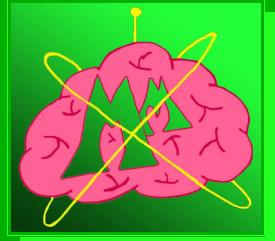


# Martian Minds Issue #1



**October  
2014**

**"LED Lights have possibly been scientifically proven to increase a robot's performance tenfold." - Derek Shervheim**

## **Meet the 2014-2015 Team!**

Our team, Martian Minds (No. 6021), is based in Sandstone, MN. We began in 2012 with three students and 3 mentors; in our rookie year, we placed in the top third of teams at the state championship. This year we have 7 students, one full time coach and 2 mentors.

*Ramon Buzo III* is 17 years old and currently in 11th grade. Some of his interests outside of robotics include piano and video games. This year Ramon will be focusing on robot building and design.

*Derek Shervheim* is 17 years old and currently in the 12th grade. Some of his interests outside of robotics include playing video

games, sports and other outdoor activities and spending time with family. This year Derek will be focusing on our website and social media.

*Guadalupe Buzo* is 15 years old and in 9th grade. Some of his interests outside of robotics include sports and other outdoor activities, music and drama. Lupe is the Headmaster Lead Programmer.

*John Nygren* is 13 years old and in the 8th grade. Some of his interests outside of robotics are playing various instruments and conducting science experiments.

*Molly Nygren* is 15 years old, home schooled, and currently in the 10th grade. Some of her

interests outside of robotics include playing various instruments, website design, hunting and spending time with her family. This year Molly will be working with documentation and helping publish the newsletter.

*Phillip Jansen* is 17 and in the 11th grade. Some of his interests outside of robotics include theater, music, video games, and drawing. This year Phillip will be working with documentation and helping publish the newsletter.

*Jon Armstrong* is 16 years old and currently in the 9th grade. A few of his interests outside of robotics include airplanes and mechanics.

## **Quarry Days!**

Our whole team was eager to share a little bit of the Martian Minds experience at Quarry Days 2014 (August 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>), Sandstone MN. We let the public test out our robot on last year's FTC Block Party! set up for free. A new addition to our typical Quarry Days arrangement was the Mini-Golf booth, which we used to provide some more accessible fun and raise funds. We also helped out at Family Pathways with their Lego Building Booth.



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The town celebration was a great time for us to get exposure to the local community and receive a wide range of responses. Kids especially expressed excitement with driving the robot. All in all, it was a great opportunity that generated a lot of interest. We plan to show up next year.

## **Sponsor Spotlight!**

For this month's issue we'd like to give a special shout out to Welcome Home Labs. Over the years, Welcome Home Labs has been a major contributor to our team's fund-raising efforts. They've always been supportive and if you're looking for a best friend, they specialize in breeding English Labradors. They are located in Askov, Minnesota. You can find out more about them at: <http://www.welcomehomelabs.com>



**In addition to WHL, we would like to recognize our 2013/2014 sponsors for their support:**



NAPA In Sandstone

