

Inventors Society of South Florida

Inventors News

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

November 2008

Nomination of ISSF Officers for 2009

The Board seeks nominations from among our members. It is important for members to bring their expertise to the board positions so the society continues to flourish. A fresh perspective helps all members to reach for new possibilities in their own efforts. Please place your name for nomination in 2009. ❖

Membership Dues for 2009

Your membership dues must be received by 12/31/2008. The dues provide funds to have meetings and informative newsletters to help members advance their ideas. Also, since we are non profit, dues are tax deductible. Returning members pay \$60 individual / \$70 family. We thank you for your cooperation and timely payment, as it reduces our time and expense in maintaining a current roster. ❖

President's Corner

The Board of Directors thanks **Martin Kahn** of the *Service Corps of Retired Executives* for educating us on the resources SCORE offers. SCORE is headquartered in Herndon, VA and Washington, DC and has 389 chapters throughout the United States and its territories, with 10,500 volunteers nationwide. Both working and retired executives and business owners donate time and expertise as business counselors. SCORE is America's premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs. Visit them at www.score.org anytime!

Join us on November 1st for **Steve Greenberg**, author of *Gadget Nation* (www.gadgetnation.net) for his insightful presentation on the million dollar ideas that define our imaginations. A great idea is one that sells, not necessarily one that is useful.

Please make note that the January meeting is moved to the second Saturday (January 10th) of the month due to the long New Year's weekend.

As we reach the end of another year, nominations are requested of members for new board members. Fresh ideas and perspectives of younger members are encouraged to keep the organization flexible. Having experience as an inventor or providing a service to inventors is helpful in this role. The hours and duties of board members are minor in comparison to the benefits received. The work of the Board of Directors brings satisfaction through helping others. Furthermore, serving as a board member looks great on a resume!

The Board of directors invites members to offer assistance with publicity, advertising, identifying speakers, and other information that benefits the organization. The ISSF meetings are about networking. Each of us knows someone who can benefit another person in the membership. Please help us help you at the next meeting!

Regards,

Albert Newman

News From Cathy's Desk

Yes, I flew to Las Vegas for the InventBay.com *International Inventors Expo*. I notified **Leo Mazur** that I was unable to attend the event due to sudden illness. As I write this, I am still recovering from the flu. The December newsletter will include a write-up from **Leo Mazur**.

Continued on page 2



Highlights

Invention Mkt. Co. List	2
NW Invention Center	2
InventBay Winners	3
Trademark Expo	3
Teacher Websites	4
NPIC	4
Inventor Tips	5
SCORE Answers	5
TAGIE 2008	6
Inventors Roundtable	6
Am. Soc. of Inventors	7
Bogus Promotion	7
USPTO Program	7
ISSF Speakers	8

*Inventors Society
of South Florida*

presents

Steve Greenberg

ON

*The World of
Gadgets*

November 1st 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
 Secretary: Joanna Zaremba
 Treasurer: Lucy Pettersen
 Founding President: Robert White
 Director: Alvin Blum and Richard Loughlin
 Membership and Goodwill
 Joanna Zaremba
 Member Liaison: Joanna Zaremba
 Publicity: Leo Mazur and Eva Thomas
 Public Relations: Eva Thomas

Contacts

Richard Loughlin in Stuart:
 772-287-2224
 Joanna Zaremba in Broward Co:
 954-486-2426



Continued from page 1

Briefly, he said it was an exciting event for the many inventions, inventors, and speakers.

Recently, I received an email from an inventor who was anxious to have a prototype made by a China manufacturer. My email response to him was two-fold. I implored him to attend the next meeting of the ISSF, since he lives nearby. Also, I attached several recent articles that appeared in the newsletter.

Having an idea and a patent means nothing, unless you learn about the invent-to-market process. The inventor seeking prototype manufacture in China wrote with urgency. Several questions raced through my mind regarding his email. Did he evaluate any other companies? Has he explored making a prototype from commonly available retail items that will demonstrate functionality? Can he use a video presentation to demo his invention? What are his plans for making money from the invention (sell, license or start a business)? Is the invention marketable?

The reason that the Inventors Society of South Florida produces a newsletter is to offer information to help inventors succeed. Each inventor has a different definition of success. For some, success means the number of patents held. For others, it means capitalizing on an invention through selling of a patent, licensing or developing a business.

I suspect that a prototype made in China receives little patent protection. Also, the potential for a knock-off appearing in the US before the product is available for sale by the inventor is very high. If the prototype is created locally (domestically) then there is a greater window of opportunity for sales that benefit the inventor.

