



Fort Wayne

ENGINEERS' Club

www.FortWayneEngineersClub.org

Engineers News

September 2013 - Vol. LXXVI No. 1

FWEC 2013-2014 Membership Year

The 2013-2014 FWEC membership year is upon us. Please see below for the 2013-2014 board candidates. Please review the address label on your mailed newsletter to determine whether or not dues are owed. Anyone with a "13" needs to pay for the 2013-2014 membership year. Anyone with greater than 13 is paid past the 2013-2014 membership year. Annual membership dues are \$10/year for full and associate members and \$5/year for student members. Dues can be paid through the mail by check or paid online at our FWEC website: <http://www.fortwayneengineersclub.org/membership.html> (note: there is an additional \$1 service fee). This is also a good opportunity to add a donation to the FWEC contributed academic award (<http://www.indiana-eweek.org/indiana-academic.html>) that is given during the Northeast Indiana Engineers' Week celebration held in February.

2013-2014 FWEC Board

President: MieLecia Martin
Vice President: John Renie
Treasurer: Ryan Stark
Secretary: Elizabeth Garr
1st Year Board Members: John Magsam & Rod Vargo
2nd Year Board Members: Dan Delaney & David Momoh
3rd Year Board Members: Jim Delaney & Jack Phlipot

September Tour

Access Fort Wayne

Thursday September 26th at 7:00 PM
Allen County Public Library 1st Floor
900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Access Fort Wayne (<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/afw/>) is a department of the Allen County Public Library which provides a variety of unique services for the residents of Allen County, Indiana. Access Fort Wayne (AFW) is a full production facility with two television studios and editing facilities. AFW originates three cable access television channels (two public channels and one government channel) from the first floor of the Main Library on both Frontier and Comcast cable.

The FWEC tour of AFW will visit the Master Control Room where they originate the signals for Comcast and Fios, walk through at least one studio and discuss the other services supported by AFW like: Northeast Radio Reading Service

(<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/neirrs/>), Video on Demand, and 3D printing capabilities within the main branch of the library.

Manufacturing Day

Reelcraft Industries
Friday October, 4th
2842 East Business Hwy. 30, Columbia City, IN 46725

The FWEC has been invited by Ed Walter, Director of Engineering at Reelcraft Industries (www.reelcraft.com/) to participate in a tour in support of Manufacturing Day. As of the September FWEC newsletter print date details were not finalized, so please check the FWEC website (www.fortwayneengineersclub.org) for further details as the event is finalized.

May Tour History

On May 16th the just under 30 FWEC members met at Ivy Tech (arranged by 2012-2013 FWEC board member Deb Pitzer) to see the Chevy Volt and presentation by Deep Thakur. Deep gave a detailed PowerPoint that covered an overview of hybrid and electrical vehicles, Chevy Volt basic concepts and statistics, the Volt propulsion battery cell, Volt electric braking (regenerative braking energy capture) and Volt heating and cooling



(battery/electronics/passenger cabin). The presentation included three videos that gave additional insight into the operation and driving experience of the Volt. Deep covered the various types of hybrid and electric vehicles on the market and how the Volt was laid out in comparison to other designs. The battery and arrangement of the drive motors, generator, and auxiliaries was covered as well as how they all worked together, especially with the multiple cooling systems (engine, battery, transmission, etc.) to provide necessary cooling and cabin comfort. Cooling of the battery and the control of the battery output are carefully controlled parameters that allow for maximum battery life, range, and comfort of the driving experience. The regenerative braking energy capture was another interesting aspect of this electric vehicle that works well with the battery choice for this vehicle. There were many good questions and much inspection regarding and surrounding the vehicle itself when the group moved to Ivy Tech's automotive bay area to view the Volt. Many thanks from FWEC attendees to Deep Thakur for an excellent engineering program and 2012-2013 FWEC board members Deb Pitzer and Jim Delaney for organizing the presentation.



