

CTEA TRENDSETTER - CTEAWEB.ORG  
 THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT TECHNOLOGY  
 EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



*2009 is our 76th  
 year as an  
 association!*

**Fall 2009**

Published three times a year,  
 Winter, Spring and Fall

# Are you doing anything? Technology Education in Connecticut

Don Schaer, CTEA Newsletter Editor, an editorial

What a tragedy that our Listserve was shut down! We need your support in communicating to the SDE our concerns. You need the support and information that a state level consultant provides.

This newsletter is intended to share what is happening in Technology Education in Connecticut. In order to do that I need to hear from you! I am willing to include articles written by teachers, students or even reprints from your own school or regional newsletters. Please consider sending something.

[donschaer@optonline.net](mailto:donschaer@optonline.net)

Thanks for sharing your best.

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

### Presidents Message

Hi All,  
 Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment of "lets drive Jerry Crazy" sponsored by your friends and colleagues of the CTEA Executive

board. So much has happened in the last two months since my last article that sometimes I forget I am a full-time TE teacher. Let me see if I can list everything that has



Don Schaer,  
 Newsletter Editor



Jerry Stevens, President

transpired so I can keep you better informed.

- CTEA Web Site goes through major renovations.
- CTEA starts letter writ-

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### **Inside this issue:**

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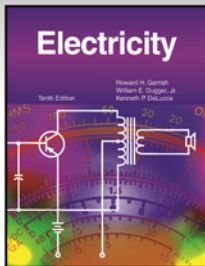
### **Special Points of interest:**

- Student Work
- Conference Presenters
- Supporting Advertisers
- Feature Articles
- School articles

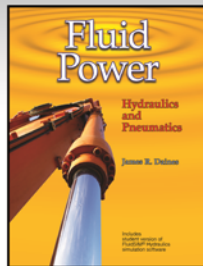
### **Do you know:**

- ✓ We now have content area discussion forums on our web page. Do you know the URL?
- ✓ How many students are enrolled in the TE teacher prep at CCSU?
- ✓ Answers are somewhere in the newsletter

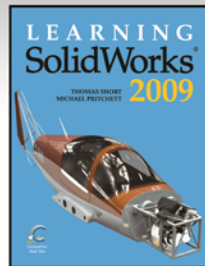
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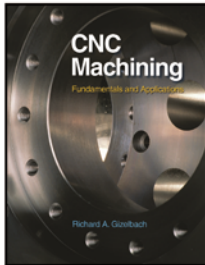
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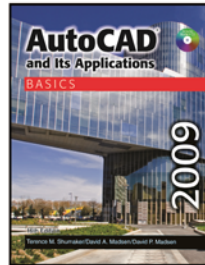
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# Connecticut Technology Education Macintosh User Group

Welcome to the Connecticut Technology Education Macintosh User Group

In the beginning there were a multitude of ideas for what a computer should do, how a computer should look, and how a computer should work. But as time went on it came down to two men who put us all on a road of how to do computing right. They had an idea, back in 1984, for a computer that would not stand in the way of work, but instead turn into a tool to actually help with work. Who were these wonderful 2 men? Well Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak of course, and of course the host of software engineers and product designers and manufacturers that brought us Macintosh...

Continued on page 5

## Commercial Exhibitors at the Conference

We have great appreciation for the commercial exhibitors that support us by purchasing a booth at the conference. Please patronize them as you are able. We have listed them here for your convenience.

Advanced Educational Technologies

[jburchard@aetlabs.com](mailto:jburchard@aetlabs.com)

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[reinwald@baraninstitute.com](mailto:reinwald@baraninstitute.com)

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Technical Education Solutions, LLC

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Technology Education Concepts, Inc

[Mark.leonard@TECedu.com](mailto:Mark.leonard@TECedu.com)

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Western/Carse Technology/Delmar

Learning

[daniel.gasparino@thompson.com](mailto:daniel.gasparino@thompson.com)

**We thank you, exhibitors,  
for supporting us.  
Without you this conference  
would not be successful!**

# Consultant's Corner

This space is intentionally left blank as we are emphasizing the lack of support and presence at the State Department of Education on behalf of Technology Education.

Please contact the Commissioner with your concerns.

The Editor

## CTEA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ANNOUNCEMENT



## ATTENTION CONNECTICUT TECHNOLOGY EDUCATORS

If you JOINED or RENEWED your CTEA MEMBERSHIP at The Spring Conference 2008  
you will not have to  
renew membership until **October 1, 2009.**      **That Just passed!**

In an effort to make your membership easier to maintain the Connecticut Technology Education Association has worked to align the registration process with your school budget timeline. CTEA dues will now be **due by October 1 of each year** and run from October 1 until October 1 of the following year. Our unified effort will strengthen the association and continue to promote the excellence found in Technology Education across the state.

Membership renewals can be found on the web at [www.CTEAWEB.ORG](http://www.CTEAWEB.ORG)

Membership renewals will also be available at the CTEA annual conference on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at CCSU.



