

CONVENTION

SPEAKERS & ENTERTAINMENT

HBA OF MICHIGAN Summer CONVENTION

Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, MI

— 8.5.26 - 8.7.26 —

Speakers:



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE MEETING & YP EVENT *Aug. 5 & 6* **Jason Orvosh, NAHB Young Professionals Chair**

Serving as President of Orvosh Builders Since 2017, Jason is a distinguished second generation builder with over 25 years of experience. He is the 2026 Chair for the NAHB Young Professionals Committee. In 2021, Jason became the youngest State President of Michigan's HBA. He has served on his local HBA Board of Directors for over 13 years, including two years as president. Jason is also dedicated to workforce development, mentoring the next generation to pursue careers in the trades. He serves on local building trades committees to contribute to his community.



OPENING CEREMONIES: THE POWER OF PRESENCE *Sponsored by DTE Aug. 6* **Mark Ostach, Author & Host of *Courage to Connect* Podcast**

It all started in 2003...I was studying neuroscience in college, spending student loan money on eBay and feeling sad every time I checked my ex-girlfriend's Myspace page. That's when I realized just how much my online habits were affecting my mental and emotional well-being. Since then, I've made it my mission to help people defeat distractions and reconnect with what truly matters. With a deep understanding of today's digital world, I blend personal storytelling and research to highlight the power of human connection and its impact on workplace culture. I help leaders and teams overcome disconnection, recharge mentally, and build stronger, more engaged workplaces—one meaningful connection at a time. One way I do that is by modeling vulnerability through a prompt called, If you really knew me..



PANEL: WHY HAS THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT APPEALS PROCESS NOT WORKED & CAN IT BE REFORMED? *Aug. 6* **Andrew Brisbo, Bureau of Construction Codes**

Andrew was appointed the head of the Bureau of Construction Codes in October 2022 and has been with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs since 2008. Andrew has worked in licensing and regulation with the State of Michigan since 2004, including with the Michigan Gaming Control Board, Department of State, and occupational and health professional licensing. He has represented the state in leadership roles with national regulatory organizations for over 10 years.



KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: BALDLY BI-PARTISAN *Sponsored by Dart Bank Aug. 6* **John Sellek and Adrian Hemond, Baldly Bipartisan**

John Sellek and Adrian Hemond are the duo behind Baldly Bipartisan. They offer a bipartisan, insider analysis of what's happening in MI politics and state government policy battles in a conversational, fun way. John Sellek is chief strategist of Harbor Strategic Public Affairs, a bipartisan PR and public affairs firm based in Lansing. Using experiences gained working for speakers of the House, attorneys general, and governor, presidential and gubernatorial campaigns, John helps clients navigate the intersection of policy, politics, and the media. He was voted by MIRS News subscribers as Lansing's #1 PR professional at the Capitol. Adrian Hemond is the CEO of Grassroots Midwest, a firm he founded in 2013 after acquiring a broad range of experience in politics. A former political science instructor at Saginaw Valley State University, he was Chief of Staff to the Michigan House Minority Leader in 2013 and served as a lobbyist with Governmental Consultant Services from 2007-2012. He is known as one of the most effective political strategists in MI.



AI FOR HOME BUILDERS: WAYS TO SAVE TIME, WIN MORE JOBS, AND INCREASE PROFITABILITY & AI MISTAKES THAT COULD COST BUILDERS THOUSANDS *Aug. 6* **Brent Yax, Awecomm Technologies**

Brent Yax is the Founder and CEO of Awecomm Technologies, a MI-based technology and cybersecurity firm. Since founding the company in 1999, he's helped organizations leverage technology to improve operations, reduce risk and drive growth. A recognized speaker on AI, cybersecurity, and business innovation, Brent has shared his expertise with industry associations, business groups, and media outlets throughout the country. He is passionate about helping business leaders understand emerging technologies and apply them to stay competitive in a rapidly changing world.



HBAM ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING *Aug. 7*

Bill Owens, NAHB Chairman of the Board

Sponsored by ABC Michigan Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Fund

Bill Owens, a Worthington, Ohio-based, remodeler and home builder with more than 40 years of experience in the residential construction industry is NAHB's 2026 Chairman. Owens is principal of Owens Construction, a leading residential design/build firm in central Ohio that he established in 1982. The company's award-winning designs focus on integrating seamless appearance, energy efficient technology and creating welcoming home environments. For decades, Owens has been an active participant in the NAHB leadership structure at the local, state and national levels. He currently serves as a senior life delegate of the NAHB Leadership Council and has been a member of the NAHB Board of Directors for more than 20 years.



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING *Aug. 7*

Don Dabbert, Candidate for NAHB Third Vice Chairman 2027

Sponsored by ABC Michigan Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Fund

Don Dabbert Jr. was born in Aberdeen, S.D., and moved to Fargo, N.D. in 1985. Drawn to architecture and design from a young age, he began his home-building career in 1992 with Contemporary Builders. In 2010, he founded Dabbert Custom Homes to build homes that genuinely reflect the people who live in them. The company constructs more than 60 single-family homes annually throughout Fargo, Moorhead, West Fargo, Horace and nearby communities, and has earned recognition for quality craftsmanship, thoughtful design and personalized service.

Entertainment:

WELCOME RECEPTION *Aug. 5*

Music by 2U

Sponsored by Consumers Energy, Frankenmuth Insurance and Eclipse Capitol Group



SPEAKEASY-THEMED RECEPTION & DINNER *Aug. 6*

***All invited to dress in 1920s theme**

Jazz Music by Swingbone North

Sponsored by Michigan Propane Gas Association, MSHDA, Williams Distributing, Fly Lansing, Manukova Communications



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