



**FRC Team
2199**

FIRST Robotics Competitions (FRC) combine the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology to provide students a “real-world engineering” experience.

~ www.usfirst.org



The Volunteer of the Year for the Chesapeake Regional, with key Robo-Lions mentors featured.

CHESAPEAKE REGIONAL

By: Coralie M.

The Chesapeake Regional took place April 3rd-5th at a new venue— the Comcast Center at the University of Maryland, College Park. The Robo-Lions made it to the quarter finals , before being defeated by tough competitors in a close match.

The team was successful in other ways at this competition, earning a safety hard hat award as one of the safest teams at the whole entire competition. The Robo-Lions also took pride in the award of the Volunteer of the Year for the Chesapeake Regional, which went to the Baltimore Area Alliance (BAA). Team 2199 has been a part of the BAA since its founding, and our mentors are key members of this unique organization. The BAA is a volunteer organization made up of representatives from about a dozen teams in central Maryland who are key to the success of the Chesapeake Regional each year.

Other highlights included meeting with sponsors from Leidos and Booz Allen Hamilton, partnering with other Maryland teams, and visiting the JrFLL Expo to see Robo-Lions affiliated teams presenting their projects. One Robo-Lion was also recognized as a promoter of FIRST through his active Tweets of from the Regional. Go Chris M.!

A unique feature of the new venue was the opportunity to see the Maryland Women’s basketball team being sent off or a Final Four game, with the band in attendance. And to top it all off, a record number of Team 2199 alumni, including Maryland students Nick C. (former team captain) and Alex B. (Dean’s List finalist) came to cheer on the team.





NORTHROP GRUMMAN FAMILY DAY

By: Bobby E.

The Robo-Lions love spreading the message of FIRST through outreach. At outreach events, kids can gain knowledge of the FIRST programs through seeing a full-fledged FRC robot firsthand. That is why the team went to the Northrup Grumman Family day on May 31st.

Many kids were thrilled to see a giant ball go flying through the air at the touch of a button. To their amazement, the robot was able to move around through the use of remote control on an X-box controller. A surprise guest also attended the event—the Robo-Lion’s lion mascot! The lion was the star of many family photos, while receiving hugs from many kids. The lion also participated in many other activities, including carnival games, a pool with remote-controlled boats, and rocket building.

A guide dog organization came to show off their dogs, which was a great hit with the attendants of the Family Day. The dogs were also very excited to meet the Lion! After lunch, the team members continued showing of the robot. Kids were able to catch and return the ball to the robot, much to their delight, while they heard about the functions of the robot and to discuss the purpose and value of FIRST, to parent and kid alike. ♦



The Lion enjoyed the Northrop Grumman Family Day and was a champion bell-ringer!



RELAY FOR LIFE

By: Jude F.

Freedom Area’s Relay for Life, May 31st was once again at Liberty High School and once again the Robo-Lions walked and raised funds for breast cancer research and awareness. The track was lined with bags, lit internally by candles. Each bag was labeled with the names of survivor or memorialized friend or family member. Around the track, people put candlelit bags on the bleachers, spelling words like “hope.”

The Robo-Lions team set up a tent, and every once in a while, members would run or walk the track with the team flag. Even at 11:30 PM, there was a huge crowd, and people were still running the track. Throughout the event, people took footballs and Frisbees out and played in the field. When it was close to midnight, the high school shut off the large lights, and let the track be lit by the candle bags surrounding the field.♦





Robots were a hit at the Science Fair, and some very young drivers took a turn .



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCIENCE FAIR

By: Bryce H.



The Robo-Lions went to the Freedom Elementary School's science fair , on April 24th. The team held demonstrations of the robot. Team members showed students how this year's robot works by driving it around, and shooting inflatable balls around the room. The team members explained to the elementary school students , and their families, what robotics is. There were lots of people at the science fair who came to see the robot and what it could do. In turn the team got to see all of the creative science projects that the elementary school students worked on. It seemed that many of the elementary school students were interested in robot design, and robotics in general. They taught the team a few things about science too! ♦

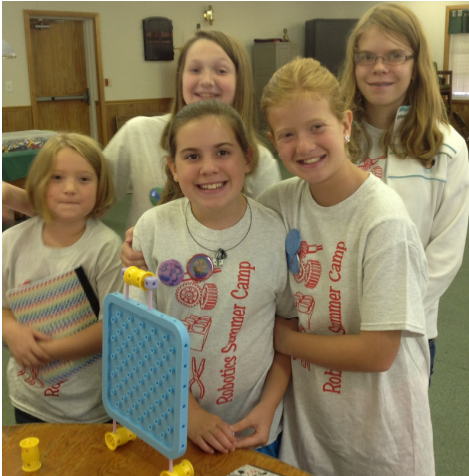




SUMMER CAMP

By: Kieran J.

This year the team has continued their successful Lego Summer camp program. At this camp the kids learned about Lego Mindstorms. The Advanced Lego Programming camp also uses the Lego Mindstorms, but kids learn about programming, and solving challenges in more depth than the regular Lego Camp. The last camp, Girls In Engineering, is slightly different than the others. it's an all girls camp, which is designed to teach the campers about engineering.



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