Please keep in mind that if you have to defend your patent, the cost is \$250K and up depending on who and where. To every inventor I urge, attend your local inventor group meetings. Invest in educational books. Visit websites identified in this newsletter. Read, learn and become aware of how to maximize your return from inventing. ❖

A List of Invention Marketing Companies

"Invention Marketing Companies" are companies which claim to represent inventors in taking their ideas to companies. **Brown & Michaels, PC** have had many inventors come to their firm over the years who have been "taken" by invention marketing companies. The lucky inventors only got to the first stage, the unlucky inventors lost tens of thousands of dollars. Brown & Michaels, PC offers a partial alphabetical list of companies (www.bpmlegal.com/pinvmktg.html) on which they have any information. Some companies reportedly have been the subject of legal action, or have complaints filed in the USPTO. Brown & Michaels, PC are not expressing any opinion at all by listing these companies; review the information and make up your own mind. ❖

Northwest Invention Center

After directing museums for nearly twenty years, **Ed Sobey, PhD.**, created the *Northwest Invention Center* to serve schools and museums with hands-on programs and exhibits, and to help inventors. Ed served as the first director of the National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron, Ohio and founded the National Toy Hall of Fame at A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village in Salem, Oregon. He also directed the South Florida Science Museum, the Museum of Science & History in Jacksonville, and the Fresno Metropolitan Museum. Ed taught museum management at the University of Washington and was elected President of the Ohio Museums Association. Visit www.inventioncenter.com for books, film production and workshops-training in Seattle, WA. Contact Ed at sobey@gte.net. ❖

InventBay.com Expo Winners Announced

Angelo Figureida of Northwest Bakersfield, CA won first place at the International Inventor's Expo Held in Las Vegas. Mr. Figureida's Foz-Lock is a steel encased product that fits over any water spigot and can be locked to prevent tampering. It is designed to give schools, home owners, and public facilities the option to easily and quickly lock-up their water faucets to prevent theft and vandalism.

Other winners were:

- **Tommy & Tony Kronz** (www.Got2GoHydro.com) with their hydrogen on-demand system that gives car engines up to 50% boost in fuel economy.
- **Lisa Lloyd & Shalom Pesqueira** (www.TCPets.net) and their invention called Treasure Chest Pet, a unique storage system for kids that also doubles as a stuffed animal.
- **Dan Armstrong & Eddie Cloris** of Get Smart Inventions with "The Stand", an innovative tree stand design that eliminates the hassle of holding up natural Christmas trees.
- **Chris Miller & George Pauli** (www.TigerTaco.com) and their smart little device that makes packing boxes easier and more fun.
- **Gary & Inga Hartz** (SprinkLites.com) and their invention that solves the problem of watering potted plants through an automatic "drip" system.
- **Denise & Gene Bittner** (www.SolutionsInAqua.com) and their invention, Podulus System 7, an innovative and eco-friendly water filter that reduces wastes and makes the changing chemicals in water tanks easier.
- **Ralph & Linnie Kesse** with their ProClapper invention, consisting of inflatable hands that produce a loud thundering sound and are great for sporting events or rallies.
- **Scott Zwolski** (www.LimeLightAudio.com) and his speaker lamp combination that integrates high-end speaker design with a tabletop lamp. ❖

Open Projects at Nine Sigma, Inc.

NineSigma, Inc lists all of their open projects related to chemistry, materials science, electronics, consumer products, etc. at www.ninesigma.com/mx/newsletter.html. Read their online white paper about how to submit quality responses. That document can be viewed by visiting www.ninesigma.com/elibrary/document_view and clicking the link *Selling Your Innovation*. The address for NineSigma, Inc. is 23611 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 320, Cleveland, OH 44122; phone (216) 295-4800. ❖

Trademark Expo

The United States Patent and Trademark Office will hold its annual *Trademark Expo* next May 8-9 at the agency's headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The 2008 Expo attracted 7,000 people and received wide media coverage. Next year's two day event will focus again on educating the public about the value and important role trademarks play in our society and the global marketplace.

