

Highlights from last week in the world of botmaking!

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#monthlybotchallenge
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Monthly Bot Challenge

The bot submissions for the January [Monthly Bot Challenge](#) are in and ready for your vote! Check out all the submitted bots and vote for your favorite one [here](#).

The voting will be open until the end of Sunday ([Eastern Time](#)).

And it is also time to announce the theme for February:

EMOJI 🤖

For inspiration, check out the existing emoji-based bots [already on Botwiki](#).

Bots, libraries and resources

- [@BestOpinionPoll](#) collects opinions via Twitter polls
- ...and it also inspired [@pkmpoll](#)
- [@feelinggoldbot](#) will make you feel old
- [@a_comcast_user](#) automates its creator's [customer complaints](#)
- [@catsnacks](#) lets you "explore the universe of adorable cat faces"
- [@captain_markov](#) generates space captain logs
- [@_blackobs](#) is "broadcasting live from covert surveillance cameras, one midnight observation at a time"
- and [@alltartans](#) generates tartan patterns

Oh and [@Slam140](#) is not really a new bot, but I like it too much not to mention it :-)

Reading list

- [What Is Zero UI? \(And Why Is It Crucial To The Future Of Design?\)](#) (fastcodesign.com)
- [AI Benchmark Will ask Computers to Make Sense of the World](#) (technologyreview.com)
- [Google's AI Masters the Game of Go a Decade Earlier Than Expected](#) (technologyreview.com)
- [Microsoft Open Sources Its Artificial Brain to One-Up Google](#) (wired.com)
- [Siri, Alexa and Other Virtual Assistants Put to the Test](#) (nytimes.com)
- [To Make AI More Human, Teach It to Chitchat](#) (wired.com)
- [Cortana now scans your emails to make sure you're keeping promises](#) (theverge.com)
- [How Marvin Minsky, a pioneer of artificial intelligence who died on Sunday \[last week\], still influences the field today](#) (technologyreview.com)
- [Marvin Minsky - Steps Toward Artificial Intelligence](#) (PDF, 1961)
- [We Asked a Robot to Write an Obit for AI Pioneer Marvin Minsky](#) (wired.com)
- [Deep Learning with Spark and TensorFlow](#) (databricks.com)
- [A Few Useful Things to Know about Machine Learning](#)

Events

[PagerDuty](#) is hosting a [ChatOps meetup](#) on Thursday, February 4 in their San Francisco office.

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