



## MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

March 10, 2005, dinner (or just come to network)  
at 7:00 PM, presentation at 8:00 PM.

Denny's Restaurant  
3315 N. Scottsdale Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Vaughn Treude

Hello everyone. I'd like to start out by apologizing for being out of the loop for the majority of the new year so far. It was just my luck that everything came due all at once. Not that I should complain, at least I've got work, something that's been a little scarce the last couple of years. Those of you who were there know that I missed the February meeting (I was out of town on business) but I do intend to be there this month.

I did manage to get to the annual IEEE banquet early last month. I must say I was pleasantly surprised because the main presenter was pretty interesting. This was Greg Mehall, an ASU professor who's been working on NASA's Mars Rover project. They said he asked for extra time for his talk -- usually a bad sign, but not in this case. He showed some short videos of the rovers (there are two of them) crawling around the

Martian surface. There was even a little humor where the simulation showed the rover's drill bit getting stuck on a rock and spinning itself apart -- that didn't actually happen, of course. As for the consultant's network, our founder Henry Burger was there to receive his award. It was good to see Henry and his wife again, and they appear to be doing fine in the DC area, where he's working as a civilian employee of the Navy.

This month's PACN meeting will be a good one. I can say that with certainty because Clark Jones will be giving his talk on IC testing, which I got to hear at the Computer Society meeting this January. Clark has many of years experience in this field, and if you've had a PC with a Pentium in it, it was probably tested by Clark's software. It was especially interesting to me because I've spent some time in the test engineering field myself- though it's been a while since I designed any tester boards!

I'd better sign off now because I'm way late getting this written. Hope to see you at Denny's on Thursday.

Vaughn

## EDITOR 'S MESSAGE

by Clark Jones

This month's issue finds me in the midst of fighting some computer problems. I noticed that one of the disks was starting to act up in a way suggesting that it was on the verge of dying. Unfortunately, this was the disk that had (amongst other stuff) the operating system on the computer that has the modem on it. The old disk was a 13GB drive, and the smallest replacement that I could find was an 80GB drive. The old one, as I recall, was a 3600RPM drive, and the new one is a 7200 RPM drive, which is a waste as the channel it's on can't take advantage of the extra speed. (The new one uses more power than the old, so adds more to an already hot case.)

I've gone through several iterations of trying to get things going, and have a "temporary" setup at the moment which will probably be gone by the time you actually read this.

Fortunately, the preparation for my presentation will take place on a computer that is running just fine. (Knock on wood!) If worst comes to worst, I could always use the exact same version as my presentation to the Computer Society, though I would like to update it a bit (and hopefully make it just a tad bit shorter – it was kind of long to be talking).

Anyway, I'll see you Thursday at Denny's!

Clark

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