

Robot Builders Night Virtual for January 27th, 2026

Video of Meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtMdYyKH5T0>

Key Discussion Points

Election Results

- Newly elected positions were announced:
 - President: Mark Reynolds
 - Vice President: Paul Bushier
 - Secretary: Doug Parody
 - Treasurer: Steve Edwards
 - IT Officer: Pat Caron

Technical Presentations

1. Mike Williamson's Robot Enhancements

- Presentation on redesigning a Roomba-sized robot.
- Modifications included repositioning the LIDAR for better can detection and localization.
- Power distribution updates and module rearrangement for better balance and functionality.

2. Ted Meyers' I2C Device Issues

- Discussion on troubleshooting I2C bus conflicts with multiple devices.
- Solutions included utilizing multiple I2C ports on a TNC and modifying software libraries.

3. Ray Casler's Sensor Array for Goal Aiming

- Demonstration of an RF and IR-based sensor array design for determining robot orientation relative to goal beacons.
- Use of Co-Pilot for development aid.

- Potential improvements include additional filtering and increased IR emitter coverage.

General Discussions

- **Robot Competitions and Rule Changes**
 - Considerations for competition formats and participation rules, including a requirement for accomplishing a task to win an award.
 - Limiting robots per competitor and minimum participant guidelines for competitions.
- **Future Event Planning**
 - Brainstorming for tech talks and events in 2026, including subjects such as AI, robotics frameworks, and competitions.
- **Organizational Matters**
 - Possibility of expanding website storage due to current constraints.
 - Discussion of reviving an in-person Robot Builders Night at the Dallas MakerSpace.

Referenced Links by Contributor

- Mike Williamson: Demonstrations and technical modifications.
- Ted Meyers: I2C bus troubleshooting.
- Ray Casler: Sensor array experiments.
- Referenced Mentions:
 - Andreas Spiess for robotics video content ([Andreas Spiess on YouTube](#)).