Minutes: 11/15/2011

There were 9 IEEE members, 1 Student, and 5 guests present

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| George Schott | RAS Chairman | Emma Alaba | Guest |
| Ken Fiallos | RAS Vice Chairman | Juanita Andrews | Guest |
| Sean Denny | RAS Secretary | Kyle Wright | Guest |
| Jim Melton | RAS Program Coordinator | Victor Basantes | IEEE-USF Student |
| Bob Franklin | RAS Facility Coordinator | Nicholas Tummello | Student |
| David Figueroa | IEEE | Bill Waggener | Guest |
| Craig Ross | IEEE-RAS | Mary Fiallos | Guest |
| Steve Nies | RAS |   |   |

Location: DeVry University at 5540 W. Executive Drive, Tampa, FL 33609
Room: 210
Date: November 15, 2011
Time: 6:54pm to 9:30pm

 The November 2011 Meeting of the RAS Society was called by Chairman George Schott.  It was a discussion of Robotics between 6:54 pm and 9:30 pm.  There were 15 participants: 9 IEEE members, 1 Student, and 5 guests present.  Ken Fiallos brought Pizza and George Schott brought chips and soda for an End of the Year Celebration just prior to the opening of business.

George mentioned the September Minutes have been posted on the web.  Bob Franklin motioned to accept the minutes as posted, seconded by David Figueroa.  The motion passed.

 Treasurer Reijo Hiltunen was not present and informed the RAS Officers he has moved back to Finland.  The current balance was not given.

 Under Recognitions, Sean Denny congratulated David Figueroa for passing the A+ Computer Exam.

NEW BUSINESS:

First order of business was to invite Jim Melton to review the Nomination of RAS Officers for 2012.  Jim reported our current officers are:

o       Chairman – George Schott

Oversee the operation of all aspects of the chapter.

Preside at all chapter meetings and events.

Create meeting notices using IEEE Vtools.

Complete and submit an IEEE L31 form for each meeting, event or activity using Vtools.

o       Vice-Chairman – Ken Fiallos

Assume the responsibilities of the Chairman whenever the Chairman is not present or is unable to perform the duties of the Chairman.

Provide help and assistance to the Chairman as needed.

o       Treasurer - VACANT

Collect all approved dues and fees from attendees at each event or activity.  Pay for expenses that have be approved or preapproved by the Chapters Chairman, Vice Chairman, if Chairman is unable or the Executive Committee.  Forward collected funds to the treasurer of the IEEE FWCS.

o       Secretary – Sean Denny

Records and distributes the minutes of all meetings and other activities to the chapter members.  Be custodian of all of the Chapters Official documents.

o       WEB Master - VACANT

Acquires server space for the Chapter’s WEB page.  Designs and programs Chapter’s WEB page content.  Manages the connection and links to and from our chapter WEB pages to other WEB sites (RAS Society and FWCS WEB Sites, etc.)

o       Membership coordinator –Jim Anderson

Solicit new members.

Manage the membership database.

Register members for each event.

Record member attendance at meetings and events.

Maintain membership database.

o       Facilities Coordinator – Robert Franklin

Locate and commit facilities and resources required and appropriate for each event.

o       Publicity coordinator – Jim Melton

Distribute information about upcoming activities and events to all available public media; describing their location, cost and other details as appropriate for each activity or event.

o       Programs coordinator – Jim Melton

Query the general membership for ideas for guest speakers, demonstrations and tours.  Locate speakers and organizations to fulfill the speaker, demonstration and tour calendar.

o       Chapter Photographer - VACANT

Use photographic, video and audio recording technologies to record the

ongoing activities of the Tamps Bay IEEE RAS Chapter.

Ballots were collected and counted by Victor Basante who would report later.

               Ken Fiallos P.E. discussed the design and construction of his automated battery load testing circuit for modeling battery discharge characteristics using an Arduino Micro-controller. By making real time voltage and current measurements with an Arduino of a discharging (12) volt battery under pulse width modulated (PWM) constant current conditions, V-I measurements are directly read into an Excel spreadsheet where the Data is automatically graphed and a straight line curve fit is produced. The modeling techniques have direct application in the performance optimization of Electric Go Kart Racing (Electrathons).  Ken demonstrated how the log file gets imported into Excel then it automatically graphs the battery’s degradation.  Ken still needs volunteers for Drawing up the designs, Assembly Write-ups, Finalizing the software, and need Mentors to help local schools assemble and test.

               Steve Nies reported on the status of his home stair climbing robot.  He researched online videos on how to solve problems like going up or down the stairs.  The biggest challenge is figuring the center of gravity versus dynamic balancing.  The robot needs to pull its equal weight on wheels while carrying a 100 pound (LBS) load.

               Jim Melton announced he has someone who could make Robotics & Automation Society Shirts for $20 or affix RAS Logo Patches for $10.

               Sean Denny announced a St. Pete High School Physics Teacher needs an engineer/volunteer for the Great American Teach-In on November 17th.  Citrus County has a Science Fair on December 7th.  Judges are needed.  Lignell Nominations for Outstanding High School Teachers are due on December 16th and awards will be given on February 24th.  More details and forms can be downloaded at [www.tbewb.org](http://www.tbewb.org/).

               Victor Basante reported the new slate of RAS Officers for 2012:

o       Chairman – George Schott

o       Vice-Chairman – Ken Fiallos

o       Treasurer - George Schott acting

o       Secretary – Sean Denny

o       WEB Master – Victor Basantes

o       Membership coordinator –Jim Anderson

o       Facilities Coordinator – Robert Franklin

o       Publicity coordinator – Jim Melton

o       Programs coordinator – Jim Melton

o       Chapter Photographer – Everyone Acting

               Society still needs a Treasurer and a Chapter Photographer.  George Schott is acting Treasurer for the time being.  Sean Denny volunteered to be Chapter Photographer outside of meetings.

               Emma Alaba announced Mentors are needed for upcoming Robofest on March 10, 2012.  Craig Ross said Robotics Team Mentors are needed at Lakewood and Northeast High School in Pinellas County.

               Victor Basante, IEEE USF Student Chapter is competing in March 2012 at Southeast Con in Orlando.  They will build a robot.  He invited us to meet at USF later in the Spring.  They would also like a “How to build a Robot Workshop.”

               At a future RAS Meeting, George Schott said he would like to have a Robot greet people.  Bob Franklin commented that **"voice recognition" software like we have on our cell phones might be utilized as a robot.**

Bob Franklin made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Craig Ross at 9:30pm.  There will be an officers meeting in December.

The next meeting is January 17th, 2011 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Sean Denny,

Tampa Bay IEEE RAS Chapter Secretary

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