



## Great Lakes Chapter

# Great Lakes Chapter Newsletter

December 2023

### Updating License Info in AI Account

Many members renewed appraiser licenses in 2022. Please make sure the license expiration date is correct in your Appraisal Institute Profile.

Log into the Appraisal Institute website: [appraisalinstitute.org](https://appraisalinstitute.org)

Go to: **My Account**

On the right-hand side of the screen select: **Profile**

From the list select: **State Licenses**

Check your license type, license number (remember the Michigan numbers now begin with 1202, 1203, 1204 & 1205), and expiration date.

To edit your expiration date, select: **Edit Expiration**  
To correct your license number you will create a new entry using: **+Add**

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### President's Remarks

Dear Great Lakes Chapter,

In our work, and in life, it's the people we get to share our journey with that makes all the difference. Serving these past 4 years on the Executive Board have been an honor and privilege for me. I want to recognize Dan Bittner, SRA, Ryan Korth, MAI, Sharon Harbin, MAI, SRA, AIGRS, Pete Arbour, MAI, Andy Sill, MAI and Ken Siegle, MAI. As 2023 comes to a close and I look forward to

2024, I would also like to thank our dedicated Committee members, Region Reps, and Board of Directors for their contributions over the past year. Your efforts make the Great Lakes Chapter a vital part of our members' professional development and careers. Thank you for sharing your talents with us all.

So far we have had 484 attendees in 20 courses, seminars, and events around the State. These have been a mix of Chapter-developed and national courses bringing high quality continuing education opportunities to our membership. I'd like to extend a special thanks to Michael Lohmeier, MAI, SRA and our Executive Director, Joan Kaczor, for all their hard work in pulling together a robust schedule, coordinating with Chapter and National educators, and taking care of a myriad of details to make these events successful.

Still to come are David Rice's November 30<sup>th</sup> offerings: **Office Properties Valuation Issues "Know Your A, B and C's"** (6 hours CE) and **"Dollar Stores – David vs Goliath"** (2 hours CE)

We hope to see you at our December **SE Michigan Economic Summit** (3 hrs CE) and **Chapter Meeting** on December 1<sup>st</sup>. This year we will hear from Eric Bussis, Chief Economist and Director of the Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis on the state of the Michigan economy. We are also excited to have a return of our Residential and Commercial Broker Panels for a lively discussion of the latest trends in the SE Michigan Real Estate market.

Also, there is still time to register for the Joint AI/ASA/ASFMRA tour of the Ford Rouge Plant and networking lunch on December 8<sup>th</sup>. [Click here to register.](#)

In closing, as we enter the final weeks of 2023 I wish you a very blessed Holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,  
Rob Lentz, MAI  
2023 Chapter President



**Rob Lentz, MAI**



## Harbin to Serve as Third Director for Region III

Sharon Harbin has a long and distinguished history of service within the Appraisal Institute. She began her journey as an appraiser in 1978 and continued by achieving various designations, including the notable MAI designation, reflecting her commitment to professional development. Furthermore, her extensive involvement at the national and chapter levels showcases her dedication to the organization.

Being the first African American woman to receive the MAI designation in 1991 is a significant achievement and a testament to her trailblazing contributions to the field.

Harbin will serve as the Third Director for Region III for 2024, and she will attend the National Board of Directors meetings. She will then move to Vice-Chair of Region III for 2025 and 2026, representing Region III on the National Board of Directors. In 2027 and 2028, Harbin will continue to serve on the National Board of Directors and become Chair of Region III. Harbin will continue her service in 2029 and 2030 when she becomes the immediate past chair of Region III and chair of the Regional Nominating Committee.



**Sharon Harbin, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS**

The Third Director position comes around every two years, and Harbin originally applied for the position in 2017 but was not selected then. She decided to reapply in 2023 as she was concluding her service on the Great Lakes Chapter Board of Directors and the Executive Board and serving as Chapter President. As she transitions through leadership roles, from Third Director to Vice-Chair and ultimately Chair of Region III, it is clear that Harbin will bring a wealth of

experience to these positions.

After serving in various capacities within the Great Lakes Chapter, Harbin's decision to reapply for the Third Director position in 2023 indicates her persistence and continued interest in contributing to the Appraisal Institute's leadership. Her roles on committees and projects, such as the Minority Relations Committee, Candidate Guidance Committee, Diversity Committee, and the Appraiser Diversity Initiative, underscore her commitment to fostering diversity and inclusion within the profession.

Harbin's continued engagement with the Appraisal Institute Education and Relief Foundation demonstrates her dedication to supporting educational initiatives within the field.

