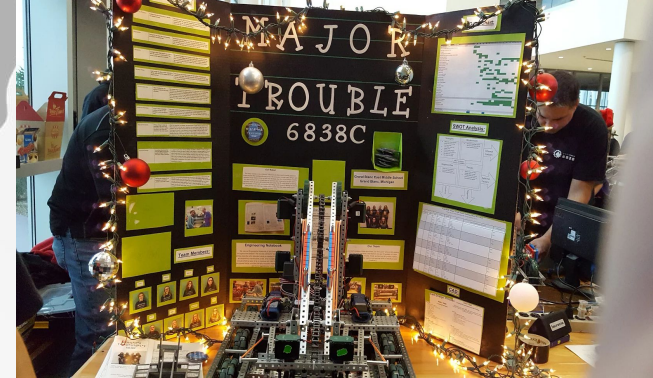
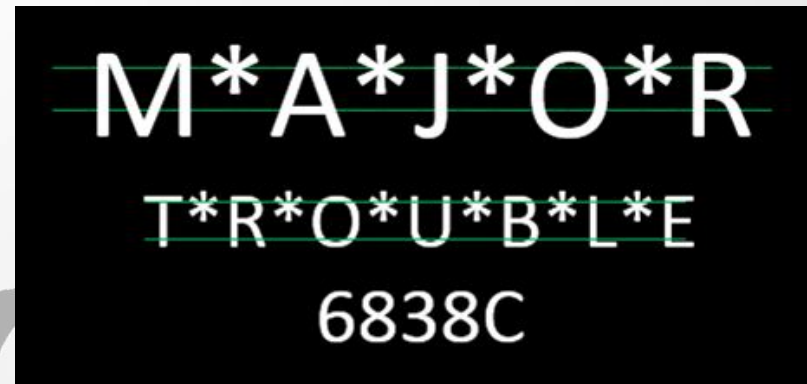


Team 6838c Presents.....



We cause some Major Trouble!





Rewind to about the time of three years ago. You come upon the scene of nine hopeful looking and rather short girls talking about being a part of an all-girls VEX Robotics team. These nine girls were the start of a legacy. A legacy of triumph and defeat.

A legacy of teamwork and sisterhood. A legacy of making the engineering world a little more Girl powered. If you were to ask anyone on our team about the legacy of Major Trouble they would tell you the story of how this team was formed and how our legacy came to be. That is the story I intend to tell today.

Episode IV

A NEW HOPE

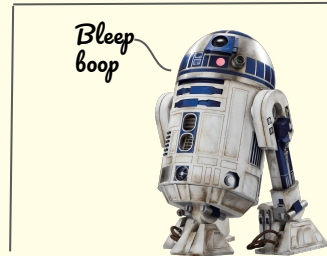
*It is a period of civil war.
Rebel spaceships, striking
from a hidden base, have won
their first victory against
the evil Galactic Empire.*

*During the battle, Rebel
spies managed to steal secret
plans to the Empire's
ultimate weapon, the DEATH
STAR, an armored spac*



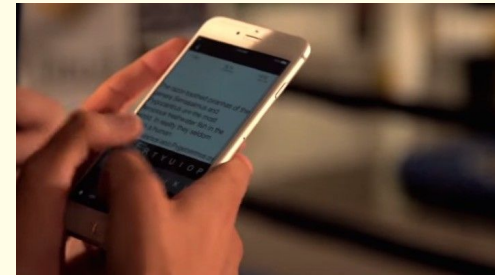
Wait.... That's not the right intro for our story. Sorry to disappoint any Star Wars fans out there. The beginning of our story starts in a small town in the state of Michigan called Grand Blanc.

The Great Lakes State



The story of Team Major Trouble began about four years ago. The head mentor for their school robotics program routinely saw girls fading into the background in other teams of mixed genders. The girls usually were given the less dazzling of the jobs and were generally ignored. The girls rose up and decided to form an all-girls team. This group of girls who had once been on mixed-gender teams was now given a chance to express their full potential without being shut down or too scared to make suggestions. As expected there was much doubt during the first year. Both men and women doubted these girls could do anything other than sitting around and gossip about boys and nail polish color (which is something we do from time to time). Very few believed in them, even some people they knew said they should be at home playing on their phones and drinking Starbucks (I highly recommend their Frappuccinos). These girls started their journey filled with doubt and insecurity. People whispered behind their backs that they couldn't possibly do anything noteworthy in their surely short time together as a team. The girls would soon prove the skeptics wrong.

Some Stereotypes for 21st Century Girls (Featuring some Aesthetics because who doesn't love Aesthetics?)



At the end of their first year, the self-christened troublettes ended up making it to the Worlds Competition and won the Amaze Award. They ended the year on a great note. Really this happy ending was due to the Girl Power that has been shown by the team. I know what you're thinking, What does Girl power have to do with being successful? Girl Power in Team Major Trouble is an ideal. It's meaning to the team is that girls are capable of being just as good as if not better than boys when it comes to engineering. This means that girls can do whatever they want to do if they put their minds to it. Charlotte Whitton once said *"Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not difficult."* This idea is one of the main things the team strives to work towards at every meeting. We want to prove that we are just as good as male engineers, if not better. It pushes them to work harder to improve themselves, Improve their robot and improve the stereotype held against women worldwide.



