

FROM THE BULL'S MOUTH – Friday, Jan. 16th, 2015



Letter from the Officers:

Dear Parents, Members, and Alumni,

As the team concludes the 2nd week, the team remains busy as ever. Many prototypes were made and tested this week, and the strategy is on its way to being finalized. In addition, Chairman's Award speakers have been chosen, thank you everyone who tried out!

On Sunday, January 11, the team held its first design review. All parents, alumni, and mentors were invited to a presentation of the team's current prototypes, as well as an overview of strategy.

Design reviews have always been a indispensable way for parents to see first hand what the team is currently working on, and for students to receive feedback about design and strategy.

Throughout the presentation, parents and mentors asked many essential questions and valuable suggestions were made. Thank you to all those who attended last Sunday, and please note there will be a **second design review Sunday, January 18**. It will take place at Monta Vista in Room **F108 at 5:30- 7:00 PM**, and as always we look forward to seeing you there with coffee and cookies.

To watch the 2015 FRC Challenge, Recycle Rush, game video, click on this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTyCIYZQ_1s

Also, we encourage parents to continue to donate and contribute to the team as we progress through the season. We are hungry teenagers who will work on the robot hours on end, so food donations are always highly appreciated!

Thank you,

The MVRT officers

Archana Kikla (President), Andrew He (Vice President of Engineering), Lee Mracek (Director of Electrical), Chirag Toprani (Director of Mechanical), RJ Cunningham (Director of Engineering Data), Divek Toprani (Vice President of Operations), Praxis Bays (Director of Outreach), Michelle Danese (Director of Public Relations), Jeremy Chen (Director of Finance), Sophia Cao (Director of Media), Sydney Howard (Director of Documentation), Shovik Guha (Webmaster)



A look at the first design review of the season

PLANNED COMPETITIONS

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|---------------------|--|
| March 12 – 14, 2015 | Utah Regional Salt Lake City, Utah |
| April 2 – 4, 2015 | Silicon Valley Regional San Jose State University |
| April 22 – 25, 2015 | Championships St. Louis, Missouri |

Upcoming Events:

ThinkFIRST (continuing)

01/11/15 (5:30 - 7:00 PM): Design Review --
Parents are invited to check on the students' progress, and give input on strategy, design, etc.;
Monta Vista Campus, Room F108



Division Updates:

Mechanical:

- Composing CAD model of robot as well as 2D drawings of parts
- Finishing second round prototypes of roller and can stabilizer
- Starting to assemble chassis

If you have any questions about mechanical, please email mechanical@mvr.com

Electrical:

- Finished computer preparation for the season
- Added electronics to the CAD
- Wrote code for designs mechanical is developing, and soon will begin wiring the robot

If you have any questions about Electrical, please email electrical@mvr.com

Engineering Documentation:

- Organized the first design review
- Decided on basic robot design
- Continue documenting progress of build

If you have any questions about engineering data, please email engineeringdata@mvr.com

Public Relations/Outreach:

- Chairman's Award Speakers are finalized
- Dean's list candidates have been chosen
- Multiple award essays are being written

If you have any questions about Public Relations or Outreach, please email publicrelations@mvr.com

Finance:

- Applied Materials and Western Digital Grant applications
- Entrepreneurship Award Business plan

If you have any questions about Finance, please email finance@mvr.com

Media:

- Creating and choosing button and T-shirt designs
- Team 116 Animation Competition brainstorming

If you have any questions about Media, please email media@mvr.com

Documentation:

- Brainstorming Award essay themes
- Working on Chairman's Essay aswell as Chairman's binder
- Creating special needs engineering and robotics program

If you have any questions about Documentation, please email documentation@mvr.com

Website: The Web Development division is proud to announce that after months of hard work the new website is live. Check it out at www.mvr.com. If you plan to work on the website, please email webmaster@mvr.com

Meet the Mentors: The Yelinek Edition

MVRT would not be what it is today without the help of our wonderful mentors. We have many different mentors with many different skill sets, but all of them are irreplaceable. The new Meet the Mentors Column is a chance for MVRT to get to know and thank our mentors.

