

Title of Session: FIRST Robotics

Moderator: Patricia Chen

Title of File: 20060321robotics

Date: March 21, 2006

Room: Robotics Group (K-12)

PatriciaCh: Well....my team won the Regional...we were the 3rd seed so we pick 79 and 1649....we won animation and Johnson and Johnson sportsmanship

KathieK: Wow, you guys had a great regional then!

PatriciaCh: Florida is one of the tough regionals....233 - Think Pink is going to Boston...they are an awesome team....can't believe we beat them....great autonomous mode

KathieK: Woodie came over at one point and said, "How do you think it's going?" and I thought he meant the whole regional so I said, I think it's going really well! Later I realized he meant the game itself and scoring! Oops

PatriciaCh: At first...I wasn't so sure if I like the game....but I do now....it is a competitive but a great concept....I wish I can meet Woodie

KathieK: Because the regional was in the new huge venue and because we had all four programs there plus the Vex tournament, EVERYONE from FIRST was there watching... it added another layer of stress to be sure things were working smoothly

PatriciaCh: oh yes....I am sure that Boston is feeling the same way

KathieK: Yes, they expect the same crowd there plus 150 VIPs

KathieK: well, Pat, I think I will wait until 7:15 and then go back to what I was working on. Early to bed for me...

PatriciaCh: My daughter is flying up for it...I had thought about it...

KathieK: I got to meet Nancy Kelso at the Vex tournament, there were so many Woodie Flowers winners, UFHs, etc there

PatriciaCh: I know Marie is going to be here....I guess she is running late....I reminded Robyn... and Nancy...etc

KathieK: Dan Green, Dave Flowerday, Mark Koors, Amanda Morrison, Andy Grady, etc

PatriciaCh: I met Nancy at Atlanta ..last year....are you going to be there this year?

PatriciaCh: Yes....a list of VIP's all right

KathieK: Yes, I am working at the conference and on the Vex fields and Jenny and I were supposed to plan a NEMO workshop when she was in Boston this weekend... to hold down there

KathieK: They were all WORKING at UTC/Vex, not VIPs!

KathieK: And I got my pic with Dean, too! LOL

PatriciaCh: I don't which is worst

KathieK: Our "celebrities"

PatriciaCh: WOW...that is terrific

PatriciaCh: Our governor was at the regional...no picture

KathieK: We invited ours but she was a no-show. It always conflicts with our city's St. Patrick's Day parade!

PatriciaCh: well our regional conflicts with the state mandated testing....

KathieK: The new CT Ctr for Science and Exploration announced a partnership with UTC and FIRST (Dean's on their board) to have a FIRST robotics exhibit when they open. They are bldg right next to new venue and we will be able to walk across to it when done

KathieK: Ours did, too.

PatriciaCh: That is terrific...it is in Hartford?

KathieK: <http://www.ctcse.org/PR03102006.php> Yes, it's a new area that they are developing right on the riverfront. They hope to attract large restaurants like ESPN Zone, shopping, etc. They have a prelim plan to connect it with a monorail system in the future.

PatriciaCh: We get a lecture about poor planning....LOL..this year...we should have tested the week before...because of the hurricanes....the district pushed the test back one week....

KathieK: oh man. CT re-did their schedule this year, too, and moved testing from the fall to the spring.

KathieK: I don't think it will impact us next year, though, based on when the venue had dates open for FIRST to book it.

KathieK: well, I'm taking off now. Hope someone else joins in soon!

PatriciaCh: There are make up days.....the sophomores have to pass the tests.....if we get a new governor...testing may change anyway...FCAT is not very popular.

RobynN joined the room.

PatriciaCh: well if you have to go...go....I have no idea where everyone is...I know some kids have midterms this week

BjB waves hi to Robyn

PatriciaCh: Hi Robyn..

KathieK: Hey Robyn!

EmilyW joined the room.

