

ATASCADERO HIGH ROBOTICS TEAM WINS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

On March 14, 2009, AHS Robotics team, Greyhound Revolutionary Robotics (GRR) won the FIRST LA Regional competition held at the Long Beach Convention Center with its robot, Raptor. GRR is the first team from San Luis Obispo County to win a Regional Competition. GRR, in alliance with teams from Hawthorne, CA and Mission Hills, CA defeated a field of 56 other robots to become the Regional Champions. By winning a regional competition, GRR is invited to compete at the FIRST National Competition held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta from April 16 – 18, 2009 where teams from 48 states in the U.S., and ten countries come to compete each year in the Super Bowl of High School Robotics.

GRR must raise \$18,000 to cover registration, airfare, and lodging for the team to attend. We need your help – this is an incredible honor and opportunity for our local students to get a chance to compete along-side the high school elite from around the world.

A tax deductible contribution can be made to Atascadero Education Foundation, P.O. Box 642, Atascadero 93423.

The FRC Competition challenges teams of young people and their mentors to solve a common problem in a six-week timeframe. The teams build their robots using some parts from a standard "kit of parts" (batteries, electric motors, etc.) which are used to level the competition, along with parts that the teams purchase, fabricate, or machine and a common set of rules. **Cal Poly engineering students have stepped up to support Atascadero's GRR team along with Cuesta students as college student mentors.** Teams design and build the robots and enter them in competitions designed by Dean Kamen, Dr. Woodie Flowers, and a committee of engineers and other professionals from around the country.

FRC was designed to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

The public is invited to visit the GRR website www.greyhound-robotics.com to learn more about the team and its involvement with the community. Visit www.usfirst.org to obtain information on the national program. Anyone having questions may contact Team Advisor, Janet Price at 466-4195 or Stephanie Johnston at 423-1654. The team is available to bring "Raptor" to your service organization, school or company starting in May.