



WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

"Celebrating 100 years of serving students in theatre, debate and speech activities."

Vol. 17

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No. 1

"CELEBRATING 100 YEARS"

by Dorothy Berg, Pittsville High School

Welcome to the centennial year of Wisconsin High School Forensic Association. I'm proud and excited to be a member of this superb organization and suggest some ideas to help celebrate "100 years of serving students in Theatre, Debate and Speech activities."

- The WHSFA logo has been enhanced to show the "Celebration." You could include the logo and the theme "Celebrating 100 years of serving students in Theatre, Debate and Speech activities" on banners in your classroom, school, outside or on announcement boards.
- Daily, weekly or monthly special announcement on the P.A. can be read by team members from your school. Include facts from WHSFA history and/or your school's participation history.
- Submit articles about the history, goals and objectives of WHSFA and your

school's involvement to the local newspaper throughout the school year.

- Have your participants perform for your area P.T.A., senior citizen's groups, churches and other community activities.
- Contact your local radio and/or television station with information about your school's participation in WHSFA events.
- There is a commemorative speech included in the Special Occasion category in celebration of this event. Use this topic in classes, for other contests, as a written assignment and/or speech.
- Depending on your school's budget, you might use other promotion ideas such as special certificates, pencils, ribbons, cups or T-shirts for your team.

As a member of the WHSFA Speech Advisory Committee, I do encourage getting you and your students involved in this "once in our lifetime" celebration!!

WHSFA BOARD OF CONTROL TO MEET

The WHSFA Board of Control will meet in Madison on October 24-25, 1995 at the Sheraton Inn. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24th and continues its business, if necessary, on Wednesday, October 25th at 9:00 a.m. If you wish to have a concern placed on the agenda, you should contact either your District Chair or the State Office at (608) 882-6004

THANK YOU

WHSFA wishes to extend a "Thank You" to retiring Board of Control members Bill Ott (District 9), Drucilla Munson (District 12) and Kay Bajczyk (District 13).

Your involvement in WHSFA activities has been much appreciated!!

NEW WHSFA BOARD MEMBERS

We welcome two new members to the WHSFA Board of Control. Orin Mueller, a teacher from Goodrich High School, Fond du Lac, is the newly appointed District 9 Chair. The newly appointed District 12/13 Chair is John Washbush, a teacher from Hamilton High School in Sussex.

Elections are currently taking place for the Chair of Districts 2, 4 and 7. Welcome to you both!! Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

WHSFA MIDDLE LEVEL FESTIVAL SITES

Level I and Level II festivals will be held January - March 1996. More sites are needed!! Please consider hosting a Festival. The Association reimburses you for expenses incurred while hosting a Festival. Please call the State Office (608) 882-6004 if you are willing to serve as host!

1995-96 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Check with your business office or call the State Office to ensure that your 1995-96 registration card has been completed and returned to the State Office.

It is important that we have the correct name(s) of the personnel coaching Theatre, Debate, Speech and Middle Level programs. Without these names, we cannot guarantee that important materials will reach the correct person.

New mailing lists are now being generated. If you have not already returned your completed registration card, please do so as soon as possible.

1995 DISTRICT DEBATE

Schools indicating on their WHSFA membership registration card that they will be participating in Debate this year have received an "Intent to Participate" form in September. This is your commitment to attend a District Debate tournament. This form needs to be returned to the State Office by October 14th. Assignments to District sites will be based on the returns. Schools will be notified accordingly.

A "Judging Philosophy" form will be included with the mailing. This should be completed by yourself and/or any individual you are likely to use for WHSFA Debate judging.

WHSFA PUBLICATIONS

Addendums to the 1993-95 Speech Handbook and Fall '94 Theatre Handbook have been sent to all WHSFA member schools. Also included in this mailing was a new Debate Handbook. These books were sent to the attention of the Principal of each school.

A new Middle Level Handbook and Guide to Effective Evaluation were mailed to all schools registered for membership in the WHSFA Middle Level Division.

Important new information is available in all publications - please read carefully!

Executive Director.....J. Peter Shaw

NEWSLETTER
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WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE FESTIVAL



NATIONAL FEDERATION MEETING

Philadelphia was the site of the National Federation of State High School Associations meeting on August 4-6, 1995. WHSFA Executive Director J. Peter Shaw was the Wisconsin representative. The following five problem areas were chosen for your consideration in regard to the 1996-97 debate season:

- RIGHT TO PRIVACY
- INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY
- FREEDOM OF SPEECH
- DISCRIMINATION
- JUVENILE CRIME

A ballot for specific resolutions was mailed to schools registered in Debate for study and consideration. These ballots are due to the State Office by October 14th. The two areas receiving the lowest totals will be placed on a second ballot to be mailed at a later date.

CALENDAR CORRECTIONS

The wall sized "Interscholastic Activities Calendar" that each member school received last spring has some errors regarding WHSFA dates for the 1995-96 school year. Please make the following corrections.

