

# 4-H EXPLODING BACON ROBOTICS CLUB NEWS

Fall 2014



## BACON ON THE PROWL 2014 PANTHER PROWL WINNING ALLIANCE

In September, Exploding Bacon attended Panther Prowl at FIT, an FRC offseason competition. Our students had an amazing time learning new skills, meeting other teams, and competing for the first time since April. Exploding Bacon students presented the Big Bacon Theory of Image and Marketing. Exploding Bacon was part of the winning alliance with SPAM 180 and 12 Volt Bolt.

## SPARK!

inspiring children everywhere

Spark is Exploding Bacon's initiative to send science kits filled with basic supplies to locations around the world and inspire children everywhere to make differences in their own communities.

While the kit may seem like an unsuspecting box of paper clips, rubber bands, strings, a prism, pulleys and more, using the accompanying experiment guide children can quickly turn those materials into scientific adventures!

Our goal is to send kits to as many locations as possible around the world. Our hope is that by understanding STEM concepts children will discover new solutions to the challenges in their communities.

**Bacon launched Spark with our first kit being delivered to the Haitian Christian Mission (HCM) in October.**

Noah Halfon, a student member, and his family began their involvement with HCM in 2010. This year, Noah's mother Shanna Halfon was excited to bring the science kits created and sponsored by Exploding Bacon. These kits demonstrate simple scientific concepts such as magnetism, gravity, light, and simple machines. "The teachers were incredibly grateful to have hands-on material to help students relate to textbook learning and to promote interest in the study of science and technology," Mrs Halfon shared.

Students and their teachers participated in demonstrations and worked to relate what they were learning to their everyday life experiences. Simple machines became a lesson in how to make work on a mountain-side easier; the study of light and colors taught that lighter colors help keep a person (or house) cooler. Students' favorite items were the prism and the pulley.

"The thought I could not escape during the entire trip was that we, Exploding Bacon, and FIRST can do more. These children are eager to learn, they are innovative, and they are problem-solvers."

**For more info about our kits and experience in Haiti, read the entire article with more pictures, at [sparkimagination.org/news](http://sparkimagination.org/news).**



For the full article and more pictures, visit [explodingbacon.com/blog](http://explodingbacon.com/blog)

## 2015 FRC KICKOFF

Come out and help us launch our 10th Season as an FRC team at 1902's 2015 unofficial FRC Kickoff. We will have workshops, watch the game reveal and share with the other teams joining us.

**January 3rd, 2015  
9 AM to 2:30 PM**

Where: Mid-Florida Research & Education Center, 2725 S. Binion Road, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

Please RSVP to [baconclub\\_lead@gmail.com](mailto:baconclub_lead@gmail.com) by December 20th if you would like info on lunch.

# 2014

in numbers, so far...

Exploding Bacon Students have impacted our community with

**1214 HOURS**  
of Demos and Outreach

**@ 36 EVENTS**  
and 3 more to go this year!

Mark Your Calendars!

- Dec 2-3 IT/SEC
  - Dec 6 Orange Co. Downtown Library Lego Contest
  - Dec 11 Stenstrom STEM Night
  - Jan 3 2015 FRC Kick-Off
  - **DEADLINE FOR 2015 FRC STUDENT REGISTRATION JANUARY 10TH.**
  - January 16-19 OSC Otronicon
  - Feb 26-Mar 1 South Georgia Regional
  - Mar 11-14 Orlando Regional
- and more...

Watch our website for info additional events

## Bacon braggin' #MakeItLoud

Exploding Bacon, Team 1902, is proud to announce that we have again qualified as a **FIRST** in FLORIDA Showcase Team for our exemplary student-driven outreach, Gracious Professionalism, and for showcasing our love of **FIRST** in our community!



Thank you  
Sponsors!

Welcome to our newest  
Big Bacon Sponsor:

**Comcast NBCUniversal**

Visit [explodingbacon.com](http://explodingbacon.com) for information about the Build Season Meeting schedule.

**EXPLODINGBACON.COM**



## SPONSOR DINNER

Thank you to all of our sponsors for attending the 2014 Sponsor Dinner and to all that could not be with us to be celebrated! We appreciate the partnership you all have played throughout Exploding Bacon's many seasons and looking forward to another great year!



