**Minutes: 1/18/2011**

There were 8 IEEE members and 11 guests present:

Location: CDB's Restaurant at 3671 S West Shore Blvd, Tampa, FL 33629

Date: January 18, 2011 Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm

The January 2011 Meeting of the RAS Society was called by Chairman George Schott. It combined dinner and a discussion between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. The following are the main topics from that meeting.

Jim Anderson pre-ceded the meeting by Welcoming the participants and inviting them to IEEE membership.

Chairman George Schott opened the meeting at 6:30pm. First order of business was to approve of the November 2010 Minutes.

Bob Franklin motioned to accept them as posted on the website, seconded by David Figueroa.

George Schott outlined the upcoming year stating the RAS Chapter needs to come up with Bylaws and Standard Protocol for handling meetings. He reported the RAS chapter could apply for a $2,000 grant to be dispersed to support several FIRST Robotics or Lego Leagues Teams. The LEGO Mindstorm kits range from $85.55 to $370.17. We may want to work on getting distinguished speakers to talk at a meeting. We might have additional meetings outside of our regular monthly meetings to accommodate special events like distinguish speakers or presentations at a local high school.

The Executive Board decided to apply the Chapter’s 2010 surplus funds towards the purchase of a PC projector for the chapter.

Tampa Bay RAS will have a two day presence at Engineering Expo. Jim Melton will be displaying his Robotics Collection to recruit new members and potential school partners for the IEEE Robotics grant we will hopefully obtain.

[](http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/floridawc/cms/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/team-duct-tape-images.jpg)

Team Duct Tape In Action

Team Duct Tape arrived with their Robot which competed in the First Tech Challenge at Middleton High school on December 4th. Sean Denny had a ten minute video of the event which complemented their presentation. Coach Terri Willingham added they won an award after the competition. Chris Willingham showcased the improved modifications to the robot since December 2010. They invited several to "drive the robot." Terri said they are competing at Embry Riddle in Daytona Beach on February 12th. They are in need of judges.

There will also be a USF Expo on February 19th. Secretary Sean Denny invited everyone to the:

Tampa Bay Engineers Week Banquet Feb 25, 2011 Reception 5:30-7:00PM Banquet 7:00-10:00PM

During Engineers Week, the engineering societies of the Tampa Bay area have put together the second annual Tampa Bay Engineers Week Banquet on Friday, February 25, 2011, at the spectacular A La Carte Event Pavilion (4050 Dana Shores drive, Tampa, Florida, 33634). This premier event brings together local leaders and engineering professionals to recognize the outstanding achievements of Engineers, Science Teachers, Math Teachers, and Students in our community. **"Engineers Make a World of Difference"**

Guest Speaker: Ken Johnson Director FIRST Tech Challenge. Come join the Tampa Bay Engineers Week Banquet for the presentation of our annual awards banquet and celebration of your profession. Please register at [www.tbewb.org](http://www.tbewb.org/) for the dinner.

The meeting dispersed around 8:30pm with no official motion to adjourn.

The next meeting is scheduled for **February 15, 2011 at 6:30pm**

Respectfully submitted by Sean Denny, Tampa Bay IEEE RAS Chapter Secretary venner20@ieee.org 727-678-0183