



NHTSA Official Newsletter

State Office

Hi NHTSA!

First of all, I am excited to be heading into our TSA 'season', and I hope you guys are too! But getting down to the business end of things, I am going to be talking a little bit about how to run for state office, and why you should consider doing it. In a nutshell, it is a worthwhile and pretty fun experience for committed and hardworking TSA members to take a step forward in helping to run and promote NHTSA. So, hopefully by reading this, I might just inspire you to do that little extra paperwork and practice to potentially become a state officer of the 2016-2017 TSA year.

So first of all, why would anyone want to take on this extra "workload", what's the value in meeting once a month to plan TSA meetings when you can just go to them and have a good time? Well, on an extracurricular point of view, state officer is just the sort of thing that might set you apart from the next application when/if you choose to apply to a job, or college, even. It shows that you have leadership talent, you have organizational skills, and you have the ability handle the extra work (although, there really is not a lot of that). I can tell you

Reminiscing National Conference 2015

Hello New Hampshire TSA!

I hope you all are having a wonderful TSA season! For those of you who are new to this organization, I know that many excitements and opportunities will come to you soon! In addition to the fast approaching Spring Conference, one of those extraordinary opportunities that TSA offers is the National Conference. After the Spring Conference in March, qualified members will have the opportunity to attend this National Conference in June. As aforesaid in the previous newsletter, we were very excited for the Dallas National Conference June 2015. However, this conference exceeded our expectations and we had a didactic and joyful experience this past National Conference!

As we got off the plane, we were submerged into an opposing culture from our home state. A large state and arid climate, Dallas, Texas seemed to us as an alien planet. Yet, the Texas TSA team and the lavish Gaylord Hotel still welcomed us quickly. And that was only the beginning of the fun trip! There was

from experience that being a state officer has benefited me even now as I am in the process of writing college applications.

But honestly, there is more to it than just personal benefit. A lot more. It is the state officers who plan (with the help of many, fantastic people...like Mr. Connary!) state conferences. For instance, the skit at spring conference every year is written by the state officers (For those of you who were at the previous two conferences, I helped write both the *Back to the Future* and the *Harry Potter* skits). Then, it is the state officers who go on stage and represent the student 'face' of TSA. That might sound daunting, and trust me, there can be a little bit of pressure being on the stage. Especially when you are dressed up in a makeshift wizard robe. But, there are five or six other state officers who are equally dedicated and are ready to back you up, so that definitely takes some of the pressure off. So, if there are reasons beyond personal benefit, which there are many, a few of them are the kind of work you are doing will often be fun, lighthearted, and to represent TSA. And you will get to know a group of other state officers who are ready and willing to work just as much as you are to benefit TSA, and make a great year.

Now, this is just the very basics behind why you should sign up for being a state officer, but, before I sign off, I want to let you know how to apply to become an officer. It is actually pretty simple, and most of the information can be found on our site. The candidate forms are at <http://www.nh-tsa.us/home>, under conferences; spring conference (It might move, we are going to edit the website a bit soon). Make sure you get started soon, though, because the deadline will creep up

a meet and greet in which we talked and made friends with other TSA members from other states (and countries!). Moreover, the extravagant hotel assisted in yielding awesome photos, restaurants, and rooms! And not to mention the nearby water park! There is nothing like taking a relaxing swim after a hard day's work!

However, the fun was not without diligent work. Many of us spent the first few days polishing our drop offs while participating in on-site events. In addition, certain individuals that qualified for semifinals had to practice for interviews and presentations. At any time, you could have seen our NH members debating, presenting, building bridges, or having fun at the pool! At the end of the adventure, NHTSA did very well on its competitions. Many of our members qualified for semifinals, and many of them won a trophy or placed in the top 10! As we took the plane ride home, we left with memories, knowledge, and new friends. For those of you who qualify in Spring Conference, the National Conference is an opportunity not to be missed!

Sincerely,
Justin Yeung
Secretary

on you. While the conference itself is not until later in March, the forms are due mid February. This gives the current state officers a chance to meet any applicants, and show them sort of what we do. You can contact me directly at seanrussell1400@gmail.com for more information or for me to answer questions, both of which I am happy to provide. One last piece of advice: Don't be afraid of running for state office, go for it. I can tell you I was a little hesitant to run my first year, but I am so glad I did.

