

INVENTARE MAXIMUS

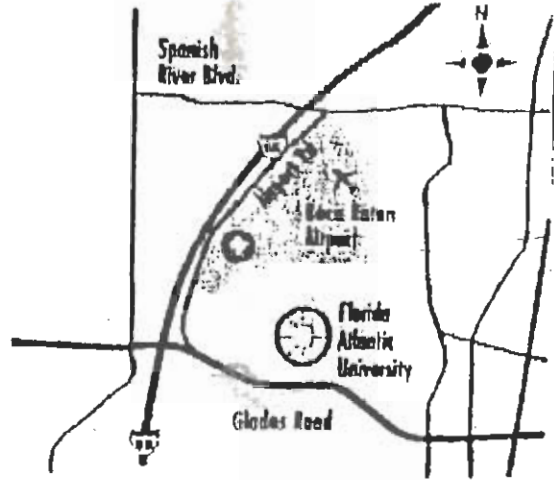
Invent to the Maximum

Presents

March 2, 2002 Speakers.....

Guest Speaker: **Karen Steele**
Steele Communications
Branding

BOARD MEETING 10:30 am
REGULAR MEETING 1:30 pm



... As of SEPTEMBER 2001 ...

MUVICO PALACE 20 THEATER - PREMIER CLUB
3200 Airport Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431

I-95 to Glades (Exit 39). East on Glades, Left at 1st light onto Airport Rd.
Follow Airport Rd into the Muvico Complex. Enter the building on the
North side at the Premier Club entrance. Take Escalator up one flight.

Inventors Society of South Florida

P.O. BOX 4306
BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA 33424

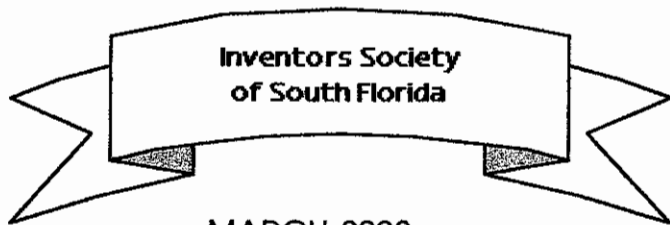


INVENTIONS,
PATENTS, AND THEIR
MANAGEMENT

EVA THOMAS
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BOCA RATON FL 33486

LEARN TO ASK
AND ANSWER THE
RIGHT QUESTIONS





MARCH 2002

MAKE THIS THE DECADE OF THE INVENTOR

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

What a fabulous meeting. We have been averaging between 60-70 attendees per meeting. This has caught the attention of the US Patent Office, the Intellectual Property Law Association and people thinking of becoming future members. If we didn't know the importance of packaging and product presentation before. George Caras certainly showed us that creating an image and product identification is imperative to the success of your inventions. Our book is in it's final stages with our own Bob Levy doing fabulous illustrating. Bob has also been instrumental in making our North Miami chapter a strong asset to the Inventors Society - already boasting approximately 30 attendees each meeting. Bob received a special gift from our Society at our meeting. Thanks Bob. Now that we have learned about packaging, we will learn about marketing at our March meeting. Thanks to all for keeping your dues current. In order to continue to do excellent programming and events, we need your support with help and funds. With gratitude.....

Creatively yours!

Abby

MISSION STATEMENT

.....
 To provide a forum that fosters creativity, freethinking, & education that will help further our members' innovations.



Inventors Magazine you can Subscribe to
<http://www.inventorsdigest.com/magazine/magazine.html>

Upcoming Events that May Help You

<http://www.inventorsdigest.com/current/shows.html>

May 3	Long Island, NY	Pulse of Innovation Trade Show
	Invention Trade Show	E-mail: lcarter@lift.org



Newsletter Submissions

If you have something you'd like to see in the newsletter, please discuss or send it to Abby Waters. If it's something that is to be copied, please send the original. It's very difficult for PJ to keep copies of copies of copies legible and therefore, your submission may not be usable. If you need the original back, please notify PJ and your original will be returned in the shape it was received. Also, please remember that our newsletter is in black print only. Therefore submissions that have color (especially over text, ie: words in a colored box) may not be usable; try to keep submissions as simple and basic as possible.



MEETING SIGN-IN

It is imperative that EVERYONE sign in to ensure an accurate count for planning future events.



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Don't forget, STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS – 1/2 PRICE!!!!!! We encourage you to become a member. Your membership entitles you to all that's offered by the Society: events, meetings, contests, prizes, awards, nominations, etc. We have had a fantastic year so far and will be offering a lot more in the upcoming months. Membership means added benefits to you, and of course, funds to the Society. Without funds it's difficult, at best, to hold meetings, send newsletters, hold special events, etc.



“ASK THE EXPERTS” PANEL

This panel was formed to assist our members in going to the next step in the inventing process. At the end of every meeting, we will be having a panel of experts address inventors and their questions pertaining to patenting, prototyping, and commercializing. Your following fellow inventors will sit on the panel:

Alvin Blum	Registered Patent Agent
Freddy Lee	Prototyping Expert
Howard & Paula Silken	Helpful in all areas
Bob Levy	Product Design
John Fulton	Patent Attorney



Invention Promoter Caution List

<http://www.inventorfraud.com/goodguys.htm>



<http://www.InventorEd.org/caution/list/>

The Doctrine of Equivalents OR "Festo for Dummies"

I love the books for "Dummies." They take a subject and try to present it in a clear and concise manner that the average person can read.

On January 8, 2002, The US Supreme Court heard a Patent Case, which is widely known by the name of one of the participants, Festo Corporation. The Festo case has the possibility to send shock waves through the world of patents and inventorship unlike those that have never been seen

Here's the issue:

In order to receive a patent, your invention must be new, useful, and unobvious. It is the unobvious part that forms the basis of most rejections from the patent office. An example would be if you have a machine that runs at 50 rpm, someone cannot build the same machine and claim 60 rpm and call it a new invention. Such an obvious change has traditionally been disallowed by something called The Doctrine of Equivalents.

What has happened in the Festo case is the following: If during the prosecution of an application, a claim is amended to be narrower, (which happens often), the material that was previously claimed, which is now excluded, is no longer equivalent. A practical example is a Claim that reads "Machine runs at 10-100 rpm." And the examiner objects and says be more specific, so the applicant revises the claim to be more specific "Machine runs 10-50 rpm." With this revision, someone can now make the same machine running at 60 rpm, and claim to have a new invention. (I know this is a very simple example for some of you, and it does not show the full scope of the decision, but remember, the title is "Festo for Dummies"). The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has basically nullified the Doctrine of Equivalents. This decision was appealed to the Supreme Court. The question that now stands before the Supreme Court: what are your rights regarding equivalent inventions?

Many organizations, including The American Bar Association, and the American Intellectual Property Law Association have written briefs regarding the urgency of the court to uphold the Doctrine of Equivalents and overturn the lower court ruling. Everyone in the world of patents is watching. At this time, we must wait and see how the court will rule.

David W. Barman is a Registered Patent Agent practicing in North Miami Beach. He can be reached at 305-332-4089 or DWBarman@AOL.COM

Inventors Society of South Florida

2002 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 03/02 Guest Speaker: **Karen Steele**
Steele Communications
Topic: *Branding*
- 04/06 Guest Speaker: **Don Lambert**
Founder/CKG: K-Biz
Topic: *Experiential Work/Playshops*
(Kreative And Komedey Adventures – Don't come unless you want to have fun!!!)
- 05/04 Guest Speaker: **Yi Li**
Patent Agent
Topic: - TBA

COMING ATTRACTIONS

FIELD TRIP TO LIGI