March 16, 1996 - Delete Forensic Subdistrict Speech - Latest Date

March 23, 1996 - Add Forensic District Speech - Latest date (Delete from the 30th)

1995-96 WHSFA Dates (Lower left side) State Theatre Festival is at UW - Stevens Point

Middle Level II - Latest date is March 9th District Speech (Latest date) - March 23rd

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 21 Latest date for WHSFA District Theatre
- October 24-25 WHSFA Board of Control Meeting (Madison)
- November 3-4 WHSFA Sectional Theatre
- November 17-18 WHSFA State Theatre (UW-Stevens Point)

MIDDLE LEVEL WORKSHOP by Monica Heitman

A Middle School Forensics Workshop, for coaches and all judges, will be held at St. Mary's in Durand on November 11, 1995. The morning will be filled with discussion of the following topics: Middle Level Philosophy, Coaching Techniques, Material Selection, Categories, and Rule changes. A demonstration of Middle Level performance will take place to practice making an evaluation. Guest speaker will be Mr. Ken Thames, a member of the Middle Level Advisory Committee. Moderators for the event will be Arkansaw Middle School Coaches Rhonna Casey and J. Henry Gingras and St. Mary's Coaches, Marie King and Monica Heitman. If you would like more information about the workshop call Mrs. Heitman at (715) 283-4905 or Mrs. King at (715) 672-5389

WHSFA SPEECH ADJUDICATION

Speech Adjudication Workshops will be held around the State during the 1995-96 school year. A reminder that by the 1996-97 school year, all judges at District level must be WHSFA certified! Presently, each school must also provide a WHSFA certified judge for State. If you or your judges are not certified - now is the time! If you are interested in attending any of the listed workshops and do not receive registration materials or you wish to host an Adjudicator Workshop - call the State Office at (608) 882-6004. Recertification for speech adjudicators is taking place now. The recertification notices have been sent. If your certification expires in 1995 and you did not receive notification, please contact the State Office. There is no fee for recertification.

| WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION SPEECH ADJUDICATION WORKSHOPS 1995-1996* | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|--|
| LOCATION | DATE/DAY | TIME | |
| Baldwin-Woodville H.S. | September 20, 1995 (Wed) | 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. | |
| Pardeeville High School | September 27, 1995 (Wed) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Green Bay Lombardi Jr. H.S. | October 12, 1995 (Thurs) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Arcadia High School | October 16, 1995 (Mon) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Augusta High School | October 18, 1995 (Wed) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Blanchardville Pecatonica H.S. | October 19, 1995 (Thurs) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Pittsville High School | October 23, 1995 (Mon) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Milwaukee | October 26, 1995 (Thurs) | 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | |
| | WEAC Meeting | | |
| Jackson Kettle Moraine Lutheran | November 7, 1995 (Tues) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Reedsburg High School | November 11, 1995 (Sat) | 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | |
| Milwaukee Marshall H.S. | November 13, 1995 & November 27, 1995 (2 part/Mon) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Tomahawk High School | January 6, 1996 (Sat) | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | |
| Milwaukee WI Lutheran H.S. | November 16, 1995 (Thurs) | 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | |
| Franklin High School | To be determined | To be determined | |
| Wauwatosa West High School | To be determined | To be determined | |

* as of September 25, 1995

WHSFA SPEAKS AT AATE by Tom Kaye

On Monday, August 7, 1996, a panel of five WHSFA members spoke at the American Alliance of Theatre Educators' national convention in Minneapolis at the invitation of AATE. The topic was Wisconsin's theatre festival. J. Peter Shaw, WHSFA executive director, started the panel with a brief overview of the WHSFA. Next Skip Grover, WHSFA advisor in theatre, gave an overview of the theatre festival process and parameters. Rick Braun, Waunakee, spoke from the director's point of view in preparing and entering the festival. Chuck Malone, Waukesha West then spoke on running the district level of the festival and on how the festival fits into his school's total theatre program. Tom Kaye, Milwaukee Marshall chaired the panel and spoke briefly about the sectional level of the festival. After all presentations, the panel fielded audience questions. The program was well received as evidence by the interest shown in the many audience questions.

WHSFA ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Speech, Theatre, Debate and Middle Level Advisory committees met during the summer months. Highlights of those meetings follow:

WHSFA Middle Level Advisory Committee May 25, 1995

- In attendance were WHSFA Advisor Margie Stone, Cheryl Campbell, Wally Hoffman, Bob Klotzsky, Kathy Kupfer, James LaBelle, Cathy Moore, Al Schancer, Ken Thames and J. Peter Shaw, WHSFA Executive Director. Guest attending was Teresa Shelton.
- After approval of the August 3, 1994 minutes, the committee welcomed newly appointed committee member Cathy Moore from Washington Junior High School in Kenosha.
- Shaw reported that the 1995 Participation Report reflects 3,494 students from 113 schools at 13 sites participated in Level I. At Level II, there were 2,329 students from 93 schools at 10 sites. Additional sites are needed at both levels to keep the size of the festivals more manageable.
- It was approved by consensus to drop the requirement of changing selections from Level I to Level II in Poetry and Prose.
- The committee chose The Giver by Lois Lowry for Extemporaneous Reading in 1995-96. "Domestic Terrorism" and "The Homeless" will be Extemporaneous Speaking topics. A new speaking situation has been added for 1995-96 in Special Occasion Speeches.
- A new WHSFA Middle Level Handbook and WHSFA Guide to Effective Criticism will be distributed this fall.

