

VIRGINIA SCENE



The Official Newsletter of Virginia TSA

Volume 26, Number 2

TSA Chapters at the State Fair

by Steven Gill, Virginia TSA Sgt.-at-Arms

Virginia TSA spent two weeks meeting and greeting people at the Virginia State Fair. Held from September 27th through October 7th at the Richmond Raceway Complex, Virginia TSA had an informative and interactive booth set up in the Commonwealth Technology building.

The booth featured numerous activities for people of all ages to do and learn about technology. For the little ones, there were Lego cards for the kids to build a paper kimpler with Duplo blocks. Lego Mindstorms were also very popular with the visitors, because it allowed them to build and program something that they made out the Lego blocks which they have used.

Other activities were a flight simulator where you could choose any aircraft to fly, and you also could choose where you wanted to fly that aircraft, whether it is Washington, Paris, or San Francisco. A computer milling machine was set up that milled out of a piece of wood the outline of the state of Virginia which had the words "State Fair 01". Even Lt. Governor John Hager visited this year to make a turbine blade and test its speed in our engineering challenge.

Twenty two schools from across the state acted as hosts for the exhibit teaching people about TSA and Technology Education. This time also allowed the schools to demonstrate their knowledge of



Virginia TSA Members with Lt. Governor John Hager at the Virginia State Fair in September.

the topics being demonstrated, and also to show their TSA chapter to the state of Virginia.

The State Fair also offers a great time for Virginia TSA to promote itself, and show what it has to offer to local schools, and prospective members.

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The Blue Ridge Regional Council prepares for their duties during the Fall Rally.



The Blue Ridge Regional Planning Team gets a round of well deserved applause.

Regional Leadership Rallies a Success

by Stephen Blue, Virginia TSA Reporter

The regional officers of each of the six regions hosted their annual Regional Leadership Rallies. The regional leaders have reported back, and this year's rallies were a success. From fun activities, knowledge-yielding special interest sessions, to pies in the face and a college football game, this year's rallies were some of the best in recent memory.

Flip to page 3 for coverage of the regional rallies from the regional presidents themselves. Also, if you have any pictures of the events, go online at www.vatsa.org and submit them to be posted online for the world to see.

The Virginia Scene

"A Newsletter for students by students"
Published by the
Virginia Association of the
Technology Student Association

The Virginia TSA Executive Council

President:	<i>JaPrince Carter</i>
Vice-President:	
Secretary:	<i>Whitney Hawkins</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Adam Martin</i>
Reporter:	<i>Stephen Blue</i>
Sgt. At Arms:	<i>Steven Gill</i>
Historian:	<i>Anne Ward</i>
Parliamentarian:	<i>Matt Walton</i>

Regional Presidents

Blue Ridge:	<i>Tyler Martin</i>
Northern:	<i>William Chang</i>
South Central:	<i>Charlie Gilliam</i>
Southwestern:	<i>Eddie Neece</i>
Tidewater:	<i>Josh Clements</i>
Valley:	<i>Brittany Stansberry</i>

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Morgan Maddox

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Virginia TSA Coordinator
Ms. Kathy Stansbury

Technology Education Specialist
Mr. George R. Willcox

Special thanks to Stephen Blue, Virginia TSA State Reporter, for formatting and editing this newsletter.

A Word from the President...

JaPrince Carter



Greetings Virginia TSA,

My name is JaPrince Carter and currently I'm your Virginia TSA President. I'm writing you to tell you who I am and what I'm about. First, I would like to say that Doug O'Reagan was a very fine president and I appreciate everything that he did for Virginia TSA.

I would like to welcome all of our new members to Virginia TSA. I am your 2001-2002 Virginia TSA President.

I am about getting work done. I don't care if you have something that night as long as it gets done. On the flip note, I like to have fun and go places. I'm not a hard person to get along with at all. I have two quotes that I use all the time. One is "Good things will come to those who wait." The second quote is "Take onde day at a time."

I'm glad to have a chance to work with you as your state president and I hope you feel the same way too. If you have any questions at any time, just send me an email at princeman_2003@hotmail.com.

