

# Inventors Society of South Florida

## Inventors News

July 2008

Inventors Society of South Florida, P.O. Box 6008, Delray Beach, FL 33482

### President's Corner

The Board of Directors thanks **John Hobbs** for the fine presentation on inventing and starting a business. The Board of Directors thanks Mr. Hobbs for the exceptional information he provided during his presentation. He reinforced what we have learned from previous speakers.

- Agreements between all parties
- Networking
- Can't do it all yourself
- Takes longer and costs more
- Research target market and competition – the foundation for your business plan (learn what, why, what because investors want to know)

Here are some key points from John Hobbs:

- How to research – go to library – identify market size – differentiate your product; all this before you spend a lot of money unnecessarily.
- Business plan is a road map centered on your market plan. Every investor asks how you will get your product to your market. You must do it in writing and know the numbers. Income projections are based on your market.
- Concisely describe what you do in one sentence. "Patented balanced water delivery system..."
- Build a team so you earn/spend \$6M/20 hrs/wk instead of \$10M/80 hrs/wk...to make a lot faster and achieve goals faster. Create a small team that is well defined. B2B relationship is based on agreement with measurables and accountability.
  - What is promised?
  - How much time to achieve goals to get value?
  - Conflict resolution – 4-tier plan: talk first, team talk second, State of Florida mediator third, arbitration fourth; prevents litigation and \$\$\$ cost.
  - Dissolution terms of relationship.
  - Exit strategy – how to get money back through public offering or selling corporation.
- Networking – most important effort you can make
  - Greatest strength – for free; you have to make the effort
  - Conversation about needs – you and person you speak to
  - Dress accordingly – venue
  - Local inventor group, business groups, government resources
- One-Page Presentation of your product – useful tool
- Product does not have to be perfect. It only has to be marketable.
- Product future – "up-sell" (added feature or enhancement such as weights and night lights to his water delivery system)
- Product cost = 5x mfg cost



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Regards,

*Albert Newman*

*Inventors Society  
of South Florida*

presents

*Lydia Woods*

ON

*Inventing into  
Business*

July 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM

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: Leo Mazur  
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 Public Relations: Eva Thomas

### Contacts

Richard Loughlin in Stuart:  
 772-287-2224  
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 954-486-2426



## Rule 504

Visit [http://law.freeadvice.com/resources/gov\\_material/sec\\_small\\_business\\_and\\_sec.htm](http://law.freeadvice.com/resources/gov_material/sec_small_business_and_sec.htm) to read *A guide to help you understand how to raise capital and comply with the federal securities laws*. It explains about Rule 504, which was discussed by John Hobbs in the last meeting of the Inventors Society.

Rule 504 provides an exemption for the offer and sale of up to \$1,000,000 of securities in a 12-month period. Your company may use this exemption so long as it has a specified business objective. The good news is that Rule 504 does not require issuers to give disclosure documents to investors, you can sell securities to an unlimited number of persons, you can use general solicitation or advertising to market the securities, and purchasers receive securities that are not "restricted." This means that they may sell their securities in the open market without registration or other sales limits imposed on privately placed securities. ❖

## News From Cathy's Desk

I have to talk about **John Hobbs** today! When he showed his invention at the February expo in Fort Lauderdale, I asked him if he would be a presenter to the Inventors Society, and he agreed! I asked him because he was focused, cheerful and energetic. When you are focused on a goal, you will find the way to achieve it. When you are cheerful, you draw people in. When you are energetic, it tells people that you feel good about what you are doing.

When John shared his experiences on inventing and marketing a product, he stayed focused on educating the listener rather than letting equipment issues get in the way. He told about failures in his methods that taught him lessons. He spoke optimistically of his current business status and where he is taking it. He explained that networking is the secret to success in whatever you do. Spread the word and you will find an opportunity.

A path will be revealed to you. It may not be the path you thought. It may not lead to the result you thought. You have to be flexible to see the opportunity. That is successful inventing.

John has follow-on products and a customer base beyond his original product. He is growing his business with the help of a professional team. He understands what they bring to the business and that they are more capable of handling their duties than he is. He also knows that in business, you have to define what each party does, including value-add and results expected.

