

THE VIRGINIA SCENE

The Virginia TSA Newsletter

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Fundraising Tips

As a TSA member, you may ask, “is Relay for Life important?” The answer is absolutely yes! Relay for Life is our community service project. In the past years, we’ve raised thousands of dollars to donate to the American Cancer Society. This year, we want to raise that bar and donate more to this wonderful organization!

But how will you do this? Well, there are many ways to fundraise. The American Cancer Society has many resources out that list fundraising ideas that can help your chapter out, and many TSA members have had success in their fundraising efforts. For my chapter, we have the most success selling doughnuts at our school in the mornings or hosting a video game tournament at our regional fair.

If you need any help getting a fundraiser started or have any questions about fundraising, feel free to email me at erin.sullivan.14@gmail.com !

Sincerely,

Erin Sullivan
Virginia TSA President

Want to submit an article? Send it to Reporter Karyn Cumming at broadwaybaby1621@gmail.com to be featured in the next issue!



2015 Leadership Academy: Shipwrecked

In This Issue

- Fundraising Tips and Tricks
- American Cancer Society
- Preparing for Regionals

The Importance of Fundraising

Fundraising is a really important aspect of TSA. Many are clouded by the idea of competing, leadership, and simply connecting as comprising TSA. However, one of the biggest service projects that TSA focuses on is the American Cancer Society. Donating to the American Cancer Society can truly impact lives of all who are battling cancer, as well as their family, friends, and loved ones. Being someone who has been close to someone battling cancer, I have seen the work that the American Cancer Society has done in order to aid those in need. I can assure that you that every donation helps, no matter how big or small it may be. Your donation could be money, or simply just time. You could go to a Relay For Life event and create a team with your friends. You can have a jar in your home where you place loose change, and donate it at the end of the year. There is so much you as individuals can do, even if it is spreading the word so that others are inspired. Only YOU can make a difference, so donate today.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anonymous



Regionals Ready

We're all aware that Spring Fairs are quickly approaching in every region. However, if you're anything like me, you aren't even close to being ready! We all have school, work, other clubs, all the activities expected of students to have a bright future. But TSA is high on all of our lists, so make sure to carve out time to make the best projects ever! If you have an individual challenge, schedule some time once or twice a week, make yourself some calming tea, turn on your favorite tunes, and just work. For group challenges, make a party out of it! Gather at one member's house, bake some cookies, have a sleepover, anything to make it more fun than stressful! If you have fun with the process, then the outcome will reflect that and be spectacular. Good luck and see you all in March!

Respectfully Submitted,
Karyn Cumming
Virginia TSA Reporter



The A to Z's of Fundraising

Fundraising can be hard. Often, chapters struggle with coming up with fundraising ideas, but there is so much you can do in order to help. Here is whole alphabet of things that you can do in order to help!

- Auction a gift basket or other small items that could easily sell. Get your chapter to gather knick knacks, clothes, or really anything!
- Bake sales are a really fun way to raise money. Your chapter can all bake goods together and sell them either at your school or at a sporting event. Make sure to get permission first!
- Cans and bottles can be collected from around the community and turned in for money. It is a quick way to some money to a good cause.
- Donuts are yummy and a delicious treat. Your chapter can sell donuts in the morning along with coffee and make some money. Often, bakeries will have fundraising prices that are less than the original prices specifically for fundraisers. Check your local bakery for more information
- Events are always happening in the community, and sometimes parking is needed. You can sell parking spaces for community events near your house. This is really good for chapters around colleges or universities.
- Face Painting at a local fair or children's event is a cute and fun way to fundraise money!
- Games are always fun, and sometimes can be competitive. Have a game night, where there is an entrance fee to come in and play games. You can even have prizes!
- Hats are a fun way to be creative and express your personality, but what about making a fundraiser out of it? Pay to have someone wear a hat for a certain amount of time, and others can pay to have the hat be placed on someone else. The higher the donation, the longer the time, unless someone wants to out donate them
- Ice cream socials are a great way to get together friends. Charge either an entrance fee or sell ice cream as you socialize or even work on competitions!
- Jail can be a great fundraiser, but not the actual one! Set up a fake jail either at your spring fair or another event. For a donation, someone can be arrested. For another donations, maybe a bit higher, someone can pay bail in order to get out of jail!
- Kites are something that is universally known. Hold a kite flying contest with an entry fee, and have prizes for best looking, highest flying, or most creative.
- Letters are a simple and easy way to ask for donations. Write a letter to your friends, family, local businesses, or anyone else who you think can truly make a difference.
- Movie nights are a great way to raise money. Hold a movie night either in your school's auditorium or somewhere else and charge an entry fee. You can even sell concessions to raise some more money!
- Nascar is pretty popular and can also be a method of fundraising. There is a race track in Richmond, Virginia. Get your friends and family to place bets on which car they think will win. The winner can get a small prize!
- Open Houses are a way to not only get donations for the American Cancer Society, but showcase all the amazing accomplishments of your chapter! You can have competitions showcased, food for sale, or even videos about TSA playing. The possibilities are endless.

The A to Z's of Fundraising (Cont.)

- Pizza is a delicious food and can be sold during a community event! Make sure to get permission first!
- Quizbowl is a competitive game where questions about pretty much anything can be asked. Hold a tournament and charge an entry fee!
- Relay for Life is an event hosted by the American Cancer Society and can be a great way to raise money. Get your chapter together and make a team and run it!
- Sell handmade goods such as bracelets, pins, or anything else you would like in order to raise money
- Talent shows are a great way to showcase community talent, but also raise money. Discover the talent in your school by having your own talent show! Charge an entry fee and offer a prize
- Under the stars, we look up and see a universe beyond our imagination. Set up a day to go stargazing, and sell concessions, hot chocolate, or blankets.
- Video games are competitive and a great way to raise money. Hold a video game tournament and charge people an entry fee. Make sure to pick games that everyone can play!
- Weightlifting competitions can be intense and entertaining to watch. Get two strong people to go on a bench press, and have others decide who will win. The people who donated to the winner can get a prize, like candy!
- Yarn and knit goods are cozy and warm for the colder months. Create hats or gloves and sell them during the colder months
- Zodiac signs are really popular and a lot of people like to look at their horoscopes. Make goods with zodiac signs on them, such as jewelry, keychains, or buttons, and sell them!

I hope these ideas help you and your chapter out! Remember that even the smallest donation, whether it be time or money really makes a difference. Do your part today and raise money for a great cause!

Respectfully Submitted,

Neha Hudait

Blue Ridge Regional President



Team Event Tips

With the holiday season well behind us, it's time to prepare for competitions. The Technology Student Association is structured around bringing technology educated students together in fun competitive events, and with Spring Fairs nearly in sight, members need to know how to conduct effective and efficient meetings. For starters, setting up meeting dates is not always an easy task because not everyone has the same schedule. It's a good strategy for team members to get the tentative weekly plans of each person so that time conflicts can easily be avoided and, once a date is set, that day of the week is typically the best choice for future meetings. Secondly, once you're at the meeting, everyone needs to have an assignment because there is always something that can be done; even if it's something as simple as creating a table of contents format that will save your team time later on when there is limited time left. Lastly, you should reserve the last few minutes of the meeting to relax so you all don't over exhaust yourselves, but never relax so much that you're procrastinating. After all, every team's ultimate goals should be to both complete the project and complete it so efficiently that your team doesn't have to endure all-nighters or 10 to 10 meetings. Good luck with every one of your all's events!

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Stein

Southwestern Regional President



Learning to live in a technical world!

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