



November 28, 2011

Hi Everyone!

With Thanksgiving behind us FRC build season can't be too far off. There is already a great deal of robot activity going on locally between FLL VEX and FTC. This coming FRC season will be very exciting with a huge number of rookie teams joining us this year keeping the state of California in the lead with the most number of FRC teams at 199.

Be sure to take a quick look at deadlines that are coming in the next few days and of opportunities for learning new things from local teams.

Looking forward to see all of you soon at kickoff.

-Nancy Mc



Initial Regional Event Payment Deadline 12/2:

Remember that the payment deadline for your first Regional event or first and second District event is Friday, **December 2nd, 2011**. If you have not already, please review our pricing structure and payment terms for the 2012 FRC Season here:

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/frc-payment-terms>.

Important deadlines are coming up!

- **12/01/11 @ 8 PM EST:** Regional Event Registration closes;

Championship Registration closes.

- **12/02/11 @ 8 PM EST:** Kit & Kickoff Registration closes
- **12/02/11:** Payment deadline for Initial Regional Event Registration
- **12/08/11 @ 12 PM EST:** Deadline to submit Safety animation submissions (via STIMS)

To find a full list of deadlines for the 2012 FRC Season, please visit:

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/frc-season-calendar>.

FRC 2012 Kickoff Saturday, January 7, 2012 Local events are listed at :

<http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc/local-kickoff-information>

SoCal rookie teams!

Team 3295 - Poly Techs is sponsoring their second annual Rookie Kit Bot Build day on Jan 14th 830AM-500PM in Riverside, CA. See attached flyer for more details.

They will have experts from around Southern California to work with the rookie teams to build a working robot from your Kit of Parts. Experts will lead your team through Frame and Drive Train assembly, Electronics mounting and wiring, and Programming. By the end of the day each team will have built their own working robot.

Lunch will be available for the teams, but the Poly Techs would appreciate whatever donations you can afford to help offset the cost. Some extra materials and tools will be available, but please make sure you check the attached flyer for what you need to bring.

There are a lot of rookies in Southern California this year and we want to help you have a successful and competitive season.

This is a day you won't want to miss!

If you are interested please register at <http://bit.ly/KBBD2012> no later than Jan 7th

Rick Sisk
FIRST Senior Mentor - Southern California
FIRST Team 2493: Robokong - Programming
Mentor
(951) 530-3526

Team 3309 Beta Test Seminar

Team 3309 is hosting a 2012 beta test control system seminar for all teams in the Orange County area on December 10, 2011. At this seminar we will be explaining and demonstrating the new features of the 2012 control system to teams who were not involved in the beta testing. This is a great opportunity to get up to speed with the new system before kickoff. The seminar will be held at Servite High School (1952 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801) on Saturday, December 10 from 10 A.M. until noon. Please RSVP with your school name, team number and how many people will be attending by sending me an email at vmagro@socaldevs.com

Looking forward to seeing you then!

If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

--Vinnie Magro
Vice President - Friarbots FRC Team 3309



FIRST Scholarship News – October issue: Scholarship Opportunities valued at nearly \$14 million: Find out more about the

scholarship opportunities for 2012 and about new and recently confirmed *FIRST* Scholarships. Also read messages from some of our *FIRST* Scholarship Providers. See http://www.usfirst.org/sites/default/files/uploadedFiles/About_Us/Scholarships/2012_Assets/FIRST%20Scholarship%20News%2010-20-11.pdf

Calling All Robotics Alumni:

Below is some information about how to apply for Internships with Pratt & Whitney to your "alumni". I have been told that the company prefers to recruit interns who are in their second or third-year of college.

Here's the portal for P&W Careers: <http://prattcareers.com>

And here's the page specifically regarding Internships: <http://prattcareers.com/internships.asp>

Rocketdyne Internships may not yet be posted there, but if we have any for next year they should be up there soon. I would encourage students who are interested to begin the process early, as I believe our Internships are filled early in the spring.



My FRC teams I had lined up are not going to be able to showcase at the FTC competition on December 10th so I am looking for two others that would like to come down to Monrovia High School on December 10th to showcase at the 2011 LA Regional *FIRST* Tech Challenge Championship. I was hoping we could send out a blast to all SCRRF and IE FRC teams in the area to see if they are interested. I am only looking for two. Power and space will be provided. Luckily, Monrovia is pretty centrally located between some amazing teams so I know between the three of us we can scare some up.