All individuals, companies, non-profit organizations and educational institutions that own a valid registered United States trademark are invited to apply to exhibit. **The deadline for applications is January 9, 2009.** Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria: brand recognition, educational value of the proposed exhibit and category diversity. Space is limited so apply today. Those selected to exhibit will be notified by February 1, 2009. Apply to exhibit at www.uspto.gov/surveys/tmexpo2009.htm. ❖

Membership

The Inventors Society of South Florida (ISSF) membership application form is available online at 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. 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. ❖

ISSF Inventor Expo in February 2009

This is an early reminder that the Inventors Society of South Florida is hosting an expo on February 7th at the Broward County Main Library in Fort Lauderdale. It is scheduled for the 6th floor. Eva Thomas is negotiating for first floor space to attract more public participation. Eva Thomas (etboca@hotmail.com) is the contact for more information. She will gather participant information and requirements for displays. ❖

ISSF Meetings

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

Ligi Tool & Engineering, Inc.
3220 SW 15th St.
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
877-523-6693
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 15th St (past the first stoplight on Powerline Rd, look for two cement towers and the *ModComp* sign).

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

Contact:

Eva Thomas 561-395-7615
etboca@hotmail.com



Teacher Websites

- Enchanted Learning Inventors – Search by alphabet for inventors. (www.enchantedlearning.com/inventors/indexf.shtml)
- Inventors and Inventions Unit – Inventors and inventions internet resources. (www.northcanton.sparcc.org/~greentown/invent.htm)
- Enrichment Activities on Ben Franklin – This site contains a number of activities. (<http://sln.fi.edu/franklin/activity.html>)
- 3M Collaborative Invention Unit – What makes an inventor special. (<http://mustang.coled.umn.edu/inventing/Inventing.html>)
- Inventing a New Kind of Pencil – Ideas for teaching a lesson on inventing a new kind of pencil; also a link to a similar page on inventing an eraser. (www.noogenesis.com/inventing/pencil/pencil_page.html)
- Invention Convention – This tour is designed for teachers to use as a resource and guide when planning a unit on inventions cumulating with an 'Invention Convention', where students display and explain their invention to their peers, teachers and parents. (www.cecm.winnipeg.mb.ca/resources/tours/Carolyn/invent.htm)
- The Learning Page Community Center - a list of online resources for teachers and students. Scroll down the page to create your own collaborative lesson plans using material related to the current month's theme assembled from The Learning Page Collection Connections. (http://lcweb2.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_science.php) ❖

Northern Plains Inventors Congress

The Northern Plains Inventors Congress (NPIC) will be held at the Alerus Center (Grand Forks, North Dakota) on **January 13, 2009**, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Admission is Free) in cooperation with *Marketplace for Entrepreneurs*, organized by U.S. Senator Kent Conrad. All inventors, entrepreneurs, businesses and service providers are invited to attend this annual event that attracts individuals from across the United States.

The NPIC provides inventors and entrepreneurs with the information necessary to effectively commercialize new ideas. The NPIC also encourages innovation and economic development in the United States by exchanging ideas between inventors, entrepreneurs and professionals. The 2007 NPIC had approximately 200 attendees from across the United States. The 2008 NPIC is also expected to draw more than 200 inventors from across the United States, making it one of the largest one-day inventor events in the United States!

Attendees of the NPIC will want to consider displaying their ideas and new products at *Marketplace for Entrepreneurs* the following day, **January 14, 2009**. Booth space is available for inventors that attend the 2008 NPIC for the low cost of \$25 (booth forms will be available shortly). Approximately 8,000 individuals visited the 2008 Marketplace for Entrepreneurs in one day, which provided excellent exposure for new products - particularly for only \$25! This year, more than 8,000 individuals are expected to visit the Marketplace for Entrepreneurs, which provides a unique and beneficial forum for inventors to display their inventions.

Attendees of the NPIC and Marketplace are allowed to participate in the Invention Contest. To participate in the Invention Contest, you will need to display your invention at Marketplace (\$25 fee) and complete the 2008 Invention Contest Entry Form. You can download the 2008 Inventor Kit (including both forms) from www.ndinventors.com/2008InventorKit.pdf. ❖

Free Inventor Tips

Don Debelak offers a lot of useful information for inventors. One of his web pages, www.dondebelak.net/index.php?page=News_Tips, is *Free Inventor Tips*. This page has news and inventor tips that are updated and added to regularly. Please check back often. If you would like to receive more free tips and news, sign up for his newsletter. Some of his recent inventor tips were:

- August 20th, 2008 – Knowing who your best customer is.
- August 12th, 2008 – Distinguishing your product from others.
- July 14th, 2008 – Product pricing.
- June 9th, 2008 – Easy to understand product.
- June 3rd, 2008 – Product packaging and distribution channels.

