Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Jan 27 at Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: **"Linear Feedback Shift Registers"**, *John Rible*

John Rible will give more of an explanation of Linear Feedback Shift Registers, what they're good for, and an implementation in Forth. He'll also describe (briefly) the simplifications he made in the qsp16 after last month's presentation.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 General: "**The Computation of Chi**", *C.H. Ting*

Ting will give details on Chi,being the sum of phases of the 5 planets, earth and moon.

14:30 Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00 Impromptu Talks: **Those who signed up.**

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks.

16:00 Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Feb 05, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo.

The **meetings this year** will be on the 4th Saturday of each month except as noted:

Month/day (#Sat)   Notes

Month/day	(#Sat)	Notes
Jan 27	(4)	
Feb 24	(4)	
Mar 24	(4)	
Apr 14	(2)	Apr 21 is Cogswell commencement; closed 28th
May 19	(3)	May 26 is Memorial Day weekend
Jun 23	(4)	
Jul 28	(4)	
Aug 18	(3)	Aug 25 Cogswell is closed
Sep 22	(4)	
Oct 27	(4)	
Nov 17	(3)	Nov 24 is Thanksgiving weekend; 17th possible Forth Day
Dec 15	(3)	Dec 22 Cogswell is closed

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Feb 24
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

This meeting does not have specific presenters identified, so it is a good time to have a workshop on language development and usage.

Also Al Mitchell will introduce to us his amrFORTH V5, an Umbilical Forth for Linux. He will not only announce the amResearch release to the Linux port and he will distribute copies.

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: **Tools for Today,** *attendees*

This is a special session on identifying and establishing Forth tools for interfacing with USP's, the Internet, the HTML way of human interface, Java, Unix, command line free operating systems (Microsoft, Apple), etc.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk: What we are doing with Forth Today, *attendees*

This is also a special session on what we are doing with Forth in our work and play, what sort of problems we are having and what advantages we are experiencing.

This is also a good time to see what sort of tools or languages that some of us have migrated to and to identify the reason why.

14:30 Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00 Impromptu Talks: *Those Who Signed Up*

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks.

16:00 Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Mar 05, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Mar 24
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45   Coffee and Pastries

10:00   Technical Session: *C.H. Ting*

1) **P24 eForth Package** - This is being posted on the Forth.org web. It includes the entire package, which I think is very significant for Forth engine designers.

2) **Speech Compression Algorithms now**. LPC10 and CELP are the two immediate goals. I hope that I will learn enough about LPC10 and talk about it intelligently in the meeting. LPC10 is a Federal Standard (FS1015) and CELP is another (FS1016) for low bandwidth communications. LPC10 has a compression ratio of an amazing 40:1

NOTE: Ting;s presence is not guaranteed as he may be be called out of town at any time. An alternate topic will be announced if he will not be able to come.

12:00   Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00   Introductions and Gossip

13:30   Featured Talk: Software Legal Issues, *George Perry*

George will lead a group discussion on software issues such as end users license agreements and possible alternative for software possession, usage, and adaptation.

14:30   Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00   Impromptu Talks: *Those Who Signed Up*

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks.

16:00   Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Mar 26, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo.

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Apr 14
(NOTE: *SECOND* SATURDAY!)
at Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45   Coffee and Pastries

10:00   Technical Session: P24 Release, *C.H. Ting*

The package includes tien VHDL for Xilinx FPGA and also the e-Forth operating system for application development. Come and get your CD!

12:00   Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.

13:00   Introductions and Gossip

13:30   Featured Talk: CAD II, Chuck Moore

This is his new chip design system which is a Forth-based scripting language describing a chip design. It will produce a GDS II file ready for chip fabrication.

14:30   Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00   Embedded Systems Conference Panel - Those who have attended

Those who have attended the conference, which will be held in Moscone Center in San Francisco on April 9th, 10th, and 11th, are invited to report on their findings

16:00   Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Apr 30, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo.

