

MSPOMichigan Planner

A publication of the Michigan Society of Planning Officials

Dedication

This second edition of *The History of the Michigan Society of Planning Officials* is dedicated to the leadership, participation and commitment of Donald Oakes.

DONALD OAKES 1900 - 1986

Don Oakes began his career in Alpena and served in several city positions prior to his appointment as City Manager in 1942. Within six years he proved to be "friendly" to planning by introducing a zoning ordinance and creating a planning department.

Don also served successfully as City Manager for the cities of Berkley and Grand Rapids. In 1959 he established a consulting service and authored more than 15 city charters for numerous municipalities statewide.

As a state leader, Don served as Executive Director of the Citizens for Michigan Committee which led the effort to hold a constitutional convention in the 1960s. He cited his service with the organization as one of his greatest experiences, especially his associations with former U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, former Secretary of State Richard Austin, Ambassador to China Leonard Woodcock and the late United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther.

Don, a past president of the Michigan Chapter of the International City Managers Association, received a Special Award of Merit from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) and the President's Award from the Michigan Society of Planning Officials (MSPO) in 1974.

On the MSPO Board of Directors for 15 years, Don was the Society's president from 1959-60. Following his tenure with MSPO, he continued to serve as liaison to MML and the Michigan Townships Association.

Don's death in 1986 was a great loss to the State of Michigan as well as to MSPO and the organizations he served.

Credits

This second edition of *The History Of The Michigan Society of Planning Officials* is based on the first edition published October 1, 1985, and the efforts of the history's original author, City Planner Brad Leech, City of Petoskey; Grants Administrator Helen S. Willis; Office Manager Patricia Zobl and Editor Anna Hampton.

In addition, special thanks to Librarian J.A. Jager, Lansing Public Library; Editor Judi Campbell, *Michigan Municipal Review*; Photo Editor Wayne Smith, *Detroit News* and Senior Editor Ruth Knack, *Planning*, American Planning Association (APA), for their assistance in locating and furnishing photographs and biographical data.

First Edition Published October 1, 1985

North Lakes Lithographers

Second Revised Edition Published 1995

Pontiac Graphics



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Michigan Planner is published quarterly by the Michigan Society of Planning Officials (MSPO). Subscriptions to the magazine are available only as a benefit of membership.

Themes utilized are approved by the MSPO Board of Directors. Authors and topics are selected by the Publications Committee whose membership includes: Timothy J. Dolehanty, Chair; Norman Tyler; James Schafer; Philip Hathaway; Edward Hustoles; William Hartwig and David T. Downey, Executive Director. The *Michigan Planner*, published since 1981, is currently circulated to its 4,073 members.

For information on joining MSPO, write 414 Main Street, Suite 211, Rochester, MI 48307 or call 810-651-3339. Change of address notices also should be sent to the above address.

by Helen S. Willis
Grants
Administrator



Many changes occurred during the 10 years I served as executive director of MSPO. These changes reflect the growth and maturity of the organization as well as the growth and interest of its members in making the best possible decisions when planning for the future of their communities.

I have always been impressed by the dedication of lay planners and how much they want to learn about their responsibilities as a planning commissioner and a zoning board of appeals member. Also, by the support of professional planners who encourage their member communities to join MSPO and take full advantage of the educational programs offered. The feedback from members about the Society's programs has always been positive and has made working for MSPO an honor.

I was fortunate to be the executive director during a time of unprecedented growth in the organization. The reasons for this are many. However, I personally feel that much of it has to do with MSPO's reputation as the organization that provides the best training in the art and science of planning for lay planners and elected officials.

These educational efforts take many different forms, including the annual spring series of training workshops, publications on planning, the annual conference, the *Michigan Planner*, special workshops cosponsored with other organizations and universities as well as those requested by local communities. Great care was given in the development of all of these activities by the Board and Education Committee to assure that MSPO met our members' needs because our members are the most important part of the Society.

When I was appointed executive director in 1985, MSPO moved with me to the Rochester area. As the organization expanded, the Society outgrew my one-room home office. In the beginning, I worked part-time and used the secretarial services of a company in Rochester, seeking additional assistance when required. The editor of the

Michigan Planner, Anna Hampton, began the same year I did and continues doing an outstanding job with the magazine, always striving for excellence. Energetic Patricia Zobl joined MSPO as a part-time secretary eight years ago and was my right-hand person for almost all of that time. Pat's duties included maintaining membership records and correspondence.

As membership and activities continued to grow, my workload increased to a full-time position. Almost six years ago MSPO moved into a large one-room office in downtown Rochester, an adaptive reuse of a former movie theater into an attractive office and commercial building. The Society purchased another computer, additional filing cabinets and other necessary equipment. With the organization continuing to grow, additional part-time help was added, including a part-time bookkeeper.

The staff became employees of the Society in January of 1994. Six months later MSPO moved to a much larger offices in the same building which had individual offices for new Executive Director David Downey, myself as grants administrator and Pat as office manager. David joined MSPO a little over a year ago as the Deputy Director and has shown an enormous capacity to effectively manage his responsibilities.

Since 1991 MSPO has undertaken additional activities funded by grants received from a number of foundations and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

The first Groundwater Education in Michigan (GEM) grant received from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation centered around a series of seven workshops aimed at educating lay planners about the importance of protecting groundwater through planning and zoning. MSPO received a second GEM grant in the fall of 1993 to conduct "County-Local Partnerships for Groundwater Protection: A Michigan Demonstration Project." Three counties and 12 local communities participated in this successful effort completed September, 1995.

Also concluded in September was

a major research project focusing on land use changes in Michigan and the implications if those changes continue. This project was funded by the C.S. Mott and Frey Foundations with additional funding for printing some of the working papers provided by the Americana Foundation and the Coastal Zone Management Division, MDEQ. Eleven working papers and the final report, *Patterns on the Land: Our Choices-Our Future*, were prepared for this project. A public opinion survey, 14 visioning workshops, a planning and zoning database developed from a special survey sent to local communities statewide, a countertrends study, a videotape and a poster and map display were also prepared under this grant.

The collection of material relating to the last 20-to-30 years of land use decisions together in one series of working papers, and the synthesis of the data to reveal significant land use trends into a final report, is critical to sustaining Michigan's future. I personally hope this MSPO effort will initiate a serious dialogue between community planners, the public sector, legislative bodies and stakeholder groups regarding the unintended consequences of continuing business as usual in the land use arena.

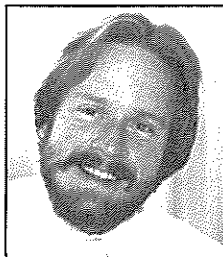
In the first half of 1995 an excellent video, "Growth Management: A Question of Balance," was developed with financial assistance from the Coastal Zone Management Division, MDEQ, and the Americana Foundation. MSPO has received rave reviews on the video and many Michigan communities have viewed or purchased it. I highly recommend it to anyone involved in planning.

The Directors of MSPO have brought considerable knowledge, energy, creative ideas and leadership to the organization during the past 10 years. Without their willingness to give 110 percent to their volunteer jobs as MSPO Board members, none of the above achievements would have been accomplished. It is my hope that MSPO's next 50 years will be as fruitful as the first 50. I am very proud of MSPO's legacy of excellence.

November 1995

The History Of The Michigan

by Brad Leech, AICP
Petoskey
City Planner
and MSPO
Past President



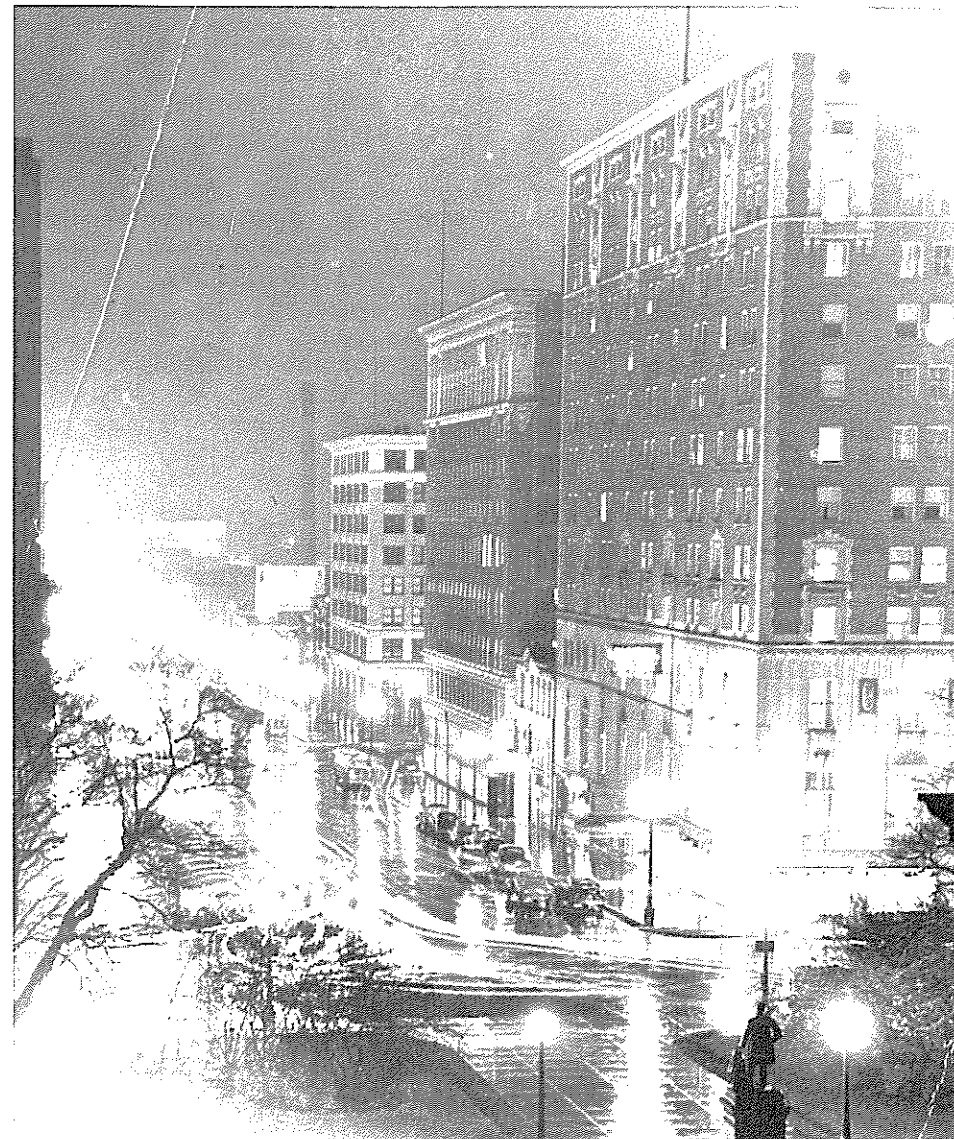
The 1995 Michigan Society of Planning Officials (MSPO) Annual Conference marks 50 years of service. This is a distinguished term of service for any organization, but particularly for a Society with a volunteer Board of Directors and, more importantly, with participation from a membership largely consisting of "citizen planners" who donate their time and energies to shaping the future of their respective communities. MSPO, the largest state planning association in the country, is unique because of the tremendous participation of planning commissioners.

The services of MSPO have changed at various times over the past 50 years to meet the needs of its members and the statewide "community." In 1995 MSPO is providing interactive learning opportunities, such as the annual conference as well as the basic and advanced training workshops offered each year. MSPO also publishes *News From MSPO* and the only remaining successful magazine published by a state planning association, the **Michigan Planner**. These are unique accomplishments built upon the solid foundation created by everyone involved in the organization in the past and present.

Your participation in MSPO and in planning for your community is important to the future of our state. After reading and reviewing the history of our organization, I hope you will feel a part of MSPO's unique tradition of citizen leadership for planning in Michigan.

Early Organizations

The origins of state planning associations began with the National Planning Conference formed in 1910 in the aftermath of the "City Beautiful" movement and 10 years prior to the first zoning ordinances. By the 1920s



The Olds Hotel (foreground) in Lansing, site of MSMPO's first organizational meeting

the Michigan Planning Conference was organized to bring together planning interests from around the state. At that time there were an estimated 15-to-20 professional planners in Michigan and only the largest cities had planning commissioners, city planning staffs or zoning ordinances. However, the position of planning was strengthened in Michigan during this period by passage of the Zoning Enabling Act in 1921 and the successful defense of zoning in the United States Supreme Court in the case of **Village of Euclid v Ambler Realty Company** in 1926.

The early Michigan Planning Conference was largely dominated by architects and landscape architects who emphasized the technical and design orientation of planning. However, apparently within the ranks of this early organization there was at least one member who thought planners should emerge from their "ivory towers" and involve the citizens of the state's communities in planning. Walter Blucher of Detroit advocated that the organization "educate lay planners" to bring planning into the political process and to involve those most affected by planning decisions. Mr. Blucher's

Society Of Planning Officials

ally in this effort was Harold Smith, the first paid director of the Michigan Municipal League (MML).

Unfortunately for Michigan, but fortunately for America, Walter Blucher left Detroit in 1935 to help found the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) and to serve as its director for 19 years. In 1937 Harold Smith left MML to become Governor Frank Murphy's budget director. Apparently their departure and the slow post-depression economy left Michigan temporarily without a state planning organization.

However, to help fill some of this need, the State of Michigan did create a permanent state planning commission in 1937 with the passage of Act 128. The Michigan Planning Commission, a spin-off from the Roosevelt Administration's National Resources Board included, in its membership of 21, eight representatives from various state departments and two from labor. Although hampered by lack of appropriations in 1939, the commission functioned for 10 years as liaison for all federal agencies and programs related to public works, as well as land and water control, including inventories of natural resources. In addition, it assisted in planning counties, townships and villages as well as in creating regional planning commissions to oversee rural areas. By 1946 many of the commission's objectives were accomplished and implemented by other state departments.

In 1947 the commission was abolished by Section 7 of Act 302 which created a state department of economic development.

Some of the members of that state commission, notably, Paul Reid, Director of the Detroit Regional Planning Commission, were instrumental through the Michigan Society of Municipal Planning Officials (MSMPO, later MSPO) in retaining interest in a planning organization at the state level. Apparently there were many individuals who assisted in that effort in those early days, such as Mr. Reid and Dwight C. Wood, who were not officials of the Society.

During the 1940s, Planning Institutes were located in Flint, Grand

Rapids and Detroit. However, these apparently were unsatisfactory because by 1945 there was considerable clamoring for a new statewide organization.

The Founding Of MSMPO

As early as 1942 at MML meetings in Detroit, the need for a statewide planning organization was voiced by civic leaders. However, the effort was delayed by the nation's involvement in World War II. Others mentioned from this era who kept the effort going were Russell Koenig of Saginaw and City Attorney W. C. Hudson of Royal Oak.

In 1943 a group of officials concerned about community planning in Michigan gathered at the Olds Hotel in Lansing for an organizational meeting, a sort of "smoke-filled" constitutional convention. It was attended by 37 officials from 13 Michigan cities and by 12 other officials for a combined total attendance of 49 citizen leaders. Unfortunately, the names of all present were not recorded.

Eventually, this group, known as the Sponsoring Committee (see below), hammered out the framework for the association called the Michigan Society of Municipal Planning Officials (MSMPO). The purpose of the new Society was:

- 1.) To provide a means of exchanging information on the principles and practices of community planning.
- 2.) To stimulate interest in and under-

standing of community planning and its objectives through education.

- 3.) To further the interests and purposes of community planning throughout the state.

The 1945 Articles of Association restricted membership to planning commissioners and staffs of cities and villages. However, one year later the Articles were amended to permit the membership of "others interested in planning." The Articles also called for four yearly meetings of the Board of Directors and for one meeting a year for all members (the "annual" conference).

