

OFFICIAL CVI INFORMATION FOR THE R2 BUILDERS ROOM (W205) AND ACTIVITIES

Last Updated 15-Aug-12

Steele was *lucky/unlucky* to draw the short straw on this so here is the compilation of information regarding the room, access, and other stuff going on. Please be aware that the items Steele posting about are not his personal opinions on the matter, but are driven in some cases by contractual obligations with LFL/Reed, everything was discussed in the room committee meetings and hashed over.

I want to start by a couple of common sense rules that I *don't think need to be said* but I would rather just get them out there so there is no confusion:

1. Do not steal from others, always ask before borrowing.
2. There will be NO harassment tolerated whether physical or mental to another member while in the room or as a representative of the R2 Builders Club at the convention.
3. Treat the other members with respect and kindness. It's called the "Don't be a Jerk rule".
4. Respect other people's property, If you want to see what's in/on someone else's droid, you ask before touching it.

Any egregious breaking of the above rules may get you removed from the room. Breaking rules 1 and 2 will get removed from the room.

If you have additional questions feel free to ask them and we will try to answer them, if Steele or a member of the room committee knows it. Please only post your questions in this thread. Complaints should be made to the council privately.

SCHEDULE

Tuesday

Steele will be onsite doing pre-show walkthrough with OCCC staff and ensuring the room plan is carried out. Droid placement spots will be laid out prior to setup day.

Wednesday 0900-1700

This is open to builders who have signed up for early access, but I don't think that they will be checking names off of a list this day since we won't have our badges by this point and load-in was pretty much chaos last time/

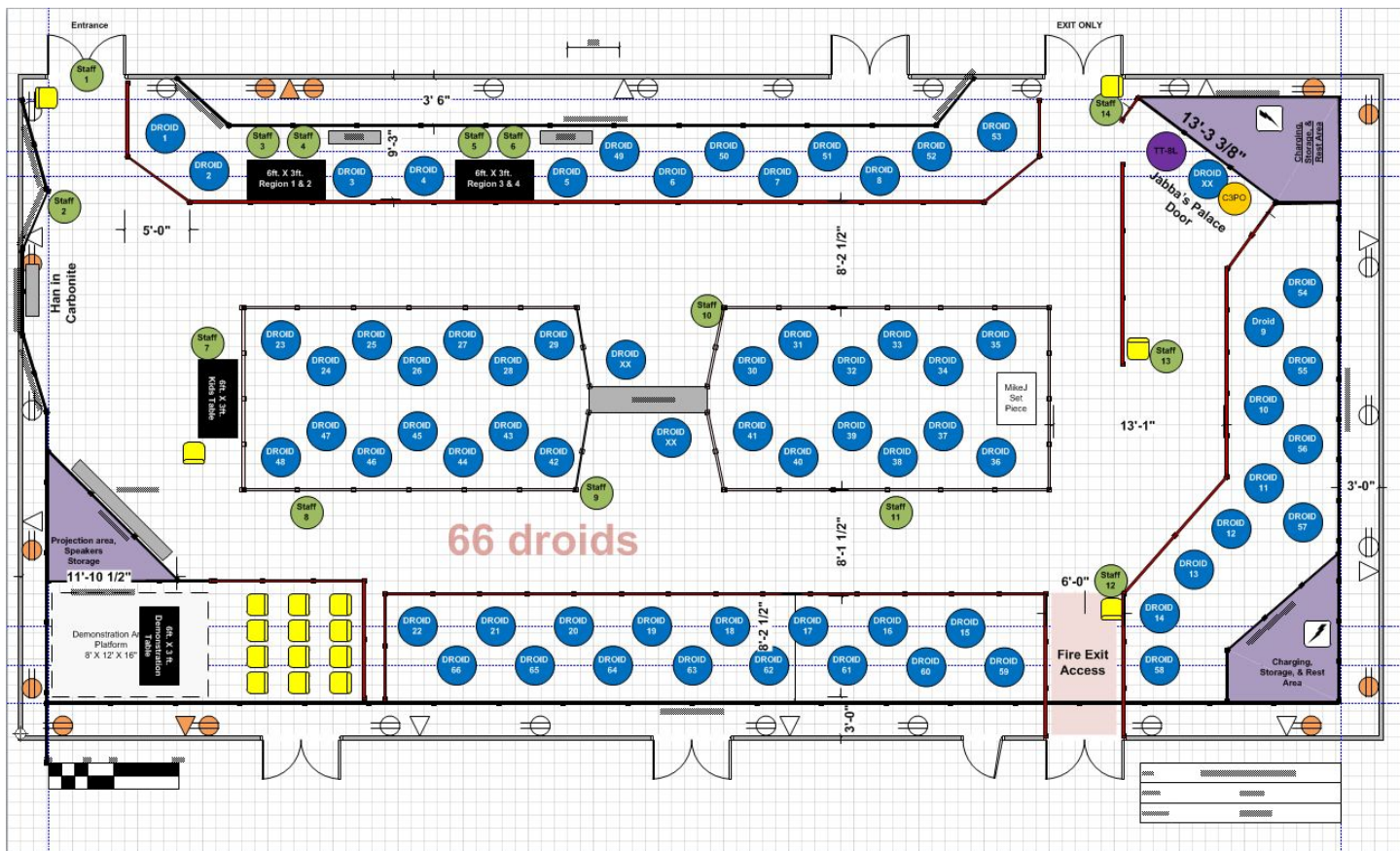
Drop-off of droids and props needs to be done at the **West Building loading dock**. The earliest the gates open is 0900, on my notes I have that the gates close by 1700. We have asked for, and received special permission to work in our room after 1700, but I cannot guarantee the loading dock will still be open to get in.