Welcome New FWEC Members

Welcome to new student member Curtis Coverstone BSME (2015) at IPFW. Also welcome full members Matthew Wenger BS Ag & Bio Engineering, Bradley Baber BSEE, and Shane Pickett BS Chem.

Please encourage your co-workers to join the FWEC; at \$10/year it's one of the best deals in town!

In Memoriam

The FWEC would like to remember Ron Zeitlow. Ron was a recipient of the Engineers' Week Citizen Engineer award in 1989 as well as hosted several FWEC tours.

FWEC Board Meetings

Fort Wayne Engineers' Club board meetings are open to all FWEC members. The next FWEC board meeting will be Tuesday October 1st at 7:00 PM. Board meetings are held on the Indiana Tech campus in the Zollner Engineering Center in room Z-203

(www.indianatech.edu/SiteCollectionDocuments/Campus_Life/Campus_Map.pdf).

Northeast Indiana Engineers' Week Academic Award Contributions

Does your company or business give back? Would you like to see them support local engineering and engineering students? The Northeast Indiana Engineers' Week Committee is looking for companies that would be interested in contributing toward the Academic Awards that are presented to local engineering students during National Engineers' Week. If you, or your company, have interest in contributing please contact Jake Dinius at j_dinius@yahoo.com. Additional information regarding academic awards can be found: <http://www.indiana-eweek.org/indiana-academic.html>.

Engineers' News Past

The FWEC has a significant history; Treasurer Ryan Stark and his wife were able to find past Engineers News documents dating back to 1938! Here is an excerpt of the past newsletter ([click here to view the newsletter](#)):

Engineers' News from April 22nd, 1943:

THE RIGHT OF PROTECTION

There is much discussion today about changing our patent system. One group advocates compulsory licensing because it says, corporations are shelving patents. Another group advocates taxing patents and exacting working fees. Another group advocates destruction of the Patent Office because it is a mere tool of the corporations. Yet another group states that the entire system must be revised because inventors now work in laboratories of corporations instead of attics and cowbarns.

In the early days when the inventor could, like Paul Revere and Ben Franklin, also become the manufacturer of the invention, this right to exclude, which is often called the right of "protection", was of direct benefit to the inventor. With the progress of civilization, however, the invention and manufacturing phases of industrial life became separated because the inventor as a rule lacked the capital or time to produce and market his invention.

This right of protection was one of the most important items involved when an inventor and a manufacturer were making arrangements to produce a new item for the good of the public and for their own incidental profit because protection was the thing which secured to the inventor a fair share of the profits and which permitted the manufacturer to expend money, time and effort in further development, financing, tooling, and selling the product without having a worry about a competitor.

It seems obvious that any change of law or procedure or any general attitude on the part of the courts which threatens to limit or destroy research, both private and corporate.

In the following table it can be seen that the work of the Patent Examiners, a body of experts having both technical and legal training, is rendered to a great extent useless by courts which are not particularly versed in technical matters.

Year	Number Patents Litigated	Results of Litigation (%)		
		Invalid	Infringed	Valid & Infringed
1938	312	51.9	26.0	22.1
1939	285	46.6	23.2	30.2
1940	330	53.4	23.0	23.6
1941	307	55.5	24.4	20.1
1942	233	59.6	21.9	18.5

It is obvious that these trends need not be projected very far before patents will be rendered entirely valueless.

This decadence of the right of protection can not help but have an adverse effect upon research and this effect will be felt severely after the artificial stimulus of the ware is removed.

It is submitted that unless the organizations in this country which are dedicated to the purpose of promoting the welfare of engineers and inventors do take an active part in promoting legislation which will save and improve our patent system and in defeating any force which is tending to destroy it, we may not long have that right which was a most important factor in building our present economy, in elevating the engineer inventor to his present plane and which is an extremely important factor in maintaining him there.

It is curious and absurd that the voice of the inventor, which should dominate the discussion of a system which was created for his benefit, is not heard amid that clamor of government officials, lawyers and industrialists who, at best, have only derivative interests in the subject matter of the debate.

E.W.E Kamm

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