

"Inventors Helping Inventors"



THE Tampa Bay
INVENTOR
NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the Tampa Bay Inventor's Council

7441 114th Avenue North, Suite 607, Largo FL 33773-5124 NOVEMBER 2003

The Tampa Bay Inventor's Council is here to help you succeed, forge ahead, maintain your purpose, and achieve what you intend to. Everyone in this group is behind you.

This past meeting was very productive. The board members are really getting a hold on what they would like to see happen for TBIC.

We found some members who are ready to pitch in and lend a hand by joining various committees that we are starting. We are working to put together new committees for the Newsletter, Public Relations, Library and even an Inventor of the Month committee. We have only begun this process and we want to thank the volunteers we have so far.

Members like Rob Aiken, Chris Jeske, Chip Nary, Bruce Elliot, Ellie Esposito and a few others have contributed. We are working on job descriptions and asking for more volunteer help, so please get involved if you possibly can.

Remember, the more help from you, the more we can do!!!

Future Meeting Dates

There will be no meeting on the 26th of November, since it would be the night before Thanksgiving. The meetings for this month are on the 12th, which is our regular meeting night, and there is a workshop planned for the 19th at 7:00.

Since the Holidays are going to fall on our meetings night, we have decided to work with the first three weeks of the month. This means that on the 3rd and the 17th we will be holding our regular meetings. In between those two meetings we are planning a Christmas Party on the 13th.

After New Year's, our next regular scheduled meeting will be on the 14th of January.

All Meetings Held At: 7441 114 th Avenue North Suite 607 Largo FL 33773 on the Second & Fourth Wednesdays each month	For More Information: Call 727-548-5083 8:30 am -- 5:00 pm Monday -- Friday
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NOVEMBER 2003

A Message from Our President

Even though this is only the second newsletter since I have been elected your President, I can still see the continued strong growth in value provided to our members. I have observed active informal networking between members and we now have a new tool to facilitate this very helpful aspect of the invention process. Effective with the first meeting in November, the membership will have a bulletin board, whose sole purpose is to communicate with other members. Even those of us who feel comfortable mixing with others appreciate the fact that some members would prefer a more passive way to "break the ice". The new bulletin board for members will be a good way to accomplish this. Given that time is at a premium and you may not be able to find a member before or after the meeting, the bulletin board will allow them to find you or you to locate them. It's also a handy tool in case you miss the meeting a person whose skills you are looking for happens to attend.

The other bulletin board will provide information from your officers and Board and third parties who have contacted us. An example is the NASA letter offering 40 hours of free engineering time simply for the asking. Previously such a document would have been passed around to those interested. Now, a copy will be posted for a period of time on the TBIC board in case you missed it being passed around, missed the meeting at which it was mentioned, or you realize a couple of weeks later you might be interested in it.

The committee process started under Chris Salter's impetus at the last meeting will allow TBIC to do things that your Board would be unable to do by itself. Concrete examples are the Garage Sale and member contributions to the current newsletter.

Each month, we continue to improve and most of the credit goes to members, who I think will tell you they are getting more out of the club by helping. I hope this process continues to snowball as it is a win/win situation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Myler".

Previous Speaker's Recap

David Ellis, Esq.
(ellislaw@alum.mit.edu)

Mr. Ellis is an attorney specializing in copyright, tradename, trademark and computer law. Dave's signature is found on TBIC's Articles of Incorporation

Dave entertained and informed us using a patent office bicentennial calendar as his teaching tool. His general subject was Intellectual Property Law with the focus on Copyrights. We learned there are six general categories that copyrights fall into: literary, musical, dramatic, motion pictures & audiovisual, sound recordings, and architectural. He discussed many aspects of the law and illustrated with very interesting historical examples. Mr Ellis also treated the concept of trade secrets and their relationship to patents, elaborating on instances where a trade secret could be more valuable than a patent. In addition, he provided a handout and a copy of an article concerning current case law, involving file swapping that had a different outcome than the Napster case.