Thanks and God Bless,

JaPrince Carter

JaPrince Carter
Virginia TSA President

TSA Goes to College

By Morgan Maddox, National TSA Sgt.-at-Arms

On the 24th of October, Ms. Brenda Crane, TSA Sponsor, and Ms. Kathleen Stansbury, Virginia TSA State Coordinator, and I, Morgan Maddox, National TSA Vice President, traveled to Virginia Tech's Technology Education Department to present information about TSA and its opportunities.

College students who will be Technology Education teachers next year listened intently to the lecture about TSA. I gave brief descriptions of the organization using a PowerPoint

presentation which is available to all Virginia TSA advisors. The presentation was given from both the student and advisor stand point focusing on TSA membership. Virginia Tech students were extremely excited about the opportunities and benefits of being a TSA advisor.

Plans are being made for the Executive Council members to visit the senior class of all of the universities in Virginia which offer Technology Education. Hopefully, these visits will lead college students to become great TSA advisors, just like the ones we have now!

Blue Ridge Region*by Tyler Martin, President*

The Blue Ridge Regional Fall Rally was a smash! The rally was held on Saturday, November 3 at Virginia Tech. We had about 70 people attend.

The Rally opened with a general session where the council conducted our opening ceremony. The President of TECA (Technology Education Collegiate Association) of Virginia Tech, Paul Steiner, gave a welcome speech. We had a guest speaker, which was the former Virginia TSA President, Monica Crain.

After the general session, we broke into groups. Each group visited different parts of Virginia Tech. Also, we had some fun team building activities to do. For one fun activity, we had to get a bucket out of a huge

circle on the ground. All we had to use were a few pieces of rope, a stick, a hammer, and an inner tube for a bike. We could not enter the circle to get the bucket. This problem solving activity was really fun to do.

After the first sessions, we went to Dietrick Dining Hall to get lunch. Once we finished lunch, we came back into the auditorium where we got back into our groups and went to take a tour of the Campus. For another activity, the TECA students lead us in a dance of the Hokie Pokie. We then finished the day with a general session which featured the closing ceremony.

A special thanks to the future technology teachers from TECA who conducted our interest sessions and tours. Overall, I feel we had a great Fall Rally. We had a good turn out and a lot of fun.

South Central Region*by Charlie Gilliam, President*

This year started off successfully for South Central TSA with our Fall Rally held on the 10th of November.

For everyone who was there, I hope you had fun. I know my day was somewhat hectic but it was my hope to answer any and all questions about being a Regional Officer.

Next year, we hope to have more officers from different counties, creating a diverse board which would offer varied opinions from the region. This way we can better meet the needs of the region.

Our Regional Fair is on March 2nd, and I hope to see involvement in competition stronger than previous years.

Thank you and good luck to everyone in continuing a great and successful year.

Valley Region*by Brittany Stansberry, President*

The Valley Region has had an eventful year so far. Everyone seems to be very excited about TSA.

On September 22nd, our Fall Rally was held at James Madison University. We had a large turnout and a great time. We were fortunate to secure Delegate Steve Landes as our keynote speaker. The sessions were designed to appeal to a large variety of interests; from the more hands-on type workshops such as Problem Solving and Groundwater Infiltration to those designed to appeal to your competitive nature such as Tech Bowl Tournament and Lego Challenge.

In one of the breakout sessions, we had an excellent guest speaker from the university, Mr. Egekwu, who gave us a presentation about his CIM computer lab. The day was concluded with the announcement of winners and distri-

Tidewater Region*by Josh Clements, President*

The Tidewater Regional Fall Rally was a great success. Over 150 people attended the event. It was held at Heriaige High School in Newport News on November 10th.

The Rally followed a format similar to last year's successful event. A number of workshops were held in groups of three. The first group featured the regional officers giving presentations on their respective offices. The second and third groups focused on different competitions and on things such as fundraising, membership, and running for office.

