



MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

Denny's Restaurant
3315 N. Scottsdale Road (at Osborn)
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Meeting times:

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2007

Networking begins at 6:30 PM

Dinner begins at 7:00 PM

Program starts at 8:00 PM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Vaughn Treude**

Amazingly, we're coming to the close of another year.

Last month's meeting was a first, as our speaker, Jon Adams, who was going to speak about ZigBee wireless technology, did not show up. He was very apologetic the next day. His flight from Chicago to Phoenix had been delayed, and I'd forgotten to give him my phone number. So it wasn't really his fault. Hopefully we can schedule him again some other time.

The biggest issue for December's meeting is the Executive Board election. Currently our board has nine members, in three-year terms, one third of which expire every year. It's a rather unwieldy size for our small

group, and I'm proposing we amend our bylaws to reduce the number from nine to six. We had originally increased the size of the group to increase participation, but it hasn't been entirely successful, because some of the board members don't attend that frequently. My thought is that if we had a better organized program/speaker schedule, and perhaps some occasionally some other activities, the group might become more interesting and possibly even attract some new members.

Our group's officers – president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary – are elected from within the Executive Board. Our newsletter editor and webmaster are usually, but not always, members of the board. So anyone who wishes to be an officer must first run for a spot on the board. This isn't usually a highly contested post, but we could certainly use some new blood. The following are the nine members and their terms of office:

Expiring in 12/2007 – Lane Garrett, Ron Sprague, Vaughn Treude

Expiring in 12/2008 – Ed Mischen, Bob Bianca, Paul Everett

Expiring in 12/2009 – Bruce Johnson, Bill Morgan, Ed Bawolek

Lane Garrett has already said he won't be running for re-election, due to the demands

of his solar business. Ed Mischen has taken a job out of town, so we may need to replace him, depending on the ultimate size of the group. I don't mind being on the board again, but I have no intention of serving as president again. Three years is enough! We also need to replace Clark Jones, our long-time newsletter editor, because he's become too busy with his office in Mensa.

One of the questions we may want to discuss is whether this group still serves a worthwhile purpose. Those of us that attend, I think, at least enjoy the social and informative aspects of the meetings. My membership has greatly benefited my consulting business, but Nakota Software is unfortunately dormant for a while. I'd like to stress again that you be thinking about the future direction of the group (if any) which we will discuss in December. Until then, we'll keep in touch, and I hope to see you all at Denny's on December 13th.

Vaughn

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

by Clark Jones

Well, the fact that the speaker missed last month's meeting does make me feel a bit better about having to miss it myself – at least there's hope that I can sometime get to hear him. (I believe that he spoke to the Computer Society, and I had to miss that one as well.)

I hope that you caught the thing in the regular e-mail from IEEE a few days ago

about the DARPA Urban Challenge. In a nutshell, they had several cars that drove themselves through a “suburban” setting, with a bunch of human-driven cars sharing the road, and with the requirement that the computer-driven ones had to obey all California traffic laws. (They were using a residential area from an “abandoned” Air Force base for the test, and the human drivers were stunt drivers in cars with NASCAR-quality roll cages, “just in case”.) You will, of course, recall my long-standing prediction that we'll see cars that can drive themselves (available for sale to consumers) sometime between 2010 and 2020.

Vaughn mentioned that I've been rather busy. As I write this, so far today, I've been to a total of four Mensa “events”, including two meetings in Tucson, one in Tempe, and an “impromptu” visit to a restaurant. Fortunately, the day's nearly over!

One of the other things that have kept me busy recently were the national Mensa “board meeting” in West Palm Beach on Dec. 1, so I managed to miss the big rain storm that weekend.

Another thing that I should mention is that I'm going to be speaking at the February 6, 2007 meeting of the Computer Society. Every one is invited, though they do ask that you RSVP so as to have a big enough sandwich to feed everyone. I'll be giving my presentation on my solar power installation, which includes a brief overview of the system, a bit about the economics, and some charts showing actual power production.

Clark

Contact Info

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Executive Board

Position	Name	Phone	e-mail	Board term thru
President:	Vaughn Treude	(602)750-3662	vaughn@nakota-software.com	07
Vice President:	C. Bruce Johnson	(480)759-2826	bruce.johnson@ieee.org	09
Secretary:	Ron Sprague	(480)962-8183	r.sprague@ieee.org	07
Treasurer:	Bill Morgan	(480)921-4094	bill.morgan@cox.net	09
Member at Large:	Lane Garrett	(480)966-1380	LaneGarret@aol.com	07
Member at Large/ Webmaster:	Paul Everett	(480)706-4753	peverett@ieee.org	08
Member at Large:	Bob Bianca		Bob@BiancaForensics.com	08
Member at Large:	Ed Mischen	(602)717-9285	23putter@cox.net	08
Member at Large:	Ed Bawolek	(602)376-1755	bawolek@ieee.org	09

PACN Website: <http://www.ieeepacn.com>

IEEE Phoenix Area Consultants Network December Meeting: 2007 Annual Business Meeting And Round Table Discussion

Date: Thursday, December 13th, 2007

Time: Feel free to come around 5:30 and socialize.

We take dinner orders around 6:30 PM

Meeting begins around 7:30 PM

Place: Denny's Restaurant

3315 N. Scottsdale Rd. (at Osborn)

Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

Abstract:

Traditionally, the December meeting is our annual business meeting when we elect Board members and entertain motions on changes to bylaws. The election is followed by a round-table discussion. This is a free-for-all discussion of the issues confronting our Network and how we propose to resolve them. This is an important meeting for members to attend, but non-members are welcome as well.

For more information, contact Vaughn Treude, vaughn@nakota-software.com, or see the IEEE PACN website, ieeepacn.com.

