

# Inventors Society of South Florida

## Inventors News

July 2007

Inventors Society of South Florida, 3220 SW 15<sup>th</sup> St., Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

### Inventors Alliance

Inventors' Alliance publishes a monthly newsletter, which contains some of the information on [www.InventorsAlliance.org](http://www.InventorsAlliance.org) including the next-meeting preview, information about Inventors Alliance, some resource listings, some course listings, and information about other groups.

The Internet chapter of Inventors Alliance began in 2004. You can attend webinars, live video feeds and tele-seminars given by successful inventors, patent attorneys, manufacturing experts and marketing experts. You will learn how to protect, sell, prototype, and manufacture your ideas. The Internet newsletter is free, so sign up today.

### What Makes an Invention a Great New Product

*What Makes an Invention a Great New Product*, is a Powerpoint video presentation that summarizes **Doug Hall's** spectacular book *JumpStart Your Business Brain* and helps viewers understand what it takes to interest Evergreen IP in a great new consumer invention. Take ten minutes to view it at <http://evergreenip.com/resources.html>.

If you can answer 'yes' to the following questions, Evergreen IP is interested in your invention:

- Is your idea in the consumer goods area, especially household goods, personal care, and outdoor?
- Do you have evidence that your product will meet a compelling consumer need?
- Have you done a Google search on your product to see what similar products already exist?
- Is your invention's appeal broad enough to be sold at Wal-Mart, Walgreens, Home Depot, or your favorite grocery store?
- Is your invention something OTHER than a toy, game, sports training aid, article of clothing, or new food/drink product?
- Is your invention low-tech? ❖

### How to Cut a Great Deal

Listen to the InventRight Tele-Seminar Recording (106 minutes) *How To Cut A Great Deal & Get A Manufacturer To Pay For All Your Patents* with successful inventor **Stephen Key**; moderated by **Andrew Krauss**. This is a recording of a special tele-seminar that took place live on 8/9/06. Some references to offerings in this recording may not be current. Find the audio recording at [www.inventright.com/ir\\_8-9-06\\_sk\\_drnat\\_audio.mgi](http://www.inventright.com/ir_8-9-06_sk_drnat_audio.mgi). ❖

### Design & Contract Manufacturing Shows

Design-2-Part Shows are America's longest running and most trusted events for sourcing custom parts and services. Ten shows covering the country offer OEMs, engineers and purchasing personnel the opportunity to meet job shops and contract manufacturers face-to-face. Learn new technologies, see new suppliers and compare processes and pricing. For show details, visit [www.jobshopshows.com](http://www.jobshopshows.com) or call 203-758-6663. Upcoming shows are scheduled as follows:

- Marlborough, MA – Sept 12-13
- Long Beach, CA – Sept 19-20
- Milwaukee, WI – Oct 10-11
- Kissimmee, FL – Oct 24-25



### Highlights

Design-2-Part	2
Win Free Publicity	2
Open to Buy Days	3
Science Competition	3
Invention Consultant	4
Inventions For Sale	4
Cathy's Desk	5
Launch Yourself	5
Interference Decision	6
Product Recalls	6
Collegiate Challenges	7
BIG Roadshows	8

*Inventors Society  
of South Florida*

meets

***the first Saturday  
of each month***

Join Us On

July 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM

Continued on page 2

**The Inventors Society of South Florida, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.**

**Mission Statement**

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



**Officers & Board Members**

- President: Albert Newman
- Vice President: Marvin Greenhut
- Secretary: Joanna Zaremba
- Treasurer: Lucy Pettersen
- Founding President: Robert White
- Director: Alvin Blum and Richard Loughlin
- Membership, Education and Goodwill Ambassadors: Howard and Paula Silken
- Member Liaison: Joanna Zaremba
- Publicity: Tommy Jenkins and Eva Thomas
- Public Relations: Eva Thomas

**Contacts**

- Richard Loughlin in Stuart:  
772-287-2224
- Howard and Paula Silken in Delray Beach:  
561-496-1140
- Joanna Zaremba in Broward Co:  
954-486-2426



- Greenville, SC – Nov 14-15.

