

South Carolina Inventors Forum

Welcome to our second Year!!



ISSUE #14

September 2021

Hellos SCIF, in this issue...

Our first SCIF Invention contest was fantastic!

Thanks again to **Sergio Aparicio** for arranging for us to meet live at **NOMA Warehouse** and to **Indah Coffee** for the hot cups of joy, both in downtown Columbia!

What a great turnout and amazing presenters, thanks again to **1 Million Cups** for hosting.

The saying is it takes money to make money but it's also true even a little can go a long way. Cash to create a presentable idea thwarts many inventors from getting to that first step. So many new possibly profitable ideas are frustratingly abandoned but now crowdfunding giant GoFundMe is about to show what they can do to help inventors and innovators struggling to start!

"Inspire" is the 3-Day Inventor Event of the Year! Sept. 15th, 17th & 18th.

Are you an Inventor, Innovator, Product Developer, Designer, Maker, or even a Dreamer?

This Virtual Event is a Must-Attend!

Over 50 Expert Speakers and Panelists

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!!

September 16th marks the 10-year anniversary of congress passing the America Invents Act. USI plans rally's across the country for inventors fighting for their rights to keep and protect their IP.

See you on Zoom 7pm EST this coming Wednesday September 8th!

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

Adrian

SCIF First Annual Invention Contest on August 25th was a blast!



Joe Rogers, Jerry ThreeFeathers, Rubie Williams and Mary Hancock photo by Sergio Aparicio

The South Carolina Inventors Forum, honored to be hosted by 1 Million Cups, was *delighted* to share the excitement of our first contest here in Columbia on August 25th with over 70 people that were in attendance! You can watch it here:

<https://southcarolinainventorsforum.org/presentations>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=220969793189835>

I was very honored to introduce 4 local recently patented inventors and innovators determined to become successful entrepreneurs, build new companies and job opportunities right here in Columbia South Carolina.

Each presenter had 5 minutes to present, show and tell us who they are and where they are from, what made them think of their idea, to show us the picture, product or prototype, to tell us how far along they are with it and what's next.

Folks in attendance were then able to ask questions and learn more about the invention.

These were our first 4 SCIF Invention contest contestants in the order they presented:

Joseph Rogers

Product Name: Belmont Safety Products Hatch Operator

Product Field: Industrial Safety



Mary Hancock

Product Name: Ultimate Automatic Opener

Product Field: Consumer



Jerry ThreeFeathers

Product Name: Boom Shade /Boom Solar

Product Field: Marine /Solar



Rubie Williams

Product Name: Dignify Hospital Bed

Product Field: Medical device



Everyone present got to vote for the winner.

By only a few hands the winner was **Joseph Rogers for his Belmont Safety Products Hatch Operator!**

Our thanks and respects again to everyone that presented!

We are grateful to Indah Coffee Co, Genius Repairs and NOMA Warehouse for their contributions. We appreciate Midlands Technical College for their support as well.

And again, our thanks to 1Million Cups for hosting the event.

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.

Creating new business from concept to commercialization takes money...

37 years running [A Squared Technologies, Inc.](#) has benefited me the experience of meeting individually with over 1500 inventors and directly assisting over 300 people in their quest to protect, realize, commercialize their ideas and become successful entrepreneurs. All these ventures have all had one hugely undeniably important, life critical need,,, funds! Personally, I used my savings, friends and family, credit cards and equity loans, angel investors and convertible note holders, pitched hundreds of times and raised millions so I know the paths, pains and pleasures of bootstrapping to doing trade shows to presenting to a hall of 400 industry experts looking for inventors. Like you.

So, it's with great excitement I announce we have furthered our association with crowd funding giant GoFundMe and SBA and even more make your entrepreneurial pursuits a bit easier!

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:

Hi Adrian,

I'm so happy to hear that you enjoyed the call. Andy and I did as well and we're excited to see some inventions come to fruition with the help of GoFundMe. As promised, I included a handful of fundraising examples below and also identified some highlights from each one.

[Help Bishop End Car Deaths](#)

This young inventor created a fundraiser to secure his patent for a device to alert authorities and cool down a child if left in a hot car. Bishop and his family did a great job with updates, thank you videos, and the overall why behind his invention.

