

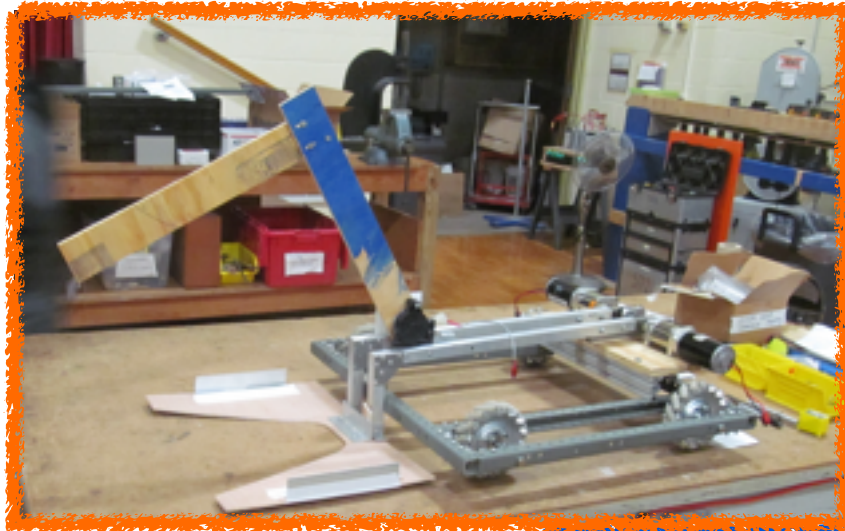


aerial
assist™



Week Number Two

For the completion of week two we are further along than we have been in years past. Despite restructuring of how we do things, it appears as though our progress is more efficient than ever. Continuation of build, programming and the image of the robot and the team are in the works. With continuation of diligent and timely work we hope to be done on time. We are in a good spot for it only being the end of week two and hope to keep it going.



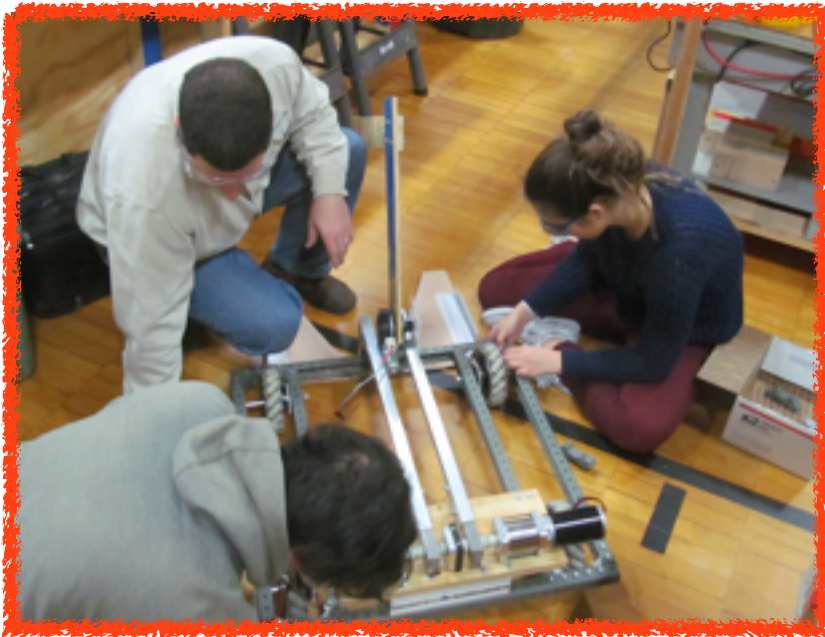
Build Group

This week has been spent going through multiple prototypes of arms and lift mechanisms. After five tries for an arm

and six attempts at the lifting mechanism we believe that we have gotten it right.



We have been making significant progress on the prototype bot, affectionately named Julie Bot since one of the main components had been made out of a piece of ply wood that Julie had painted her name on back when she was a student on the team. The



prototype mechanisms have all been put on the prototype chassis. We have started to measure and cut what we believe to be the final robot components. Once the pieces are cut, they will need to be painted and fabricated in order to assemble to the competition chassis.



Components of the play field have been reinforced to tolerate the force of launching the balls over the truss since they often hit it.

A special shout out to Mr Ferland for stepping in when

other mentors are unable to attend while still completing his administrative duty and always making sure our lot is



plowed and safe for passage when we are there.



Imagery

After many years of diligent service it is time to retire the light bulb mascot. The old costume has seen better days, with the smaller venues, it is just too cumbersome to maneuver the crowds and is unsafe to navigate the pits. Ideas of superheros, flowing capes, lights and diamonds have been flowing. The imagery team has a preliminary design for the t-shirt. Now its time to transform the rough



pencil drawings to computer designs to be able have it placed on the t shirt. The robot naming process has begun. We will need to see where it goes, so

that we can transform our robot image, buttons and cheers to match our image.

