “work with”, “insist”, “support”, “oppose”, etc...)
4. Which group or organization is responsible for implementing the intent of the resolutions? (Such as; MDNR, DEQ, NRC, State/Federal Legislators, etc...)

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED” portions may be added to define areas of responsibilities for implementing the resolution.

### **Draft the “WHEREAS;” last**

The “WHEREAS;” portion should contain **facts** that support the action that is requested in the “BE IT RESOLVED;” part of the resolution and should consist of:

1. Short concise statements that support the intent of the resolution.
2. Statements describing the current situation.
3. How the current situation is impacting the resource or recreational value.
4. Benefits to be gained by implementing the intent of the resolution.
5. All statements and facts must be **ACCURATE!** (Inaccurate statements destroy credibility of the resolution and the organization!!!)

### **Formatting the resolution**

1. Give the resolution a title
2. Double space and number all lines
3. Use acronyms only where appropriate

4. Place name of sponsor and date at bottom of resolution
5. If it is an “emergency” resolution, the emergency must be identified
6. The resolution must also be available in an electronic format

### **Use of Acronyms**

An acronym is a word formed from the first letter from several words that is used to identify a much longer name of an organization, group, or title of legislation. For example, MUCC stands for Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

When the name of an organization or group is referred to more than once in a resolution; on the first usage, spell out the full name or title followed with the acronym in brackets. An example would be – Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC)

Thereafter, the acronym should be used alone each time the organization or group is referred to.

### **How are resolutions adopted as MUCC policy?**

A resolution may be considered for adoption at:

1. A Board of Directors meeting  
NOTE: Only “emergency” resolutions, where immediate action must be taken and cannot wait until the Annual Convention, may be considered for adoption at a Board of Directors meeting. However, these resolutions, if adopted by the board must also be presented at the next Annual Convention for concurrence by convention delegates. Also, a resolution referred to the Board of Directors by Convention action may be acted on by the Board of Directors.
2. MUCC Annual Convention  
Only resolutions printed in the Convention Agenda that have been approved for consideration by the Board of Directors, one or more MUCC Regions, or as an “emergency” resolution under new business may be voted on by the convention delegates.

### **“EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS” at MUCC’s Annual Convention**

Any resolution not printed in the Convention Agenda may be considered an “emergency” resolution under New Business on the agenda, and must meet the following requirements:

“Emergency” resolutions at Convention are those that are not printed in the Convention Agenda and should be considered prior to the next August Board of Directors meeting and/or that have not been considered at a prior District, Regional, or Board of Directors meeting.

NOTE: No more than two resolutions under New Business may be presented by any member or member club at the Annual Convention. All emergency resolutions considered under “New Business” must be affirmed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting. Presenters of emergency resolutions shall have an opportunity to defend their resolution prior to a vote on the agenda by the convention delegates.

## **Timeline for the Resolution Process**

**Summer/Fall** – Individual Drafting of Resolutions

**Fall/Winter** – District meetings – Resolutions are proposed and voted on to send to Regional Meetings (See **MUCC District and Regions Map**)

**February** – Resolutions are heard in Regional meetings for approval before being sent to convention. Bring 75 copies of proposed resolutions along with the resolution saved on a 3.5” disk. (See **MUCC District and Regions Map**)

Attendants at the regional meetings should carefully consider the resolutions presented to ensure that they are of significant importance, reflect the values of the organization, and that they are actionable. Resolutions passed at convention are an important reflection of the organization and its understanding and engagement of the relevant issues facing the state and nation. Our organization should aspire to quality resolutions as oppose to quantity if we are to retain the title as the “*One Voice for Michigan’s Out-of-Doors.*”

**March 1** – Deadline for getting resolutions to MUCC for comment by staff, state government agencies (where appropriate), and inclusion in the MUCC Convention Book

**May 1** – Convention packets are mailed out to voting delegates and clubs with all convention information, including the Convention Book (all resolutions).

**June** – MUCC Annual Convention

## Example of a Resolution from MUCC's 2006 Convention

### **Resolution No. 22 Preserving the Hunting Tradition**

1. WHEREAS, in order to preserve the hunting tradition, we must ensure that hunting in
2. Michigan is practiced in a responsible, ethical manner and in a way that conforms with long-
3. standing fair chase practices and;
4. WHEREAS, the premise of fair chase has been defined by National and State organizations
5. such as the Boone and Crockett and also The Pope and Young Club, and;
6. WHEREAS, it is these sponsors' belief that the majority of our states' hunters follow the
7. spirit of fair chase and;
8. WHEREAS, non-hunters as well accept the premises of fair chase.
9. WHEREAS, the act of fair chase, will enhance our mission to preserve hunting opportunities
10. and traditions for future generations.
11. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this day, Michigan United Conservation
12. Clubs (MUCC) adopts the premise, spirit, and ethic of fair chase as the following: Fair
13. chase is the ethical, sportsmanlike, and lawful pursuit of free-ranging wild game animals,
14. extending beyond the hunt itself; as an attitude and a way of life based on a deep-seated
15. respect for wildlife, the environment, and other individuals who share the bounty of this
16. State's natural resources.

