

Robot Builders Night Virtual for January 20th, 2026

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYKROuqPe4o>

Meeting Discussions

DPRG Annual Meeting Announcements

- The DPRG's annual membership meeting is scheduled for January 24th at the Dallas Maker Space. The agenda includes officer elections and brainstorming sessions for 2026 activities.

High School Robotics Competition Recap

- Trish Cook provided an update on a major robotics competition held at the Irving Convention Center, with participation from 92 high school teams across 10 states.
- Judges included several club members who reviewed projects and engineering notebooks. The event requires revising rules due to extensive notebooks from participants.
- The competition was featured on NBC 5, highlighting its significance and scale.

Robotics Technology Discussion

- Tom Crawford discussed experimenting with April tags using an ESP32 CAM, an affordable solution offering good results for localization and object detection.
- Complexities of QR codes versus April tags were also explored, with an emphasis on their distinct functionalities.

Robotics Competition Insights

- Harold Pulcher shared experiences from the robotics competition, emphasizing the positive impact on youth participants and their promising futures in technology.

Nostalgic Reflections on Technology

- Conversations reminisced about the evolution of computer technology, with tales of early hard drives, IDE drives, and PDP-11 systems.
- The importance of tracking alumni from competitions was highlighted, suggesting potential future success stories among current participants.

Referenced Links

- **Trish Cook:**

- [NBCDFW High School Robotics Teams Compete](#)
- **Mark R:**
 - [APRIL Robotics Lab](#)
 - [APRIL Papers](#)
 - [Tech Traveller YouTube Channel](#)
- **Tom Crawford:**
 - [CT1024 TV Typewriter](#)

The meeting not only reviewed past achievements but also set the stage for continued growth and innovation within the robotics community.