

WV TSA Connection

West Virginia
Technology Student Association

Winter 2005

From the President



Dear Members,

First, I would like to welcome all the new chapters this year. Those of you who didn't know, we have gained several chapters this year—Wheeling Park HS is back, Elkins Middle School and Academy of Careers and Technology in Beckley! I am looking forward to meeting you all. I hope that you have a great experience with WV TSA.

Secondly, I hope that everyone has had a fantastic year so far. For those of you that were planning on attending the Fall Conference, I'm sorry that we had to cancel it. We only had 40 people register, and we cannot afford to offer a full conference for those few members. The state officer team has discussed doing some of the activities at the Spring Conference this year. Hopefully, we will be able to hold a Fall Conference next year without conflicts.

Third, the Spring Conference is getting close and we all have events to prepare for, so I hope that you have started to work on your projects. For you procrastinators out there, the conference is less than one month away. If you want to get the chance to go to the National Conference in Chicago, IL this year, you better start working on your events. It is a great trip and conference that everyone should get the chance to experience!

Last but not least, Mrs. McDaniel needs a few things before the Spring Conference. The registration for the conference and officer candidate forms are due by March 10, along with and any award applications. We have had few applicants for Achievement Awards, Technology Honor Society and Advisor of the Year in the past, and I would love to see more award applications come in this year.

"Better to light
a candle than
to curse the
darkness."

Yours in TSA,
Caitlyn Davis-McDaniel
Caitlyn Davis-McDaniel
WV TSA President

WV TSA Officers Went to Directions



The annual National Leadership conference, Directions was held in Reston, Va. On October 7 -10 , 2004. Four members of the state officer team attended the conference, along with Mrs. McDaniel's foreign exchange student, Mai Phan.

We left at 1:00 in the morning to catch our planes to Washington, D.C., then toured the capital area that afternoon. We visited the Holocaust Museum and walked around the capital area. We boarded over five forms of transportation during our tour.

Friday was the first full day of Directions. We visited Senator Rockefeller's office to inform him about technology education and TSA. We also visited the new Native American Museum and the Botanical Gardens in our TSA blazers.

Saturday was the leadership part of the conference. All of the officers at the conference participated in leadership activities all day. There was even a fashion show using newspaper as clothing! All of



the state officers from each state met with their respective national officer and talked about the duties of being an officer.

Sunday, we caught a flight home around noon; it was a short trip home. We had no problems with security, even though we all had to take off our shoes and talk to the Transportation Safety Administration about what TSA is.

Directions was a lot of fun. For those of you who want to run for a state office, this is definitely one of the best parts of being a state officer.



Stephen Stolzenberg
WV TSA Sgt-at-Arms

Officer Highlights

Alex Hemmelgarn WV TSA Treasurer

Alex may seem quiet and reserved, but he's truly very out-going. He's intelligent and will always have a few remarks (all joking, of course)! Alex is always a hard worker and pays a lot of attention to the details. He is a big football fan and player, but he is also a reader. He can tell you a lot about war books and the latest gadgets in technology.



Alexis Emch WV TSA Secretary

Alexis is a very outgoing, determined athlete. She runs cross-country, and plays soccer & basketball. She's a very fun and nice person to be around. Although the rest of the officers agree that we have *never* seen a teenager go to bed earlier than she does! She's the first one of the group to go to sleep at every meeting.



Fundraising Ideas

Every member may worry about where to get the money for state and national conferences, should they qualify. By now, chapter should have selected several fundraisers, and carried them out. In case you need some more ideas, here is a list of ideas that might be useful:

- Sell concessions at a school sporting-event
- Magazine sales
- Selling a food product, such as cookie dough or pizza
- Raffles
- Carwashes
- Candy sales
- Yard sales
- Selling a school logo item (key chains, bumper stickers, etc.)
- Sponsoring a school dance
- Sponsoring a Lock-in
- Sponsor a LAN party (Students are charged to use Tech. Lab's computers for games)
- Sell donated computer parts on E-Bay
- Community or School Carnival
- Haunted House
- Seek local business sponsorship or donations
- Auction for a Teacher-Chapter Officer Pie-in-the-Face
- Sponsor a Student-Faculty Basketball game

Before beginning any fundraiser, make sure to get permission from you chapter advisor and school principal. Also, if you have a fundraising idea that you would like to share, send it to treasurer@wvtsa.org

Alex Hemmelgarn

WV TSA Treasurer



Tips for Competition

The following tips could give you the jumpstart you need for your competitions. Remember, Spring Conference is March 31-April 2. Don't wait until it's too late to start.

- Read your competition rules now so you can create a timeline in order to finish your project on time. This also helps you familiarize yourself with the competition.
- Do some backup research. Investigate your field of technology so you have a strong basis from which to present yourself.
- Talk with your advisor. They may be able to provide valuable resources to aide you.
- Find a local business which specializes in your field and might be willing to help you finish your project.
- Talk with family members, other adults, and friends who might be able to assist you.
- Take your time while preparing for Spring Conference. The more time you put into your competition, the better it will look.
- Use the internet as a resource. After all, we are a technology organization.
- Check out the West Virginia TSA website for sample problems: www.wvtsa.org.