Her vast experience, commitment to diversity and inclusion, and contributions to national and chapter-level activities make her a valuable leader within the Appraisal Institute. Harbin's journey is a personal achievement and a source of inspiration for others in the profession.

The Great Lakes Chapter would like to offer its congratulations to Sharon on her many accomplishments.

### Welcome New Members

Asar Amen-Ra — Practicing Affiliate — Eastpointe  
Tannia Hairston — Practicing Affiliate — Rochester Hills  
Nathan Hullman — Student Affiliate — Mount Pleasant  
Jarod Lentz — Affiliate — Blissfield  
Brandon S. Rausch — Practicing Affiliate — Kalamazoo  
William G. Staubach — Practicing Affiliate — Royal Oak  
Ryan E. Weiss — Practicing Affiliate — Frankenmuth  
Misty York — Practicing Affiliate — Lincoln Park



## Connie M. Vickroy Distinguished Service Award

It's heartwarming to learn about the enduring legacy and impact of Connie Vickroy within the Great Lakes Chapter. The Connie M. Vickroy Distinguished Service Award was created after her passing in 2002 to honor her 28+ years of service as the chapter's executive secretary. Her dedication, strength, and behind-the-scenes contributions have left a lasting impression on the chapter's members and leaders. The establishment of the Connie Vickroy Award is a fitting tribute to her extraordinary service and the recognition of her vital role in the chapter's success.

Many remember Connie's dedication and paint a vivid picture of her character, professionalism, and the positive influence she had on those around her. From her meticulous attention to detail to her support for candidates and commitment to the chapter's smooth operation, Connie's contributions were invaluable.

Paul Bidwell was the incoming chapter president sworn in December 2001 and remembered the final board meeting with Connie in December of that year. Bidwell fondly recalled Connie's excellent prior knowledge over the preceding years, which helped the board with insight into its decision-making. Bidwell remembers Connie as a tough and strong yet pleasant woman and drew on her wealth of experience during her time as executive secretary.

David Rice recalls her always being very helpful to candidates and wanting them to succeed in their journey toward designation. She was known to keep books and records accurately and orderly. According to Rice, she was essential to the smooth running of meetings, making sure the chapter and national deadlines were met, and she was essential to the success of



**Connie Vickroy**

the chapter president. As Rice summarized, "She was always a 'behind the scenes' person, never wanting accolades other than knowing she was doing the best for all of us."

Don Wieme has known Connie since 1965/1966 when she was a secretary for a firm in St. Clair Shores. Wieme remembered Connie as "meticulous to the detail and very responsible." Wieme notes that Connie was highly respected and well-liked.

In the days before the chapter had a computer, Terry Oetzel recalled that he and Win Cooper went with Connie to buy the first computer for the chapter, and she took it upon herself to learn how to use it. Oetzel also remembers how, as president, "she made your life as president so much easier."

"For me, Connie represented a person of integrity," Sharon Harbin said. "As one of three women who regularly attended meetings and the only minority, she made me feel welcome and more comfortable in that setting. I knew I could always count on her to keep me abreast of everything re-

quired as I embarked on the journey to become an RM and an MAI. She was like a lifesaver to me."

The fact that the chapter has continued to honor her memory with an annual award for over two decades speaks volumes about the impact she had and the gratitude felt by the community. Connie's integrity, welcoming nature, and support have left a lasting impression on many.

As the chapter celebrates the 21st annual Connie Vickroy Distinguished Service Award this December, it's a time to reflect on her legacy and positive influence on the chapter. The dedication of subsequent and current executive secretaries further underscores the importance of individuals who contribute behind the scenes to the success of organizations.

Connie's daughter, Kristina Judge, emailed the executive board earlier this year upon discovering that her mother's memory is still honored.

"On behalf of my family, I would like to thank the Great Lakes Chapter for the honor of naming an award after my mother and for continuing to present it to your members to honor their distinguished service.

"I think the best example of her distinguished service was in the late 1990s when she slipped and fell on ice in the hotel parking lot on her way to a board meeting. Although she had fallen on her right (dominant) hand, she continued to set up for the meeting (and to take notes with that hand all day). The board members tried to persuade her throughout the day to go to the hospital but she downplayed the amount of pain she

**(Continued  
on page 4)**



## Connie M. Vickroy Distinguished Service Award (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

must have been in. It was only later that evening that she finally went to the hospital and found out her hand was broken. Not only did she continue to work over the next few months as her hand healed (including preparing and serving Christmas dinner), she refused to bill the Chapter for the extra time that ordinary work tasks were taking her, essentially working twice as hard for the same pay, because although the injury happened in the course of her work, she didn't feel that

the Chapter should be 'penalized' for it. I don't think any of the board members at that time, or the Chapter's rank and file membership, knew about this because it wasn't the kind of thing she would share with them; to her, it was simply part of the job. I never heard her complain about her job, not even at that time.

