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Newsletter

September 1992

September Dinner Meeting Robots and the 7th Annual Bay Area Robot Race

Speaker: Mr. Brad Smallridge
San Francisco Director
Robotics Society of America

Date: Wednesday, 23 September

Location: Spenger's Fish Grotto
1919 4th Street
Berkeley, CA

Time: 6:00 pm, no host cocktails
7:00 pm, dinner
8:00 pm, program

Entree: Orange Roughy Fillet
or Sirloin Tips

Cost: \$18 Members
\$20 Non-members
\$ 8 Students and children
(Children's menu, 12 and under:
Fish&Chips, or Hamburger)

RSVP: Prof. Dennis K. Lieu
(510)642-4014
Leave message with choice of entree
RSVP before Friday, 18 September



Mr. Brad Smallridge, director of the San Francisco Robotics Society of America, will speak about robots and the 7th annual Bay Area Robot Race to be held on 13 September this year at the San Francisco Exploratorium. He will bring some demonstration robots, showing the latest technology, and have a video of the race. The robots will include a six legged insect-like mobile robot with legs made of a shape-memory alloy, possibly a robot with a vision system, and a 6-axis force control arm with a wrist and gripper. This presentation will include many visual demonstrations. Members are encouraged to bring their spouses and children. High school, junior high, and even grade school aged children will really enjoy this presentation.

Live Satellite Broadcast



Course Code MC920923B1
Date: 23 Sep 1992
Time: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Place: NASA
Ames Research Center

The Robotics Society of America Seventh Annual Bay Area Robot Race

This event will be held at the Exploratorium, at San Francisco's Palace of Fine Arts, on Sunday 13th September. Lean, mean, robotic navigation machines will compete for fun and prizes. Set-up and test will be at 10:00 AM. The event starts at 1:00 PM. In addition, many robots and related technologies will be on exhibit. The Exploratorium's adult admission is \$7, but if you bring a robot, you and your crew get in free! There will be three events: the slalom event, the maze event, and the "outlet" event. There will be newspaper and TV coverage, and an expected audience throughout the day of about three thousand people. For more information, or contest rules, contact Brad Smallridge, (415)550-0588

Micro-electromechanical Systems: The New Revolution in Miniaturization

Micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS) are rapidly emerging as the new revolution in miniaturization. Working together with microelectronics, MEMS integrates sensors and actuators on a silicon chip, for example to create a new class of products. Included in the list of products are microsensors, medical devices, scientific instruments, chemical factories, and robots. In this live, interactive program, you will learn how MEMS devices are designed and fabricated, how MEMS can be turned into inexpensive and reliable sensors, how motors smaller in diameter than a human hair have been fabricated and operated, how MEMS will change our lives, and what the markets for MEMS will be.

For more information, contact Fred Barez at (408)733-7365 or the National Technological University at (303)484-6050

Executive Council Meetings

San Francisco Section Executive Council meetings are held at 6:15 PM the first Wednesday of each month, September through May. The location is the offices of Bevilacqua-Knight (BKI), 501 14th Street, Suite 210 (second floor), Oakland. BKI is in the Oakland City Center complex next to the 12th Street BART station. Validated parking is available in the City Center garage. All members who are interested in helping organize events for the San Francisco Section are invited to attend.

Message from the Chair: The Fascination of Engineering

As we practicing engineers find ourselves in the midst of budgets, proposals, progress reports, goal sheets, time sheets, expense reports, and the assemblage of other administrative tasks we face in our daily professional lives, we often lose sight of what attracted us to engineering in the first place: knowing how things work, being able to make things, inventing and developing new products, and improving the human condition. It is what captivates the public and attracts young people to our profession. Our September meeting aims to rekindle our inventive spirits. Robots, that classical image of the inventor/engineer's handiwork, from comic books to the space program, along with their chaperone, will be our honored guests. I encourage the curious of all ages to attend. Rediscover the fascination of engineering!

Rich Myhre

1992-1993 San Francisco Section Executive Council

Chairman

Richard J. Myhre, PE
Bevilacqua-Knight, Inc.
501 14th St., Suite 210
Oakland, CA 94612-1405
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Vice-Chairman

Willard A. Nott, PE
Lockheed Missiles and Space
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Treasurer

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Secretary

Donald W. Moseman
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Programs

Madeleine Moffitt
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History and Heritage

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Industrial Relations

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Unemployed Members

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College Relations

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San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 94132
(415)338-1174

Member Interests

Dennis K. Lieu, DEng

Membership Development

Richard J. Myhre, PE

Honors and Awards

Eric Worrell, PE

Minorities and Women

Madeleine Moffitt

Professional Practice and Ethics

Eric Worrell, PE

Technical Activities

Willard Nott, PE

Nominating Committee

Dennis K. Lieu, DEng

Classifieds

Advertising Space Available

This newsletter is published monthly, and reaches approximately 1500 professional and 250 student members. \$200 Full page, \$100 1/2 page, \$50 1/4 page, \$20 business card, \$10 25 word classified

Contact Dennis Lieu (510) 642-4014

JOB BULLETIN 1-800-624-9002

MEMBERS

Looking for a job? Contact the ASME Western Regional Office to obtain a copy of the Job Bulletin.

COMPANIES

Looking for mechanical engineers? Contact ASME Western Regional Office to place a free listing in the Job Bulletin, or to obtain information regarding advertising in Mechanical Engineering magazine.