The first Board of Directors was elected in 1945 with staggered terms of office (see page 18). Nearly every one of the original members was immediately involved in the Society through working committees. MSMPO became the seventh state planning association formed in the United States. Its 49 members included elected and appointed officials as well as professional planners, city managers, attorneys and civil engineers.

At the first annual MSMPO Business Meeting on October 19, 1946, there were 62 members in attendance. President George F. Emery presided over the proceedings which were recorded in the Community Planning Annual of January 1, 1947. Within a year Margaret Whelpley of Dearborn was recruited to serve as secretary

Sponsoring Committee

The following is a list of individuals who called together the MSMPO Organizational meeting on October 6, 1945.*

Russell O. Koenig	Engineer-Secretary	City Planning Commission	Saginaw
L.C. Whitsit	Vice President	City Planning Commission	Highland Park
Ben H. Koenig	Chairman	City Planning Commission	Traverse City
Frederick R. Storrer	Secretary	City Planning Commission	Dearborn
Floyd M. Jennings	Planning Director	City Planning Commission	Grand Rapids
S.H. Smith	Executive-Secretary	City Planning Commission	South Haven
Kenneth C. Welch	Chairman	City Planning Commission	Grand Rapids
Bernard DeVries	Chairman	City Planning Commission	Muskegon
Jack M. Mosier	City Planner	City Planning Commission	Flint
Victor G. Leyrer	Chairman	City Planning Commission	Lansing
George F. Emery	Planning Director	City Planning Commission	Detroit

*The complete list of all founders is not available due to limited documentation.

and, in particular, to edit a new quarterly newsletter.

During 1947, 550 invitations mailed to encourage attendance at the annual meeting resulted in a final registration of 116. Permanent membership count was at 98 with 31 cities represented. The rapid growth in the organization reflected renewed interest in planning due to the post-war building and public works boom.

As early as 1948, MSMPO began monitoring the level of statewide planning activity in collaboration with MML. The survey results showed, based upon a 60 percent return from 93 questionnaires, that there was a "widespread impetus toward planning since 1940 after too long a dormancy." At that time cities in Michigan above 10,000 population were more likely to have master plans. Eighty-five percent of the cities had a planning agency, but only 64 percent had a master plan. The Board's conclusion was that too many zoning ordinances were being adopted without a master plan.

By 1949 MSMPO's ranks had swelled to 130 members. The conference in Ann Arbor that year featured the parking structure as a new issue in medium-sized cities. Registration fee for the conference was one dollar and the dinner cost was \$2.75 per person. MSMPO also initiated its "Board Retreats" at Pigeon River State Forest and Tippy Dam where Board members became acquainted and made preparations for the coming year.

MSMPO Initiates Lobbying

During the late 1940s, MSMPO began to sponsor and/or advocate legislation. The Society boldly supported architectural review legislation for communities but was unable to find a sponsor. Other legislation sponsored addressed nonconforming uses, home rule provisions and blighted-

area improvements. Jay Gibbs, City Manager for Ferndale, played an important role as liaison to MML which typically took the lead role in sponsoring legislation. The MSMPO Legislative Committee also advocated basic changes to the City Zoning Enabling Act but met defeat in the legislature.

The 1950 MSMPO Annual Conference at Saginaw focused on a new technology: the use of aerial photography in planning. The annual conferences were beginning to include technical sessions for professional planners, workshops for everyone involved and the Annual Business Meeting. Conference proceedings were recorded and edited by volunteers. The Society's mimeographed newsletter provided an overview of community planning activities statewide and included reviews of recent court cases pertaining to planning.

The 1951 newsletter featured an article on sign ordinances as a legal issue of growing concern among municipal members. The annual conference in October of that year held in Detroit had 111 registrants and offered a new program for spouses. However, the MSMPO Board of Directors urged moving the conference to the spring season to eliminate unsuccessful head-to-head competition with college football games at "our two state institutions which are becoming nationally renowned football powers."

The 1952 conference held in Muskegon in April included workshop topics that would probably be well attended today:

"The Role of Planning Commissions in Promotion of Economic Activities"

and

"How Zoning Appeals Boards Can Contribute to Planning Objectives"

Speakers from the National Security Resources Board and from the National Recreation Association of Washington, D.C., were featured on the program.

MML also began publishing a series entitled the "Planner's Corner" in the **Michigan Municipal Review** in 1952. Myles Boylan, Professor of Urban Planning, Michigan State University, was the author. In that same year, the Michigan Chapter of the American Institute of Planners (AIP) was organized to serve the needs of professional planners.

The Society Changes Its Name

On May 23, 1953, the MSMPO Board of Directors acted to eliminate the term "Municipal" from the Society's name. The Articles of Association were amended to read the "Michigan Society of Planning Officials" or MSPO. The change reflected the rapid suburbanization of Michigan. While earlier changes permitted regional planning commissioners to become "active" members, the doors were opened for full participation of planning commissioners and staffs from counties, townships and other local entities.

Collaboration between MSPO and the Michigan Chapter of the AIP also increased at that time. In 1953-54 John Hyde, Associate Professor of Urban Planning at the University of Michigan, served as liaison between the two associations. He led the effort to explore combining organizational functions, including the potential for a joint publication.

Another significant change was the introduction of regional meetings to serve particular areas of the state. These outreach meetings, particularly encouraged by Victor Camp, were intended to promote regional planning and to spread the word about MSPO outside of Detroit and Lansing. The first regional workshop was sponsored in Saginaw through the efforts of Russ Koenig, Ray Mills and Jim Barlop.

That year continued to be busy for the Board. A planning "session" was arranged at the MML Annual Meeting. The MSPO Board also spent considerable time lobbying for improvements to the Subdivision Plat Act, advocating its virtual rewrite in what proved to be prophetic considering later problems with the Act. On another front through the efforts of Jerry Mudie, who obtained Detroit Edison Company's sponsorship for the *MSPO Newsletter*,

the publication took on a professional "new look."

MSPO Grows

The stepped-up activity and progress of the organization was reflected in the 1955 conference in Flint. Local planning activities were stimulated by the 1954 Housing Act which provided Urban Planning Assistance Grants ("701") that required citizen participation efforts. By this time, MSPO's membership totaled 150.

Issues at the Flint conference reflected the economic boost and the post-war "baby boom" growth in families. Subjects for the workshops included:

- Post-war suburban migration --e.g., Flint Township
- A lack of zoning in rapidly growing townships
- Extension of sewer, water and roads to suburbs and how to pay for them
- Annexation
- Platting of new subdivisions

In 1955 the Society, once again, surveyed its members. The results showed that there were:

- 63 planning commissions statewide
- 18 city planning staffs
- 25 cities with master plans
- 52 cities with zoning ordinances
- 6 townships with planning commissions
- 3 counties with planning commissions

MSPO also continued its lobbying efforts. Under the direction of J. Lee Brown, Armin Roemer and Paul Reid, the Society's efforts were directed at legislation for performance standards in zoning, professional standards for practicing planning and a state planning agency.

MSPO increased its outreach efforts in 1956. An annual summer conference (now the fall conference) was introduced in northern Michigan in order to recruit new members. A geographical distribution map of membership published in 1956 showed that the only members north of Saginaw were located in Traverse City. The summer conference was directed at the state's growing northern region. Eighty registrants were recorded for that first summer conference, a level of participation that has grown steadily ever since.

The move to institute planning in rural Michigan was underway. A re-



The 1960 MSPO Board of Directors (seated from left) are: Jay L. Gibbs, President Bill G. Rowden, Secretary-Treasurer Alice E. Donnel, Vice-President Raymond A. (Barney) Trebilcock. Back row (from left): Armin Roemer, Executive Secretary Harold Black, Donald Oakes and Jerry G. Mudie

gional meeting was sponsored in Marshall in response to local efforts to form a county planning commission. A broader effort was made to lobby for the proposed Township Planning Act. The year 1956 ended with MSPO membership at a record high of 296.

Executive Secretary Named

In 1957 Harold Black became the first MSPO Executive Secretary and paid staff person. With 410 members and a growing number and range of Society services, the Board decided paid staff was needed to deliver them. The Regional Planning Conference at Coldwater that year alone attracted 130 participants (only 50 to 100 were expected).

Membership in MSPO climbed to 490 in 1958 through the efforts of committee Chairman Ray Mills. Annual dues for individuals were \$3. Topics of interest to members were water quality management, downtown parking problems and industrial park development. Featured in the *MSPO Newsletter* was an article about Grand Haven merchants who established a

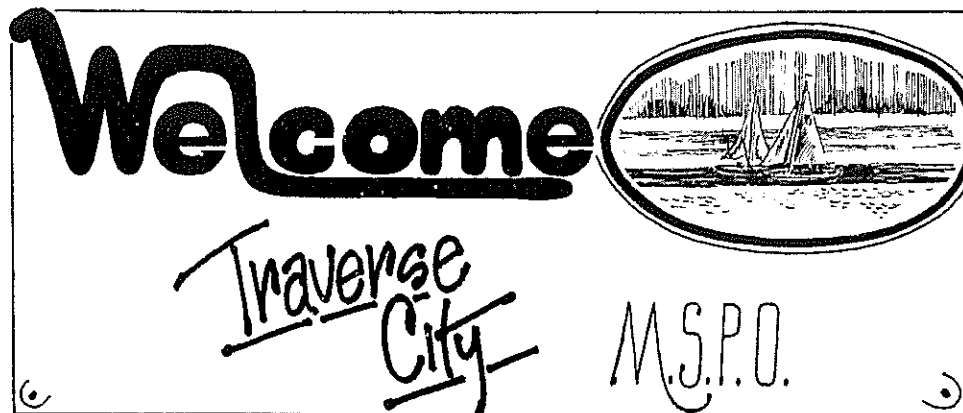
temporary mall downtown. The experiment, called "Projection 60," was initiated by 59 merchants who raised \$5,000 to place planters, shrubs and trees in the downtown area. Their goal was a permanent mall by 1960, but their efforts were overshadowed later by the Kalamazoo Mall.

In 1960 MSPO worked toward forming a county planning commission in Hillsdale. This era became a period of outdoor recreational development--e.g., Land & Water Conservation Fund and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority. The Society's makeup was 60 percent planning commissioners, 30 percent professional planners, city managers and engineers and 10 percent other interested officials and citizens.

MSPO Promotes Committee

In 1960, the MSPO Board of Directors requested the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) in Chicago to begin an information exchange among state planning associations.

As the largest association in the nation and as one of the most active, MSPO apparently took the lead. In





The 1963 MSPO Annual Conference held in the Hotel Hayes, Jackson

1961 ASPO established a permanent committee of state planning associations with MSPO Board member Bill Rowden of Macomb County as one of the original five committee members. Mr. Rowden was instrumental in the formation of the committee which he chaired from 1964-67.

MSPO conferences in the early sixties offered many practical and innovative experiences for planning commissioners and planners. The 1961 spring conference held in Kalamazoo featured the first downtown mall in the United States. The 1962 conference in Bay City centered upon master plans as communities throughout the State of Michigan prepared plans with "701" monies. At the 1963 conference in Jackson, Frank Bennett introduced planning "clinics" or roundtables to the conference format. His clever program included conducting a mock planning commission meeting for Mytown, Michigan, where commissioners discussed the Mytown Zoning Ordinance.

MSPO Names Editor

In December of 1964 the MSPO Board of Directors selected Lowell Plasterer to be the editor of its new publication, *The Michigan Planning News*. Shortly thereafter Mr. Plasterer coined a new slogan for the Society: "A Brighter Tomorrow for Both Peninsulas." He also collaborated with Frank Bennett to develop a logo showing the Michigan peninsulas surrounded by the rays of the sun.

The Society continued its lobbying efforts in Lansing in 1965 and held its

conference there that year. An "omnibus" planning bill was presented to legislators for introduction in the Michigan legislature. Apparently the effort was "heating up" because the State of Michigan hired Harold F. Wise, a consultant on state planning, a year earlier. Mr. Wise advocated that the state "create a Department of Planning similar to the Michigan experience of 1937 patterned along the lines of Hawaii's Department of Planning."

MSPO also expressed support for the control of highway signs via the proposed Billboard Act and recommended continuation of "701" planning grants. The year concluded on a high note for MSPO with 289 participants attending the fall conference in Cadillac. The Society's outreach program was working.

The years 1963-65 were also important for the Society's publications. *The Local Planning Commissioner's Handbook* was cosponsored with several agencies and *The New 4 Corners: Interchange Areas* booklet was sponsored with the Michigan State Highway Department and the Michigan Chapter of AIP.

In 1966, MSPO was again confirmed as the largest state planning association in the nation with 1,270 members. "Planning Michigan's Resources" was the theme at the Petoskey conference attended by 200 participants. Dues were still \$3 annually for individuals while other comparable state planning association fees were as high as \$20. MSPO was also one of only seven associations in the nation with a part-time Executive Secretary.

In-House Reappraisal

During 1966-67 the MSPO Board of Directors decided to scrutinize and reassess the form of its 20-year-old organization. The idea may have been triggered by the State of Michigan's own Constitutional Convention then under the direction of Board member Donald Oakes, the executive director of Governor George Romney's Citizens for Michigan Committee. The Board of Directors wanted the Society's Articles of Association reviewed, but it was concerned that any changes to the highly successful organization be approached with caution.

In a stroke of insight and display of respect for experience, a committee of nine past presidents of MSPO was created. The group, focused on helping to establish and strengthen MSPO, was headed by Alice Donnel, the first woman president of the Society in 1963-64. Her team read like a who's who of citizen leaders:

Don Oakes
R. J. "Barney" Trebilcock
N. G. Damoose
Bill G. Rowden
Francis P. Bennett
Jerry Mudie
Armin Roemer
Dr. Glen Blackburn

The Reappraisal Committee studied the Articles of Association for over a year and recommended expansion of membership categories, approval of amendments to the articles by membership vote and a broadening of Society objectives. One important revision allowed for sustaining members who could make larger contributions. By 1971, MSPO had 29 Sustaining Members and one Contributing Member.

The Reappraisal Committee's accomplishments were significant. Shortly after the committee made its report, President Walter Kalmbach assigned the group the additional task of preparing new Rules of Procedure. Much of these efforts and accomplishments must be attributed to the Board's "working retreats" at Camp Kettunen. The Reappraisal Committee's efforts still stand as an important step toward keeping the organization up-to-date.

The year 1967 was a landmark year in other ways as well. Entitled "New Techniques in Planning," the May conference in Battle Creek provided a chance to demonstrate an MSPO in-

novation: Junior Planning Commissions. Past MSPO President Anse Damoose of Battle Creek originated this effort in 1965. At the 1967 conference, high school students gave a demonstration of the concept by role playing planning commissioners attending an MSPO workshop. The program was an attempt to initiate the experience of citizen leadership in planning at the high school level. The program was considered so popular and successful that by 1968 MSPO was receiving inquiries about Junior Planning Commissions from Georgia, Pennsylvania and California.

The Crisis of Michigan Cities

The late 1960s were a time of new awareness for planners regarding the many social problems and consequences of urban development. At the May 1967 MSPO Conference in Battle Creek, Mel Ravitz, Detroit Common Councilman, delivered a speech entitled, "The Crisis of Our Cities." In July of that same year, the Councilman's words became a reality as Detroit experienced the most serious racial riots in the city's history. The Society went on record in support of, and offered assistance to, the Governor's Special Commission on Urban Problems.

MSPO regular publications, which were inserts or supplements to the Society's newsletter in 1967, included a new technical paper and the "Michigan Planning Digest," which covered planning activities statewide each year. *The Michigan Planning News* described the formation of a new Department of Community Development in Traverse

City which efficiently combined the Planning, Urban Renewal, Code Enforcement and Housing Departments. In Jackson, the city and county created a combined City-County Planning Department. The newsletter was spreading the word about new ideas statewide.

