



Advisor's Corner

Spring Fairs

Be sure to attend your regions Spring Fair. This is a perfect opportunity to meet other members of TSA within your region. The Regional Spring Fair will provide an opportunity for students to compete in various competitive events. Regional Fair packets are now available on-line at vatsa.org.

Blue Ridge Region	Patrick Henry HS	March 7
Northern Region	Mountain View HS	March 14
South Central Region	Highland Springs HS	March 7
Southwestern Region	Lebanon High School	March 7
Tidewater Region	Jamestown High School	March 7
Valley Region	Turner Ashby High School	March 7

Judges for Technosphere

Technosphere 2009 (May 1-3) is slowly approaching. This year we are beginning to plan early. I am sending this email to ask if you are willing to be a coordinator or judge for an event. If there is a particular event you are interested in, please let me know. This year you have 5 new events to choose from at the high school level and some updated events at the middle school level.

Volume 1, Issue 4
November 2008

Newsletter Spotlight

Spring Fairs	Pg 1
Membership Update	Pg 1
National TSA Updates & Clarification	Pg 1
Virginia TSA Awards	Pg 2
Pin Design Contest	Pg 2

Membership Update

As of today, Virginia TSA has 63 chapters affiliated. This is an increase compared to the previous 2 years. I would just like to thank all the Advisors who have already affiliated.

National TSA Updates and Clarifications

The information provided here 1) features updates/corrections to middle school and high school competitions and 2) highlights contest guidelines that may be easily overlooked.

HS Chapter Team (Written and Oral)

Rating form (page 70)

Knowledge of parliamentary procedure section:

Debate (quality and quantity, excluding president, **3 pts.** per officer)

Chapter minutes section and Time deduction section are **two unrelated sections and will be scored separately.**

HS Dragster Design

Purpose (page 117)

Design and produce a fast CO₂-powered dragster according to stated specifications and using only certain materials.

HS Fashion Design

For 2009, both a prom dress and a suit must be designed by each team. Models for a team must be members of the school TSA chapter; they need not be members of the HS Fashion Design team.

HS Promotional Graphics

Overview (page 240)

In 2010, participants must include the theme of the 2011 conference, which is Snapshot of Innovation.



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Virginia TSA Awards & Scholarships

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This year, Virginia TSA would like to increase the number of applications submitted for awards that are presented during the Virginia TSA State Conference, "Technosphere". Some advisors may not know, but there are 7 awards that Virginia TSA bestows to chapters and individuals at Technosphere. They are: Bronze and Silver Achievement Program, Chapter Excellence, Advisor of the Year, Commendation Award, Century Award, Community Service Award, and Member of the Year Award.

- The TSA Achievement Program (bronze and silver awards) is designed to motivate and recognize student members for high effort in a school's technology education program. The TSA Achievement program is an opportunity for every TSA member to strive and receive recognition for accomplishments.
- The Chapter Excellence Award recognizes chapters that have been working hard through out the year. All chapters are encouraged to submit an application for this award.
- The Advisor of the Year Award gives an advisor the opportunity to be recognized for all their hard work and dedication.
- The Commendation Award recognizes school divisions that affiliate all secondary school technology education programs with Virginia TSA.
- The Century Award recognizes schools that affiliate under the Chapter Affiliation Plan, affiliate 100 or more students individually, or affiliate the total technology education program enrollment.
- The Community Service Award recognizes chapters that have made a difference within their community.
- The Member of the Year Award recognizes a chapter member who has gone above and beyond what is expected of them.

Virginia TSA also offers scholarships for graduating seniors who are pursuing a career in teaching in college. They are the: John Monroe Scholarship and Thomas A Hughes Scholarship. Please take time to apply for these awards. They are located on the website: vatsa.org, under Forms and Applications.

State Pin Design Contest

Each year when we go to Nationals, a big event is trading lapel pins as mementos from the conference. Students and Advisors really get serious about this activity.

How would you like to design the pin that Virginia will have made for States? It should be submitted in a 1" x 1" color design (.png format) and should be something that showcases our state as well as TSA. It does not have to say Technosphere, but must include "2009" or "09". Blank space (alpha value of 0) will not be part of the pin. If your pin is not four sided, you will need to define its physical borders by making all of the extra into blank space.

We would like for you to submit it no later than February 10, 2009 to tsa@vatsa.org. The prize awarded to the winner will receive free pins for the entire chapter and be recognized at the Technosphere awards program.