

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, jdc@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, 1999 Jan 23 at Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 The Latest from the East - *CH Ting*

Ting has returned from a trip to Taiwan. He ran a serious 'Firmware Engineering Workshop' in Taiwan, and will give a talk about it.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 The New Russian Chip - *George Perry*

A discussion of a Russian Forth chip discovered on the Internet.

14:15 Y2K - *John Ribble*

John will lead a discussion on both technical and social aspects of Y2K. Bring your favorite rumors to share.

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/odddity hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 Feb 01, 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Feb 27 at Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 Pico Computers - *C.H. Ting*

Ting will talk about a fully integrated computer on a single chip that he is thinking of developing. He will be soliciting investments for this from those who think that this is a good idea.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Series Approximations for Functions in Forth - *David Jaffe*

Dave will do a presentation at the next SVFIG on the series approximation. He will demonstrate this technique on arctan. The technique can be used on other series as well.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/odddity hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 March 08, 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 MAR 27

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 6805 eForth - C.H.Ting

The 6805 is a terrible micro-processor to run forth on. It has a stack you can neither push nor pop. One cannot even read the stack pointer. Ting converted Skip Carter's 6805 RasForth to eForth. Now..the real challenge will be to optimize this eForth to run as fast as the 8051 subroutine threaded eForth, but with a crippled stack.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 The Latest in the Scientific Library - Skip Carter

The Forth Scientific Library is now 4 years old. It now contains 51 high quality implementations of various algorithms that have been accepted and also has many more implementations awaiting review. The library has very specific coding and documentation requirements, we will review what they are and consider their impact on the library. The library has had an influence in both the Forth community and outside of it. We will take a look at what it has done and where it is going in the future.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 March 29, at 19:00 (for 3rd Sat, Cogswell closed on 4th Sat). 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 APR 17

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

NOTE: This meeting is being held on the 3rd Saturday because Cogswell College will be closed on the normal meeting date.

An attempt will be made to find a substitute for Skip's presentation for the first afternoon session.

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 The Latest on F21 - Jeff Fox

Jeff will talk about the latest developments on his version of a chip that was developed by Chuck Moore and which is of the same family that was being used by ITV in the development of their products.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Forth under Linux - Skip Carter (POSTPONED ON 13APRIL DUE TO PRIOR COMMITMENTS)

After a slow start, there are now several high quality Forth systems available for the Unix operating system in general and for Linux in particular. Skip will review what systems are available, note the strengths and weaknesses for each system, and present the special features each provides to the applications developer who works in Unix-type environments.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/odddity hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 3 May, 1999, at 19:00. Those with ideas for the next agenda and 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 May 22

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 FPGA Design, Session 1 - *John Rible*

This is the introductory session. Those who want to get actively involved can buy "Xilinx Student Edition 1.5" from San Jose (1st Street) Computer Literacy and send in a discount coupon therein for a "XESS XS40-005XL Board" for a total of less than \$250. The focus will be on experimenting/playing with small CPU designs. An introduction to the HDL language, Verilog, for designing these chips will be made during this session. See "<http://www.ultratechnology.com/cpuclass.htm>" for further details.

12:00 Lunch .BBQ by *Ting*

Charles Moore will be here! Cogswell Students invited!

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Forth under Linux - *Skip Carter*

After a slow start, there are now several high quality Forth systems available for the Unix operating system in general and for Linux in particular. Skip will review what systems are available, note the strengths and weaknesses for each system, and present the special features each provides to the applications developer who works in Unix-type environments.

14:30 Break

15:00 The Latest from Chuck - *Charles Moore*

Chuck will offer his latest musings on Forth. His discussion will feature Color Forth code.

16:00 Adjournment

NOTE: New way to get to the meeting starting in December. VTA light rail from San Jose or Mountain View will become operational on xx December 1999. Transfers can then be made with the Capitol Corridor trains at the Great America station.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 June 07, at 19:00. The business meeting location is the Jack's Pizza on 2nd, ½ block west of "B" in San Mateo.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Jun 26

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 FPGA Design, Session 2 — *John Rible*

This session will cover the instruction set for the babyrisc from both ends: what the hardware does and how the Forth virtual machine fits.

See "<http://www.sandpipers.com/cpuclass2.html>" for further details.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Multi-tune Synthesizer — *C.H. Ting*

Ting will discuss the use of Xilinx XC4005XL FPGA to build a 7-tune synthesizer. This synthesizer, according to Ken Morley has hypnotic effects.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" and "Fry's Electronics" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/oddity hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 June 28, at 19:00 (July 5 is a holiday). 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Jul 24

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 FPGA Design, Session 3 — *John Rible*

This month we'll look at your efforts to build and test the two "black-box" modules in the design — the register file and the ALU. Please try building them, either in Verilog or Schematic, before the meeting. Then we can try testing and running them at the meeting. See "<http://www.sandpipers.com>" for further details

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Century of Electronics — *C H Ting*

Ting will show a poster of what happened in the 20th century as related to electronics.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/oddy hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 August 02, at 19:00 (for 3rd Sat, Cogswell closed on 4th Sat). 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Aug 21

NOTE: THIRD Saturday!

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 FPGA Design, Session 4 -- *John Rible*

John should be back from Japan to be able to continue from where he left off last time. Ting says he will work more on his P8 processor and there may be some tips from that effort.