In fact, in 1968 *The Michigan Planning News* reported another experiment in southwest Michigan. Saugutuck, Saugutuck Township and Douglas were trying a new "regional planning commission" to coordinate their rural planning efforts. Regional issues were timely as demonstrated by the remarkable turnout of 300 concerned officials for an MSPO-sponsored Subdivision Plat Act Workshop at Michigan State University.

In the aftermath of the national wave of racial unrest, the 1968 MSPO Conference at Hidden Valley featured a speech by the Reverend Robert Potts of the Virginia Park Rehab Citizens Committee of Detroit. He made a plea for planners to become "partners" in the effort to address the era's social problems. The Hidden Valley conference theme was also an opportunity to examine the effectiveness of the planner's most popular tool: "Zoning: A Blessing Or A Curse?"

Executive Director Appointed

A new role for paid staff was created by the Board of Directors with the hiring of Armin Roemer as the first MSPO executive director in 1969. While the new position, which included more involvement in organization and programming, combined positions of editor and executive secretary, it left

leadership and policy directives to the MSPO Boards. However, staff began playing an increasing role in the Society's operations and functions, a trend that continues today.

The MSPO Board also began taking a new approach to influencing planning at the state level. Instead of direct lobbying, the Society began to issue policy statements and technical papers. A resolution by the Board in 1969 initiated this approach by encouraging statewide development of regional planning commissions. This may have been a compromise effort in view of the State of Michigan's reluctance to become involved in state planning.

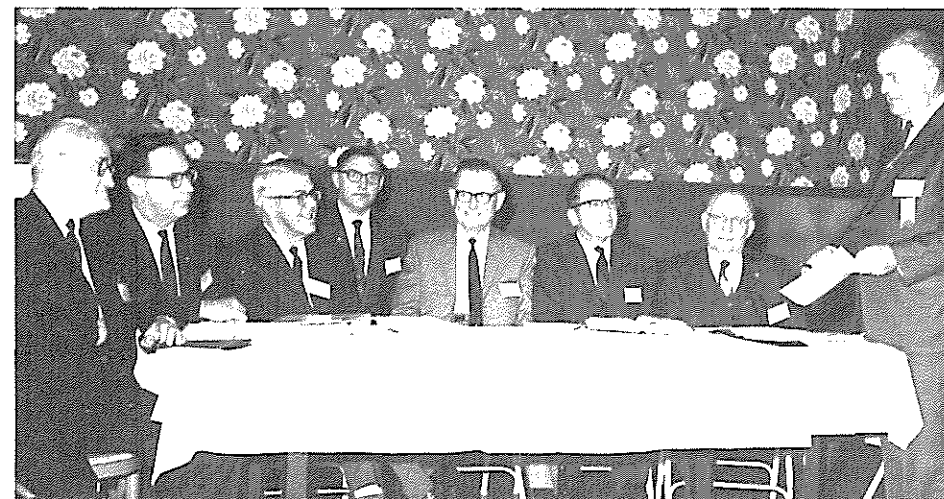
At the 1970 MSPO Annual Conference in Ann Arbor, Harlan Hatcher of the University of Michigan reported on the new efforts of the institution and the City of Ann Arbor to recruit "high tech" clean industries to the Greater Ann Arbor Research Park. Six to eight years later the entire State of Michigan was talking about industrial diversification and clean industries. Legislation, such as the Michigan Environmental Protection Act, enabled citizen suits against polluting industries and raised community awareness of the need to keep water and land resources clean.

In 1970 the MSPO Board of Directors advocated a new revision of the organization's Articles. Jerry Mudie, who holds the record of service as an MSPO Board member at 21 years, and Donald Oakes, second with 15 years, endorsed the idea of limiting Board members to two terms of service. The intent was to stimulate changeover and keep "new blood" on the Board of Directors. A considerable amount of appreciation must go to these two men and to the others who served before this limit with reliability and continuity during MSPO's early development.

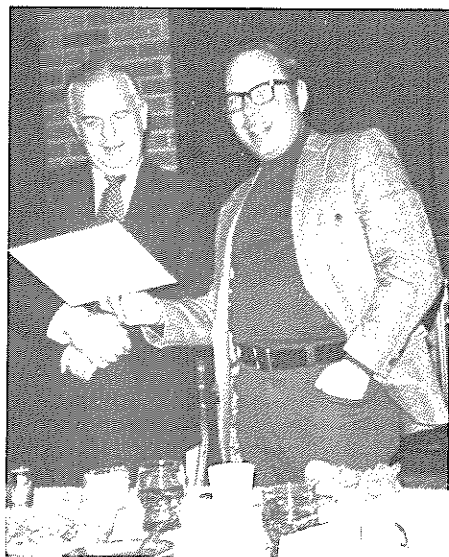
Land Use Planning Urged

From 1970-72 there was a wave of environmental planning legislation in Michigan, including the Shorelands Protection Act (1970), the Natural Rivers Act (1970) and the amendment to the Solid Waste Management Act of 1965 (1971). Yet, there remained a conspicuous lack of legislation to pull together the many issues related to land use planning in the state. MSPO recommended that the State of Michigan consolidate its existing land use laws.

In the fall of 1972 the MSPO An-



MSPO members meet during the 1960 Fall Conference held at the Ojibway Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie



Jerry Mudie, Engineer, Detroit Edison Company (left), at a 1974 luncheon in his honor, and Bob Bach, Gordie Fraser Association

nual Conference was held in Traverse City. The keynote speaker, Governor William Milliken, was one of the major proponents of many of these new environmental laws. Over 300 attended the conference, reflecting the level of interest in the topic. Governor Milliken received the President's Award for his support of statewide planning and land use management.

The 1973 issue of *The Michigan Planning News* reprinted Governor Milliken's speech on land use planning delivered to the Michigan Legislature. Philip Mastin introduced state land use planning legislation in 1974, but to no avail. However, the focus that year continued to be on land use management issues. The Michigan Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act and the Resource Recovery Act were signed into law. Land use planning bills were also attempted at the federal level. On July 13, 1974, the MSPO Board of Directors sent a statement to the Michigan legislature encouraging passage of a state land use planning statute. In keeping with the times, the MSPO Annual Conference at Boyne Highlands featured keynote speaker Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and former congressman from Arizona, speaking to "Land Use Law and Environmental Legislation."

In 1976 MSPO sponsored Basic Planning Workshops in four regions - Marquette, Lapeer, Plymouth and Gaylord. There were 61 officials at

Marquette and 130 at Plymouth. A controversial topic of the time was the State of Michigan's Adult Foster Care policy for placement of the institutionalized into group homes (superseding local zoning) in single-family neighborhoods. The MSPO Board of Directors went on record as opposing this "exception" to local zoning.

The 1977 MSPO conference theme was "Planning Strategies for Energy Conservation," a reflection of the oil shortages. There were 235 registrants for the conference. MSPO presented the first Honor Awards acknowledging distinguished planning projects, assisted by an out-of-state jury (see pages 26, 27, 28).

The 1978 MSPO Annual Conference at Traverse City featured Attorney General Frank Kelley as the keynote speaker. The conference theme, "Money - The Reality of Planning," was appropriate in view of the austere times of high interest rates and low economic activity. A new form of citizen activism was also prevalent, the tax limitation and rollback initiative. Eventually, the Headlee Amendment for tax limitation was enacted.

New Zoning Enabling Acts

The 1979 MSPO Annual Conference at Mackinac Island featured Lieutenant Governor Brickley as keynote speaker and Senator Harry DeMaso, the President's Award recipient. The conference site received rave reviews and a special hands-on tour was conducted by state park officials, illustrating various preservation techniques used on the Island's historic structures. An issue of *The Michigan Planning News* featured a review of economic development legislation and a special section about MSPO Past President Donald Oakes entitled, "Organizer of Cities," as it appeared in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

The major revisions to the zoning enabling acts for counties, cities, villages and townships monopolized most of *The Michigan Planning News* and the conference workshops during 1979-80. The enactment of this legislation heralded the successful completion of a four-year effort by a special gubernational committee which included a number of MSPO members. The new legislation addressed zoning by local governments in a coordinated, comprehensive manner. The new zoning enabling legislation also meant that MSPO needed to vigorously renew

educational efforts to inform lay planners and planning professionals about the impact of the new laws.

MSPO Shifts To Education

The 1980 Board of Directors began a three-year process of examining the direction of services for MSPO. Newly appointed Executive Director Terry Jurrens, the first woman selected for the position, worked with the Board to evaluate the Society's role in Michigan planning circles.

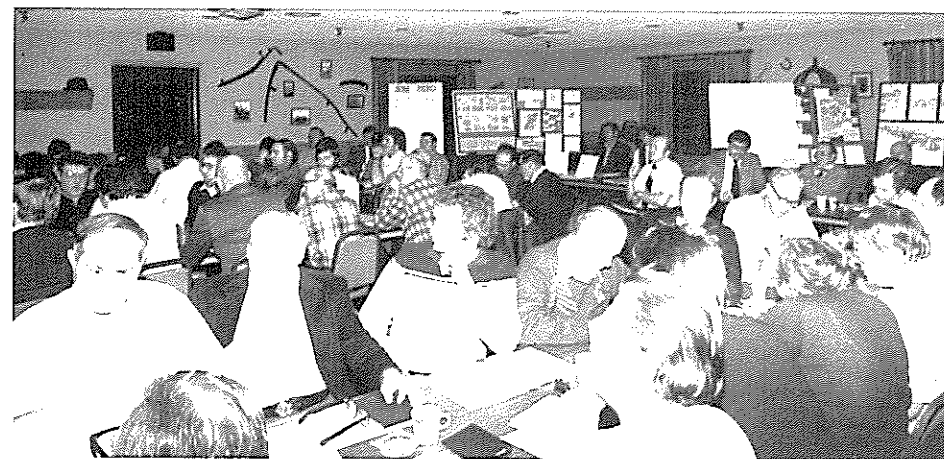
In particular, the Board of Directors sought to fill the gaps in planning education, advisory services and technical assistance brought about by many major funding cutbacks. There was concern especially for the elimination of federal "701" grants, axed state advisory services and discontinued educational assistance, including those offered by Michigan State University's Institute for Community Development. The Board concluded that MSPO should play a renewed leadership role in the provision of those services.

By 1981 the Society began initiatives aimed at redirecting the organization's efforts. While the national AIP and the ASPO merged, at this point MSPO and the Michigan Chapter of the American Planning Association (MAPA, formerly the Michigan Chapter of the AIP) chose to remain separate. A joint committee of MSPO and MAPA began looking at: 1) sharing limited resources for more effective services and 2) dividing responsibilities to better distinguish the purposes behind each organization to avoid duplication of efforts.

Because MSPO had not been active with legislative matters for many years,



Attorney General Frank Kelley responds to a member of the press during the 1978 Annual Conference



One of six Basic Training Workshops in 1983

the Board of Directors decided to seek IRS status as a 501 (c) 3 non-profit educational organization to reduce operational expenses and to offer opportunities for tax deductible gifts. In fact, as early as 1962 Anse Damoose advocated obtaining the designation for just such purposes. The Board encouraged MAPA to take up the responsibility for legislative monitoring and influence on behalf of the state's planners. In addition to dividing responsibilities with MAPA, the Board looked at provision of joint services such as conferences and staff.

Michigan Planner Debuts

The year 1981 also marked the collaboration between MSPO and MAPA which came about with the unveiling of a new effort: the **Michigan Planner** magazine. This new, polished quarterly publication was the product of a long effort and it resulted in significant cooperation between MSPO and MAPA.

While the magazine was produced on a trial basis for two issues, it continued until 1988 and became an important permanent educational and communication tool for the MSPO and MAPA memberships. The magazine retained many of *The Michigan Planning News* features. However, it also introduced the new concept of a single theme for each issue in a manner similar to the MSPO Annual Conference.

The 1982 annual conference featured keynote speaker Neal Peirce, a Washington Post columnist familiar with state and federal planning issues. Mr. Peirce discussed the impact of federal policy upon urban communities in various regions of the United States.

A timely presentation was given by Joe Stewart of the Kellogg Company regarding the corporation's efforts to encourage the merger of the township and city government in Battle Creek.

The annual conference was followed in 1983 with six Basic Training Workshops aimed at taking education to each region in the state for the benefit of planning commissioners and zoning boards of appeals members. While MSPO continued to maintain the outreach efforts begun in the 1950s, it also began providing lay planners with the background needed for improved decision making. The effort was a success when more than 550 attended the workshops.

MSPO also obtained its 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. In particular, Past MSPO President John Donohue must be commended for voluntarily dealing with the paperwork and the bureaucratic process necessary to obtain the status for the Society.

In 1984 the Annual Conference was jointly sponsored by MSPO and the Northeastern Ontario Planning Conference. This second international event was held in the twin cities of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Ontario. Joint workshops and social events were held on both sides of the border with 400 in attendance focusing on the theme, "The H₂O Edge: The Wise Use of Our Freshwater Resources."

That year, in addition to the basic planning commissioners and zoning board of appeals programs, an advanced training workshop was initiated offering in-depth learning opportunities for both professional and lay planners. As a result attendance jumped to

1,400. Executive Director Mark Wyckoff worked with MSPO Board members Larry Kielsing, Helen Willis and Larry Libby in refining these programs.

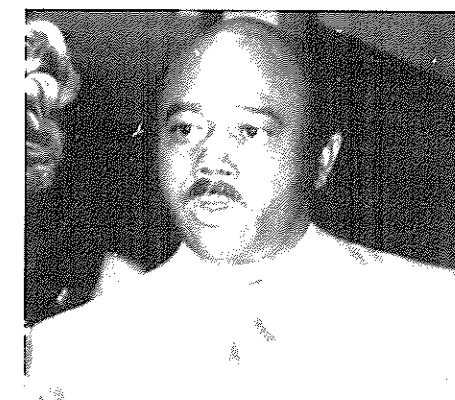
The Society Marks 40 Years

In 1985 MSPO celebrated the 40th anniversary of its inception with a membership numbering 2,400. It included planning commissioners, zoning board of appeals members, realtors, professional planners, university students, professors, engineers, architects and lawyers. However, while the membership was broadly based, it was still made up of 80-85 percent planning and zoning commissioners. The members came from nearly every county in both peninsulas and represented almost every level of planning from village, township and city to county, regional and state levels of government.

In July Helen Willis resigned as president from the Board of Directors to become MSPO's executive director.



Neal Peirce addressing the 1982 Annual Conference held in the Saginaw Civic Center



Joe Stewart, Corporate Community Director for Kellogg Company



MSPO Past Presidents (back row from left): Bernard DeVries, Muskegon (1969-70); Bill Rowden, Macomb County (1960-61); Walter Kalmbach, Saginaw (1966-67); Arnold Whitney, Lapeer (1972-73); Raymond Mills, Midland (1957-58); John Donohue, Farmington Hills (1982-83); Joseph Wasie, Negaunee (1975-76); Keith Honey, East Lansing (1967-68). Front row: Laurence Keisling, Troy (1980-81); Philip Hathaway, Owosso (1985-86); Helen Willis, Oakland Township (1984-85); Bradley Leech, Petoskey (1983-84); Robert Bach, Traverse City (1973-74)

With her appointment, the Society's office was moved from Lansing to the Rochester area.

MSPO continued to offer the basic and advanced workshop programs in numerous locations around the state for the travel convenience of the planning commissioners, zoning boards of appeals members, elected officials and professionals.

Basic workshops gave a nuts and bolts background in planning legislation, case law and good planning practices. The advanced training workshops became more specialized with MSPO focusing on presenting a wide variety of subjects. Also, working in conjunction with other statewide organizations, the Society began offering special workshops on timely topics (see page 29).

