

Engineers' News

October 2017

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[www.FortWayneEngineersClub.org](http://www.FortWayneEngineersClub.org)



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## October Tour



[Sure-Trac Trailers](#)

[1 Novae Parkway, Markle, IN 46770](#)

Thursday October 19th at 7:00 PM

**Note the date change!**

Sure-Trac Trailers is the fastest growing open trailer product line in the US. A locally owned company with plants in both Markle and Columbia City, they make several different types of trailers including hydraulic dump trailers, landscape/utility trailers, car haulers, heavy equipment haulers, enclosed trailers, and as well as any type of custom trailer you might need. Their degreed engineering staff are highly qualified and motivated individuals equipped with the latest engineering 3-D Solid Modeling software. Our tour will feature their automated assembly line, where they use the latest in lean manufacturing practices.

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## **FY18 FWEC Board Opening**

The FWEC is looking for a Secretary trainee for the FY18 (2017-2018) who will then transition into the Secretary role in FY19 (2018-2019). Please contact [Elizabeth Garr](#) if interested in learning more about the position.

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## **November Tour**



[Sweet Aviation](#)

[902 West Ludwig Road, Suite 118, Fort Wayne, IN 46825](#)

Thursday October 26th at 7:00 PM

[Sweet Aviation](#) located at the new terminal on historic Smith Field (902 West Ludwig Road) will be hosting our November tour. They are a full service flight center with a very modern fleet of aircraft available for training and rental. The tour will consist of their maintenance hangar, including a close up look at their aircraft including helicopters, as well as a talk by Joel Pierce their general manager and primary flight instructor. They have a beautiful building that formerly housed IVY Tech's aviation maintenance school. The school has since moved to the other side of the airport and hosted a tour for the Engineers' Club in [February 2012](#).

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## FY18 Membership Year FWEC Board

President: [Bharat Rajghatta](#) (260) 615-1869

Vice President: [John Magsam](#) (260) 482-2843

Treasurer: [Jon Cook](#) (260) 479-7672

Secretary: [Elizabeth Garr](#) (260) 486-0158 **Seeking Secretary trainee!!**

1st Year Board Members:

[Dave Gordon](#) (260) 693-2167

[Ryan Stark](#) (260) 456-0809

2nd Year Board Members:

[Rod Vargo](#) (260) 416-0986

[Craig Welch](#) (260) 241-5138

3rd Year Board Members:

[Marna Renteria](#) (260) 744-3407

[Ellsworth Smith](#) (260) 637-6070

Resident Agent: [Ryan Stark](#) (260) 456-0809

Membership & Contact Committee Chair: [Dave Schaller](#) (260) 486-7610

Northeast Indiana DiscoverE Committee Chair: [Rob Cisz](#) (260) 435-0409

Board positions are crucial to the planning of tours and events for the FWEC. Please consult the [FWEC constitution](#) or contact us at [info@fortwayneengineersclub.org](mailto:info@fortwayneengineersclub.org) for information on specific duties on board positions.

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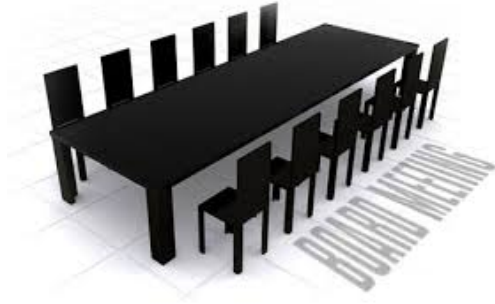
## New FWEC Members



Welcome Full Member Andrew Magsam BSCE

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## **FWEC Board Meetings**



Fort Wayne Engineers' Club board meetings are open to all FWEC members. The next FWEC board meeting will be Tuesday November 7th at 7:00 PM. Board meetings are held on the [Indiana Tech campus in the Academic Center](#) in room ACC-201.

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## **FWEC Membership**



The FWEC exists through funding of its membership. Please forward your copy of the Engineers' News to prospective members and encourage their attendance at tours. Remember, the FWEC is the best deal in town, annual membership is \$10. We offer free monthly tours September through May. Please be sure to recommend FWEC membership to your colleagues and friends.

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## **TekVenture ElectroWors Volunteers Needed**



TekVenture has received a grant from GM Foundation to develop ElectroWorx and TekVenture is looking for engineer-types who would like to help implement the ElectroWorx grant and facilities and help recruit and train youth for the ElectroCorps described below.

"TekVenture will create ELECTROWORX as both a facility and a self-perpetuating program for engaging middle, high school students and the public in learning about, designing and experimenting with 'EME' or electro-mechanical engineering and robotics.

"The two goals described in the TekVenture Youth Initiative for 2017 proposal submitted to and funded by GM, were to "...educate and inspire youth to make things and secondly to (not only) learn but to share and educate others, as well."

"To facilitate creation, operation and promotion of ElectroWorx, TekVenture will develop ELECTRO Corps as an ElectroWorx program of engaging students in creativity-inspiring learning through a series of hands-on, S.T.E.A.M. project-oriented workshops, and then engaging these students as mentors to follow-on students and TekVenture members in subsequent workshop experiences."

TekVenture ElectroCom Planning meetings are held every Thursday evening at 6:00 PM at TekVenture's new facility at 1550 Griffin Street next to the Beach Volleyball courts in River City just east of Downtown Fort Wayne. Please call Greg Jacobs if you have further questions; 260.432.1095

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**Advertise in the Engineers' News**

The FWEC provides advertising space within the Engineers' News. Advertisements are \$10 per issue and limited to ½ page of content. For submissions please contact [info@fortwayneengineersclub.org](mailto:info@fortwayneengineersclub.org).