When using the loading dock, **do not ask for the assistance of any stevedore**. They may come up to you asking if you need help, just politely say no thank you. This is an additional charge that we would receive a bill for after the convention.

I've been told that you cannot bring your own carts. I don't know what to make of this, since at Celebration V, I had a cart and no one said a thing about it. I plan on bringing one with me again and will make it available to anyone who needs it.

Jonathan Higgins (Agdros) will be stationed dockside to help you with your droids. He will be there to watch over your droid and equipment while you move your car after unloading and direct you towards the room, but he will not be available to leave the dock. Jon will be wearing a blue 'R2 Builders Staff Lanyard' and his R2 Badge. (I would try to have him wear an awesome fez but I suspect he would take it off right away.) I might make him a sign to hold up so you can identify him easier.

PLEASE NOTE: From 930-1045 Steele will have to be on a conference call and will have someone covering for him.



Droid Placement:

This is probably going to be the most controversial and will provoke the most comments and heated discussion. I've been dreading posting this for this very reason. The room committee debated any number of ways to assign spots but couldn't agree on how to do it that wouldn't hurt someone's feeling. So we chose this method, good or bad and it probably hurts everyone's feelings equally so that kind of works out. Anyhow, If you see the image above....Open a larger version in a new window....ok...perhaps print it for your reference. Each of the droid spots are numbered.

Upon arriving in the room, you need to see me along with your droid so you can have a number assigned to you. I will be physically handing you a laminated droid marker number for you to have on hand as well as a simple contact form for you to fill out. *Why do you ask?*

If there is any problem with your droid, an accident, crazed child, it spontaneously catches on fire, starts spilling battery acid on the floor (anyone want to admit that yet?) or anything else, we need to be able to contact you.

Anyhow, continuing on..

There will be numbers layed out on the floor for each droid location. You, my erstwhile builder will have a shiny number in your hands. Go forth and put your droid where it has been assigned. I have some generalized guidelines below for each of the set of spots. You can ask to be put in a specific section or even spot when you arrive. I will do my

best to accommodate you if the spot is available and you meet / come close the guidelines.

What we are trying to ensure is that we have a moderate distribution of droid types and color schemes spread out. We don't want, for example, is the entire back row to be R2-D2s, I think you get the idea.

Please stage your droid on the number assigned. You should have approximately 4'x4' of space for your droid if the counts are accurate and I doubt they are. Once you're all settled in, consider heading back to the loading dock and help other builders get their stuff to the room. At 1715 we are going to close the doors to the room, hopefully most of the chaos will be over by that time. Builders are welcome to trade numbers between themselves if they want a different spot in the room and you can even talk smack about me and how I arbitrarily assigned you the worst spot ever. Once you've completed your horse-trading come back to me and let me know where your droid is now located so I can update your droid location number on your contact sheet. If there is enough interest, we might setup some cage matches...

Seriously peeps, no spot is better than any other, everyone gawks at ALL the droids no matter where you stick them but here are the general guidelines.

Droid spots 1-5 (Regional) are reserved for anyone who will be manning a regional table so that they can have their droid with them. If no one is manning the table then you may move your droid into one of those spots but will need to move out of that spot if a regional group requests that you do so. Spot 1 is for a droid that is staging prior to going to the family room.

Droid spots 6-22 (Outside Edge Front) - These spots are for mobile droids that will want to leave the room at all hours of the day. This will facilitate them moving in and out of spots without too much hassle.