See "<http://www.sandpipers.com>" for further details.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 What is happening at Forth, Inc -- *Rick VanNorman*

The basic topics for Rick's talk will be the structure and evolution of SwiftForth and the new object model they are using. Rick says that Elizabeth will be willing to give discounts to anyone who orders a Forth Inc product at the meeting; please contact her directly for information.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about

16:00 Adjournment

C.H. Ting will host a dinner for Rick VanNorman after the meeting at China House in San Mateo near the corner of 25th Ave and El Camino Real. Those who have worked with Forth at Lockheed at the time Rick worked there are particularly invited to attend. All others are also welcome.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 Aug 30, at 19:00 (the usual meeting date falls on Labor Day). 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Sept 25

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 Progress Report on P8 -- C. H. Ting

Ting has debugged KEY and EMIT for the P8 processor. He will report the continuing efforts on this process. Hopefully he will get eForth working on it by the meeting.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial.

Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 What's Happening at Apple -- John Hall

John Hall will report on the behind-the-scenes activity that he has participated in for bringing the iBook to market. The iBook, Apple's latest and even more portable and powerful laptop, just became available to the consumers this month.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about. There may be a discussion as to how this chapter may participate in the Vintage Computer Festival which will take place 2 through 3 October at the Santa Clara Convention Center.

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/oddy hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 Oct 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Oct 23

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 CARDIAC Project - John Rible

The Vintage Computer Festival yielded an unassembled CARDIAC! Taygeta has copyright permission to republish the thing. Want to help think about it?...update some aspects of the manual, etc? I'll talk about the three architectures I would like to have CARDIAC 2000 demonstrate.

11:00 Code Nuggets for P8 - C.H. Ting

P8 is working now, and Ting will do a short demo of it. Code nuggets are 8-bit code for the 16-bit machine which are very useful in doing hardware debugging of the P8 machine.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial.

Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 Embedded Systems Conference Report - A panel of those who attended

14:30 Break

15:00 Vintage Computer Festival Report - A panel of those who attended

Those who attended the *talks* are particularly invited to be on this panel.

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/oddy hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 Oct 25, 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Nov 13

at

Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

09:45 Coffee and Donuts

10:00 CARDIAC Project - *John Rible*

The Vintage Computer Festival yielded an unassembled CARDIAC! Taygeta has copyright permission to republish the thing. Want to help think about it?...update some aspects of the manual, etc? John will talk about the three architectures that he would like to have CARDIAC 2000 demonstrate. This talk will also be given at FORML in Asilomar this month.

12:00 Lunch Pizza? or subs from Togos? and Glen Haydon's Brown Bag Tutorial. Bring your forth problem to Glen and he will organize the tutorial accordingly.

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:30 FORML Preview - Critique of papers of those members of this chapter planning to present them at the FORML conference the next weekend.

14:30 Break

15:00 Open Floor — anyone who has something about Forth to talk about. This can be a continuation of the FORML preview.

16:00 Adjournment

Post meeting "tea" at a Mountain View coffee house or somewhere else is possible — if it is too early for dinner. "Weird Stuff" is not too far away; most months, a few bargain/odddity hunters gather there after our meetings.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 1999 Nov 29, 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.

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Meeting Agenda for Saturday, 1999 Dec 18

at Cogswell College

1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, California

***** FORTH DAY (tentative)*****

Admission: 10 \$

Banquet: 20 \$

09:45 Registration, Coffee and Donuts

10:00 First Session - The More Technical

Martin Schaaf: New Processor Design

Skip Carter: XML in Forth

Henrik Thurffjell: Forth on a USB Board and Forth Stamp

Bob Nash: New Forth Stamps

John Rible: QS4 Project

Al Mitchell: New Stuff from AMResearch

Kevin Apert: The Last Forth Project

12:00 Chili by Ting

13:00 Introductions, Announcements, Rumors, and Gossip

13:15 Second Session - The Less Technical, To The Future, and The Philosophy

David Jaffe: Wearable Embedded System

John Rible and Skip Carter: Cardiac Computer

Jeff Fox: Chess Game in ANS Forth - A copy of the game will be given away!

Mike Perry: Forth in Open Firmware

John Hall: Open Firmware at Apple

John Carpenter: Accessing Forth Routines from Java

Glen Hayden: Forth Philosophy 1999

14:45 Break

15:15 Fireside Chat - *Charles Moore*

16:00 Adjournment

18:00 Banquet - Tomisono Restaurant

The restaurant is located at 1146 West El Camino Real in Sunnyvale. They may be contacted by phoning (408) 732-1678 if there are any questions.

NOTICE: Those wishing to attend this meeting by **public transportation** should note that the VTA lightrail line to the meeting site will open on that weekend with free rides; official revenue service starts Monday, December 20. This line is accessible by regional rail services - Caltrain w/transfer at Mountain View and Capital Corridor Amtrak w/transfer at Great America Station to light rail at Lick Mill Station.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, 2000 Jan 03, 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.

Announcement:

North Bay Fig recommences 2000 Jan 08. Location is Peking \$1 - Food, Center St., 1/2 block west of Berkeley Bart, across the street from the old BMUG building. Featured speaker will be George Ray on Boot Forth (not DOS) which can be done from a floppy.