"When she was diagnosed with brain cancer, she continued to try to work for several more weeks until the radiation treatments finally exhausted her too much to continue. When she was forced to retire because of this illness,

she had been employed with the Chapter for more than 28 years. She was 72 and still not ready to retire because she enjoyed the work so much."

It's a beautiful testament to the power of recognizing and honoring the contributions of individuals like Connie Vickroy, whose impact extends far beyond their time in service. The Connie M. Vickroy Distinguished Service Award serves as a reminder of the values she embodied and the standards of excellence that continue to shape the Great Lakes Chapter.

## Government Relations Update

On the state level, LARA plans to revise the *Real Estate Appraisers – General Rules*. Most of the changes will include reorganization of the layout and minor clarifications. However, there are two notable changes. One will be the removal of the 2-hour Michigan Law Continuing Education requirement. The second change will require supervising appraisers to provide certification of completion of the Supervisory Appraiser/Trainee Appraiser course to their trainees (limited license) appraisers.

The board approved the draft of the changes and it will be forwarded to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules. If approved, a public forum will take place with public comments. After the public forum, the board will consider public comments and make any necessary changes.

On the federal level, *The Portal for Appraisal Licensing Act*, known as the *PAL Act*, was reintroduced in

the House of Representatives. The bipartisan legislation is intended to modernize the real estate appraisal licensing system by reducing costs and cutting red tape for appraisers and those who use the services of appraisers. The legislation will modernize the real estate appraisal licensing system by establishing the Portal for Appraisal Licensure. This cloud-based nationwide appraiser licensing system would resemble the regulatory structures enacted for other industries, such as insurance and mortgage originators. The legislation has bipartisan support, with a dozen co-sponsors.



We look different,  
because we ARE different.



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## Office Properties Valuation Issues- “Know Your A, B and C’s”

Instructor: David Rice, MAI

Thursday, November 30, 2023  
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel  
21111 Haggerty Road  
Novi, MI 48375

This program was developed and administered by the Great Lakes Chapter. Attendees are eligible to receive 6 hours of continuing education for the State of Michigan Appraisal License and Assessor Certification and 30 credits for the Appraisal Institute.

To guarantee your spot, please register at the address below:

[https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?  
webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg\\_evt\\_key=7C6406BD-DD7A-4C1C-95A0-  
3D970AFC1971&qoback=0](https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg_evt_key=7C6406BD-DD7A-4C1C-95A0-3D970AFC1971&qoback=0)

## Dollar Stores - “David vs. Goliath”

Instructor: David Rice, MAI

Thursday, November 30, 2023  
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel  
21111 Haggerty Road  
Novi, MI 48375

This program was developed and administered by the Great Lakes Chapter. Attendees are eligible to receive 2 hours of continuing education for the State of Michigan Appraisal License and Assessor Certification and 10 credits for the Appraisal Institute.

To guarantee your spot, please register at the address below:

[https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?  
webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg\\_evt\\_key=68EEFB10-9E99-4AD6-8722-  
2176B0A10CA6&qoback=0](https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg_evt_key=68EEFB10-9E99-4AD6-8722-2176B0A10CA6&qoback=0)



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## Great Lakes Chapter 2023 Southeast MI Economic Summit Lunch and Chapter Meeting

### Special Speakers:

**Eric Bussis** — Chief Economist — Office of Revenue & Tax Analysis  
for the Michigan Department of Treasury

### Residential Broker Panel:

**Allison Fishwick** — Howard Hanna, **Doris Labeau** — Re/Max Masters, Inc.,  
**Steve Meyers** — Re/Max Metropolitan,  
**Joy Santiago Clark** — Dwellings Unlimited

### Commercial Panel:

**Chris Secontine** — Signature Associates, **Alex Bieri** — Stokas, Bieri Real Estate,  
**Lauren Scarpace** — CBRE

**Friday, December 1, 2023**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel  
21111 Haggerty Road  
Novi, MI 48375

This program was developed and administered by the Great Lakes Chapter. Attendees are eligible to receive 3 hours of continuing education for the State of Michigan Appraisal License and 15 credits for the Appraisal Institute. **Lunch & The Chapter Meeting are included.**

To guarantee your spot, please register at the address below:

[https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?  
webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg\\_evt\\_key=7C6406BD-DD7A-4C1C-95A0-  
3D970AFC1971&goback=0](https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg_evt_key=7C6406BD-DD7A-4C1C-95A0-3D970AFC1971&goback=0)

## Chapter Meeting Lunch & Installation of Chapter Officers Lunch & Meeting Only Registration

Special Speaker: **Sandra Adomatis, SRA**  
2024 President of the Appraisal Institute

**Friday, December 1, 2023**

**12:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel  
21111 Haggerty Road  
Novi, MI 48375

To guarantee your spot, please register at the address below:

[https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?  
webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg\\_evt\\_key=CA11EB94-0113-4FC6-8793-  
365CBDBBF632](https://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIChapterRegistration&Reg_evt_key=CA11EB94-0113-4FC6-8793-365CBDBBF632)





## Golf Outing 2023



Cassie Tithof, MAI, Longest Drive.