November 12th Speaker

Our November 12th meeting will feature Edyth James. She is the proprietor of Saffron's Restaurant on Park Street in St. Petersburg. She will be speaking on the subject of networking.

Ladies may want to pay special attention to what Edyth has to say. She holds meetings for local business women in our area at Saffron's on a regular basis.

Mr. John Blue
(finjb@yahoo.com)

Mr. Blue decided to learn as much as possible about trademarks, tradenames and related areas, as he has over the years been granted a number of patents and many tradename, trademark, service mark and copyrights. He entertained us with many stories and passed around a letter whose image was worth just shy of \$60 billion dollars. He showed us a number of his inventions and explained the trials and tribulations that ultimately led to success.

Mr. Blue explained to members where to go on the web to file their trademarks or service marks in the state of Florida and what else needs to be done before you may file federally. It was pointed out that the documented selling of an item to a friend in another state qualified as interstate commerce, and a sale to a neighbor in Florida is an instance of commerce intrastate.

John suggested to one of our inventors that they put the "TM" next to the name of their invention and pointed out that even our own TBIC logo and wording should be marked by SM (service mark), although it was agreed that since it had been in commerce, it was unlikely anyone could "steal" it from us or successfully use it against our wishes.

So, we have continued our record of success in bringing you entertaining speakers who provide useful information to our members.

For those of you who missed the speaker on October 22nd, don't fret! John Blue is his name and, lucky for us, he's a member. He would like very much to dedicate a great deal of his time to helping his fellow members. He holds great expertise in Trademarks and would like to share this information with you!

He will be heading up a workshop on the 19th of November at 7:00 and he will answer all your questions on trademarking your product. He will be attempting to familiarize himself with the Delphion software, so he might aid in future Patent and Trademark searches here at our facility.

He would also like to make himself available to members, every regular meeting night between 6:30 & 7:30, for those that need his advice or answers to your questions.

Pat on the Back

Jon Schlenther and crew are receiving our 'Pat On The Back' this month. They worked for many hours putting together and building the Haunted Pirate Ship and pathways for our Halloween Party. Even more, they manned the stations at the Party and didn't get to enjoy the fruits of their labor. If you attended the party, then you know what a terrific job they did!

We sincerely want to thank Jon and those who volunteered and lent a hand with decorating Bert and Gayla Kilbride's back yard, turning it into the Pirates Nightmare.

Jon displayed his many talents in doing this project. Judging from the special effects and props that he put together, Jon could make a good living at this time of the year, if he chose to get paid for the services he performed for TBIC for free. Jon says "it's all about having fun." Well thanks to you and your crew, we had fun!!!

Thank You's

We should start by saying thank you again to Jon, but we would should also thank Bert and Gayla for loaning us their house for another great get together for TBIC. This was the third gathering there and this one, like the others, was a blast!

Thank you for all your time and effort and making sure that everyone had a super time!

We wish to thank Lori Mitchell, Branch Market Manager of Bank Atlantic for another excellent door prize-a travel bag with extending handle won by our own Jack Goss, former Treasurer and long time Board member.



Up Coming Event

There will be a Christmas Party on the 13th of December. We want to make sure to give plenty of notice so that you can attend. The Party will be at Jennifer's house in Seminole. We will fill you in on more details soon so please mark your calendar!

Post It Note

At the last meeting it was decided that TBIC would provide two new Bulletin Boards for the members.

The first would be used for official postings by the Board of Trustees. They would post such things as the current Newsletter, and any news that might come in-between Newsletters that we think might be of use to the members.

The Second Board would be for members to post helpful information that would be of service or use to other members. Members may post things that pertain to inventing and anything that is useful to other inventors. This is not a place for items for sale (we have a space in our newsletter for that).

All items should be given or sent to Jennifer Knoepp, our TBIC secretary. These items will be dated to stay on the Board for two months, after which they may be resubmitted, if there is room. Otherwise, that item will have a one-month waiting period.

