



Spacecoast Technical Network

Rebuilding Our Community, One Person at a Time

**Issue 2014 -#50
December 10, 2014**

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[View Welcome Brochure](#)

12/12/14 Meeting This Week

Travis Mack - Saalex Corporation

Travis Mack - President / CEO
Mr. Mack provides overall leadership and direction for Saalex Corporation, and provides executive oversight and guidance for the company's strategic growth and tactical operational initiatives.

His previous experience includes multi-year service in the U.S. Navy and Senior Technology management positions with Homestore.com, and Modis IT Consulting.



Travis Mack, President/Ceo Saalex Corp.

Mr. Mack holds a B.S. in Business Management and an Honorary Doctorates Degree in Business from Webber International University. He has in-depth expertise in the software applications discipline and Defense acquisition contracting.

Travis has completed the Senior Executive Management Program, Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College. The Junior Executive Management Program, Clark Atlanta University, and is a graduate of the USC Marshall School of Business Executive Leadership Program and is a certified Six Sigma greenbelt.

Mr. Mack is a member of Southern California Aerospace Professionals (SCAPR) and the Armed

Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA). Travis sits on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club for Oxnard and Port Hueneme, the Board of Directors for The United Way of Ventura County.

Open STN Volunteer Positions

Guest Speaker Coordinator position needs to be filled

ALSO

The **Event Coordinator** position needs a new back-up .

Volunteers are also needed to help cook, serve and clean up after the Friday morning STN Meetings!

If anyone is interested in these opportunities, please contact:
[Herb McElrath](#) or [Patrick Pearce](#)

Upcoming Speakers

12/12 Travis Mack
12/19 Kristina - Parrish Sleep Disorder Center
12/20-01/03 - Christmas Holiday - No Meetings!
01/09 Michael Ely

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

Member Notices

1. **Requests for the National Space Club website. NSCFL.org**
2. **Annual Membership drive is now underway. Membership is from January to December each year. Membership dues are \$20.00, payable to STN or Spacecoast Technical Network. Cash or checks may be given to Gail Peek, Kathleen Schutze, Patrick Pearce, or Herb McElrath. Paypal is also an option.**

Upcoming Events . . . November 2014

Dec 2014 [2015 GW Job Center Workshop Schedule](#)

[STEM Saturdays - US Space Walk Of Fame
Lights of Hope Celebration](#)

- 12/10 **Business Development Focus Group - Fairfield Inns - 6:00 pm**
- 12/12 [Let It Snow Downtown Street Party](#)
- 12/12 [Titusville Christmas Tree Lighting](#)
- 12/13 [AVETs Movie in the Park with Santa - "How Grinch Stole Christmas"](#)
- 12/13 [Titusville Christmas Parade](#)
- 12/14 [La Cita Christmas On The Green](#)
- 12/19 [Titusville Holiday Boat Parade](#)
- 12/24 **Business Development Focus Group - Cancelled due to Holiday**
Up To 24Dec14 [Santa At Searstown](#)

If you have an upcoming event that may be of interest to our group, please

[**CONTACT US!**](#)

Weekly Article . . .

5 Things To Do Before the New Year

by [**Mary Hunt**](#)

With Christmas only days away, it's easy to spend most of your "financial thinking" on all of the holiday gift giving, traveling and entertaining you will do or have done. There are five more simple things that you may want to consider doing before the end of the year. Tie up financial loose ends, and take advantage of savings opportunities over the next few days to help get you started right in the new year.

1. If you have a flexible-spending or health care-spending account through your employer, you have been putting away a little bit of money each paycheck toward child care or health care costs. If your eligible medical expenses for the year are less than what you've contributed to your account, you don't get a refund. Employers typically use your savings to offset the administrative costs of running the plan. Check with your employer's human resources department to see how much money you still have left in your account and what expenses are allowed under the plan. Use what you have saved up by year's end to avoid losing those hard-earned dollars.
2. The maximum 401(k) retirement savings contribution is \$15,500 (\$20,500 if you are 50 or older). If you are participating in a 401(k) savings plan through your employer, check to see how much you have contributed so far this year. If you haven't reached the limit, ask whether you can make a one-time contribution toward your account before the year's end.
3. If you itemize deductions on your income tax return, you may want to review your charitable giving this year and consider making an end-of-the-year gift to a nonprofit organization to spread cheer and lower your taxes at the same time.
4. You've got only a few days to clean out your closets, cupboards and drawers to come up with items in good condition to donate for a tax deduction on your 2008 taxes. Carefully record the items you donate, including each item's fair market value. It wouldn't hurt to lay everything out and snap a picture, as well. Should the Internal Revenue Service question your donation, you'll have the documentation you need to substantiate your deduction.

Determining the market value of those shoes or lamps is not always easy. Experts tell us you are likely to undervalue your donations. A helpful booklet, "Money For Your Used Clothing 2008" (available in the bookstore at www.DebtProofLiving.com), takes the mystery out of the process. Packed with more than 800 valuations for commonly donated household and clothing items, this booklet serves as a workbook for this donation task.

5. If you will have a tax liability when you file your 2008 taxes, make your January 2009 mortgage payment before the end of 2008. You'll be able to deduct the interest portion of that payment in 2008, provided it is postmarked by

midnight Dec. 31.

Reference

Hunt, M. (n.d.). 5 Things To Do Before the New Year. Retrieved December 9, 2014, from <http://www.creators.com/advice/everyday-cheapskate/5-things-to-do-before-the-new-year.html>

Mary Hunt is the founder of DebtProofLiving.com and author of 17 books, including "Debt-Proof Living." You can e-mail her at mary@everydaycheapskate.com, or write to Everyday Cheapskate, P.O. Box 2135, Paramount, CA 90723. To find out more about Mary Hunt and read her past columns, please visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2008 CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.

Employment / Training Opportunities...

STN Discussion Forum Job Postings (Member Login Required)

JOB POSTINGS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO MEMBER WEBSITE!!!

JOIN STN NOW !!!

The Spacecoast Technical Network Offers Two Levels of Membership

Associate Member - 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 - 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. Contact [Herb McElrath](#), Director of Membership Services Via Email For More Information Or...

[Visit The STN Website](#)



About The Spacecoast Technical Network

The 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.

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