



Senior Mentor Report January 25, 2010

Hi Everyone,

I hope that this note finds everyone in Southern California drying out from the massive storms and mudslides of last week. The last of the midterm exams are now over and we can all get back to focusing on our robots. February is just around the corner and I am hopeful that everyone is making great progress with the robots, CAD, Websites and Animations.

I was part of the team walkthrough last Friday and the staff at the Long Beach Convention Center is looking forward to our return in March. They have already begun to promote our event on their big marquis.

Have a great week!
-Nancy Mc

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂



San Marino #1160 is looking for mentor help. If you know of someone who can help please have them send me an e-mail and I will be glad to make an introduction.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

A Raytheon Request

We have many local Raytheon Teams out there that would love the opportunity to say thanks and demonstrate the impact of this program on their schools.

Five robotics teams are needed to bring their robots and five students on February 17th. We will be having engineer games and a robotics demo.

I would like five working FRC robots and if your team also does FTC or VEX, I would also like to demonstrate these robots as well.

The schedule is as follows:
Wed 2/17 - Engineer Games & Lab
Tour 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Robotics Demo 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Plan on arriving at 10:30am so you can be checked in and eat lunch.

Please get back to me if you are interested,

Ric Roberts
Sr. Manager,
Space and Airborne Systems
Systems Development Center
Raytheon Company
Office: (310)616-1356
Mobile: (310)658-9553

PS - I will also need two teams do demonstrate robots on Bring Your Kids to Work Day, April 22nd,

This will be from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm,
✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂



See's Candy has a Valentine's Day fundraiser

<http://fr.sees.com/prod.cfm/OrderSalesMaterials/ValentinesDayFundraisingSalesMaterials>

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Mentor Resource Page

On the top of the FIRST site there is a link to a set of resources that are readily available to you. I am going to feature the section on building a robot today.

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/content.aspx?id=14040>

The contents of the FRC Mentor Resources Connection have been

accumulated and categorized through the efforts of many FRC Team Mentors and *FIRST* Senior Mentors. It is an exercise in Mentors helping Mentors. Their insight and contribution make this offering possible. *FIRST* would like to thank all of these dedicated volunteers for their time and support of this project.

If you have any additional ideas or contributions to be added to these resources please send your suggestions to frcteams@usfirst.org including the word "Mentor" in the subject line.

- III. Building a Robot** (a) **Design Process** (b) **Kit of Parts (KOP)** (c) **CAD & Autodesk** (d) **Weight Management** (e) **Programming & Software**
1. General
 2. C/C++
 3. LabVIEW
 4. Java
 5. VxWorks Libraries
 6. Source Control (f) **Mechanical** (g) **Pneumatics** (h) **Control System** (i) **Electrical/Wiring** (j) **Sensors** (k) **Tools** (l) **Crates and Shipping** (m) **Parts Vendors** (n) **Building a practice field**

Disclaimer: Some of the following links lead to external web sites that are not endorsed or controlled by FIRST, and may contain outdated or inaccurate information about FIRST programs.



2010 FIRST Awards

The Award Submission section of the Student Team Members website <https://my.usfirst.org/frc/goteams/site.lasso> is now live. Teams have until 11:59pm ET on Thursday, February 18, 2010 to submit applications for the 2010 Chairman's Award, Woodie Flowers Award and Website Award.

Detailed submission instructions can be found here: <http://www.usfirst.org/uploadedFiles/Comm>

[unity/FRC/FRC Documents and Updates/Awards%20Submission%20instructions.pdf](http://www.usfirst.org/unity/FRC/FRC_Documents_and_Updates/Awards%20Submission%20instructions.pdf).



FIRST Scholarships

Did you know that there are a number of scholarships that are available to the juniors on your team?

2010 *FIRST* Scholarships at www.usfirst.org/scholarships



ATTENTION TEAMS

Are you tired of practicing and tuning your robot on a small patch of carpet at the Regional? Would you prefer to practice on a full sized field with all structures? This can happen but your help is needed.

SCRRF is building a full- scale field for the Pre-Ship Scrimmage on 2/21. This field will be available for use at the Regional, and there is enough space in the venue BUT we need people to volunteer to pick it up from storage, drive it down to Long Beach, assemble it, supervise it during the competition, disassemble it, pack it back into the truck and deliver it back to storage. Most of the people who normally do this will be busy building and running the official field, which is unusually complex this year.

Set-up of the practice field can happen either Wednesday afternoon, or evening or Thursday morning (at the expense of some practice time) and tear down would be around Noon on Saturday. Loading the truck and putting everything back in storage are up for negotiation.

