

BH Robotics newsletter



Fun In the Fall!

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Greetings!

Important Dates:

November 14 -- Walt Disney Imagineering Workshop
March 4-6th -- Portland Oregon Regional Competition
March 25-27th - LA Regional Competition
April 15-17th -- Championship in Atlanta

Kids Becoming Engineers!



By: Eileen Kahn

Team 1515 is proud to announce that they have started a Junior First Lego League team. Team 932, also called Robo Spy, came to BHHS on November 3rd to begin their journey as a team. Seven students aged 6 and 7 participated in the project. Several dedicated students from Team 1515 mentored the students and will continue to teach them basic building and communication skills at later workshops. Our high school students had a blast working with the younger kids and stood by to give advice as the young "engineers" tackled their first challenge to build a lego structure with a set of lego blocks. The young students did an awesome job and used their imaginations to come up with incredible creations. Everyone had a great time and we look forward to many more mentoring sessions with the young children.

Mentoring Chaos Vortex

By: Rebecca Stromberg

If you think MorTorq only focuses on its own development, think again! On Saturday October 17, MorTorq mentored the rookie team Chaos Vortex (Team 1179). Hailing all the way from High Tech High Chula Vista in San Diego, this brand new team woke up at the crack of dawn and trekked all the way from their sunny spot by the sea to MorTorq's own home at Beverly Hills High School. Leaving behind their last bits of slumber, Chaos Vortex excitedly gathered around "Norbit," MorTorq's robot from last year's FIRST competition. Eyes misted over with enthusiasm as team members Evan Friedman and Matthew Forman explained the purpose and different parts of the robot. Team co-presidents Jason Kahn and Nicole Weinstein broke down MorTorq's organizational structure and mission, emphasizing to the young team that



the new adventure they will all be embarking on together this year will be far more than just building a robot - it will build the foundation, the environment, for building that robot.

As the morning wore on, Chaos Vortex and MorTorq split into animation/ computer programming, building, and business groups in order to specifically tailor the mentoring to each subdivision. After several hours of engaged presentations and question-and-answer sessions, the three groups rejoined for lunch and both

teams intermingled and socialized over delicious hot pizza. MorTorq will continue to mentor Chaos Vortex as they begin down the challenging and rewarding path at the FIRST competition. We wish Chaos Vortex the best of luck!

There's More Than Meets the Eye



By: Lisa Bahadori

It is often hard to spot the differences between the BHHS Robotics Team. We seem, to the outsider, a sea of people wearing orange shirts, eager to put our best foot forward and win. What many people don't realize, however, is the fact that we do much more than just Robotics. Many of the students in this amazing group are passionately dedicated to a variety of other activities.

Rebecca Stromberg (12th)

spends her days riding horses with a group called Taking The Reins. She has also been on the swim team, as well as the water polo team. When not in the pool, she and Jason Kahn (12th) are contributing as a part of the science team.

Anna Khananashvili (10th) races to the finish with cross country, all while expressing her artistic side by doing photography and working on the literary magazine. She helps the community by working with kids at B'nai David temple, and if you ever ask her, she will gush with enthusiasm about her students.

We even have kids who represent their grades as part of ASB. Jason Friedman (9th) is the Freshman Commissioner, while Nicole Weinstein (12th) is the Senior Vice President. She also plays piano at community events, and has participated in sports such as varsity track, volleyball, and cross-country.

Some team members, however, have less common hobbies. Dylan Lindsay (9th) is an avid archer, as well as a lighting board operator for Kringle's Window, this year's fall play. Justin Brezhnev has break dancing and wrestling on his long list of activities, as well as dynamo martial arts. He is also involved with ROP Entrepreneurship, the water polo team, the swim team, and, along with Rebecca Stromberg, Academic Decathlon.

On his off days, Ronit Kumar (11th) serenades team members with his guitar, or shows off some shaolin kempo moves, a type of karate. He, like Anna, also loves kids and does community service by teaching in after-school camps, such as STAR. Others, like myself, gravitate towards very artistic means of expression. While I love acting and writing, Aurora DuBois fills in the gaps with cheer, ballet, and gymnastics.

It becomes obvious after a few moments of reflection that Robotics attracts perhaps the most diverse group of kids at Beverly. From theatre prima donnas to sports stars, Robotics is an activity that bonds everyone, and even goes so far as to include a karate kid and an archer. We are all so different, but when it comes down to it, the Beverly family we remember best is our beloved Team 1515.

KFC Sells Out!



By: Emmanuelle Hodara

Normapalooza is an annual fundraiser for all clubs and teams at Beverly Hills High School. It serves not only to raise money, but also to bring up school spirit. MorTorq members, wearing their bright robotics shirt along with other school spirited accessories, sold Kentucky Fried Chicken, delighting scores of hungry Beverly students. Our Robotics team, under the initiative of Nicole Weinstein, also used Normapalooza to promote its support to the Ronald McDonald House Organization by collecting pop tops at another stand which sold sodas. As the first of many

fundraisers of the season, Normapalooza was a success and foreshadows another promising season for MorTorq.

Team 1515 is also a proud supporter of the Beverly Hills Service Learning class and will be wholeheartedly participating in a Thanksgiving canned food drive for the Los Angeles Mission. The robotics parent meeting held on November 10 was a success, and Team 1515 is excited that parents are getting involved with the MorTorq community!

Team 1515 appreciates all the support!

Team 1515 is grateful to be supported by so many wonderful people. Our program would not exist without the generosity of our community and our corporate sponsors. Walt Disney Imagineering, The Beverly Hills ROP program, BHEF, and all of our family donors. All are vital to our program.

Special thanks go out to all the families that have supported our team by supplying food for our hungry students.

We also wish to thank the people that give us support financially. Thank you to our major donors who are listed on our website!

New sletter Edited by Rebecca Stromberg

Visit our website for more information!

BHHS robotics is funded solely by donations, corporate sponsorships and fundraising. All business aspects of the program are run by the Beverly Hills High School ROP Entrepreneurship classes taught by Eileen Kahn. If you are interested in supporting our team either as a mentor or as a financial contributor, please contact Eileen Kahn at eileenkahn@gmail.com.

Sincerely, TEAM 1515, BHHS ROBOTICS

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