

WV TSA Connection

West Virginia
Technology Student
Association

Fall 2001



From The President

Welcome back to an exciting year with WV TSA! I hope you have paid your dues, elected chapter officers, and begun to work on competitive events for Spring Conference.

Your state officer team had training on October 12-14. I am expecting great things from them this year. You have selected a great group of state officers. They show a lot of promise. In light of the recent events that have occurred in our country, I encourage all of you to contribute to the relief efforts of our community service partner, The American Red Cross. You could organize an activity within the chapter, or complete an activity with another chapter.

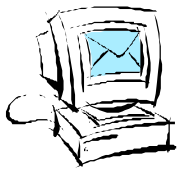
Regardless of the work of the State Officers, the true success of WV TSA lies in the members. Take advantage of every opportunity offered. Take an active role in your chapter, and develop leadership skills.

Good Luck in the coming year. Always keep a positive attitude and never be afraid to try something new or different.

Leslie Pierson
WV TSA President

Improving the Website

Below are a few ways to improve the WV TSA website
www.wvtssa.org.



- * Have more people use the chat room.

This would increase communication between chapters .

- * Update pictures and information often. Chapters should send photos with captions.
- * Update local chapter websites.
- * Make sure all of your

other members know about the site.

- * Communication is very important, and cyberspace is the fastest and easiest means of providing information.

Alex Hemmelgarn

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Special points of interest:

- * **Art contest** to design the state pin and t-shirt. See page 4.
- * **“Mystery Person”** See if you can figure it out! See page 4.
- * **Helpful tips** on a successful fundraiser. See page 3.

Getting Involved in Your Community

There are many things your chapter can do to get involved with your community. I have noticed that chapters aren't as involved before conferences as they could be.

President Bush has asked every child to donate one dollar to our partner, the Red Cross, to help the children in Afghanistan. It would be a simple task to ask each member to donate one dollar, the cost of a soda, or have them go around

their neighborhood and ask friends and neighbors to do the same.

Another thing you can help with this season is to donate toiletries and food to churches and other organizations for the less fortunate.

An additional idea is to recycle items such as cans and paper to raise money for a charity of your choice.

Some clubs participate in the Angel Tree and food drives. Mem-

bers really enjoy shopping for the needy, or you can ask members to bring items in individually.

We have selected to collect work gloves for the Red Cross this year as our statewide community service. Firefighters in New York are constantly losing them in the rubble, and they shouldn't have to work with their bare hands.

Christina Martin
WV TSA Reporter

National Conference Overview

The 2001 National Conference was held in Richmond, Virginia in June. Although the distance of our hotel from conference headquarters and dodging construction work was a bit of a hassle, those attending the conference had a great time. Students were able to spend part of a day at Kings Do-

minion and explore Richmond. West Virginia TSA also had its fair share of trophy recipients and finalists, which are listed in an insert in this newsletter. I would like to take this time to thank everyone for their support while I was campaigning at nationals. You truly made my national

conference a wonderful one.

Megan Phillips
WV TSA Vice President

"I would like to thank everyone for their support while I was campaigning at nationals."

For Your Information...

Have you found yourself wondering what to wear at TSA conferences? Well, we have decided to help you out.

For competitions and general sessions, business attire is required. For males this may include TSA colors, dress pants or khakis, and collared shirts. For females, this can be TSA colors, skirts that are no shorter



Think before you pack.

than three inches above the knee, dresses, and black closed toe shoes. Remember that no

t-shirts, jeans, tennis shoes, or related articles of clothing are permitted. If you don't abide by these rules during your competition there will be a point deduction.

For leisure time and

the dance on Friday night, casual clothes are allowed. Please keep in mind that halter tops, tube tops, shorts, shirts exposing your midriffs, and low cut shirts are not appropriate for casual professional dress. Please keep all of this in mind when you start packing in April.

Lindsay Legg
WV TSA Secretary

New Middle School Competitions

This year, four new Middle School Competitions have been added. You can find them in the new Middle School Curricular Resources Guide.

Here is a brief overview of the competitions.

1. **Digital Photography Challenge** Contestants produce and submit an album of digital photographs. Finalists will edit photographs on-site in accordance with the years problem.

