Robot Builders Night Virtual for January 13th, 2026

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Fhcd3KxzNU&pp=2AYH

Main Discussion Points

Micro Mouse Update

- Matthew Komitsky shared progress on his micro mouse project, demonstrating video of its PCB final assembly, movement capabilities, and software debugging efforts.
- There were discussions on hardware performance and challenges with conductive test mazes, leading to improvisations such as using a cardboard makeshift caster.

Personal Robotics Demonstrations

- Stephen presented his robot's capability to detect April tags for localization, showcasing its effective movement both indoors and outdoors.
- Discussions highlighted the importance of large wheels for outdoor autonomous robots.

Advanced Robotics Systems

- Fernando, Karim Virani, and others discussed enhancements in their robotics project, focusing on flywheel modifications, motor configurations, and innovative TPU ramps used for ball shooting mechanics.
- Ball bearings were used to increase flywheel inertia, improving shooting efficiency.
- Their use of April tag-driven vision for targeting and localization was discussed.

Open-Source AI Tools

- Carl Ott presented an open-source project that uses AI agents to map an agile development process, including roles like product manager and technical writer. This sparked interest in its applicability to ongoing robot design projects.

Robotics Parts and Resources Update

- A notice was shared about Adafruit discontinuing sales of TNC products due to distribution changes, with plans for compatible boards in development.

Vintage Computing and Retro Technology

- Tom Crawford shared his experiences with handling and selling vintage hardware components that still hold value for retro computing enthusiasts.

Twitch Stream Announcement

- Harold Pulcher announced his Twitch stream plans, which include live toolcraft demonstrations and giveaways to engage followers with mechanical projects.