Programming

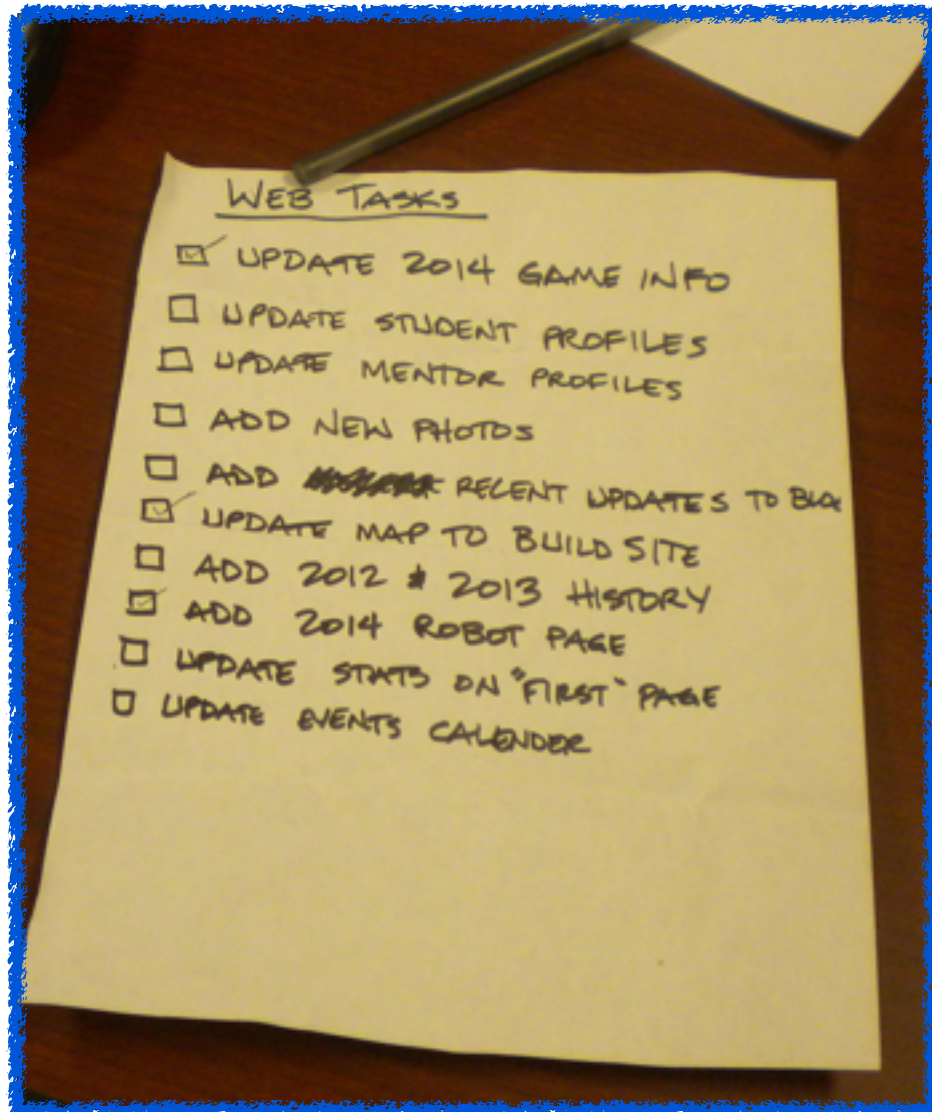
Programming group has been bouncing ideas off of each other so that they can go to the drawing board to work out the details.



They have worked on synchronizing the files on their computers as well as starting the code for movement. We continued to coordinate with the build group to discover exactly what we'd need to write and what features will and will not be on the robot.

Web

So many things to do:



Blazing Paranormals

Congratulations are an order! Blazing Paranormals, the FTC team was affiliated with, competed this weekend at the regional competition in Greenwich, CT. In the qualifying matches, they won a couple of matches and lost a couple ending in



14th place after qualifying. They were chosen as the 2nd alliance partner of the #2 seed for the finals. The team contributed ably to get the Alliance to the Finals, but despite a gallant effort they lost in the

rubber match. BUT.... that brings them an invite to the State Championship!!! The State Championship will be in Westport, CT on March 8th (yes, that is the same weekend that FRC is competing in Groton).

Upcoming Events:

Suffield Shake Down: February 15th

Ship Date: February 18th

Groton District Competition: March 8 and 9th

Hartford District Competition: March 29th and 30th

Continue to watch for the weekly updates on the blog to watch our progress.

Follow us at:



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www.team-paragon.org



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