TBIC reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of all items posted. TBIC neither investigates, promotes, endorses or profits from the information provided and will govern themselves accordingly.

NOVEMBER BOOK REVUE

A summary of the Checklist for Reviewing a License Agreement is printed below. Each item is explained more thoroughly in the text. This particular list is excerpted from *LICENSE YOUR INVENTION*, 2nd Edition, by Attorney Richard Stim, published by NOLO Press, ISBN#0-87337-564-5 (pp16/5-16/12). If you are considering licensing and don't understand the ramifications of a check listed item, it is strongly recommended you secure a copy of the book and consult legal counsel.

Contract Provision

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Introductory Statement | 21 | Attorney's Fees |
| 2 | The Property | 22 | Arbitration or Mediation |
| 3 | Licensed Products | 23 | Governing Law |
| 4 | The Grant of Rights | 24 | Jurisdiction |
| 5 | Sublicense | 25 | Assignability |
| 6 | Reservation of Rights | 26 | New Inventions |
| 7 | Territory | 27 | Grant Back of Improvements |
| 8 | Term | 28 | Escrow Provisions |
| 9 | Payment | 29 | Exhibits and Attachments |
| 10 | Payment Statements | 30 | Miscellaneous Provisions |
| 11 | Late Payment and Audit Rights | a | Waiver |
| 12 | Warranties and Indemnification | b | Invalidity |
| 13 | Intellectual Property Protection | c | Entire Understanding |
| 14 | Exploitation | d | Attachments and Exhibits |
| 15 | Samples and Quality Control | e | Notices |
| 16 | Insurance | f | No Joint Venture |
| 17 | Confidentiality | 31 | Service Provisions |
| 18 | Termination | a | Installation |
| 19 | Post-Termination | b | Technical Assistance |
| 20 | Survival | c | Training |
| | | d | Development |
| | | e | Acceptance Provisions |

Focus Group

This meeting has no one signed up to show their product.

Henry Ashwood is scheduled to show his latest invention named the Lace Brace on the 3rd of December.

If you would like to present your item, please call Jennifer at
727-548-5083

At each Focus Group meeting, we would like to have at least twenty TBIC members to stay after the regular meeting to listen to the presentations and fill out a questionnaire for each item presented. This should only take about 30 minutes. Please volunteer if at all possible. It is important to your fellow inventor.

A LOGICAL PATH TO SUCCESS



BY THE WAY . . .

If you have any business to be taken care of on the night of our meetings, please plan to arrive by 6:30 to give us plenty of time to take care of your needs before the meeting starts. We would like to start our meetings promptly at 7:30 as planned. So, if you need to renew or upgrade your membership, or if you have any other inquiries about your membership, newsletter, badges, etc., just plan to come in plenty of time to attend to it before meeting time.

Web Site Info: ***www.tbic.us***

Visit our web site for information on current and past happenings.

You can download current and past newsletters in *.pdf format.

You will need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader on your computer.

If you don't already have it, go to www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Announcement about Cal Kalishman's Passive Turbo

The last word was that ICTT was to perform tests for insurance purposes. The tests were conducted and were not conclusive enough to obtain product liability insurance on this product. Therefore ICTT cannot follow through with this project. Unfortunately ICTT, nor TBIC will in any way be involved with its sale or installation.

GARAGE SALE / AUCTION

TBIC is having a Garage sale. It will be on the 19th of November and will coincide with our Workshop evening. There will be table's set up in the large back area of TBIC.

Paul Simmons has donated many items, which will be displayed along with items donated by our members and friends. For the high-end items, we will hold an Auction, which should be a lot of fun.

We will be making preparations and putting up tables on the 15th, so if you want to come lend a hand or bring a donation item, this would be a perfect time to do so.