In addition, the Society established the *MSPO Advisor* to provide a second and more timely means of communicating with the membership. Also, Anna Hampton succeeded Marleen Winer as editor of the *Michigan Planner*.

In 1986 the first edition of *The Community Planning Process: A Guide for Planning Commissioners in Michigan* was published. This popular guidebook, covering various aspects of local level planning issues, became a primer for new planning commissioners.

The 1987 annual conference, "Farms, Factories and Freeways: Managing Changes in Rural and Urban Communities," was held in the Amway

Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. Keynote speaker Joel Barker, President, Infinity Limited, Inc., caught the interest of the conference participants with his topic, "Discovering the Future: The Business of Paradigms."

Surveying The Membership

The following year President Jim Hendricks, with incoming President Rick Chapla and Membership Committee Chairperson Judy Johnson, decided to conduct a broader and more formal membership survey than had been utilized in previous years. It covered five topics:

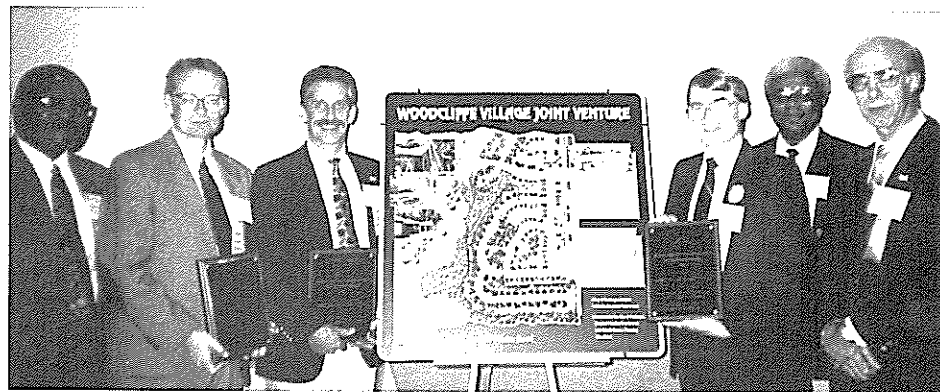
- Evaluation of the MSPO conferences
- Evaluation of the basic training workshops
- Evaluation of MSPO publications

- The future of planning in Michigan
- Profile of the questionnaire respondent

The Society received 2,930 responses representing 73.2 percent of the total membership. Among those responding to the survey, 52 percent were MSPO members for five years or more and 62 percent were appointed officials.

The best news was that 90 percent of the survey's respondents had been allocated a budget for planning activities and 81 percent had staff assistance. In addition, 79.7 percent rated the *Michigan Planner* as excellent.

For MSPO, 1988 also ushered in a tradition of publishing workbooks, such as the *Site Planning Review*, to accompany the advanced training



1991 MSPO Honor Award winners for the Woodcliffe Joint Venture Project are the City of Muskegon Heights Planning Department, Planning Consultant Gerald A. Adams, the City of Muskegon and HAL Development Corporation. Shown (from left) are Leroy Hughes, Adams, Peter Sartorius, Paul Suckow, John Syndnow and Board member Dick Maltby

workshop programs (see pages 30, 31).

In 1989 the first Planning Assembly, an overview of "Metropolitan, Urban and Rural Planning Issues: Innovations and Accomplishments," was cosponsored by MSPO, MAPA and the Urban Planning Programs of Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the University of Michigan with financial support from Michcon.

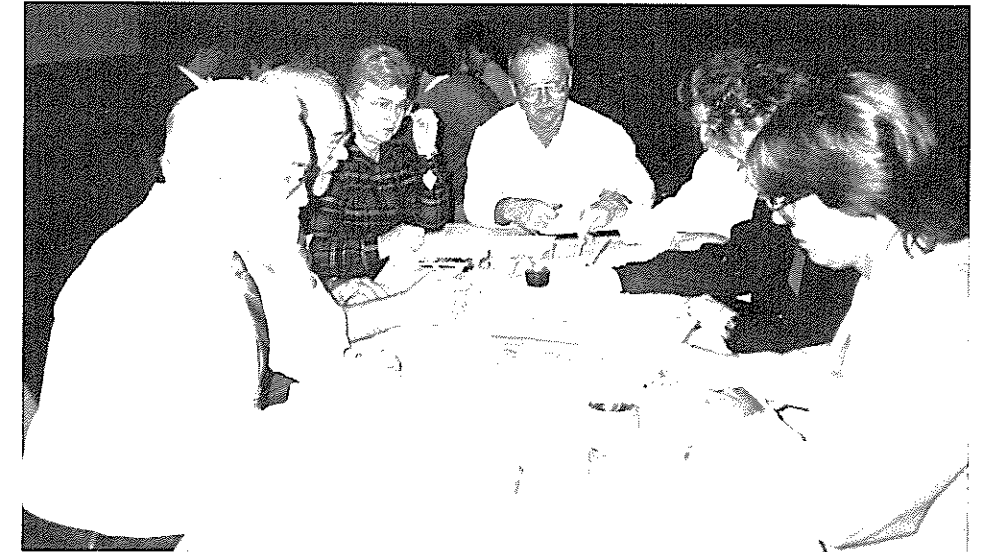
That summer MSPO authorized another survey, this time seeking future policy direction from the membership. The Oakland University Department of Political Science surveyed a representative random sample of 700 members. The response rate was 64.8 percent, or 454 returned surveys. Of those, 50 percent were from appointed officials.

The survey focused on two important questions:

- What type of involvement in public policy initiatives should MSPO have?
- What is the status of planning activity in respondents' communities?

Results indicated that 80 percent of respondents felt that MSPO should monitor legislation and report its status to members, while 64 percent believed that MSPO should analyze planning legislation and provide educational reports for legislators and other public officials. Some 57.5 percent felt that MSPO should adopt positions on certain legislative issues and make them known to state legislators.

With regard to the status of planning in MSPO-member communities, 95 percent of members represented by the sample had an adopted master plan. At that time the average year of the plan's acceptance was 1979. Amendments to those plans were



1991 MSPO Annual Conference members participating in the BuildOut analysis workshop

adopted by 56 percent of the respondents and 53 percent were in the process of amending them.

Grants Aid Education

The late 1980s and early 1990s were marked by MSPO's greater efforts to obtain outside funding for major and specialized educational initiatives. The first of these began when MSPO met with state governmental agencies, universities and environmental educators regarding groundwater protection.

Planners Lillian Dean and Mark Wyckoff with Geology Professor David Lusch of Michigan State University were in process of preparing a publication called, *Community Planning and Zoning for Groundwater Protection in Michigan: A Guidebook for Local Officials*. Since funds were unavailable to publish it, MSPO decided to seek underwriting.

With workload increasing because of additional grants and accelerated membership activity, MSPO's office was moved to larger quarters in downtown Rochester.

In 1991 MSPO received a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation not only to publish the guidebook prepared earlier but to supplement it with regional groundwater workshops statewide. Seven workshops held in 1991 and 1992 attracted 600 participants. As a result, the guidebook was in such demand that MSPO authorized a second printing for distribution throughout the United States and Canada.

Annual conferences in 1990, 1991

and 1992 continued to draw participants from urban and rural communities as well as from the legal profession and allied industries. As a result, by year's end membership rose to 3,819 and group participation reached an all-time high of 295.

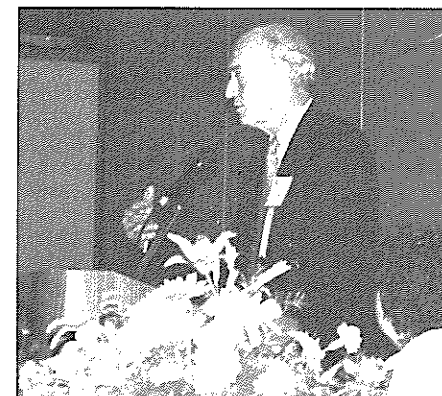
During that timeframe, three guidebooks for the advanced training workshops were published, including the *Community Planning Handbook: Tools and Techniques*, which is now used as a textbook by several universities. In 1992 a supplement of 13 additional techniques were developed and published. Also, that year the *News From MSPO* replaced the *Advisor*.

Additionally, a Planning Assembly, "Housing Tomorrow's Michigan: The Role for Planners," was cosponsored with several associations and universities. Eight other cosponsored workshops highlighted a variety of topics ranging from manufactured housing to historic preservation.

In 1993 MSPO received a second Kellogg Foundation grant in the amount of \$200,000 for "County-Local Partnerships for Groundwater Protection: A Michigan Demonstration Project." Manistee, Ottawa and Saginaw counties, together with three local communities from each jurisdiction, participated in the two-year project.

The Trend Future Project

In 1994 the annual conference held in Grand Rapids featured State Representative Leon Stille, Chair of the Republican Land Use Task Force,



Rep. Leon Stille addressing the 1994 MSPO Annual Conference held in Amway Grand Hotel



Michigan's Trend Future final report, *Patterns On The Land: Our Choices - Our Future*, was released at the 1995 Annual Conference

reporting on the results of a series of land use public hearings held by the task force. The goal of the hearing was to provide input to the task force for the orderly development of Michigan's vacant land, especially problems identified in the Relative Risk Report commissioned by the governor a year earlier. These hearings led to Rep. Stille's introduction of proposed growth management land use legislation.

Two new awards were also presented at the conference. The Helen S. Willis Community Planner of the Year Award was named in honor of Mrs. Willis' 10 years of distinguished service to the Society. The award will be presented to a city, township, county or regional planning/zoning commissioner or professional planner making significant positive contributions to comprehensive community planning in Michigan (see page 25).

The second award, the MSPO Community Planner's Memorial Scholarship, was named in honor of six deceased planners whose names will long be remembered for their contributions to the field of planning: Francis F. Bennett, Charles A. Blessing, Thomas David Carey, Bernard DeVries, Michael T. Manore and William Deane Smith. It was established to offer financial assistance to students majoring in urban and regional planning.

Just prior to the conference, the MSPO office was moved into a suite of offices in the same building to accommodate the ever-increasing workload and equipment needs. David Downey joined MSPO as Deputy Director and part-time clerical staff was added. MSPO also undertook a \$470,000 research project funded by the C.S. Mott and Frey Foundations entitled, "Michigan's Trend Future." The Society's interest was piqued by the two major problems identified in the Relative Risk Report: (1) absence



Tonya Holland (center) and Jodi Steffoia, both students in the Urban Planning Program, Michigan State University, the first winners of MSPO's Community Planner's Memorial Scholarship Program award are shown with (from left) Steve Cassin, Treasurer and Scholarship Committee Chairman; Michael Banis, Attorney and Larry Bauman, Scholarship Committee

of Land Use Planning that considers resources and the integrity of ecosystems and (2) degradation of urban environments.

In response, the Mott and Frey Foundations initiated joint meetings with other foundations to discuss how to assist the state in addressing those risks. The result was a three-to-five year strategic plan identifying up to 30 projects addressing land use issues.

The C.S. Mott Foundation provided \$300,000 and the Frey Foundation, \$170,000 for an MSPO-sponsored "Trend Future Report" for the State of Michigan. The overall report was to be prepared by the Planning & Zoning Center, Inc. Additional tasks completed by other consultants included: 1) 14 visioning workshops, 2) planning and zoning survey of current local efforts, 3) public opinion survey of land use issues and 4) countertrend case studies.

Eleven working papers offered a comprehensive understanding of:

- Land Use Issues Identification
- Agricultural Trends
- Natural Resources and the Environment Trends
- Mineral Trends
- Public Lands and Forestry Trends
- Tourism and Recreation Trends
- Transportation Trends
- Water, Sewer and Other Infrastructure Trends
- Jobs and the Built Environment Trends
- Demographic Trends
- Institutional Structure for Land Use Decision Making

As part of the project, the Society also conducted a statewide Planning and Zoning Survey, the first since 1979. Based on the results, a comprehensive database was developed as part of the Trend Future Project.

MSPO's 50th Year

MSPO's 50th Anniversary Conference entitled "Vision Equals Reality," was held at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire. Highlighting the festivities was the release of the Trend Future final report, *Patterns on the Land: Our Choices-Our Future*.

The report received widespread publicity for several of its most disturbing findings and issues, especially that:

- 840,000 acres of the state's farmlands were converted to other uses between 1982-92 and are declining at a rate of 240 acres per day
- Much higher local taxes will be required to maintain infrastructure for the state's growing number of low-density development projects
- Population will increase 11.8 percent from 1990 to 2020, but land area occupied by urban development will increase by 63-87 percent as a result of low-density development

It is MSPO's hope that these and other findings in the Trend Future report will assist the State of Michigan's public officials and planners in setting the direction of the state's land use policies. Based on the data provided in the report, policymakers can now define and redefine Michigan's future by determining which trends should be promoted, which ones should be reversed and which ones should be allowed to continue.

In addition, a video, "Michigan's Last Frontier," produced as part of the Trend Future Project, was released at the fall conference. Earlier in the year, also in conjunction with the Trend Future Project, the Society conducted the first statewide Public Opinion Survey on Land Uses.

With interest in land use issues rising, the Planning & Zoning Center, Inc., prepared a brochure entitled, *Growth Management Tools*, for the Coastal Zone Management Program, MDEQ. The MSPO Board became interested in collaborating with the Program and the Center in producing a video illustrating the brochure's concepts which

were based on the land use legislation introduced by Rep. Stille in 1994.

MSPO successfully obtained \$37,000 from the Coastal Zone Management Program and \$18,000 from the Americana Foundation to produce, "Growth Management: A Question of Balance." Consumers Power was awarded the contract to prepare the video.

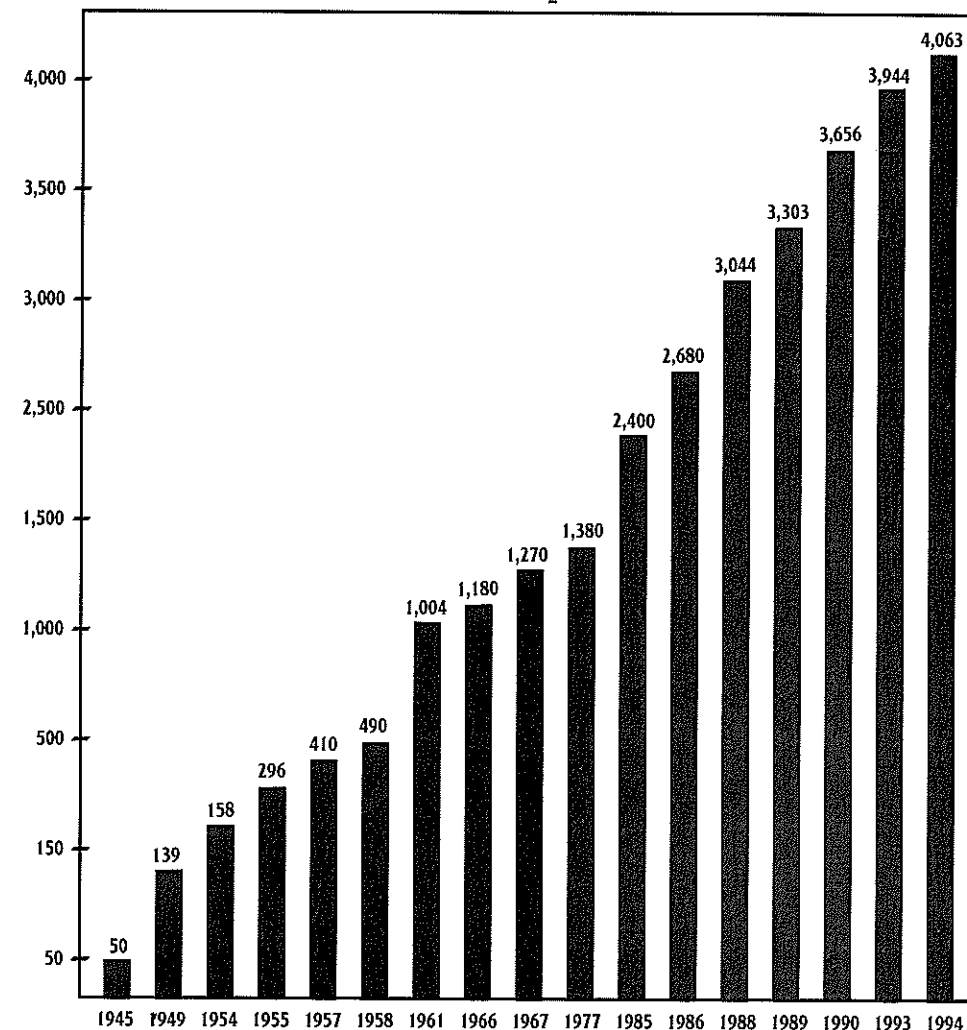
Also in 1995 substantial funds were obtained for the MSPO Community Planner's Memorial Scholarship Program, begun in 1994, with the introduction of The First Annual Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing. The successful event was developed under the leadership of David Downey who became MSPO's executive director. Helen Willis, who stepped down as executive director, assumed the title of grants administrator on a temporary basis.

