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# The Advisor

Newsletter of the  
IEEE Phoenix Area  
Consultants Network

August 2001

Volume 8

Number 8

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**C. B. Johnson**

Your president has been on a vacation for the period July 1<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>; a trip to Jasper National Park in Alberta and back. We towed a pop-up camper trailer for the first time & enjoyed every minute of our vacation. Scenes like this one were what we found high in the Canadian Rockies.



We also spent a few days on the Missouri River in Montana, retracing a small part of Louis' and Clark's Expedition's travels along the Missouri River, where scenes like this were commonplace. Now, 4040 mi later, and back to reality in the Arizona desert, we're ready to get back to work.

## IEEE PHOENIX AREA CONSULTANTS NETWORK MEETING NOTICE

### WHEN:

Thursday, August 9th, 2001  
Social and check in at 6:30 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM  
Choice: Meeting participants may order from the regular menu. Meal options include soups, salads, burgers and fries, veggie plates, and American classics such as chicken-fried steak, baby-back ribs and pot pie.  
Business meeting starts about 8 PM

### WHERE:

The Black-Eyed Pea Restaurant in the Scottsdale Pavilions. Located just off the Pima Freeway (Highway 101), at 8909 E. Indian Bend in Scottsdale.  
Phone: (480) 348-0337

### COST:

Meal cost is between \$7 and \$12 per person. If you come at 7:30 or so and do not eat, there is no charge. **NOTE:** Since January 2000, each visitor has been allowed three "free" meetings (that is, the same cost as members), after which there will be a \$10.00 surcharge.

### PROGRAM:

**DON'T WASTE YOUR MONEY ON COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY:** John Strasser, of Saguaro Canyon LLC, will speak about common pitfalls of technology project management and how to avoid them.

### RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED:

Advanced reservations are always appreciated, so please email your reservations to LBruce Johnson at [bruce.johnson@ieee.org](mailto:bruce.johnson@ieee.org) at your earliest convenience.



The IEEE Phoenix Area Consultants Network (PACN) is an organization of professionals representing all technical disciplines. We meet once a month at a local restaurant for dinner followed by a presentation of a topic related to the field of consulting. The PACN offers:

- A web site for posting your resume
- The opportunity to network job possibilities
- Affiliation with the IEEE national consulting organization
- The opportunity to hone the skills needed to market your service.
- A friendly, informal atmosphere in which to continue to move your career forward.

Contact Bruce Johnson at [bruce.johnson@ieee.org](mailto:bruce.johnson@ieee.org), or 480-759-2826 to become a PACN member.

URL's Of Possible Interest

The following URL's may be of interest to IEEE PACN members:

❖ [www.ieeeusa.org/business/](http://www.ieeeusa.org/business/)

This is the home of the IEEE's Consultant's Networks, plus resources for entrepreneurs, researchers, and others seeking information on grant and business opportunities

❖ [www.consultme.com](http://www.consultme.com)

This web page provides a directory of consultants. Services are listed by skill, specialty, name company name or professional title, and by location and availability. There is a fee for this service.

❖ [www.ieeeusa.org/employment/global](http://www.ieeeusa.org/employment/global)

Here is the place to access the IEEE-USA's Web Employment. These services, a benchmark in the industry, are being made available and promoted to IEEE members worldwide. A new global employment services Web page describes how job seekers and employers outside the United States can avail themselves of the organization's Job Listing Service, Resume Referral service and consultants database. The site also contains an invitation for non-U.S. regions and sections to contact IEEE-USA for assistance in promoting these services to their members.

❖ [www.ieeeusa.org](http://www.ieeeusa.org)

The above is a good general website for all of us in the PACN. All IEEE PACN members, who are IEEE members, are strongly encouraged to obtain an IEEE email address, i.e. SMTL. You may do this quickly by starting at this URL.

❖ [www.JobsArizona.com](http://www.JobsArizona.com)

This local URL often contains requests for consulting services.

❖ <http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/phoenix>

This is the URL for the IEEE Phoenix Chapter.

❖ <http://azhttp.net>

The Arizona High-Tech Talent Partnership is a Chandler based organization deals with all issues and solutions regarding Workforce Development in Arizona.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

August is traditionally a bit of a lull month



Editor: Vaughn Treude (623) 412-0916

Executive Board

President: C. Bruce Johnson (480) 759-2826  
 Vice President: Lane Garrett (480) 991-8272  
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 Membership Chair: Paul Everett (480) 706-4753  
 Publications Chair: Vaughn Treude (602) 750-3662

for PACN attendance. Understandably, a lot of us flee the heat at that time. I've already had my (brief) vacation for the summer, so I'm stuck here for the duration. Those of us who are here might as well get out and enjoy a dinner and some socialization and networking. For August, we've scheduled John Strasser of Saguaro Canyon, LLC, a successful local consulting firm. His talk is entitled "Don't waste your money on computers and technology," and it deals with the pitfalls of technology projects and the importance of good project management. This is a timely and important topic for all of us who are in the business of meeting the needs of our customers. Even for those of us who are experienced in managing projects, it promises to generate some interesting discussion.

Each month in this column, I try to discuss something that is in some way related to technology. (Sometimes it's a bit of a stretch.) This month I'd like to plug a book I've been reading. Those of you who are science fiction fans may be aware of a writer called Neal Stephenson. His last novel *Diamond Age* was arguably one of the best in the history of the genre. Stephenson's early work followed the "cyberpunk" tradition started by William Gibson, author of the classic *Neuromancer* and inventor of the term "cyberspace." Unlike Gibson, Stephenson seems to actually have a grasp of the technology he writes about.

Stephenson's latest is called *Cryptonomicon*, and it doesn't fit neatly into the SF category. It was first published in 1999, but has recently come out in paperback. It's a massive book, over 900 pages, but well worth the investment in time. As the title suggests, the subject matter involves cryptography, and it delves into the mathematical foundations of the science, explaining it simply and plainly enough for the uninitiated in the reading audience. The story follows two timelines: one during World War II, and one in the present day. The WWII story involves (not surprisingly) the cracking of the German and Japanese codes by the Allies and the efforts of the latter to keep that fact secret from the enemy. The modern story involves the descendants of the earlier characters: high technology entrepreneurs who plan to establish a "data haven" (William Gibson's term: a place where data can be stored and exchanged away from the prying eyes of governments) in a small sultanate near the Philippines. The characters are engaging and believable, especially the computer-nerd-turned-adventurer Randy Waterhouse and his ab-

sent minded-professor-type mathematician grandfather from the earlier timeline.

A warning to the sensitive: the book is laced with profanity (how could a book involving soldiers in wartime be realistic without it?) and lots of *Private-Ryan*-type gore. Stephenson also deals with the prevalent anti-Asian racism of the 1940's, rather than sanitizing it out of existence like the screenwriters of *Pearl Harbor* did. He recounts atrocities on both sides in a way that diminishes the romantic nonsense that's currently in vogue about "The Good War." The modern sequence involves run-ins with Asian mobsters and addresses some prickly ethical issues.

It's a sign of the times, I think, that books that deal with the effects of technology on our lives are no longer "science fiction," but mainstream. Computers and mathematics play a big part in *Cryptonomicon*, much as they play a huge but often-unseen role in our daily lives. This is an ambitious book; it's only flaw is being a bit on the long side. It also includes an appendix by Bruce Schneier, author of *Applied Cryptography*, explaining a "low-tech" encryption algorithm he devised which is employed in the story. When it's just too unpleasant to go outdoors, *Cryptonomicon* is an excellent way to spend some summer leisure time.

Vaughn L. Treude, Editor

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MEETING NOTICES

AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup> MEETING

John Strasser of Saguaro Canyon, LLC, will talk about project management. See notice on page one for more information.

SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> MEETING

We have tentatively scheduled Brad Ferguson of the Sandler Sales Institute to talk about sales strategies.

OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Topic to be determined.

NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Topic to be determined.

DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> MEETING

December is traditionally our annual business meeting, in which we elect officers whose terms are expiring, and consider any bylaw changes that may have been proposed.

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**OTHER MEETINGS OF INTEREST**

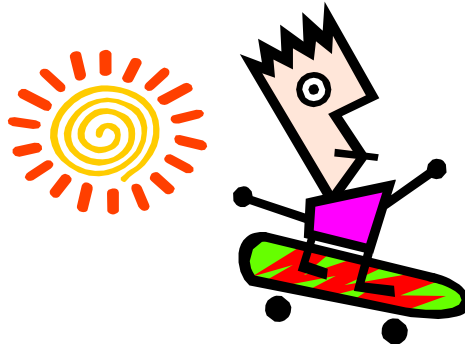
We will gladly list other meetings of interest in this space. Contact the editor of this newsletter. We only ask that the meetings be of professional interest to our members. They do not have to be IEEE meetings.

The Phoenix Chapter of the **Independent Computer Consultants Association (ICCA)** meets the second Tuesday of each month (August 14<sup>th</sup>) with programs of interest to computer consultants, programming contractors, and others in the computer industry. Meetings are held at the West Coast Executive Park Hotel, 1100 North Central Avenue (just south of the Deck Park over I-10.) Meetings start at 6 PM for cocktails, 6:45 for dinner and 7:15 for the program. The cost of dinner is \$20 for members and \$25 for guests. Attending the meeting only is free for members and \$5 for guests. Call the ICCA hotline at 602-942-0667 for more information, or see [www.weyrich.com/mall/az-icca/meeting-map.html](http://www.weyrich.com/mall/az-icca/meeting-map.html).

