



# Welcome Back!

Summer & September Update



Welcome Picture: Returning Members: Orange. New Members: Blue

## Robotics is Back in Action!

The Team Paragon season has officially begun, and everyone is ecstatic! We had fun events and learned many new things over the summer. Additionally, we recruited new members so we could share all the fun of Robots and STEM we have experienced. Our first meeting was an overwhelming success; the size of our team more than doubled! The rest of September flew by as we continued to welcome new members and dove into service projects. We kicked our year off with a great start, and we'll do our best continue the year with this same enthusiasm just as we do our best to learn all these new names!

### Sheet Metal Machine Class -July 1st

Some members of the team met up at the build site to learn how to correctly operate our brand new sheet metal machine. Before learning this new skill we took apart an old dishwasher and recycled the different parts. We even got the chance to take apart the motor! Once all the metal was in its designated recycle bins we got started on learning about our metal bending machine. Mr. Koenig showed us all of its functions which include cutting, bending, and curving sheet metal and thin lexan. We all got a chance to try using the machine as we made an origami box out of sheet metal. We were lucky enough to have the new sheet metal bender donated to the team through the generosity of the Savings Bank of Manchester. Thank you for our new piece of equipment.



### Recycling: Satellite Dish -July 9th

The team met at the home of our mentor Mr. Tom Cote to take apart and recycle a large satellite dish. We spent a few hours to break the giant dish down into small pieces we could transport. Were able to disassemble it into some scrap steel and aluminum, as well as a giant



cannon of metal. We finished just before it began to rain and dropped off the metal at our build site. Thankfully, Ms. Hammersmith decided we deserved ice cream for all of our hard work!

## Recycling Run – July



After our recycling endeavour at Mr Cote's and our recycling nights at the build site, it was time to take a trip to turn in our salvaged metals. So Saturday morning we loaded up the vehicles and went to the recycling center in South Windsor. Our recycle room was once again empty to allow room for more items to dismantle.



## Recycling: Bottle and Can Drive – July 13th

The team continued its tradition and held a bottle and can recycling drive on the town green the first weekend after the Fourth of July weekend. As usual, the residents of Windsor turned out in big numbers to donate their recyclables. The team enjoyed a day in the sun while sorting and bagging the returns to be redeemed. The proceeds from the bottle and can drive are used to pay for our team's food (very important), as well as other necessities.



### Windsor Freshman Orientation – August 24th

The team met at Windsor High School Freshmen Orientation with the hope of recruiting a few new Freshmen. We ensnared groups of upcoming high schoolers into Mr. Moore's room and showed them videos of past competitions. There seemed to be a lot of interest, and about 20 Freshmen signed up, including George Washington. We were hoping to see most of them at our first meeting.

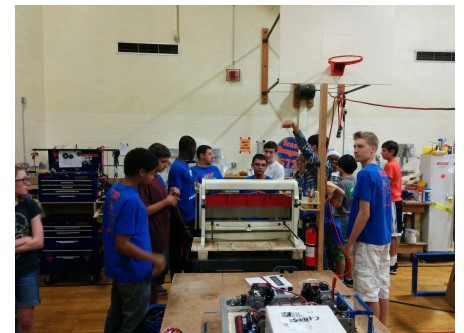
### Windsor Library Envelope Stuffing – September 2nd

The team supplemented a group of volunteers in their efforts to stuff envelopes with letters requesting donations for the Windsor Library Association. We met at the Wilson Branch library and worked in groups to fill said envelopes, making sure to have the letter and return envelope (for donations) placed in an orderly fashion. Afterwards our efforts were rewarded with Pizza and cookies, as well as the satisfaction of a job well done.



### First Meeting of the Year! – September 14th

Our first meeting was a great success. We were fortunate to be swamped with new students, I counted at least 17! Above you can see a photo of our members, veterans in orange and rookies in blue. The meeting began by briefly introducing ourselves and then reviewing past Paragon activities. Then we brought students and parents on student led scavenger hunts of our build site. We also gave all the new recruits an opportunity to drive OTIS (our 2015 robot) and pick up the crates. Many had an immediate knack for it! As this was our first meeting as co-captains, this was very exciting!



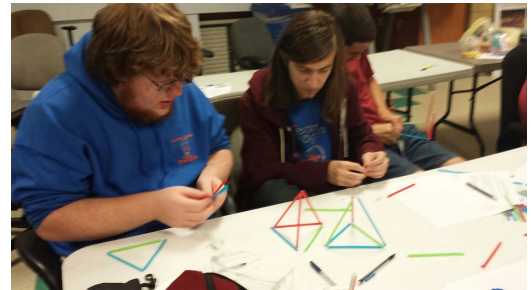
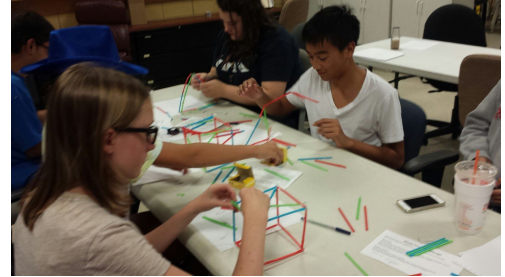
### Northwest Park County Fair – September 19th

We went to North-West Park in order to recruit new members and mentors, as well as make our presence

known in the community. Although we only had two veterans present at the event, we were fortunate to have an abundance of freshmen who were quick to pick up on what the team was trying to accomplish. They rapidly learned information about our robot (Nemo), and impressed the community with their knowledge. Overall it was a great day, and we gained two new members excited for their future as a Paragonian.

### Team Meeting - September 21st

On our second Monday meeting we started off going over what we accomplished since the last meeting and gave a round of applause for our freshman that were a huge help at our Northwest park event. We then split off into three groups to go over tool training and participate in a straw tower challenge that Mr. Moore provided. It was a great second meeting and we're excited for many more over the course of this year.



### Windsor/Windsor Locks Rotary Food Packaging - September 26th

As one of our service projects for the year the team combine forces with the Windsor/Windsor Locks Rotary and hosted an event at our build site for an



organization called ENDHUNGERNE. The team was represented by students, mentors, and even parents of team members. We worked side by side with members from the surrounding community and successfully packaged over 15,000 meals kids will be able to take home over the weekend ensuring they have a meal even when they're not at school. Team Paragon had a great time chatting with everyone involved as we had three assembly

lines scooping and measuring at full force. Everyone did such a great job we



finished a few hours early and finished up the day eating hot dogs and hamburgers! Team Paragon would like to say thank you to Jane Marie Galiette and everyone else that helped organize such a great day. The event even managed to make the cover of Windsor Journal. See it at <http://www.thewindsorjournal.com>, Oct 2nd edition.

### Team Meeting (Parent Night) – September 26th

Our last meeting of September was our annual parent meeting. We started off with a normal Monday meeting, going over past and upcoming events then broke off into a parent and student groups. The parents stayed in our



meeting room to understand what Team Paragon does. The students headed into the gym to go over their responsibilities for team fundraising. Overall, it was a very informative meeting for everyone that attended.

If you would like to learn more about the team, or come to visit us contact [teamparagon571@aatt.net](mailto:teamparagon571@aatt.net) or check out the web site at [team-paragon.com](http://team-paragon.com)

*-This Year's Captains, Addison & Sam*