RobynN: Hi Pat, Hi Kathie and BJ

RobynN: long time no talk

PatriciaCh waves hello to Emily

EmilyW: hi

EmilyW: just here for a few minutes

KathieK: Sorry I have to go... If anyone else joins us please say hi for me and I will be in Boston and in Atlanta so try and find me to say hi!

RobynN: Pat, I talked to tons of people at Chesapeake about RCU, hopefully they will be in touch with one of us

PatriciaCh: How are you doing?

RobynN: Hi Emily

KathieK left the room (signed off).

RobynN: Kathie-Greg will be in Boston on Saturday, I think

RobynN: oops, too late

PatriciaCh: I hope so...we hosted a meeting at Florida Regional....I plan to do one at Palmetto

EmilyW: I am fine

EmilyW: are robotics competitions still going on?

PatriciaCh: Is Greg attending or working at the regional?

PatriciaCh: Emily: yes

RobynN: yes, for 3 more weeks, Emily

PatriciaCh: at this time...there different regionals throughout the country

EmilyW: oh ok

PatriciaCh: I came back from the Florida Regional and will travel to Columbia SC for the Palmetto regional

RobynN: actually, Pat, he was the announcer at Chesapeake, he's just visiting at Boston...he's close, and he wants to visit with 1511, his Rookie All Stars of last year

RobynN: We watched the Florida regional online, it looked like so much fun

PatriciaCh: well if he needs anything..tell him to ask for my son Michael Lee...he is one of the staff

RobynN: I will tell him...he's had me running around chasing down VEX accessories the past couple of days

PatriciaCh: Yes...we had a blast at Orlando...my team won the regional and animation and Johnson and Johnson

RobynN: awesome - our team won the Sportsmanship Award too...a real surprise for us

PatriciaCh: Ramtech ..59 went to New York Regional last year...they said it was boring...ours was much more fun....we are loud...LOL

PatriciaCh: Congrats to your team!

RobynN: Chesapeake was lots of fun

PatriciaCh: one of our Florida team will be at Boston...233 Think Pink..you cannot miss this team

RobynN: I will pass that along - have to tell you a story - someone at your regional had the love machine dancing robot, not sure if it was attached to their bot

PatriciaCh: They are all in pink....wigs...clothing....robot...students...etc...

RobynN: we liked it so much, we brought ours along and it danced in our pit for the entire regional

PatriciaCh: a dancing robot?

RobynN: yes, a little toy

PatriciaCh: by the staff crew....some one had a dancing astronaut.....where did you get your toy?

RobynN: oh I saw Pink - their robot was great

PatriciaCh: I would like to see a picture

EmilyW left the room.

RobynN: I saw Pink, they were great

PatriciaCh: yes...and great autonomous mode

PatriciaCh: I can't believe we beat them

PatriciaCh: Marie said that she will be here....and Nancy too...???

PatriciaCh: anyway ...about the toy...where did you get it?

RobynN: Spencers, I think - friends got it for Fred as a birthday gift a few years ago...it's about 8 inches, all silver, looks like Asimo

RobynN: Nancy told me she was coming to Atlanta

PatriciaCh: I have to look for it.....

RobynN: it's very cute, plays love machine

PatriciaCh: Are you going to be at Atlanta?

PatriciaCh: Kristen will be at Atlanta too

RobynN: yes, Fred and I will be there, and Greg is giving a Thursday class - our team is registered but we are way behind in the money department

PatriciaCh: th/ Pat thinks ouch

PatriciaCh: I think that did not work

PatriciaCh: . o O (thinks ouch)

RobynN: yup - we would like to go, we keep hoping for a miracle

RobynN: it's ok

RobynN: we are volunteering regardless,

PatriciaCh: that is great....I suggested to Marie...that we should take some time...and meet at Atlanta...

PatriciaCh: not just at the meeting....

RobynN: I think that would be a lot of fun, just to get together somehow...I mentioned it to Nancy also

RobynN: I was out scouting for VEX accessories for Greg and Kristen - seems all the Radio Shacks in NH are stripped

PatriciaCh: What do you need...I have a friend who owns a dealership..

