
July SVFIG Meeting

Fourth Saturday
27-July-2013

[Google+ Hangout](#)

SVFIG will participate in a Google+ Hangout. The YouTube video stream should let everybody join in, while questions and comments can either be posted on Google or emailed to the [SVFIG email list](#). The URL for the YouTube stream will be posted on the Hangout page and emailed to members of the SVFIG list when the video feed is started. Material with intellectual property conflicts will not be streamed.

A subscription to Google+ is not required to view the video. Here is a link to the [SVFIG Hangout page](#)

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SVFIG meets on the fourth Saturday of each month this year with the following exceptions:

November and December – meetings will be held on the third Saturday

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If you are planning to attend, please go to [Meetup.com](#) to register for the meeting. This will help with food planning for the barbeque lunch. Indicate your preference for a vegetarian meal.

If you are not planning to attend, there is no need to register.

NOTES FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES:

- 0) Some of this month's meeting topics do not pertain directly to Forth. You are welcome to skip the parts which don't interest you!
- 1) Print a map so you can find the building easily. If you get lost, call Kevin Appert at 650/678-0532
- 2) Browse the [additional online information](#).
- 3) Suggested parking is in the small lot near the intersection of [Santa Teresa St and Lomita Dr](#). You may park in any "A" or "C" designated areas. There is no need to

feed the meter on the weekends. Do NOT park in any place marked with 24/7 restrictions! Most other places are okay on Saturdays. **Read the signs!**

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This page is for the schedule and coming attractions only, other meeting details will be included in the email announcement and will be posted online [here](#).

Links, PowerPoint slides, PDFs, meeting videos, and source files from previous months' meetings are posted on the SVFIG website.

Speakers' Schedule

9:45 --- Coffee and a Chat

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10:00 --- Olde Tyme Forth Systems --- [Chen Hanson Ting](#)

Ting has reactivated 8086 FIG Forth, F83-MSDOS, and FPC, on his Windows XP computer. He has also updated eForth and Zen. "It was nice to see these old Forths still working!" Ting will demonstrate them in the meeting so we can all reminisce. He will also show new electronic editions of his Systems Guide to FIG Forth, Inside F83, eForth, and Zen, all available on [his website](#). Ting used an old version of Acrobat to add chapter bookmarks to these three books, producing an improved appearance.

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11:45 --- Forth of July Barbecue

We'll be enjoying the traditional Forth of July barbecue.

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13:00 --- Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

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13:20 --- Non-Forth Languages on the eP64 Processor --- Samuel A. Falvo II

Sam will talk briefly about some instruction set changes currently on the drawing board to the eP64 designed to better support non-Forth languages (e.g., C, and BCPL for instance).

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13:50 --- Assembler / Disassembler for colorForth --- Dennis Ruffer

Dennis will talk about his full round-trip assembler / disassembler for colorForth. The archive is available [here](#).

"One should note that the comparison is to the uncompressed source (af), since this

code started before the compression was added to colorForth. Before the output file can be used by colorForth, the ns variable in block 18 has to be changed to be positive in the ASCII text (dsm) and then passed through cfas. Then colorForth will boot it and the source can be saved in colorForth to return to a compressed source file.”

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14:15 --- Break

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14:25 --- A Newbie Looks at Forth ... --- [Glen Worstell](#)

... and finds some things not to his liking.

"I'd like to present my ideas about a few things that I'd like to modify before doing embedded systems projects in Forth and would like to receive feedback from the experts on reasons not to make these changes, if there are good ones."

Glen won't consider Forth standards, as they are beyond the scope of his talk.

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15:10 --- Mecrisp Forth on Low-cost Hardware --- [Glen Worstell](#)

[Mecrisp](#) runs out of the box on several platforms:

- TI MSP430 Launchpad
- TI ARM Cortex M4 Launchpad
- STM32F4 Arm Cortex M4 Launchpad
- several MSP430 and ARM Cortex microprocessors

Mecrisp is an excellent Forth implementation using subroutine-threaded code with some code optimization. The MSP430 version includes an assembler and disassembler, so 'SEE' is implemented (a great feature).

All versions can have code resident in:

- core flash - can't be erased without reloading
- user flash - easily erased and reprogrammed in Forth
- ram - good for debugging new words

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Random Access

Impromptu talks, amiable ambling discussions, sauntering through [news:comp.lang.forth](#) and other conversations will be offered for your amusement in the interstices if any. It may delay the start of scheduled talks.

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15:55 --- Clean Up

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16:00 --- Adjourn

Do we try to stick to the schedule? Yes, most of the time. Sometimes somebody runs a little long. Once in a while we shuffle things around. If you're desperate to see a particular thing at a particular time please mention it and we'll try to accommodate you.

The above schedule may be reformatted or line-justified, but please transmit it verbatim or not at all. A link to this page is preferred.

No Newsgroup posts or other media distribution please!

This page is produced by [Kevin Appert](#), the SVFIG Program Chair. It is distinct from the SVFIG and FIG websites which are produced by the SVFIG Webmaster, [Dave Jaffe](#). His work is more carefully done and is of better quality but the monthly announcement has its own *je ne sais quoi*. Corrections and other comments are encouraged.