A member of the Inventors Society of South Florida went to a trade show in Valley Forge, PA in April that he found very useful. He said that the show he went to “had everything from CAD, CAM & CAE programs to rapid prototyping, desk top prototyping but mostly Job Shops, companies that manufacture parts and small lots. The people I spoke with were very willing to get involved at any stage of the process... from cost estimates, engineering, and material selection to the finished product.” ❖

**Design-2-Part**

*Design-2-Part (D2P)* magazine publishes articles of interest to outsourcing decision-makers. Readers of *Design-2-Part* are actively involved in procurement of virtually any part or service required to bring a product to market. They are particularly interested in finding companies that can provide a specialty or custom manufacturing service with respect to the forming, shaping, fabricating, or finishing of a manufactured part. These specialty parts, which are essential to the production of a finished product, consist of materials such as metals, plastics, composites, and rubber.

When you visit [www.design2partmagazine.com](http://www.design2partmagazine.com), click Past Articles in the menu bar to go to the Technical Information area to search their category definitions and technical articles related to the categories. Learn how a process works, understand technological advancements, or find out about the newest processes performed in your Industry. The Keyword option matches your keywords against their category titles and definitions. The Service Category option is an alphabetical drop-down list of their categories that have definitions and/or articles associated with them.

For example, if you search the keyword 'prototyping', the result is a list that includes electromechanical, fabrications, machining, plastic, rapid castings, rapid sheet metal, rubber, and stampings. ❖

**How to Win Free Publicity**

New products, gadgets and gizmos that can potentially alter people's lives are highly marketable and natural publicity generators, if you know where to turn and how to do it. Here are suggestions:

- Establish yourself as an expert.
- Explain what makes your product newsworthy.
- Explain what makes your product of value to the consumer.
- Build your information around a human interest experience.
- Send your press release to the right category of reporter.

For more information, visit [www.pressreleasepros.com](http://www.pressreleasepros.com). They offer a free e-newsletter that offers discounts and tips on press release writing and distribution. ❖

**June Meeting Topic is Claims**

**Howard Silken**, ISSF President Emeritus ([silkhandp@aol.com](mailto:silkhandp@aol.com))

The enthusiastic response to our June meeting on “claims” did not come as a surprise. Everyone enjoyed the membership participation when one of our members volunteered to read verbatim just one claim from an issued patent. Many were surprised to find claims are written in Old English. A few patents on tools, all had the same and only claim- “An ornamental design on a tool”. These patents all had one other thing in common. The letter “D” preceded the patent number. That means the patent was issued as a ‘design’ patent, not as a ‘utility’ patent. The question was, “Why would anyone want a patent on the small floral application on the tool instead of a patent on the tool itself?”

Continued on page 3

When asked, the conclusion, by many of our informed members, was “this inventor did not know the difference between a “design” patent and a “utility” patent. Was he or was he not the victim of a scam promotion? Either way, a lot was learned about the differences between the two patents and the claims in each. And we (members of the board) learned something we already knew but rarely used. Members enjoy and pay closer attention when they are directly involved in a hands on presentation.

With this in mind, we are planning on doing something we never did before for the August meeting. In a ‘nutshell’, we will try (in about an hour) to achieve something it normally takes a year or more to accomplish. Basically, we will ask for a few ideas for an invention, choose one and go through the process needed to bring the product to be ‘reduced to practice’ and actually write the ‘provisional patent application. We hope it will be 80% membership participation and only about 20% guidance.

My article on “time” did not get much of a response as expected. However, a few inspired conversations involved many intellectual comments. Almost all ended on a theological tenor. ❖

## Technology Commercialization Alliance

The Technology Commercialization Alliance ([www.pitt.edu/tca](http://www.pitt.edu/tca)) is the central gateway for the most innovative, inspired commercial ideas at the University of Pittsburgh. Through TCA, Pitt’s faculty, staff, and students have at their fingertips all the resources necessary to ensure commercial success. Likewise, investors and members of private industry have in TCA a partner that will help them identify the best opportunities on campus.

Founded in 2002, TCA is the premier resource for commercial innovation at the University of Pittsburgh, providing extensive entrepreneurial support, education, and outreach for Pitt faculty, staff, and students on the road from concept to commercialization. ❖

## Home Depot’s Open to Buy Days

The Home Depot’s Open to Buy Day website at <http://otb.thdsourcing.com/otb/> provides details of upcoming Open to Buy Days and also serves as a screening tool to determine eligible participants.

Home Depot’s Open to Buy Day will provide an opportunity for selected non-incumbent vendors to meet face to face with a merchant who can review their innovative products for possible purchase by The Home Depot.