A fundraiser was held by the regional officers to raise money for the American Red Cross. The officers carried around buckets collecting money. The officer with the most money pied his/her advisor. The winner was Reporter Lily Smith from Middlesex High School. She raised just over \$104 for the cause. She pied one of her advisors, Mr. Kelly, with a delicious whipped cream pie. A total of over \$280 was raised for the American Red Cross during the day.

All in all, our day was a great success. We are looking forward to our Spring Fair to be held on March 9 at Heritage High School.

tribution of prizes in the competitive event categories during the closing session. We all enjoyed a dinner of pizza and migrated over to the JMU football stadium for an exciting game against Rhode Island.

Everyone is more than welcome to come join us during one of these events. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at britkeeps13@hotmail.com or my advisor Mr. Blough at wblough@msn.com.

Getting Publicity

by Whitney Hawkins, Virginia TSA Secretary

Publicity. Everybody wants some, and everybody wants to know where to get some. From church bake sales, to national campaigns, publicity is an important part of success. As such, your local TSA chapter could probably use a little slice too. Having a fund raiser for sending kids to nationals? Did some of your students win a big award? You want everyone to know, right? But hold up a minute, how do you get publicity anyway? That's the question this article aims to answer.

Step number 1: Tell your local newspaper! With the recent tragedies, the media is understandably busy trying to keep the reader informed. It might be a good change of pace to hear what America's future is doing. Send your newspaper a letter in advance telling the who, what, when, where, how, and why. This letter helps the reporters ask informed questions. You also might follow up on your letter a week ahead of time to see if they received it and are planning to cover your event.

Tell SEVERAL local newspapers. Why stick with just one? Chances are the people interested subscribe to different papers. Also, if one doesn't respond the other one just might. You never know, but it doesn't hurt to try.

Step number 2: Be helpful to the reporters. They probably have a lot to do, and the more you cooperate, the more both parties are likely to endure, if not enjoy, the experience. Try designating an ambassador from your chapter to work with reporter.

Step number 3: Don't be hasty. It may take a while for your story to get in the paper, and they may save it for a filler run when nothing else is available.

Step number 4: Let's say you have something you'd actually like people to come to and spend cold cash. Tell the newspaper WAY ahead of time (at least two months). From personal experience, (my youth group just had a basket bingo), sometimes you can have kids pose with the items your trying to sell, and have the spot run in the paper before the event. This will actually have people become interested in what you have.

Step number 5: Milk it. As a yearbook staffer, I'm always looking for a good "photo opp." Got something to make hearts bleed and the tears come? Send it in, with full details. For instance, instead of saying, "TSA students work for money to go to the national conference." You might say "Thirty members of the Technology Student Association work to help their parents pay their way to their organization's national leadership conference in Colorado." Which one would you rather read?

Step number 6: Never stop trying. The media spotlight may not shine on you every time, but eventually you'll get your day (or article) in the sun.

I hope my steps will help you and your chapter get the attention your hard work deserves!

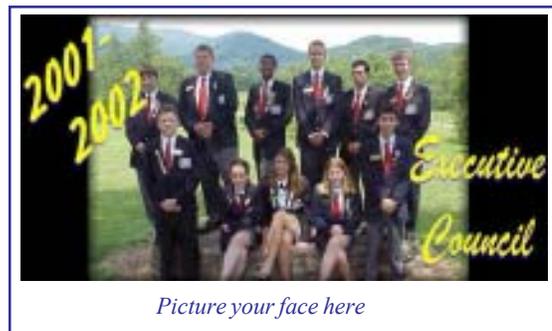
To be a State or Regional TSA Officer?

by Steven Gill, Virginia TSA Sgt.-at-Arms

Leadership is influencing people—by providing purpose, direction, and motivation. This is shown by your Regional and State Officers, a group of individuals who have dedicated their time and effort to serving you, the member. They are the ones you choose to represent and lead you in your experiences with TSA.

Leadership, dedication, teamwork, and, not to mention, the ability to adapt to his/her environment are examples of skills that will make an outstanding officer. Officers are not born with these skills; they work hard to perfect them.