What is so good about Mr. Debelak, is that his insight remains useful. He tells you how to practice objectivity in your efforts. Although your invention is the best widget invented, it will not appeal to all people everywhere! So, you must focus on your best customer market...where you will get the most sales with the least amount of effort.

How do you do that? There are many facets. Let's take a look at your projected demographics. What are their trigger points in packaging and product design? What are their purchasing habits? Can your invention be an impulse buy at a supermarket checkout? Will you be selling it retail one at a time or bulk through a distributor? How much thought goes into using your invention? A drinking cup is intuitive; a camera has many settings and features to learn.

The answers to these questions vary with each invention. Some answers limit the answers to other questions. So, use the Internet to your advantage. **Don Debelak** is an example of someone who wants to help inventors find success. Reading his inventor tips will give you another perspective, and help you focus on what will work best for your invention. ❖

SCORE Expert Answers

What should an aspiring entrepreneur consider before opening a business?

- Know your market. Does it really need the product or service you're providing, or it is just something you like?
- Decide what you can do better than any one else. Ask yourself if there are elements of other businesses that you can merge with your own.
- Think about where you want your business to be in the next five to 10 years.

What's the most important SCORE advice that you still use today?

What are three essentials for a sound growth strategy?

What does a small business need to do to stay on the growth track?

What can a small business do to survive and set itself apart from the major national chains?

Can a small business also learn from watching national competitors?

Sign up for the free SCORE newsletter to get the answers to these questions and stay current with small business trends. SCORE is a nonprofit association and resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration. SCORE is dedicated to entrepreneurship and the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide.

To read the full article online, go to http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/SCORE_Expert_Answers/issues/2008-08-08.html. ❖

FastTrac®

FastTrac® (www.fasttrac.org), a program of the Kauffman Foundation, is a practical, hands-on business development program designed to help entrepreneurs hone the skills needed to create, manage and grow a successful business. FastTrac® participants don't just learn about business, they live it. They work on their own business ideas or ventures throughout the course - moving their ventures to reality or new levels of growth. ❖

iBridgeSM Network

The iBridgeSM Network, a program of the not-for-profit Kauffman Innovation Network, Inc., provides the transparency and access to university developed innovations that will lead to further advances and next-generation products. The Network aggregates research materials, technologies, and discoveries in an online, easy-to-search forum at www.ibridgetnetwork.org. ❖

National Association of Patent Practitioners

The National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting patent practitioners and those working in the field of patent law in matters relating to patent law, its practice and technological advances. Visit them at www.napp.org. ❖

Patent Information Users Group (PIUG)

The International Society for Patent Information is a not-for-profit organization for individuals having a professional, scientific or technical interest in patent information. The mission of PIUG is to support, assist, improve and enhance the success of patent information professionals through leadership, education, communication, advocacy and networking. Learn more at www.piug.org. ❖

Federal Register

The Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents. Find them at www.gpoaccess.gov/fr. ❖

Log Book Guidance

Mary Bellis offers information about obtaining and keeping log book. Visit http://inventors.about.com/od/firststeps/u/inventor_nasi_cs.htm#s6 and follow the links. Find a lot of other useful information here on prototyping, selling your invention and business startup. ❖

Buckminster Fuller Challenge

Deadline for entries is November 7th. Visit <http://challenge.bfi.org> for details. ❖

New Scientist Patent News

A patent news blog at www.newscientist.com/blog/invention, discusses the latest scientific inventions. You may email inventions@newscientist.com about your scientific invention. You get free advertising if they add your information to their blog. ❖

Invention Nation

Micah, Chris and Nobu - three guys passionate about the green life - take a veggie-fueled trip across America in search of amazing eco-inventions and their grassroots green inventors.

Invention Nation gives you an inside look into the lives of these inventors to learn why they took "going green" into their own hands. Invention

Visit <http://science.discovery.com/fansites/invention-nation/invention-nation.html> to learn about the hosts, follow their travels and view the episode guide. ❖

Ask the Expert

Visit www.inventright.com/ask_the_experts.html and select the expert you want to ask. Send them your questions and in the very next newsletter they will pick one of your questions to answer in the newsletter. **Stephen Key** is a licensing expert. **Kim Babjac** is the QVC electronic retailing expert. **Don Kelly** is a patent agent and former patent office director. ❖

Learn About Scams

Another place to learn about scams is www.shop4patents.com/articles/category/scams. ❖

