

TO: SkillsUSA New York
FROM: M. Kathie Collins
RE: SkillsUSA –VICA Update Memo #5, 2009-2010
DATE: January 6, 2010

Best wishes to all New York State SkillsUSA members and supporters for a successful and prosperous New Year.

LOWE'S Grant

I am pleased to announce that New York State has been awarded a Lowe's Teamworks Grant, through the Lowe's Foundation. Skills Coordinator, Ellen Coughlin, Construction Cluster Chairman, Vern Perry and I worked on writing the Lowe's Grant in November. The grant will partially support this important but very costly contest for 2010. NYS will be able to accept up to 12 teams. We hope you are considering this contest for students in your construction trades. The state winners will receive additional sponsorship for Lowe's to attend the national conference.

CMI GRANT

National SkillsUSA has provided a State Farm Grant for a CMI Seminar scheduled for March 1, 2010 in Albany, NY. The fee for this seminar is \$30. Each area will have 4 seminar scholarships to distribute. Please contact your area trustees for information on obtaining a scholarship. In addition, all advisors can participate by paying the \$30 fee. See www.nysskillsusa.org for details and deadlines. Deadline for application is Feb 1, 2010 for area support, February 12, 2010 for self pay.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The following Board Policies were adopted to encourage membership growth within areas and to make sure that area chapters are supported.

Board Policies adopted December 10, 2007

- Membership Development Incentive of \$ 1000 towards area advisor training (i.e. meals, materials, meeting room rental) beginning in the 2008-9 school year for area with greatest percentage of growth in the previous year. To receive this \$1000 incentive award over 5% membership growth would be needed to qualify. All areas with a growth of greater than 5% will receive \$500 towards area advisor training.
- Each area must have a minimum of three (3) advisor meetings/advisor training sessions a school year (one prior to Fall Conference, one prior to the regional conference, one before the end of the school year.)
- Each area must host a Regional Skills and Leadership Conference and House of Delegates to elect the regional Vice President.

NATIONAL NEWS

The New York State Delegation will once again be housed at the Hilton Gardens Inn, Independence (for 2010 and 2011). The Hilton Gardens will be undergoing extensive renovations and New York will be VERY LIMITED in the number of single rooms (21.) Schools will need to make arrangements for both advisors and students to share rooms.

Only advisors and students can be housed at the Hilton Gardens. Only paid SkillsUSA members will be accommodated at the hotel through the New York block.

PIN DESIGN CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Hurd and her selection committee for the New York Pin Design wish to thank the over 135 entries to this year's PIN CONTEST. Again this year, over 50% of the designs broke at least one of the rules.

The four most common rules that were not followed were:

1. Must be a paid/registered member of SkillsUSA at the time of submissions.
2. Must be Original Art work
3. Must have the design reduced to a 1" sample
4. Must have the name of the artist on the reverse side of the artwork.

Mrs. Hurd wants all participants, their instructors and their chapter advisors to understand the selection process. In the initial selection process, only **Original** Art work was considered, then any designs that were not reduced to 1" were eliminated and finally the entry had to have the artists name on the back of the design. The remaining designs and their paragraphs were then evaluated and the top five designs chosen,. The top five selections were then submitted to Midge McCloskey for verification of NYS SkillsUSA membership.

You can refer to rules as posted in Coordinator's memo #2: