



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Paul Everett

Our meeting this month will be held on Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. We will again be at the Arthur and Louise Price Community Room at the Chandler Fashion Center where we held our last two meetings. We have NOT moved permanently to the Price Room but are just trying it out as an alternative to Monti's. A number of people flat-out like Monti's. Others are concerned about the relatively high cost and limited menu. The Price Room is more than large enough for our needs, clean and quiet. The food selection is almost unlimited, and the cost is substantially lower than Monti's. This major disadvantage is that it just doesn't have the ambiance of a sit-down restaurant with white table cloths. Also, it is about as far south in the Valley as you can get, and that is an issue for those located in the north and west parts of town. It is, however, at the intersection of two major freeways so it's not too hard to get to. It is clear that no location is going to be perfect. Several of our Board members are out scouting for a restaurant with a sufficiently large private room where we can order from the regular menu. We are also trying to find a more central location. If you have a suggestion for a good place, please let it be known. I guess our options are a) stay at Price, b) return to Monti's and c) find another location. Send an email to [peverett@everettinfrared.com](mailto:peverett@everettinfrared.com) and let me know what you think we should do.

This month Chris Schene from Anadigm will talk about AnadigmVortex field programmable analog arrays (FPAA) and the associated EDA tool set. The AnadigmVortex FPAA are programmable analog devices that are configured using an intuitive drag and drop tool set, the AnadigmFilter filter designer tool and the AnadigmPID PID design tool. Complex analog design and implementation time are often reduced from months to days and changes can be made in literally minutes. He will give a brief presentation and then spend the rest of the session demonstrating the FPAA device. Prior to working at Anadigm, Chris worked at Bell Laboratories, Harris, Paradyne, ITT, and Honeywell. He holds the BSE EE degree from Arizona State University. He has published a number of articles on industrial process control and made presentations at the Embedded Systems Conferences. He has three patents pending for work done at Anadigm.

We try to have programs that are related to the business side of being a consultant as well as programs with a more technical bent. Lane Garrett's talk last month on *The H<sub>2</sub> Economy* sort of incorporated both categories. This month's program is on technology. The subject is certainly of interest to me. In our work we capture analog signals (usually very small ones) and carry them over to the digital domain where we do a substantial amount of processing. Usually we use microprocessors, but sometimes we use field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs). I am told that Anadigm's FPAA is the analog

version of the FPGA. The FPAA might fit in very nicely with what we are doing and open new opportunities for us.

In keeping with the business side of things, Eli Kawam is going to have a poster presentation at this month's meeting on the SBIR proposal he is submitting this month. He will outline the process and procedure that he went through to identify the opportunity, prepare the proposal and market it to the appropriate Government decision makers. This will be of particular interest to anyone who is considering applying for a portion of this largesse that is set aside for the little guys like us.

See you on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Paul

#### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By Clark Jones

Well, I'm about to "fly the coop" once more, or more precisely, twice more. I'm going to Australia again, this time to visit Mike Waters and Leslie Rees and go sailing in the Great Barrier Reef aboard their boat, the Ichi. I'll miss the September meeting, but will be back in time to do the October edition of *The Advisor*. However, I'll be leaving again right before the October meeting and going to Europe. I'll be back in time for the December meeting, though will not be back in time to do

either the November or December issues of *The Advisor*.

The last I spoke to Vaughn, he said that he would be able to fill in for me for the three issues that I'll miss. If you have trouble remembering which of us is going to edit *The Advisor*, it might be simplest to just send contributions to both of us. Vaughn's e-mail address is [vaughn@nakota-software.com](mailto:vaughn@nakota-software.com).

A few days ago, I had the opportunity to see the movie *I, Robot*. It is very loosely based on a book of the same name by Isaac Asimov from 1950, with one of the stories in the anthology dating back to 1940. It is a good, though not a great, movie. One of the things that came through to me was that their use of U.S. Robotics was a metaphor for today's Microsoft. After the movie, I said to the person I was with "now you see why I say 'I don't trust computers: I design computers -- I know better than to trust them!'" (O.K., I've only actually done architectural design on hardware to test them, though that did include microprogrammable hardware, as well as extensive software design, so "designing computers" may be stretching it a bit, but it does bring home the point to non-technical people.)

One other thing that I want to do is to publicly thank Paul for getting his article to me very early this month.

Clark

Contact Info:

Editor: Clark Jones (480)641-7801 [jones8@mindspring.com](mailto:jones8@mindspring.com)

Executive Board

President:	Paul Everett	(480)706-4753	<a href="mailto:peverett@ieee.org">peverett@ieee.org</a>
Vice President:	C. Bruce Johnson	(480)759-2826	<a href="mailto:bruce.johnson@ieee.org">bruce.johnson@ieee.org</a>
Secretary:	Eli Kawam	(480)706-8561	<a href="mailto:elikawam@mindspring.com">elikawam@mindspring.com</a>
Marketing:	Ron Sprague	(480)966-1380	<a href="mailto:r.sprague@ieee.org">r.sprague@ieee.org</a>
Treasurer:	Bill Morgan	(480)921-4094	<a href="mailto:bmorgan@amug.org">bmorgan@amug.org</a>
Member at Large:	Lane Garrett	(480)966-1380	<a href="mailto:LaneGarret@aol.com">LaneGarret@aol.com</a>
Member at Large/ Webmaster:	Vaughn Treude	(602)750-3662	<a href="mailto:vaughn@nakota-software.com">vaughn@nakota-software.com</a>
Membership Chair:	Michael Jordan	(480)456-6784	<a href="mailto:mike.jordan@ieee.org">mike.jordan@ieee.org</a>
Member at Large:	Ed Mischen	(480)752-6314	<a href="mailto:ed.mischen@philips.com">ed.mischen@philips.com</a>

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

**IEEE Phoenix Area Consultants Network  
Membership Application Form**

Membership is available to anyone who is interested in the goals of the organization. Full membership entitles a member to voting privileges at business meetings, and to a web site listing. Associate members are not listed and do not vote, but receive all mailings. Please note that the newsletter is distributed via e-mail.

I hereby apply for (full\_\_\_\_ associate\_\_\_\_) membership in the IEEE Phoenix area Consultants Network.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First and initials)

IEEE member? Yes\_\_\_\_ (Membership number \_\_\_\_\_) No\_\_\_\_

P.E.? Yes\_\_\_\_ (States: \_\_\_\_\_) No\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of expertise: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Company address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred mail address: Work\_\_\_\_ Home\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form with membership fee payable to "IEEE-PACN" to:  
William D. Morgan                      Fees: Full member, IEEE Member: \$25  
Treasurer, IEEE PACN                Full member, non-IEEE Member \$30  
23 E. Fairmount Drive                Associate member: \$20  
Tempe AZ 85282