One last thing not related to running for state office. If your chapter is doing any sort of community service, we have an award going around every year (it is awarded at spring conference) that you can apply for as a chapter. You can find it around the same place as the candidate forms, and once again feel free to contact me directly. Just keep this in mind if your chapter wants some recognition at state conference, or if you do community service and just want some credit for it.

Thanks guys, and I hope you run for state office!

Sean Russell
President

New Spring Conference Venue

Hello NH TSA,

This is your Vice President speaking. I will be talking to you guys about the new Spring Conference venue. We have unfortunately, but also fortunately outgrown The Beacon. We have a new state conference vineyard called The Attitash Resort. This is also where the CTSO group FCCLA has their state conference, and I believe that this will be a new start to a great tradition. The Attitash Resort is located towards the Center of NH, if not more favored to the Northern part of NH.

For southern NH such as Bedford and Nashua, it will be at an estimated two and a half hour drive. The Attitash Grand Summit Hotel is the area's only slopeside hotel located at the base of Bear Peak. There are plenty of features that are included in the vineyard, but there are so many that best represent the resort so I will post a link <http://www.attitash.com/resort-overview/> I cannot be more excited about the NEW Vineyard. It is a huge upgrade size wise, and it's a ski resort. I can not wait to see you all at The Attitash Resort in March.

Charlie Woo
Vice President

The Rules: Some Overlooked Information

Hello NHTSA!

This is Flan Sheahan. For our December Newsletter, I will be discussing some overlooked aspects of attire and competition regulations. Though I'm not a martinet, there are some constituents of the rules that have been disregarded to some degree, though you guys are generally great about this and pretty much everything else. For those of you who attended the National Conference over the summer, you may remember a misunderstanding that occurred when Level Two members were asked to use portfolios instead of binders for their competitions.

Most members had no idea of the change that had taken place in the rules, so there were some significant point deductions from their scores. This year, both Level One and Level Two members are using portfolios, so make ABSOLUTELY SURE not to use a binder. The next topic I would like to cover is appropriate attire for Spring Conference. Last year, there were some members who were not adequately dressed for Spring Conference. (Don't worry, you're not in trouble. Again, these are just a few subjects that should be discussed.) Though it is quite obvious that we are not as strict as the national organization in terms of attire, we do ask that you keep the dress code in mind, which, for Spring Conference (not National Conference), is as follows:

- a. Official TSA dress:
Blazer: navy blue with TSA patch
Tie or scarf: scarlet red

New Events

Hi NHTSA,

This is Alex Schwartz. As some of you may know, there are some new events that have been added to the existing list. Here is a review of those additions with a brief description of each, as well as some changes that have been made in the rules concerning the older events.

New Events 2015-2016

Animatronics: Teams of students design, fabricate, and control an animatronic device. This device should be able to communicate, entertain, inform, and demonstrate a topic or concept. The device needs to be accompanied by sound, lights, and an environment that better the device's demonstration of the topic.

Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Production: Teams of two competitors per chapter must design, fabricate, and demonstrate their understanding of a CNC machine. They will use their understanding to produce a device based on problems that will be posted on the TSA website.

Music Production: Teams of one competitor per chapter create an original musical piece that will be played during the opening or closing general sessions of the conference.

Promotional Graphics: Teams of one competitor per chapter create, electronically, a graphic design that can be used to promote TSA.

Updated Events 2015-2016

Shirt or blouse: white, with collar
Slacks or skirt: light gray
Shoes: black
Socks: black or nylon hosiery

b. Business-like attire will minimally be considered to include:

Collared dress shirt/blouse, Tie for the guys

Long pants (preferably dress slacks)

Dresses/skirts

Socks/hose

Dress shoes (No sneakers or open toes)

Thank you for reading!

Best Wishes,
Flan Sheahan

Dragster Design: Penalty for naming vehicles have been updated. These penalties differ based on the name of the car and the mascot of the school it represents.

Flight Endurance: All required documents must now be presented in a portfolio not a three ring binder.

Structural Design: A team will now be awarded ten extra points if it accurately estimates the weight at which the structure fails within five pounds.

Webmaster: Point totals have been edited for semifinalist interviews and final totals.

Sincerely,
Alex Schwartz

