



First Robotics Team pictured L-to\_R (front row): mentor Ron Lee, Makayla Dixon, Ricardo Punsalan, Francisco Cuesta, Alex Chung, (back row): Eric Kim, Abbie Maemoto, Michaela Lee, Carmen Boixo, Steven Davis, Nico Colomer, Tom Hoyne, Matthew Madeja, Kyle Cross, Trevor Heise April Lee, Kevin Cross, Mrs. Norris.

# PVIT Newsletter

## April 1, 2018

REAL ENGINEERING OF REAL PROBLEMS

SCHEDULE FOUND ON PVIT.ORG

## FRC Awarded Creativity Award

The First Robotics (FRC) Team finished its second regional event in Las Vegas last weekend, finishing the qualifying rounds in 5<sup>th</sup> Place, the highest the team has ever placed. In the playoffs, we were in the third place alliance, but lost in the semi-finals, 2-1. Being awarded the Xerox Creativity Award at the end of the tournament helped to take the sting out of the loss after such a strong performance at the tournament. The award celebrates creativity in design, use of component, or strategy of play. Congratulations on a great season!

### PEF STEM SYMPOSIUM Apr 12

The PEF STEM Symposium is upon us! It is the **first Thursday when we return from Spring Break, 4:00-6:00pm at the Peninsula Center (next door to Ulta Beauty)**. We need EVERY TEAM represented at the Symposium to thank PEF for their sponsorship, talk to donors to get more funding, and to show the great work you are doing in PVIT. This is the next major outreach event – even if you have done an outreach event, we will still need you to represent your team.

### NO PVIT on Sunday, April 1

PVIT will not meet on Sunday, April 1, but will meet on Sunday, April 8 and April 15 (there was an error in the initial schedule regarding April 15). The calendar on [pvit.org](http://pvit.org) is always up-to-date.

### Drone Technology Scholarships

The Drone Pilot Ground School is offering two scholarships, one for high school students interested in passing the FAS's Part 107 exam and becoming certified commercial drone pilots, and one for college students interested in pushing the drone industry forward. There are an unlimited number of high school scholarships available and they are evaluated on a rolling basis. Go to [//www.dronepilotgroundschool.com/scholarship](http://www.dronepilotgroundschool.com/scholarship) for more info.

### Power Outage

There will be a power outage on campus on Sunday, April 15 starting at 8:00PM. The timing should not impact PVIT.

### HAPPY SPRING BREAK!!

Hope everyone enjoys the week off from school!

### MENTOR'S MINUTE



Fred Smalling is the fifth in his family to join PVIT, following his three sons and wife, Julie, all on the Underwater ROV team. Fred studied Chemical Engineering at USC and worked his entire career with Dow Chemical, which is now Americas Styrenics, mostly in the Torrance plant making general purpose and high-impact polystyrene. He has made a big impact on the ROV team after losing some long term mentors to graduation. Having both Fred and Julie as engineers has led all three Smalling boys toward technical interests with two majoring in engineering so far. Fred enjoys the outdoors including camping, high Sierra trout fishing, and travelling with his family. His latest hobby is working on his "new" 1999 Jaguar XK8.