I give John high marks for dedicating himself to the realization of his invention. He reads a lot, attends networking events, hones his business skills, and takes time for his personal life. These are characteristics of a successful businessman. John is not out to keep every penny of profit from each sale. He is willing to share that wealth with business partners because he knows he will be more successful through increased sales with a lesser return to him on each sale. John is in the 'game' for the long haul. ❖

## American Dreamers Radio

American Dreamers Radio is a live radio show that airs at 5:00 PM CST on Mondays. The show is hosted by IBI founder, Fortune 100 trainer and best-selling author **BJ Dohrmann**, and always features one or more prominent guest hosts. It is a call-in show, in which you can get free expert, high-level business coaching from all of the hosts, as well as from other callers.

Visit [www.americandreamersradio.com](http://www.americandreamersradio.com) to hear the live broadcast. If you miss any broadcasts, you can also go to this link to hear past programs! ❖

## Networking Opportunities in South Florida

*The Boca Raton Entrepreneur Meetup* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/1746/>) lets you meet new and existing networks and communities of local science and technology entrepreneurs to share tips on enterprise planning, incubating, and problem solving techniques to organically build your venture. Attend conferences by the Enterprise Development Corporation of South Florida and get advice on raising capital, mending strategic alliances, and more.

*Biz to Biz Networking- South Florida Meetup* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/679/>) helps you make new business connections with Biz to Biz Networking events and Business Expos. Each month Biz to Biz hosts between 8-10 after-work Business Card Exchanges throughout South Florida. Everyone is welcome. Cost is \$10 each event.

*Wild Women Entrepreneurs South Florida* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/681/>) is an international community of extraordinary women (and smart men). Wild WE helps them achieve their full potential in business and in life, through mentoring, networking, and new learning, in a FUN way! In one day, how would you like to gain a marketing, sales, and human resources department?

*Entrepreneur Mastermind Meetup Group of South Florida* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/1403/>) offers networking, brainstorming, and sharing of ideas to motivate, encourage and inspire other members, whether they are current entrepreneurs or wanting to start new business ventures. Together we will apply Prosperity principles.

*The Millionaire Meetup of South Florida* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/154/>) meets with others in your area interested in becoming a Millionaire, or helping others become one. Share your successes and struggles -- be a Millionaire in the making. Help to change people's lives!

*The West Palm Beach Millionaire Network* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/516/>) brings people of like mind together to open future relationships and mastermind. Anyone who is determined, success driven and looking to meet new champions is absolutely welcome.

*The Boca Raton Entrepreneur Meetup* (<http://millionaire.meetup.com/1655/>) lets you meet a new network of local entrepreneurs to share tips and problem solving techniques, get advice on profitability and career and discuss mentoring and business models. Swap business cards and watch your personal business directory grow! ❖

## Trademark Registration

Before filing a TM application, you should do or know the following:

- If you use a symbol (word or artwork) as a TM without registering it, you will acquire common-law rights and can enforce the mark against infringers without ever registering it. However it's better to register it because you will get stronger rights against infringers if you have a registered mark.
- It's wise to make a search first to be sure you can get it registered and won't infringe any existing mark. You can make a search of common-law (unregistered marks) on the net and registered marks on the PTO's site.
- You have to specify a good or service that the mark is a brand name for.
- If you're already using the trademark out of state, you can file an already-in-use application, but if you haven't used it out of state yet you can file an intent-to-use (ITU) application. Be aware that if you file an ITU application you will not be able to get the mark registered until you actually use it in interstate or foreign commerce. You will have about a year from filing to prove use in such commerce. You can extend this term for three six-month periods for a fee each time.

Learn more about trademarks in Dave Pressman's *Patent It Yourself*. ❖

### 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. ❖

### Obviousness

What does it mean it mean for a patent to be obvious? What are the benchmarks in an obvious inquiry? **Neil W. Morrison** tells us in his article, *Is My Invention Obvious? The Patent World After KSR Case*. Use a search engine to find the article by author and title. ❖

### Patent Reform

**Harold Wenger** in *Keys to 111<sup>th</sup> Congress Patent Reform*, tells us about the implications for patent reform in 2009. Use a search engine to find the article by author and title. ❖

## 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:

Eva Thomas 561-395-7615  
[etboca@hotmail.com](mailto:etboca@hotmail.com)



## Startup Lounge and Early Stage Capital

Many entrepreneurs believe that there is no early stage capital available in Atlanta, and investors think there is a scarcity of quality investment opportunities. Neither is true, but the environment is dysfunctional and there are systematic characteristics of the environment that actively prevent capital and quality opportunities from finding one another.