RobynN: oh cool...I think we got everything that they wanted, but I understand Kristen is putting together sets for UNH - seems that there's a panic on Chief Delphi because kids are trying to buy VEX and it's disappearing fast - maybe you should post there

RobynN: I will bring our little toy robot to Atlanta with us so you can see it

PatriciaCh: Let me ask them first....and I will post

PatriciaCh: great....it is probably the same one I saw at Orlando and I wanted it..

PatriciaCh: Are you allowed to post that info on CD?

RobynN: I just checked Spencers online, looks like they don't have it any more, not sure where it came from

PatriciaCh: thanks...

RobynN: I don't know about posting - maybe you can find the thread about VEX and post that you may be able to help

RobynN: no one seems to know why RS is closing out their stock

RobynN: Greg thinks the guy from IFI is buying back the name, since he produces all the electronics

PatriciaCh: oh

RobynN: I wonder if they are bringing out a newer version

RobynN: seems like Radio Shack did not have a good year

PatriciaCh: I know with the LEGOs ..they are

RobynN: we have to get a LEGO team started, it seems like so much fun

JeffC joined the room.

RobynN: Hi Jeff

JeffC: Hi Robyn

JeffC: Just checking in... there are two other groups going on now... I wonder if that isn't cutting into your business.

RobynN: hmmm....could be, doc

PatriciaCh: It could be....some of our members...are suppose to be here...but they haven't shown up either

RobynN: Pat - I invited the girls I spoke with at Chesapeake to sign onto the Yahoo board and introduce myself...I haven't checked in there since last week, though

PatriciaCh: They are changing the look of the LEGOs....the programming remains the same

RobynN: that will be neat, I'll have to look for it

PatriciaCh: I didn't see any new members....I am trying to track down some kids....I have wrong emails..

JeffC: they just had a robotics thing in Portland

JeffC: about a month ago

PatriciaCh: did you go?

EmilyW joined the room.

JeffC: no... couldn't make it although I really wanted to take the kids.

RobynN: was there a regional in Portland, Pat?

JeffC: I had to be in California...

PatriciaCh: I can give you the link to the Florida Regional

PatriciaCh: yes

PatriciaCh: There is one in San Jose

RobynN: we used the Fla regional as our scouting training and also to familiarize our driver with what goes on...he hadn't seen the game before

PatriciaCh: Yes to Portland

JeffC runs back to the other meetings... bbl

PatriciaCh: 180 has the scouting cards and tutorial on the website

JeffC left the room.

RobynN: my nephew is in Long Beach, I am trying to get him involved, as he has an 8 year old son and 6 year old daughter

RobynN: Did you see the scouting program Greg developed? It is unbelievable...I can't imagine how many hours it took to develop, it's all on excel and can be downloaded and used at the competitions

RobynN: I saw the scouting cards from 180

EmilyW: what is the scouting program?

PatriciaCh: it is a great concept for the kids.....my brother in law...retired from teaching...working part-time...got involved this year...went to Buckeye...now he is hooked

PatriciaCh: Scouting program....is developed by teams....to scout the competitions...like professionals sports

RobynN: Emily - since the robotics teams play in alliances, it is helpful to know what each team does well. If you ask, most will say they do everything just great...scouting is a way to watch and quantify what you are looking at

PatriciaCh: our team uses pencil and paper...but we are collaborating with several teams and developing the STAMP program..it also makes prediction

RobynN: Greg developed an excel spreadsheet program,

EmilyW: oh ok

RobynN: we used pencil and paper also

PatriciaCh: every team does something different....

RobynN: I worked through the STAMP, it was good

PatriciaCh: yes ...STAMP is good

PatriciaCh: everyone who wants to play well...has to scout

RobynN: my son-in-law is a JAVA programmer, he started working on a program that can be used on a cell phone, pda, laptop...anything that has a Java base...

PatriciaCh: ah...

