

South Carolina Inventors Forum

Welcome to our second Year!!



ISSUE #15

October 2021

Hellos SCIF, in this issue...

September was a historic month for inventors across the USA!

"Inspire" was the 3-Day Inventor Event of the Year! Sept. 15th, 17th & 18th over 50 Expert Speakers and Panelists spoke and I was honored to be on twice 😊 We held 6 Major Industry Endorsed New-Product Inventor Pitch panels including National Hardware Show, International Hardware's Association, Chicago Toy and Game Fair, and PGA Golf Show. And much, much more!!

One of the highlights of the first day was our special surprise guest, Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee. 🌟 Her speech encouraged inventors to simply, [#CarryOn!](#)



September 16th marked the 10-year anniversary of congress passing the America Invents Act. US Inventor rallied across the country for inventors fighting for their rights to keep and protect their IP. Josh Malone is the inventor of **Bunch O Balloons** and now a full-time volunteer with the inventor advocacy organization US Inventor. ([USI](#))

I'm delighted to announce Josh will be a special guest speaker along with our own local IP expert Doug Lineberry for our next zoom meeting about---you guessed it, PATENTS!!

See you on Zoom 7pm EST this coming Wednesday October 13th!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88251334966?pwd=SWVTTmhHNHZZKUXISTW9SRkE1UDB3QT09>

Adrian

INSPIRE EVENT WAS AWESOME!

First day we spoke about the USPTO and the horrible issues we inventors face now because of changes since A.I.A that was passed 10 years ago.



It was a privilege to represent the South Carolina Inventor Forum!
It was an honor to be joined by Sheila Jackson Lee U.S. Representative for Texas's 18th congressional district!! It was assuring to hear someone in Congress recognize the impact inventors make in the USA and how bad the PTABs are hurting us, the spirit of every inventor in America is at stake...



...and even more honored the UIA (who we are proud to be a Gold Seal UIA organization) received this Certificate of Recognition!



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the constituents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I take great pride in recognizing United Inventors Association on the occasion of the Inspire Conference 2021. Your commitment to providing resources to the inventing community, while encouraging honest and ethical business practices among industry service providers is truly praiseworthy. Your efforts are most deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of the United States Congress.

Shirley Jackson Lee

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress
September 15, 2021

INSPIRE DAY 2 and 3 WAS AWESOME AS WELL!

We had ~500 attendees for each presentation during the entire event!!

Day 3, on Saturday I was pleased to speak with my fellow Gold Seal Steering Committee members about what is new for inventors and our fellow Gold Seal members in terms of funding and networking 😊 508 Viewers of the Gold Seal Panel....one of the highest of the entire event!

3-Day Inventor Event of the Year!

Wednesday, September 15th	10am-6pm EST
Friday, September 17th	10am-6pm EST
Saturday, September 18th	10am-6pm EST

UJA Gold Seal Inventor Organizations Panel:
Join a UJA Certified Inventor Organization! Non-Profit and Local Resources



Steve Lyon
President
Inventors Network of Minneapolis



George Peters
Co-Inventor of Kettle Pizza
President Inventor Association of New England



Adrian Pelkus
President
South Carolina Inventors Forum



Get Your Tickets Today!

<https://uiausa.zohobackstage.com/Inspire2021>

It was again a privilege to represent the South Carolina Inventor Forum!

It was fun explaining how GoFundMe is helping inventors and the SBA is assisting startups and our fine City is helping sponsor us as a nonprofit organization as are other local businesses!!

The UJA team, Warren Tuttle, Carmine Denisco and Morris Newman especially deserve a big hand of applause for masterminding and moderating the entire event and Hayden Spitz for the fantastic tech assistance!

My thanks and respects again to everyone that organized and presented!

Tell your story! Show people that you have the winning solution to a people problem that needs be solved now!

It is a privilege to be associating with 1 Million Cups and I suggest all UIA-CIO clubs follow suit and make friends with their local group to help their members share their dreams and connect.

ABOUT 1 MILLION CUPS

Based on the notion that entrepreneurs discover solutions and engage with their communities over a million cups of coffee, the **Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation** developed 1 Million Cups in 2012—a free program designed to educate, engage and inspire entrepreneurs around the country. Through the power of volunteers, **1 Million Cups has grown to more than 160 communities.**

As a program of the Kauffman Foundation, 1 Million Cups works with entrepreneurs, empowering them with the tools and resources to break down barriers that stand in the way of starting and growing their businesses. Mr. Kauffman believed it was a fundamental right for anyone who had a big idea to be able to bring it to life—and we're here to fulfill that mission.

