



INVENTORS FORUM
S A N D I E G O

SDIF NEWS

Vol 2 Num 5

Networking inventors, service providers & entrepreneurs

NOVEMBER, 2007

OUR NEXT MEETING IS:

NOVEMBER 8, 7pm-9pm
(2nd Thursday of Each Month)

See www.sdinventors.org
for exact meeting location.

Excellent Food and Refreshments.
\$5 Suggested Donation at the Door, Thank You!

Highlights at this Meeting will Include:

*****2007 SDIF INVENTOR CONTEST*****

Invention presentations and voting will take place at the November meeting.

Just a few contest spots left---ENTER IMMEDIATELY by emailing Ed Balian at esbalian@gmail.com

SDIF representatives, Lisa and Andrea, will tell us about their adventures on KUSI-TV, showing off their inventions on The Morning Show with Larisa Hall. Be sure to be watching the week of November 5.

*** **Attention SUPPLIERS:** We now have a permanent Suppliers Resource Table (SRT) to distribute your free materials. Bring up to 70 copies (2 document limit, please!!!).



Web Site :

www.sdinventors.org

Useful Links

www.EdwardBalian.com

www.a-squaredtec.com

http://www.legalmarketing.org/images/article_files/Patrick%20Henry.pdf

<http://www.mindsetresearch.com/resources.html>

<http://www.venturechoice.com/glossary>

www.google.com/patents

www.uspto.gov

www.uiausa.org

www.chernowconsulting.com



Message from Your SDIF President

"I'm excited for your success!"

==Dr. Ed Balian, President, SDIF, 2007-2008

www.EdwardBalian.com

CHANGES IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND MEETING AGENDAS

Instead of taking up precious meeting time, note that the SDIF Newsletters are now going to contain *much more* information relative to "new business" and "old business" which used to be more a part of our meeting agendas. Note that we have gone from a 1 ½ page prior Newsletter to this issue's full multi-page coverage. As a result, I will not normally be covering many of the Newsletter topics at the meetings, as was done in the past.

This means MORE monthly meeting time for fun, interesting and informative activities. But, if you want to stay in the loop regarding SDIF activities, contests, policies, internal projects and etc., **you will now need to read the Newsletters more thoroughly and reply back via email.** Newsletters will be getting to you about two weeks before the next meeting date. Most members are feeling like this is a good change.

NOVEMBER CONTEST ENTRIES and INFORMATION

*Please email me **NOW** at esbalian@gmail.com and let me know **if you wish to enter the November Contest—there are only a few spots remaining.** Contestants will make a short presentation (10 minutes, maximum) at the November meeting. Contestants will present in a randomly selected order, then SDIF Members will vote and we will tally up for the **TOP THREE WINNERS.** As we discussed at a prior meeting, the Press will not be present.*

MEETING TIMES and PARKING

SDIF monthly meetings will be now starting at 7:00PM, *SHARP.*

Over the last three months, we have been losing, on average, not just 5 or 10 minutes, but 1/3 of an hour before we officially begin our meetings—then we run late, over-staying our time in the conference room. The check-in takes up time, too, of course---we could use some additional volunteer help there too, by the way (just email Carol Dobson or me). I know traffic can be nasty, but we must vacate our room by 9PM. We just need all the meeting time together we can get.



As you enter the meeting room in the future, PLEASE take front seats first. This will allow late guests to seat themselves in the rear rows of the room without disturbing the on-going meeting.

Also, please remember to park on the NORTH side of the building—thanks!

NEW WEBSITE

WOW!!!! Go Scott!!!! Our new website looks fantastic—with a new chat room design as well. Visit: www.sdinventors.org or sdif.40cozy.com

SDIF's NATIONAL SURVEY OF INVENTOR GROUPS

Our SDIF committee on this has already assembled a survey questionnaire for online use. We are attempting to put together an effective email list representing many other inventor clubs across the country. We would like to start collecting data within the next month or two and find out what other clubs nationwide are doing: good, bad or otherwise!