VOLUNTEERS

We could use some help here!! I am asking that those of you who could spare a little time before the meetings, please come in and help welcome people. Tell them what you know about TBIC. Help them with filling out a new visitor form so that we can all welcome them to the meeting and introduce them to the membership. We could also use help with running the popcorn machine and serving the bags of popcorn.

GET HERE EARLY . . .

Here are a few instances when you need to be here early:

- Bringing a friend
- To have your picture taken for your ID badge
- To attend the open session Board meeting.
- To mingle with and obtain information from your fellow members.

AVAILABLE DISPLAY SPACE

Do you have a product that is ready to be shown to the world?

Well, the world might not see it in our booth, but a lot of very important people will!

We have a few display booths ready for occupancy. Your product will need to be protected (patented or patent pending) product.

If it is a large item, we may have floor space for you. Or, we can work on making a mini prototype that would fit in a display booth.

*Contact Jennifer at
727-548-5083*



Wacky Patent of the Month

(brought to you by www.colitz.com)

U.S. Patent No. Des. 302,484

to Dorothy U. Egan

Combined Visor and Hair Piece

Patented August 1, 1989

Claim

The ornamental design for a combined visor and hair piece, as shown and described.

Description:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a combined visor and hair piece showing my new design

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view thereof; and

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view, the opposite side being a mirror image thereof.

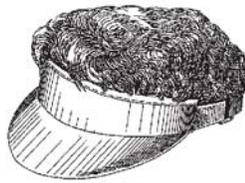


Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

We hope you have noticed a change in the appearance of the newsletter this past couple of months. We will gradually be making improvements along the way, both in appearance and content. Beginning with next month's issue, we will be employing color laser printing technology to print the newsletter. It should make a noticeable difference in the print quality and the overall capabilities in the printing process.

If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to make them to the email address below. Also, if you have some articles or items you would like to submit, here is some information you may find useful.

Guidelines for the Submission of Items for the TBIC Newsletter

In order to eliminate errors and answer some to the most common questions involving the publication of the newsletter, here is a list of guidelines which might be of assistance.

Send To: garys@ammeds.com

Deadline: The first Tuesday of each month. (This enables the newsletter to be published and sent out in time for members to receive them before the first meeting of the month.)

Text Files: Article text can be submitted in formats generated by WordPerfect (*.wpd) or Microsoft Word (*.doc), or in a *.txt file, as generated by Windows NotePad or WordPad.

Graphics Files: Pictures or artwork can be submitted in any of the popular formats used by most computers. Formats preferred are *.jpg, *.bmp, *.gif, *.tif, or *.eps.

Combination files containing both graphics and text can be submitted also. These are most often *.pdf files.

If there is a question about whether or not the format of the item can be used, just contact us at the email address above.

Other Notes: Be sure to include any helpful information, such as where the item should be placed, title of the article, contributor's name or other credits, and any other notes that would be helpful.

CLASSIFIEDS

PROTECT YOUR IDEAS!

SEARCH FIRST ...

THEN EVALUATE !

- **APPLICATIONS PREPARED FOR:**
 - TRADE/SERVICE MARK**
 - UTILITY PATENTS**
 - COPYRIGHTS**
 - PROVISIONAL PATENTS**
- **EXECUTIVE BUSINESS SUMMARIES**
- **INVESTOR CAPITAL**
 - **PROTOTYPES**
 - **MARKETING**
 - **SALES**

Please Contact:
INVENTORS MENTORSM
John D. Blue
USF #30132
4202 E. Fowler Avenue
Tampa FL 33620
Phone/Fax: 813-972-3815
Email: finjb@yahoo.com

Please email me for several attachments which detail my services and prices.

Promotional Opportunities

TBIC publishes a monthly Newsletter for both existing and prospective members including copies to 61 Inventors Councils and Associations around the world. The newsletter will be accessible on the website, where members and other interested parties can find both current and archived issues.