The **StartupLounge.com** community seeks to be a force for positive change in developing the early stage entrepreneurial community in Georgia by providing education to entrepreneurs and investors (current and potential), and offering opportunities for opportunities and capital to find each other, in person, without interference by salespeople, amateur investment bankers or job-seekers.

Some of their more important activities include the following:

- **CapitalLounge:** Three times a year, they provide an event where investors and early stage entrepreneurs can find one another without fear of being hassled by salespeople, annoyed by amateur brokers, or interrupted by job-seekers. This event is entirely free of charge to all attendees, and is paid for by select sponsors who identify with and support the StartupLounge.com mission. They typically have approximately 250-300 attendees per event.
- **The StartupLounge Podcast:** **Scott Burkett** and **Michael Blake** periodically record podcasts with influential personalities in the entrepreneurial community and subject matter experts to provide an informative and entertaining educational resource to help entrepreneurs make informed decisions on the critical issues facing their companies every day.
- **PitchCamp:** Each month, StartupLounge.com offers a free afternoon seminar to 12-15 entrepreneurs to teach them how to carry an effective conversation with investors, both while attending CapitalLounge and outside a StartupLounge event. At PitchCamp, they also teach entrepreneurs how to make follow-up presentations to investors, and how to network to find investors on their own. Additional educational seminars are in development.
- **AngelLounge:** Each month, StartupLounge.com hosts a luncheon open only to angel investors and high net worth individuals with the financial means and desire to be an active angel investor. AngelLounge combines lunch with a peer group discussion, facilitated by one of the members.
- **Community:** They encourage entrepreneurs to engage each other in helping to build vibrant businesses. If you need advice on any aspect of building or running your business, you are encouraged to ask for help via their forums. If they can't help you, they will make the effort to find someone who can. This is their promise and commitment to you, the entrepreneur. Likewise, they encourage those more advanced entrepreneurs and subject matter experts to do their part to make average venture deals better, and to help other entrepreneurs expand their horizons.

If you know an early-stage entrepreneur who is struggling with certain aspects of launching or growing their business, please email them with a link to this site. Conversely, if you know a successful entrepreneur or investor who would like to engage with and mentor those less-experienced entrepreneurs, please urge them to come and participate within this community. ❖

The next meeting of the  
Inventors Society of South Florida  
is Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> ...!

## Service Corps of Retired Executives

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" ([www.score.org](http://www.score.org)) is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SCORE is America's premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs. SCORE:

- Can help you with mentoring advice online or at one of their 389 offices.
- Offers low cost workshops at their offices, as well as online.
- Provides *how to* articles and business templates on their website.

SCORE's goal is to help you **live your dream**. SCORE volunteers are successful entrepreneurs and executives who love business and want to share their knowledge with you, so you can succeed too. Take advantage of their expertise through face-to-face and online counseling. There is no limit on mentoring. Long term mentoring is a great help. And, specialty experts can help as you request answers to specific questions.

The template gallery includes:

- Business Plan for a Startup Business
- Balance Sheet (Projected)
- Bank Loan Request for Small Business
- Breakeven Analysis
- Cash Flow Statement
- Competitive Analysis
- Profit and Loss Projection
- Sales Forecast
- Startup Expenses

The Virtual Learning Center offers courses on starting your business, managing your finances and marketing your business. Course titles include:

- *Developing a Business Plan*
- *Conducting a Marketing Analysis*
- *Analyze your Competition*
- *Targeting Your Market*
- *Maintaining an Agile Company*
- *Creating a Competitive Advantage*
- *Creating a Strategic Plan*
- *Determining Your Business Legal Structure*
- *Protecting Your Business with Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks*
- *Preparing a Cash Budget*
- *Preparing a Balance Sheet*
- *Managing Your Cash Flow*
- *Running a Profitable Company*
- *Creating a Profit and Loss Statement*
- *Analyzing Your Financial Ratios*
- *Protecting Your Business with Contracts*
- *Assessing Your Company's Financial Needs*
- *Partners and Investors*
- *Valuing a Business*

