

# **TIA Meeting for Saturday, August 15, 2009.**

Location - the 2020 Building in the Oak Ridge Industrial Park. Time 10AM till Noon. Visitors are always welcome.

## **Upcoming TIA Meeting on August 15, 2009**

The August meeting features **Louis Foreman**, the creator and executive producer of the PBS series of **Everyday Edisons** <[www.EverydayEdisons.com](http://www.EverydayEdisons.com)> and the author of the new book "The Independent Inventors Handbook" at the August 15 TIA meeting. Copies of his book will be available for sale at the meeting, and he will sign them.

The planned discussion on a future seminar is postponed.

## **Meeting Notes from the July 18, 2009 Meeting**

**Tom Whisman**, the Business Reference Manager at the Knox County Public Library, gave an informative presentation at the July meeting. Tom started his presentation by briefly talking about the new Knox County Library building. Currently, plans are being made, but nothing is finalized yet.

The Knox County Library has 1-hour free parking at the Locust Street Garage for those wishing to visit the downtown library branch.

The Knox County Public Library is available free to Knox County residents who have a Library Card. Cards can be obtained by visiting any library branch. For those outside Knox County, there is a \$25 per year fee to obtain a library card.

Tom discussed several on-line resources that are available through the Knox County Library website <[www.knoxlib.org](http://www.knoxlib.org)> or the Internet.

The **Thomas Register** is available on-line at <[www.thomasnet.com](http://www.thomasnet.com)>. This resource is a source of industrial manufacturers.

The **Sweets Network** is available on-line at <[www.products.construction.com](http://www.products.construction.com)>. Sweets provides information on building materials, products, and manufacturers.

**County Business Patterns** are available on-line at <[www.census.gov/econ/cbp](http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp)>. Using census data, business data relating to county, metro areas, and ZIP codes can be searched.

The **US Census Bureau** at <[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)> maintains a wealth of information to help in putting together a market analysis and for determining the health of particular industries.

A **Trade Show directory** is available on-line at <[www.tsnn.com](http://www.tsnn.com)>. The directory is searchable by location, type, and date. Trade shows are invaluable for getting a feel for an industry and marketing products and inventions.

The **Tennessee Electronic Library** is available on-line through the Library at <www.knoxlib.org> by clicking on **Reference Databases**. A link to **Gale PowerSearch (includes Tennessee Electronic Library databases)** will be near the top of the page under **All Subjects**. You will need to enter your library card to access the Tennessee Electronic Library. Once you enter your number, you will be able to access magazines to search for specific articles.

**ReferenceUSA** is a fee-based database that is available through the Library at <www.knoxlib.org> by clicking on **Reference Databases** and then clicking on the **Business** link. You will need to enter your library card to access ReferenceUSA. The database provides US business and residential directory information that is useful for business profiles and personnel, customer mailing lists, market research.

**Plunkett Research** is a fee-based database that is available through the Library at <www.knoxlib.org> by clicking on **Reference Databases** and then clicking on the **Business** link. You will need to enter your library card to access the Plunkett Research database. The Plunkett Research database provides industry-specific research portals for important business sectors. Within each industry portal you'll find market research and charts, a glossary of industry terms, profiles of companies, company contacts for downloading, and industry associations and organizations.

Tom was asked about resources on funding and obtaining money for startup companies. He said that the Library does not have any on-line resources, but the Library does have books that may be useful. He suggested visiting the Library to review those books and possibly speaking with Katherine Moira of the Foundation Center at the Library. Information on the Foundation Center can be found on the Library website by clicking on **Subject Guides** on the left sidebar menu and then clicking on the **Organizations, foundations, charities, and fund raising** link.

After Tom Whisman's presentation, **Tom Kulaga** lead an open discussion about the future activities of the TIA. Tom announced that the next meeting was going to be dedicated to discussing various activities that could be conducted by the TIA. **AJ Beal** is scheduled to discuss what it took to put on the last seminar. **Steve Levy** is scheduled to discuss setting up an invention evaluation committee or board.

#### **Late breaking news:**

The next TIA meeting will not be as described here. See the info on the next meeting described above.