You will be asked to fill out a brief questionnaire to determine if your products can be included in this event. Due date for completion of the questionnaire is To Be Determined (TBD). Vendors who are selected to attend the next event will be notified by email on or before TBD. Selected vendors will be scheduled for a 20-minute face-to-face meeting with a merchant. If you are not selected, however, keep in mind that future events may be held. ❖

## 2007 Incredible Science Competition

Design and construct an original scientific board game that demonstrates your knowledge of a science topic. All primary and intermediate schools in the Auckland region were recently invited to register to participate in the 2007 Incredible Science competition. If you are a teacher interested in entering your school in the competition or a home-educated student, please email [incrediblescience@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:incrediblescience@auckland.ac.nz) or call 373 7599 x 88925. Completed entries will be displayed and judged at The University of Auckland on Monday 2nd July as part of the Incredible Science program. ❖

### Membership

The Inventors Society of South Florida (ISSF) membership application form is available online at [www.inventorssociety.net/appform.pdf](http://www.inventorssociety.net/appform.pdf). Annual individual membership dues are \$60.

Members are entitled to all that is offered by the ISSF: events, meetings, contests, prizes, awards, nominations, and networking. Members also benefit from a monthly newsletter full of important information, tips, publications, Internet sites and expositions.

Membership is the primary source of funds to the ISSF, without which, it is difficult if not impossible to hold meetings, send newsletters, hold special events, and maintain an Internet presence. ❖

### Newsletter Submissions

If you have something you’d like to see in the newsletter, please discuss with or send it to [cever@earthlink.net](mailto:cever@earthlink.net). If it is something that has to be copied, please send the original or a high quality copy. If you need the original document returned, please note this in the submission package.

Please remember that the newsletter is black print only. Submissions that have color (especially over text, i.e. words in a colored box) may not be usable. Try to keep submissions simple and basic. ❖

### New Products Wanted

M&M Fitness Equipment, which is a licensee of Everlast, is looking for folks who have new fitness and cardio equipment. If you don’t recognize the name Everlast, you should! It’s synonymous with boxing. If you have something in the fitness and cardio equipment line, contact M&M Fitness at 212-822-1566 or send an email to [Ron Kohen at ronk@msgmail.com](mailto:Ron Kohen at ronk@msgmail.com). ❖

## ISSF Meetings

ISSF meets at 1:00 pm on the first Saturday of each month at:

**Ligi Tool & Engineering, Inc.**  
3220 SW 15<sup>th</sup> St.  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
877-523-6693  
[www.ligotool.com](http://www.ligotool.com)

**From the Florida Turnpike:** Exit at Sample Rd, Exit 69; turn right on Sample Rd (East); left on Powerline Rd; and right on SW 15<sup>th</sup> St (past the first stoplight on Powerline Rd, look for two cement towers and the *ModComp* sign).

**From I-95 Southbound:** Exit at SW 10<sup>th</sup> St, Exit 40; turn right SW 10<sup>th</sup> St (West); left on Powerline Rd; left on SW 15<sup>th</sup> St (look for two cement towers and the *ModComp* sign).

**From I-95 Northbound:** Exit at Sample Rd; turn left on Sample Rd (West); right on Powerline Rd; and right on SW 15<sup>th</sup> St (past the first stoplight on Powerline Rd, look for two cement towers and the *ModComp* sign).

**From I-75:** Exit at the Sawgrass Expressway (Route 869); go to the end of the expressway and continue east on SW 10<sup>th</sup> St; turn right on Powerline Rd and left on SW 15<sup>th</sup> St (look for two cement towers and the *ModComp* sign).

### Contact:

Howard Silken at 561-496-1140  
[silkhandp@aol.com](mailto:silkhandp@aol.com)



## Invention Consultant Offers Help

When putting his website together, **Don Deblelak** decided to offer services that could help inventors with anything they might need, except patent services. From just an hour of consulting through email, to a full fledged business plan to raise money, the services are geared to fit your needs from product evaluation to full manufacturing. He can't promise to meet every need you might have, but can promise to use his experience and expertise guide you through many of the pitfalls and obstacles that inventors run into on a regular basis. Some of these services Don provides; in other cases he uses people he's learned to trust to provide some of the high value services you will need.

Visit [www.dondebelak.com](http://www.dondebelak.com) today. Be sure to check out the online articles, Don's magazine articles about successful inventors and the free inventor tips section. Leave your email address (left hand side of the page) and he will send you bi-monthly updates letting you know what is new along with some good invention or marketing advice free of charge.