Droid spots 23-48 (Center Stage Mixed) - Do you have a really interesting droid? Lots of doodads coming out? Panels opening and closing magically (but no smoke!!! *read below on this*). Perhaps an interesting build technique? This sounds like a spot for you...or perhaps you slip me a fiver. <--(kidding...or am I?)

Droid spots 49-66 (Outside Edge Rear) - These spots are for droids that are non-moveable displays. It also is the overflow if we have more droids showing up than we expect.

Droid spots XX - (Photo Op Droids) - These droids must be fully complete. This is an option spot, if you would like to have your complete droid available for the photo op locations you can request to be here.

Post Setup Pool Party

Wednesday 2000 - ??

While not official or sponsored, many builders will be gathering at the Red Roof Inn and its pool to relax and meet one another. It's a Bring Your Own Beverage event. I like Maker's Mark for those so inclined...

Pool party people: If there is any additional information that you would like in here post it in the comments and I will update this post.

Builders Room Operation

Builders Room Access:

Access to the room will be available to you before the show starts and after the show ends for the evening. The times that the room will be available for builders is as follows:

Thursday: 0900-1930

Friday: 0900-1930

Saturday: 0900-1930

Sunday: 0900-1800

The actual end times are more flexible and can be extended as required if a room captain or myself is willing to stay in the room with you. I may be at the room prior to 0900 and have it unlocked, but please just count on 0900.

It is very critical that there are no smoke or fog machines to be used in the room. We did not pay the fee to have the smoke detectors turned off. If we are caught using any type of smoke generator I personally will be fined \$500 and that won't make me happy because I won't be able to buy any cool stuff in the store. So please disable any smoke generators on your droid while you are in the room. Yes, I know it is totally cool but we can't have them in the room...

Storage Room:

A locked storage room is available for our use. It can be used to store your tool boxes, transfer cases, etc. Valuables or collectables should not be stored in this room. The storage room will not be manned and we cannot guarantee the safety of any of your valuables because of this fact. Use of this room is at your own risk. This room will be locked at all times, and to access the storage area you need to see one of the acting room captains or myself who will have the key. Just come see one of us and we will assist you.

Room Captains:

There will be a set of Room Captains on shift in the room at all times. They can be identified by a Blue R2 Staff Lanyard and a R2D2 Staff Badge. They will be responsible for ensuring we comply with all the rules of the convention and politely asking you to

follow them as well. Please afford them all courtesy if they ask for your assistance with anything. It's a tough job, they want to have fun too, and no one wants to be the bad guy.

Staff Volunteers

Many of you have volunteered to help staff the room during the convention. That you so much, it's much appreciated. Please ensure you have a copy of your scheduled hours. When your shift starts, check-in with room captain and he/she will sign you in. If you have signed up for 2 hours or more, you should have a lanyard enclosed in your staff packet, which you can pickup at your first shift. Your room captain or myself will let you know where you need to be for your shift.

This is important: when you are done with your shift, you need to sign out with the room captain. This is how we are tracking your hours worked to earn your raffle ticket for the prizes. We be pulling the winning raffle tickets on Sunday at the close of the convention. You do not need to be present to win, but to receive your prize, you will be responsible to pay for the shipping if you so desire.

Raffle prizes:

- R2-ATL Bucket O' Resin (1) – Every resin part you need to complete a droid that we make. In a stylish 5 gallon pail. Okay, it's just an old pickle bucket...
- R2-ATL wood frame (2) – A CNC cut frame
- R2-ATL wood legs (2) – CNC cut legs
- N2Citrus DVD Set – The complete set of DVD's. (McMaster)
- Charging Bay Indicators v2 (Built & Tested) (Erwin)
- RSeries FX I2C Arduino Shield (Built & Tested) (Erwin)
- RSeries Slip Ring Interface Boards (Built & Tested) (2 Sets) (Erwin)
- DroidCon DVD's (4) (Erwin)

In addition, everyone who volunteers at least two hours will receive an awesome woven commemorative lanyard that I spent way too much money on and didn't tell my wife I did... So keep it to yourselves.

If you need to update your volunteer schedule:

Go to the sign-up schedule: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B...46-celebration>
Password: r2builders

Fan Stage Panels, Droid Races, Parade, & Photo

Times & Topics for Fan Stage Panels and Other Events

Once again we will be serenaded by the dulcet tones of Guy Vardaman ([gvardaman](#)) who will be moderating all of our Public Events with his classically trained smooth baritone. He's going to be pretty busy between moderating the panels and announcing the droid races. Be especially careful, women are known to swoon when he gets going...