Toy and Game Inventors Expo 2008

A division of Chi-Tag, the *Toy and Game Inventors Expo*, TAGIE 2008 will be held this year at Chicago's beautiful Navy Pier. TAGIE is designed to help the new inventor and entrepreneur by providing an invaluable opportunity to learn and meet face-to-face with top industry professionals and successful toy and game inventors. These four days may change your life! Two packed days of discussions, advice, meetings, seminars and information that you need to know about the toy and game industry (Nov 20th & 21st). Then, off to set up your own public exhibition table with your product(s) to view and play with the public (Nov 22nd & 23rd). Chi-Tag is the largest focus group and play testing opportunity you will ever find! Learn more at www.toyandgameinventors.com. ❖

Inventors Monthly Roundtable

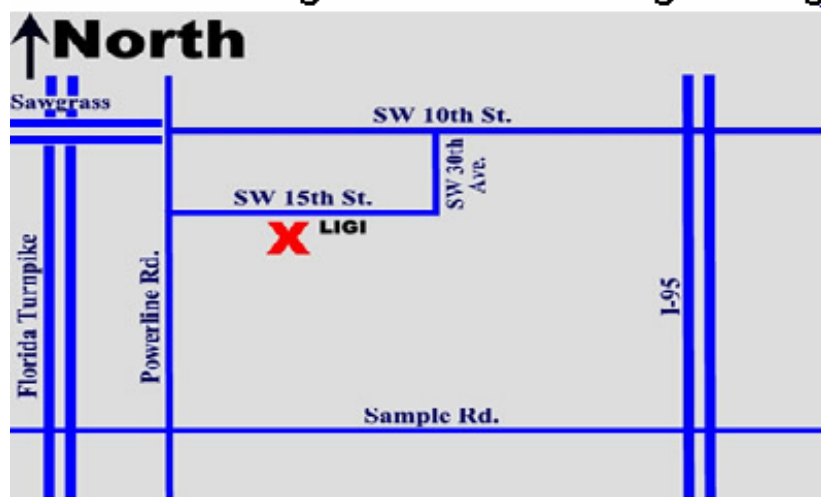
Inventors' Monthly Roundtable is a FREE, EDUCATIONAL roundtable meeting, where inventors and entrepreneurs can discuss the inventing, manufacturing, individual financing, and venture capital process. At these meetings you can get your questions answered by patent attorneys and marketing, finance, venture capital, manufacturing (domestic and overseas) and licensing experts. Don't miss these unique events held on the second Thursday of each month from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Brooklyn's restaurant in Denver, Colorado. For more information, call 303-910-8889 or email admin@inventorsroundtable.com.

Also, there's a space for you to come and meet other inventors and entrepreneurs online as a supplement to the educational roundtables hosted by F LeCusa International and The Idea Place every second Thursday of the month. Visit www.inventorsroundtable.com/inventround3.htm for more information. ❖

Invention Technologies Sued in 2006

Jim Fisk filed a million dollar lawsuit accusing Invention Technologies of stealing his invention from 2001 after they told him it was not marketable. Read about it at www.pantagraph.com/articles/2006/09/11/news/doc4505e0a3222df220079513.t. ❖

General Meeting at LIGI Tool & Engineering



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

American Society of Inventors & Evaluations

The American Society of Inventors (ASI) is a non-profit organization formed in 1953 to bring inventors together and to educate them on protecting, developing, and marketing or licensing their invention. They have general membership meetings every two months, and the Board meets every month to provide evaluations of inventions presented by our members. Check www.asoi.org on the right side of the page in the Latest News section for details. Contact the American Society of Inventors at info@asoi.org.

Members can schedule confidential invention evaluations monthly, typically the first or second Thursday of every month at 1601 Market Street in Philadelphia. Evaluations are only provided for paid members, and only with a scheduled appointment. Just call the general number and select the proper option at (215) 546-6601. ❖

Court Halts Bogus Invention Promotion Claims

Invention promotion scams cost inventors an estimated \$300 million a year. Make sure that you, your ideas, and your money, don't get taken. Finally some real punishment is dealt by the FTC: Defendants in this case were **Davison & Associates Inc.**, now known as Davison Design and Development, Inc., Manufacturer's Support Services, Inc., **George M. Davison**, President and CEO, **Thomas Dowler**, **Gordon M. Davison** and **Barbara Miele-Davison**. The defendants are based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but have operated nationwide. Read the details at www.uspto.gov/main/homepagenews/bak2006fapr20.htm.