Here is Don's latest inventor tip: People are hesitant to invest in a company or product when there is not experienced management. You can overcome this by having a team of advisors with that experience. The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) is a great resource that helps small businesses and inventors and has offices nationwide. You can also find industry people or other experts that can be listed as advisors when you write a business plan to raise money. This will show you have expert help to steer you through the many obstacles small businesses and inventors run into. Without that expert help, investors will fear that you will not be able to successfully launch a business no matter how good your product is.

Don's online articles include the following topics:

- Inventing in Today's Market
- Product Introduction
- Low Cost Strategies
- How to Sell Your Product
- Choosing the Right Market for Your Product
- Finding Partners/Market Insiders/Manufacturers
- Product Pricing
- Business Models
- Market Testing
- Prototypes
- Product Development
- Patents
- Inventor Stories
- Finding and Evaluating Ideas ❖

## Inventions For Sale on the Web

Shop4patents.com was created by an inventor for inventors to provide information and means to take your invention from early conception to production, sale or licensing. Here you can introduce your inventions to potential distributors, licensees, retailers, investors, manufacturers, product scouts, home shopping networks, newspaper and magazine editors. You can find patent related service providers. You can search their classified ads for other services. ❖

## News From Cathy's Desk

Sometimes inventors think they are alone in their efforts to find success. I wondered how alone inventors are. It turns out that innovative and creative people are making a mark at the college level. Community, college, and expert sponsors are making a difference across the country and around the world. I conducted a Google search and selected from the first thirteen pages. From there I visited the links which led to other links, making for an afternoon of web surfing.

I came across a great website ([www.idodi.org](http://www.idodi.org)) to help children build lifelong skills in creative and critical thinking, teamwork, time management and problem solving. These are building blocks of a successful inventor.

This month's newsletter identifies opportunities for college students to map a path to success with their ideas. Surely, there are many more programs, competitions, and challenges, so email me with ones you know about.

Three things I noticed about the competitions sponsored by colleges and universities:

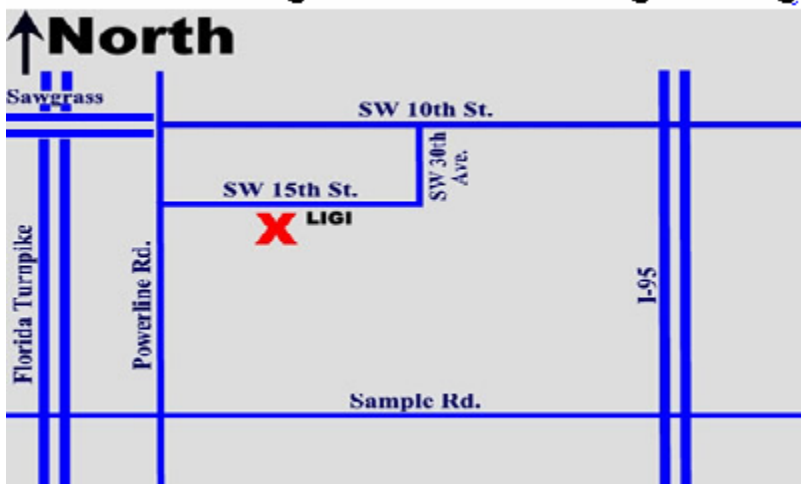
1. Many focus on business planning. It's better to find a need and fill it, than to create a product and find a market for it.
2. The competitions collectively feature a wide variety of subjects or impose no limit on what the idea can be.
3. The competitions focus on process, not just a winning entry. ❖

## Launch Yourself

DebutDay allows you to launch your product, publication, composition, invention, talent etc by placing it on our World notice board for people to find instantly. The DebutDay system will continue to store your information on the database for as long as you wish, placing you in your chosen category for easy location by those with interest in all that's new in your specific field. The home page continually updates.

DebutDay can also assist you with order fulfilment if you are selling smaller items. DebutDay is the perfect way for innovators and clients to come together. Learn more at [www.DebutDay.com](http://www.DebutDay.com).

## General Meeting at LIGI Tool & Engineering



First Saturday of Each Month at 1:00 p.m.

