

Claudia de Luna

NAF Advisory Board Submission

Submission Essay

Over the last decade+, my work and writing have focused on helping network engineers move from artisanal CLI work to disciplined, testable automation built on shared data models, version-controlled state, and observable pipelines. Today, we are at the next inflection point: AI is being layered on top of that automation, often faster than our operating models and governance can keep up. I heard a Stanford professor describe today's workforce as "classical, pre-GenAI educated," and that resonated deeply with me. I am committed to helping those engineers, including myself, figure out how we work, grow, and lead in a post-GenAI environment. My primary motivation for wanting to continue on the NAF Advisory Board is to help shape how our community navigates that shift through conferences, education, by any means necessary really, preserving the human craft and operational rigor of networking while embracing AI as a force multiplier rather than a shortcut.

Through hands-on work with open-source, MCP-based assistants, testing topologies, and automation frameworks, I work where network data, automation platforms, and LLMs intersect. On *The Gracuitous Arp*, I write about the move from ad-hoc spreadsheets to schema-driven sources of truth, the evolving meaning of network automation, and the use of AI to make networks more explainable and operationally safe. I want to continue to bring that practitioner perspective, grounded in lab work, production experience, and community storytelling, to support NAF's mission of making automation and AI accessible, repeatable, and vendor-agnostic.

My employer actively supports my involvement with NAF and gives me wide latitude for community-facing projects. I can commit consistent time over the next two years for reviewing submissions, contributing to program design, and responding quickly to requests. I have no conflicts that would limit my participation, and I am comfortable evaluating technologies, methodologies, and vendors on their merits without bias.

Thank you for your consideration,

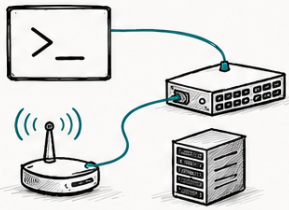
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray background. The signature reads "Claudia de Luna" in a cursive script. The "C" is large and loops around the "l" in "Luna". The "de" is written in a smaller, simpler cursive.

Personal links

- Blog: gratuitous-arp.net
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/clauiadeluna
- BlueSky: [@delunac.bsky.social](https://delunac.bsky.social)

The Gratuitous Arp



The Gratuitous Arp

An unsolicited reply about networking and automation!

- ✓ Real world experience
- ✓ Practical how-tos & labs
- ✓ Open source mindset
- ✓ Thoughts on where our discipline is headed

TOPICS I WRITE ABOUT



LABS & EXPERIMENTS

- Hands-on labs
- Testbeds & homelabs
- Packet captures
- Breaking things (so you don't have to)



AUTOMATION & PROGRAMMING

- Python for network engineers
- Ansible, Nornir, Netmiko
- APIs, RESTCONF, JSON
- Jinja2 templates
- Tools that save time



NETWORK ENGINEERING & PROTOCOLS

- Routing & switching
- VLANs, STP, LACP
- OSPF, BGP, EIGRP
- Wireless & mobility
- Design & troubleshooting



CLOUD & MODERN INFRASTRUCTURE

- AWS, Azure & GCP
- VPCs, TGWs, DX
- Hybrid connectivity
- Infrastructure as Code
- Containers & platforms



SECURITY & ACCESS

- Zero trust & NAC
- AAA (RADIUS, TACACS+)
- Firewalls & segmentation
- ISE & identity
- Security best practices



OPERATIONS & OBSERVABILITY

- SuzieQ & network data
- Telemetry (gNMI, NetFlow)
- Dashboards & visibility
- Runbooks & automation
- Reliability & troubleshooting



DOCUMENTATION & DATA

- Network documentation
- Data modeling & sources
- Standards & consistency
- Diagrams that help
- Turning data into knowledge



WHERE OUR DISCIPLINE IS CHANGING

- Intent-based networking
- AI, copilots & automation
- Platform vs. products
- The evolving engineer
- Trends, opinions & perspective

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES



Real-World Experience
Lessons from the field



Community Driven
We learn together



Vendor Agnostic
Tools over tribes



Continuous Learning
Always be curious



Open Source Friendly
Share, build, improve



Sharing Knowledge
Documenting what works



From Design to Operations
End-to-end perspective

>_ gratuitous-arp.net

