2014

-Where do we see FIRST going?

 → what community events impact this?

-What impact has FIRST had on our careers?

-What does gracious professionalism mean to you?

2015

To Be Added- all questions that are remembered are in a notebook at Margarets house.

**In your opinion, what is a Chairman Award Winning Team?**

*Well first and foremost, a Chairman team is a team that has, over the years built up a program that exercises the mission of FIRST which is to create an environment that celebrates science and technology. Over the last 20 years our team has created a legacy that provides a hands on experience to STEM, creating tomorrow’s leaders and shifting societal view of science and technology.*

* *A Chairman team should be a role model for which other teams strive to emulate.*
* *Team 85’s passion for STEM is easily measurable by the students on our team who come into the program having very little experience in what the STEM field has to offer and leave with critical skills required for success as they follow their dreams. 100% of our students pursue secondary education.*
* *our passion for STEM goes farther than our own team and we have strived over the last several years to be an ever presence force in our community on the potential STEM has. can talk about library night, science camp, etc*

**Describe how your team has helped to bring STEM to the community**

* *We’ve attacked the mission of FIRST in two major ways. The first is organizing and leading several science focused camps throughout the community for the younger generation. We host summer camps and library days as a way to share our excitement for STEM at their level.*
* *The second way is by giving back to the community through activities like the walk of warmth and the pumpkinfest parade. Not only do these activities allow us to give back to the community that has supported us for the past 20 years, but it has also provided unique opportunities to initiate conversations about STEM with people that we may not have interacted with in another setting. What better way to pique people’s interest then have a group of 30+ high schoolers wearing blue shirts walking outside in a charity event in the dead of winter.*

**How does BOB promote the initiatives of FLL, FTC, and FRC**

* *Our team highly values the mission of FIRST which is to inspire young people to be STEM leaders. We currently sponsor and mentor a lego league team and host a FLL regional event. This regional event has continued to grow over the last several years, up to 35 teams now, which means we have the opportunity to impact over 300 young people each year.*
* *Volunteer at FTC events???*
* *WMRI - we helped start this event and have continued to co-host it with other local Michigan teams for the last X years. Not only is this a great event to build relationships with other FRC teams after the FIRST season, but it also provides a venue where schools interested in starting a team can come and see what it is about. We also invite potential sponsors as a way to have them see first hand what the program is about in hopes that they will be interested in joining our mission for the next season. Our team also uses this event to invite students from the district who are interested in FIRST to come and check it out in hopes that they will also join us next season.*

**What has been the biggest impact of FIRST and specifically your participation with Team 85 had on your life**

* *This is obvious very dependent on the person and you should be honest but here are some things you could mention*
* *My involvement with FIRST and specifically Team 85 has opened my eyes to what is available for me in the field of science and technology. I’ve had the ability to gain first hand experience in what a career in STEM related fields could be by being able to work along side with professionals from our community.*
* *I’ve gained self confidence and an ability to jump in and try new things as my time on the team has pushed me out of my comfort zone while still providing a safe environment to make mistakes. Its an awesome program that I can pair up with fellow professionals in the field and and learn from them side by side as we work together on a common goal.*

**You’ve mentioned your connection with corporate sponsors. Can you go into more detail into that and explain why your relationship with your sponsors sets you apart from other teams.**

* *Over the last 20 years we have built an impressive list of sponsors including both large and small businesses throughout our community.*
* *Some of our sponsors have partnered with us for our entire 20 year history and provide strong evidence for their desire to support the program and specifically our team. They know that the students leaving our program gain critical skills that are desirable for future employers. In particular, our sponsors often send job applications with our mentors because they believe in the students coming out of our program.*

**What would you say is Team 85’s biggest strength**

* *The environment created by the team which facilitates an environment where students are encouraged to get their hands dirty (85% student built), make mistakes and gain first hand experience in what STEM has to offer*
* *Our passion for science and technology and our desire to spread it with as many community members as possible (can bring up library days, science camps, pumpkin fest etc if it hasn’t been talked about yet)*