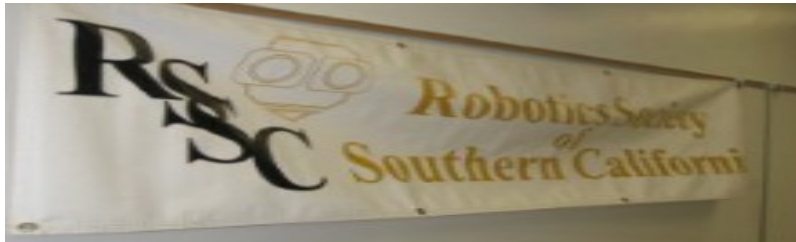


RSSC Meeting Minutes for February 2009



10:00 Meet, Greet, and Build

Once again there were doughnuts provided by Don Fears. Thanks Don!!!



11:00 Class

Alex Brown presented a class on creating a mobile robot base. He talked about the need to keep it from falling over by analyzing different bases' center of gravity. He said that round bases were more prone to tipping over than square or rectangular bases.

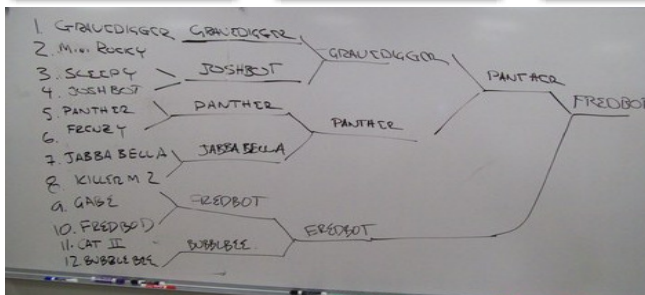
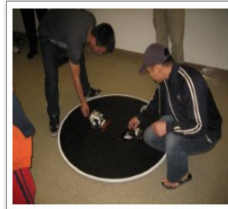


12:00 Business Meeting

- Treasurer's report: \$495.45 in the club account.
- It was motioned that the club look into generating extra money through affiliate links programs such as Amazon.com and Ebay.com.
- There was a call for suggestions for future competitions. Thomas Messerschmidt suggested a "Get a soda" contest where a robot arm would locate and lift an empty aluminum can off of a card table.

Contest

Mini Sumo Robot Competition: There were 12 competitors in the competition and the pushing was fierce.



First Place: Frerick Widjaja with "Frecbot."



Second Place: Ray Wang and Ben Chu with “Panther.”



Third Place: John Davis with Grave “Digger.”



Show and Tell

- Anouk Mangelschots demo'ed her “Little Bear” walking robot made with an Olo robot kit.

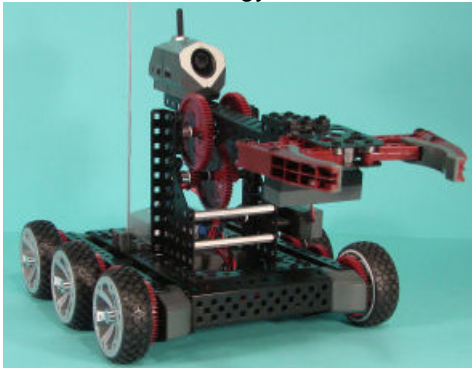


- Thomas Messerschmidt showed off the improvements that he made on his robot hand – 5 finger articulation (4 more than last time).

- Alex Brown presented Rocky II – His new no-tip-over robot base. It uses motors that he demo'ed last month.



- Robin Hewitt gave a demonstration on face tracking with minimal cpu cycles.
- Alex Brown presented a Murata LSST/10 10 amp SIP DC/DC converter (up to 51 watts) that is 93% efficient.
- Professor Martin demo'ed a Vexplorer base, driving RoboRealm on a PC by RC. It uses a Sparkfun 5 DOF (\$109) which consists of a 3 axis accelerometers and 2 gyros. An Arduino board reads the accel/gyro and then averages 10 data points and sends to PC via a serial port.



3:30 Meeting was adjourned.