A Tradition of Leadership

While MSPO has never been the only voice for good planning in Michigan, the Society's 50-year-history demonstrates a tradition of leadership in planning education, collaboration and citizenship. The Society has been a bridge joining together state agencies, planning associations, professional planners and local citizen planners in the common interest of promoting good planning throughout the State of Michigan.

MSPO, with a membership of 4,073 has come to represent nearly every level of planning from village, city and township to county, regional and state levels of government. It is hoped that this review of the landmark history of MSPO will inspire all of our present and future members to nurture this tradition of citizen leadership for planning in Michigan. □

MSPO Membership Time Line



A Legacy of Leadership

WALTER BLUCHER 1901 - 1989



Oral and written histories of MSPO give considerable credit to Walter Blucher as an early founder of state planning associations in Michigan. Apparently he was the first president of the Michigan Planning Conference, the forerunner of MSPO. In particular, Mr. Blucher emphasized educating lay planners through a planner's association. He departed the Michigan Planning Conference in 1934 to organize the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) which he led for 19 years.

Mr. Blucher, formerly a planner for the City of Detroit from 1925 to 1934, organized the Southeastern Michigan Metropolitan Community Research Corporation in 1959. The corporation was intended to bring together the efforts of the Detroit Regional Planning Commission, later under Director Paul Reid, and the Inter-County Supervisors Committee, another Detroit metropolitan planning group. Mr. Blucher became a consultant in the Detroit area when he resigned from that position in 1962.

Mr. Blucher died at the age of 88 in Napa, California.

HAROLD D. SMITH 1899 - 1947



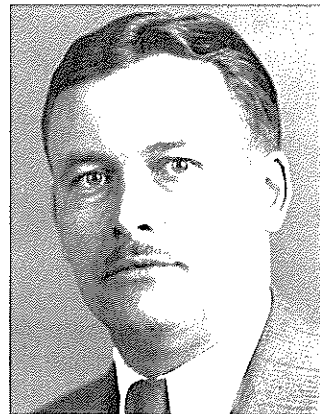
One of Walter Blucher's allies in the early effort to maintain a state planning association was Harold Smith. He became the first full-time staff member and Director of the Michigan Municipal League (MML) in 1927. Mr. Smith organized the League's new office, wrote the copy for the first **Michigan Municipal Review**, worked on the magazine layout and wrapped, stamped and delivered it to the post office. He was MML director until 1937 when he left to serve as budget director for Governor Frank Murphy. His departure was a blow to the early Michigan Planning Conference which he may have helped to shape as a service-oriented organization somewhat similar to MSPO today.

Mr. Smith was selected by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to become director of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget where he served until 1946. He was then appointed vice-president of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development and shortly thereafter offered the presidency, which he declined. When Mr. Smith died, President Harry S. Truman said: "He was one of the ablest servants in public service. The country needs the services of men like Harold Smith."

The MSMPO Board 1946-1947

President:	George F. Emery	Planning Director	Detroit
Vice President:	Floyd M. Jennings	Planning Director	Grand Rapids
Secretary-Treasurer:	Fred G. Catrell	Secretary	Howell Planning Commission
Directors:	Ralph L. Bauer	Chair	Traverse City Planning Commission
	J. Lee Brown	Director	Muskegon Planning Commission
	George W. Francis	Vice Chair	Saginaw Planning Commission
	Jay F. Gibbs	City Manager	Member Ferndale Planning Commission
	Victor G. Leyrer	Chair	Lansing Planning Commission
	Margaret Whelpley	Chair	Dearborn Planning Commission

GEORGE F. EMERY 1900 - 1982



George Emery, the first President of MSMPO, apparently exhibited considerable leadership during his term of service. He had degrees in civil engineering and in the law. In 1940 after serving as the Chief Building Inspector for the City of Detroit for 15 years, he was appointed Executive Secretary of the Detroit Planning Commission.

Mr. Emery was largely responsible for drafting Detroit's zoning ordinance and for completing the city's master land use plan. His efforts in the latter instance made it possible for Detroit to be one of the first cities in the country to qualify for federal redevelopment assistance. Mr. Emery also played an important role in preparing the legal foundation for planning in Michigan by helping to ready Act 344, the Blighted Areas Rehabilitation Act of 1945.

Early newspaper coverage of Mr. Emery's efforts in Detroit indicate that many viewed him as "radical" in his efforts to improve the city. For example, one of his concepts was to establish a minimum width for residential lots. His response to the opposition was, "If we don't do it they'll probably be forced to do it 50 years from now and they'll wonder why someone wasn't bright enough to do it years ago."

Fortunately, George F. Emery took the helm of MSMPO in just as bold a fashion while serving as the Society's first president. He is credited with spearheading the 1945 effort to create a statewide association and in calling the first organizational meeting.

Mr. Emery, who moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in 1952, died February 14, 1982, at the age of 82.



MSPO Past Presidents Laurence G. Keisling (left) of Troy, James Hendricks (center) of Sault Ste. Marie and Brad Leech of Petoskey at a recent annual conference



MSPO President Rick Chapla with Environmental and Planning Consultant Lillian Dean, recipient of the 1989 President's Award, and past Executive Director Mark Wyckoff

MSPO Presidents 1945-1995

Name	Position - Representing	Year	Name	Position - Representing	Year
George F. Emery	Planning Director - Detroit	1945-48	Joseph O. Wasie	Engineer Consultants, Inc., Negaunee	1975-76
George W. Francis	Planning Commissioner, Saginaw	1948-50	Thomas Haga	Director, GLS Region V Planning Commission, Flint	1976-77
Jay F. Gibbs	City Manager, Ferndale	1950-52	Gerald Church	Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant	1977-78
R.C. Eastman	Planning Director, Ann Arbor	1952-53	Claude W. Coates, Jr.	Vilican-Leman & Associates, Southfield	1978-79
J. Lee Brown*	Planning Director, Muskegon	1953-54	Raymond E. Straffon	Planning Director, Port Huron	1979-80
Victor D. Camp*	City Engineer, Marshall	1954-56	Laurence G. Keisling	Planning Director, Troy	1980-81
Jerry G. Mudie	Engineer, Detroit Edison Company	1955-56	D. Gregory Main	Director, CUPPAD Regional Commission, Escanaba	1981-82
Armin Roemer	Assistant Planning Director, Detroit	1956-57	John M. Donohue	Attorney, Farmington Hills	1982-83
Raymond W. Mills	Planning Director, Midland	1957-58	Bradley F. Leech	City Planner, Petoskey	1983-84
Dr. Glen A. Blackburn	Planning Commissioner, Big Rapids	1958-59	Helen S. Willis***	Planning Commissioner, Oakland Township, Rochester	1984-85
Donald Oakes	Management Consultant, Grand Rapids	1959-60	Philip Hathaway***	Community Development Director, Owosso	1985-86
Bill G. Rowden	Planning Director, Macomb County Planning Commission	1960-61	Ann Dever	Midland County Board of Commissioners	1986-87
Raymond A. Trebilcock	Program Director, Michigan Department of State Highways	1961-62	James Hendricks	EDC Executive Director, City of Sault Ste. Marie	1987-88
N. G. Damoose	City Manager, Battle Creek	1962-63	Rick Chapla	Planning Director, City of Muskegon	1988-89
Alice E. Donnel	Planning Commissioner, Coldwater	1963-64	James A. Visser	Director, CISHS, Western Michigan University	1989-90
V. Doyle Singleton**	Planning Director, Bay Regional Planning Commission	1964	Judy Johnson	Planning Commissioner, City of Novi	1990-91
Francis P. Bennett**	Head Planner, Detroit	1964-66	Kurt Schindler	Planning Director, Manistee County	1991-92
Walter Kalmbach	Division Head, Planning Department, Saginaw	1966-67	Charles C. Reisdorf	Executive Director, Region 2 Planning Commission	1992-93
Keith Honey	Professor Urban Planning, Michigan State University, East Lansing	1967-68	Deborah K. Schutt	Supervisor, Planning and Development, Oakland County	1993-94
Emil Meyer	Real Estate, Cadillac	1968-69	Timothy Dolehanty	Planning Director, Leelanau County	1994-95
Bernard DeVries	Architect, Muskegon	1969-70			
Robert Carey	Real Estate, Farmington	1970-71			
Bruce C. Brown	Planning Director, Kalamazoo	1971-72			
Arnold Whitney	City Manager, Lapeer	1972-73			
Robert Bach	Gourdie Fraser Association, Traverse City	1973-74			
G. Michael Conlisk	Planning Director, East Lansing	1974-75			

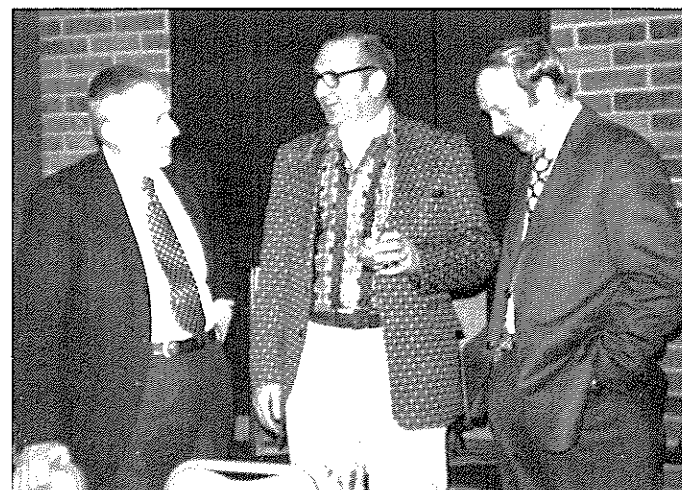
* J.L. Brown resigned November 1954, replaced by V.D. Camp.

** V.D. Singleton resigned May 1964, replaced by F.P. Bennett.

*** Helen Willis resigned July 1 1985 to become MSPO Executive Director, replaced by Philip Hathaway.

MSPO Board Members 1945-1995

Name	Position - Representing	Year	Name	Position - Representing	Year
Wallace G. Arrowsmith	Village Manager, Wayne	1951-55	Walter Kalmbach	Planning Director, Saginaw	1962-71
Robert Bach	Community Development Director, Traverse City	1970-76	Russell Koenig	Planning Director, Saginaw	1945-48
Charles Barr	Planning Professor, Wayne State University	1955-58	Victor Leyrer*	Planning Director, Lansing	1945-49
Ralph Bauer*	Planning Commissioner, Traverse City	1945-49	E. R. MacLaughlin	Planning Commissioner, Dearborn	1945-46
Francis Bennett	Head Planner, Detroit	1964-67	Emil Meyer	Meyer Real Estate, Cadillac	1966-69
Richard Bingham	Director, St. Clair County Planning Commission	1972-74	Martha McKay	Planning Commissioner, Ferndale	1953-54
Dr. Glen Blackburn	Planning Commissioner, Big Rapids	1956-60	Raymond Mills	Planning Director, Midland	1954-62
T. Ledyard Blakeman	Planning Director, Detroit Planning Commission	1954-57	Jack Mosier	Planning Director, Flint	1949-52
Myles Boylan	Planning Professor, Michigan State University	1973	Jerry G. Mudie	Engineer, Detroit Edison Co.	1953-74
Bruce Brown	Planning Director, Midland	1968-72	Donald Oakes	Management Consultant, Grand Rapids	1957-72
J. Lee Brown	Planning Director, Muskegon	1946-49	Edwin Reynolds	Planning Director, Jackson	1951-54
F. Joseph Buckley	Exec. VP, Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce	1964	Armin Roemer	Assistant Planning Director, Detroit	1954-57
Victor D. Camp	City Engineer, Marshall	1952-58	Bill G. Rowden	Planning Director, Macomb County	1958-64
Robert Carpenter	Head Planner, Detroit Planning Commissioner	1966-72	Dr. D. C. Shilling	Planning Director, Kalamazoo	1948-51
Fred Catrell*	Planning Commissioner, Howell	1945-47	Bernard Schroll	Head Planner, Detroit Planning Commission	1957-60
Gerald Church	Director, Study/Research Local Government, Central Michigan University	1974-79	Montgomery Shepard	Planning Commissioner, St. Joseph	1954-55
Claude Coates, Jr.	Vilican-Leman & Associates, Southfield	1974-80	Roland Doyle Singleton	Planning Director, Bay Regional Planning Commission, Lansing	1960-64
G. Michael Conlisk	Planning Director, East Lansing	1972-78	Ronald W. Stebbins	Planning Commissioner, Lansing	1949-50
N.G. Damoose	City Manager, Battle Creek	1960-66	Herbert Spieler	Consumers Power Company, Jackson	1974
Ronald DeMaagd	City Manager, Ferndale	1975	Frederick Storrer*	Consulting Engineer, Dearborn	1945-46
John Dempsey	Planning Director, Saginaw	1958-60	Raymond Straffon	Director, Port Huron Planning Commission	1949-55
Bernard DeVries	Planning Commissioner, Muskegon	1966-74	Raymond Trebilcock	Program Director, Michigan Department of State Highways	1975-81
Alice E. Donnel	Planning Commissioner, Coldwater	1960-65	Joseph Wasie	Thompson-Brown Company, Gaylord	1957-64
R.C. Eastman	Planning Director, Ann Arbor	1976-79	Kenneth Welch	Planning Commissioner, Grand Rapids	1972-78
George Emery*	Planning Director, Detroit	1947-53	Margaret Whelpley	Planning Commissioner, Dearborn	1949-50
Richard Fernback	Planning Director, Highland Park	1945-54	Arnold Whitney	City Manager, Lapeer	1946-49
George Francis	Planning Commissioner, Saginaw	1945-53	Karl R. Hosford	Office of Land Use Programs, Michigan DNR	1970-76
Robert W. Frantz*	Planning Commissioner, Saginaw	1945	Laurence Keisling	Planning Director, Troy	1976-79
Earl Fraser	Planning Director, Kalamazoo	1952-53	Edwin Lorenz	Chair, Mt. Morris Township, Planning Commission	1977-80
Martin Frissel	Planning Engineer, Lansing	1950-52	D. Gregory Main	Director, CUPPAD	1978-79
Jay F. Gibbs*	City Manager, Ferndale	1945-54	James Knack	Planning Director, Grand Rapids	1979-80
Michael Glusac	Director, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments	1974-75	Edward Pothoff, Jr.	City Manager, Cadillac	1979-82
Thomas Haga	Planning Director, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission	1971-77	Elsie Schrader	Chair, Saginaw Planning Commission	1979-81
Mrs. H. Loree Harvey	Planning Commissioner, Kalamazoo	1965-66	Sam Stellrecht	Planning Director, Battle Creek	1979-82
Keith M. Honey	Assistant Director, Tri-County Planning Commission	1964-73	Mark A. Wyckoff	Land Resources Division, Michigan DNR	1979-82
George Hurrell	Planning Director, Washtenaw County	1953			
Floyd Jennings*	Planning Director, Grand Rapids	1945-48			



