



January 19, 2011

Good morning everyone,

I was reading the latest edition of Robot Magazine and loved all of the information on the universities across the nations, that have robotics programs.

Encourage your students to take a look. I have a subscription ordered and kept in our library so my kids can look at it when they have some spare time.

Verbum Dei was kind enough to offer their school as a location for a FIRST Scholarship workshop for parents and graduating seniors. I will post details in my next newsletter but it will likely take place on a Sunday afternoon.

Don't forget to have your teams read the updates that come out on Tuesdays and Fridays during build season. We are up to #3.

-Nancy Mc

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### ***Wanted:***

*Los Angeles area FTC team looking for an FRC team to share its minibot.*

Marlborough is an all girls private school and we are located in the Hancock Park area of LA. We are a first year team but have two competitions under our belt and are very eager to build another robot. We also should be able to provide transportation to the FRC team if they are not too far away. They best way to contact us is through my email.

Thanks again,  
Andy Witman  
Andrew.witman@marlboroughschool.org

Science Instructor  
Marlborough School  
250 South Rossmore Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90004  
Tel: (323) 935-1147 ext. 660  
Fax: (323) 933-0542

Web:

[www.marlboroughschool.org](http://www.marlboroughschool.org) <<http://www.marlboroughschool.org/>>

### **Team #4 is looking for fund raising suggestions.**

They are hoping to also compete in Las Vegas and need some additional funding. If you have ideas that have worked for your team please share them with

Sigal Eini Chief Financial Officer, Team 4  
Element Ambassador, High Tech  
LA Wishing Well Member SRLA Member

[sigal.eini@ht-la.org](mailto:sigal.eini@ht-la.org)

### ***Second Request:***

*Engineers for the Buckley School Team 1661*

*This year they had more students sign up to be part of the project than they anticipated and need some additional assistance.*

*They are located Sherman Oaks and are working after school*

*Mondays- Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30.*

*Contact Kathy Griffis at [kgriffis@buckley.org](mailto:kgriffis@buckley.org)*

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### **Help Offered:**

Michael Teitel from Haas Automation and his team are offering assistance to teams in the Ventura area. Contact them directly at [mteitel@haascnc.com](mailto:mteitel@haascnc.com)

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### **Rookie Team Kitbot Day a big success!**

7 teams came to Poly HS last weekend with robot kits and 7 teams walked away with running robots. And not just any robot, but a 6 wheel drive, 15fps, wireless robot that will give you guys a leg

up on the competition at San Diego and LA.

A big round of applause to FRC3295 for hosting today's build and working with the teams and to FRC2493 who came out to lend a hand with the build. The day would not have been such a success without the help of many volunteers. Special thanks go to Chris Hussman of team 330 The Beach Bots and Sergie Nesterenko of team 3476 Code Orange for leading the Frame & Transmission and Electronics rooms.

Special thanks to Art Gage of the Magnolia Rotary Club of Riverside who was our guest speaker at lunch and to our sponsors the Magnolia Rotary Club of Riverside and Grainger in Riverside for sponsoring the build day. Without the support of our great sponsors, we could not help out so many teams like we did today.

And finally, a big kudos to Danielle, captain of team 3295 for taking the lead in making today happen and making it run like clockwork.

## AutoDesk

Starting **Monday, January 10**, you can access the 2011 season Kit of Parts designed in Autodesk Inventor Professional 2011 through the section of Autodesk's Education Community dedicated to *FIRST*, as well as access over 30 FREE software products by visiting [www.autodesk.com/first](http://www.autodesk.com/first).

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## 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](http://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.

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## FRC Manual Q & A System:

The 2011 Question & Answer System, <http://forums.usfirst.org/>, will go live on the *FIRST* Forums Wednesday, January 12th at Noon EST. Check often for official information.

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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](mailto:LeRoyNelson@earthlink.net)

Lynn Crockett is the partner in San Diego  
[Lynn.Crockett@LEGOLAND.com](mailto:Lynn.Crockett@LEGOLAND.com)

Sara Tamayose is the partner in Hawaii  
[stamayose@gmail.com](mailto:stamayose@gmail.com)  
<http://www.hawaiiifll.org/>

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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](mailto:suparna.mukherjee@jpl.nasa.gov)

San Diego Partner John Brooks  
[jbrooks6@att.net](mailto:jbrooks6@att.net)

San Diego Partner Marion Brooks  
[manybrooks@att.net](mailto:manybrooks@att.net)

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Over 3,500 teams have now joined the VEX family and will be participating in more than 220 events this year. That's around 50% growth over last year and there are still 3 months left in the season!

