



January 25, 2011

Good morning everyone,

- We have compressed the files for the graphics as I have heard that some people have been having trouble opening the files.
- Welcome to week 3. Hopefully everyone is making progress and has developed strategies and prototypes for testing.
- The Logo Inner Tubes are back in stock at AndyMark.
- Team Update #4 is out.
- I will hold a FIRST Scholarship workshop for Seniors and Parents on Sunday, February 6, 2011 at 3:00 at Verbum Dei High School. Please RSVP to me and I will provide you with a map and room location. nmcintyre@chaminade.org

-Nancy Mc

+++++

PTC

The Product Development Company, has modeled the 2011 FRC Kit of Parts in Creo Elements/Pro (formerly called Pro/ENGINEER) and has made it easily accessible through Catalog Data Solutions' CAD library. Thank you to Catalog Data Solutions for donating the storage of these models!

Visit www.ptc.com/go/firstkop to access the 2011 CAD Library!

As a Crown Supplier to the FRC program, PTC is offering the following software tools to all teams for FREE:

- Windchill for team collaboration (hosted by PTC)
- Creo Elements/Pro (formerly called Pro/ENGINEER) for creating CAD models of your robot

- Creo Elements/View (formerly called Productview) for visualizing your robot designs
- Mathcad for documenting your engineering calculations



The Pre Ship Scrimmage will be at Harvey Mudd on Feb 20th, starting at 8am. Rookie teams are highly encouraged to attend. As usual we will be offering courtesy inspections. This is also a great place for teams that have no room to run their robot to find out just what it will do. I am looking for a scale suitable for robot weighing that we can borrow.

Christopher H Husmann, PE
 Tool Design Stress Analyst
 Northrop Grumman - Aerospace Systems
 2P61/ES1
 310 331-6758

There is an archive of this newsletter is posted at <http://larobotics.org/SeniorMentorNewsletters.html> should you need to see it again for reference or to share it with someone else.

+++++



FIRST Awards Submission		Opens	Closes
FIRST Dean's List Award	Via TIMS	11/18/10 Noon EST	02/17/11 at 11:59 AM EST

Chairman's Award	Via STIMS	11/11/10 Noon EST	02/17/11 at 11:59 AM EST
Woodie Flowers Award	Via STIMS	11/11/10 Noon EST	02/17/11 at 11:59 AM EST
Website Award	Via STIMS	11/11/10 Noon EST	02/17/11 at 11:59 AM EST
Excellence in Design Award sponsored by Autodesk (Category 1-3D Design)	Submit through : Autodesk	1/10/2011	TBD
Excellence in Design Award sponsored by Autodesk (Category 2-Animation)	Submit through : Autodesk	1/10/2011	TBD

+++++



If you have a FLL team that would like to demonstrate their robot during the FRC event in Long Beach in March please contact LeRoy Nelson to RSVP.

LeRoy Nelson is the partner in Los Angeles
LeRoyNelson@earthlink.net

Lynn Crockett is the partner in San Diego
Lynn.Crockett@LEGOLAND.com
 Sara Tamayose is the partner in Hawaii
stamayose@gmail.com
<http://www.hawaiiifll.org/>

+++++



Contact the following FTC partners if you are looking for an FTC team to partner with for the upcoming competition.

Los Angeles Partner Suparna Mukherjee
suparna.mukherjee@jpl.nasa.gov

San Diego Partner John Brooks
jbrooks6@att.net

San Diego Partner Marion Brooks
manybrooks@att.net

+++++



2011 VRC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP – GET A FREE INSPECTION LINE PASS

Want to avoid the long lines at inspection? Donate an experienced volunteer to help at inspections and your team will get a free pass to the inspection express line! Just help out with inspections Wednesday afternoon (3-6pm) and/or Thursday morning (8am-Noon). [Volunteer here](#) today! One inspection pass (one robot) per volunteer.

SkillsUSA COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The 2011 SKILLS USA Mobile Robotics Competition for Secondary Schools has been released. [Read all about it here.](#) Compete locally to earn a spot to join over 15,000 people at the SkillsUSA National Conference in Kansas City June 19-24.

+++++



Verbum Dei has offered me the use of their school for a Sunday afternoon Scholarship meeting. Sunday, February 6, 2011. We will start at 3:00.

FIRST Scholarships:

- ✓ Vary from one-time awards of \$1,000 to full four-year tuition (estimated at \$153,000)
- ✓ Are typically merit-based and cover a broad range of scholastic abilities
- ✓ May be for STEM majors (60%); or for any course of study (40%)
- ✓ Are usually for use at a specific college/university, but a few can be used at any school
- ✓ Each have their own eligibility requirements, deadline dates, and application procedures



Make this Poster Visible to Students

Post in Math Room

- Post in Science Classrooms
- Post in Team Workspace
- Post in Guidance Office
- Post in Cafeteria
- Post in Activities Office
- Post in Computer Lab

The link is available on the FIRST Scholarship page.