## Building Repeat Business from Day 1

**Brad Sugars** offers 10 tips to ensure your new business venture will have the repeat customers it needs to survive. Find the article, *Building Repeat Business from Day 1*, using a search engine. ❖

## Free USPTO Exhibition

Through June 30<sup>th</sup>, the USPTO is home to a national, interactive exhibition featuring the top 25 inventions of the 2007 Modern Marvels Invent Now® Challenge. The Challenge, presented by the History Channel® and the National Inventors Hall of Fame® Foundation, and sponsored in part by the Department of Commerce's United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), is a national invention contest that invites independent inventors to share their vision and ingenious designs with the world. The inventions featured in this exhibit were chosen from nearly 2,500 contest entries. ❖

## Lockwood vs. Doric

On May 23rd, a unanimous Australian High Court handed down the long-awaited decision in the Lockwood v Doric patent dispute. The decision means that it is now harder to invalidate patents in Australia as an often relied upon attack (the 'Threshold Test') has been all-but removed, and the requirements for proving obviousness are now more difficult. Use a search engine to find the article, *Highest Court Just Made It Harder to Invalidate Patents*, written by **Duncan Bucknell**. ❖

## Searching Trademarks

The article, *When and How to Search Trademarks and How to Interpret Search Results*, by **Neil F. Martin** looks at the case of a mark that will be used in the US market and, given the emphasis on rights acquired by adoption and use in the US and thus the importance of doing a trademark search, discusses when and how to do such a search and how to interpret its results. Find the article at [www.gordonrees.com/pubs/trademarks.cfm](http://www.gordonrees.com/pubs/trademarks.cfm). ❖

### Copyright Alliance

The Copyright Alliance is a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization dedicated to promoting the value of copyright as an agent for creativity, jobs and growth.

The Alliance comprises 29 member organizations from the worlds of entertainment, arts, technology and sports, and represents an estimated 11 million Americans working in copyright-related industries. Its Executive Director, **Patrick Ross**, is a former journalist and think tank senior fellow with more than 10 years of expertise writing about and advocating for the importance of intellectual property. Learn more at [www.copyrightalliance.org](http://www.copyrightalliance.org). You can sign up to receive updates on copyright information. ❖

### Licensing Technology from Universities

Many successful products on the market today began as embryonic inventions in university research laboratories. There are issues that companies (or individuals) should consider when reviewing and negotiating an exclusive university license. Read *Top 10 Issues in Licensing Technology from Universities* written by **Kingsley L. Taft** and **Laurie A. Burlingame**. Use a search engine to find the article by title and author. ❖

### European IP Blogs

<http://ipkitten.blogspot.com> is a great patent blog under the leadership of the well-known British intellectual property scholar **Jeremy Phillips**. It covers copyright, patent, trade mark and privacy/confidentiality issues from a mainly UK and European perspective.

<http://ipgeek.blogspot.com> is a blog on EU patents, innovation and R&D, providing EU Intellectual Property news, discusses innovation studies and signals developments in courts on European patent law, provides "must knows", IP links & publications on EU technology, R&D and innovation. Its author is senior attorney **Severin DeWitt**. ❖

### Pre-Engineering Competitions

The links at <http://engineering.nedu.com/competitions.html> provide high school students interested in engineering, hands-on experience by participating in engineering-related competitions. ❖

## Products & Services

### *LIGI TOOL & ENGINEERING, INC.*

for **all** of your tooling and engineering needs!

Visit us at [www.ligitool.com](http://www.ligitool.com)  
or call 877-523-6693

### *Inventor's Survival Guide*

by Catherine VerSchneider

*A great resource on the  
invent-to-market process!*

For more info and pricing visit  
[www.inventorssurvivalguide.com](http://www.inventorssurvivalguide.com)

### "I Have An Idea... "

by Howard and Paula Silken

*Answers a lot of questions  
for first-time inventors*

For more info and pricing call 561-496-1140 or e-mail [silkhandp@aol.com](mailto:silkhandp@aol.com)

### TarpKlip®

The harder the pull the stronger the hold!

From manufacturer and patent holder  
**Lydia Woods**

Visit [www.tarpklip.com](http://www.tarpklip.com) for more info or email [Sales@tarpklip.com](mailto:Sales@tarpklip.com).

