DECEMBER 1997 MINUTES

About 20 people attended including 6 guests

January meeting topics

- Contest Trial Runs
- 1998 Officer Elections
- Club Membership Dues

RBNO - no firm plans yet, several people were interested in a December RBNO

Show and Tell
Larry Kearns showed his robot Bandit. Motors, wheels, battery, and power distribution are all completed. A nice cylindrical exterior was made out of countertop (formica) material. Larry plans to add a rotating dome with sonar much like Stars Wars R2D2.

Blaine Lee showed his new creation which used a BOTBoard II and some modified RC servos. Also on board was a CCD chip he plans to use for line following.

Kipton Morovec had a little Vector 2X compass module. He explained how it operates, calibration options, and accuracy degradation from tilting.

Discussion Items
GARP - showed block diagram, need specifications for motor controller RS232 in to left/right PWM signals out

Contests - 2 or 3 per year, also want Remote controlled category for beginning robot builders

Swap Meets - Perhaps one per year have "swap meet" section at every meeting where people bring a few items

Training Sessions - Nearly everyone likes this idea we could have a meeting dedicated to training or a training section at every meeting Need members to give short presentations on areas of interest

Special Interest Groups - As the club grows we may consider SIGS

Clay Timmons

NOVEMBER 1997 MINUTES

We had a good turnout, some basic news items, and an awesome show and tell.

Ed (Koffeman?) had a bot made out of a plastic milk crate. He said it was powerfull enough to move with his 12yr old riding along.

Roger Arrick had two bots. Both had that professionally made look with formed sheet metal painted in speckled colors. The first had two driven wheels with a solid axle and two steerable wheels (like a car). The second bot was similar to Roger's Trilobot with all kinds of sensors and a 3 processor controller.

Next was the most impressive robot I've ever seen at DPRG. It came from a guest named David Anderson. It was actually a completed and working machine! Not only did it "work" it could actually wander around the room making its way thru the various obstacles! It had a full complement of sensors including multi way bump, IR proximity, dual sonar, light, and IR motion.

Several people brought boxes which were a minor pain to load/unload from cars to the meeting room. There was a bit of swapping going on but not as much as I had hoped. I picked up a couple good items I can use and got rid of a few things. I would like to know how others felt about the swap meet. Comments?

Clay Timmons

OCTOBER 1997 MINUTES

DPRG Robotics Contest held in place of meeting this month

JUNE 1997 MINUTES

- Award Certificates for the May contest were handed out.
- Kip Moreno spoke about the $99 DSP board
- Brian From Philip Semiconductors gave a presentation
- A door prize of an thrift store RC car was awarded to John Wadley.

Jim Brown

MAY 1997 MINUTES

- The Robotics Contest took up the entire time
- On the email list we voted to go after the 501c status.

Jim Brown

APRIL 1997 MINUTES

- Jon Williams gave a presentation on Basic Stamps
- Larry Kerns gave a presentation of his robots
- Clay Timmons gave a presentation of his robot
- Clay Timmons did a trial run of his robot
- Tyce Elkins gave a presentation of his robot
- There was a motion,second and pass that we should have the basic robotics contest every three months. There was also discussion that we should have one big robotics contest annually. The big contest itself will be defined at a later date.
- There was another motion,second and pass that we should give trophies out as an award. This motion was then dropped, so that only the current list of prizes and certificate will be given.

Jim Brown

MARCH 1997 MINUTES

- First we quickly spoke about all of the great givaways for this meeting
- Tech Tools Screwdrivers
- Robotics Digest Magazines
- Keil Software Demos
- Tech Tools 8051 boards
- Parallax Catalogs
- Tech Tools FlexRom Manuals
- and Other literature
- GARP was unveiled, and James Vroman gave a great presentation
- We had a quick break and robotics chat
- Quadravox gave a presentation of their speech products
- Jamie Merrill presented his walker robot
- James Vroman presented his Linus robot
- Chad a UTA sophmore presented his ARMS and SPUD robots
- Roger Arrick presented his 1 bit robot
- Jim Brown presented his robots

Jim Brown

FEBRUARY 1997 MINUTES

- We spoke briefly about the T-Shirts
- We decided to postpone the voting on the mission statement another month. We'll talk about it on email.
- We decided to wait another month to see if Walter Bryant sends any info about the not-for-profit status.

- We talked about the robotic contest in May.
- We talked about that for wall hugging robots we should use the side of the room since it has a continuous wall.
- We talked briefly about the wheelchair.
- James Vroman agreed to take it home and check it out.
- We'll talk about what to do with it after the contest.
- James Vroman of Tech-Tools presented donations to the DPRG.
- 1 64K Eprom Emulator to be given away at the May robotics contest
- 2 1 Meg Eprom Emulators to be put in the DPRG library
- We watched videos
- We sold 15 T-Shirts
- 5 joined the group
- Bryan Lyde gave a demonstration of his ROACH robot.
- Roger Arrick and Aaron gave a demonstration of the Walker robot.

Jim Brown

JANUARY 1997 MINUTES

- Talked about (drueled over) the Keil PK51 C compilers (3)
- Tyce Elkins gave a review about the Keil Evaluation board he took home last month, and Steve Rainwater also gave a few comments.
- Chris Nelson spoke about the DPRG flier to be put in Tanner's.
- Chris also spoke about the Keil Software
- We stated that any software written with the Keil PK51 C compilers were to be disclosed to DPRG and made available on the web site. Steve Rainwater said he look into setting up an anonmyous FTP upload directory.
- Kevin Carter gave a review of the CUPL software
- Some Literature was distributed
- There was a motion and second to purchase DPRG T-Shirts that we had been discussing to follow design E. The motion carried. These will be mostly a gray T-Shirt with some white T-Shirts also. We will be purchasing 48 T-Shirts and selling them at $15 to anyone who is interested.
- We voted on Roger Arrick to be the parts librarian.
- We introduced ourselves.
- We voted on Chris Nelson to be the software/hardware librarian.
- We decided to wait a month before deciding anything on the not-for-profit status.
- We discussed the DPRG pcb. It seemed that in the discussion we decided against making a group pcb and maybe looking into making motor controller boards and other specialized boards instead.
- We discussed having another DPRG contest to be held in the May meeting with trial runs in the April meeting. This contest will be similar to the one in 1993 with the exception that there will be line following allowed. Also, this contest will sport prizes to be judged by applause. The prizes included: Steve Rainwater said he will donate an AI CD rom or two, I said I would donate the two Richochet cars that I purchased a while back, Roger Arrick said he had something that he'd donate too. More to come - follow the email list for more details.
- Finally, we drew names to see who'd get to take home the Keil PK51 C compiler software for a month. The lucky people were: Steve Rainwater, Erick Wagner, and after drawing several that had already left, my name finally poped out! YEAH! Congratulations to these three.

Jim Brown