

From: Spacecoast Technical Network [stn.eventcoordinator@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 6:00 AM
To: jerry@contigomarketing.com
Subject: Spacecoast Technical Network Newsletter



Spacecoast Technical Network

Rebuilding Our Community, One Person at a Time

STN Newsletter
 Issue 27
 April 10, 2013



Friday's Speaker

Dennis Watkins



Potential New Launch Site at Shiloh

At the Spacecoast Technical Network (STN) meeting on Friday April 5th, Mr. Ketcham explained his opinion about the importance of having a commercial facility located in the north part of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

The NASA and United States Air Force (USAF) requirements and changes make it a more difficult risk for a commercial venture to be located at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) or Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS).

Dennis Watkins is an independent health and life insurance broker located in Rockledge, Florida. He has served in this field for twenty years. Originally from Annapolis, Maryland, Mr. Watkins and his family have been residents of Brevard County, Florida since 2007.



Dennis Watkins, Independent Health and Life Insurance Broker

Through his agency, Select Insurance Group, Mr. Watkins specializes in assisting individuals, families and businesses with their health and life insurance needs. Prior to moving to Florida, he was a Financial Consultant with leading financial institutions Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch. In 1999, Mr. Watkins received both the prestigious National Sales Director Award and

Therefore, a separate commercial location is a vital entity if we desire to keep commercial space programs near the Central Florida coast. A new commercial launch facility should only make a minimal impact on the wildlife area.

Some opinions feel that if the Kennedy Space Center had not been established years ago, the area may potentially have been developed as urban sprawl which could have been located from Daytona to the Cocoa beach area depending on what kind of programs USAF put in use at the CCAFS. This may or may not have been true as the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge under the auspices of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) manage the property for NASA. The potential for the property to be left as a wildlife refuge may have never changed.

An economically positive reason to have a commercial launch site could be the development of a refurbishment facility and

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the Sales Excellence Award from Morgan Stanley.

Prior to entering the insurance and financial services field, Mr. Watkins spent twenty-two years working as a Civil Engineer for notable companies Bechtel Power Corporation, Basil Engineering, U.S. Corp of Engineers, Michael Baker Engineering and FEMA.

For eight of those twenty-two years, Mr. Watkins served as a civilian Project Manager for the U.S. Corp of Engineers in Heidelberg, Germany. In 1995, Mr. Watkins received the President's Cup from Michael Baker Engineering for his role in reducing the cost of producing digital flood maps for FEMA.

Mr. Watkins is an active member of three area Chamber of Commerce's; Cocoa, Melbourne and Titusville. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Senior Care of Brevard, an Adult Day Care Center specializing with Alzheimer's, Dementia and Parkinson's patients in Cocoa.

Upcoming Speakers

04/12 - Dennis Watkins, Independent Health/Life Ins. Broker

04/19 - Mark Homnick, Manager, Newspace Center, LLC

05/03 - Mark Shantzis, Retired Entrepreneur

If you are interesting in presenting at an STN breakfast meeting, please call Martin McClellan, Speaker Coordinator at (321) 759-5955, or email at: litamartin@msn.com

Upcoming Events

04-16 [Part 2 - Legal Clinic & Managing Risks](#)

04-16 [Women In Defense - Peter Dyson CEO, Modus Operandi](#)

04-17 [BCC Job Fair](#)

04-18 [Brevard Workforce Job Fair](#)

04-23 [Part 3 - Recordkeeping & Tax Strategy for Small Bus.](#)

04-26 [5th Annual Green Symposium - Stetson University](#)

04-27 [STN 1st Annual Member BBQ - Fox Lake Park](#)

05-15 [Orlando Mayor's Job Fair](#)

If you have an upcoming event that may be of interest to our group, please contact Gail K. Peek, by phone 321-383-0664 or by email @ STN.eventcoordinator@yahoo.com.



Spacecoast Technical Network

The Spacecoast Technical Network, STN, meets every Friday to network, share a meal, and learn from informative speakers. The membership is over one hundred and growing weekly. STN is about securing Employment for its members, enhancing skill sets through Educational resources, and providing ongoing professional support and expertise for new and exciting Entrepreneurial efforts.

Networking begins at 8:00am. A hot breakfast is served at 8:30. Cost for the breakfast is \$4 per person. The SpaceCoast Technical Network meets in the parish hall of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, located at 414 Pine St., Titusville. [CLICK HERE FOR INTERACTIVE MAP](#)
For more information, contact Kevin Harrington at (321)302-4787, email: Kevin@STNrebuilds.org

**Join
Now!**

The SpaceCoast Technical Network Offers Two Positions of Membership.

Associate Member - Associate members are seeking to re-establish their income stream. Many of our associate members have since moved on to new positions of employment. Some are starting their own business, while others have re-enrolled in an educational curriculum that will provide them with new skill sets and/or certificates for the next step in their career.

Business Support Member - Business support members offer the expertise and resources of their businesses to aid and assist the STN in its quest to strengthen the economic situation of the community. The support of the local business community is the key to the completion of all STN goals.

One Year Membership is just \$20

For more information contact Herb McElrath, Director of Membership Services at (321) 544-5932

Rebuilding Our Community...One Person At A Time

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