WHSFA Speech Advisory Committee June 14, 1995

- In attendance were WHSFA Advisor Michael Price, Dorothy Berg, Toni Johnson, Craig Lehnerr, Roxi Wakeen and J. Peter Shaw, WHSFA Executive Director. Also attending was guest David Loos, WFA Representative.
- Following the approval of the minutes from the June 9, 1994 meeting, the following issues were discussed and/or recommendations made:
- The State Office will survey member schools if they favor (1) a Subdistrict medal

rather than a District medal; (2) eliminating the District medal altogether; or (3) remain status quo.

- It was approved by consensus to allow a maximum combination of four (4) groups in Play Acting and/or Group Interpretive Reading. This was approved for a two-year trial period.
- The committee discussed the use of movie scripts in Group Interpretive Reading. It was decided that movie/television/radio scripts are dramatic literature and therefore prohibited in Group Interpretive Reading.
- It was approved by consensus to allow the use of a single chair in Solo Acting.
- A WHSFA Speech Addendum will be distributed this fall.

WHSFA Debate Advisory Committee July 20, 1995

- In attendance were WHSFA Advisor Kay Neal, Donna Mae Frenzel, Jim Sauer, Doris Sexton and J. Peter Shaw, WHSFA Executive Director.
- The committee approved the minutes of the July 13, 1993 meeting.
- A decision was made to expand on a policy in the Debate Handbook regarding running a tournament with less than seven (7) schools, other than due to bad weather situations.
- A specific statement will be added to the Debate Handbook that the Tournament Director should contact the State Office before the scheduled date of a District Tournament if there are fewer than seven (7) schools entered.
- The committee decided that there should be a minimum number of seven (7) schools entered in a division at the State Tournament.
- It was approved by consensus to require judges be at least 1 1/2 years out of high school.
- The committee decided to use the Michigan Plan one more year on an experimental basis.
- The committee clarified the deadline of applying for a State Tournament bid under the Michigan Plan from "...within 3 days ...to..." within 3 working days ...
- A new WHSFA Debate Handbook will be distributed this fall.

WHSFA Theatre Advisory Committee August 1, 1995

- In attendance were WHSFA Advisor Skip Grover, Debra Lulloff, Sue Luterbach, Chuck Malone, Ted Moskonas and J. Peter Shaw, WHSFA Executive Director.
- The committee approved the minutes of the June 22, 1994 meeting.
- A panel discussion is being held at the American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference in Minneapolis, MN. The State Office submitted a proposal to present the panel to the Wisconsin Association of School Board Convention to be held in Milwaukee on January 17-19, 1996.
- The committee suggested creating a list of "Tips for Evaluators" to provide to Festival hosts. The State Office will compile the list from ideas submitted by the advisory committee.
- District/Sectional Chairs and/or Festival hosts will be asked to provide a brief biography of each of the judges used at their Festival to registered schools.
- An "Evaluating the Evaluator" form will be developed to use at District festivals. The form, completed by Theatre Directors, will be returned to the Festival host who will then forward them to the State Office. The intent is develop a pool of outstanding, qualified evaluators for Theatre Festivals.
- An Addendum will not be distributed this year. The State Office will distribute an updated Board of Control listing, the approved 1995-1997 WHSFA Calendar and revised WHSFA Constitution.

STATE SPEECH FESTIVAL '96

- In October the State Office will send a time preference card for State Speech - 1996 to Speech coaches. The card must be returned to the State Office no later than October 31st. In November the cards will be divided into groups according to first preference. We will draw ninety (90) cards from each group. You will be notified which time you received. There are three things you should remember:
- 1.) Fill out in order of preference with (1) being your first choice; (2) second choice, etc., completing all five (5) choices.
- 2.) Mail ASAP to ensure it reaches us by October 31st.
- Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated. Reminder - You are not guaranteed your chosen time period - there are scheduling limitations.



Available for a limited time - official embroidered WHSFA polo shirt and/or cotton crew neck sweater - both available in white.

Pre-paid orders must be received at the state office by **October 30, 1995**.

WHSFA ORDER FORM

RETURN TO: WHSFA State Office • 14 W. Main St. Suite A • Evansville, WI 53536

Quantity

| | | |
|-------|---|-----------------|
| _____ | Adult Jersey Knit Polo Shirt 50/50 - white <i>Circle size</i> M L XL XXL (add \$2.00) | \$ <u>15.00</u> |
| _____ | Adult 100% Cotton Crew Neck Sweater white <i>Circle size</i> S M L XL XXL (add \$2.00) | \$ <u>28.00</u> |

SEND ORDER TO:

**Total amount
included with order \$** _____