

SVFIG Meeting

Fourth Saturday, April 23, 2011

(remember to refresh the page to view changes)

Speakers' Schedule

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

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NOTES FOR 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>

Links, PowerPoint, PDFs, and source files from last month's meeting are on the SVFIG website too!

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09:50 Coffee and a Chat

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10:15 --- MSP-430 LaunchPad and eZ430 Chronos --- C.H. Ting

Ting will talk about the TI MSP-430, a great processor, descendant of the PDP-11 architecture.

The MSP-430 LaunchPad uses the MSP430G2231 which has only 4 KB of flash memory, and is totally uninteresting. Nevertheless, Luke Chang of Taiwan FIG implemented a tinyForth, based on TCOM, so Forthers can execute some Forth words on it. Ting will do a small demo.

eZ430 uses CC430F6137, which has 32 KB of flash memory, and is very interesting. It has RF communication, 3-axis accelerometer, and many other peripherals. Ting wrote an eForth for it, but has not found the debug UART to talk to it. This watch can be a complete Forth computer, perhaps with a RF serial port. Ting hopes we can lift the thick software cloud covering it and make good use of this marvelous watch.

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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. Suggest a future presentation!

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13:30 --- Interesting Items - Volume 16 - Dave Jaffe

Dave will continue his survey of interesting newly-introduced microcontrollers, I/O peripherals, sensors, products, and gadgets that can provide useful and unique capabilities to Forth embedded systems.

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13:55 --- eforth on Gameduino --- James Bowman

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14:40 --- BREAK

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15:00 --- Graphical Haikus in Forth --- Brad Nelson

Counter intuitively, constraints often enhance art. Brevity and minimalism are particularly effective in freeing the artist. Brad will present a Forth vocabulary structured to transform short Forth compositions into complex images.

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15:35 --- 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.

* Arduino Hands-on. If we can develop a demand, folks will bring their Uno, ISP and laptop and we'll install amForth or SwiftX and do some exercises. Let me know if you're desperate to do it this month. If we're going to do it at some future meeting, please help me decide what to do and/or volunteer as a cat-herder!

--- forther_at_comcast_dot_net

Pololu USB AVR ISP Programmer:

<http://www.pololu.com/catalog/product/1300>