The website <http://wvtech.k12.wv.us/resources/websites.php> will link you to many different technology related sites ranging from technology education to engineering. If you have any questions about competition rules, just e-mail Alta McDaniel at amcdanie@access.k12.wv.us.

John Semmens

WV TSA Vice President



Clay County High School

By this time of the year, Clay County High School's chapter is well under way in their annual community service projects. Our main task is the Angel Tree Project. For this, principals of elementary and middle schools in our county composed a list of children that are less fortunate, and wouldn't receive gifts for Christmas. Then, each chapter member, as well as teachers from our school, buy clothes and toys for two of the students. The presents are collected delivered to the children just before Christmas Break begins.

Our regular chapter events included electing chapter officers, and holding bi-weekly meetings. Currently, we are planning several fundraisers to help raise money to assist members in attending state and national conferences. Most of our members are concerned about the process of choosing competitive events. Our chapter's policy is that 1st place winners from last year have first choice of competing in that event this year. For all other competitions, members sign up for a run-off, then one evening, the high school's technology lab resembles a miniature state conference. Students compete against each other for their chance to represent Clay's chapter at the Spring Conference in April.

Alex Hemmelgarn, Clay HS Member

Morgantown High School


Morgantown High School greatly increased membership this year. Unfortunately, it got to the point that we were unable to accept any more members.

Our first activity of the year involved our chapter in creating a poster and a small booth for the Morgantown High School Open House event. We also had a school-wide display to explain TSA to students. After members were accepted, we elected our chapter officers, began community service activities and started to plan fundraisers.

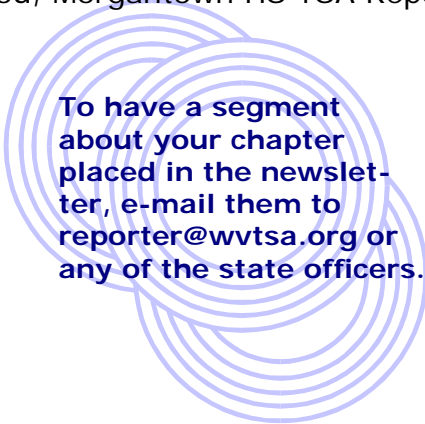
In October, our chapter participated in both the homecoming parade and the homecoming street fair. We built a float and a banner, both using a "treasure ship" theme, and entered them into a school-wide contest. Our goal was to raise awareness for both technology education and TSA.

Run-offs for registration in competitive events were spread throughout the course of a month to give students time to prepare. Currently, each member is preparing to represent MHS TSA at the Spring Conference at Cedar Lakes.

-John Whisler, Morgantown HS TSA Member
-Mary Zou, Morgantown HS TSA Reporter



WV TSA has added two new chapters to it's directory! Elkins Middle School and the Academy of Careers and Technology have now joined WV TSA.



To have a segment about your chapter placed in the newsletter, e-mail them to reporter@wvtsa.org or any of the state officers.

Word Search

F L S I O E X M J D D E X P S
L E E N V V O G M H C A R K E
I A U F O Y U K L A G O A L K
G D L F Q I J R P X B S Z M A
H E X U V Z T S H L X U N W L
T R C U Z C R I E M D X S I R
C S W Q Z E I M T R M E P X A
H H U N B Z S T A E I T D C D
A I M Y C O R G W A P C K Y E
L P C H L Z S U Y H N M X P C
L L W V Q T E C H N O L O G Y
E L I B E T Y O R C Q S Y C M
N N S R E C I F F O E T A T S
G D S N Q F T H U Q Y P L J B
E N D E E X E W F Y R K K C I

CEDARLAKES
COMPETITIONS
CYBERSPACE
DRAGSTERS
FLIGHTCHALLENGE
LEADERSHIP
PROBLEMSOLVING
STATEOFFICERS
TECHNOLOGY

F1 Teams in Schools Holds 1st Competition at Cedar Lakes

Formula 1 Teams in Schools will hold its first WV competition at Cedar Lakes on April 1, during the WV TSA conference. We have 12 teams registered, six who are not currently affiliated with TSA.

So come by the Assembly Hall from 10:00-4:00 on Friday and see what's going on with this new high tech competition, where students design F1 cars using 3D CAD and produce them with computer controlled machining!

Spring Conference Reminders

- Put March 31—April 2 on your calendar. That is when WV TSA will conduct this year's awesome conference!
- Conference Registration is due to the State Office by March 10, 2005.
- Officer Candidate Forms due to the State Office by March 10, 2005.
- **This probably means that you have to have these items in to your advisor BEFORE March 10!! Make sure to check with him or her!!**
- You need to bring bed linens to the conference, as well as towels and personal items.
- Don't forget fishing rods, tennis rackets, footballs and Frisbees for those few free moments at the conference.
- TSA ties, pens, pins, ball caps and other items will be available at the conference, so bring some extra cash!
- Don't forget a nice outfit for the banquet and the clothes you need for competition.

A General Session will be held from 10:00-11:00, then you can view the displays and talk to the teams. Races start at about 3:00, so make sure to come be a part of the excitement!

Awards will be given out at the Banquet on Friday evening.

Make our new guests feel welcome, and tell them about the exciting things they can experience with TSA!!