Summer of 2023 Newsletter

While the school campus was quiet during this summer vacation, robotics kept the gears turning, with vet trainings and robot improvements in full blast! The first week of vet trainings took place the week of June 23rd. In this week, new veterans (rookies of the 2022 - 2023 robotics season) were introduced to the depths of the 6 divisions of our team: mechanical, electrical, software, marketing, outreach, and finance.

Mechanical members worked on assembling swerve modules and our practice bot elevator, while electrical new veterans were introduced to basic control systems. Software introduced robot Java and went through the 2023 Season Charged Up code. On the operations side, members were introduced to our various outreach programs and learned video production and graphics design. New veteran Noora specifically loved getting to plan out “improvements for last year’s robot” and “rebuilding the kit bots” during her mechanical vet trainings.

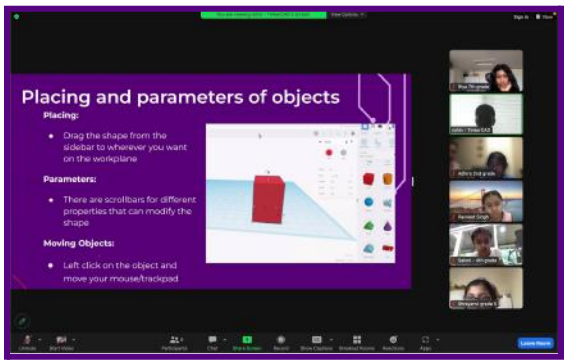
After receiving an introduction to the divisions, new veterans specialized into specific engineering and operational divisions of their choice, and each division hosted concurrent trainings over the next five weeks.

Veteran Siran describes her enjoyment teaching vast software concepts, stating that when she was a new veteran, she was “sometimes too afraid to ask questions,” but having the ability to lead trainings has allowed her to “explain those things to the new vets” and ensure everyone is comfortable with the concepts!

On top of taking part in essential trainings to prepare our team for build season, MVRT members spent the summer improving our robot in time for offseason competitions such as Chezy Champs and CalGames. Specifically, MVRT

worked on developing more advanced auton paths, such as a 2-piece and level auton. Veteran Ethan claims that he enjoyed seeing how “FRC PathPlanner could be used to draw out our own paths,” hoping that the learnings he gained this summer would make “creating auton paths this season [...] simple enough.” True to his words, through interactive projects like programming auton paths, members gained essential skills this summer that will greatly support us during the Crescendo season!

On the operations side of the team, members worked hard writing grants, promoting our multiple summer outreach programs, and leading outreach lessons to students. MVRT hosted two main outreach programs this summer: CADology and Headstart. CADology proved to be a success, with parents sending our team thank you emails and young students CADing their favorite cars and animated characters!



From July 31 to August 4, MVRT hosted its annual summer camp for rising 9th graders Headstart. Program members formed their own mini robotics teams, and learned how to organize and finance their team!

Attendees also learned essential robotics concepts such as programming in robot Java and working with sensors to build their own robot to compete in the Headstart game: Hungry Hungry Hippos. Headstart was truly a blast and it was an amazing opportunity introducing the next generation of students to the world of robotics and FRC!

This summer has truly been a blast, and it would not have been possible without the relentless efforts of our members, parents, mentors, sponsors, alumni, and donors who have countlessly supported us. MVRT is still recovering from an exciting Charged Up

season, so we would be eternally grateful for donations and support from our parents and alumni!

Furthermore, MVRT is planning on hosting a Diversity in STEM Symposium to highlight the works of women in robotics and engineering - if any parent, sponsor, mentor, or alumni is interested in speaking at such an event, please email marketing@mvrt.com. Thank you for an amazing summer, and we'll see you at the start of the new school year!