



ANNUAL MEETING 2025

January 25, 2025, 10:00 AM
Prepared by Doug Paradis, DPRG Secretary

Agenda

- Paul Bouchier, 2024 DPRG president discussed the state of the club.
- The candidates for 2024 officer positions were introduced.
- The 2024 election was closed after all attendees had a chance to vote.
- Ron Grant, the election overseer, combined the votes received prior to the meeting by online form, email, and the votes made at the meeting, and announced the election results.
- Paul Bouchier was reelected as club president for 2025 and took office.
- Paul Bouchier presided over the 2025 annual planning meeting.
- The club's 2025 annual planning meeting agenda:
 - Proposal to change bylaws by removing Librarian position from board and adding a new position titled IT Officer.
 - Suggestions and ideas on how to make the club better from members attending.
- Pizza lunch provided by club.
- Panel presentation on AI enhanced cameras.

Outgoing President Summary of 2024

Paul Bouchier summarized the club activities of 2024:

- Reinstated monthly in-person meetings at DMS with changed time and date. Added remote attendance using Google Meet, for non-Dallas area members and friends.
 - March – Kabam Robotics
 - April – PCB Design
 - May – Roborama
 - June – AI for cone finding with guest speaker Bob Cook the winner of 2024 RoboMagellen.
 - July – Moon Day Exhibit.
 - August – Intro to CAD (onShape and RS Designspark Mech.) and State of 3d-printers.
 - September – JTAG debug and Cheapest ROS2 platform
 - November – RoboColumbus
 - December – Holiday Robot Power Lunch
- Robot Builders Night Virtual (online replacement for RBNO) continued with strong participation throughout the year.
 - ~50 meetings per year:
 - Approximately 12 to 20 people for 2 to 3 hours of discussion.
 - Between 50 and 100 YouTube views per meeting.
 - Participants from around the USA and Canada

- Comms Team setup at the 2023 Annual meeting was instrumental:
 - In changing the old mail list server based mailing list to Google Groups.
 - Starting DPRG's Discord chat server.
 - Streamlined and improved method for recording meetings and capturing both chat records and providing LMNotebook Ai-generated meeting summaries. This greatly improved the previous method with greater reliability and reduced volunteer effort.
- In person robot competitions:
 - Roborama Indoor Competition in May.
 - RoboColumbus Outdoor Competition in November. The first 9 point "perfect run" at the Edward's property occurred this year, and 4 RoboColumbus mugs were awarded.
- Paul's observations:
 - Head count of paid members when from 27 to 39 during the year.
 - The DPRG Facebook account has been reactivated and has started to get engagement.
 - New business cards have been designed.

Officer Candidates for 2025

The candidates for club officers were introduced:

President: Paul Bouchier

Vice-President: Carl Ott

Treasurer: Steve Edwards

Secretary: Doug Paradis

Librarian: John Kuhlenschmidt

Election of Officers for 2024

Ron Grant, the election overseer, combined the votes received prior to the meeting by Google online form, email, written proxies, and the votes made by members at the meeting. He announced that the proposed slate of officers was elected with 21 of the 39 members voting (54% of members) for everyone on the slate with no objections.

A quorum of members attended the meeting.

New President Address

Paul Bouchier, the DPRG president for 2024, proposed a bylaw change that would eliminate the board position of Librarian, and add a new position, IT Officer, be added to the board.

- The motion was made by Scott Gibson and seconded by Ron Grant to make the change.
- A vote on the proposal was opened. Members have to February 8th to vote on the motion.

Discussions

The following topics were discussed by the attending members in a brainstorming style:

- **Adding a Table Top challenge with membership certification to monthly meetings or by presentation at RBNV** – A member would get a certification between 0 and 3 based on the completion of the following tasks:
 - Robot drives to opposite end of table (with part of robot over edge) and returns to starting line.
 - Robot knocks an empty soda can off the edge of the table.
 - Robot knocks an empty soda can into a box overhanging the table's edge.This challenge is like the procedure followed by the Homebrew Robotics Club.

- **Adding mini-Sumo competition to Roborama in May.**

- **Create a beginner robot building course** – maybe stressing build for Tabletop / mini-Sumo robot.

- **Discussion on Solid State's Maker version** - An \$48 annual license with a first year free for maker space members. There are conditions on the commercialization of designs.

Ideas for Future Presentations at Monthly Meeting

The attending members were asked to provide the topic that they would most like to see presented at the DPRG monthly meeting.

List of Ideas:

- AI pipeline from data to deployment on robot
- KiCAD presentation
- PID loop presentation
- Beginner Robot Builders series
- Sample Retrieval competition at Roborama

Additional Documentation of the Annual Meeting

- YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/KdTKLhzJm80>
- Slide deck with comments from Paul Bouchier: https://www.dprg.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/DPRG_2025_-_Annual_Meeting-20250125.pdf