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## ITEA/CTEA PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### Program Excellence Award

Sponsored by ITEA and NASSP, the Program Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to technology education classroom teachers on the elementary, middle or high school levels. It is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession. The Program Excellence Award provides public recognition at local through international levels. On the province or state level, recognition is granted at the affiliated association's annual meeting. The honoree is formally presented with an engraved

The URL to get to our new content specific forums is :  
<http://cteaweb.org/cgi/forums/index.php>

plaque and other and other recognition at ITEA's Annual Conference.

### Who is Eligible?

Candidates for the Program Excellence Award must be characterized as providing TIDE Education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technological literacy.

### Application Information:

Application information for the three levels of awards may be obtained from your affiliate association or by clicking one of the following:

Program Excellence Award Information -

<http://sites.google.com/site/cteatoypoy2010/>

<http://sites.google.com/site/cteatoypoy2010/applications>

## TECH ED MAC USERS GROUP continued from page 2



Now over 20 years later, look how far we have come. From "Lisa", the original inspiration for the original graphic user interface, to the unbelievable tools Apple makes today, it has been a wonderful ride. A little bumpy at times, but a wonderful ride.

Over time Macintosh users began to come together in groups, called Macintosh User Groups. At these meetings they would share ideas, and tips, and tricks, and ways of doing things. In the end the entire group became smarter and more educated. In the end everyone came out better.

It is said that that Steve Jobs encourages his people to start sentences with "Wouldn't it be great if..." Well as Technology Education teachers, wouldn't it be great if we could create a group, yes a Macintosh User Group, where we of like minds could come together and share

ideas about how we use our Macintosh tools with our students?

Well here it is... Welcome to the CT Technology Education Macintosh User Group... This special interest group already had the first meeting, and it was just a whole bunch of fun. We talked about computers and Tech. Ed. and all sorts of things. The goal for this year is 3 meetings. With the holidays approaching my thought is the next opportunity for a next meeting is January. And the hope is that we can move from school to school so we can see what other schools are doing in their programs. There were about 20 people that expressed interest in the CT TE MUG before the list serve went away.

How can I join this group? Please eMail me at [techteachermrp@gmail.com](mailto:techteachermrp@gmail.com). You can be an expert, or brand new at using the Macintosh. You don't even have to be a school user. Home users are very welcome. It is all about getting users together to share ideas. I got started 20 years ago with the Macintosh by attending YMUG (Yale Macintosh User Group). And I fell in love with the company and the platform. In your eMail tell me why you are interested? Who you are, what you teach, and your school. When would be a good time for a next meeting in January? What you would like to learn? Finally let me know if you would willing to host a meeting at your school?

Hope to hear from you soon...

Dave Pickhardt

Granby Public Schools

# Listserve Shutdown! CTEA Works on Replacement

Wow! What a kick in the gut! The decision to shut down the CT SDE listserve for Technology Education was, apparently, a fiscal one, but it has had a sweeping impact on our professional ability to communicate. The CTEA for one, has used the venue extensively, to get the word out about many events and issues relevant to our field.

Well CTEA is not standing around with our head in the sand. We are pursuing the establishment of a replacement listserve sponsored by CTEA for the Technology Education teachers of Connecticut.

Be on the lookout for this important launch soon and when it happens, please help us get the word out to all Technology Education teachers and administrators.

Don Schaer, newsletter editor

## ITEA/CTEA TEACHER EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### Teacher Excellence Award

The Teacher Excellence Award is one of the highest honors given to technology education classroom teachers and is presented in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the profession and their students. The Teacher Excellence Award provides public recognition at the local through international levels. On the province or state level, recognition is granted at the affiliated association's annual meeting. The honoree is formally presented with an engraved plaque and other recognition at ITEA's Annual Conference.

### Who is Eligible?

Candidates for the Teacher Excellence Award must be characterized as providing TIDE education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant

to a study of technological literacy. Mandatory requirements include:

- The teacher must be nominated by an educator.
- The teacher must be a current member and have held membership for the preceding year in both ITEA and its affiliated state/provincial association.
- The teacher must be certified to teach in Technology Education and must be a full-time TIDE teacher (at least four periods a day). The teacher's administrators must concur that he/she is a professional worthy of being considered an outstanding educator.

### Application Information:

Application information for the three levels of awards may be obtained from your affiliate association or by clicking one of the following:

Teacher Excellence Award Information -

<http://sites.google.com/site/cteatoyandpoy2010/>

<http://sites.google.com/site/cteatoyandpoy2010/applications>

## CTEA NEWSLETTER GONE ELECTRONIC!

Starting in the Winter of 2009 we have gone exclusively electronic with our newsletter delivery. Only PAID and LIFE MEMBERS will receive a mailed copy.

If you know someone that still needs it snail-mailed,  
please contact us at [phoffman01@optonline.net](mailto:phoffman01@optonline.net) .

