



The Morning Ferro



T H E N E W S L E T T E R O F T H E G O N G O L I E R S !

OUR MOST HONORED GUESTS .

Last month brought us a very special day, as our school was visited by two of our distinguished alumni: Sherwood "Woody" Spring and A. George "Skip" Battle. After graduating Ponaganset High School in 1963, Woody attended and graduated West Point Military Academy with a Bachelors Degree in General Engineering; he would later finish his Masters at the University of Arizona. Woody would serve in Vietnam and later become a test pilot for the Navy and an astronaut for NASA, spending 165 hours in space. Retiring from the Army at the rank of Colonel in 1994, Woody now teaches at the Defense Acquisition University in San Diego ,California with his wife and two children. Skip Battle was a member of the first graduating class of Ponaganset, leaving to attend Dartmouth College from 1962 to 1966 to earn a Business degree. He then attended Stanford for two years, earning an MBA in Finance. Battle would begin working at Anderson Consulting service and the sky would be the limit. He would go on to become Executive Chairman of AskJeeves.com, as well as serving on the Board of Directors of companies such as Netflix, Expedia and Fico. Both Woody and Skip provided valuable insight on how to run a tight ship, but to also have fun with it. Everyone here at Team 5112 appreciated their visit and hope they can come again soon when the season picks up.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- It is a little less than two months until kickoff!
- It is a little over four months until the first event!
- Since the Website is being remodeled, it seems appropriate to change this up as well!
- The next issue might be a different setup.

Below: The whole gang greeting Mr. Battle and Mr. Spring.

T H E T I M E I S R U N N I N G D O W N .

It is less than two months until the FRC season begins, and the whole team is in overdrive to assure that all the gears are spinning. The newly designed Team Website will soon be fully operational, thanks to the great effort of Senior Nate Henderson. Team T-Shirts will soon be finished, brandishing the logos of our confirmed sponsors. Parts are ordered, stocked and put away, or are back ordered in preparation for the upcoming season well in advance. All that remains is million dollar question on everyone's mind: what in the world is this years game? The FRC teaser has been released, and it seems a medieval themed game involving castles is the next games. Dungeons and Dragons, anyone?

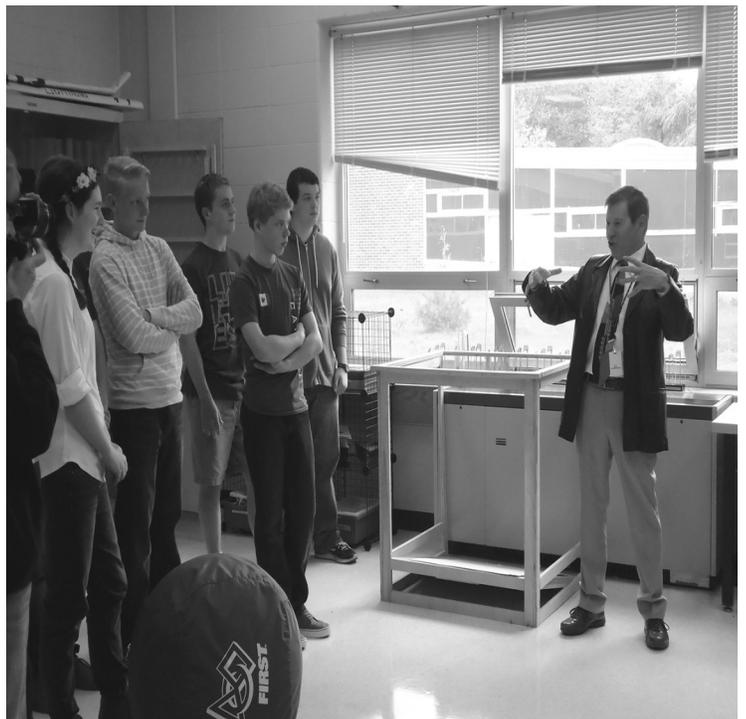




A. GEORGE “SKIP” BATTLE (RIGHT) DISCUSSED BUSINESS WITH THE TEAM.

K N O W I N ’ W H E R E W E G O I N ’

Months until the first event even starts for New England and we already know what events we plan on attending. This year will include the same events as last year. First is the UMass Event, held at the Tripp Athletic Center March eighteenth to the Twentieth. Last year we were able to win the Engineering Inspiration Award, which is geared towards community outreach, at the UMass Event . This was in no small part to Steph Coffey and Jenn Carleen, who worked endlessly on our Women in Stem Conference which was the crowning achievement of our outreach last year. The second event is the Rhode Island District Event, or the RIDE. This year the location has changed, much like how the UMass Event changed from UMass to the Tripp Athletic Center. This year it appears that the RIDE is at the Providence Career and Technology Academy rather than Bryant University, however these locations are possibly subject to change if something goes wrong at the location. With about four months until the first event, everyone is building up their anxiety in anticipation for the long road ahead.



SHERWOOD “WOODY” SPRING RECALLS TALES OF EXCITEMENT IN THE SPACE SHUTTLE.