Please pass the following notes on to your team members:

### EVENTS ARE FILLING UP

### – REGISTER SOON!

Events are filling up faster than ever before.

Many events are booked full (some are overbooked) already. Please don't delay – register today! Check [RobotEvents.com](http://RobotEvents.com) often ... we are adding new events all the time.

[Contact us](#) if YOU would like to host an event.

### 2011 VRC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IS FILLING UP!

The VRC World Championship is also filling faster than ever before, with over 275 teams already registered. It's already looking like it is going to be filled to capacity so please don't delay your registration if you have qualified and plan to participate - just go to [RobotEvents.com](http://RobotEvents.com) and sign up.

IMPORTANT: Your spot will only be held for four weeks, so be sure to complete the event registration in that time – don't delay! We'll see you at Disney in Orlando on April 14-16. See [qualifying criteria here](#) for details. Note that there are THREE divisions you can register for this year – [Middle School](#), [High School](#) and [College](#).

### ONLINE CHALLENGES – ONLY A FEW WEEKS LEFT TO SUBMIT!

Create an entry for the Online Challenges and submit them right from your computer and you may qualify your team for the World

Championship and win prizes! You can create a video, design a robot, design and build something out of VEX components, create a game animation, build a website, or create an educational video. [Go here for details](#) and maybe we'll see YOU at Disney! The submission deadline is February 13, so don't wait!

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Verbum Dei has offered me the use of their school for a Sunday afternoon Scholarship meeting. I will post the date and time as soon as I have the details all worked out.

Many colleges and universities, professional associations, and corporations offer college scholarships to high school students on *FIRST* teams. This is official recognition of the knowledge and technical and life skills these students have gained from participating in a *FIRST* competition. For 2011, over **128 scholarship providers** are making available over **853 individual scholarship opportunities** with a total value of over **\$14 Million!**



Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

**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.*

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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](http://www.materover.org/main/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=117&Itemid=171)

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## Summer Plans

The Educating Girls about Engineering (EdGE) program is designed for women who have interests in science and design and are exploring career options. It is a two-week (July 10-22, 2011) residential workshop, where students learn about engineering through hands-on activities, design projects, and tours of local companies. It is both a high quality enrichment experience and a technical career exploration opportunity.

More details about the EdGE workshop can be found in the brochure that is enclosed, as well as the EdGE web page.

<http://engineering.union.edu/edge/>

Please distribute as you see fit to students

and mention the opportunity to those who might benefit and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,  
Cherrice Traver  
Dean of Engineering  
[traverc@union.edu](mailto:traverc@union.edu)

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## 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

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## Resources:

FIRST [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org)

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

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

VEX [www.vexrobotics.com](http://www.vexrobotics.com)

Robotevents [www.robotevents.com](http://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>

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### Grants and Fund Raising Ideas:

#### Heineman Foundation

The purpose of the foundation is to provide seed money to start-up projects and new projects within existing organizations for a maximum of three to five years. Preference is given to organizations that have not been previously funded. The average range of donations is \$20,000 to \$50,000 per year.

#### W.K. Kellogg Foundation

To ensure that all children get the development and education they need as a foundation for independence and success, Kellogg seeks opportunities to invest in early child development (ages birth to eight years)

#### Ashland Foundation

Ashland's commitment to quality education is long-standing. They recognize the role education plays in developing a vital economy and the ways in which society as a whole benefits. Each year, approximately half of Ashland's contributions target education-related issues.

#### Lilly Foundation

The Lilly Foundation seeks to strengthen public education in the United States with an emphasis on science and math education.

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.

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### Quote for the week:

"I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by."

-Douglas Adams

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### Reminders:

1. Has your team started working on the Autodesk Animation submission?
2. Have you fixed up or constructed your crate?
3. Remember: Due dates are closer than they appear....

-Nancy Mc

*FUTURE Founding Board Member*

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

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[nancy@futurefound.org](mailto:nancy@futurefound.org)