MEMBERSHIP DUES: CALL FOR YOUR COMMENTS

We are currently studying different methods of collecting SDIF membership dues. Pay once a year? Pay before each meeting? Increase the membership suggested donation? Decrease the donation? ***Please--let's hear YOUR opinion.*** Just email me at esbalian@gmail.com If we don't hear from you soon, don't remorse later about not having "input" on this issue!

GUEST SPEAKERS

We are always looking for great Guest Speakers. Please suggest future speakers (with their contact information) to me via email. The recent survey tells us that SDIF members are most interested in topics of Manufacturing,

Marketing, Market Research, Legal, and Business Plan topics, but other areas will be considered as well.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS, SPEAKERS, PRESENTERS, SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS

Do you want to present your invention to the SDIF and get valuable feedback?

Do you have a suggestion (and email address) for a guest speaker?



Do you have a suggestion for SDIF meetings or activities?

Please email me anytime from the website:

www.EdwardBalian.com or at esbalian@gmail.com

INVENTION PRESENTATIONS at SDIF Monthly Meeting (EXCLUDING the SDIF CONTESTS)

I am *ALWAYS LOOKING* for quality Invention Presentations from our membership. I'm always being asked about how to go about it, so the following FAQ's have been assembled for your convenience. (These FAQ's will also soon be posted permanently on our website.)

FAQs for SDIF Invention Presentations:

CAN ANYONE PRESENT THEIR INVENTION TO THE SDIF?

Yes, EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO PRESENT, but please follow our very simple rules below. Please note that we have over 250 members with up to 60 or so in attendance at any one meeting. In fairness to all and to best utilize our short time together at monthly meetings, we have assembled the below guidelines. Thanks for your cooperation.

BUT, I'M KIND OF QUIET AND SHY. I'M A LITTLE AFRAID TO GET UP IN FRONT OF THE SDIF.

We understand this emotion. There is no better way to work through your ideas and future product development than to present it in our relaxed atmosphere and hear constructive feedback from fellow inventors and suppliers. Sooner or later, as an inventor, you will need to present your invention to someone—*there is no better place to start than at SDIF.*

WHAT IF MY INVENTION IDEA GETS STOLEN AFTER I PRESENT IT?

If you have no form of legal protection (e.g., patent/copyright/trademark) *or are in any way uncomfortable* with your intellectual property rights in presenting to SDIF, you should hold off until you feel more comfortable with your situation and submit a proposal at a later date.

OK—I WANT TO PRESENT MY INVENTION AT AN SDIF MEETING—NOW WHAT?

First, submit an informal "Invention Presentation Proposal" via email to the SDIF President. YOU CAN BE AT ANY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT with your invention.



In this email, please include: your basic idea/invention, your stage of development, a description of media (e.g., PowerPoint, etc.) to be used (if any, but it is not required!), and a brief statement of your current supplier needs on the project.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT, AFTER I SUBMIT MY PRESENTATION PROPOSAL BY EMAIL?

You will usually hear back quickly. In most cases, your presentation will be slated for a meeting one to three months in advance. It's OK if your invention or idea naturally evolves between now and your presentation date.

HOW MUCH TIME DO I GET TO PRESENT MY INVENTION?

Due to the large membership of SDIF and a full array of meeting activities each month, invention presentations are limited to approximately 20 minutes with 10-20 minutes of additional time allotted for SDIF group feedback.

The concise 20 minute time frame to present is a great exercise in itself—you need to have an “Elevator Speech” and this is a great way to develop and practice it! Following your presentation, the feedback and q/a session has shown to be extremely valuable to everyone who has ever presented to SDIF.

Your invention presentation will really help move you forward—I guarantee it! There will be **LIMITED TIME SLOTS** in the months ahead, so please submit your Invention Presentation Proposal ASAP to esbalian@gmail.com

Hope you are having a GREAT month. Keep thinking and keep inventing!

“I’m excited for your success!”

==Ed Balian

www.EdwardBalian.com

***SEE YOU SOON.
NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 8th at 7PM.
Bring a Friend!***