

4-H EXPLODING BACON ROBOTICS CLUB NEWS

Summer 2014



THE 2013-14 SEASON

Exploding Bacon had another exciting **FIRST** season with 5 FLL (9-14 yr olds) teams competing and our FRC (high school) team competing at the Orlando and South Florida Regionals. 1902 won the Engineering Inspiration Award in South Florida, which qualified us to compete at World Championships in St. Louis and the honor to compete on the very competitive Curie Field run by one of our own founding member Sarah Plemmons of Lockheed Martin. Though we did not place, our students had the opportunity to compete, explore scholarship row, attend workshops, and make connections with students from all over the world.



OUR 2014 SENIORS and their plans for the future

Skylar Crews, a Bloomingdale HS graduate, will be attending Valencia College/ UCF in pursuit of a degree in Mechanical Engineering

Tyler Felsted, a Homeschool graduate, will be attending the UCF Honors College in pursuit of a degree in Mechanical Engineering

Hannah Holman, a Homeschool graduate, will be attending Rollins College in pursuit of a degree in International Business and a Minor in Computer Science

Vincent Martinez, a Bishop Moore HS graduate, will be attending Valencia College /UCF in pursuit of a degree in Electrical Engineering

Anderson Perkins, a Homeschool graduate, will be attending Valencia College in pursuit of a degree in Audio Engineering

Kristopher Walters, a Homeschool graduate with Lake-Sumter State College AA Degree, is attending UCF in pursuit of a degree in Bio-Medical Sciences



SEARCHING FOR A HOME SPACE

For nine years, Exploding Bacon Robotics has worked out of garages, space at Lockheed Martin, at 3-D Perception, and in donated warehouse space. Rarely the same space 2 years in a row. Every May we pack up all of our machinery, tools... every screw, nut, bolt, craft supply, squeezey pig, trophy, and blue banner - sometimes into different households - and then we work out of the boxes for the next 7 months. At the first of the year we move everything we can fit back into a temporary build space and begin again.

Exploding Bacon is searching for a Home Space - some place we can call home for more than a few months. Where we can provide camps and workshops for kids interested in robotics and engineering and inspire more kids to explore STEM. If you can help us, we'd love to hear from you.

Ideally we are looking for a minimum of 1,000 sq ft, centrally located, restrooms, parking and a space for a machine shop.



2014

in numbers, so far...

6 Seniors
graduated, starting college!

934 Hours
of Outreach performed
by our Students

14 Competitions
12 FLL and 3 FRC

500+ Ideas
Brainstormed at our
Strategic Planning Mtg

Upcoming Events
Sept 15th Sponsor Dinner
Sept 20th Panther Prowl
Off-Season Competition,
FIT, Melbourne
Off-Season Competition,
Oct 11-12: Roboticon,
University of Tampa

*Demos at the Engineering
& Construction Contracting
Conference Demo, Mini-
Maker Faire and the
4-H Kick-Off and more...*

Meeting Speakers
September: How to apply
for internships at NASA

*Watch our website for
info about our speakers
in October and November*

*Off-season Meetings are
currently held @ 7:00pm
at the 4-H Building at the
UF Extension Center
6021 South Conway Rd
Orlando, FL 32812
unless otherwise noted
on our forum.*



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TALLAHASSEE STEM EDUCATION DAY

Exploding Bacon was invited by our sponsor, Lockheed Martin, to join them at the first STEM Education Day at the Florida Capitol Building, held on March 5th and initiated by the Orlando Science Center.

At the Capitol, Exploding Bacon demonstrated our robot W-Ham-O; shared our enthusiasm for STEM subjects; spread awareness of the opportunities available through **FIRST**; and advocated for the importance of STEM education in our communities to our state legislators.

**Oink Oink
BOOM!!!**

@2014 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Attending World Championships in St. Louis is always an honor and education for our team. This year was no different. In addition to competing on the Currie Field, and the opportunity to once again present our **Big Bacon Theory of Image and Marketing** workshop to a full room, one of our students had an encounter of the Dean Kamen kind...

In Sarah's words...

It was the night of Roboprom and it was raining, so we had to shuttle students in a van. I was in the last group, and while waiting, Dean Kamen walked by. I said, "Hello," and he told me that he liked my pig ears. We talked for a good long while: about my age, college plans and scholarships (reminding me to apply for the Bart Kamen scholarship).

He was waiting in the lobby to meet a lady who owned several tech companies as well as a makeup company. This lady was Lynn Tilton.

Dean wants more girls in FIRST, and he felt that a partnership with a makeup company would help reach more girls. He asked me my opinion, and I told him that I thought the partnership would be good because when girls buy their makeup from her company, they would discover FIRST, would learn more and hopefully join.

Dean then told me, "I want you to talk to her."

So I waited with him for Ms. Tilton to arrive and he signed my pig ear. I now have my very own pair of Dean Kamen signed pig ears.



PLANNING FOR OUR 10TH SEASON

After nine amazing seasons, Exploding Bacon is now in the process of planning for our 10th Season. Watch us online and future newsletters for more information about our Bacon celebration plans.



When Ms. Tilton arrived, Dean ushered me over to talk to her. I shared my opinion with her and she told me about her belief that women shouldn't have to choose between brains and beauty, and that women need to be compassionate to each other.

After Ms. Tilton and I talked, Dean came over and thanked me and said, "You've helped me more than you know."

Before I met Dean Kamen, I thought the Dean's List Award would make-or-break my future, that it was the ultimate indicator of individual success. But after my conversation with him, I realized that my efforts, though they may not receive awards, do help shape a better tomorrow, a tomorrow that is not afraid to love STEM subjects.



SPOTLIGHTS

Bacon Alumni



As a Communications Intern for the Foundation for the National Archives, James Austin writes press releases, produces online content, manages their online presence, corresponds with media outlets, and helps manage the branding and image of the Foundation. James said,

"While I was nervous about the responsibilities, I soon realized that I had already been doing these things for years with Bacon. But more importantly my time on the team taught me how to work with deadlines, juggle priorities, and present ideas with confidence."

College Advisor



Ashley Kosik has been a tremendous asset serving as our treasurer. She is an alumni of The Martians Team 494 in Michigan and, in June, graduated as the class valedictorian at Full Sail University in just 2 years with a degree in music business. While Ashley does

not have any plans set in stone, she will continue networking at events and concerts in the Orlando area until she finds a company she loves as much as Exploding Bacon.

Professional Mentor



Brian Walters, P.E., Senior Engineer with Walt Disney World, Magic Kingdom Sustaining Engineering, celebrated 15 years with WDW. He started with Exploding Bacon during the 2010 Breakaway Season as a Professional Mentor when his oldest son,

Kristopher, joined Bacon. At WDW, Brian is one of the many engineers with Disney that maintains the rides and helps keep down-times to a minimum.

Bacon braggin' #MakItLoud

Exploding Bacon, Team 1902, is proud to announce that we finished in the Top 4 team finalists for the World Championship, Comcast Digital Media Award. *Now that is something to Tweet about and Like!*

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Lockheed Martin, Magnus Hi-Tech, EA Sports, BAE Systems, Central Florida Fluid and Power Society, PTC, Firehouse Subs, Stage and Equipment Lighting, Disney VoluntEars, Publix Supermarkets and more...



**TEAM
1902**

For more information
visit our website or email us at
explodingbacon.1902@gmail.com
EXPLODINGBACON.COM