

PIPLA NEWS

The official newsletter of the Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Law Association

PIPLA 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

PIPLA would like to congratulate the following award recipients:

- Alicia M. Palladino, Ph.D., Leadership Award (University of Pittsburgh)
- Pierre Queiroz de Oliveira, Leadership Award (Duquesne University)
- William E. Adams, Inventor of the Year

2014 – 2015 MEMBERSHIP DUES

2014-2015 Membership Dues will be collected during the summer. Please expect an email and mailing regarding dues payment during the month of June. The deadline to pay the dues is September 15, 2014, and the dues are \$60 Active Member / \$35 Associate / \$20 Student (\$20 late fee for payments received after September 15, will be enforced).

The next PIPLA meeting will be the first meeting of the 2014 – 2015 year, to be held October 15, 2014. Mark your calendars, and have a great summer!

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PIPLA 2014 GOLF CLASSIC

- WHERE:** Lindenwood Golf Club
360 Galley Road
Canonsburg, PA 15317
(724) 745-9889
- WHEN:** Thursday, May 29, 2014
Tee Time - 12:00 P.M.
- COST:** \$60.00 includes greens fees, 1/2 cart, prizes, hot dog and one beverage (beer or soda) ticket.

Everyone is encouraged to stay afterward. Dinner will be available on a cash basis in the "Grill Room." Prizes will be awarded at dinner.

Make up your own foursome, or let us make one for you.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "PIPLA" AND SEND PAYMENT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW BEFORE May 12, 2014. Please also include the bottom portion of the 2014 Golf Classic Invite, mailed previously.

Michael D. Gagliano or Patricia A. Olesky
c/o The Webb Law Firm
One Gateway Center
420 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, Suite 1200
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Telephone: (412) 471-8815
 Facsimile: (412) 471-4094
 E-mail: mgagliano@webblaw.com
 polosky@webblaw.com

**USPTO TO HOST FORUM TO SOLICIT
 FEEDBACK ON GUIDANCE FOR DETERMINING
 SUBJECT MATTER ELIGIBILITY**

Washington – The U.S. Department of Commerce’s United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will host a public forum on May 9, 2014 at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, to solicit feedback from organizations and individuals on its recent guidance memorandum for determining subject matter eligibility of claims reciting or involving laws of nature, natural phenomena, and natural products (Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance). The Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance implemented a new procedure to address changes in the law relating to subject matter eligibility in view of recent Supreme Court precedent.

"We are always interested in receiving feedback from the public and this forum will provide an opportunity for participants to present their interpretation of the impact of Supreme Court precedent on the complex legal and technical issues involved in subject matter eligibility analyses during patent examination," said Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the USPTO Michelle K. Lee.

On March 4, 2014, USPTO issued the Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance for use in subject matter eligibility determinations of all claims reciting or involving laws of nature/natural principles, natural phenomena, and/or natural products under 35 U.S.C. 101. The guidance addresses the impact of Association for Molecular Pathology v. Myriad Genetics, Inc. on the Supreme Court’s long-standing “rule against patents on naturally occurring things,” as expressed in its earlier precedent including *Diamond v. Chakrabarty*, and *Mayo Collaborative Services v. Prometheus Laboratories, Inc.* Links to copies of these Supreme Court decisions, as well as a link to the Supreme Court’s decision in *Funk Brothers Seed*

Co. v. Kalo Inoculant Co., are available at www.uspto.gov/patents/announce/myriad-mayo.jsp.

Participants who believe that the Supreme Court decisions could be implemented in an alternative manner from the approach taken in the Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance should use the forum to present their alternative approach and the legal rationale for the alternative. The forum will also be used by participants to suggest additional examples for use by the USPTO to create a more complete picture of the impact of Supreme Court precedent on subject matter eligibility.

Additional information including event registration, comment submission instructions and directions can be found at <http://www.uspto.gov/patents/announce/myriad-mayo.jsp> and in the Federal Register Notice: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-08759>.