Mr. Yelinek has been on the team for 3 years. Every year Mr. Yelinek never fails to lend a helping hand with his lovely truck that is older than all members of the team. He is also been extremely helpful with the larger items we need to build. Last year, he helped build the large goals for Aerial Assist game, and this year he is already aiding us in working on replicating the manual tote dump.

John Yelinek has always been as dependable as his old truck, and much more modern than his cassette tapes.

Thank you Mr. Yelinek and all our mentors!



Mr. Yelinek helping build the manual tote dump

Parents' Booster Club:

Dear Parents,

SNACKS SNACKS SNACKS

MONEY: GRANTS; MATCHING FUNDS

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

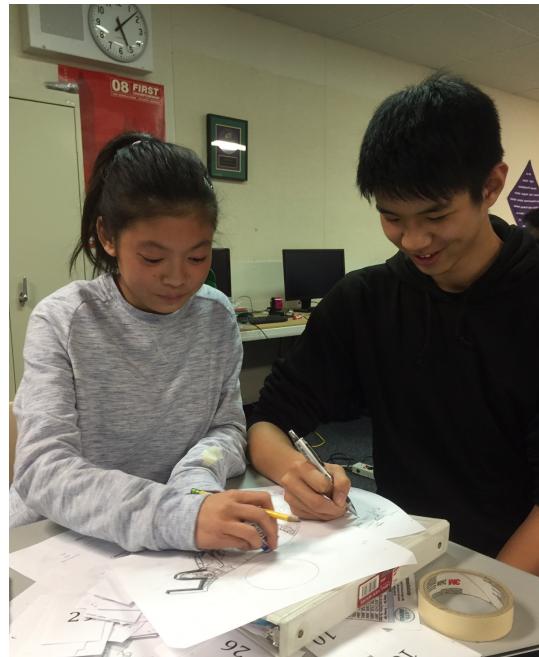
HELP OUT THE MENTORS AND TEAM BY DOING THE PARTS BUYING RUNS. YOU WILL BE REIMBURSED.

With the large number of students showing up for build, extra parents would be very helpful.

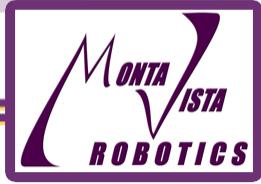
Please contact publicrelations@mrvrt.com if you are interested in being part of a MVRT parents' club.

Thank you.

Connie Laitinen



Rookies of the Week: Thank you Priscilla Sio and Josh Huang for your outstanding work!



FIRST Scholarship Opportunities (for juniors and seniors):

Every year, over \$20 million in scholarships are available to robotics team members through FIRST. These are underwritten by universities and businesses. Some scholarships are specific to a college or major; some are general. Not only does it benefit the team members, it also enhances the image of the team to be well represented with FIRST scholarships.

The majority of FIRST Scholarships require that a participant submits an application during his/her senior year of high school. There are, however a few FIRST Scholarship Providers who accept applications during an applicant's junior year, and even more importantly, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute requires that an applicant apply during their junior year.

Please visit the FIRST Scholarship page: <http://www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx>

Deadline 1/31/15

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| Grand Valley State University | \$4,000/year up to \$20,000- engineering. |
| University of Iowa | \$4,000/year up to \$16,000- electrical and computer engineering |
| Texas Instruments | \$5,000, any school- any STEM study |
| University of Missouri - Kansas City | \$1,000 non-renewable- engineering |
| Washington State University - Agriculture | \$1,000 non-renewable-- agriculture studies |
| Washington State University - | \$500 - \$2,000/year up to \$8,000- engineering |

To learn about the other benefits, such as internships, that become available once you become a FIRST Alum! <http://www.usfirst.org/alumni>