2. **Marine Design Challenge** Contestants present sailboat designs and build a model sailboat that is raced in a test tank.
3. **Membership Recruitment Challenge** Teams design, implement, and present a membership recruitment plan to support the growth of TSA.
4. **TSA Talk-Multimedia Challenge** Contestants design a multimedia presentation to solicit business and industry support.

These events should make TSA have a wider focus on technology and a new taste of competition on the state and national level. You can purchase a middle school curriculum guide by contacting TSA at 1914 Association Drive, Reston, Va. 22091 or call at 703-860-9000.

Joel Tranko
WV TSA Treasurer

Fundraising Tips to Help Get Your Chapter to Denver



Everyone knows that the cost of this year's conference isn't going to be cheap. So to make sure you'll have the funds to get to Denver, here are a few tips on fundraising.

1. Always give yourself plenty of time to make plans to hold a fundraiser.
2. Try to pick a fundraiser that meets your community's needs, such as selling Christ-

mas candy and paper close to Christmas time.

3. Try to encourage everyone to participate!
4. Get in touch with business leaders in your community and sales representatives from different companies.
5. Make sure all profits are put into a bank account until the conference, and keep track of funds.

6. Finally, distribute the profits evenly between all who participated in the fundraiser.

For more ideas and tips on fundraising you can contact me at: treasure@wvtsa.org or write to me at: 96 North 22nd Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.

Joel Tranko
WV TSA Treasurer

"Get in touch with business leaders in your community and sales representatives from different companies."

Attack on America

You can't watch the news without hearing about it. What happened on September 11, 2001, was truly a national tragedy. More than 5,400 people were killed or are missing and presumed dead in the terrorist attacks.

The Red Cross is playing a

key role in the cleanup. With the \$370 million that the Red Cross received in donations, they are helping the families of the victims pay bills for 90 days regardless of income.

After the attack, the WV TSA officer team cancelled their trip to Atlanta, for Directions

2001 Conference for fear of another attack.

The WV TSA officer team would like to extend our condolences to the victims of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

Alex Hemmelgarn
WV TSA Sergeant-At-Arms

MYSTERY PERSON

“The Mystery Person” is a new addition to our newsletter. It is describing someone who is evolved with WV TSA. This will be a feature in each newsletter for this year.

Our mystery person for this edition of the WV TSA’s Connection is an active Alumni member from Morgantown, WV. He was once a national officer and he started the TSA Honor Society. He is now a partner on owning a software systems company and he’s in charge of our state website. So can you figure out who this mystery person is? If so, send your answer in and you will receive a prize. If not, the answer will be in the next edition of the WV TSA Connection.

Lindsay Legg
WV TSA Secretary

Calling All Artists!

Are you an artist?? Then you may consider submitting a design for the WV TSA t-shirt and pin that we use at the National Conference. We are open to most designs, but please remember they should represent every WV TSA member equally and professionally. Send us as many submissions as you would like, but keep in mind the pin and shirt are separate designs. The artist who’s work is selected for the t-shirt and/or pin will be recognized at the Spring Conference and will receive a prize. Send all submissions to:

*Alta McDaniel
1900 Kanawha Blvd.
Building 6-243B
Charleston, WV 25305*

*Christina Martin
WV TSA Reporter*

Calling All Students Video of TSA Activities Needed!

If any students have a video tapes from previous years of conferences or just TSA in general please send the Tapes to me at 96 North 22nd Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. This is much appreciated because I am putting a promotional video together to help form new chapters in the state and to help advisors recruit new members into the organization. All photos and footage will be returned.

Joel Tranko
State Treasurer

Running for Office



Being a leader in TSA is something that has drastically changed my

life. My first year as a member, I joined because a friend promised to help me with some algebra homework if I attended the Spring Conference and competed in events such as CADD and Technical Research and Report Writing.

I was a very shy and introverted person, but TSA changed the way I looked at life. I started to make myself enter events outside my realm of interest to try something new, and my eighth grade year I ran for my first state office. I “struck out” in elections at the state level twice before I was appointed to my first state office. I became involved in TSA on the national level as well, when I ran

for national office last summer.

There are many ways to define success and leadership. I encourage all of you to take chances and set goals in TSA and in your lives. I hope to see many of you on the campaign trail at state conference.

Meghan Phillips
WV TSA Vice President