Thursday

1230-1330 Building a Styrene Droid with the R2-D2 Builders

1700-1800 Aluminum Droids with the R2-D2 Builders

Friday

1430-1600 Droid Races

Saturday

1430-1600 Droid Races

1700-1800 Electronics for Astromechs

Sunday

1100-1300 Droid Races

1400-1430 Celebration VI Grand Droid Parade

Doug Dixon ([Doug Dixon](#)) is heading up the Droid Races this year. Once again, builders, you will be challenged to the extreme with precision driving and racing. [NPC Robotics](#) is once again sponsoring the droid races this year and supplying some awesome gift certificates to our winners.

A new race event for this year is MSE droid races. You know those little droids that scurry down the halls of the nearest Death Star or Imperial Warship. Though to be honest, I wouldn't bother entering this year. I've clocked my MSE at 48 MPH so I'm pretty sure I have this one in the bag. But hey, second and third place will be available. ;-)

Helping out with the judging and all the time and scorekeeping is Keith and Carolyn Bellavia ([Keith & Carolyn](#)). That's a tough job and thankless job. We have a pretty competitive group here at least when the racing is concerned so don't take it out on them if you don't do well.

William Miyamoto ([Darth Will](#)) is organizing the group photo sessions.

In-Room Demonstrations (Mini-DroidCon), Kids Activities, Props

The in-room demonstrations are designed as builder to builder discussions. They will be streamed, recorded and DVDs will be made. If you have an interesting technical topic you would like to present there are spots available and I would love to have more of them.

Thursday

1100-1200 **Tools & Materials for Astromech Building**

1300-1400 *Available*

1500-1600 **Foot Shell & Scooter Drive Design**

1700-1800 *Available*

Friday

1100-1200 **2-3-2 Design for Astromech**

1300-1400 *Available*

1500-1600 **Controllers for Astromech**

1700-1800 *Available*

Saturday

1100-1200 **Astromechs & Arduinos**

1300-1400 *Available*

1500-1600 *Available*

1700-1800 **RC Electronics & Chassis Wiring**

Sunday

1100-1200 *Available*

1300-1400 *Available*

1500-1600 *Available*

While no presentations are active, Michael McMaster ([n2citrus](#)) is providing a looping DVD special that consists solely of building activities. If you've seen any of his great videos of the R2LA events you know what I am talking about.

Kids Activities

We created a 'Galactic Passport' as a kids activity this year. It's a little passport that kids can take to different areas of our room and get 'Visa' stamps (rubber stamps we had made) of droid images in the Visa section of the passport. We've shared this information with both the 501st and Rebel Legion. AFAIK the 501st decided to get some stamps made up as well and they will be participating with us on this.

Chris Lee ([Chris Lee](#)) is bringing a wee little wireless label printer and we will be taking pictures of the kids and printing them to put their pictures in the passport.

Props

Major Cudos to the following people who are helping pull off a great room:

Clay ([Mrclaybo](#)) for heading up our main prop this year. The Jabba's Palace door. This prop will be located in the top right corner of the floor diagram, it looks absolutely amazing!

Max Cervantes will be supplying the TTY-8L droid (the tattler) that appears out of the door. I don't have a picture of it so I'm looking forward to seeing it at the show.

Todd Bixby ([eagledancer](#)) is graciously allowing us the use of his Han Solo in Carbonite prop. It will be located on the right of the entrance to the room.

Michael Erwin ([MichaelErwin](#)) is bringing down a two-sided giant banner located in the center of the room as well as the DJ truss video wall by the presentation stage.

Please remember to thank these fine folks for their hard work and donations of their time and props to make the room look great.

Video Streaming of Room, Builder Communications, Photo Sharing

Photo Sharing

We have created a photo sharing group on Flickr.com
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/r2buildersgroup/>

Photos can also be emailed to:

off47keep@photos.flickr.com

If you are a member of Flickr, just join this public pool group.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/r2buildersgroup/>

Live Streaming of Room Video

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/astromech-net>

and

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/droidcon-tv>

SMS Broadcast Messages

You can sign up for SMS broadcast messages that will be sent to notify you of anything happening or schedule changes. Please consider signing up for this. The instructions on how to sign-up for the service are on the attached pic. You will only need to send to the number with the correct message. See the pic. You also need to respond back with your name for it to accept you. It's all automated and I don't see your cell number if you are concerned about that.

1. Send a text message to

2. With the message



Please be advised that the standard text messaging will apply to these messages.

Twitter Feed

<https://twitter.com/DroidConTV>

Hash Tags: #astromech #StarWarsCVI

Official SW Celebration : @SW_Celebration

Builders Dinner

Saturday 1900-??

We have reserved a place for 60+ called

Pizzeria Uno.

8250 International Drive

Orlando, FL 32819

Come by and meet your fellow builders in the comfort of air conditioning and tasty pizza.