



WV TSA Bulletin Fall, 2006



Many students told us the newsletter was never read on-line, and many advisors never duplicated it to pass out. So, in trying to keep members informed, we decided to begin the WV TSA Bulletin – a one page flyer that will be sent to chapter members. This will hopefully be good format for busy students.

Winter Leadership Retreat Survey

Our Fall Leadership Conferences have just not done well in the last several years, due to conflicts with football, band, hunting and other things. We are considering a Winter Leadership Retreat in early December of 2006, if there is enough interest. We will be doing a survey on [surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com) sometime in September and will inform everyone when the survey is ready to fill out.

WV TSA Listserv

We are encouraging students and advisors to subscribe to the WV TSA List Serv. This list serv provides information about scholarships, conference or competition questions, and other informational items for TSA members. If you subscribe to the List Serv, your message will be forwarded to all other subscribers who can in return answer your questions. To subscribe, log on to <http://www.wvtsa.org/listserv/> then go to the bottom of the page.

Get Students Excited about TSA and Increase Membership

Introduce TSA to students in your school or other local schools by using some new public relations materials we have developed! WV TSA has brochures, an introductory packet, media presentations on CD, and booklets for advisors on How to Start a Chapter. Call the state office at 558-2194 for materials for your chapter.

West Virginia has New National Officer

John Semmens, Morgantown HS, was elected to the office of National TSA Sgt-at-Arms at the recent national Conference in Dallas, Texas. This is John's second year to serve as a national officer, and he looks forward to working with the other officers from around the country. Congratulations, John!!

Two New Officers Appointed for 2006-07 Year

Last Spring, the office of Sgt at Arms was not filled, and when John Semmens was elected to national office, the office of Secretary became open. Therefore, two new officers were appointed:

John Whistler, Morgantown HS, has been a TSA member for five years. Traveling is John's favorite aspect of being a TSA member. He feels that State and National Conference offer an individual indispensable communication and leadership skills.

Alexis Emch, Magnolia HS, has been a TSA member for five years also. She thoroughly enjoys the social and competitive aspect of the TSA conferences. TSA has been an invaluable experience for her, and she feels that every student should not miss the experience with being an active TSA member.

Formula 1 in Schools

An informative packet will be sent to each chapter sometime this fall to promote the Formula 1 Challenge. It is an exciting high-tech competition that involves students with 3-D computer modeling and computer controlled milling machines. Look for it in the mail!

West Point Bridge Design

Another exciting competition available is the West Point Bridge Design Challenge. Practice now so that you are ready to enter the competition in January on-line. You may be a national finalist and get to go to New York! But, no matter what, the top 15 West Virginia students will be invited to compete at Marshall University in the spring for \$1,000's of dollars in prizes! See <http://bridgecontest.usma.edu/> for more information and to download the free software.

FIRST LEGO League

The FIRST LEGO League invites young participants 9-14, to build a robot and compete in a friendly, FIRST-style robotics event specially designed for their age group. Using LEGO bricks and other elements such as sensors, motors, and gears, teams gain hands-on experience in engineering and computer programming principles as they construct and program their unique robot inventions. For details go to <http://www.usfirst.org/robtcs/flego.htm>.

Plan Now for Spring Conference!

Our Spring WV TSA Conference will be held March 29-31, 2007, so make sure to put it on your calendar now! **High school students** – make sure you know that the Competitive Events Rules have been revised for 2007 -08 and one contest has been deleted, two new competitions have been added, and two competitions return to the state level this year!

TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

(cancelled on state and national level)

ANIMATRONICS

NEW CONTEST!!

Participants will design, fabricate, and control an animatronics device that will entertain or communicate and idea. Sound, lights and surrounding environment are to accompany the device.

VIDEO GAME DESIGN

NEW CONTEST!!

Participants develop an e-rated game that entertains and is intellectually challenging. A portion of the game is submitted for evaluation.

COMPUTER ANIMATION, ARCHITECTURAL

(Returns to state level this year!!)

Participants develop an animated technical drawing using computer-aided design tools.

COMPUTER ANIMATION, ENGINEERING

(Returns to state level this year!!)

Participants develop an animated technical drawing using computer-aided design tools.

Achievement Awards

This non-competitive program provides opportunities for students to earn points toward an achievement pin while developing appropriate attitudes and increasing their knowledge and skills through involvement in technology education programs and activities. Check out http://www.wvtsa.org/3_general_info/achievement_awards.htm for past winners and to download a copy of the booklet. Start earning points today!!

Don't forget our Website at <http://www.wvtsa.org>!!

Make sure to check out our website at <http://www.wvtsa.org> often for information on contests, conferences and supplies for members. We plan on adding a section with links for competition hints and tips and where to obtain materials for specific contests. We are also planning on creating a video specifically with WV chapter members and contests included to be downloaded and used for informing the public and other students about TSA.