## Federal Circuit Reverses Interference Decision

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit issued a precedential opinion on May 14<sup>th</sup>, ordering that judgment be entered for Capital Machine Co., Inc., reversing an earlier decision by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and holding that Capital Machine Co. did not derive its inventive methods of cutting veneer from wooden logs from Miller Veneers, Inc. The Federal Circuit reversed the USPTO because it found that "the [USPTO] impermissibly relied on its own expertise in determining the question of derivation." Use a search engine to find the article, *Federal Court Reverses Interference Decision*, by title. ❖

## Product Recalls

For more information on these latest product recalls, visit [www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2007](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2007):

- GE Monogram Pro Gas Ranges
- Thermador Ceramic Cooktops
- Infant Long Johns
- "Evil Eye" Toys
- Simplicity Nursery-in-a-Box Cribs
- First Birthday Party Hats
- Cannondale Bicycles With Carbon Crankset
- Sleigh Round Cribs
- Children's Metal Jewelry Sold at Limited Too and Justice Stores
- Kayak Paddle Floats
- Innovative Scuba Swivels
- Pine Cone Candles
- GE, Hotpoint, Sears-Kenmore, Eterna Dishwashers
- Currey & Co. Table Lamps
- Mervyn's Capri Pants
- Children's Turquoise Rings ❖

## Collegiate Inventor Competitions

- The Duke Start-Up Challenge is an entrepreneurship competition and that encourages Duke students to explore the creation of new ideas/businesses. November registration. [www.dukestartupchallenge.org](http://www.dukestartupchallenge.org)
- The annual PennVention competition for student inventors at the University of Pennsylvania's Weiss Tech House. November registration. [www.tech-house.upenn.edu](http://www.tech-house.upenn.edu)
- Connecticut Business Plan Competition is designed to help foster entrepreneurship and track the level of entrepreneurial education in the state. Submissions due November for the fall semester and May for the spring semester. [www.angel-investor-news.com/contest.htm](http://www.angel-investor-news.com/contest.htm)
- IDC Invention Competition for students at the University of Victoria, Camosun College, Malaspina University College, North Island College and Royal Roads University. Submission deadline January 31<sup>st</sup>. <http://idc.uvic.ca>
- The Fischell Fellowship in Biomedical Engineering Business Plan Competition for students at the University of Maryland. Submission deadline February. [www.bioe.umd.edu/fischell-fellowship](http://www.bioe.umd.edu/fischell-fellowship)
- National Idea-to-Product® (I2P™) Competition for Purdue University students. Entry deadline February. <http://innovate.ecn.purdue.edu/src/i2p.php>
- Invent Your Future competition for students of the University of Southern Mississippi. Entry deadline April 1<sup>st</sup>. [www.usm.edu/cost/inventyourfuture](http://www.usm.edu/cost/inventyourfuture)
- McCloskey Business Plan Competition for Notre Dame students. Entry deadline October. [www.nd.edu/~entrep](http://www.nd.edu/~entrep)
- University of Delaware Business Plan Competition for their students. Submission deadline December. [www.lerner.udel.edu/es/bpc](http://www.lerner.udel.edu/es/bpc)
- Ideas Challenge at Texas A&M University
- Drexel Business Plan Competition for their students. Submission deadline January 31<sup>st</sup>. [www.lebow.drexel.edu/Centers/Baiada/BusinessPlan/index.php](http://www.lebow.drexel.edu/Centers/Baiada/BusinessPlan/index.php)
- Skins Challenge to create original Windows Media Player user interfaces. Submission deadline for college students of a NSBE Chapter university/college is March. [www.howard.edu/skins/challenge](http://www.howard.edu/skins/challenge)
- Technology Titans Innovation Challenge (Tech Titans) is a state-wide idea competition. Any college student from the state of Utah is eligible to enter. Submission deadline February. [www.techtitans.org/register.html](http://www.techtitans.org/register.html)
- University of Hawaii's Business Plan Competition. Submission deadline January. [www.shidler.hawaii.edu/bpc](http://www.shidler.hawaii.edu/bpc)
- National Robot Construction Competition mentored by undergraduates of Boston University. Registration January. [ewhipple@bu.edu](mailto:ewhipple@bu.edu)
- G. Steven Burrill Technology Business Plan Competition is open to any University of Wisconsin at Madison full-time student. Register within related courses in fall and spring semesters. [www.bus.wisc.edu/burrill/rules](http://www.bus.wisc.edu/burrill/rules)
- Lundquist College of Business Venture Quest. University of Oregon students register online at <http://lcb.uoregon.edu/lce/quest.html>, MBA students in fall term and undergraduates in spring term.
- Johnson School at Cornell University offers the BR Ventures Business Idea Competition to any student or faculty of any university, or a Cornell affiliate. Submissions open in January and close in March. [www.johnson.cornell.edu/brv/bicinfo.html](http://www.johnson.cornell.edu/brv/bicinfo.html)
- Other competitions are listed at [www.uwyo.edu/10k/othercomp.asp](http://www.uwyo.edu/10k/othercomp.asp). ❖

### Destination ImagiNation®

Over 200,000 students in over 56 countries and the United States participate in Destination Imagination®. This popular process-based program helps young people build lifelong skills in creative and critical thinking, teamwork, time management and problem solving.

