

## **PLANNING TO RE-ACTIVATE THE ORANGE COUNTY CN AND THE LOS ANGELES AREA CN**

A Planning Meeting was held at CoCo's Restaurant in Fullerton on Saturday morning Sept 24, 2011. There were nine of us at the meeting, all previously very active in one or both groups. We discussed a wide variety of questions.

**Where to meet?** It appears the intersection of Hwy 5 and Hwy 91 is the center of the OCCN and LAACN areas. We found a Holiday Inn nearby, 7000 Beach Blvd., Buena Park, that would set aside separate eating rooms for groups like ours that seems attractive. Meeting near freeways seems to be most convenient to get to. Use of the IEEE property in Los Alamitos will be re-examined (the Entrepreneurs Network met there a while). Cal State Fullerton was mentioned, but some worried about access. We (OCCN and LAACN) used to meet jointly at El Torito in Westminster, but that's south of the center of our area.

**When to meet?** We felt that monthly meetings would be best. The first (or last) Saturday morning meetings seem best, but we recognize that youngest families have more problems with Saturday meetings because of children's activities later that day. Most wanted access to food, either in the meeting place or nearby. It would be desirable to meet occasionally with the Entrepreneurs Network, so we will talk to them about their meeting locations and time. We are also looking into a few joint meetings with the COM Group.

**Are the meetings to get information or make personal contact?** Both, of course, but Webinars with only information was not favored. Note Northern California does some meetings as Webinars, so we could consider that, but they charge a lot for meetings. Once we get organized, this subject needs to be further developed over the next year or two. The idea of making new contacts, with groups you don't normally see, makes personal contact a major issue. Since California has the highest unemployment, we need to get speakers to talk about current job openings.

**How do we connect with the 150 people that came to Pasadena?** We need another planning meeting after we get the answers to the questions we identified here. Then we need a big meeting to invite everybody (the new people from the Pasadena lunches as well as the older lists of OCCN (18) and LAACN (22) attendees) to the new place and see how many are interested.

I hope we can finish planning in October and start off the first Saturday in November (5th) for the first big meeting.

Thanks for helping to bring us this far. Let's get the last information together and get going!

Ralph Hileman

## I. IEEE Consultant Network Training

Sponsored by: Los Angeles Council

Date: Saturday, June 25th, 2011 10.00am to 12.00pm

Location: Cameron 's restaurant located at 1978 East Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91107.[www.camerons4fish.com](http://www.camerons4fish.com)

Parking: Free

Who should attend: IEEE Members who are or want to be Consultants

Registration: RSVP [e.miranda@ieee.org](mailto:e.miranda@ieee.org) and [eremitamiranda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eremitamiranda@sbcglobal.net)  
please include your membership number with your reservation request.  
Please respond by June 17-2011

Agenda: Self-Introductions- All  
Why change careers – maybe consulting?  
Some options  
Rewards and benefits  
Profile of a typical consultant  
Plan to work as an independent  
How to start consulting  
IEEE helps consultants  
What works for me  
Experiences of other local IEEE consultants  
Questions

Lunch: free to all attendees, courtesy of Los Angeles Council

Speaker's Bio: Bob Gauger is a life senior member of the IEEE and has been an independent consultant for more than 20 years, specializing in reliability and availability of HVAC and power, particularly for military and government facilities. As PACE chair for the LAC, he helped organize the original consultant's networks in the LA and Orange County area. Now, he is serving on the coordinating committee that works with nearly 40 other IEEE consultants' networks across the US