We need one person who will take on the responsibility to lead this effort, and 6-8 people to help every time the field moves. These do

not need to be the same people each time.

Please contact Chris Husmann at 310 749-7265 if you can help.



SCRRF 2010 Scholarships

The Southern California Regional Robotics Forum (SCRRF) will award \$500 scholarships to two Southern California high school students for their first year of college study in the field of math, science or technology.

The award is non-renewable and will be recognized at the Los Angeles Regional *FIRST* Robotics Competition and *FIRST* World Festival in Atlanta.

Student Eligibility Requirements:

- High school senior
- Actively participates on a Southern California robotics team
 - *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) team or
 - *FIRST* Tech Challenge (FTC) team or
 - VEX Robotics Competition (VRC) team
- Participated or scheduled to participate with robotics team in one or more Southern California qualifying regional events in Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Kern, San Bernardino or Orange counties.

Submission Requirements:

- Students write a 500 word essay titled "The Impact of FRC/FTC/VRC on my Future Goals."
- A copy of their high school transcript.
- Letter of recommendation from one of the adult members of their robotics team stating that the applicant has demonstrated the values of *FIRST/VRC* and is a member in good standing.

· All materials need to be delivered or post marked by February 25, 2010 to:

LeRoy Nelson, Chairman E-mail:

LeRoyNelson@earthlink.net

SCRRF Scholarship Committee (310) 937-1416 Fax

1457 3rd Street (310) 937-7226 Home office
Manhattan Beach CA 90266-6335

(310) 529-4637 Cell

About SCRRF:

The Southern California Robotics Regional Forum is a nonprofit association formed by *FIRST* robotics teams in Southern California. Originating in Chatsworth, the Forum was formed after the 2001 *FIRST* Robotics season in the spirit of sharing and helping in the *FIRST* community. It is the goal of SCRRF to provide a way for Southern California teams, both rookies and veterans, to get help and to share opinions so that the experience can be improved for everyone. SCRRF hosts the Fall Classic and Pre-Ship Scrimmage as well as various workshops to help teams prepare for upcoming competitions. Beside the events and workshops, teams in SCRRF have formed a sense of *FIRST* community, making their experience so much more enjoyable.

Pre-Ship Scrimmage,
Sunday, February 21, 2010.
More information to follow soon.



For additional information please contact

Suparna Mukherjee at

suparna.mukherjee@jpl.nasa.gov



Calling All Team Mentors:

All mentors can be recognized by *FIRST* if they are listed in TIMS. The

team lead contact will have more information for you.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂
Volunteers for FIRST Events can register in VIMS.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in volunteering for our regional events they need to register in the FIRST Volunteer System at <https://my.usfirst.org/vims/logon.lasso?page=logon>



Vex World Championship Dallas, TX April 22-24, 2010.

Ralph Mills will be your best source for information. ralphmills@aol.com

You can also find additional information at www.robotevents.com

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂
**Upcoming Events
Spring 2010**

- Chairman's Woodie Flower's and Website Award submissions due February 18, 2010.
- Annual Robot Blessing Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles Sunday, February 21, 2010 9:00am *(Not a FIRST event.)*
- L A Pre Ship Scrimmage Sunday, February 21, 2010 Harvey Mudd College.
- San Diego Regional FRC March 4-6, 2010
- FRC Los Angeles Regional Long Beach Convention Center March 25-27, 2010

- Hawaii Regional Stan Sheriff Center March 25-27, 2010
- FIRST Championship Event Georgia Dome Atlanta Georgia April 15-17, 2010



If you have news that I can share with the FIRST teams you are welcome and encouraged to send it to me.

If you would like to write on a particular topic I am happy to provide space in this newsletter.



FREE Shipping on VEX Robotics!*




*Purchase \$250 or more and receive FREE shipping. For details:
1-800-511-8022
sales@visucate.com
www.visucate.com/vex

Reminder # 1: Due dates are closer than they appear.

Reminder # 2 Team Update 4 is out. Make sure that all team members are up to date.

Reminder #3 The FIRSTCommunity social site was created to encourage

personal and professional networking among *FIRST* Alumni, Mentors, Coaches, and Volunteers. It's an amazing opportunity to tap into a network estimated at over one million strong and growing.

<http://firstcommunity.usfirst.org/>

Reminder # 4: Deans Homework!

-Nancy McIntyre
FIRST Senior Mentor- Los Angeles
nmcintyre@chaminade.org