



2009-2010 Kick Off in Chicago, Illinois by Amanda Crouse, Team Captain

Team #648 was excited once again when kickoff time was coming around. Those who were going for students were Amanda, Anthony, Alex, Bradley B., Dameon, Garrett, and Zach. Piling into a bus and a van the team set out for Chicago. Once there, the team went into the Illinois Institute of Technology and took their seats in the auditorium. We didn't have to wait long until the broadcast began. We sat and listened to Dean and Woody gives their speeches and watched the neat safety videos. We all lit up though, when the game video started. At the end of the broadcast we were already thinking up ideas for this year's robot, and what obstacles we want to overcome. Leaving the auditorium, the team split up to tackle the other activities of the Institute like the Design area or the Q&A. After taking in our share of info and ideas we left for home.

The next meeting we spent putting our heads together to come up with our robot design. We decided that we would try the lifting portion of the game and came up with some different arm ideas for it. A ton of kicker ideas were thrown around the room and we decided that we would test everyone's favorites at Ken-tronics. We did good that day on coming up with solutions with the obstacles and we had fun doing it too. All in the entire kickoff was a blast and QC Elite is looking forward to this year's game.

Build Season

Breakaway is the name and soccer is the game this year. We need to come up with a design to kick and shoot a ball, move around and over obstacles and even an arm to lift the bot up. What a challenge!



Here we are at Ken-Tronics (our sponsor for many years) with Dick Hoexter, owner going over the designs. Alex and Penny is looking on and working hard at it!



That's Bradley working on the drill press.



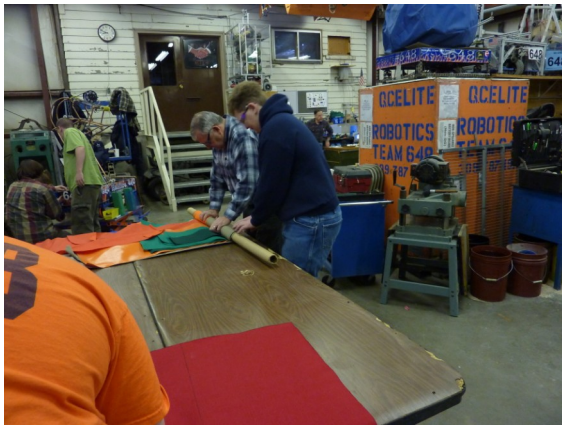
Here's our treasurer Jon ... working the numbers.



Mentor Steve with Anthony and Travis.



The programming team: Dameon and Amanda with mentor Kent.



Bradley and mentor Steve cutting out patterns.



The guys checking out the setup on the old bot.



Here's our Team Coach Mike Legate with Travis and Garrett checking out drill bits.

Upcoming Events

Build Season Schedule - The team continues to meet Monday, Tuesday, Thursday at 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday's 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

2/23 – Robot ships to competition!

3/17 – Leave for Chicago Regional Event

3/18 – Set-up and Practice

3/19 – Opening Ceremonies, Seeding Matches

3/20 – Seeding Matches, Alliance Selections and Final Rounds

3/26 – 3/28 – Mall Days at South Park Mall

4/13 – Leave for Championship Event in Atlanta, GA

4/14 – Set-up and Practice

4/15 – Opening Ceremonies, Seeding Matches

4/16 – Seeding Matches, Alliance Selections and Final Rounds

Community Service and Fundraising

November Bake Sales by Penny Schmidt and Anthony Peutsch

The team this year decided to hold a bake sale to raise funds and to see if we can promote QC Elite in the Quad Cities. The bake sales were held at our local Wal-Mart in October and November and we were wearing our bright orange team shirts to call attention to ourselves. It was a long day with lots of standing. The first sale it rained so not many people were interested. The second sale there was many people checking us out but didn't stop but there were still plenty who did stop, bought our goods, asked questions or just stopped and offered their support with a cash donation. We raised approximately \$400; not to bad. Best seller went to Chocolate Chip Cookies. It was fun talking to the people and sharing information about our team.

Cart Pushing by Alex Gardner, Amanda Crouse, Anthony Peutsch and adult leader Greg Bein

This was something new for our team. On November 21st at the Locust Street Hy-Vee Grocery Store our team pushed grocery carts out to the customer's car. It seemed at first to be a great idea; good way to help out our community and promote our team. It was the weekend before Thanksgiving and a lot of those carts were full. Hy-Vee is a great store, very busy so there were a lot of opportunities to help. It seemed though that some of the people didn't trust us or just didn't want our help. They didn't know what to expect so it's to be expected they might be a little leery of us. Here's an opportunity to gain trust and promote our team. We need to do this again! The store also graciously supported our team this year with a donation.



Q.C. ELITE ROBOTICS TEAM NEWSLETTER

**Team Coordinator - Helena Freeman
Team Leader - Amanda Crouse**

**Dameon Freeman
Zach Whitmire
Bradley Bein
Greg Klepzig
Alex Gardner
Garrett Vaughn
Travis Leatherman
Brad Long
Anthony Puetsch
Penny Schimidt
Aunisty Hudnel
Joe Jarnow**

**Check Out FIRST at
www.usfirst.org**

2009 – 2010 QC Elite Team #648 Robotics Sponsors **Thank you all for your support!!!**

**KenTronics
Curtis Lundy
River Stone Group
SME
Milan Optimist Club
Society of Automotive Engineers
Augustana Physics & Eng. Club**

**Genesis Systems Group
Midwest Engineering Consultants
Wendy K. Henzen Agency
Deere and Company
Midfield Pattern Corp.
Alcoa Mill Products
Creative Marketing**