



## November MARS meeting program- Robotics, ham radio, and you!



MARS members and friends,

My name is Henry, and my call sign is N4ECY. I recently moved to York, SC from Greenville, SC to work at the Catawba Nuclear Station. During the course of Home-Schooling our six children, my wife KA4TCF and I have seen 5 of them achieve their amateur radio licenses. Upon invitation by Jodie, (KI4CXO) I will be presenting the program this Tuesday at East Baptist. Actually, it will be two programs in one.

First, I will have with me, a 120-pound robot built by York High School students thru a foundation called USFIRST. The Foundation for Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology was started by Dean Kaman, the inventor of the "Segway" to encourage young people into technical futures. Explanations of how the annual competitions are held, and the opportunities for amateur radio operators joining the several local high school robot teams will be discussed. <http://www.usfirst.org/>

Secondly, I will be presenting/proposing a robot project to MARS' club members, to help design and build a robot for use by any of the local Law Enforcement agencies. This robot will use Amateur Radio frequencies for both the control (VHF) and the video (UHF) circuits, and therefore will require the presence of at least one licensed amateur operator when in use. It is not a "Bomb Squad" robot design, as the on-board transmitter would not safe to use because of possibly inducing currents across any detonator wiring. This robot is smaller, more maneuverable in tighter quarters, and quieter; able to do situation evaluations without being detected. It will be perfect for helping bring hostage situations to a faster, safer conclusion. This project has the potential to bring a lot of excitement to many amateurs. I will be funding most of the cost involved.

Sincerely,

Henry Burrow N4ECY