

Annual Report 2013

Annual General Meeting

October 25 8-9.30am

Santa Clara Convention Center

Agenda:

- | | |
|------|---|
| 8am | Arrive and breakfast |
| 8.15 | Annual Report 2013 |
| 8.30 | Financial Report 2013 |
| 8.45 | Approval of members, election of Directors |
| 9.00 | Plans for 2014 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Membership Drive▪ Sponsorship & Grants▪ Interns▪ Innovation Awards▪ SVR Events▪ Other Conferences & Events▪ Other business? |
| 9.30 | Meeting adjourns |



Silicon Valley Robotics

*supporting the innovation and
commercialization of robotics technologies*

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Intro:

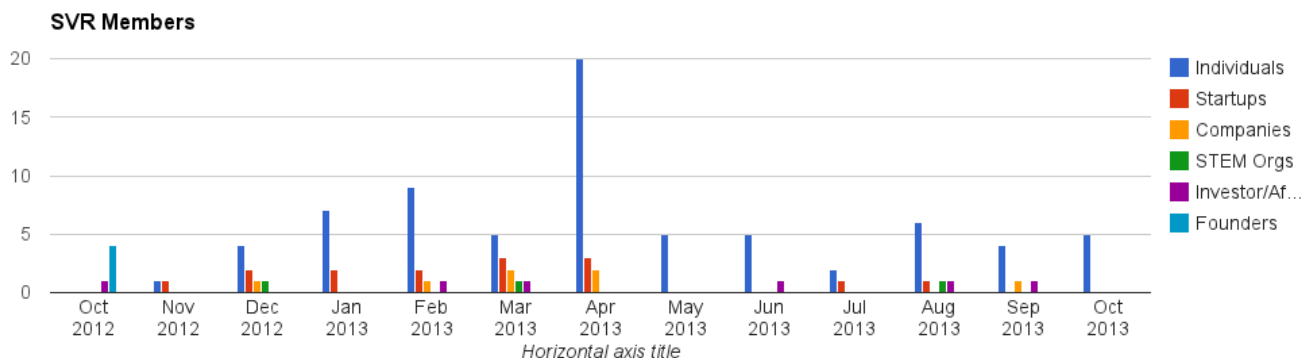
2013 has been a real growth year for Silicon Valley Robotics. We have expanded our membership, delivered many valuable outcomes to robotics companies and professionals and we have developed a wide range of potential partnerships. Our membership base has been going through changes as well with most energy amongst newer companies. We face challenges reaching established robotics companies, securing ongoing funding and continuing to grow our current status with limited resources. However, we are very well positioned for further growth.

Official Status

Our Articles of Incorporation were filed in 2012. We completed and filed our bylaws before our first AGM in October 2012. The focus since then has been on completing our applications for tax exemption as a 501(c)6, which were filed earlier in 2013. Although we have been approved for an exemption in California, the IRS is experiencing major delays in their process and we've been informed that we'll get an answer in approx. 1 year.

Members

A slow but steady growth in members since the start of the year. Our members range from small startups to Intuitive Surgical, from STEM organizations to sponsors, affiliates and investors. Our total membership is currently 111 - 73 individuals and 38 organizations.



We had the assistance of a volunteer intern over the summer who tried to contact all the robot companies on our database who aren't yet members. Michael Lin was a very articulate organized go-getting HS senior with previous robotics intern experience but he wasn't able to get through to more than a couple of companies. Interestingly, our current members include only a handful of the 40 companies who were present at the first SVR network event in 2010 .