**Tempe Tech Oasis "Techie Tuesday"** – A Techie Tuesday is a chance to get together with friends and colleagues, talk business, talk shop, whatever you like... This month's meeting will be held at 6 PM on August 14th at the Bash on Ash at 230 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street (at the intersection of Ash, of course) in Tempe. Further info is at <http://www.bashonash.com> The sponsor of this event is the Tempe Tech Oasis Alliance. For more information, see [www.downtowntempe.com/TechieTuesdays.html](http://www.downtowntempe.com/TechieTuesdays.html)

Monthly Tech Oasis events are now being held at two other valley locations. The **Scottsdale Airpark Tech Oasis** is at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 21st, at Jilly's American Grill, 7301 E. Butherus Dr. in Scottsdale. The **Copper Square** (Downtown Phoenix) event, which is held in conjunction with **AZIPA** (Arizona Internet Professionals Assoc.), is at 5:30 PM on Monday August 27th at the Arizona Science Center at 600 E. Washington.

**The Phoenix Linux User's Group (PLUG)** meets at 7 PM on the second Thursday of each month at the Sequoia Charter School at 1460 S Horne, Mesa, AZ 85204. Membership in PLUG is free to anyone that wants to join. The **West-Side Chapter** of PLUG meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month (August 28th) at 7 PM in Conference Room 1 of the Technology Center at Glendale Community College (just north of the library.) This month's topic is Kylix, the new cross-platform development tool from Inprise (formerly Borland.)



**Internet Resources:** The IEEE Phoenix Area Consultants Network maintains a web site with resumes of all members who wish to post one. It is a member benefit that is paid for in your membership fees. In addition there is a national directory of consultants and a national web site maintained by IEEE. PACN member web sites are listed below:

**ADVISOR MEMBER LIST**

**August 2001**

Name	Phone	FAX	email	Area of Expertise
Baxter, Dr. Gene K., P.E.	480-832-7744	480-832-7744	baxter@forensicgroup.com	Forensic mech. engineer, prod. liability, personal injury
Everett, Paul M.	480-706-4753	480-706-4753	peverett@everettinfrared.com	Electro-optics / Infrared technology
Garrett, Lane S., PE, CEM	480-966-1380	480-966-1516	lanegarret@aol.com	New product development, alternative energy
Gerke, Daryl, P.E.	480-755-0080	480-838-9605	dgerke@emiguru.com	Electromagnetic interference and compatibility
Goldstein, Mark A.	602-470-0389	602-470-0389	markg@researchedge.com	Information brokering, market research
Johnson, Dr. C. Bruce	480-759-2826	480-759-2826	bruce.johnson@ieee.org	New product development, night vision, optical sensors
Johnson, Russell R.	480-991-3787		rjohnkozar@aol.com	Program / project and quality management
Jones, Clark	480-345-3638	480-345-8793	jones@tempe.tt.slb.com	
Kawam, Elias A.	480-706-8561	480-706-8587	eklatek@mindspring.com	Space power
Koch, Edward, Jr.	602-953-2111	602-953-2111	ekochjr@worldnet.att.net	SW Project / program mgmt, embedded systems (Sorry, no info at this time!)
Lacey, Herman E.				
Leverance, Neil C.	480-981-8883	480-981-5117	nLever@ieee.org	Control sys., meas. & test, automation, PLC's
Maltenfort, Andrew J.	480-704-6250	480-759-3801	maltenfort@arowave.com	Photonics, fiber optics, sensors, integrated optics
Morgan, William D.	480-921-4094	480-921-4094	bmorgan@amug.org	Software design and development- Macintosh
Polischuk, Andre	602-482-0890	602-482-3979	apolischuk@aol.com	
Rose, Robert C.	480-595-1187		bob.rose@ieee.org	
Sprague, Ronald L., PE	480-962-8183	480-962-8183	r.sprague@ieee.org	Power Engineer
Sullivan, Robert M.	480-948-3242	480-948-3242	sully@goodnet.com	Product development: high perform. tech. computer pkg
Tannehill, Richard L., PE	623-435-9584	623-435-9584	rickw7rt@firstinter.net	Telecommunications
Treude, Vaughn L.	623-412-0916	623-412-0916	v.treude@ieee.org	Software design & development, SECS/GEM, industrial

**MEMBER WEB SITES**

**PACN Site: [www.etaengineering.com/ieeephx.html](http://www.etaengineering.com/ieeephx.html)**

Paul M. Everett	<a href="http://www.everettinfrared.com">www.everettinfrared.com</a>	Lane S. Garret	<a href="http://www.etaengineering.com">www.etaengineering.com</a>
Daryl Gerke	<a href="http://www.emiguru.com">www.emiguru.com</a>	Mark A. Goldstein	<a href="http://www.researchedge.com">www.researchedge.com</a>
C. Bruce Johnson	<a href="http://www.JohnsonScientificGroupInc.com">www.JohnsonScientificGroupInc.com</a>	Andrew J. Maltenfort	<a href="http://www.arowave.com">www.arowave.com</a>
William D. Morgan	<a href="http://www.amug.org/~bmorgan">www.amug.org/~bmorgan</a>	Robert C. Rose	<a href="http://www.gshelp4u.com">www.gshelp4u.com</a>
Richard L. Tannehill	<a href="http://members.firstinter.net/rickw7rt">members.firstinter.net/rickw7rt</a>	Vaughn L. Treude	<a href="http://www.nakota-software.com">www.nakota-software.com</a>