

SVFIG Meeting
Fourth Saturday, February 26, 2011
(remember to refresh the page to view changes)

Speakers' Schedule

February's Meeting is Arduino Day!!!

The entire meeting will be devoted to Forth on the Arduino.

Please go to Meetup.com and register for the meeting if you have not done so.

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NOTES TO FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES:

- 1) Please note that this is NOT the native Arduino "sketches" development environment. Forth is an exciting alternative! Information for Forth beginners will be provided at the meeting and going forward.
- 2) Print yourself a map so you can find the building easily. If you get lost, call Kevin Appert at 650.678.0532
- 3) Look at the additional online information: <http://www.forth.org/svfig/next.html>

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This page is for the schedule and coming attractions only, other details will be in the email announcement and online here: <http://www.forth.org/svfig/next.html>

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09:50 Coffee and a Chat

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10:00 Forth In Your Shirt Pocket; AmForth On Arduino Uno --- [Bill](#) and Michael Ragsdale

Bill Ragsdale will present [AmForth](#) running on the [Arduino](#) Uno with two of his applications. He'll introduce Forth for folks who have had little or no exposure to the language and tell you how to get started with Forth on the Arduino.

Michael Ragsdale will demonstrate an Arduino Uno as the heart of a GPS Puzzle Box.

See <http://tinyurl.com/5u25ryu>

The Arduino Uno board with its Atmel processor has digital and analog I/O, 32K of flash, RAM and ROM with a full featured Forth, all on a three inch square board. It is accessed via USB from any terminal or computer.

Bill has posted an archive of his support items and AmForth tools at <http://tinyurl.com/5sp327u>

Arduino ---> <http://arduino.cc/>

Link to AmForth ---> <http://amforth.sourceforge.net/>

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11:45 LUNCH

We'll walk to **The Treehouse!**

Here are the [Yelp reviews](#).

The menu has changed a little but here is the [old menu](#) to give you an idea.

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

We'll go around the room and each introduce ourselves. If you're willing, tell us about something about yourself. When and how did you first hear about Forth?

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13:30 --- SwiftX on Arduino Uno --- Leon Wagner, Forth, Inc.

[FORTH, Inc.](#) is the premiere commercial vendor of Forth systems in the PC and [embedded](#) marketplace. In their consulting and services business they use their own tools to accomplish a vast range of tasks in remarkable fashion.

Leon will demonstrate the SwiftX Integrated Development Environment for the Atmel AVR microcontrollers on an Arduino UNO board. The discussion will include details about the implementation strategy for the Forth Virtual Machine on the AVR.

Beginners will enjoy a few stories from the [history of Forth](#) and the the incredible [things it can accomplish](#).

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14:40 --- Arduino Message Display --- C.H. Ting

Ting has mounted an Arduino Uno board on a bicycle wheel. When the wheel turns, LED's display a message as the board moves with the wheel. Remember the moving saw blade from the Great Forth Day [Programming Challenge](#) of 1988?

Here is a video of something similar: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJBYOU-Y-ZU>

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15:00 --- Break

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15:10 --- Arduino MyForth --- Charley Shattuck

A very minimal approach to compiling programs using Forth for an Arduino board. This is a tethered Forth, using Linux resources such as [Vim](#) for colorful editing, [AVRDUDE](#) for downloading, [Minicom](#) for interactive testing, and [Gforth](#) for target compiling. It is purposely not ANSI standard, instead borrowing from colorForth and arrayForth. The main point was to see how little I could get away with doing and still have a usable system for programming an Arduino board.

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15:45 --- Odds and Ends

Should we continue with Meetup.com? Who's doing what for Maker Faire? How do we attract new members?

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15:55 Clean up before you go!

16:00 Adjourn

Okay, now you can go.

Please note that the times listed above are precise but not necessarily accurate. We might go a little long or short on any agenda item or shuffle things on the fly with abandon. If you're desperate to see something at a particular time, please let us know! Remember that there are bugs in any non-trivial SVFIG meeting announcement. Mistakes were made and we're not too proud to admit it. <<<proofreader's humor

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

No Newsgroup posts or other media distribution please!

At each lull in the action, between talks or before breaks we will be inviting folks to give short 5-10 minute 'quickies'. If you'd like to tell us about something, let Kevin know at the meeting and we'll reserve the time for you or you may take your chances that nobody else will grab the slot.

COMING TO SVFIG

* Maker Faire! We'll be manning a booth at the Faire instead of the May meeting.

* New member outreach... we'll talk about formulating a presentation for venues such as the Home Brew Robotics Club, TechShop, Hacker Dojo, and so on.