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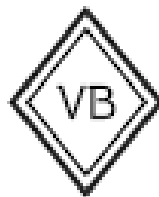
## Education First High School Exchange Year



Meet Max from Germany. He is a high school student seeking to spend his 2018/2019 school year in the United States, to strengthen his English, to learn about our great country first-hand, and make great American friends. He wants to study journalism or political science in college. If you, or someone you recommend from anywhere in the U.S.A., would like to consider becoming a loving host family for a great student like Max, please contact Marna Renteria at [marna.renteria@efexchangeyear.org](mailto:marna.renteria@efexchangeyear.org), or call (260) 442-7456. *If a FWEC member or friend referral results in a successful match, FWEC can receive a \$200 grant for each match, unlimited number of grants!*

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## September Tour



# Vera Bradley

[Vera Bradley Distribution Center](#)

## **Vera Bradley Tour Report – TO MAKE LUGGAGE BEAUTIFUL**

THE VERA BRADLEY STORY - The best stories have the most unexpected beginnings - \$500, a ping pong table as a work space, and a bright idea in 1982 has turned into a global success. First neighbors, then friends turned founders Barbara Bradley Baekgaard and Patricia R. Miller were disappointed at the absence of beautiful luggage in airports and decided to create their own. Their friendship and desire to bring beauty to the world continue to remain at the heart of the company.

THE TOUR - The office space was very well appointed. We got to see the ping-pong table! We went through a 15-minute presentation in the conference room. After that we walked through the sewing area into the warehouse and through the picking and packaging areas. Below are some of the highlights observed during our walk.

### Distribution Center Facts:

- Opened in 2007 with 200,000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Expanded with +200,000 ft<sup>2</sup> in 2011
- 3 shifts, 5 days a week
- 24/7 during holiday period
- # of VB employees at DC is ~280
- VB/Temp. Work force~2x during holiday time

This is a true multi-channel fulfillment center

- Indirect (Wholesale-ex: Anne's Hallmark)
- Direct (Full Price and Factory)
- E-commerce
- Key Accounts (QVC, Dillard's, Macy's, etc.)

### Continuous Improvement/Industrial Engineering Projects

- Initial 5S was completed in 2016
- Monthly audits, action items, training, 5S champions
- Kaizen Events
- Process improvement projects throughout the company

### Receiving/Warehouse

- Container and shipment unload ~1,500 containers per year
- Cycle counts Replenishments ~16/hr per person
- Full case and reserve location picking
- Capacity to store 27,000+ pallets
- All equipment is electric
- Very Narrow Aisles (31 VNA aisles) - Wire guided to stay in center of aisle
- RF devices follow work direction from WMS (Manhattan SCALE)

- Verification done via Check Digits
  - Over 13,000 active SKUs. Slot for 4 major releases per year
  - Order Release, Orders drop from SAP to WMS > Order waved by priority > Pick tote labels print and are sorted
    - Some orders batch-picked, some picked into shipping totes
  - Walk Back Pick Modules: Conveyor scans pick tote > Pick tote diverted to zone > Scan tote w/ RF gun > scan check digits, pick item, confirm
    - 6,300 available pick locations
    - Designed to be used to pick slower moving items
  - Pick Modules: Conveyor scans pick tote > Pick tote diverted to zone > Scan tote > Light turns on, quantity displays > confirm pick, pick item
    - Used for faster moving products
    - 3 levels per module
    - 1,500 locations per module
  - Box Travel & Validation
    - All 3 picking modules tied together.
    - All boxes go into the sorter and will get weighed
  - Processing
    - Added Processing
      - ECOMM orders with special processing includes gift box, monogramming
    - Audit
      - (% of items that get audited, weight tolerance issues
      - Wholesale account orders (Pack lists, repackaging, and more...)
    - Key Accounts
      - Value-Added Services for Macy's, Dillard's, etc.
      - Bag, tag, and stuff
      - Walking Lean Cell flow and kaizen for workstation setup
    - ECOMM Processing
      - Area is designed for all general ECOMM orders
      - Web orders are batched together
      - Uses Put-to-Light to separate and validate orders
      - Packed in polymailers or boxes
      - Walking Lean Cell flow and kaizen for workstation setup = 22% efficiency increase!
  - Shipping Dock: Tape machines (Dunnage, cutguards, tape). Separate, palletize, label, load. Route shipments
  - Walking Lean Cell: Based on Toyota Sewing Cells. Perfectly balanced workload. Sharing tasks/jobs & "Bumping". WLC Example video (k'nex windmill).
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# Fort Wayne Astronomical Society



The [Fort Wayne Astronomical Society](#) will have its next general meeting on Tuesday October 17th, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Star\*Quest Observatory, [Jefferson Township Park, 1730 S Webster Rd, New Haven, IN 46774](#).

## **Star-Hoping to Another 13 Targets and More of Why Bother**

by: Dick Evens

Dick Evans, a member of the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society since the 1970 transit of Mercury, will present "old fashioned" star-hoping methods to find 13 Fall and Winter night sky targets. Most, but not all, are fairly easy telescope or binocular objects.

The "Why Bother part, is where Dick does your home work and provides fascinating information that will give you new appreciations on what you are actually observing.

Dick can be found sometimes at the Star\*Quest Observatory on Public Clear Saturday Nights, using a laser pointer out-lining the major constellations and locations of deep sky objects; open clusters, globular clusters, planetary nebula, galaxies, and double stars.

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