



Arkansas Inventors' Network

Inaugural Meeting

July 19, 2007 @ 6:30pm

AR Cooperative Extension Bldg



Agenda

- Introductions
- Basics of AIN
- Our Bylaws
- Networking
- Top 3 List



Why Start AIN?

- Common interest
- Contributes to increased jobs & higher standard of living
- Other states have proven that it works
- Unified voice helps make things happen
- Share ideas, leads, and lessons learned
- Low-cost help



What Exactly Is AIN?

- Non-profit organization
- Has bylaws & overseen by BOD
- Member-run group
- Meets regularly & elects officers
- Mission
 - Dedicated to assisting Arkansas inventors and entrepreneurs find the resources and help necessary to define, evaluate, produce, and market their viable product ideas and innovations



AIN Mission at Work

- Network
 - Meet other inventors, visit with service providers, gain access to key people in our area, access to investors
- Educate
 - Hear presentations, learn about resources available, share your experiences, recommended reading & websites
- Promote
 - Website marketing, newsletter, take your products to local media
- Inform
 - Raise awareness of innovation & new ideas



Classes of Members

- **Regular**
 - Individual who has created an invention or product or who is seeking to become an inventor or entrepreneur
 - Husband/wife or father/son partner team
 - Dues of \$35/yr
- **Associate**
 - Individual, company, group, or other organization that provides aid, help, resources, or financing to inventors
 - Dues of \$100/yr
- **Charter**
 - Regular members that join during first 6 months – dues \$25/yr



Board of Directors

- Designated Directors
 - Arkansas Economic Development Commission
 - Arkansas Small Business Development Center
 - UALR College of Business
 - UAMS BioVentures
 - Arkansas Patent & Trademark Library
- 4 Officers
- 3 Elected Directors



Meetings & Officers

- Every other month (beginning in Jan)
- Place of Meeting
 - AR Cooperative Extension
 - UALR Bailey Center
- Presided by President
- Also have VP, Secretary, & Treasurer
- Elected by membership each November



Meeting Format

- Meet & greet
- AIN Business
- Presentation
- “Forced” networking
- Closing
- Intermingling



Disclaimer

- Under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b), an Inventor may be denied a patent if "the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or *in public use* or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States".



My Top 3 Inventor Tips

- Read Up! Lots of good books on inventing
 - Inventor’s Bible by Ron Docie
- It’s not enough that people like your product, but will they pay you money for it?
- **THE** best use of expending early funds:
 - \$200 for an objective, 3rd-party “PIES” evaluation of your idea by WIN Innovation Institute (www.innovation-institute.com)



Next Meeting:
Thurs, Sep 20 @ 6:30pm
UALR Bailey Center

www.arkansasinvents.org

501-247-6125