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN FOUNDATION

Founded by Ewing Marion Kauffman, the Foundation is driven to provide uncommon ways to create opportunities and connect people to the tools they need to achieve success, change their futures and give back to their communities. **We believe that if you have an idea, you have a fundamental right to start a business to make it a reality.**

We also believe that opportunity lies in the fields of education and entrepreneurship.

GoFundMe update

If you recall last month I spoke with GoFundMe co-founder Andy Ballester and their VIP team about creating a special campaign for finding funds for inventors to test their ideas, pre company launch. They excitedly agreed to do a pilot program!

This will assist many struggling inventors & innovators to get started.

These funds will allow them to search, file IP & build prototypes to show for raising capital to launch or license. They started by sharing some campaign examples:

Go Fund Me has provided a Guide (photo below) and videos:

We have a handful of videos ranging from fundraising story tips and tricks, to how to share your fundraiser, and even stories from other successful organizers. You can see all the videos by [clicking here](#). I would also recommend the below videos as a good jumping off point for your needs:

[How to Create a GoFundMe](#)

[How to Write a Compelling Story](#)

[How GoFundMe Works](#)

[How to Withdraw Funds](#)

Our alliance with GoFundMe will be awesome for American inventors and innovators just getting started! Its exciting to see how excited they are about this new alliance 😊



There are many factors that contribute to a successful fundraiser.

We've narrowed down our best tips and suggestions to help your fundraiser succeed from start to finish.

Please contact me or **any local UIA-CIO org leader** for your free .pdf copy of the **GoFundMe Best Practices Guide!** admin@southcarolinainventorsforum.org

😊 **Our national network of nonprofit clubs will truly be “Helping folk create new businesses from their concept to commercialization.”**

UIA Certified Inventor Non-Profit Organizations:

Name of Organization	Name of Leader	Email
Albany	Sam Wechsler	solarsamuel@gmail.com
Arizona	Laura Myers	exdir@azinventors.org
Chicago	Calvin Flowers	chicago.inventors.organization@gmail.com
Colorado	Rita Compton	rita@inventorlady.com
Detroit	Mary Kordyban	mkordyban@detroitpubliclibrary.org

Houston	Ken Roddy	ken@patentstuff.com
Innovation World (Children)	Juli Shively	juli.innovationworld@gmail.com
Iowa	Frank Morosky	info@iowainventorsgroup.org
Kansas City	John Meyer	inventorsclubkc@gmail.com
Orange County	John Rau	ultraesch@cs.com
Minneapolis	Steve Lyon	steve.lyon@inventorsnetwork.org
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South Carolina	Adrian Pelkus	admin@southcarolinainventorsforum.org
South Florida	Leo Mazur	mazurelectric@earthlink.net
Tampa Bay	Wayne Rasanen	goodharbinger@yahoo.com
Utah	Rita Compton	rita@inventorlady.com
Women's Group of USA	Marcy McKenna	marcy@simplysolvedinnovations.com

SBA is here to help inventors and innovators start business

For those inventors that get enough initial positive feedback on their idea to then decide to start a business, we are delighted to show and share how SBA can assist them in taking their ideas to that next level.

I am thrilled to introduce our new friend [Valerie Torstenson](#), Outreach and Marketing Specialist, South Carolina District Office of the **U.S. Small Business Administration** has helped SCIF sign a Strategic Alliance Memorandum (SAM) that connects us to the SBA for assistance in getting loans for startups. Valerie will participate in our group meetings and share news, instructions and opportunities from the SBA.

We were delighted Valerie spoke to the UIA-CIO inaugural meeting to announce our new alliance! After the event Valerie commented: **Thank you for affording me the opportunity to sit in! You are wonderful!!!!!!**

Introducing SCIF and the UIA to the rest of SBA today via our internal newsletter.

Ms. Torstenson will supply contact information for the correct SBA Outreach and Marketing Specialist for each of the other nonprofit UIA-CIO members. On September 18th we are having our UIA Insight meeting and have invited Valerie to speak as well!



SBIR grants non-dilutive funds to startups

Some of you are working on ideas in areas supported by the government.

As our friends at the SBA will point out "SBIR and STTR **programs** fund a diverse portfolio of startups and **small businesses** across technology areas and markets to stimulate technological **innovation**".