**PIPLA INVENTOR OF THE YEAR – WILLIAM E.
 ADAMS**

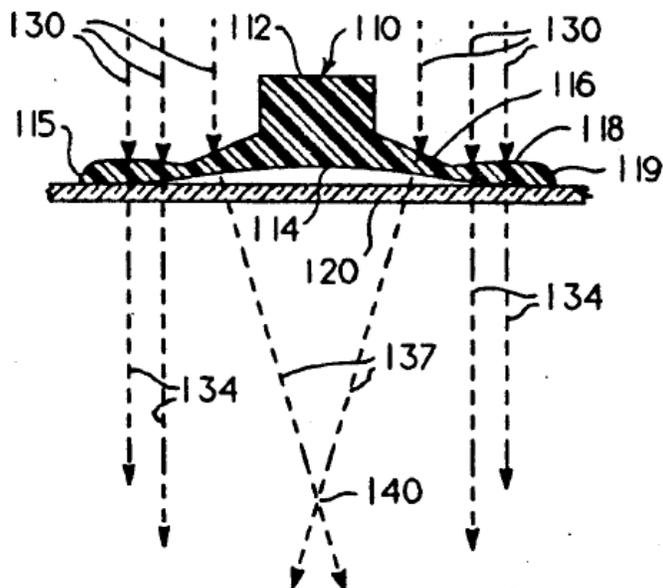
In recognition of his outstanding technological achievement for developments in SUCTION CUPS WITH LIGHT DIFFUSING FEATURES and ADIRONDACK CHAIRS WITH LUMBAR SUPPORT, PIPLA honors William E. Adams as the tri-state area’s Inventor of the Year 2014.

For further information on Mr. Adams’s work, see, for example:

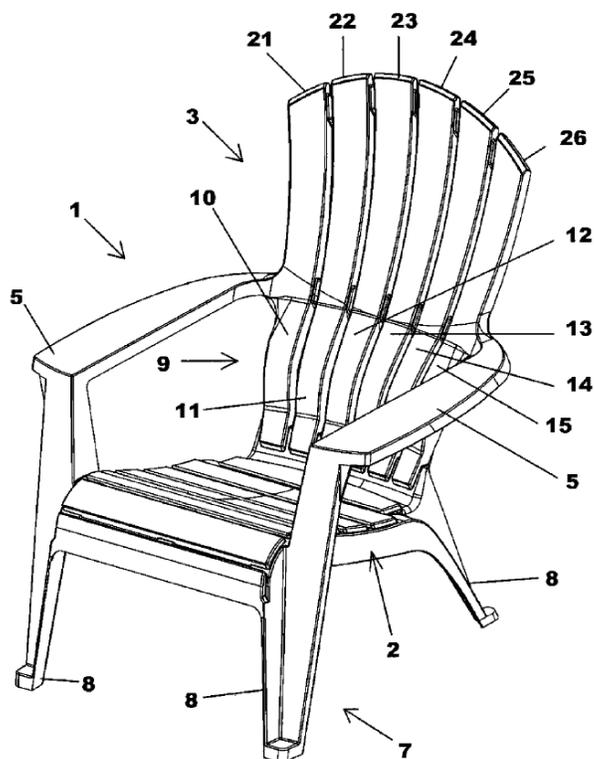
U.S. Patent No. 5,039,045 (Issued August 13, 1991) – “Suction Cup for Use in Windows” – An improved suction cup made of a light transmissive material is provided having a head and a cup portion a concave interior surface adapted to contact a window and an exterior surface opposite said interior surface. A ridge of material is provided along the outer portion of the exterior surface, so that, when the suction cup is in a sealing position, the ridge of material is generally parallel to the mounted surface. In such an arrangement, light passing through the ridge of material continues in a straight path and does not converge at a focal point. Alternatively, surface deformations, such as grooves, circular ridges, dimples, and roughing,

may be provided on the exterior surface of the suction cup. These surface deformations diffuse the light passing therethrough, preventing all of the light from converging at a focal point. (Abstract)

Fig.4.



U.S. Patent No. 8,333,430 (Issued December 18, 2012) – “Adirondack Chair” – An Adirondack chair having a lumbar support is disclosed. The chair includes a seat and a back attached to the seat. A lumbar support is provided on the back. The lumbar support defines a longitudinally convex front surface and at least one laterally concave front surface. Preferably, the seat, back and lumbar support are integrally molded as a unitary structure. The back may also be molded to include a headrest. (Abstract)



NEW PIPLA PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR – HENRY SNEATH

Henry M. Sneath of Picadio Sneath Miller & Norton, P.C., will be the PIPLA Program Committee Chair for the 2014-2015 year. As Program Chair, Mr. Sneath will recruit speakers for our six monthly meetings from October to April. We thank our outgoing Program Chair, Mauri Sankus, for her excellent work over the last four years!

FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

We hope you've enjoyed this issue of the 2013/2014 PIPLA News, an informative and hopefully entertaining look at the goings on in IP law. We invite our entire readership to contribute to this endeavor with articles, announcements, and job postings of your own. If you have something you would like included in PIPLA News or have questions about how you can contribute, please contact Ying Cao at 412-394-9575 or at ycao@jonesday.com.

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Ying Cao, Chair (412-394-9575)
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