

Seeking pin designs

The SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association is sponsoring an alumni pin design contest. The winning design will become the official alumni pin for the 2013 National Leadership and Skills Conference. The deadline for pin designs to be received by the national headquarters is Feb. 28. Designs must be received, not postmarked, by Feb. 28, and those submitting a design must be a registered alumni member.

Caitlin Horner's design (right) won the 2012 contest. The Arizona native's entry became the official Alumni and Friends Association pin at the 2012 National Leadership and Skills Conference.



Questions?

Contact: Heidi Walsh,
hwalsh@skillsusa.org, 703-737-0615.

For contest guidelines, visit:
www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumni.shtml.



New Alumni Coordinating Committee members for Regions 2 and 4 and the chair attended their first Alumni Coordinating Committee meeting in Leesburg, Va., in November. Pictured above (front row, l to r) are: Emily Hughes, Region 1, Maine; Anne Dew, Region 3, Ohio; Coleen Read, Region 5, Nev.; and Cody McPherson, Region 4, Okla. Second row (l to r) are: Joey Baker, Region 2, Fla.; Peyton Holland, state association liaison, N.C.; and Brian Doxford, chair, N.Y. At the November meeting the Alumni and Friends Association constitution was amended to include the addition of the immediate past chair of the SkillsUSA Youth Development Foundation to serve as a business and industry representative on the Alumni Coordinating Committee. Greg Rintala of Snap-on is the first to serve in this capacity. See the revised constitution at: www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumni.shtml

Scholarship applications due May 1

The SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association is offering two annual merit-based \$500 scholarships to qualifying students. Each \$500 scholarship will recognize the unique qualities of SkillsUSA students including leadership, commitment to community service, and advocating for career and technical education.

Application deadline is May 1.

The scholarship winners will be announced during the annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City in June.

The competition is open to all current SkillsUSA members who will be attending a college/postsecondary school in 2013-2014.

Applicants will be judged on the following criteria:

- Essay 1. Leadership within SkillsUSA at the local, state or national level
- Essay 2. Commitment to service to his or her community
- Essay 3. Advocating for career and technical education
- Résumé. One page
- The nominee's progress through the Professional Development Program (PDP) or Career Skills Education Program (CSEP), with verification
- Two letters of recommendation

A committee will review the nominations and select the winners. For more details visit: www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumnischolar.shtml

If you have questions, please contact Heidi Walsh at 703-737-0615 or hwalsh@skillsusa.org

What's happening?

Interstate Batteries has partnered with SkillsUSA to provide an official fundraising program.

The average household uses about 21 different battery-operated devices. Participating SkillsUSA student chapters will be selling a wide variety of Interstate Batteries products from AAA, AA, C, D and 9V batteries to flashlights and organizers with testers. For each Interstate Batteries product a SkillsUSA student sells, 50 percent of the sale goes back to the organization. For more information, go to: www.interstatebatteries.com/fundraising/SkillsUSA

WorkBoots.com, a customer service-focused Internet retailer based in Chesterfield, Mo., has launched an initiative to support SkillsUSA. Its customers now have the opportunity to make donations during the checkout process in a variety of dollar amounts with all proceeds going directly to SkillsUSA.

Heidi Walsh, program director, programs and grant management, is now the national staff liaison for the SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association. Call her at 703-737-0615. Email: hwalsh@skillsusa.org

We like to hear from you. Your success stories inspire current SkillsUSA members. For more information, phone Heidi Walsh at 703-737-0615 or email hwalsh@skillsusa.org

Use your camera-enabled smartphone and any Quick Response (QR) reader app to reveal the contents of the code to the right.



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SkillsUSA Alumni
and Friends Association
Group



Stanley Black & Decker sponsorship adds new dimension to 5K run

Sponsorship from Stanley Black & Decker provided a great new challenge to this year's alumni 5K run.

More than 200 runners, walkers and joggers were required to complete three different tool challenges (left) along the 3.1 mile course at English Landing Park in Parkville, Mo.

The fastest male winner was Adam Bollinger from Illinois with a time of 19:44, and the fastest female winner was Mallory Mews from Wisconsin with a time of 22:24. Both went home with a \$500 tool pack, and every competitor received a participation medal.

2012 Alumni scholarship winners

SkillsUSA Alumni Merit Scholarships have been awarded to Krista Forst, a cosmetology graduate from Miami Valley Career and Technical Center in Clayton, Ohio, who plans to attend Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and Sarah Paradis, a health occupations graduate of St. Johns Valley Technology Center in Frenchville, Maine, who plans to attend University of Maine at Fort Kent.

The Sharon Melton Meyers scholarship has been awarded to Andrew Jones, Area 31 Career Center at Ben Davis High School, Indianapolis, and Jessica Pilkey, McMinn Career Technical Center, Athens, Tenn.

Recognize volunteers

Know a former student member who's making a difference as a SkillsUSA volunteer? The Alumni Coordinating Committee would like to recognize one alumnus per state throughout the year via social networking. We need your help in knowing which alumni to recognize. In 140 characters or less, email hwalsh@skillsusa.org the name of an alumnus and the reason why he or she is being recognized.



Volunteers work the alumni booth at the 2012 national conference.