The non-dilutive funds are available from all Departments of the government that write solicitations annually. (Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, State, Transportation, Treasury, and Veterans Affairs)

I met with Rupak Doshi, Ph.D. CEO OmniSync Incorporated thru Launch Factory as an Advisor. OmniSync has a promotion that I think you will be interested in – it's a great opportunity for startups interested in non-dilutive funding. There is no upfront cost and very little work required - they provide the grant writer as part of the deal.

Hi Adrian,

Pleased to meet you and always very happy to assist a Launch Factory advisor in any way we can. Below are some follow-up actions from our discussion.

For your entity to apply for grants – here is the link to sign up for our base tier from which we can begin to assist with proposal preparation for your grant applications - https://app.turbosbir.com/signin?priceId=price_1HjNhgG7hvvmgHG3W4vc6Cuc

TurboSBIR is a 'TurboTax'-style software solution that streamlines the process of finding and applying for govt. grants and contracts agency-wide, through team-collaboration and management tools. The software provides a comprehensive funding opportunity search engine, step-by-step application workflows, education guides, templates, and samples, including 1-on-1 consultations, as well as PhD-level grant writers to help share the proposal preparation responsibilities. We offer various pricing models, from DIY to premium support packages. We have the right solution for every kind of health and tech startup. We encourage you to create a free (no credit card needed) account on www.TurboSBIR.com to explore our AI/ML-powered funding opportunity search tool. To-date, TurboSBIR has helped >200 companies prepare proposals, and raise >\$5M in completely non-dilutive (debt-free and equity-free) funding, with startups getting single grants/contracts ranging from \$50K (minimum) to \$1.5M (maximum). If you have any doubts about whether we know what we're talking about, see [here](#) and [here](#). Our investor pool includes people like Jeff Bezos, the first employee of Facebook, the US-French ambassador and many more high-profile groups. We're also routinely involved in creating collaborative opportunities between technical entrepreneurs and businesses seeking technical expertise, and in assisting entrepreneurs in all things to do with business creation and operations.

- 1. Promo code for 20% off for any folks who want to sign up for our support - **SCIFOMNI202120OFF***
- 2. Happy to do a webinar for your community and/or for the national consortium. Let me know some possible dates/times and we can pencil it in.*

Let me know if I can help with anything else in the meantime.

TurboSBIR cuts through government bureaucracy to create a winning SBIR proposal with easy-to-use software and PhD-level guidance!

Thanks to Dr. Thaddeus Jones!



[Dr. Thaddeus Jones](#)

Thanks to Dr. Thaddeus Jones for getting our zoom meeting videos on our SCIF YouTube page!

https://youtu.be/V9I3_LSkd18

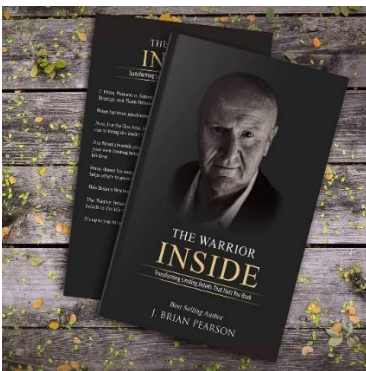


Fanatik Productions, LLC

<https://www.fanatikproductions.com/>

We want to motivate you in many ways!

Our friend [Brian Pearson](#), author of **The Warrior Inside: Transforming Limiting Beliefs That Hold You Back**, is a Business Strategist, Executive Coach, Speaker and Trainer.



Brian is an **Executive Director with the John Maxwell Team** and is graciously providing us his **Motivational Moment with Brian** to begin our meetings. Thank you, Brian!

A ship anchored in a safe harbor is not doing what it's made to do. Ships are made to sail.

Choose to be the sail in people's lives...not an anchor.

Happy purple Thursday! Let's get motivated

Brian Pearson

I love ship analogies! Mainly because it helps explain what I do,, I help design the custom ship, build it in a safe harbor, gather the crew, acquire the provisions, chart the course, sometimes captain the launch or just help run the ship!!

AP

The Inventor's Project News – New bill *EXPANDS PTABs!*

The Inventor's Project is reaching out to inventors and innovators around the country to sign a letter to Senator Patrick Leahy in support of innovation, small inventors and encouraging him to reconsider his changes to post-issuance proceedings in the Restoring the America Invents Act.

Please help us help other small inventors!

Please read the full letter below and sign the letter of support. The letter will then be sent on to the Senator.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN THE LETTER](#)

Preview:

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

As a group of US small inventors we appreciate your interest in the innovation economy. The signers of this letter represent more than 100,000 small inventors and hundreds of millions in revenue. However, we weren't asked to provide input into your proposed changes to the post-issuance review proceedings established by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA) – and it shows.