SCORE can help you find the answer to any question you have. They offer learning opportunities and templates to guide you to your goals. Inventors will find a great resource with SCORE because they help you look at the whole picture of starting a business. They can help you make the decision to proceed with your goals or change your plan to what works best for you in the long run. ❖

### Foreign Patent Basics

Michael N. Cohen, Esq. explains that there is no all encompassing international patent protection in his article *Foreign Patent Filing Basics*. Use a search engine to find the article by author and title. ❖

### Copying: Fair or Unfair?

This article highlights the growing problem of copycat or look-alike products and illustrates with examples, a number of cases in which designer brands took action against their imitators. It analyses the financial impact, and the economic impact on brands. Find it at [www.intangiblebusiness.com/Reports/Copying-Fair-or-Unfair-828.html](http://www.intangiblebusiness.com/Reports/Copying-Fair-or-Unfair-828.html) ❖

### Innovation – Shape of Things to Come

In January 2008, the USPTO granted Apple a trademark for the three dimensional shape of iPod media player. The article, *Shape of Things to Come*, by David Orozco and James Conley explains the merits of nontraditional marks. It advises companies to learn from Apple's example and summarizes the strategy in five steps which Apple had adopted in getting the registration of the three dimensional trademark. Use a search engine to find the article by author and title. ❖

### IP Pirate

In the SWATlaw® series, *Intellectual Property ("I.P.") 101: A Pirate's Life for Thee* is a thorough explanation of the intricacies of legal use of intellectual property in its many forms. Find the document at [www.goodsolutions.com/documents/Intellectual-Property-101.pdf](http://www.goodsolutions.com/documents/Intellectual-Property-101.pdf). ❖

### Meetup.com

Meetup.com is the world's largest network of self-organized clubs and community groups. Find a local group that meets your needs. Connect leaders of real-world groups. You can find a meetup or start a meetup. Visit <http://businessnetwork.meetup.com/495/> to join the Southeast Florida Business Networking Meetup Group. ❖

**XING – Business Network**

Around the world every day, over 5.7 million business professionals use XING – the global business network – in 16 languages to do business and promote their career. XING makes networking and professional contact management simple, with made-to-measure networking functions and services. Even more, XING allows you to see how people are connected, which is an excellent tool in generating new contacts of your own.

XING ([www.xing.com](http://www.xing.com)) makes your professional network an active part of your life. Far more than a directory of business contacts, XING enables its members to discover professional people, opportunities and privileges through its unique discovery capability and advanced contact management tools. ❖

**OpenView Partners**

[www.openviewpartners.com](http://www.openviewpartners.com) is an expansion stage venture capital fund, with a focus on high-growth software, internet, and technology-enabled companies. Much of the team's success has been driven by its active role in providing its portfolio companies with strategic value-add services and highly practical operating expertise. OpenView Venture Partners is based in Boston, MA, and invests globally. ❖

**CEOSpace.net**

CEO Space is devoted to helping decision makers improve their core skill, associate with superior networks and mentors "in industry" and to complete improved plans, team development and resource expansion while the retreat week is in process. CEO Space's program is not theoretical. CEO Spaces program is a world trade show of developing new CEO and Professional level practices. ❖

**Mother of Invention Grant**

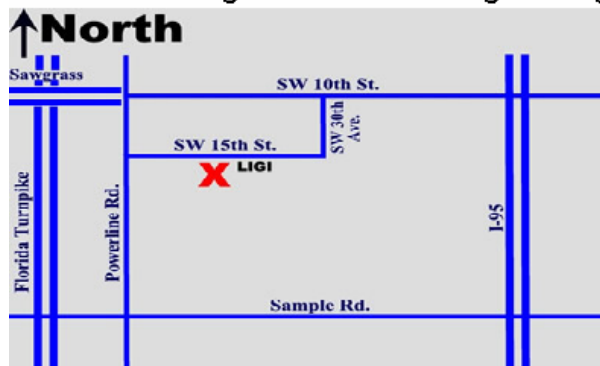
Whirlpool knows moms are identifying challenges and coming up with creative solutions every day. To recognize this motherly ingenuity, the 2008 Whirlpool® Brand *Mother of Invention Grant* will provide winning moms with the necessary business resources to help bring their ideas to life. Visit [www.whirlpool.com/custserv/promo.jsp?sectionId=697](http://www.whirlpool.com/custserv/promo.jsp?sectionId=697) for more information. ❖

**Protect Yourself From Invention Promotion Firms**

If you are interested in working with an invention promotion firm, consider taking the following precautions before you sign a contract and pay significant amounts of money.