Past Presidents Walter Kalmbach (left) of Saginaw and Arnold Whitney (center) of Lapeer with past Board member Karl Hosford of Lansing in 1974

Name	Position - Representing	Year
John Donohue	Attorney, Brennan, Bibeau & Poehman	1980-86
Roy Russell	Consultant, Roy J. Russell & Associates	1980-83
Richard Lomax	Supervisor of Plat Review Section, Michigan Department of Commerce	1983
Gary Stolicker	Vice President, Samuelson Development Company	1983-84
Bradley F. Leech	City Planner, Petoskey	1981-87
Helen Willis	Planning Commissioner, Oakland Township	1981-85
Philip Hathaway	Planning Director, Shiawassee County	1982-88
Ann Dever	Planning Commissioner, Midland County	1982-88
Lawrence Libby	Professor, Agricultural Economic Resources, Michigan State University	1982-86
James Hendricks	EOC Executive Director, Sault Ste. Marie	1983-89
Helen Nelson	Planning Commissioner, Ludington	1984-87
Rick Chapla	Director, Planning and Community Development, Muskegon	1984-90
Gloria Robinson	Consultant, Detroit	1984-87
Judy Johnson	Planning Commissioner, City of Novi	1986-92
James A. Visser	City of Kalamazoo DDA	1986-91
Gerald L. Adams	Planner, The WBDC Group, Grand Rapids	1987-93
Marlia K. Jenkins	Planning Director, Livingston County	1987-92
Kurt Schindler	Planning Director, Manistee County	1987-93
Leslie Meyers	Village of Wolverine Lake Planning Commission	1986-88
Cynthia Platzer	Attorney, Port Huron	1988-90
Charles C. Reisdorf	Executive Director, Region 2 Planning Commission	1988-94
Richard Maltby	Planning Director, Midland County	1989-92

Name	Position - Representing	Year
Deborah K. Schutt	Planner, Oakland County	1989-95
Nancy Davis	Planning Commissioner, Washtenaw County	1990-94
Lynda E. Thomsen	Attorney, Kalamazoo	1990-93
Timothy Dolehanty	Planning Director, Leelanau County	1991**
Sharon Ellis	Planning Commissioner, Williamstown Township	1992-94
Bernard J. Carey, Jr.	Planning Commissioner, Blackman Charter Township	1992**
Stephen N. Cassin	Planning Director, Clinton Charter Township	1992**
Jozann Burgin	Planning Commissioner, City of Bay City	1993-95
Leslie Kettren	Director, City of Ferndale DDA	1993**
William C. Hartwig	Administrator, Project & Planning, MDOT	1993**
Bruce M. C. Pape	Planning Commissioner, Isabella County	1994**
Paul J. Blizman	Planning Commissioner, City of Farmington Hills	1995**

* Original nine Board of Directors, Emery, Gibbs and Jennings were elected for three terms to 1948; Bauer, Catrell and Frantz for two years to 1947 and Leyrer, MacLaughlin and Storrer for one year to 1946. Frantz resigned prior to the end of the first year. He was replaced by Francis who was appointed to serve until the 1946 election. Francis was re-elected.

** Present Board Members

MSPO Executive Secretaries

Name	Position - Representing	Year
Harold Black	Detroit	1957-63
George Honzanka	Wayne State University	1963-64
Silla Tomasi	Division Head, Detroit Regional Planning Commission	1964-66
Bruce Brown	Senior Planner, East Lansing Planning Commission	1966-69

Executive Directors

Name	Position - Representing	Year
Armin Roemer	Retired, Detroit	1969-70
Karl R. Hosford	Water Resources Planner, DNR, Lansing	1970-76
Robert A. Owen, Jr.	Senior Planner, East Lansing Planning Commission	1976-77
Francis P. Bennett	Retired, Detroit	1977-79
Terry L. Jurrens	Senior Planner, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission	1979-82
Mark A. Wyckoff	Planner and Editor, Planning & Zoning News and President, Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.	1982-85
Helen S. Willis	District Extension Leader, Cooperative Extension Services, Michigan State University; Oakland Township Planning Commissioner	1985-95
David T. Downey	Birmingham	1995

MSPO's Annual Conferences and Meetings

"A conference is where you discover your problems are not unique, but shared by many people. It is where you get a spiritual uplift by associating with many persons having similar interests and gradually lose the feeling that you alone are trying to improve living conditions for the citizens."

Charles W. Barr
Past MSPO Board Member and
Michigan State University Professor -
1964 Conference Proceedings

MSMPO 1945 Organizational Meeting

Lansing, Olds Hotel (October 6)

This was the working meeting at which MSMPO was formed. Thirty-seven officials from 13 cities were in attendance. Twelve other non-municipal planning officials attended for a total of 49 participants. Unfortunately, a complete list of participants is not available.

- 1946 Flint, Durant Hotel (October 19)
- 1947 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (October 31-November 1)
- 1948 Grand Rapids, Pantlind Hotel (October 1-2)
- 1949 Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Union Hall (September 30 - October 1)
- 1950 Saginaw, Bancroft Hotel (October 6-7)
- 1951 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (September 21-22)
- 1952 Muskegon, Occidental Hotel (April 18-19)
- 1953 East Lansing, Michigan State College (May 22-23)
- 1954 Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Union Hall (April 2-3)

1955 MSPO Annual Planning Conference

Flint, Durant Hotel (May 6-7)
"Suburban Planning Problems"

The 1955 MSPO conference in Flint focused on problems of cities and rural areas in dealing with their new found neighbors: the suburbs. The impressive roster of conference speakers included: Architect Alden B. Dow of Midland, an international award winner, and Minoru Yamasaki, a prominent Detroit area architect, who each addressed "Esthetics Considerations in Planning." The program also featured a speaker from the office of Victor Gruen (designer of Northland Mall in the late 1950s) who discussed the rapid arrival of suburban shopping centers.

- 1956 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (April 20-21)
- 1956 Traverse City, Park Place Hotel (September 22-23)
- 1957 Grand Rapids, Pantlind Hotel (April 26-27)
- 1957 Roscommon, Higgins Lake (September 13-15) - "Who Will Protect Our Resort Country"
- 1958 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (April 11-12) - "Highways"
- 1958 Marquette, Northland Hotel (September 19-20)
- 1959 Lansing, Olds Hotel (January 29-30) - "Planning for Prosperity"
- 1959 Sault Ste. Marie, Hotel Ojibway (September 18-19)
- 1960 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (January 28-29) "The Growing Community: The City and Its Neighbors"
- 1960 Alpena, Fletcher Motel (September 16-17)
- 1961 Kalamazoo, Harris Hotel (April 20-21) - "A Planning Challenge of the Sixties: The Expanding Community"
- 1961 Traverse City, (October 12-13) - "Planning the Economic Growth of Our Resort Areas"
- 1962 Bay City, Wenonah Hotel (May) - "Implementing the Plan: The Proof of Planning is in the Use Made of It!"

1987 Conference - Grand Rapids

left to right Row 1: Rochester Hills Planning Commission enjoys a Walking Tour of Grand Rapids; John Donohue answers a member's question and old friends and fellow City Planning Commissioners Clayton Sleep of Garden City and Helen Foss of Walled Lake meet at the annual banquet. Row 2: MSPO members absorbed in a workshop presentation; MSPO Board Member Judy Johnson of Novi with Novi City Manager Edward Kriewall, winner of the Community Administrator's Award and MSPO Board Member Gloria Robinson of Detroit chats with City of Detroit Planning Commissioner Marsha Bruhn. Row 3: Keynote speaker Joel Barker captivates the audience; members participate in the early-bird Non-Use Variance session and MSPO Board Member Marlia Jenkins of Livingston County introduces a panel of speakers. Row 4: Vice President of Stroh's Riverplace Development Gary Krause accepts the President's Award for Peter Stroh; City of Rochester Planning Commissioner and MML President Tom Werth questions a speaker; MSPO Board Member Phil Hathaway of Owosso introduces the panel while Project Manager of Main Street Greg Robinson looks on. Row 5: Barbara Lisiecki of the Sault Ste. Marie Planning Department takes notes; Planning Consultant Andy Bowman makes a point with a workshop audience and newly elected MSPO President Jim Hendricks of Sault Ste. Marie accepts the gavel from retiring President Ann Dever of Midland. Photos by Melissa Armstrong, Mark Wyckoff, Kristine Williams, Helen Willis and Anna Hampton.



Annual Conferences

- 1962 St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, Whitecomb Hotel (October) - "Community Planning: The Key to Progress"
- 1963 Jackson, Hotel Hayes (May) - "The Base of the Economic Base"
- 1963 Tawas City, Barnes Hotel (September) - "The Community and Planning"
- 1964 Escanaba, House of Ludington Hotel (October 8-9)

1965 MSPO Spring Planning Conference

Lansing (May)
 "Developing Michigan:
 An Intergovernmental Planning Effort"

The 1965 MSPO Conference was a landmark conference highlighted by keynote speaker Governor George Romney addressing Michigan's efforts at economic improvement. It also featured Robert E. McCabe, Urban Renewal Administrator, who was President of Detroit Renaissance. The impressive line-up was recruited by Conference Chair Donald Oakes who did such a fine job that the Board of Directors designated him the 1966 MSPO Conference Chairman.

- 1965 Cadillac, Caberfae Lodge (October 7-8) - "Urban Renewal for Small Towns"
- 1966 Grand Rapids, Pantlind Hotel (May 12-13) - "New Concepts in Planning"
- 1966 Petoskey, Perry-Davis Hotel (October) - "Planning Michigan's Resources"
- 1967 Battle Creek, Holiday Inn (May) - "Planning for the Quality of Life"
- 1967 Gaylord, Hidden Valley (October)
- 1968 Detroit, Fort Shelby Hotel (March)
- 1968 Sault Ste. Marie, Ojibway Hotel (October)
- 1969 Lansing, Capital Park Motor Hotel (May)
- 1969 Traverse City, Park Place Hotel (September) 25th Fall Conference
- 1970 Ann Arbor, Sheraton Hotel Motor Inn (May)
- 1970 Marquette, Holiday Inn (September) - "Planning and Policies in the Seventies"
- 1971 Port Huron, Holiday Inn Motor Hotel (April)
- 1971 Cadillac, Caberfae Lodge (September)
- 1972 Traverse City, Park Place Hotel - "Changing Policies on Land Use: Federal, State and Local"
- 1973 Boyne Falls - "Land Use and Recreational Communities"
- 1974 Harbor Springs, Boyne Highlands

1975 MSPO Annual Conference

Troy, Somerset Inn (October 2-4)
 "Planning for the Environment in an Uncertain Economy"

The theme was addressed by keynote speaker, Ian McHarg, Landscape Architect and noted author of *Design With Nature*. State Representative William Ryan also discussed planning issues in Michigan. A balanced perspective for the conference was offered by the participation of Alfred A. Taubman, shopping center developer of Twelve-Oaks, Lakeside and Briarwood Malls.

- 1976 Kalamazoo - "Planning in Practice"
- 1977 Boyne Mountain - "Planning Strategies for Energy Conservation"
- 1978 Traverse City, Park Place Hotel - "Money: The Reality of Planning"
- 1979 Mackinac Island, Grand Hotel - "Intergovernmental Relations"
- 1980 Alpena - "Planning in the 1980's: Prospects and Problems"
- 1981 Boyne Highlands - "The Economy and the Environment: Cooperation or Conflict?"
- 1982 Saginaw Civic Center - "Taking an Aim at Sprawl: Effective Urban and Rural Planning Tools"
- 1983 Hilton Shanty Creek - "Law and Resource Management"

1984 MSPO Annual Conference

Sault Ste. Marie (October 12-14)
 "The H₂O Edge: The Wise Use of Our Freshwater Resources"

The 1984 Conference was an "international" one in the "twin" cities of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Meetings were held on both sides of the border with an exciting exchange of ideas among Michigan and Ontario planners. Emphasis was placed on finding methods to protect our shared Great Lakes. One of the "unplanned" conference highlights was the Detroit Tigers' capture of the World Series, a feat last accomplished in 1968 coincidentally the date of the previous MSPO international conference at the "Soos" when the Tigers also won.

- 1985 Sugarloaf Resort - "Adapting Planning to Changing Lifestyles: New Social and Economic Realities"

- 1986 Boyne Falls, Boyne Mountain Lodge - "Federal, State, Regional and Local Planning Roles, Cooperation or Competition?"
- 1987 Grand Rapids, Amway Grand Plaza - Farms, Factories and Freeways: Managing "Change in Rural and Urban Communities"
- 1988 Bellaire, Shanty Creek Resort - "2001: A Planning Odyssey"
- 1989 Harbor Springs, Boyne Highlands - "Having it all! Finding the Common Ground Between Development and the Environment"
- 1990 Lansing, Radisson Hotel - "The Challenge of Planning: Weaving Principles and Politics"
- 1991 Bellaire, Shanty Creek Resort - "Planning for Growth Management"
- 1992 Acme, Grand Traverse Resort - "Green, Clean, Useable and Diverse"
- 1993 Grand Rapids, Amway Grand Plaza - "Risky Business: Creating Balance in Michigan's Communities"

1994 MSPO Annual Conference

Grand Rapids (September 29 - October 1)
 "Beyond Our Boundaries: A Cooperative Approach to Planning"

Keynote Speaker, the Honorable Leon Stille, Chairman of the Michigan House Republican Policy Committee on Land Use, focused on proposed legislation dealing with guidelines for the orderly development of the state's lands. Workshops emphasized creating a framework for cooperative planning between communities.

- 1995 Bellaire, Shanty Creek Resort - "Vision Equals Reality"

Honorary and Life Members

"... For persons who have rendered unusual and conspicuous service in the furtherance of the objectives of the Society."

HONORARY MEMBERS

- *George F. Emery, Detroit (1954)
- J. Lee Brown, Muskegon (1956)

LIFE MEMBERS

- Charles Barr, East Lansing (1977)
- *Francis P. Bennett, Troy (1977)
- Myles Boylan, East Lansing (1980)
- Alice E. Burgess, Superior, Montana (1979)
- *Bernard DeVries, Muskegon
- Harvey A. Hansen, Shelby Township (1984)
- Walter Kalmbach, Saginaw (1983)
- *Russell Koenig, Saginaw (1977)
- Victor Leyrer, Lansing (1977)
- *Jerry Mudie, Ocala, Florida (1977)
- Elmer E. Mueller, Warren
- *Donald Oakes, Grand Rapids (1979)
- *Armin Roemer, Detroit (1977)
- Sam Stellrecht, Battle Creek (1983)
- *Harlow O. Whittemore, Ann Arbor (1977)
- Keith M. Honey, Williamston (1985)
- Harold E. Rowe, Farmington Hills (1987)
- W. F. G. Weber, Sault Ste. Marie (1988)
- Robert J. Stadler, Pontiac (1988)
- Harold Workman, Muskegon (1989)
- Leland Jolgren, Clinton Township (1989)
- *John W. Ruff, Charter Township of Oxford (1990)
- Margaret Carter, Charter Township of Chesterfield (1991)
- Arnold Whitney, Lapeer (1985)
- Edward Hustoles, Southfield (1992)
- Leonard Hendricks, Auburn Hills (1992)
- Allen Streeter, Saginaw Charter Township (1992)
- Edward Kazenko, Michigan Department of Transportation (1993)
- Robert McIntosh, Manistee County (1993)
- Carl Goldschmidt, Michigan State University (1994)
- John Traux, Clinton Charter Township (1994)
- Helen S. Willis, Rochester (1995)

*Deceased



Incoming MSPO President Deborah Shutt (left) with Life Award recipient Robert McIntosh of Manistee County and Past President Kurt Schindler

MSPO President's Award

"To recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of planning."