From Onion Goggles to life saving medical devices and vaccines innovation of all sorts is what drives our economy. In fact, this effect on our economy is the reason that the right to a patent is the only explicit right in the Constitution. And the importance of invention is the reason that during the first Congress the room next to the Senate chamber contained all of the important inventions of the day. Innovation has set us apart from other countries, and policies that make it harder to innovate, harder to defend intellectual property, and harder to profit from intellectual property do nothing to advance the US economy and put the economy into cruise control at

best and a fatal economic stall at worst.

While we understand the idea of building a faster, cheaper, and more accurate solution to determining patentability, the PTAB has become known as a patent death squad instead of an example of efficient government. And the proposed changes in the Restoring the America Invents Act only look to make these problems worse -- by weaponizing the US government against inventors, by codifying pre-emptive access to PTAB even when the patent is already being challenged in federal court, and creating an environment that is even friendlier to patent infringers.

Allowing the US Government to employ an administrative tribunal run by government employees that aren't bound by the same rules that surround the normal judicial process -- is both something that the Supreme Court has ruled against and an action that would put small inventors at an even bigger disadvantage than at present. And forcing post-grant proceedings to continue despite actions in the courts calls into question the original purpose of these new post-grant processes. The post grant proceedings created by the AIA were intended to make the IP lawsuits cheaper and easier. However, in practice they have become just another tool that patent infringers use to tie up inventors and steal their intellectual property. The decision in the Fintiv case at least made it clear that infringers shouldn't be able to necessarily use both venues at the same time. A policy that ignores the Fintiv decision, and goes in the other direction, is a direct attack on our innovation economy.

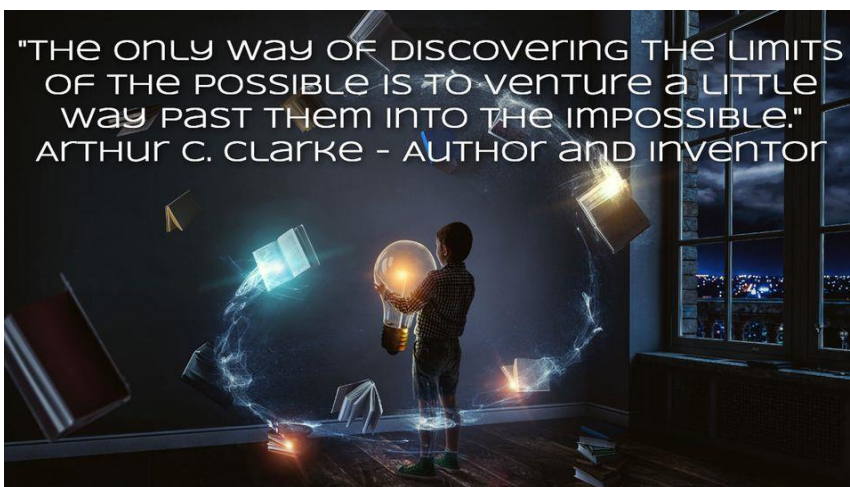
Changes are needed in the patent system if we are going to compete with China and the rest of the world, but the changes that are needed involve making patents stronger, restoring the value of patents in the eyes of investors, and returning the incentive for individuals to risk everything to develop a better mousetrap.

We are happy to discuss changes that would be good for the system -- we are happy to provide examples of how post-issuance proceedings are being abused. We are happy to do anything that we can to make the system better, more affordable, more efficient, and more dependable. Unfortunately, the current proposals do not check any of those boxes.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

xxx





<https://usinventor.org/>

SCIF has a Gold Sponsor!

We are honored to announce the City of Columbia has become our first Gold Sponsor! This contribution is appreciated beyond its monetary amount in that it represents the great connection we have made and how the city supports our Vision statement: *SCIF will contribute to South Carolina becoming known as an Innovation Hub here in the southeast. Economic development in the South Carolina region depends heavily on entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship depends heavily on creativity and invention. By assisting inventors in leveraging their intellectual property and becoming more entrepreneurial, SCIF will play an important role in furthering South Carolina's reputation as supporting startups, general creativity, launching quality businesses and creating good paying jobs. SCIF will become a recognized valued partner in South Carolina's economic re-development.*

We thank **Sergio Aparicio**, the city of Columbia Economic Business Development Manager, for his efforts to help us talk to the right people, fill out the correct forms and persist to receive this sponsorship, thanks Sergio!