[Pediatric IV Backpack](#)

A young cancer survivor invented a pediatric backpack that would allow children mobility while receiving IV's or necessary treatments. You'll notice that this fundraiser was highlighted through various news sources. It also included Kylie's very clearly thought out plans and how and why she developed this. Kylie and her family also provided many updates including when prototypes didn't go as planned so donors knew where she was at during the process.

[Mitch's Machine](#)

While not from the inventor themselves, this story highlights a family that would benefit from the invention itself. If inventors would like, they could do something similar that showcases a life or lives that would be impacted by their invention and the need for funds in creating it.

As for the keyword search, I'm not able to guarantee that a keyword in the story would be searchable; however, we do tend to have positive search results with an identifying keyword in the title. We've also seen several fundraisers who have added a hashtag (ex: #inventorsforum) to the title which can help when searching but again, this isn't a guarantee that all results and only these results would populate.

This week we are very grateful to receive this from our friend **Jessica Nelson**
GoFundMe VIP Experience Specialist 😊:

*I have included a **Best Practices Guide** for you here! Please let me know if this helps explain a little more about the best next steps or if you have any questions at all.*

Lastly, let me check with our team about putting together a video of sorts. I know we would love to be a part of your presentation and think this could be a great way to easily show what GoFundMe can do for your inventors! How long would you like or are you thinking this could be a live collaboration?

Let me know what you think and we'll move forward with next steps.

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 😊

We have indeed invited GoFundMe to join us live at Inspire September 18th at 1pm and hope to confirm shortly!

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	ultraresch@cs.com
Minneapolis	Steve Lyon	steve.lyon@inventorsnetwork.org
New England	George Peters	george@afclancer1.com
New York City	Chris Landano	chris@trakbelt360.com
San Diego	David B. Waller	dwaller@dbwipmg.com
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!



U.S. Small Business
Administration

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!

Inventor event of the year September 15, 17th & 18th !!!!

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



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



Featured Round Table:

Analyzing the 10 Year Anniversary of the American Invents Act (AIA)



Josh Malone
Inventor,
Bunch O' Balloons



Adrian Pelkus
President
South Carolina Inventors Forum



Randy Landreneau
Managing Board Member
US Inventor

Get Your Tickets Today!

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

3-Day Inventor Event of the Year!

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



UIA Gold Seal Inventor Organizations Panel:

Join a UIA 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>

Get ready to get Inspired! 🇺🇸👍

I am looking forward to speaking at this upcoming amazing event Wednesday September 15th 1-2pm with [Josh Malone](#) and [Randy Landreneau](#) about the US patent system and Saturday September 18th 1-2pm along with Steve Lyon and George Peters on resources for inventors and innovators especially for those thinking of starting a business based on their idea and more. See you there! 🇺🇸👋🕶️

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

Please use 50% discount code **Carolina01** if y'all are from **South Carolina**

Please use 50% discount code **Diego01** if you're from **San Diego**



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

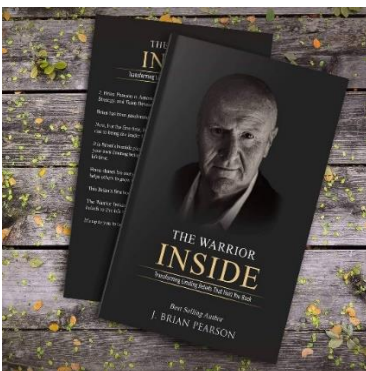


Fanatik Productions, LLC

<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!