PatriciaCh: I checked...there is one new member

RobynN: he tried it out at Chesapeake and now that he sees what others have done, he should have it working by next season - so you can watch and enter data on a pda which will then go into your scouting database

PatriciaCh: on the Yahoo group

RobynN: real time rankings, etc.

RobynN: hooray....maybe it's someone I talked to

PatriciaCh: that is great.....I am sure the guys would love to get a PDA

RobynN: my SIL said that we could get older ones on eBay, all use Java applets to communicate

RobynN: so we are waiting to see what he comes up with - he was using the exercise to study for a certification exam, says he does better learning by trying to solve a real problem

PatriciaCh: oh....that is good news...I hate to get new ones....and someone loses it..

RobynN: yup, exactly what I said

RobynN: apparently many cell phones also accept Java applets as well

PatriciaCh: I didn't know that

RobynN: imagine all the kids in the stands with their cell phones out recording data and sending it to the pit laptop

RobynN: lol

PatriciaCh: LOL...

PatriciaCh: Robyn:

PatriciaCh: We are on the schedule for April

RobynN: for a chat?

PatriciaCh: yes

RobynN: good, we will have to publicize it on CD

PatriciaCh: I hope that Marie makes it tonight.....I need to send the LEGOS to Girls, Inc.

PatriciaCh: Can you do the publicity?

RobynN: what do you need, just to post it?

RobynN: I can do that

PatriciaCh: yes....I am doing the Yahoo blast and other emails

RobynN: no problem, I will put a few messages in between now and then

RobynN: do you think we can have some sort of display for RCU in Atlanta? Maybe we can "steal" some space

PatriciaCh: Lisa Perez is in charge of the presentations....I can bring my board from the regionals.....stickers ...copies of newsletters etc

RobynN: btw, we had a team from Alaska at our regional...I didn't get a chance to talk much with their female mentor but she seemed to indicate that they had some problems

PatriciaCh: oh....what sort of problems

RobynN: not sure, she didn't have time to elaborate...maybe I should get in touch with the team and see if I can find her

PatriciaCh: do that.....you know at my regional...I told the girls that the RCU is more than just for them...it is for us woman mentors too

RobynN: yes, I emphasized that as well - I basically told them that RCU is an umbrella organization for all of us to provide support for all women.

PatriciaCh: It helps us to support each other.....an "interesting" email was addressed to me and carbon copied to the other teachers and mentors (all males) about the condition of the workplace....how it should be clean.

RobynN: I met a rep from our area who is involved in a Women in Engineering group - they will be having a meeting something soon and she wants me to outline what we are trying to do...I think I will need some guidelines from you and Marie

PatriciaCh: the students need to see more professional women involved

PatriciaCh: we need to talk to Marie about it

RobynN: that's kind of interesting...our principal wants little to do with us, he has been less than cooperative - we were relegated to a wing of the school where the old metal shop was, and the only bathroom there is one set aside for faculty. On our last meeting before Chesapeake, Fred went into the bathroom and saw graffiti on one of the stalls, which we knew wasn't from our group (some teacher lets kids into the bathroom during the day) - we all decided it was best to clean it up anyway, just so no one could blame us

RobynN: pretty scuzzy email, if you ask me

PatriciaCh: We have the portable by the baseball field...so that is where our bathroom is...

MarieMS joined the room.

MarieMS: Hello

RobynN: Hi Marie

PatriciaCh: I was somewhat ticked....by the email...it was sent by one of the other male mentors who are always working with the kids

PatriciaCh waves hello to Marie

MarieMS: Wow, what's up!

PatriciaCh: yes really....

PatriciaCh: Garbage ...to use a pun...

RobynN: we found graffiti in the faculty bathroom we usually use, the only bathroom in our wing of the building - decided that even though none of our kids put it there, we needed to clean it up so that we couldn't be blamed

RobynN: My words keep disappearing

PatriciaCh: any way....I have donations from our regional

PatriciaCh: I need to send it to Girls Inc

RobynN left the room (signed off).

