



UPCOMING EVENTS

Alumni Winter Celebration
December 30th

Practice Kickoff
December 31st

Kickoff
January 7th

SPONSORSHIP UPDATES

Jupiter
DJUSD
FMC Schilling Robotics
NVIDIA
UCD Chancellor's Office

Saturn
Innovation FIRST International

Neptune
UCD College of Agriculture & Environmental Science
UCD College of Biological Sciences
UCD School of Education
UCD School of Medicine
UCD School of Veterinary Medicine

Venus
Far Western Anthropological Research Group
Hill Engineering
Kibblewhite Precision Machining
UCD College of Engineering
UCD Division of Social Sciences


Mercury
American Council of Engineering Companies - Sierra Chapter
UCD Extension

JOINING TEAM IFI

Citrus Circuits is excited to join the best in FRC with Team IFI (Innovation FIRST International)! Team IFI is a collection of the world's top FRC teams, including Team 254 The Cheesy Poofs, and our alliance partner on Einstein this year, Team 148 The Robowranglers. They, along with six other teams, are all sponsored by IFI and their line of VEXpro products. We have used VEXpro's gearboxes, motors, sprockets, and other products for years, and are thrilled to finally have them as a sponsor. Go to www.innovation-first.com to learn more about IFI.


LINKS

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 facebook.com/frc1678

 twitter.com/frc1678

 instagram.com/frc1678

 youtube.com/frc1678

THROWBACK TO THROWDOWN

Citrus Circuits bid farewell to the 2016 game, Stronghold, at MadTown Throwdown, the last off-season competition this year. Held at Madera High School from November 10-12, the competition was hosted by Team 1323 MadTown Robotics. At the competition, we brought a travel team of 32 people and three robots - our main competition robot, the practice robot used to test mechanisms and code, and our new offseason project, dubbed "minibot."



During the competition, the minibot was given lots of cheer, but still needed improvement. The increased number of travel team members was a significant change for us, as we have previously brought only 20 people to competitions. The larger travel team allows more students to participate in the competition experience, and this was a good chance to test it out before the 2017 season. In the finals, it was a showdown between our competition robot and practice bot, which are both identical. Bets were made on if Team 9678, the practice bot driven by Kyle Stachowicz and Aidan Phimmasehn, would be victorious over Team 1678, our main robot driven by the regular drive team. The finals went to three matches after a major foul by 1678 in the second match leading to a win for the other alliance. In the final match, Team 1678 was victorious. Check out our website for more information: www.citruscircuits.org/madtown-throwdown.html.

WISTEM STEMMING INTO ANOTHER YEAR



On November 5, Citrus Circuits hosted its third annual Women in STEM (WiSTEM) conference. Since 2014, the WiSTEM conference has influenced girls and had them interested in STEM careers. DMG Mori is one of our major sponsors and has supported this program by allowing us to use their auditorium for our conference. During the event, STEM advocates spoke about their experiences and what they hope for in the future. The first presenter, Jennifer Sinclair Curtis, talked about how she pursued the career of engineering and became the dean of the College of Engineering at UC Davis. Dr. Seetha Reddy discussed her experiences working in the field of anthropology and how she worked to be the owner of Reddy Anthropology Consulting. Our third presenter, Lan Le, founder of STEM RISE, spoke about how she overcame sexism and racism throughout her career. Finally, our keynote speaker, Dr. Jennifer Choi, spoke about her career in Biomedical Engineering (BME) at UC Davis and her experience in interning at several companies. An attendee of the conference mentioned, "it's really important for girls to have role models in STEM and see women in STEM, because they need to know that it's a real option for them... that they can succeed in a field that is traditionally dominated by men" and that "events like the WiSTEM conference are really important because we need to show girls that anything is possible for them and they can do great things." For more information about WiSTEM, go to <http://www.citruscircuits.org/wistem.html>.

GEARING UP FOR KICKOFF

Kickoff marks the beginning of 2017 robotics season! This year's game will be 2017 FIRST Steamworks, a steampunk themed game. Kickoff will be hosted on January 7 by Team 3250 Kennedy Robotics at Kennedy High School in Sacramento. On the day the game is released, we carpool to St. Francis to watch the reveal trailer of this year's game, along with other teams in the area. The team will be tested on the game rules after reading the manual and understanding how the game is played. The team will then work together to brainstorm, design the robot, and discuss potential game strategies. Kickoff will mark the beginning of our six-week build season and the start of meetings on Saturdays and Sundays, in addition to our usual weekday meetings. The competition season will include the Central Valley Regional on March 9-12 at Madera South High School, the Sacramento Regional from March 22-25, a third regional to be announced, and possibly a trip to the World Championships in Houston.

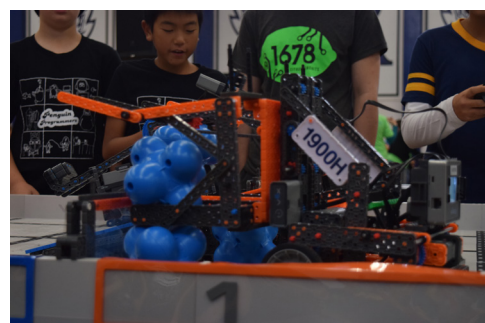
PARENT HELP NEEDED FOR

LUNCHES DURING BUILD SEASON!

On Saturdays and Sundays during build season, the lunches and snacks provided by team parents are an important part of our success. Just as an army marches on its stomach, a robotics team is no different. All parents of team members have been asked to bring up to two lunches for 25 students and mentors during the build season, beginning with Kickoff on January 7. If you haven't signed up yet, please contact Kerry Wilmerding at flower_marj@yahoo.com to get your date to support the team with food and snacks.



DAVIS YOUTH ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT



At Davis Senior High School, the first Davis Youth Robotics (DYR) Tournament was hosted by Citrus Circuits on November 19, where DYR teams played the 2016 VEX IQ game, Crossover. Crossover is a game where two teams are given a minute to move as many hexballs from one side of the field to the other, getting bonuses if they place them in elevated goals. Over 20 teams, from different schools and grades second through eighth, showed up. Many volunteers were needed and were mostly made up of members from 1678, who volunteered to do everything from refereeing to queuing. Congratulations to teams 1900H Hunters and 50005A for the win and 1900H's excellence award. Wish them luck as they go to Sacramento for their regional tournament. 1678 Citrus Circuits will host the next and final DYR tournament, on December 11.