

WV TSA Connection

West Virginia
Technology Student Association

Fall 2002

Christina's Corner



Although we are all sad to see our summer vacation behind us, I know our state officer team is excited to start the new school year. We began early this summer developing ways to improve WV TSA, and I hope you will do the same.

I am glad to report that the state officer team has developed several ideas to make this year great. We have set officer goals and made decisions that will change the way WV TSA operates, such as publishing a bimonthly news letter online to cut costs.

We hope you are pleased with things, and we want you to feel free to contact us with anything you need. Contacting the officers is easy! Simply email the officer of your choice with the name of their office followed by [@wvtsa.org](mailto:president@wvtsa.org). For example: My email address is president@wvtsa.org.

It may be tough to set your chapter in motion again, but I encourage you to take charge and start now. Elect your officers, begin your service projects, and plan your competitions! I encourage you all to try new things, push yourself to new heights, and I wish you the best of luck in all you endeavor this year.

"A wise man makes more opportunities than he finds."

Christina Martin
WV TSA President

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Starting The Year Off With A Bang!



Now we're back to school and preparing for another exciting year of TSA. Here are a few ways to make the adjustment back to the school year smoother and more efficient. The most crucial thing in your TSA chapter is the advisor. If the advisor understands his/her responsibilities, the achievement of the chapter can be immense. Some things to help start the year with a bang is to:

Invite guest speakers
Visit other organizations in your school
Membership drives
Open house
Attend leadership seminar or conference
Send ideas to state officers for newsletters
Conduct community service

Visit other chapters
Elect chapter officers
Orientation of new members
Train chapter officers
Hold officer instillation ceremony
Conduct a fundraiser

Alex Hemmelgarn
WV TSA Vice President

WV TSA Grieves Over the Loss of One of its Newest Advisors

July 28, 2002, West Virginia TSA lost one of its newest advisors, Mr. David Kenton King. Mr. King was 51 when he passed away, leaving a wife and two children. This was Mr. King's first year as an advisor at Clay County Middle School and his first year as a technology teacher. Mr. King loved TSA and all of his students involved with it. His family, his fellow teachers, and his many students will truly miss him.



Show Off Your Colors



What should you wear to the TSA conference? Remember that professional dress is required at all TSA business meetings and competitions. That means TSA official dress or other business attire.

- TSA official dress includes a blue blazer, white button up shirt, gray pants or skirt, TSA red tie, and black shoes.
- If you do not have official dress, then you are expected to dress in other professional looking clothes. For guys this means a button-up shirt, a tie, a pair of dress or khaki pants, and dress shoes. For girls it means appropriate skirts, dresses, and shirts with dress shoes.
- If you do not to dress professionally, judges may deduct points in your competitions.
- Remember, local school dress codes apply at any TSA conference.

Caitlyn Davis-McDaniel,
WV TSA Treasurer



“Shoot for the moon...even if you miss, you’ll land among the stars.”

Officer Goals

We as officers have dedicated ourselves to achieving many goals to help us as leaders and you as members of our great organization of TSA.

- To increase our overall state membership by at least one chapter.
- To include the secretary’s minutes on the web page for public viewing.
- To make all members going into technological fields eligible for the scholarship
- To include the newsletter in the web page instead of printing for individual chapters.
- To reestablish and strengthen our courtesy corps.
- To publish more submissions from the chapters.

Officer Training Workshop

On June 12 the newly elected 2002-2003 state officers assembled for their first meeting of the year at Mrs. McDaniel’s house in Winfield, West Virginia. Some important decisions were made and a lot of fun was had.

First on the agenda was....a basketball game?!? This is just one of the many “challenges” the officers would have to meet that weekend. After shooting some hoops, the officers got down to business. The officer team first chose to publish the newsletter bi-monthly online over the publishing methods used in previous years. They also discussed some new ideas including their goals for the upcoming year.

Their hard work and dedication continued over the next few days. More important decisions were made concerning the Back to School Booklet and the official WV TSA website.



From stressful work to fun and games, the weekend was all in all a complete success!!

For more details of the officer training weekend, go to our website at www.wvtsa.org.

Karen Snyder
WV TSA Secretary

**We Really Look
Forward To Working
With You This Year!**

TSA's Achievement Program

The TSA achievement program is a great way to recognize you for your effort and dedication to TSA. There are three levels of achievement: bronze, silver, and gold. This program is designed to encourage you to become a better member. You earn points in various categories such as leadership development, understanding technology, school and community service, and career and personal planning. The bronze award requires 100 points. The silver or state level, , an additional 100 points making 200 required. The third and most prestigious award is the gold, or national level, which requires an additional 100 points, making 300 the total amount needed.

Ask your advisor for a copy of the Achievement booklet or e-mail Mrs. McD to get started today.

Jimmy Nicholson
WV TSA Sgt at Arms

2002 National Conference in Denver is a Big Hit!



This year's national conference was a huge success for WV TSA. We had 18 finalists in 16 different events, and among these we had four in the top three. This is a big accomplishment; these competitors' deserve congratulations for their efforts and achievements. A complete list of winners can be found in the Conference section of the website.

A special congratulation goes to our state advisor, Mrs. Alta McDaniel. She was elected to serve as President Elect of the National TSA Board of Directors for this year, and will serve as President for 2003-2004.

The conference was not only a huge success, but also loads of fun. When students weren't competing or attending general sessions, they could be found doing anything from riding roller coasters at Six Flags, to relaxing on a trip into the wild to view the gorgeous Rocky Mountains. Some of the other fun things to do included visiting the Denver Zoo and shopping along the 16th Street Mall in the Denver Pavilions.

Traveling to the conference was a different experience for most of our students. Instead of the long, cramped, and sometimes boring bus ride, we traveled by air, making the trip much shorter! After we arrived in Denver, Colorado we stayed at the Adam's Mark Hotel, a beautiful hotel in downtown Denver.

To sum it up, this year's national conference was a wonderful experience that no one will soon forget. I hope you all enjoyed yourself and will be working hard to win at this year's spring conference so that you can join us in Orlando next year.

Ross Setchell
WV TSA Reporter