Each officer on the Regional and State Councils has his or her own duties which is listed in the officer handbook available from your advisor. In order to find out which officer position is best for you, carefully review each office and its duties. If you are interested in becoming a regional or state officer, please contact your advisor for more information. You and your advisor will



need to complete an officer candidate form which can be downloaded at www.vatsa.org. All completed applications must be postmarked to the State Coordinator's office by February 1, 2002.

Only you can take the first step in becoming the leaders of tomorrow. I leave you with this: "What better place than here, what better time than now, to take the step in the right direction."

Important Changes to the Virginia TSA Constitution

by Matt Walton, Virginia TSA Parliamentarian

This past Technosphere brought some changes to the state constitution that you as a member of Virginia TSA should know.

The first change to the constitution was an amendment proposed by Matt Walton, then Valley Region Parliamentarian. The new amendment would set up a line of succession to the presidency. The order of the line is as follows: Vice President, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Historian, and Reporter. A motion was made and passed. Note: the treasurer was excluded from the line of succession establishes the rank of offices.

The second amendment states that if you run for an office and lose the election, you cannot be appointed to hold that office or a higher office than which you were elected. An example of this would be if someone runs for Sergeant-At-Arms and loses, he or she cannot be appointed later to Vice President, or Treasurer. The 2000-2001 South Central Region Treasurer, Doug Webster, submitted this amendment.

As a member of Virginia TSA, you should have a basic knowledge of the constitution because as a member of TSA you need to know how we operate as an organization. You can find a copy of the constitution at the Virginia TSA web site at www.vatsa.org. Click under "ABOUT." If you have any questions about the constitution and/or about these amendments feel free to contact me via e-mail at Sweetshotmw@aol.com.

Membership

by Charlie Gilliam, South Central President

As the year begins and the Fall Rallies are completed, local chapters are starting to turn in dues, thinking about fundraisers for Regionals, States, and Nationals, and individual members are starting on their competitions.

Right about now, the officers of these local chapters are trying to attract more members. The Membership Committee understands the difficulty in increasing your membership. Officers; scout for people who would seem interested in an organization that promotes technology, members; talk about the blast you have at TSA events.

I have also challenged the Regional Presidents to help start three new chapters within each region. I think that under the great leadership of these Regional Presidents, my challenge can and will be met and exceeded. Good luck on starting a new year in TSA.

Directions

by Adam Martin, State Treasurer

This past October 5-7, JaPrince Carter, Matt Walton, and I had the pleasure of going to the National TSA Leadership Conference, Directions. It was a blast; one of the best experiences of my life. Any one who has the means to go, should.

I got to know many other leaders from around the country and become friends with them. They had many activities that were set up to hone our leadership skills and let us have a great time. It was not all play and no work though, we shared many ideas on public relations and ways to improve the national website. On the final night, we got to go out and enjoy the town which included a laser show, dinner at a famous diner, and a digital camera treasure hunt. Again, I say it had to be the best time of my life.

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Making the 2001 National Conference Video

by Anne Ward, Virginia TSA Historian

What did it take to make the 2001 National TSA Conference Video? It took over ten hours of footage, four hours for three people to view all of the footage, a lot of editing by our State Coordinator, Ms. Stansbury, and a voice-over session by the valley region officers.

That may seem to be quite a bit of work, but really it was a fun and enjoyable experience. The enterprising committee planned the National Conference Video footage. We had schedules made up of things we wanted to film. We should have known better. The filming team did not just want to film anything; they wanted to film everything! So, we gave up on the organization and began filming everything from people riding the escalators, to the inspirational team huddle before the chapter team test, to dragster design. The best part of filming, contrary to popular belief, was not dodging the gliders at flight challenge, but was watching how people reacted to being filmed. We had many of the I-am-going-to-hurt-you looks and a lot of Dude! I-am-on-camera smiles. Whichever way you look at it, filming was the best part of creating the National Conference Video.

The next step was watching all of the footage. It took three of us about four hours each to watch all the hilarious footage on separate

TVs. For example, one of our distinguished video crewmen filmed a room service tray that was sitting in the hall. After we viewed the footage and sketched out a story board. Ms. Stansbury did the final editing with Mr. Willcox, Jason Perry from St Clare Walker Middle School, and a team of teachers from Arlington Career and Technology Center.