PatriciaCh: Robyn is booted again...also Kathie was here in the first hour

RobynN joined the room.

RobynN: I keep getting booted, this is not fun

PatriciaCh welcome back

RobynN: Pat, we ended up cleaning graffiti from the bathroom in our wing of the building even though none of our kids did it, just to keep from getting blamed

MarieMS: Hi Pat - I'll work that for you - so sorry - it will either be a FED EX shipment or a local girls inc. connection. if Fed Ex - they (girls inc) will pay

RobynN: Marie, I talked to a lot of people about RCU at the Chesapeake regional

MarieMS: wonderful!

RobynN: left all the teams a copy of the brochure

RobynN: so hopefully girls and mentors will be in touch with one of us

PatriciaCh: I am going to go the Columbia SC....will host a meeting.... but I will not do a drive

RobynN: we had an all girls team, they did fairly well

PatriciaCh: We picked up a few new members...one is from NY

MarieMS: Great both of you - between drives and new chapters....

RobynN: Marie, I was telling Pat there was a team from Alaska at our regional...we didn't have much time to talk but she mentioned something about having problems, not sure what they were

RobynN: there was a NY team at the regional Pat, maybe she's one of the girls I spoke with

PatriciaCh: Robyn said that she will try to get in touch.....I told the girls that the RCU is not just for them...but us mentors too

MarieMS: well, you are moving too fast for me!

RobynN: I told the girls and mentors I spoke with that the organization is to provide support for all, to invite professional women in to speak, to address problems that we have as women

PatriciaCh: not really.....it really flows.....

MarieMS: So, here's the set of questions:

PatriciaCh: ok

MarieMS: first - we ARE about enabling women mentors and role models to engage

MarieMS: and that's tough

MarieMS: so, how do we build out that support structure?

PatriciaCh: that is a tough one

MarieMS: next, for girls who want to build out chapters - how do we enable them

PatriciaCh: I had told the girls that if they need support for initiatives...I will travel to them.... but building chapters....that is hard

MarieMS: Idea for your discussion - should we engage more mentors and more of the support organizations (Girls Inc., Girl Scouts, SWE and GHC) in building a support infrastructure?

RobynN: my thought was that our online group is the umbrella organization, each area has a chapter of which girls on all the teams for the area are chapter members.

RobynN: we definitely need the support of a larger group, even if only to teach us how to structure this

PatriciaCh: my experience with Girl Scouts ...at least down here is not a positive one

PatriciaCh: but we can learn from them about organization

PatriciaCh: I agree with Robyn about the layers

RobynN: do we want to structure chapters by city? by region?

RobynN: I did Girl Scouts years ago, didn't get much leadership training from them

RobynN: argh

MarieMS: So, I hear your comments.

RobynN: everything I type is getting lost in the void

PatriciaCh: Tiffany tried to meet with the Girl Scouts....the woman just put her off ..set up an appointment then cancelled...Tiffany called to reschedule...the woman never returned the calls....she only agreed to an appointment because I got on the phone

RobynN: I'm having trouble getting into schools to talk about FIRST in general, I don't know how to approach a group for girls

MarieMS: We are working with the Girl Scouts and Girls inc. at the national level

PatriciaCh: You need to get a teacher on your side

MarieMS: So, maybe we need to have a "women mentors" discussion

MarieMS: via phone - not webchat

PatriciaCh: It is the locals that can make or break a chapter.....if they do not come through with the support...the local chapter dies

RobynN: the girls I talked to all thought it would be great to have a network, I mentioned the Girls Camp you did, they liked the idea

PatriciaCh: that is a thought.....I was hoping that we can all sit down in Atlanta.... and chat

MarieMS: Agreed Pat - but that also translates into our roles - those of US who are drivers make it happen - other RCU advisors who are not as driven won't make it happen

RobynN: I'm up for that

MarieMS: Pat and Robyn - when are you going to be in Atlanta?