Survey

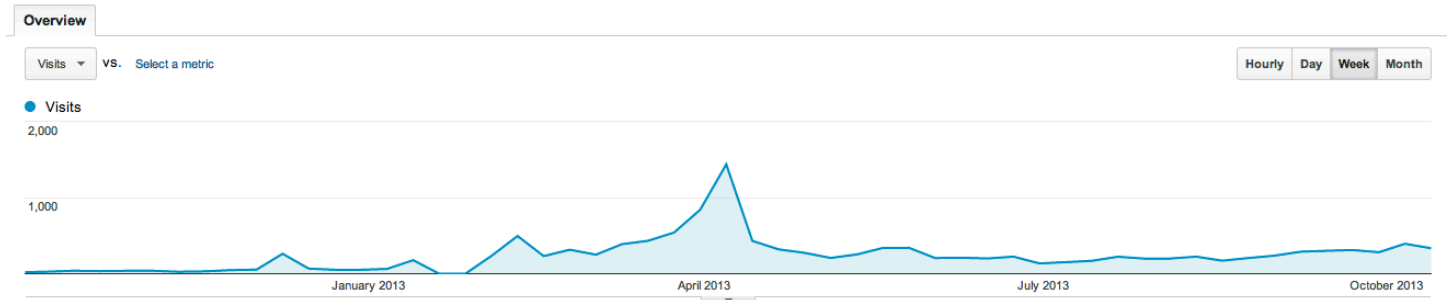
We collected 9 responses to our initial online industry survey <http://www.svrobo.org/about-us/survey-2012-13/> . I hoped to find a summer intern who could take on extending the project, collecting more responses and compiling a report but summer isn't ideal and a good survey is labor intensive.

Administration

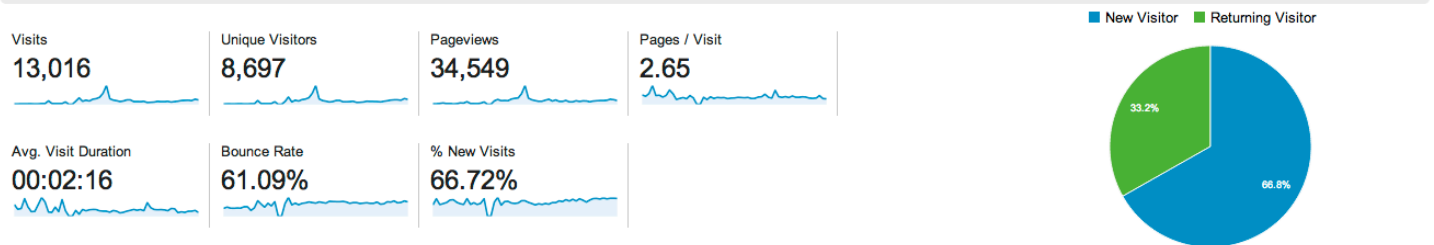
We set up our accounts properly with QuickBooks (non-profit) and the assistance of a non-profit accountant, Michelle Lemus. This was critical in preparing our tax exemption application, with the assistance of tax firm Mehta Associates. Outside of these large tasks, administration consists of complying with regulations, managing our member database, communications and correspondence.

Website

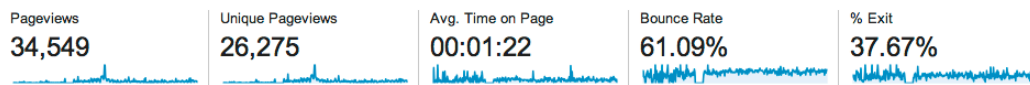
Our website is regularly updated and provides an entry point to all Silicon Valley Robotics events and initiatives. We've gone from an average of 100 visits per month (Oct 2012) to more than 1000 visits per month, with a peak of 3,661 visits in April 2013.



8,697 people visited this site



Pages on this site were viewed a total of 34,549 times



Site Content

Page
Page Title
Site Search
Search Term
Events
Event Category

Page

Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews
1. /	5,510	15.95%
2. /calendar/robot-block-party/	3,276	9.48%
3. /category/job-fair/positions/	1,317	3.81%
4. /blog/	1,075	3.11%
5. /careers/how-hiring/	1,062	3.07%
6. /about-us/	963	2.79%
7. /membership/	946	2.74%
8. /directory/	943	2.73%
9. /calendar/	708	2.05%
10. /2013/03/18/2013-robot-block-party-april-10-at-stanford/	592	1.71%

Metrics and Social Media

Our twitter account now has 1141 followers, from zero last year. Our Linked In group has 620 members and our company page has 74 followers. I try to respond quickly if there is a comment made on twitter and Linked In. Even our g+ and facebook pages are slowly getting followers, even with only automated updates and no conversation. I use HootSuite to share certain updates like newsletters, events or snippets of news across all our social media sites.

