The Evolution of Adrian: Released

Throughout Build Season, we worked tirelessly to provide team members and parents with detailed information on our robot's progress. Our Business & Media Team documented each and every week with a blog entry on our website. If you haven't seen it already, click here for all articles, neatly compiled on one page in chronological order.

Central Valley Regional

Citrus Circuits proudly took home the blue banner at the 2016 Central Valley Regional held in Madera on March 10 through 13, competing against 48 other teams from California high schools. Together, with our winning alliance partners Team 254 Cheesy Poofs and 3970 Duncan Dynamics, we competed in the 2016 FRC game of Stronghold and set the record for highest scored points in one game at the time, scoring 210 points. In addition to competitive success on the field, Citrus Circuits won the Quality Award for outstanding robot design and construction. Read more about our success by clicking here.

Sacramento Regional

At our local Regional Competition, held at UC Davis, Citrus Circuits seeded 4th coming out of Qualifications and was selected to join an alliance with Team 971 Spartan Robotics and Team 5274 The Wolverines. All three teams successfully battled their way to finals. After an exciting series of matches, we beat the Blue Alliance 185-126 in the final match, qualifying all three red teams for the Championship in St. Louis. For the recognition of 1678's success with their robot design, Citrus Circuits was awarded the Excellence in Engineering Award. Click here to read the Davis Enterprise article about this victory.

Silicon Valley Regional

Citrus Circuits recently competed at the 2016 Silicon Valley Region held in San Jose on April 6 to 9, which featured some of the best teams around the state. After a series of intense qualification matches, we seeded first, and picked our alliance partners Team 254 Cheesy Poofs and Team 1662 Raptor Force Engineering. This alliance battled it out in a heart-stopping clash against our previous alliance partner Team 971 Spartan Robotics. At the end of both final matches, we came out victorious with scores of 160-159 and 202-142. Additionally, Citrus Circuits was presented with the Excellence in Engineering Award for our successful extendable shooting arm.

Citrus Circuits Wins Thanks to Promotion of Women in STEM

The National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) Northern California presented awards to Steve Harvey and Kelly Ostrom a recent ceremony held at the UC Davis School of Engineering. Steve received the 2016 Aspirations in Computing Educator Award and Kelly was a 2016 Aspirations in Computing Northern California Affiliate Award Winner and National Award Runner Up.

The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing honors high school women who are active and interested in computing and technology, and encourages them to pursue their passions. This

multi-tiered competition includes recognition at the national level (sponsored by Bank of America) and at the local level (sponsored by Microsoft). Find out more by clicking here.

Kelly Ostrom is the head robot programmer on Citrus Circuits and also operates the robot during competitions. She has been actively involved on the team since 8th grade and is currently a junior at Davis Senior High School. Her profile can be found here.

Steve Harvey founded Citrus Circuits in 2004 and is currently Head Mentor. Over the past 12 years, his efforts have guided the team to numerous accomplishments, including the title of 2015 World Champions. As a mentor, he helps promote female participation in multiple aspects of the team, such as mechanical, electrical, and programming fields, as well as leadership roles. Outside of the team, Steve teaches math and has founded two new robotics classes at Davis Senior High School.

The NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Educator Award (sponsored by AT&T) publicly celebrates high school educators who encourage girls' interest and participation in technology pursuits. Educator Award recipients form a national community of peers, share practices, and empower other educators to encourage the participation of girls in computing. Click here to find out more.

Michael Corsetto Wins Highest Honor

Michael Corsetto, the lead technical mentor and drive coach for Citrus Circuits, recently won the Woodie Flowers Finalist Award at Sacramento Regional, held on March 23 to 26. This award honors outstanding mentors who best lead, inspire, teach, and empower their team using excellent communication skills. Mike was nominated through an essay written by co-captain and Mechanical Fabrication lead Megan Yamoah.

Mike has been mentoring Citrus Circuits since 2008 and currently acts as lead technical mentor and drive coach. His enthusiasm motivates the students and encourages them to learn from their mistakes, strengthening their problem solving skills. He also improved team organization by introducing student leadership roles that has helped the team reach their competition and outreach goals.

Mike's efforts extend beyond Citrus Circuits and reaches out to the entire FIRST community, through such activities as developing Davis' FIRST Lego League and helping support other FRC teams around California. Additionally, he has served on the Sacramento Regional Planning Committee for two years and has appeared on FRC GameSense twice in 2015 to share essential game strategy knowledge with the FRC community.

Buy a Light Bulb for a Brighter Future

Interested in purchasing some high-quality LED light bulbs? Well look no further, for Citrus Circuits has got you covered! We are selling high-efficiency, energy-saving light bulbs for only $8. Buying these FIRST Green E-watt Saver light bulbs will not only support the team, but also

provide you with a dependable, efficient bulb that will last you 20 years. Still using incandescent bulbs? Don't think about those bulbs ever again; these LED ones will last longer, give off no heat, and provide a clear white light that will be refreshing compared to the off-yellow of incandescent bulbs. But what about fluorescent bulbs? These large bulbs are slow to warm up and emit harmful chemicals when broken. LED light bulbs, on the other hand, last five times longer and leave no noxious chemicals and are completely safe! If you'd like to buy a light bulb (or two, or ten), please contact us at frc1678@gmail.com and we'll be happy to provide you with as many lightbulbs as possible.

Student Interview: Kelly Ostrom

How were you nominated for this award?
I submitted an online application in October of 2015 to the NCWIT website. It asked me to write about my technical experience, any outreach activities I participated in for the community, and how I felt about the role of women in STEM, among other questions.

How do you feel about winning this award?
The results came out during a kind of stressful time, so I didn't really think about it until Mr. Harvey announced it to the entire team. That was embarrassing.The nice thing about this though is all the attention and recognition it's brought to our team.

What do you hope to accomplish after this award?
I hope to continue spreading the values of STEM among other students, especially to younger students and girls. It'd be really cool to use these connections with NCWIT to help our team by inviting some of their speakers to present at our next WiSTEM (Women in STEM) conference). Our connection now with NCWIT could be an amazing combination can potentially inspire lots of young minds.