And thanks to **Ryan Coleman**, Director of Columbia Economic Development for agreeing that establishing more business is sustainable by encouraging inventors and innovators to become entrepreneurs.

Thanks again to the **City of Columbia** for setting an example how cities across America can support vets, minorities, really all of us striving to build better lives and live our dreams.

Maker Camp is back!

Maker Camp is a free program full of projects, adventures, inspiration, and community. We are looking for Maker Camp Community Partners. That means you! Anyone can register: schools, libraries, clubs, or pods that are ready for a summer of making. The versatile framework is customizable for in-person, hybrid, or remote camps.

Maker Camp 2021 launched July 6, 2021 with rich project resources and a great line up of featured makers including Mario the Maker Magician and Code

Joy. More information about our Featured Makers, project resources, and materials coming soon.

Membership Supports:

Maker Camp

Maker Faire

Make: Magazine

Maker Campus

Learning Labs

Connecting People and Projects That Shape Our Future



<https://makercamp.com/>

SCIF involves you! Have questions, here is where to get answers!

Thinking of any new products or services that may help in some way, shape or form make life easier? We share new ideas and motivating concepts almost daily on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/448388996120060/>

Help for inventors and innovators, creators all!

Tell your creative friends and invite them to join our group!

We discuss the most important things needed to bring ideas to life and create wealth.

Join our group and come to our meetings to learn about inventing, innovating and the process of bringing new products to market. Meet with others and find friends, mentors and advisors.

Prepare your questions about inventing and ask local experts at Wednesday's Zoom meeting.

Prepare for launching your venture.

Mark your calendar for South Carolina Inventors Forum monthly meetings!

Monthly meeting format allows interactions and Q & A:

- Network
- Welcome & Thanks
- Motivational Moment with Brian Pearson
- What's new? Stories and new products shared by inventors
- Subject of the Month Presenter / Speaker
- Resources and New Opportunities
- Q&A
- Who Needs Who?
- Thanks & network

Get all the Newsletters and Videos and more here!

<https://southcarolinainventorsforum.org/>

Web Admin assistant, Sponsors & Inventor Stories welcome

Help!! We need a backup admin for the website!!!!

SCIF Sponsors invited.

Supporting our vision to help people make new things, provide new services, build new businesses and create new jobs!

Platinum Sponsors - \$2500-On banner and introduced at contest, Speaker of the Month, post in newsletter, website, and on monthly Agenda

Gold - \$1000- Speaker of the Month, post in newsletter, website and monthly agenda

Silver -\$500 - post in newsletter, website and monthly Agenda

Bronze -\$100 - post in newsletter & website

SCIF welcomes stories about and by local inventors! We are calling for volunteers to help gather and write stories or folks to send theirs. Contact Adrian if you're interested.

Send us yours or Become an "Inventor of the Month"! Time onstage (~10-30 minutes) to pitch your product and get feedback. Help motivate other inventors, come tell your story!

[Contact Adrian if you're interested.](#)

We thank you for your support!

Non Profit Resources for Inventors

United Inventors Association is an Inventor Industry national membership foundation dedicated to inventor education and support of which we are proud to be a member.



[Learn more...](#)

SCORE can help you start a new business or improve your present business. For more information about the SCORE South Carolina free small business counseling and the low-cost workshop series, call 803-765-5131 or visit their [website](#).

USPTO.gov

<https://scribblesc.com/about>

<https://southcarolinainventorsforum.org/>

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South Carolina Inventors Forum Major Supporters



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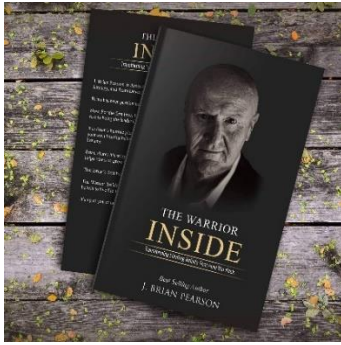


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Brian Pearson

[Brian Pearson Enterprises Lightning In A Bottle Leadership](#)



Tim "TK" Bradford

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SCIF thanks its Gold Sponsor





We Are Columbia

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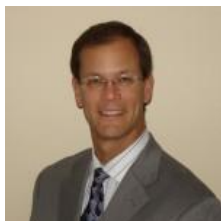


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David Waller
(858) 768-1864

Have an inventive day!
Adrian

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