



ANNUAL MEETING 2018

Date | time January 13, 2018 | Noon
Prepared by Doug Paradis, DPRG Secretary

Agenda

- Trophy and prize presentation to Scott Gibson for winning the 2017 RoboColumbus Plus competition in November.
- Steve Edwards, the outgoing president, will sum up the club's 2017 activities and discuss the state of the club.
- The candidates for 2018 officer positions will be introduced.
- The 2018 election will be closed after all attendees have had a chance to vote.
- Ron Grant, the election overseer, will combine the votes received prior to the meeting by email and the votes made at the meeting, and announce the election results.
- The new president will take office.
- The new president will lead the annual planning meeting.
- The club's 2018 annual planning meeting will start:
 - Determine community events that the club will hold exhibits.
 - Formation of Roborama committee.
 - Determine topics that members want to have presented at the monthly meeting and ask for volunteers to cover topics.
 - Debate potential 2018 club projects.
 - Listen to suggestions and ideas on how to make the club better.
- Member show and tell of projects.

Tee Shirt Buy Cost Allocation

Doug Paradis, Secretary, asked the attending members to vote for an allocation of ~\$700 of club funds to be used to buy tee shirts. The expenditure was approved by 14 members (34% of all members).

Trophy and Prize Presentation

Steve Edwards, the outgoing President, presented Scott Gibson with the first-place trophy and prize for winning the RoboColumbus Plus competition held in November 2017. Scott's robot achieved a perfect score of 9 points.

Outgoing President Summary of 2017

Steve Edwards summarized the club activities of 2017:

- Club Robot project had several design and code improvements.
- DPRG participated in several community activities:
 - Frontiers of Flight Museum’s Moon Day Event.
 - Fort Worth Museum of Science – iMake and Science on Tap Events
 - Tyler Makerfaire
 - Several members volunteered to be judges at FIRST competitions.
- DPRG held 3 competitions:
 - Roborama in May which include contests for students (STEM) and adults
 - Fall indoor contest – Can Can Soccer
 - Fall outdoor contest – RoboColumbus Plus
- DPRG picked up a new major sponsor (Mouser Electronics).
- DPRG received support from several new and returning supporting companies: Pololu, TinyLidar, Parallax, REV robotics and Tanner Electronics.
- DPRG team participated in the Collidathon and won first place.
- DPRG team participated in the Robot Art Competiton.
- Presentations:
 - Eric Chaney – Aforce – C# Open CV
 - Ron Grant – Processing environment overview
 - Iron Reign FTC team Demo
 - Will Kuhnle – Closed Loop Feeback System (Servo) Design
 - David Akley – Programming ARM with Arduino
 - Carl Ott – RoboRealm Virtual Bot – Line Following simulator
 - Carl Ott – Building Robots with JavaScript and Node JS
- Sensor and POC demos
 - Carl Ott -- Tiny Lidar
 - Ron Grant – Processing simulator – Line Follower

Officer Candidates for 2018

The candidates for club officers were introduced:

President: Ray Casler

Vice-President: Carl Ott

Treasurer: Steve Edwards

Secretary: Doug Paradis

Librarian: John Kuhlenschmidt

Election of Officers for 2018

Ron Grant, the election overseer, combined the votes received prior to the meeting by email, written proxies, and the votes made by members at the meeting. He announced that the proposed slate of officers was elected with 22 of the 41 members voting (53.7% of members) voting for everyone on the slate with no objections.

New President

Ray Casler addressed the club:

- Challenged the reasons for doing Roborama
 - Does it get us new members?
 - Does it get us more exposure?
 - Can these goals be achieved in other ways, for example teaching classes?
- Stressed that a goal for this year will be getting new members.

From the discussions several ideas on how to improve Roborama (see Roborama Committee) and get more members presented.

Community Events for 2018

The following community events were decided on for 2018:

Scheduled

- March 24 iMake

Unscheduled

- Roborama
- Moon Day
- November Competitions
- Tanner Robotics Exposition
- DMS Annual Open House
- DMS Thursday Open House exposure (banner?)

Non-Club – Volunteers only

- Tyler Makerfaire
- FIRST competition volunteer judges

Roborama Committee

The following volunteered to be part of the Roborama committee:

- Doug Paradis
- Ron Grant
- Doug Emes
- Eric Gibson

Ideas brought up by members in Roborama discussion:

- Event provides a goal for members and should be retained.
- Explore alternate better visibility venues versus DMS.
- Add a historic and simpler contest for beginners.
- Use Meetup to improve attendance.
- Change date of competition to fit better with activities such as FIRST.
- Consider “going big”.

Presentation Schedule

The tentative schedule of presentations is:

- Feb, "Build More Robots" series – Doug Paradis
- Mar, Using an IMU – Ron Grant
- Apr, Subsumption – David Anderson
- May, Roborama
- Jun, CAN buss – Scott Gibson (need to confirm)
- Jul, Using LiDAR – Doug Paradis
- Aug, Open CV – Ray Casler
- Sep, Club Picnic with Outdoor Competition
- Oct, Simulation using Processing – Ron Grant
- Nov, November Competitions
- Dec, Neural Networks – Carl Ott

Backup Presentations:

- STM stuff – David Ackley

Potential Club Projects

Potential club projects discussed were:

- Autonomous lawnmower
- Club team to out of state competition
 - SRS Robotron
 - San Francisco Robot Competition
 - AVC Sparkfun
 - Chibot RoboMagellan
 - Austin Donkey Cart
- Club Rover robot

The decision was to hold off selecting a club project at this time.

Show and Tell

Doug Paradis presented the MakerFocus Lidar Range Finder Sensor Module (12 M range) available on Amazon for ~\$40.