

## Introduction

*Walker Chan*

The Weekly Awesome is publishing this special issue to welcome freshman and residents alike to Fourth East by getting them up to speed on all the latest events. Hall residents write and submit articles, columns, pictures, and puzzles to the Editor in Chief every Wednesday night. The entire collection of back issues is available at the hall's website, [slugwiki.mit.edu/weekly-awesome/](http://slugwiki.mit.edu/weekly-awesome/). An anthology is filed in the 4E Library.



Simone, Becky, and Carly paint the Fourth East's coat of arms, a 4E Azure and Sanguine on a field Argent, on the hall's standard.

## Spelunking

*Liz!*

It was a beginner/intermediate trip to Knox Cave in New York, about a three hour drive to get there. The cave was somewhat tight and crawly, but otherwise not terribly difficult. I got stuck at a couple of points!

We were heading back out of a very tight crack. I had had a bit of trouble at one point going in, but that part was a breeze going out. On the way in I hadn't even noticed the part where I got stuck going out. I was leading the way out when I reached a point where I was having a little trouble squeezing through. I tried squeezing up, pushing down, breathing in, breathing out...then I realized I needed to yawn, but I couldn't breathe in because I was too tightly pinned between the walls. I started to freak out and couldn't catch my breath. I had to move back a bit, catch my breath, and try again. While I was sitting there...kinda meditating...I came to the realization that I was trying to go through it facing the wrong way! Let's put it this way: I went in facing East, but when I went out the first time I was facing West. Once I caught my breath I went through facing East and didn't have a single problem!



The Fourth East Battalion marches to the water war.



Fourth East's 400 watt LED lighting system transformed the Xandu's dance floor a third world shack into a seizure inducing rave.

## Ask Dr. Dice

*Dr. Dice*

Q: What is a black helicopter?

A: Excellent question. By their very definition, we cannot be certain of what a black helicopter is. However, the best current theories hold that a black helicopter is a nearly silent helicopter, thus breaking one of the final barriers in producing stealth helicopters.

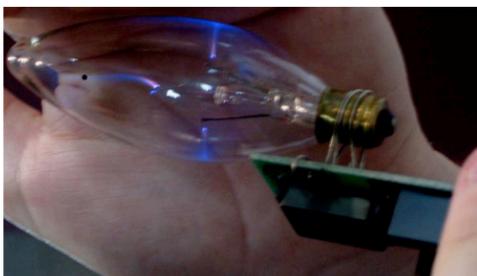
Q: What evidence do you have for the existence of black helicopters?

A: Incidents of sniper kills in locations that would be impossible except from a helicopter (oil platforms, etc.) are strong evidence of the existence of these helicopters. In addition, around 10 years ago Popular Science referenced a paper proposing a new method of silencing helicopters, using spoilers along the trailing edge of a blade to reduce the turbulence and sound produced by the blade. Since then, no further research has been done, and finding the original paper is nearly impossible. This is a strong indication of a paper going black, the research being taken over by the department of defense and used for military purposes.

Q: In light of this threat, how can I defend myself?

A: Constant vigilance. As you can no longer rely on your hearing for omnidirectional threat detection, you must visually inspect every portion of your environment, *including* the sky.

If you have a question for the doctor, email [ask-dr-dice@mit.edu](mailto:ask-dr-dice@mit.edu).



The soldering seminar featured a circuit to turn an ordinary light bulb into a plasma globe.

## Plasma Globes

*Walker Chan*

Fourth East residents applied their knowledge of power electronics to this year's soldering seminar. The result was a circuit to convert an ordinary light bulb into a plasma globe. Several members of LEES Lab, one of the leaders in high efficiency switchmode power conversion, called the design ingenious.

Past soldering seminars have included AM radios complete with a pirate radio station based out of the East Campus courtyard, Mooninites in honor of the Boston bomb scare, and persistence of vision displays.



Two of our three Davids assemble the Iron Curtain.

## Cake or Death?

*Carly Narlesky*

A Chocobo-shaped cake? Where else would you find one but Fourth East? Tired of tooling? Have a birthday? Thirsty? Bored? Tired of punting? Then come one and all to the infamous nightly cocoa, held every school night. As upperclassmen and freshmen alike anticipate the start of term, excitement builds at the prospect of a new year of cocoa calls and delicious baked goods. Kitchen culture is strong here and we love to prove it with awesome cakes for your birthday. Some highlights of the past year include a non-stop week of birthdays, Boston cream cupcakes, neon-colored frostings, and the aforementioned chocobo. What will the next year have in store? Perhaps some fancy new dessert for our biannual formal cocoa? Two new cocoa chairs will lead us into the next term, summoning us from our rooms to come drink cocoa (or tea) and be merry, keeping alive a tradition that dates back several decades. Great job to the cocoa chairs of years past, for keeping slug lore and history alive!



A friendly game of scabble over cocoa with our GRT.

## Boydmix Returns

*Staff*

Fourth Easters can once again enjoy music in the Bemis bathroom, thanks to Boydmix, the latest incarnation of the Bemix music system. The music can be controlled by touch switches embedded under the Mario mural next to the sink. The touch switches can start and stop the music, change the volume, and navigate within a playlist. For additional control, such as building playlists, visit [bemix.mit.edu](http://bemix.mit.edu).



Eric figures out which sound cards is which in [riaa.bemix](http://riaa.bemix), the hall's sound card server.