The First Team ↑

Ooo Lookie A quote!

Whatever women do they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily this is not difficult. – Charlotte Whitton

#SayQuotable

A year passed for the team. They continued to face multiple challenges, both gender-related and robot related. One of the things the team tried in this new year was to be a bit more inclusive of other girls. The girls now had to prove that they were able to work in a group as well as prove that they had what it takes to be a part of a well-functioning team using both their knowledge and their social skills. They did this. This year brought the girls together a bit more and eventually, they formed a family. The girls also worked hard this year to prove that even though they were girls they could still build just as good of a robot as the opposite gender. They proved this by working hard day and night to prepare for the Nationals competition in Iowa. Actually, they had to redo their entire poster board the night before competition because they left their old one back in Michigan. The competition ended being tiring and stressful. Lack of sleep and an overall foul mood were apparent in most of the team members but the girl's persevered and together overcame the constant challenges thrown at them. Later on, this paid off, they ended up winning the Design award at Nationals. The team ended the year on a high note and with the feeling that they proved that girls could do anything when they put their minds to it.



The second team of girls



YOU
GO
GIRL



In the present day, the team is still going strong. The sixth graders from the first year of the team have now become the Team Captains and people to look up to. Each girl chooses the job that they are most interested in and a more senior member works as their mentor for that job. The system helps to prepare the younger generation of team members to become better at their chosen jobs and lead the team in the years to come. This year the team also made it one of their goals to just have fun with robotics. Maybe to try and relax a little instead of getting so stressed. Even though they tend to be more on the relaxing side the girls still push their teammates and even kids from other teams to strive for building both a better robot and a better community as a whole, regardless of their gender. One of the things they have learned over the years is that it doesn't matter who you are or what your good at if you enjoy building robots and solving engineering problems then you should be a part of a robotics program.



The third and current team ↑

PROVE
THEM
WRONG

Why yes, I am a bit stressed.



(One of our team memes is stressed, depressed and in need of a rest)

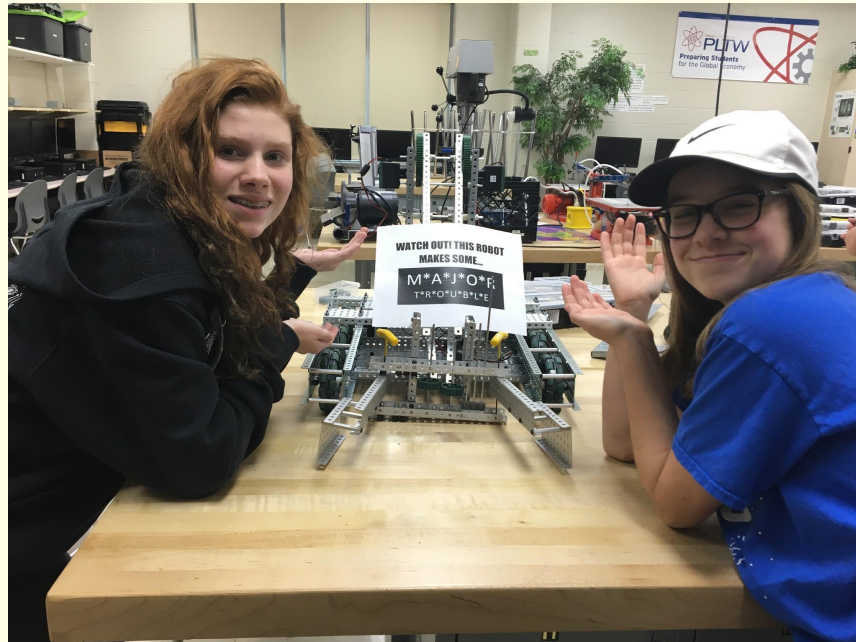
Yes we all love The
Musical: Hamilton

Legacy....
WHAT IS A LEGACY?
IT'S PLANTING SEEDS IN A
GARDEN
you NEVER get to SEE.



So what will the legacy of Major Trouble end up being? Will the team end up fading into obscurity or rising above all of the challenges they have faced and end up on top of it all. I've been this fantastic team for three years now and I don't regret any second of it. Some of the other members are now in their third and final year of being on the team as well and they have said that they have deeply enjoyed every single moment they have spent with their teammates. Through thick and thin we have stuck with each other, proving that you don't have to be related by blood to have a deep bond with someone. It really makes you think about the fragility of it all. Team-members grow up, often they move on from robotics and in other instances, they pursue a Major Trouble-inspired career in engineering. They enter the workforce and start jobs and have families of their own. But they will never forget the memories that were created together as a team. They will never forget that they made the engineering world a little more Girl Powered.





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Team: 6838c Major Trouble

A special thanks to everyone that helped work on this project. I couldn't have done it without you