Thanks!

Liberty Naud

Founder & Executive Director - *SMaRT Education*

Southern California FLL QT Director
Ph: 760-449-7530 * Fax: 760-469-5911 * 37-
623 Waveney Street, Indio, CA 92203
www.smarteducation.us &
www.desertrobotics.co

Time: 8 AM – 4 PM

February 21, 2012 Bag Day!

Wanted:

Can you teach robotics classes in Irvine Orange County, CA?

We plan to start robotics program on Jan 2012 for all ages. If you can, please contact me.

Sincerely,
James Han, Ph.D.
Director -- Prime Academy 43 Corporate Park
#208 Irvine, CA 92606 www.iPrimeAcademy.com

Upcoming Events:

Dec 1-3, 2011 Pan Pacific Games, Honolulu Hawaii

December 10, 2011

CSUN Regional VEX Tournament

FTC Tournament Monrovia High School

December 17, 2011 FLL Los Angeles Regional Tournament at Chaminade College Preparatory Middle School

January 7, 2012 FRC Kickoff

February 19, 2012

Robot Blessing Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels 9:00am

Pre Bag Scrimmage

Location: Harvey Mudd College

Linde Activity Center

340 E. Foothill Blvd

Claremont, CA 91711

Dear Educator,

I am writing to share a great educational opportunity for your students – the ION 2012 Mini-Urban Challenge, a national high school robotics competition that challenges students to design and operate a robotic car to autonomously navigate a LEGO city. The cars are developed using LEGO MINDSTORMS Education kits, which are provided to the schools free of charge.

This year we are hosting our second regional competition in the Los Angeles area. Sponsored by the Institute of Navigation (ION) and the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), this competition provides high school students experience in collaboration, problem solving, team building, project and time management, and acts to inspire and attract students to the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The top teams from our region will be awarded travel grants to compete at the National Competition being held at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, DC on May 26, 2012.

I invite your school to join this year's regional competition, which will take place March 24-25, 2012 at the NavCom building located at 20780 Madrona Avenue in Torrance, CA.

The best part is that **there is no cost to your school or students** to participate. We provide all the materials necessary and provide a travel grant for travel to Washington, D.C. if your school qualifies for Nationals! All we need from your school is an enthusiastic teacher and a team of students interested in problem solving. Please pass this on to other teachers who may also be interested.

To download a brochure describing the competition visit:

http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/pdf/MUC12_SchoolBro_WEB.pdf

Please contact me to discuss this opportunity with you in more detail. In the meantime, you can use these resources to learn more:

- [Mini-Urban Challenge Website:](http://www.miniurbanchallenge.com/)
<http://www.miniurbanchallenge.com/>
- [Team and Sponsor Information Video:](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmG816qsdVM)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmG816qsdVM>
- [2012 MUC Rulebook:](http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/pdf/MUC_Rulebook.pdf)
http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/pdf/MUC_Rulebook.pdf
- [Frequently Asked Questions:](http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/faq.cfm)
<http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/faq.cfm>
- [Application Forms:](http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/TeamApplications.cfm)
<http://www.ion.org/outreach/muc/TeamApplications.cfm>

Sincerely,
Kevin Rudolph Mini-Urban Challenge Regional Coordinator
Phone: 310-648-4565 E-mail: kerudolph@raytheon.com california@miniurbanchallenge.com
and Megan Andrews Institute of Navigation
8551 Rixlew Ln., Suite 360 Manassas, VA 20109
Phone: 703-366-2723 ext. 105 E-mail: mandrews@ion.org www.miniurbanchallenge.com



The Los Angeles Regional Webpage has been updated and can be found at:

www.firstlaregional.com



Fund Raising:

HexBugs make great holiday gifts. Check out all of the options at:
<http://www.vexrobotics.com/fundraising>



Harvey Mudd College students are looking for an FRC team near Claremont, CA that needs mentors. We worked as mentors last season to rookie team 3473, and most of us have considerable experience from our own high school FIRST teams. If you are looking for mentors or want to hear more about what we do, please contact Sarah Ferraro at sferraro@hmc.edu.

Things to Remember:

1. Kickoff is just around the corner. Prepare the team that is coming to pick up your kit of parts.
2. Rally team parents to help. Make a list of everyone's talents.
3. Communicate with team mentors your build schedule and make the most of their expertise.

"All things are difficult before they are easy." - **Thomas Fuller**

-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