- Early in your discussions with a promotion firm, ask what the total cost of its services will be. Consider it a warning if the salesperson hesitates to answer.
- Be careful of an invention promotion firm that offers to review or evaluate your invention but refuses to disclose details concerning its criteria, system of review, and qualifications of company evaluators. Without this information, you cannot assess the competence of the firm or make meaningful comparisons with other firms. Reputable firms should provide you with an objective evaluation of the merit, technical feasibility, and commercial viability of your invention.
- Require the firm to check on existing invention patents. Because unscrupulous firms are willing to promote virtually any idea or invention with no regard to its patentability, they may unwittingly promote an idea for which someone already has a valid, unexpired patent. This could mean that even if the promotional efforts on your invention are successful, you may find yourself the subject of a patent infringement lawsuit.
- If no valid, unexpired patent exists for your idea, seek advice from a patent professional before authorizing the public disclosure of your idea.
- Be wary of an invention promotion firm that will not disclose its success and rejection rates. Success rates show the number of clients who made more money from their invention than they paid to the firm. Rejection rates reflect the percentage of all ideas or inventions that were found unacceptable by the invention promotion company. Check with your state and local consumer protection officials to learn if invention promotion firms are required to disclose their success and rejection rates in your locality.
- In reality, few inventions make it to the marketplace and still fewer become commercial successes. According to experts used in FTC cases, an invention promotion firm that does not reject most of the inventions it reviews may be unduly optimistic, if not dishonest, in its evaluations.
- Be wary of a firm that claims to have special access to manufacturers looking for new products, but refuses to document such claims. Legitimate invention promotion firms substantiate their claims, which you can check.
- Be skeptical of claims and assurances that your invention will make money. No one can guarantee your invention's success.
- Avoid being taken in solely on a firm's promotional brochures and affiliations with impressive-sounding organizations.
- Beware of high-pressure sales tactics.
- Investigate the company before making any commitments. Call your Better Business Bureau, local consumer protection agency, and Attorney General in your state and the state in which the company is located to learn if they know of any unresolved consumer complaints about the firm.
- Make sure your contract contains all agreed upon terms, written and verbal, before you sign. If possible, have the agreement reviewed by an attorney.
- If you do not get satisfactory answers to all of your questions with an invention promotion firm, consider whether you want to sign a contract. Once a dishonest company has your money, it is unlikely you will ever get it back. ❖

**General Meeting at LIGI Tool & Engineering**



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

## What to Do if You Think You Have Been Scammed by an Invention Submission Company

Posted 2/11/2008 by Dr. Natalie L. Petouhoff on [www.inventorspot.com](http://www.inventorspot.com)

Report it if you have been a victim. Don't just stand by. Help put them out of business. Fraud is one of the most underreported crimes. In part because people don't know what really happened to them or who to go to for help. Some feel embarrassed because they don't want to admit they were outsmarted. Everyone likes to think they are smarter than the average bear. But these companies are slick, sophisticated and work with high pressure. And the statistics of \$300,000,000 a year show that if it happened to you, you're in "good company" because it happened to a lot of other people.

The purpose of the *American Inventors Protection Act of 1999* is to provide complainants with a forum for publicly making a complaint against an invention promoter/promotion firm. If you feel that you have been a victim, then your complaint must provide:

- The name and address of the person making the complaint;
- The name and address of the invention promoter/promotion firm;
- The name of the customer of the invention promoter/promotion firm;
- An explanation of the invention promotion services offered or performed;
- The name of the mass media used to advertise the invention promoter's services;
- An explanation of the relationship between the customer and the invention promotion services;
- A signature of the complainant.

The complaint should fairly and impartially summarize the action or inaction of the invention promoter/promotion firm. Submissions that do not provide the requested information will be returned. If a complainant's address is not provided, the submission will be destroyed. A complaint can be withdrawn by the complainant or named customer at any time prior to its publication. Don't include any of your original documents for your invention with the complaint- make copies and send in the copies.