RobynN: it goes back to the problem of hooking girls in general, I think

PatriciaCh: so am I...Robyn: there is a white paper on Girls Camp on CD

RobynN: we will be arriving Wednesday, depends on whether our team goes or not...if they go, we will be driving with the bus and getting there late; if they do not go, we will probably fly down early

PatriciaCh: I will arrive in Atlanta that Thursday morning....we are arriving by bus

RobynN: I will check the white paper, Pat

PatriciaCh: if you cannot find it...let me know...I will send you a pdf file

RobynN: thanks

PatriciaCh: the tool guide is there too

RobynN: I am just trying to think of a location...our school doesn't have good facilities, I'd like a real shop

MarieMS: So, Julia and I will be there Tuesday night. Once I get my judging schedule, I'll share it - maybe we can meet to strategize

MarieMS: How about Wednesday night after the volunteer dinner?

PatriciaCh: Robyn: it is also on file ...yahoo group

RobynN: I've signed up to volunteer as a floater, Marie, so my schedule will be pretty flexible, I know I will be able to leave my team for a little while

RobynN: thanks Pat

PatriciaCh: I will not be there until Thurs

PatriciaCh: I can flex a way from my team on Thurs....I can tell the guys...that they are on their own....Fri or Sat as well...I did it at Orlando when we hosted the meetings

RobynN: if we are going to host an RCU meeting in Atlanta, we will have to come up with an agenda

RobynN: maybe the girls who attend will have ideas on how to structure the organization on a national and local level

RobynN: they are pretty smart, after all

MarieMS: The RCU meeting in Atlanta is already handled by Michigan and is scheduled for some time on Thursday

RobynN: ok

PatriciaCh: Lisa P and Tiffany is working on power point

MarieMS: I just don't know when

RobynN: excellent

RobynN: should we have munchies?

MarieMS: But interested Mentors - that's something we should think about

RobynN: maybe we could post a new thread on CD about inviting interested mentors to a meeting, see what develops

MarieMS: cool idea

PatriciaCh: yes....because women mentors run into the same "stereotyping" too by the kids and/or adults

PatriciaCh: great idea

RobynN: schedule it separately so that we can attend the RCU meeting and see what the girls come up with, then we will have some sense of what they want

MarieMS: good point Pat

RobynN: yes it is

MarieMS: Yes Robyn - we are two different constituents

PatriciaCh: I was "complaining" to Robyn about my email

RobynN: in a way, it is a lot like any youth group...the adults need to know what the kids are thinking, but need to take the lead in guiding them

PatriciaCh: Southern Florida has a mission statement....and I told the girls that the RCU was for me too

PatriciaCh: Robyn...yes...we cannot lead unless we know....

MarieMS: So, we are saying - encourage, and support our young women to do an RCU meeting. At the same time - find a way to encourage and support female role models--- this is a core issue

PatriciaCh: one of the girls would love it ifwe can have workshop and show them how to use simple tools

PatriciaCh: I am not sure how I am going to do this....

RobynN: I think RCU is a great concept - there were two teams from England at Chesapeake, and when I was talking to one of them, one of the boys expressed his disappointment that there was a group only for the girls

RobynN: I think that would be great

RobynN: why not ask a local home depot to help out...

RobynN: one of our daughters is doing her own home improvements...whatever she doesn't know how to do, she asks Fred or the HD people

PatriciaCh: that is a thought.... I am concerned about the liability issue....the girls are under 18

PatriciaCh: most of our members are south of us.....so I would have to travel to them

RobynN: I'd ask the manager...and make sure there were plenty of adults, maybe each girl can bring her mom/aunt/grandmother/sister

PatriciaCh: I mean south of where I live

RobynN: if we get a group going here, I would like to do that

PatriciaCh: most likely I wouldn't do it until after Championship.....I have to survey to see how girls will show up and with a guardian ...