Year	Recipient	Conference Location
1971	Jay F. Gibbs, Former City Manager, Ferndale; Past MSPO President	Port Huron
1972	Governor William G. Milliken	Traverse City
1973	Paul Reid, Retired Director of Detroit Regional Planning Commission	Boyne Mountain
1974	Donald Oakes, Government Affairs Consultant; Past MSPO President	Boyne Highlands
1975	Philip D. Mastin, State Representative	Troy
1976	Prof. Charles W. Barr, Michigan State University, Urban Planning Program	Kalamazoo
1977	No Award	Boyne Mountain
1978	Attorney General Frank Kelley	Mackinac Island
1979	State Senator Harry DeMaso	Mackinac Island
1980	Armin Roemer, Retired City of Detroit Planning Director; Past MSPO President	Alpena
1981	Frank Bennett, Retired Wayne County Planning Director; Past MSPO Executive Director; Past President	Boyne Highlands
1982	Edward H. Potthoff, Jr. (posthumous), Former City Manager Saginaw and Cadillac; Past MSPO Board Member	Saginaw
1983	Alice Donnel Burgess, Retired Coldwater Planning Commissioner, Past MSPO President	Bellaire - Shanty Creek
1984	Prof. Keith M. Honey, Michigan State University, Urban Planning Program; Past MSPO President	Sault Ste. Marie



E. A. Jackson Morris, Supervisor of Pittsfield Charter Township (left) receives the MSPO President's Award from President Charles Reisdorf

Year	Recipient	Conference Location
1985	Robert L. Mitchell, Chief Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Transportation and Governor's Coordinator of Public Investment	SugarLoaf Resort Cedar
1986	G. Mennen Williams, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court	Boyne Mountain Boyne Falls
1987	Peter W. Stroh, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, The Stroh Brewery Company	Amway Grand Plaza Grand Rapids
1988	Peggy Johnson, Executive Secretary, Clinton River Watershed Council	Shanty Creek Resort Bellaire
1989	Lillian Dean, Environmental and Planning Consultant	Boyne Highlands Harbor Springs
1990	Thomas J. Anderson, Member, Natural Resources Commission; Former State Representative	Radisson Hotel Lansing
1991	Michael J. Scieszka, Principle Architect of the Michigan Resource Inventory System	Shanty Creek Resort Bellaire
1992	Gordon E. Guyer, President, Michigan State University; Past Director, Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Director Emeritus, Cooperative Extension Service, Michigan State University	Grand Traverse Resort Acme
1993	E. A. Jackson Morris, Supervisor, Pittsfield Charter Township; Past Co-Chair, Regional Development Initiative Oversight Committee, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments	Amway Grand Plaza Grand Rapids
1995	Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.	Shanty Creek Resort Bellaire



G. Mennen Williams, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court (right) with the MSPO President's Award and Howard Nyenhuis, City Manager of Grandville, with the Community Administrator's Award conferred at the 1986 Annual Convention

MSPO Community Administrator's Award

This award was established posthumously in honor of Edward H. Potthoff, Jr., to recognize Michigan Community Administrators at all levels - city, village, county, regional - who have made significant, positive contributions to comprehensive community planning in Michigan."



MSPO President Deborah Schutt presents the first Helen S. Willis Community Planner Of The Year Award to John Nagy, City of Dearborn planner

Year	Recipient	Conference Location
1982	Edward H. Potthoff Jr.	Saginaw
1983	Donald Ziemke, City Manager, Portage	Bellaire - Shanty Creek
1984	Arnold Whitney, City Manager, Lapeer	Sault Ste. Marie
1985	Ila M. Burris, Clerk, Lapeer Township	SugarLoaf Resort, Cedar
1986	Howard Nyenhuis, City Manager, City of Grandville	Boyne Mountain Boyne Falls
1987	Edward F. Kriewall, City Manager, City of Novi	Amway Grand Plaza Grand Rapids
1988	Robert Block, Administrator, City of Southfield	Shanty Creek Bellaire
1989	Robert A. Warren, Mayor, City of Muskegon Heights	Boyne Highlands Harbor Springs
1990	J. Michael Dornan, City Manager, City of Walled Lake	Radisson Hotel Lansing
1991	R. Ben Bifoss, City Manager, City of Manistee	Shanty Creek Bellaire
1992	Jerome R. Kisscorni, City Manager, City of Tecumseh	Grand Traverse Resort, Acme
1993	Duane C. Beard, Administrator, Leelanau County	Amway Grand Plaza Grand Rapids
1994	James D. Anulewicz, Director of Public Services, Plymouth Township	Amway Grand Plaza
1995	David Ferber, Mayor, City of Allegan	Shanty Creek Bellaire

Helen S. Willis Community Planner Of The Year Award

This award, established in 1994, was named in honor of Helen Willis for her major contributions to MSPO during her 10 years of service to the Society as executive director. It honors a city, township, county or regional planning/zoning commissioner or professional planner making significant, positive contributions to comprehensive community planning in Michigan.

- 1994 John J. Nagy, Planner, City of Dearborn
- 1995 Gordon Hayward, Planner, Peninsula Township

MSPO Community Planner's Memorial Scholarship Program

This award was established in 1994 in honor of six deceased planners whose names will long be remembered for their contributions to the field of planning: Francis F. Bennett, Charles A. Blessing, Thomas David Carey, Bernard DeVries, Michael T. Manore and William Deane Smith. Its purpose is to offer financial assistance to students majoring in urban and regional planning.

- 1994 Tonya Holland, Michigan State University
Jodi Steffoia, Michigan State University
- 1995 Michelle Manning, Michigan State University



James Anulewicz, Director of Public Services for Plymouth Township, displays his MSPO Community Administrator's Award to Board member Jozann Burgen

MSPO Honor Award Winners

The Michigan Society of Planning Officials instituted an Honor Awards Program in 1977 to "publicly recognize and honor meritorious projects/plans designed or implemented in Michigan." Since the program's inception there have been 59 award-winning projects or plans. The winners are selected by an out-of-state jury which judges each nominee on individual merit and not in competition with other entries. In 1982 the MSPO Honor Awards Program was used as a model for a similar program developed by the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association.

1977

Project: Implementation of Master Plan for Residential Areas and for Recreation and the Preservation of Open Space

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Farmington Hills

Project: Michigan Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Guidebook

Planner: BJR, Inc.

Client: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Project: MSHDA Housing for the Elderly Development Process

Planner: BJR, Inc.

Client: Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Lansing

Project: Michaywe - A Country Club in the Country

Planner: Bills/Childs Associates, PC

Client: Bagley and Otsego Lake Townships, Otsego County

Project: Lapeer Central Business District Design Plan

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Lapeer

Project: Addison Oaks Park

Planner: Bills/Childs Associates, PC

Client: Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission

1978

Project: Plan It Again Sam

Planner: Department of Planning, Housing and Community Development

Client: City of East Lansing

Project: CBD Environmental Design and Building Facade Study

Planner: Oakland County Division of Planning
Russel C. Lewis, Project Architect/Planner

Client: City of South Lyon

Project: Demographic Component of the Pinckney Community Schools Building and Site Bond Program

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: Pinckney Community Schools

Project: An Intensity Approach to Business Area Zoning

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Lathrup Village

1979

Project: Five Mile Road Corridor Plan

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: Township of Redford

Project: Wayne County Community Development Block Grant Program

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: County of Wayne

Project: A Photographic Policies Plan for Berkley

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Berkley

1980

Project: Planned Residential District Development

Planner: Roy J. Russell & Associates

Client: A. J. Macksey Co., Farmington Hills

Project: Sault Ste. Marie Airport Reuse Plan

Planner: Williams & Works, Inc.

Client: City of Sault Ste. Marie Community Development Department

Project: Program to Integrate Urban Design and Environmental Preservation Into the Comprehensive Urban Planning Process

Planner: West Bloomfield Township Planning Department

Client: West Bloomfield Township

Project: St. Clair Flats Management Plan

Planner: Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc.

Client: Division of Land Resource Programs, Department of Natural Resources

1981

Project: The Monroe Comprehensive Coastal Zone Management Plan

Planner: Beckett Raeder Rankin, Inc.

Client: City of Monroe, Department of Community Development

Project: Livingston County: Strategies For Future Development

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: Livingston County Office of County Planning

Project: The Michigan Coal Storage Study

Planner: Snell Environmental Group, Inc.

Client: Division of Land Resource Programs, Michigan Department of Natural Resources



Gerald Luedtke, President of Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc., with an MSPO Honor Award presented to him in 1988 for the Core City Neighborhood Revitalization Plan by Board member Charles Reisdorf

1982

Project: Genesee County Small Town Historic Character

Planner: Rick Neumann, Architect; Doug Kassabaum, Architect; Wesley Beck, Urban Planner

Client: Genesee County Community Development Program/Michigan History Division, Michigan Department of State

Project: Northville Elderly Village: Market Analysis and Site Planning for Adaptive Re-use of Surplus Public Lands and Facilities

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: Northville Township/Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County

Project: The Linked Riverfront Parks Project

Planner: Schervish, Vogel, Merz, Cordoza - Architects, Landscape Architects, Planners

Client: City of Detroit Recreation Department/Division of Land Resource Programs, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Project: Planning for Multipurpose Resource Development on Surplus State Land

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Lapeer

Project: A Performance-Oriented Approach to Township Zoning

Planner: Snell Environmental Group, Inc.

Client: Bath Charter Township

Project: Visual Improvement Plan for Downriver Industry

Planner: Johnson, Johnson & Roy, Inc.

Client: Downriver Community Conference/Division of Land Resource Programs, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

1983

Project: West Oakland Groundwater Leadership Project

Planner: Lillian Dean

Client: East Michigan Environmental Action Council

Project: River Raisin Esplanade Waterfront Enhancement Project

Planner: John R. Iacoangeli, Director, Department of Community Development

Client: City of Monroe

1984

Project: The Novi Storm Water Management Plan

Planner: JCK & Associates, Inc. of Clarkston/Novi Stormwater Management and Flood Control Committee

Client: City of Novi

Project: The City of Algonac

Planner: Vilican-Leman & Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Algonac

Project: Oakland County Commissioner's Manual

Planner: Oakland County Planning Division

Client: Oakland County

1985

No awards presented

1986

Project: Paint Creek Trail Recreation Plan

Planner: Lawrence S. Falardeau, RLA, Oakland County Planning Division

Client: Paint Creek Trailways Commission



Monroe County Planning Commission Director Royce Maniko (center) displays a 1990 MSPO Honor Award for the Public Information Process-Monroe County Solid Waste Plan Project on behalf of his staff, Assistant Planner Dennis Ahonen (right) and Planner Robert Pevan

1987

Project: West Bloomfield Ridge Subdivision

Planner: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Auburn Hills/West Bloomfield Charter Township Planning Staff

Client: Stulberg Development Corporation

Project: Marquette Lower Harbor Redevelopment Plan

Planner: Gove Associates, Kalamazoo

Client: City of Marquette

Project: Eastown Business Area Revitalization Plan and Implementation

Planner: City of Grand Rapids Planning Department/
Eastown Business Association

Client: City of Grand Rapids

Project: Waterfront Plan/Project

Planner: The WBDC Group

Client: City of Ludington

1988

Project: Core City Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: Core City Neighborhoods, Inc.

Project: Site Design Guidebook

Planner: Richard Carlisle, PCP/
Ayre, Lewis, Norris & May

Client: Charter Township of Independence

Project: I-696 and Woodward Master Urban Design/
Development Plan

Planner: Oakland County Planning Division/
Graphic House, Pontiac

Client: City of Royal Oak

1989

Project: City of Warren Policies Plan

Planner: Gerald Luedtke and Associates, Inc.

Client: City of Warren/City of Warren Planning Commission

1990

Project: Alpine Charter Township Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance

Planner: WW Engineering & Science

Client: Alpine Charter Township

Project: Public Information Process - Monroe County Solid Waste Plan

Planner: Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc./Monroe County Planning Staff

Client: Monroe County Planning Commission

Project: Year 2000 Plan - City of Farmington Hills

Planner: City of Farmington Hills Department of Planning & Community Development/Barlow Associates, Inc./Randall Reno Graphic Design

Client: City of Farmington Hills

1991

Project: Woodcliffe Village Joint Venture

Planner: Planning Staff, City of Muskegon Heights/
Gerald Adams, Planning Consultant

Client: City of Muskegon Heights

1992

Project: City of Alpena - River Plan

Planner: Carlisle Associates, Ann Arbor

Planner: City of Alpena

Project: PEARL: Protecting Environment, Agriculture and Rural Landscape

Planner: Livingston County Planning Department

Client: Livingston County Board of Commissioners/
Livingston County Planning Commission

1993

Project: Ann Arbor Central Area Plan

Planner: City of Ann Arbor Planning Department

Client: City of Ann Arbor Planning Commission/
City of Ann Arbor City Council/
Citizens of Ann Arbor

Project: Ottawa County Development Plan

Planner: Design + /The WBDC Group

Client: Ottawa County Planning Commission

1994

Project: Arcadia Creek Project

Planner: Kenneth A. Nacci, Interim President, Downtown Kalamazoo, Inc.

Client: City of Kalamazoo/
Arcadia Creek Partners/
Entire Kalamazoo Community

Project: Pere Marquette Rail-Trail of Mid-Michigan

Planner: James H. Schroeder, City of Midland Planning & Community Development

Client: City of Midland/
Midland County Parks & Recreation

Project: Chelsea Park Subdivision, West Bloomfield Charter Township

Planner: Resource Management Group/Calvin Hall & Associates/Zeimit, Wozniak & Associates

Client: Ivanhoe-Huntley Development Company

Project: Land Use Tools & Techniques: A Handbook for Local Communities

Planner: Gerald A. Rowe, PCP/Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

Client: Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)

Project: Voices & Visions: Community Planning for Downtown Grand Rapids

Planner: Sheila Mast, Assistant Planning Director, City of Grand Rapids

Client: City of Grand Rapids Planning Department/
City of Grand Rapids Downtown Development Authority

1995

Project: Central Area Plan

Planner: Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.

Client: Oxford Charter Township Planning Commission

Project: Independence Charter Township Historic and Rural Preservation Plan

Planner: Carlisle Associates, Inc.

Client: Charter Township of Independence

Project: 1995-2001 Capital Improvements Plan

Planner: City of Ann Arbor Planning Commission

Client: City of Ann Arbor

Project: Woodward I-696 Project-Main Street Square Condominiums

Planner: City of Royal Oak Downtown Development Authority/
Crosswinds Communities, Inc.

Client: City of Royal Oak

Project: Detroit Land Use Plan

Planner: The Smith Group

Client: City of Detroit-Mayor Dennis Archer

Project: Washtenau County Fragile Lands and Groundwater Primer

Planner: Washtenau County Metropolitan Planning Commission/Staff

Client: Washtenau County



Recipients of a 1994 Honor Award for the reference manual, "Land Use Tools & Techniques: A Handbook For Local Communities" are SEMCOG Project Coordinator Gerald Rowe and SEMCOG Representative and Oakland Charter Township Supervisor Joan Buser with Board member Leslie Kettren (left) and Jury Chair Joe Corradino (right)

Basic And Advanced Workshops

Since 1985 the Society has conducted 62 basic workshops, more recently averaging five each year. In addition, 60 advanced workshops have been held covering the following topics:*

1984 - Capital Improvement Programs

1985 - Planned Unit Development

1986 - Updating the Master Plan

1987 - Zoning Case Studies

1988 - Site Plan Review

1989 - Sign Regulations

1990 - Land Division and Access Controls

1991 - Tools and Techniques for Local Community Planning

1992 - Updating the Master Plan
Preparing a Growth Management Plan

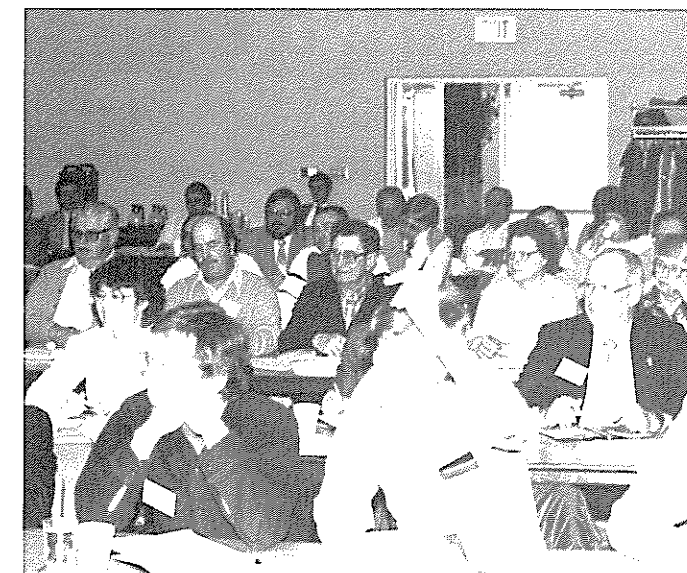
1993 - Zoning Case Studies
Site Plan Review

1994 - Improving Community Appearance**

1995 - Managing Traffic in Your Community

*On-site workshops held upon request.

**Cosponsored by MSPO, American Institute of Architects (AIP), American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), MAPA, Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE)



MSPO member Kurt Schindler of Manistee County asks a question at the first Advanced Training Workshop in 1984

Special Workshops

Since 1985 MSPO has presented and/or cosponsored a variety of one-day workshops to meet changing planning needs:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| July 1985 | Tools for Protecting Farmland in Michigan
Sponsored by: Michigan Farmland Preservation Project
Cosponsored by: Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan Townships Association (MTA), MSPO |
| February 9, 1989 | Manufactured Housing: Meeting Housing Needs in Your Community
Cosponsored by: MSPO, MTA, MML, Michigan Manufactured Housing Association, Michigan Mobile Home Commission |
| March 9, 1990 | Manufactured and Factory Built Homes: Housing Opportunities in the 1990s
Sponsored by: MML, MSPO, MTA, Michigan Manufactured Housing Association, Michigan Mobile Home Commission |
| May 22, 1990 | Planning and Zoning for Bed and Breakfast Businesses
Cosponsored by: MML, MSPO |
| August 21, 1990 | Facade Improvements Lead to Community Enhancement
Cosponsored by: MML, MSPO |
| June/July 1991 | Planning and Zoning for Groundwater Protection
(7 workshops, funded under a grant by W. K. Kellogg Foundation) |
| October 1991 | Mastering the Master Plan
Cosponsored by: MTA, MSPO |
| March 20, 1992 | Tools for Historic Preservation: A Michigan Sampler
Cosponsored by: MML, MSPO, Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) |
| May 8, 9, 1992 | Quality in City Design
Cosponsored by: MHPN, MSPO, MML |
| June 24, 1992 | Current Planning and Zoning Issues
Cosponsored by: MTA, MSPO |

Planning Assembly Program

The Annual Planning Assembly is a one-day conference offering architects and planners-professional and citizen-the opportunity to hear national and state speakers present their innovative approaches to planning. The following programs, introduced by MSPO and cosponsored with other professional organizations and universities, also received assistance from a corporate sponsor.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| November 10, 1989 | Metropolitan, Urban and Rural Planning Issues: Innovations and Accomplishments
Cosponsored by: MAPA, MSPO, Urban Planning Programs of Michigan State University (MSU), Wayne State University (WSU) and University of Michigan (U of M) with financial support from Michcon |
| November 29, 1990 | Housing Tomorrow's Michigan: The Role for Planners
Cosponsored by: MAPA, MSPO, Urban Planning Programs of MSU, WSU and U of M with financial support from Michcon |
| November 10, 1994 | The Financial Benefits of Regional Cooperation
Cosponsored by: American Institute of Architects (AIA)/Detroit, AIA/Michigan, Lawrence Technical University (LTU) School of Architecture, MSPO, University of Detroit-Mercy (U of DM) School of Architecture, U of M College of Architecture and Urban Planning, WSU Urban Planning Program |
| November 30, 1995 | Michigan Development Strategies: New Concepts, New Rules and New Policies
Presented by: MSPO and AIA/Detroit Co-sponsored by: AIA/Michigan, Michigan Architectural Foundation, U of DM School of Architecture, U of M College of Architecture and Urban Planning |

MSPo Publications and Videos

1962

Career In Urban Planning

Cosponsored by MSPo and Michigan Chapter AIP

1964

The New Four Corners (Interchange Areas)

Jointly sponsored by Michigan State Highway Department, MSPo, Michigan Chapter AIP (accompanied by Michigan State Highway Department film)

1963-1964

Local Planning Commissioner's Handbook

Sponsored by Michigan State University Institute for Community Development, financed by MSPo and authored by Michigan Chapter AIP

1965

Michigan Laws Relating To Planning

Sponsored by Michigan State University Institute for Community Development, MSPo, MAPA and several state departments (fourth edition 1989)

1968

MSPo Junior Planning Commission Program

Developed in 1965 by Past MSPo President Anse Damoose of Battle Creek and demonstrated at the 1969 MSPo Annual Conference

1972

Planning For Gasoline Service Stations

Jointly sponsored by MSPo, Associated Petroleum Industries of Michigan and Michigan Chapter of AIP

1977

This Land Is Ours

Cosponsored by MSPo and the League of Women Voters

1979

Administering Township Zoning: Administering County Zoning: Administering City & Village Zoning: A Basic Guide For Citizens And Local Officials

Sponsored by MSPo, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service

1986

The Community Planning Process: A Guide For Planning Commissioners In Michigan

A guidebook for new planning commissioners covering the historical and legal basis for planning, the community planning process, major tools for implementing the community plan and key terms used in planning and zoning by Kenneth VerBurg, Michigan State University Community Development Program (fourth printing)

1988

Site Plan Review: A Guide For Planning And Zoning Commissions

Includes guidelines for reviewing ordinance language and checklist for conducting site plan review by Mark Wyckoff, Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.

1989

Sign Regulation: An Overview Of The Issues And Alternatives

Includes legal considerations, types of signs, basic approaches and principles for local sign controls, ordinance components and variances by Mark Wyckoff, Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.

1989

Planning Commission Guidelines: By-Laws, Public Hearings And Conflict of Interest

Guidelines for structuring by-laws and conducting public hearings as well as gaining an understanding of conflict of interest issues by John Donohue, Kohl, Secrest and Hampton; Larry Nix, WW Engineering & Science and Stanley Woodhouse, Community Planning and Management

1990

Land Division And Access Controls

Includes characteristics of land division and access control, existing regulatory tools and new techniques for developing a program to guide land development in an orderly, economic and efficient manner by Kristine Williams, Tim McCauley and Mark Wyckoff of Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.

1991

Community Planning and Zoning For Groundwater Protection in Michigan: A Guidebook For Local Officials

Provides a process for developing a local groundwater protection strategy including sample ordinance language for implementing it by Lillian Dean and Mark Wyckoff of Planning & Zoning Center, Inc. (second printing)

Community Planning Handbook: Tools And Techniques For Guiding Community Change

Presents more than 80 tools and techniques designed to assist local planners in the decision-making process. Each technique includes: a description, legal basis, planning considerations, resources, advantages/disadvantages/limitations, extensive references and a case study by Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.

Additional Tools and Techniques For The Community Planning Handbook

Includes 13 new techniques on a variety of topics including condominium regulations and impact analysis techniques

1992

Workbook For Preparing Or Updating A Master Plan And/Or Preparing A Growth Management Plan

Provides local communities with a methodology for analyzing the existing master plan and updating it as well as numerous checklists and worksheets by Planning & Zoning Center, Inc.

1994

Notebook For Improving Community Appearance

Covers the following topics: community character, visual issues, development guidelines, environmental protection, street design, circulation and links, utilities, volunteerism, legal considerations and sources for professional assistance

Evaluating Traffic Impact Studies: A Recommended Practice For Michigan Communities

Outlines when traffic impact studies should be required, what analyses to include, how to review and use the study and qualifications for preparing and reviewing the studies by Bradley K. Strader, AICP, and Peter C. LaMourie, PE

1995

Patterns On The Land: Our Choices - Our Future

Synthesizes key data, observations and findings documenting land use trends statewide in 11 working papers: Land Use Identification, Agriculture, Public Lands and Forestry, Transportation, Sewer/Water and Other Infrastructure, Institutional Structure for Land Use Decision Making, Minerals, Jobs and the Built Environment, Tourism and Recreation, Demographics, Natural Resources/Environment prepared under contract by the Planning & Zoning Center, Inc., for MSPo with a grant from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Frey Foundation

Videos - 1995

Growth Management: A Question of Balance produced by MSPo with funds from the Coastal Zone Management Division, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Americana Foundation

The Last Frontier produced as part of the Trend Future Project

MSPo Communications

The Society began publishing a quarterly newsletter in 1947 through the efforts of its first editor, Margaret A.G. Whelpley. The newsletter, later the *MSPo newsletter*, covered timely planning events and issues from the beginning, such as interviews with the 1962 gubernatorial candidates. The *MSPo Newsletter* became *The Michigan Planning News* in 1964. In 1981 it was converted into the quarterly magazine, the *Michigan Planner*, and published jointly by MSPo and MAPA. That collaboration ended in 1988. In 1985 the Society also established the *MSPo Advisor* to provide a second and more timely means of communication. That publication became the *News From MSPo* in 1992.

- Newsletter
- *MSPo Newsletter*
- "Planner's Corner"
- "Viewpoint!"*
- *The Michigan Planning News*
- *Michigan Planner*
- *MSPo Advisor*
- *News From MSPo*

*"Planner's Corner" appeared in MML's *Michigan Municipal Review*; Viewpoint was a short-lived publication.

Editors*

The Michigan Planning News

Lowell Plasterer - 1964-69**

Michigan Planner

Terry Jurgens and Mark Wyckoff,
Co-Editors - 1981***

Joe McElroy - 1981-82

Marleen Winer - 1962-84

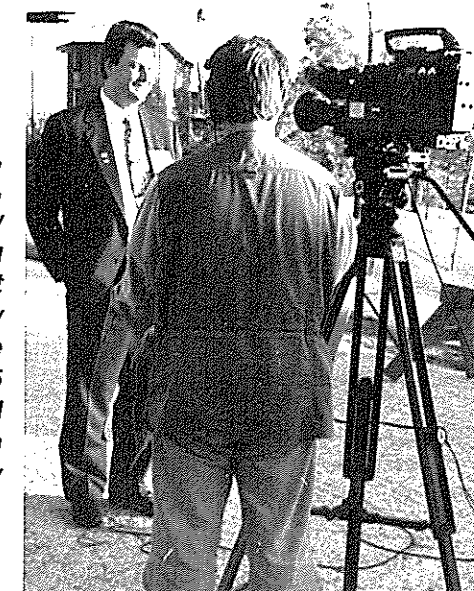
Anna Hampton - 1984-To Present

*Prior to 1964 many MSPo members, including Board members, served as "volunteer" editors.

**Executive Directors were also editors of *The Michigan Planning News* 1970-81.

***The co-editors published two premier issues.

WWTV-WWUP-TV,
Channels 9 & 10,
in Traverse City
interviewing
President
Timothy Dolehanty
during the
1995
MSPo Annual
Conference in
Traverse City



MSPO Time Line

MSPO Events		State & National Legislation Judicial Actions	
1920s-30s	Michigan Planning Conference	1921	City or Village Zoning Enabling Act for Michigan
1937-47	Michigan Planning Commission	1926	Village of Euclid v Amber Realty Company ; U.S. Supreme Court upholds zoning measures
10/6/45	Organizational meeting to create MSMPO Articles of Association drafted and adopted	1931	Municipal Planning Act of Michigan
10/19/46	MSMPO First Annual Business Meeting	1943	County Rural Zoning Act Township Rural Zoning Acts Certificate of City Village Plat Acts
1947	First quarterly newsletter in mimeographed form	1945	Regional Planning Commissions Act County Planning Act of Michigan Blighted Areas Rehabilitation Act
1952	"Planner's Corner" debuts in MML magazine Michigan Chapter of AIP organizes	1954	U.S. Housing Act (Urban Planning Assistance) "701" Grants
10/23/53	MSMPO revises name to MSPO as suburbanization of Michigan begins	1957	Intercounty Committees Act Intermunicipality Committees Act
1954	First printed MSPO newsletter	1959	Township Planning Act
1956	MSPO introduces summer conference	1963	Industrial Development Revenue Bond Act of 1963
1957	First executive secretary	1965	Outdoor Recreation Act of Michigan
1961	MSPO initiates ASPO/SPA Committee	1966	State Housing - Authority Act (MSHDA)
1964	<i>The Michigan Planning News</i> debuts and names editor - adopts slogan and logo	1967	Subdivision Control Act
1965	MSPO initiates Junior Planning Commissions Program	1968	Public Recreation Bonds
1966-67	Past Presidents' Committee revises Articles of Association	1970	Environmental Protection Act Shorelands Protection Act Natural Rivers Act
1969	MSPO creates executive director position	1972	Historic Districts, Sites & Structures Act Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act Wilderness and Natural Areas Act
1971	First Presidents' Award	1974	Farmland & Open Space Preservation Act Resource Recovery Act
1977	First Honor Awards	1976	Kammer Trust Fund
1981	Michigan Planner debuts	1978	Significant amendments to three zoning enabling acts (PUD), SPR, Special Land Uses) Solid Waste Management Act, P.A. 641
1982	First Community Administrator's Award	1979	Hazardous Waste Management Act, P.A. 64
1983	MSPO obtains 501 (c) 3 tax exemption status First series of regional workshops	1980	Tax Increment Finance Authority Act, P.A. 450
1984	Advanced regional training workshops debut	1981	Right to Farm Act, P.A. 93 Michigan Urban Land Assembly Act, P.A. 171
1985	First <i>MSPO Advisor</i>	1982	Environmental Response Act, P.A. 307
1986	MSPO publishes first guidebook, <i>The Community Planning Process: A Guide for Planning Com- missioners in Michigan</i>	1984	Michigan Business Investment Act, P.A. 198 Michigan Strategic Fund Act, P.A. 270 Technology Park Development Act, P.A. 385 Economic Development Projects Act, P.A. 425
1988	First Advanced Workshops' guidebook	1985	Enterprise Zone Act, P.A. 224
1989	First Planning Assembly Random sample surveys policy issues	1986	Local Development Financing Act, P.A. 281
1991	MSPO receives grant for groundwater workshops	1987	Mobile Home Commission Act, P.A. 96
1992	Governor releases Relative Risk Report <i>News From MSPO</i> replaces <i>MSPO Advisor</i>	1988	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Act, P.A. 428
1993	MSPO receives groundwater demonstration grant	1989	Metropolitan Council Act, P.A. 292
1994	MSPO undertakes Michigan Trend Future Project MSPO conducts statewide Planning and Zoning Survey First Helen S. Willis Planner Of The Year Award First Community Planner's Memorial Scholarship	1992	Biological Diversity Conservation Act, P.A. 93
1995	First Public Opinion Survey on land use issues MSPO produces two videos MSPO completes Trend Future Project First Annual Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing		

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