## BACON FLL

**Bacon Builders** is just one of our 3 FLL teams. Made up of nine members: David, Donald, Colin, Gabi, Jordan, Kevin, Noah, Oren, and R.J. They are having fun building and programming their NXT robot and looking for unique ways to share what they have learned with others. In their spare time, they enjoy playing Hand Hockey with the FRC Family.



## 4-H AWARDS

4-H awards, On August 16th, 4-H held their annual awards ceremony. During the ceremony 4 of our mentors/volunteers were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the team & 4-H. **Joyce Walters & Amanda Little** - received the Rising Star Award; **Brendan Radabaugh** - received the Angel Award; **Kelly Wildermuth**, received the Alumni of the Year Award. During the ceremony 4-H also recognized the 4-H Partners Award. Which we are proud to say included **EA Sports, Lockheed Martin, and Fluid Power Society** - some of our awesome sponsors.



## 4-H PROJECT BOOKS

4-H Project Books - this season, Exploding Bacon has been working on incorporating the 4-H Goals with the **FIRST** goals. To accomplish this, Exploding Bacon has developed a **FIRST** 4-H Project Book. It has been approved by our Orange County 4-H Association and is at the State level for review before making it to the National 4-H Foundation for National Approval. Once we have approvals from all 3 levels we will be able share with other 4-H teams around the globe.



## PIGGY BANK

Our 2014-15 Club Budget is **\$68,120**. This includes 1 Jr. FLL team, 3 FLL teams, and a FRC team with a Build Space. We have raised about \$38,500 of the Budget and need **\$29,620+** to meet our basic needs.

Oink Oink  
**BOOM!!!**

## HOME SPACE

We are proud to announce that we are working with UF and 4-H on signing a 12 month lease for a new Home Space. Watch Facebook and our website for news on the finalization and location for our new home.



Thank you NASA Guest Speakers for coming out to talk to us about Internships!

## SPOTLIGHTS

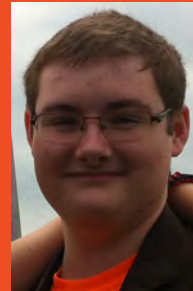
### Bacon Student



Our students don't only build robots. **Nathaniel Walters** & his brother recently had their first Tae Kwon Do belt rank testing at Clermont Family Martial Arts. Nathaniel took a 3 step jump to Recommended

Orange Belt. Nicholas took a 2 step jump to Decided Yellow belt. Nathaniel was also awarded a trophy for Outstanding One Steps for the entire testing group.

### Bacon Alumni



**Zach Cronin-Hurley** is a college mentor of 1902 and UCF Mechanical Engineering student. Starting this November, Zach began working as a UCF/Lockheed Martin CWEP student at Lockheed Martin's Missiles

and Fire Control location. Zach is actively helping the students of Exploding Bacon by running weekly strategy sessions to prepare them for the upcoming season.

### College Mentor



**Brendan Radabaugh** is a College Mentor and this will be his **3RD SEASON** as our FRC Lead. He works as a Disney Coordinator and was recently recognized for his volunteer work at Walt Disney World. He received

the President's Volunteer Service Award and was one of the 819 volunteers from Walt Disney World to receive the award.

### Professional Mentor



**Paul E. Parker**, Engineering Manager, has been with BAE Systems for 16 years. When BAE Systems decided to offer financial support to Exploding Bacon, Paul was assigned as the sponsor. He

was impressed with Bacon's enthusiasm and became a Professional Mentor. Paul introduced Exploding Bacon to his entire family and now his children, Sarah and Phillip are not only active members of the team, but officers. Paul has been an invaluable mentor to 1902, and we especially appreciate his dedication to continue mentoring during his commute, while he is currently stationed at the BAE Systems, Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch.

**Sponsor:** Lockheed Martin Corporation has been one of our main corporate sponsors since we started in 2006. We are honored to have several Professional Mentors from their Florida Branches working with our students, and their continued support throughout the past decade. *Thank you for believing that*

*Pigs do Fly!*



**TEAM  
1902**

For more information visit our website or email us at [explodingbacon.1902@gmail.com](mailto:explodingbacon.1902@gmail.com)  
**EXPLODINGBACON.COM**

2006 - 2015: CELEBRATING A DELICIOUS DECADE