PatriciaCh: thanks for the idea...I didn't even think of home depot

RobynN: I think that way because we don't have a shop....besides Depot and Lowes would like to build their customer base, so I'm sure they wouldn't mind

PatriciaCh: we are lucky....we do....and we get support from one of the local machine shops.....but since my base of girls are way south...I have to travel to them

RobynN: you're lucky you have a base of girls...we have two - and I was peeved at them because they spent much of the regional cruising for guys

RobynN: sigh

RobynN: I'd like to figure out how to build our base from the local teams, which are unfortunately spread all around the city

MarieMS: Robyn - agreed - sigh

PatriciaCh: my does that as well.....last year's seniors were the best

MarieMS: The question - how do we build the fire? --- I remember being a high school student totally mesmerized by the space program...

PatriciaCh: Marie: my son told me to tell you...look for him if you need anything at Boston....Tiffany will be there too...his name is Michael Lee

MarieMS: Pat - I will try - I may not make it due to an injury!

PatriciaCh: one of the sophomores...said something interesting.....I had spoken about RCU as a networking concept...support structure...she said now she understands...

MarieMS: I'll know tomorrow - either crutches, or some other therapy!

PatriciaCh: what happened?

RobynN: my son may be stopping at the Boston regional on Thursday afternoon for a short time, also perhaps Saturday

RobynN: yes, what happened?

MarieMS: I am trying to lose weight and get into shape - I over did it - I have pulled a groin muscle and can hardly walk

RobynN: interesting Pat - I also spoke about RCU as a networking tool

RobynN: oh that must be so painful

PatriciaCh: ouch.....how terrible

MarieMS: Pat and Robyn - a networking tool - do students understand that?

PatriciaCh: some do and some will never

RobynN: some of them do

MarieMS: yes, very painful - but more than anything - FRUSTRATING!

PatriciaCh: it is maturity thing

MarieMS: maybe we could articulate specific outcomes of networking that would resonate for them?

RobynN: I think some of our kids are beginning to understand, because I put it in terms of college apps...telling them that if they know someone from NASA well, for instance, they can ask that person for a reference letter for college, and it may help

PatriciaCh: the RCU is about building friendships...think about how many kids who are connected through FIRST

PatriciaCh: Robyn - yes.....

RobynN: and I've also told the kids about getting to know people at the regionals and other events - that they may come across these same people again in the future - there was a speaker at VCU who mentioned that as well

PatriciaCh: I told the girls...we are so removed from people...we can meet interesting women...if they only will get on the chat

PatriciaCh: too bad ...we cannot play that speech

RobynN: we have to make the chat a social event, like chief delphi has become - everyone loves to go on there

MarieMS: I need to go - but I want to spend some time thinking about your suggestions and seeing I can link to other things going on. - we need to ENGAGE them -- but they are at a point in their lives where they are DIS engaging - hmmm...

RobynN: uh oh, Marie's got her thinking cap on...

RobynN: lol

MarieMS: dangerous

RobynN: I need to go also...Marie and Pat, feel free to email or IM me if you want to talk: my screen name is Mommo1313

PatriciaCh: look out for Marie

RobynN: oh...Greg got a Segway, I think he'll let us take rides on it down in Atlanta

MarieMS left the room (signed off).

RobynN: maybe we can attract girls that way

PatriciaCh: mine is wjrel on aim

RobynN: I'll add you to my buddy list

PatriciaCh: I hope so....the guys understand that message...not the girls...{

RobynN: yeah, it's the way most of them were programmed, I think

RobynN: and it's tough to change the tapes in their heads

PatriciaCh: ok..I am on most of the time...that is how I stay in touch with my kids

RobynN: me too...

RobynN: guess I will talk to you later

PatriciaCh: I am a rebel

PatriciaCh: talk to you later...we need to plan for Atlanta.

RobynN: I have always been...my mom became a lawyer in the late 1940's

RobynN: I think we'll have a good time down there

PatriciaCh waves goodbye to BJ

RobynN: looking forward to it

RobynN: Good night, BJ and Pat

PatriciaCh: yes...we need to

RobynN: bye for now

PatriciaCh: good night all