+++++



If your team is looking to do some traveling this spring you may want to consider working with a travel agent. Below is information on one agency that I worked with while my team traveled to New Zealand in November. It was nice to have someone to help with all of the details.

Travel planning that is easy and fun, and an experience that is exceptional - that is what we do best at Litwin Travel! Litwin Travel is a member of Virtuoso, the leading travel network made up of an exclusive group of the top 2% of agencies worldwide. By working with us to plan your next journey you will gain a valuable edge through our worldwide connections, unparalleled expertise, and passion to give you the best quality and service for your travel dollar. There is no doubt we save our clients a great deal of time and money, but as your travel memories are priceless we can create an amazing weekend celebration get away or a customized trip of a lifetime. With over 30 years of experience and extensive relationships in the travel industry, Litwin Travel is certainly an agency you can trust! Give us a call to make your next trip exceptional! Marti Litwin can be reached directly at 805-529-2126 or martilitwin@yahoo.com.



MATE Underwater Robotics Program

This year's competition theme highlights the role that ROVs play in the offshore oil and gas industry and focuses on the challenges that they faced during the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

The mission tasks include removing a damaged riser pipe, capping a wellhead, collecting a water sample, measuring depth, and sampling organisms.

2011 marks the 10th year of international competition. The event is being hosted by the Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL) at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas June 16 – 18, 2011.

The competition announcements have been made public:
http://www.materover.org/main/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=117&Itemid=171

+++++

Summer Plans

The University of Dayton School of Engineering is hosting their 38th Annual women in Engineering Summer Camp. It will be held July 10-15, 2011. Information can be found at http://www.dayton.edu/engineering/documents/wie_2011_application.pdf

They also run another program for both boys and girls.

Annette M. Packard is the program coordinator. Her phone number is 937 229 3296.

+++++



Upcoming Events:

FRC Pre Ship Scrimmage February 20, 2011
Harvey Mudd to host.

San Diego FRC Regional March 10-12, 2011

Los Angeles FRC Regional March 24-26, 2011

Hawaii FRC Regional March 24-26, 2011

VEX World Championship Walt Disney World
April 14-16, 2011

FiRST Championship St. Louis April 27-30, 2011

+++++

Resources:

FIRST www.usfirst.org

ANDYMARK <http://www.andymark.com>

VEX PRO
<http://www.vexrobotics.com/products/vexpro/>

VEX www.vexrobotics.com

Robotevents www.robotevents.com

Carnegie Mellon Curriculum
<http://www.education.rec.ri.cmu.edu/roboticscurriculum/index.html>

ROC <http://www.hawaiiroc.org/>

Autodesk Student Community
<http://students.autodesk.com/>

Robot Magazine <http://www.botmag.com/>

Chief Delphi
<http://www.chiefdelphi.com/forums/index.php>

+++++



Grants and Fund Raising Ideas:

I saw Nancy's request about fundraising ideas and I thought I'd pass along just a few pieces that have been very successful for FIRST Team 3512. As rookies, we didn't have anything to really draw upon but we benefited from the traditional FIRST sponsors of JC Penny and NASA. Our fundraising strategy really has focused on corporate sponsors and it's been successful beyond anything we could have imagined.

The corporate sponsor approach focused on three different methods.

1. Several of the mentors knew local companies /

corporations that routinely sponsored community activities. We approached several of them, usually in a face to face method, to let them know what we're doing. After establishing the relationship with them, we'd ask for money--a lot of them would say "Let me know what we can do to help." Then it's a large matter of follow up.

2. We pushed hard on the students to ask their parents to approach the parents' companies for a community donation. Since a lot of companies set aside funds for community relations, this was a good target. Given that FIRST is both education and technology based we have gotten some good support from a few of these companies.

3. All of the mentors, on their own initiative, approached their own companies and we were able to bring in several thousand dollars that way as well.

One of the key pieces that we've emphasized time and again, though, is this isn't about building the robot. Building the robot is what we do, but it's really inspiring these students to do better in school, go on to colleges, work in technology career fields and hopefully come back to work at some of these sponsors down the road. Along those lines, we have a whirl wind tour starting to line up after competition season where the students will demo the robot at the sponsor's site but the sponsors have to give a pitch/tour to the students about what they do.

It just seemed that the idea of building those relationships would be key to inspiring the students, getting them to see even more technology companies, and have the companies see where their money is going. It's worked well for us. I'll be happy to share any other thoughts if you'd like.
v/r, Scott McLean

The *FIRST*[®] Green e-watt saver ordering Web site is also now live.

Instructions to create an account for your U.S.-based FRC or FTC teams are available to

download on the [FIRST[®] Green e-watt saver resources page](#).

+++++

Quote for the week:

"You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great." Zig Zigler

+++++

Reminders:

1. Keep track of all of your expenses
2. Make sure Safety is job 1
3. Keep everyone focused as you wait for parts.

-Nancy Mc
FUTURE Founding Board Member

(My school e-mail is still the best way to reach me during the academic year.)

nmcintyre@chaminade.org
nancy@futurefound.org