*Supported at the Region III Meeting Feb. 19, 2006*

**A complete list of resolutions passed at MUCC's 2008 Convention can be found on MUCC's website at [www.mucc.org](http://www.mucc.org), or by calling our Lansing office at 517/371-1041.**

## **Convention Reflections**

Article by Michigan Out-of-Doors Editor Tony Hansen

September, 2006

I will readily admit that I wasn't exactly fired up about attending my first MUCC Convention.

For those who don't know about the Annual Convention, it's MUCC's yearly gathering in which delegates from clubs all across the state get together to propose resolutions which will be debated and voted on. Those resolutions that are approved become the policies that MUCC will focus on in the coming year.

It is democracy and activism at its finest. And it's precisely the type of activity that our hunting heritage thirsts for.

But I didn't know that.

All I knew was that it was a 3-day meeting in a big city with hundreds of people that I wouldn't really know.

I'm not a big meeting guy. I'm not the greatest at meeting new people and, quite frankly, I really don't do big cities. Thus I was feeling a bit leery of the whole affair.

But it was an incredible experience.

I'm writing now as a hunter and as a Michigan resident that cares deeply about our outdoor heritage. Yes, I'm an employee of MUCC but, right now, let's just forget about that.

What I saw at the Convention was the type of conversation, debate and passion that Michigan needs if we are to protect our hunting heritage and conserve the natural wonders that remain in this state.

It was a collective gathering of people from all different parts of the state, with a wide array of backgrounds and interests and the differing opinions and viewpoints that go along with that.

There were bowhunters, shotgun hunters, rifle hunters, blackpowder hunters.

Some of them cared only about deer. Others about bears.

Or ducks. Or bobcats. Or grouse.

Some didn't hunt animals at all. It was gold that they were after.

And, of course, all of them had their own opinions on the best way to hunt and manage game populations.

But in that room, on that weekend, they were all the same: They were all MUCC members.

I can honestly say that I never fully appreciated what membership meant until sitting in a convention hall with more than 200 people surrounding me as they hung on every word that United States Congressman John Dingell said.

For those that don't know (and shame on you if you don't), Congressman Dingell is arguably the finest conservation-oriented politician that this nation has seen since Teddy Roosevelt left Washington.

If you hunt, fish, hike, bike or just plain enjoy the outdoors, John Dingell has touched your life. In his remarks, Mr. Dingell mentioned that without the people sitting in the audience, his job would be impossible.

He could not, without the support of voters and the collective power of organizations like MUCC, wield the power necessary to fight the good fight for conservation and he thanked us for helping him.

I have never felt bigger in my life.

Every person in that room entered as a fairly inconsequential individual. But sitting there, together as dues-paying members, we were suddenly something much, much bigger.

We were and we remain MUCC.

And, yes, that still means something - a lot more than people realize.

I have always believed that debate is a healthy, necessary component of true freedom. When we are free to say what we think, feel what we feel and believe what we believe, greatness is possible.

None of us has every correct answer.

None of us has every solution.

But all of us, together, can find them. That's what struck me at the Convention.

Dozens of ideas and thoughts and opinions were voiced. And somehow, somehow, we were able to come to a consensus through the power of the vote and form a cohesive, solid voice.

Obviously, not every delegate agreed on every issue. But once the voting was complete and the results were tallied, there was no grousing.

The membership had spoken. MUCC had a policy. Now, it's time to stand behind them.

Perhaps this is all sounding like nothing more than a rump-kissing ode to MUCC.

But I can assure you that's not how I operate. The only time I blow smoke is when I sit a little too close to the campfire and the wind swirls.

I was genuinely impressed with what I saw at the Convention.

Impressed by the passion of the delegates and impressed by the number of Upper Peninsula members that made the long journey from the North Country to the suburbs of Detroit. There's no denying that the Yoopers understand the importance of a strong MUCC and, most importantly, they're more than willing to sacrifice a little of their personal time (not to mention fill up on \$3 gas) to be part of something they believe in.

I was impressed by the respect and hospitality I was shown as a new member of the MUCC team. It was greatly appreciated.

And thus I have just one last observation and a request: If you attended the Convention, accept my personal thanks. If you didn't, consider attending in 2007.

And, most importantly, share this issue with a non-member. Perhaps they will see what our membership knows already: MUCC is a vital part of Michigan's outdoor landscape.

If each of our members can recruit just one new member, we can double our numbers. And numbers are power.

Alone we are but single voices.