Read the article *Got an invention? You, too, can be scammed*. Use a search engine to find the article by title and author **Bob Sullivan**. To learn more, attend meetings of your local inventor group, and access the information at the US Patent and Trademark Office by calling toll-free 866-767-3848. Also download *FTC Facts for Consumers: Invention Promotion Firms* at www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/products/pro21.pdf. Be sure to read the FTC consumer alert *Spotting Sweet Sounding Promises of Invention Promotion Firms* at www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/alerts/invnalrt.shtm. ❖

Federal Trade Commission

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) works for the consumer to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop, and avoid them. To file a complaint or to get free information on consumer issues, visit ftc.gov or call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357); TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The FTC enters consumer complaints into the *Consumer Sentinel Network*, a secure online database and investigative tool used by hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad. ❖

From Concept to Protection

The USPTO has launched a computer based training program to assist novice and independent inventors. The first video training session, *From Concept to Protection*, is available on the USPTO website and provides useful information on a range of topics including: inventor's notebooks, provisional applications for patents, non-provisional patent applications, design patent applications, and the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The USPTO plans to offer additional on-line sessions in the future. Visit <https://uspto.connectsolutions.com/conceptprotection> to view the first training session. **John Calvert**, Administrator of the Inventor Assistance Program, is the host.

❖

Colorado Inventor Showcase

The Da Vinci Institute is giving inventors a forum to showcase their inventions. Set for November 14 at The Cable Center in Denver, the Colorado Inventor Showcase lets inventors display their product(s), competing for prizes in a number of invention categories. In addition, inventors can attend information sessions and meet with product scouts, patent attorneys, and other inventors. Visit www.davinciinstitute.com for more information. ❖

Modern Marvels Invent Now Challenge

Enter the Modern Marvels competition for your shot at a \$25,000 grant to develop your invention. Fame is part of the package too—winners will be showcased on The History Channel's Modern Marvels: Great Inventions Week. In addition to the grand prize, grants will be awarded to four other semi-finalists. Entry deadline is November 20. Visit www.history.com/minisites/modernmarvels for more details. ❖

Invention Secrecy

The Invention Secrecy Act of 1951 requires the government to impose "secrecy orders" on certain patent applications that contain sensitive information, thereby restricting disclosure of the invention and withholding the grant of a patent. Remarkably, this requirement can be imposed even when the application is generated and entirely owned by a private individual or company without government sponsorship or support. Learn more at www.fas.org/sgp/othergov/invention/index.html; also contains a list of International Agreements on Defense-Related Patents, Classified Patent Applications and Invention Secrecy. ❖

List of Tradeshows

Visit www.ipnews.com/trade/index.html is a list of tradeshows around the USA. ❖

Patent Choices

An inventor may wish to obtain patent protection to protect his invention. In a global economy, protection in more than one country may be necessary.

Jacqueline Needle considers the routes available when seeking patent protection in the article *Patent Choices*. Use a search engine to find the article by author and title.
❖

*Inventors Society
of South Florida*

Presents

Steve Greenberg

ON

*The World of
Gadgets*

November 1st at 1:00 PM

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.InventorsSociety.net

November Speaker at ISSF

Steve Greenberg author of "Gadget Nation" and TV celebrity will be giving a talk on *The World of Gadgets* for the Inventors Society of South Florida (a non-profit educational organization) at 1PM on Saturday 11/1/08 at the LIGI Tool Company (3220 SW 15th Street Deerfield Beach, FL 33442). Born into a family of inventors, Mr. Greenberg is a self-professed "Invention Groupie". He travels all over the country to meet inventors and discuss their products. Not only has he been featured on TV shows like *CBS's Early Show*, *NBC's Weekend Today* as well as many others, for three years Steve could be seen nationally every weeknight demonstrating innovative products on the Discovery Channel's *Your New House*. Learn more about Steve at his website www.gadgetnation.net.

The book *Gadget Nation* is a delightful compilation of over 100 products on the market (some successful and some still on their way). Each with a "stat bar" showing where the product is in its' development and a story telling how it got there. The information in this book (including the section "Get Your Own Gadget Going") is priceless for the inventor. It gives you a good idea of how your inventions stack up and what you need to do to make them commercially viable.

After the meeting, Steve will be available to sign previously purchased books, which can be bought through Amazon.com, the USPTO Gift Shop and Barnes and Nobles.

For more details and directions please go to our website www.inventorssociety.net or contact **Leo Mazur** 973-219-9627 mazurelectric@earthlink.net or **Joanna Zaremba** 954-486-2426 joannapoland@comcast.net ❖

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. ❖

NOVEMBER 2008
 Inventor News

Send your email address to cover@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.

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