Up to seven participants work together as a team for eight to twelve weeks to create their unique solution to a Team Challenge, which can have a focus that is theatrical, structural, improvisational, scientific or technical - or a blend of several disciplines.

Teams also learn and practice creative quick-thinking skills for the Instant Challenge portion of the program. Destination ImagiNation helps young people learn in a fun and supportive environment, and the valuable skills they have acquired will be with them for a lifetime.

Participants learn unique and critical life skills including teamwork, critical and creative thinking, project management, resource management, mutual respect, research and presentation skills and, as all challenges must be strictly team-solved, self-reliance. These skills make Destination ImagiNation participants more valuable to their communities and as future employees.

Global Finals is a culmination of the creativity competition year. It brings team winners representing their state, their province, or their country to compete together at the annual international creative problem solving tournament held at the University of Tennessee.

Destination ImagiNation Global Finals is the largest creativity competition of its kind held anywhere. It creates a place where creativity is accepted and expected, and the results transcend language.

The Destination ImagiNation® Team Challenges and program materials are released annually on September 1. A typical season runs anywhere from 6 to 12 weeks, with most teams organizing between October and January.

Learn more at [www.idodi.org](http://www.idodi.org). ❖

**Professional Inventors Alliance**

This organization has been promoting inventor-entrepreneur and small business interests since 1993. Visit [www.piausa.org](http://www.piausa.org) to learn about patent reform issues and access the legislative watch. You will find archives of articles, books, congressional testimony and more. You may also make a donation, become a member and contact your congressional representative through this website.

*Inventors Society of South Florida*

meets

*the first Saturday of each month*

Join Us On

July 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.InventorsSociety.net](http://www.InventorsSociety.net)

**Big Idea Group Roadshow**

You can register online at [www.bigideagroup.net/Roadshow\\_REGFORM.htm](http://www.bigideagroup.net/Roadshow_REGFORM.htm), call 603-641-5955 or email [InfoBIG@BigIdeaGroup.net](mailto:InfoBIG@BigIdeaGroup.net). They also stage monthly Roadshows at their Manchester, NH headquarters.

Roadshows are your opportunity to meet with BIG for an honest, no-charge, confidential review of your invention. During your scheduled appointment, they will evaluate your idea and offer helpful advice. If they like your idea and it's in their area of interest, they might ask to represent it to potential licensing companies. Check out their areas of interest at <http://www.bigideagroup.net/areasofinterest.html>.

Note that if you can't attend a Roadshow in person, they can review your ideas by phone or mail. Please check their website [www.BigIdeaGroup.net](http://www.BigIdeaGroup.net) for more information.

The next two Roadshows are slated for Atlanta in September and San Francisco in October.

For more information write the Big Idea Group, 175 Canal St., 5B, Manchester, NH 03101; phone: 603-641-5955; fax: 603-641-5995. ❖

**Newsletter Disclaimer**

The Inventors Society of South Florida, Inc. (ISSF), a 501(c)(3) organization, provides a wealth of information to our members and the general public regarding all aspects of the invention experience through its newsletters, website, speakers, etc., however, the ISSF does not endorse, suggest or recommend that any of this information may or should be relied upon without the user's own independent investigation and evaluation. Further, the ISSF disclaims any responsibility for any financial investment and/or legal, accounting, or other professional advice which may be rendered by individual officers, directors, sponsors, members, speakers and/or guests, at or as a result of contacts made at any ISSF activity, and/or through our newsletters, websites, or any other source not specifically stated. ❖

**Inventors News  
July 2007**

To receive the newsletter via email, send your email address to [designal21@bellsouth.net](mailto:designal21@bellsouth.net). For those without email, hard copy of the newsletter will be available at the monthly meeting.

**Inventors Society of South Florida**  
3220 SW 15th St.  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442