



Back to school

Despite just going back to school, Team Paragon is only speeding up in our preparations for January's build season.

And we are done moving
in!

Overview:

To end the summer and to start the school year, Team Paragon has moved everything from our old build site, located at 55 Mechanic Street, to our new home, the former Roger Wolcott school in Windsor.

Moving - Step One:

The first Saturday, August 17, we moved

materials using trucks and vans from mentors and family members. We



moved as much of our belonging as possible, but many of the items were too heavy or too big to be transported in personal vehicles. We also worked on cleaning the new build site before we moved everything to its final destination.



The following Monday, August 19, we began the process of moving our things to their final destinations, as well as the assembly of desks and shelving units.



Moving - Step Two

On Saturday the 24th, we finished moving everything out of our old build site at 55 Mechanic Street and cleaned it out for its eventual demolition. Thanks to support from our sponsor (Otis Elevator), we had some help in the form of a bigger truck with powered lift gate and manpower to move the last of our heavy tools and pallets to our new home.

Monday the 26th, we starting putting everything in its correct place, cleaned up any leftover debris, and put up coat racks.



Freshman Orientation

Team Paragon went to Windsor High's freshman orientation on Wednesday, August 21. We presented the 2011 robot, Blue Cyclone, and the activities we do at Team Paragon to the incoming freshmen. Many of the incoming students were interested in our program, and some attended the August 26th meeting.

LabVIEW and Cans:

Team Paragon was busy on September 7th: We held another bottle and can drive on the town green. As always, the people of Windsor turned out in droves to support TEAM Paragon. The weather was wonderful and the recycling plentiful. Thank you to all who turned out to support the Team.



The same day, *FIRST* offered a work shop to improve our programming ability. Several members took advantage of the opportunity to learn LabVIEW programming language. For those also involved in FTC, they



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attended the FTC kickoff so they now know what their game will be this year and can get to work on building their robot.

Reap Street

REAP Street was a one-day Creative Arts & Performance event that took place along Broad Street spaces in



Windsor. Since Team Paragon prides itself on it's imagery we were invited to participate in Reap Street. We had the opportunity to not only present the mechanical and electrical aspects of our robot but also the imagery aspect. We talked about how we have stamped our team with the colors blue and orange, turned our robot into a moving working billboard, and created unique shirts that coincide with the theme of that years game. You can learn more about Reap Street by checking out <http://www.roughedgesart.com/events-REAPSTREET.html>

Windsor Country Fair

Team Paragon along with the



Blazing Paranormals of FTC, attended the Windsor Country Fair the same day. We showed off the robots and threw basketballs for children to catch. When the basketball robot didn't work, however, it proved a learning experience for two of our members, who helped the mentor Christopher Koenig repair it. Additionally, the

Blazing Paranormals let guests play with V3X robots from the early days of the program. The entire day proved to be a huge success. Dozens of flyers were handed out, and new members are expected.

Meetings

September is time for training. Although a review for some, a few of the last meetings have been spent on tool training. Tool training is crucial for our operation to function efficiently and safely, especially when it comes to the time crunch of build season. Even for those who it was a review for many uses and safety tips were relearned.

Since our robot can get expensive another meeting was focused on the ins and outs of fundraising. The students learned the importance of fundraising and got the opportunity to role play and practice what information they would need to relay to possible sponsors. As it is fundraising season don't be surprised if you see a Paragonian at your door asking for money.

Upcoming Events:



As it has turned into a tradition in late October we will be chuckin' pumpkins at Brown's Harvest. Come out and see the pumpkins fly Oct 26th and 27th

You can follow Team Paragon at



www.team-paragon.org