FUTURE MEETINGS NOTICE:

The MAY meeting will feature the use of Forth in the Unix/Linux environment. The morning session will focus on what had to be developed to develop in that environment, and the afternoon session will focus on the experience in using the environment for application development. So, anyone who has experienced Forth with these operating systems and has something to present should contact John D. Carpenter, jdcar@stanford.edu

Perhaps in JUNE, there will be a Testing Forth theme for the day: Those who use Forth in development, testing, debugging, and maintaining of hardware will be invited to present their experiences and tools.

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

SVFIG on the Web

We encourage all to change to the e-mail "SVFIG Meeting Agenda". Advantages are: it gets to you sooner than this snail version, it is revised when needed, and it saves us (= you) printing cost & postage. Send the message "Subscribe SVFIG Meeting Agenda" to John Carpenter, jdcar@leland.stanford.edu .

SVFIG information is now available at http://www.forth.org/fig/svfig/svfig.html (The Next Meeting, Past Meeting Announcements, Contact Information, How to Join, Other Meetings, and Websites)

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 May 19
(NOTE: *THIRD* SATURDAY!)
at **Cogswell College**
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

NOTE: The Unix/Linux theme has been moved to August so that Will Baden can participate.

09:45   Coffee and Pastries

10:00   Technical Session: **Coding Schemes of Chinese Characters,** *C. H. Ting*

These are a few of the coding schemes: Chinese spelling, Romanized spelling, and Chang-Ji alphabets. Ting will discuss the Chang-Ji scheme, as it is the most logical way to encode Chinese characters. He is involved in porting this encoder to eM32 processor.

12:00   Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials. Sign up for tutorials by name and topic.

13:00   Introductions and Gossip

13:30   Featured Talk: The Silicon Composers 32-bit Processor, *George Nicol*

Silicon Composers has, on the shelf, a design for a 32-bit Forth (?) processor that is ready for to be made into a chip. George will talk about this and will seek anyone who will take the processor and have it manufactured in a profitable manner that would at least recover development costs.

14:30   Afternoon Tea

15:00   A Question of Balance, *Dwight Elvey*

This is about finding the center of gravity of a beam with weights and how to remove the weights in sequence such that it doesn't tip. Dwight coded an extensive search program that found all of the combinations for the second problem. These problems were discussed in the 2001 May issue of Scientific American.

16:00   Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Jun 04, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo.

THEMATIC AGENDAS - 2001:

June   **Testing Forth** – Use of Forth in Testing and Development

July   **Robotting with Forth** – Use of Forth in Motion Control Systems

August **Forth under Unix/Linux** – Forthing around under these OS's

Sept   **Speaking Forth** – Getting Forth to interpret Non-text Input

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Jul 28
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: **Forth Tools for Motion Control**

Those who have anything on this subject or any other technical item are invited to speak.

12:00 Lunch Break – *Barbeque by Ting*

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk: iBook, Mac OS X, etc. - *John Hall*

John Hall will bring a new iBook (they are now small and square) and his Titanium G4 PowerBook. If he gets enough done before the meeting,he will also show the Mac OS X operating system and both gforth and This Forth (Unix forths) running on Mac OS X.

14:30 Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00   Impromptu Talks: *Those Who Signed Up*

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks**. Those who have done motion control programming are particularly invited to sign up.**

16:00 Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2001 Jul 30, at 19:00. (The August SVFIG meeting will be on **third Saturday** - Cogswell is closed on August 25). Those with ideas for the next meeting agenda and those who would like to get more involved in the general meeting process are invited to attend. **Starting this month the business meetings are virtual, via e-mail**.

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Aug 18
(NOTE: *THIRD* SATURDAY!)
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: **Forth under Unix/Linux**

Thus far, no speakers have been specifically identified for this month. Nevertheless, the focus this month will be with Forth under Unix/Linux. Those who have experience in developing tools for this are invited to talk about them in the morning. Other topic ideas for presentation at this meeting are certainly welcome as well.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk:

Those who are users of Forth under Unix/Linux operating systems are invited to share their experiences in the afternoon.