Invention fraud contact information:

- Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop 24, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; Telephone 866-767-3848; [independentinventor@uspto.gov](mailto:independentinventor@uspto.gov)
- Find your Federal Trade Commission Regional Office at [www.ftc.gov/ro/index.shtml](http://www.ftc.gov/ro/index.shtml) or call 877-FTC-HELP; TTY: 866-653-4261
- Your State Attorney General at the National Inventor Fraud Center [www.inventorfraud.com/attorneygenerals.htm](http://www.inventorfraud.com/attorneygenerals.htm)
- For fraudulent Patent Attorneys contact the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Office of Enrollment & Discipline, Box OED, Washington, D.C. 20231; Telephone 703-306-4097 x12
- Invention Submission Company scam watch dogs that track scammers. Some examples are [www.InventorEd.org](http://www.InventorEd.org) and [www.IPWatchDog.com](http://www.IPWatchDog.com) ❖

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### Upcoming Tele-Classes

Visit [www.inventright.com](http://www.inventright.com) and scroll down the page to the tele-classes link on the left side Here are the classes offered:

**July 2, 2008** --- *Before The Patent, Before The Prototype.* The five things you need to ask yourself in order to bring your product to market and save your self 10's of thousands of dollars in the process.

**July 16, 2008** --- *How To Protect Your Million Dollar Idea.* Build your wall of protection. Tips, advice and strategies you have never heard before.

**July 30, 2008** --- *Three Most Important Words Every Inventor Should Know To Bring Their Idea To Market. Benefits, Benefits, Benefits.* You are not selling prototypes and you are not selling your patent. You are selling benefits.

**August 13, 2008** --- *The Power Of Networking.* Learn how to build your team. Find that expert to help you succeed.

**August 27, 2008** --- *How To License (Rent) Your Ideas To America's Fortune 500 Companies.* Who to call. What to say. How to get the green lights. ❖

### BKFK Competitions

Deadline August 31<sup>st</sup>. A chance at **\$10,000**. Visit [www.bkfk.com/Modules/Ideation/IdeationContest.aspx](http://www.bkfk.com/Modules/Ideation/IdeationContest.aspx)

- *Trash to Treasure Competition* - Can You Turn Trash to Treasure? Recycle, reuse, and re-engineer everyday materials into out-of-the-box inventions. Your invention should move things/people OR protect the environment OR be used for indoor/outdoor play.
- *Cosmo Girl MYBO Business Challenge* - What's Your Dream Business Project? Submit your original idea and/or business plan for a product or service. And get your venture off the ground!
- *Akita to Zebra Animal Challenge* - Want to improve an animal or pet's life? From new toys for pets to new ways to help save an endangered species, tell us your idea to help animals! Or a new way to help save an endangered species. ❖

The **2008 WA Inventor of the Year Schools competition** is a fantastic opportunity to inspire creativity and imagination in your students. Final invention submissions must be made between Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> so now is the time for your students to begin refining their great idea and turning it into the 'next big thing'. Register your students now at [www.scitech.org.au](http://www.scitech.org.au).

*Inventors Society  
of South Florida*  
Presents  
**Lydia Woods**  
ON  
*Inventing into  
Business*  
July 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM

**We're on the Web!**  
See us at:  
[www.InventorsSociety.net](http://www.InventorsSociety.net)

## July ISSF Meeting Speaker

**Lydia Woods** will speak to the attendees of the July 12th meeting. She last spoke in September 2005 and offered a lot of great information that you won't find in books. She shares her experiences with chain stores and distributors. She talks about the legal side of inventing and working with investors. You will learn about the games business people play with inventors.

She actively promotes inventor education and will send the clear message to listeners.....read, ask questions, take notes and join your local inventors group!

## August ISSF Meeting Speaker

**Eileen Fischlshweiger** will be making a presentation on the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) Electronic Filing System for the Inventors Society of South Florida at 1PM on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> on the 6th floor of the Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

Come and learn about:

- The USPTO EFS-WEB (an online electronic filing system for patents);
- TEAS (Trademark Electronic Application System) for Trademarks;
- The newly released electronic Copyright Office (eCO) which is still in beta testing;
- Some of the Electronic Business Center systems such as PAIR (Patent Application Information Retrieval) and much more.

## Newsletter Disclaimer

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Inventor News

Send your email address to [cever@earthlink.net](mailto:cever@earthlink.net) to receive email notice of the newsletter. For those without email, a printed copy of the newsletter will be available at the monthly meeting.

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