THE SCHEDULE OF ADVERTISING RATES:

(note there is a discounted rate for an annual prepaid subscription):

Full page	\$100.00 per issue	\$1000.00 yearly
½ page	\$60.00 per issue	\$600.00 yearly
¼ page	\$35.00 per issue	\$350.00 yearly

Submit copy in any text format, such as *.doc, *.wpd, *.txt, *.rtf, or in *.PDF format. Limited graphic arts assistance will be provided by TBIC.

Payment is to be submitted with your copy. Copy must be approved in writing prior to issue deadline.

All ads for selling products must include price and phone number.

Classified space will be available in four categories for 60 cents per word, 20-word minimum.

Categories are:

- 001 Articles for sale
- 002 Articles wanted
- 003 Service for Inventors.
- 004 Misc

Proof approval Deadlines are 3 weeks prior to publishing date.

- Dec issue Nov 15, 2003
- Jan issue Dec 10, 2004
- Feb issue Jan 10, 2004
- Mar issue Feb 10, 2004
- Apr issue Mar 10, 2004
- May issue Apr 10, 2004
- June issue May 10, 2004
- July issue June 10, 2004
- Aug issue July 10, 2004
- Sept issue Aug 10, 2004
- Oct issue Sept 10, 2004
- Nov issue Oct 10, 2004

TBIC has the option to refuse ads if the Board considers them inappropriate for the furthering of TBIC's overall goals. Council members may bring small for sale items which are advertised to TBIC Headquarters where the article may be viewed for one week following the publication of said ad.

**2003
OFFICERS AND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

George Mouzakis, President
727-518-9154

Russ Randall, Vice-President
727-938-1177

Jennifer Knoepp, Secretary
727-515-4817

Gayla Kilbride, Treasurer
727-224-1218

Steve Gates
727-418-8788

Mark Jones
813-681-4554

Chris Salter
813-505-2995

Bob Sheridan
727-224-2856

Chuck Van Breeman
727-446-4839

Founder: Ron E. Smith

The Tampa Bay Inventors' Council (TBIC) is a corporation as defined in Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, as not for profit. The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. The TBIC is a 501(C)(3) charitable corporation, which allows the receiving of tax deductible contributions of goods and services. There are over 100 active members willing to share their expertise and experiences with fellow inventors.

Need to Reach TBIC ?

Jennifer Knoepp
Membership Director
Phone: 727-548-5083

george@tbic.us
russ@tbic.us
jennifer@tbic.us
gayla@tbic.us

***Web Site Info:
www.tbic.us***

Visit our web site for information on current and past happenings.

You can download current and past newsletters in *.pdf format.

You will need to have Adobe Acrobat Reader on your computer.

If you don't already have it, go to www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html to download this free document viewer.

Newsletter Staff:

Executive Editor . . . George Mouzakis
Editor Jennifer Knoepp
Publisher Gary M. Simmons

To submit articles, send emails to:
jennifer@tbic.us or
garys@ammeds.com

Articles and other items must be received by the first Tuesday of each month.

Membership

Make your inventing process more effective and more fun !

A few benefits you will enjoy:

- **Monthly Newsletters**
- **Luncheons**
- **Free Workshops**
- **Updates on Legislation affecting the industry**
- **Current Industry News**

Bring a Friend !

Membership Director:
Jennifer Knoepp

GENERAL MEETINGS CALENDAR

Nov. 12, 2003 7:30 pm

Nov. 19, 2003 7:30 pm
(Workshop)

Dec. 03, 2003 7:30 pm

Dec. 17, 2003 7:30 pm

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Membership Application/Renewal

Please Send Your Dues to:

TBIC
7441 114th Ave. N., Suite 607
Largo FL 33773

Make Check or Money Order to:

Tampa Bay Inventors Council

PLEASE FILL IN ALL THE BLANKS BELOW

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

SPONSOR: _____

Check One:

- Student Member \$25**
- Active Member \$45**
- Sustaining Member \$120**
- Corporate Member \$250**