Paul Kent, Closest to the Pin #1.



Dave Williams, Closest to the Pin #2.



Al Cronin receives Longest Drive from Mike Williams, MAI.



First-place winners: Rob Elder, Dave Williams, Al Cronin and Mike Williams, MAI.



## September Summit & Chapter Meeting



Brian Sinclair, MAI from MDOT.



Andy Sill, MAI from MDOT.



Afternoon speaker Brent Forsberg, president of TA Forsberg Inc.



Great Lakes Chapter President Rob Lentz, MAI.



## 2024 Chapter Officers

### EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President Peter F. Arbour, MAI  
Vice President Andrew E. Sill, MAI  
Treasurer Kenneth R. Siegle, MAI  
Secretary Joseph R. Calvaneso, MAI

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jack L. Parr, SRA  
Christopher S. Grajek, MAI, AI-GRS  
Francisco Segura, MAI  
Brian M. Sinclair, MAI  
Brett M. Suszek, MAI, AI-GRS  
Marc S. Denton, SRA  
Donna J. List, SRA  
Kaylee Anne Marcum, MAI, SRA  
Rachel Massey, SRA, AI-RRS  
James R. Navarre IV, MAI

### REGION III REPRESENTATIVES:

Andrew E. Sill, MAI  
Kaylee Anne Marcum, MAI, SRA  
Michael F. Clifford, MAI  
Andrew Sponsky, MAI

*Note: The chapter president is automatically a member of the regional representatives and is required to attend regional meetings.*

### REGION III ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES — (ALL ONE-YEAR TERMS)

Jared Garcia, MAI  
Ricardo Stewart

### 2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Sharon B. Harbin, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, Immediate Past President, Chair  
Beth L. Graham  
Daniel L. Johnson, SRA  
Michael Monahan, MAI

## Calendar of Events 2023-2024– Great Lakes Chapter A.I.

November 30, 2023	<b>Office Properties Valuation Issues-“Know Your A, B and C’s”</b> Instructor: David Rice, MAI 6 Hours CEC	Sheraton Detroit/Nov Novi
November 30, 2023	<b>Dollar Stores-”David vs. Goliath”</b> Instructor: David Rice, MAI 2 Hours CEC	Sheraton Detroit/Nov Novi
December 1, 2023	<b>Great Lakes Chapter Southeast Michigan 2023 Summit</b> Special Speakers: Eric Bussis, Allison Fishwick, Doris Labeau, Steve Meyers, Alex Bieri, Chris Secontine & Lauren Scarpace 3 Hours CEC	Sheraton Detroit/Novi Novi
December 1, 2023	<b>Chapter Meeting</b> Installation of 2024 Officers Special Speaker: Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA 2024 President of the Appraisal Institute	Sheraton Detroit/Novi Novi
January 18, 2024	2024-2025 71Hour USPAP Update Cours Instructor: Micheal Lohmeier, MAI, SRA 7 Hours CEC	Hyatt Place Flint
January 18, 2024	Michigan Laws and Rules Instructor: Micheal Lohmeier, MAI, SRA 2 Hours CEC	Hyatt Place Flint
March 14, 2024	Great Lakes Chapter Winter Summit Special Speakers: Tim Hodge, PhD	M1 Concourse Pontiac

**WATCH FOR ADDITIONAL CLASSES TO BE ADDED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.  
DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

[ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIEducationSearch](http://ai.appraisalinstitute.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=AIEducationSearch)

### Officers and Directors 2023

#### President

Robert J. Lentz, MAI

#### Vice President

Peter F. Arbour, MAI

#### Treasurer

Andrew E. Sill, MAI

#### Secretary

Kenneth R. Siegle, MAI

#### Past President

Sharon B. Harbin, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS

#### Directors

Joseph R Calvaneso, MAI

Linda M. Frankel, SRA

Jared Garcia, MAI

Christopher S. Grajek, MAI, AI-GRS

Andrea M. Kujala, MAI

Charles E. Larson, MAI

Francisco Segura, MAI

Brian M. Sinclair, MAI

John P. Snyder IV, SRA

Brett M. Suszek, MAI, AI-GRS