Aim For **Progress—Not Perfection...**

USI News and call for inventors to rally September 16th

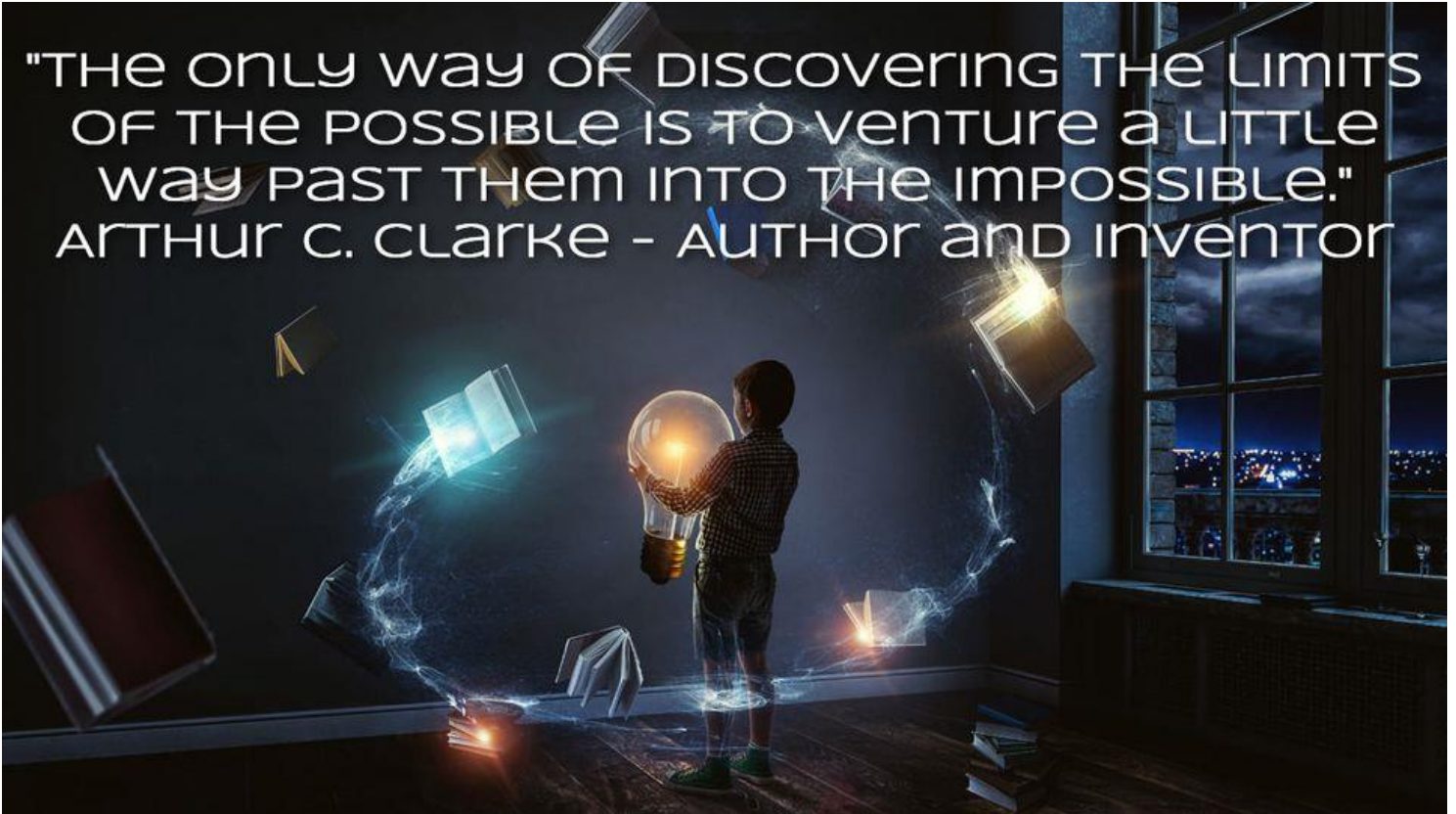


Find Out Why Inventors are Gathering
in Six Different Cities on Sept. 16, 2021

<https://vimeo.com/588050065>

[Attend a Rally Near You](#)

"THE ONLY WAY OF DISCOVERING THE LIMITS
OF THE POSSIBLE IS TO VENTURE A LITTLE
WAY PAST THEM INTO THE IMPOSSIBLE."
ARTHUR C. CLARKE - AUTHOR AND INVENTOR



<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/>

<https://www.scra.org/sclauchinc/>

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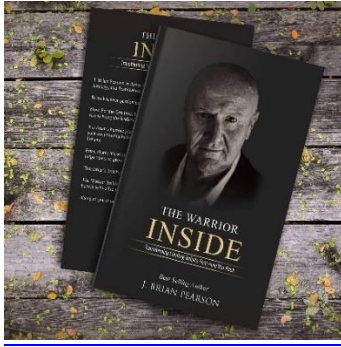


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Brian Pearson

Brian Pearson Enterprises Lightning In A Bottle Leadership



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We Are Columbia

Phone: 803.734.2700

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Patent Success Strategies

<http://www.patentsuccessstrategies.com/>

David Waller

(858) 768-1864

Have an inventive day!

Adrian

This newsletter was written by Adrian Pelkus

admin@southcarolinainventorsforum.org

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