News Reports

Several reporters, local, US and global, have contacted Silicon Valley Robotics for intros to robotics companies. Some good write-ups resulting from these requests include a feature issue of Palo Alto Weekly Times, and 3 focus stories in Entrepreneur magazine.

Robot Block Party

The Robot Block Party was a great success. We had 40 companies, clubs or groups exhibiting and between 1000-2000 attendees. This year the event was sandwiched between the Xconomy forum and the We Robot conference. We were also on the same day as the Cool Product Expo at Stanford and were able to arrange a shuttle bus between the two events and cross promotions. As always, the event was popular for the press with some local coverage and pictures appearing on a range of websites.

Investor Showcase

We've now held 2 successful investor showcases. The first was at SRI International and we showcased 11 startups with almost 20 attendees. Our goal after the first event was to hold smaller events more regularly and expand our reach into the VC community and be responsive to the timeframes of companies seeking funding. We held our second event at WilmerHale 5 startups in a more intimate event with several top quality VC/investors, including Khosla and Google Ventures.

Startup Seminar

Our newest event is a topic-based seminar aimed at startups. We have a startup committee or working group who are selecting the topics and speakers based on their questions and experience. Our first event was a panel discussion on "Manufacturability" held at Counsyl in South San Francisco. The panellists were Frank Moreman, COO of Eksobionics, Kyle Lapham, Director of Lab Automation at Counsyl, Nick Pinkston, founder of Plethora and the Hardware Startup Meetup, moderated by Robert Morris, from TerrAvion.

Over 40 people attended the seminar and discussion continued well after the advertised event end. Highway1, the new hardware accelerator in SF, have offered to sponsored food and drink for the seminars. Our startup working group, Saurabh Palan, Robert Morris and Elad Inbar have a 6 month line-up of different topics and are organizing the next seminar, on IP, for November.

Film Night and Network Events

As well as a social networking event at the Robot Block Party attended by 100-200, we held a film night at Bot&Dolly for approx. 70 people. We also 'sponsor' a regular social meetup group which now has 267 members and meets on the first Wednesday of each month, either in Palo Alto or SF.

Other Events

We've curated speakers and sponsors for 3 BASE (Bay Area Software Engineers) events at Microsoft SF, which are very well attended (300+) and provide a recruitment opportunity for participating speakers. We've curated a 'robot zoo' for the Bay Area Science Festival on Nov 2 at AT&T park, which will attract 20-30k people. We've curated robots and speakers for Nightlife at the California Academy of Science. And we've had a presence at SUSBEXPO and RoboBusiness, including arranging for a two day industry tour for Danish trade group and curating a very successful startup pitchfire and panel at RoboBusiness.

I've also received invitations to speak or moderate panels at DARC NY, Qualcomm, Pioneers Festival Vienna and IEEE RAS Industry Forum at IROS.

Sponsors/Partners

Potential sponsor/partnerships include; WilmerHale, Perkins Coie, Morgan Lewis, Silicon Valley Bank, Qualcomm, Highway1, Robolution Capital and Grishin Robotics. Some trade or strategic relationships in development include; SUAS, AUVSI, Dept of Trade, CSIRO and ANZatech, Robotdalen, Blue Ocean Robotics, Innorobo, UK Science and Innovation, CAN Ministry of Research and Innovation, Alphalab Gear in Pittsburgh, Carnegie Robotics , Zahn Center for Entrepreneurship NY, VLAB, IEEE RAS Industry Forum, VCPE Roundtable.

Plans for 2014/2015

- Innovation Awards
- Grants
- Sponsors
- International CES
- Xconomy
- Driverless Vehicle Conference(s) inc SUSBEXPO
- Consumer Robotics conference?
- We Robot
- Innorobo?
- RoboBusiness
- BASF
- Other?