14:30 Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00   Impromptu Talks: Those Who Signed Up

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks.

16:00 Adjourn

Business Meetings are now virtual, via e-mail

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Sept 22
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: **"Win32Forth Workshop", part I -** *C.H. Ting*

This is a two part workshop that Ting will direct. The second part will be in the morning session of the next monthly meeting - Saturday, 2001 Oct 27.

Ting would like to see if we can collectively see how best to use this platform for various applications. He has pretty much nailed down the graphics tools in it. He hopes our members will offer their experimentation in other areas.

One particular question for the membership: Who knows how to control the sound cards using Win32Forth? Ting would appreciate it very much if anybody can give him pointers to where and whom.

He modified Win32Forth so it displays all the text information in Chinese. This is the first step to build a Chinese Forth system to rid it of English. It probably is not very interesting to Americans, but can potentially bring Forth to billions of Chinese.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk:

So far no speakers - impromptu talks are in order

16:00 Adjourn

Will Baden, tentatively, will talk in the afternoon of our November meeting which will be on Saturday, 2001 Nov 17.

Business Meetings are now virtual, via e-mail.

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Oct 27
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: Win32Forth Worshop, part 2 – *C H Ting*

Changes are being made to Win32Forth and WinView. Some of these changes are improvements. A referee, perhaps Ting, will oversee the changes and enhancements and help publish them as a new (better-documented) version of Win32Forth. The task will be to double check that we make improvements and do not beak any code or introduce incompatibilities.

John Peters has done most of the work on the WinView editor and therefore it will not impact others who work with Win32Forth. He hopes to add to the internal comments and descriptions in the source files. Also he hopes to add comments that do not change the compiled code, but simply illuminate the words that are already there.

Wil Baden is working on a Glossary Generator. The concept as I (John Carpenter) understand it is that it will extract a list of all the words along with the stack comments and maybe other comments and directions from each file and build a list of words called a Glossary. The first pass will undoubtedly uncover words that are not commented and others that may be in need of correction.

Eventually we will end up with excellent documentation.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk: Enth and ColorForth, floppy based Forth systems – *C.H. Ting*

Ting found an interesting Forth system, bootable from floppy, like ColorForth. It is called "ENTH", available on http://pringle.sphosting.com. Please download it and try it. It boots up on all the computers I (John Carpenter) tried, and he thinks it might be a nice platform for Forth in Chinese. It can definitely be a platform for all the PC applications which do not need Windows and DOS.

14:30 Afternoon Tea   **Networking and demonstrations**

15:00 Summarize this Morning's Worshop and Set goals for the Future Workshops.

What would be nice is that we do not have to rush out and make handout papers or disks as we can continue the workshop on the internet.

16:00 Adjourn

Silicon Valley Chapter of the Forth Interest Group

Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 2001 Dec 15
at
Cogswell College
1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

Our meeting this time will be held in the Dragons Den, the main assembly room for Cogswell College. There will be maps and directions in the lobby to show the way.

09:45 Coffee and Pastries

10:00 Technical Session: No agenda today – open to any technical presentations.

12:00 Lunch Break

Networking, demonstrations, and tutorials.
Sign up for tutorials by name and topic on the white board.

13:00 Introductions and Gossip

13:30 Featured Talk: Tools for web pages in Win32Forth, and how it will work on the internet – *John Peters*

Also Bob Smith's changes to WinView; Bob Smith may be present to talk about them. John Peters hopes to start the process of extending Win32Forth to make it easy to FLOAD and compile the highlighted text area some day, with the help of friends. Zimmer has added color features to WinView in ways that will be demonstrated.

14:30 Afternoon Tea

Networking and demonstrations

15:00   Impromptu Talks: *Those Who Signed Up*

Sign up for these talks on the white board during the breaks.

16:00 Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: On the web.