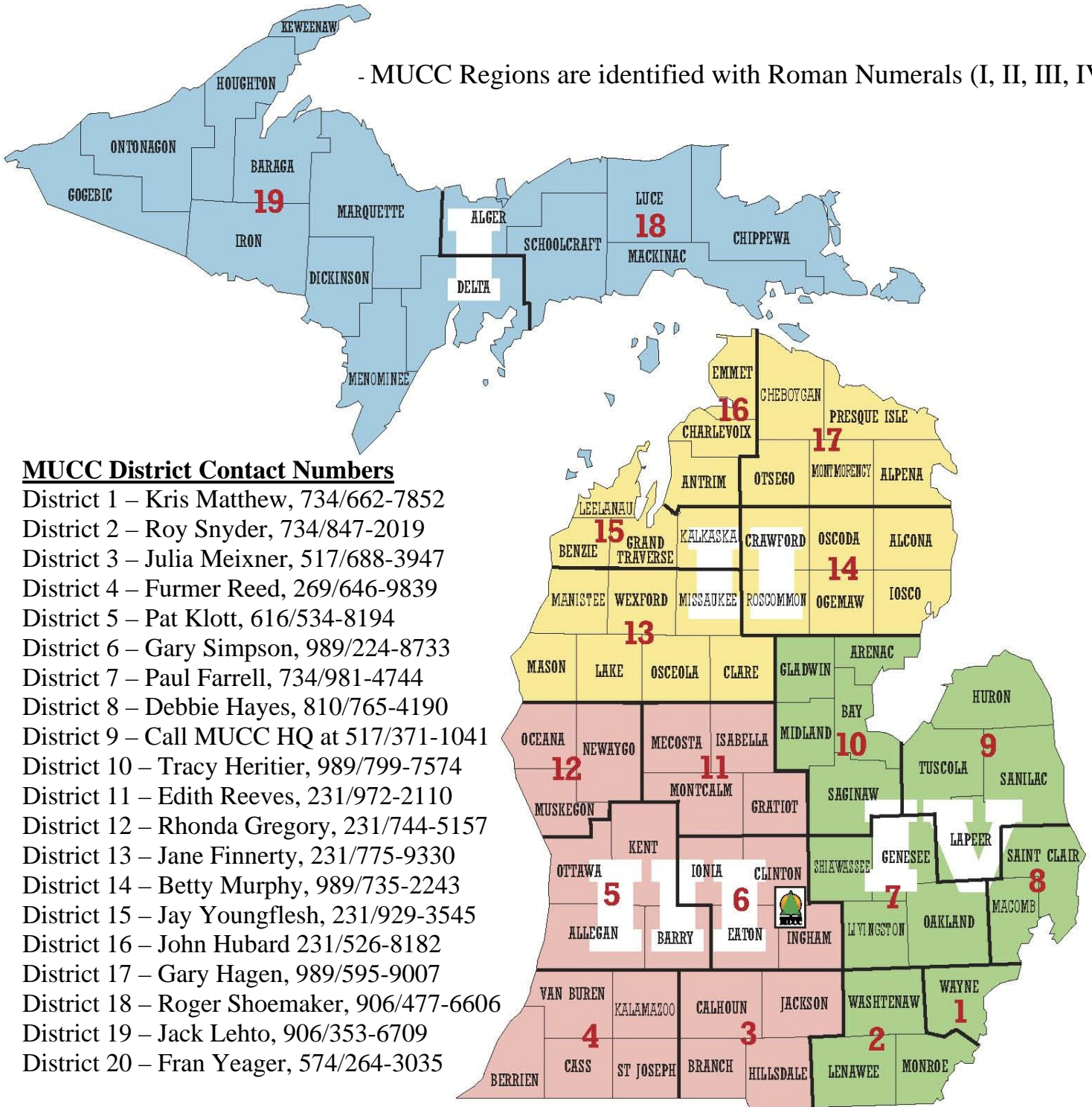
Together, as John Dingell said, we're something much more.

Together, we're a convention.

And now I know exactly what that means.

## MUCC DISTRICTS AND REGIONS

- MUCC Regions are identified with Roman Numerals (I, II, III, IV)



### MUCC District Contact Numbers

- District 1 – Kris Matthew, 734/662-7852
- District 2 – Roy Snyder, 734/847-2019
- District 3 – Julia Meixner, 517/688-3947
- District 4 – Furmer Reed, 269/646-9839
- District 5 – Pat Klott, 616/534-8194
- District 6 – Gary Simpson, 989/224-8733
- District 7 – Paul Farrell, 734/981-4744
- District 8 – Debbie Hayes, 810/765-4190
- District 9 – Call MUCC HQ at 517/371-1041
- District 10 – Tracy Heritier, 989/799-7574
- District 11 – Edith Reeves, 231/972-2110
- District 12 – Rhonda Gregory, 231/744-5157
- District 13 – Jane Finnerty, 231/775-9330
- District 14 – Betty Murphy, 989/735-2243
- District 15 – Jay Youngflesh, 231/929-3545
- District 16 – John Hubard 231/526-8182
- District 17 – Gary Hagen, 989/595-9007
- District 18 – Roger Shoemaker, 906/477-6606
- District 19 – Jack Lehto, 906/353-6709
- District 20 – Fran Yeager, 574/264-3035