When I saw the national video again it was nearly complete, except for voiceovers. The Valley Region officer team was asked to help, and thanks to them, the voice-over session went well.

Finally at the fall executive council meeting, I saw the final copy. I had heard it was about fifteen minutes and this concerned me a little, because so much happened at the conference it was hard to believe it could all be condensed into fifteen short minutes. I had nothing to worry about, for the final copy looked and sounded great. It amazed me that only about a month or two before, we just had about 10 hours of pointless footage, and now we had a completed video. I definitely had a great time and learned a little about video cameras.

Thanks to everyone that helped, especially Covington TSA and the Valley Region officer team

Covington TSA Donates Time for Christmas

by Tyler Martin, Covington HS TSA President

The Technology Student Association of Covington High School participated in "Samaritan's Purse, Christmas Boxes" organized by FranklinGraham. The students put together seven shoeboxes to be sent to the war ravaged countries for children that will not get any other gifts for Christmas. The ages of the kids that are receiving the boxes will range from 2-14.

Ms. Clara Coffman Worley delivered the boxes to Covington Baptist Church and then they were shipped to Richmond where they joined over 500,000 boxes that will be delivered around the world. This is the third year the Covington TSA has participated in the program.



Members of Covington High School TSA proudly display their presents.

Photo L to R; Justin Trainer, Justin Lugar, Amanda Arritt, Heather Bowles, Shane Morgan, Tyler Martin, John Willis, and Neil Gilbert



The Virginia Association of the
Technology Student Association
proudly sponsors...

Technosphere '02



What: Virginia TSA State Leadership Conference

Where: Holiday Inn–Select, Koger Center, Richmond, VA

When: Friday, April 19, 2002—Sunday, April 21, 2002

Who: Technology students and educators

Why: Learn more about technology education and leadership in Virginia TSA

Technosphere is Virginia TSA's state leadership conference. This three day event features leadership activities, competitive events, and student planned activities. Our co-curricular organization fosters learning through the use and study of technology. The mission of the Technology Student Association is to prepare our membership for the challenge of a dynamic world by promoting technological literacy, leadership, and problem solving, resulting in personal growth and opportunity.

Come see what TSA has to offer you!

**The Technosphere registration packet will be available online on
December 21 at www.vatsa.org.**



Highlights

- Competitive events
- State officer elections
- Annual Virginia TSA business meeting
- Leadership activities
- Student mixer



For more information look us up on the web at www.vatsa.org

Send questions or comments to:

Kathy Stansbury, Virginia TSA State Coordinator, P.O. Box 9045, VSU, Petersburg, VA 23806
Phone: 804-524-6809, Fax: 804-524-6807, or Email: tsa@vatsa.org

Southwestern Regional Events

by *Eddie Neece, Southwestern Region President*

On September 22, 2001 the TSA Southwestern Region Council met for new officer training at Ruby B's restaurant in St. Paul, Virginia. Due to the resignation of officers and position vacancies, officers present chose to appoint officers to fill positions until the election of new officers at the Regional Fair in March, 2002.

Officers appointed include Daniel Ratliff from Lebanon High School as Vice President, Becky Patrick from Russell County Career and Technical Center as Treasurer, Laura Meade also from Lebanon High School as Reporter, and Sally Puentes from Ervinton High School serving as Parliamentarian. The office of Historian is still vacant.

We are pleased to have an active council. With the leadership of our advisor, Mr. Baldwin and myself, the students lead a



Southwest Region Officers

L to R top; Eddie Neece, President, Daniel Ratliff, Vice President, Sondra Wray, Secretary, Becky Patrick, Treasurer Bottom row: Savannah Neece, Sgt. At Arms, Laura A. Meade, Reporter, Sally Puentes, Parliamentarian

successful Fall Leadership Rally. One of the council's goals this year is to increase membership. I have started by contacting the area schools personally to provide information to new advisors. The

Southwestern region is in great hands with this council! Come see us at the Russell County Career and Technology Center on March 2 for the Southwestern Regional Spring Fair.



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