## CTEA Spring Conference Needs Presenters

Hello,

With the CTEA Conference coming up May 13 we need you or a snapshot of your program highlights.

The theme this year is "Industrial Arts to Social Networks We do it All"

Now that includes many concepts. So why not display what you do?

Yes, I have heard the story that it is always the same old same old, so why not be included in making it different?

Why not plan to present at the conference? Send me a presentation form describing what you wish to do and I will schedule in one of the coveted 10 slots we have.

Session 1                      8 am to 9 am

Session 2                      10:45 am to 11:45 am

Here is your chance to be part of the conference. Just fill out the presenter form and e-mail it to me. Download the form at [http://www.cteaweb.org/Events\\_files/conferences\\_files/springconference.htm](http://www.cteaweb.org/Events_files/conferences_files/springconference.htm) or use the copy from page 8 of this newsletter. I will slot you in and shoot you a confirmation. It is quick, easy and you might like doing a presentation. I thank you in advance for your participation

James W Brochinsky, Conference Chair, [JBrochinsky@darienps.org](mailto:JBrochinsky@darienps.org)

**Online Registration and Payment:                      <http://www.cteaweb.org>**





All TSA registration is now on-line.  
 To re-affiliate, or join for the first time go to <http://www.registermychapter.com/tsa/nat/> and follow the affiliation directions.

Please affiliate for 09-10 as soon as possible to help the Connecticut TSA team plan for meetings and events.

Any questions, contact CT State TSA Advisor, Gregory Kane at [gkane@aol.com](mailto:gkane@aol.com).

## OUT OF THE VIEWFINDER

By Ralph Riello, CTEA Communications Director  
 Hello all and thanks for taking the time to check out the newsletter. This is the first of what I hope to be an ongoing series of contributions to this periodical. Primarily I will provide essays and

opinion with a liberal dose of humor designed to educate and inform. If on occasion, I incite, I apologize in advance as sometimes my feisty Bronx Italian side finds its way to my fingertips slightly ahead of my rational mind. Most of this space will contain opinions and information on matters of Technology Education. I make no claim to speak for anyone, but myself, so if you agree or disagree with anything that happens to leak my storage tanks, I encourage you to let me know.

### CTEA FORUMS NOW UP AND READY!!!

Ok, so the CSDE in its infinite wisdom has seen fit to shut down our listserv. Thanks a lot fellas. I mean, why should they care if we as a profession have no means to share or communicate ideas and opportunities to improve the experience for our students by providing for peer-to-peer discourse? Silly. Well, thanks to the CTEA web site ([www.cteaweb.org](http://www.cteaweb.org)), we don't need no stinking listserv! We now have our own Tech Ed forums, in a variety of flavors for your consumption. My favorite is the communications forum, but I'm jaded. Visit [www.cteaweb.org](http://www.cteaweb.org) and see which flavor you like best. It's free, it's helpful, it's innovative, and it's where you need to go to share your trade secrets and personal innovations. While you are there, check out the new and improved web site that Everett Condit and Justin Waine has fashioned for the benefit of technology education teachers at the cost of several layers of skin from his fingertips. (and probably several thousand brain cells that he does not want to admit to)


Of course along with the good, comes the bad. It seems that there was a bit of a lull in visitation, mostly due to lack of promotion, which I can tell you from a long history with marketing, takes time to cultivate. Like every other innovation on the internet, it seems that the porn

Continued on page 11


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# President's Comments

Continued from page one

ing campaign directed toward the SDE to have a new TE Consultant hired.

- Our Listserv was shut down and after many questions to the SDE – I still do not feel I was told the "reason".
- Our TE teachers stepped up and started blogs and groups to fill the Listserv void.
- I accepted invite to join the State STEM Committee and attended the September and November Middletown meetings.
- I went with Paul Hoffman to CCSU on 10/21 to talk to Jim DeLaura's TE 400 class about all aspects of our TE teaching profession.
- Was informed of a scary ITEA report that says only 300 TE teachers graduated nation-wide last year.
- Met with CCSU – we have 100 in our TE Program.
- I was invited and I attended the NEATT conference at Fitchburg State College on 11/06. This was a big one for me because 4 of the 6 New England Presidents attended. We met and discussed TE in each of our States.

I am sure I forgot something, but just typing this list makes my head hurt. So here we go.

Thanks so much to Everett for all the 100's of hours he has given to our Web Site. Also, thanks to Justin for tweaking the web items and creating the forums. Please check out our WEB SITE! <http://www.cteaweb.org/default.htm>

The forums now have the capability for file uploads. See the "Hot News" page of our web site for specifics.

Thanks to Aaron, Jeff and Justin for stepping up to create test pages.

I have received notification from the SDE that we will have a new TE Consultant in 6 months. I feel we still need to flood SDE with letters

supporting a new hiring. Everett has put my request and sample letter on the "Hot News" page of our Web Site for those wanting to print and mail.

Were we censored – I do not know for sure. When our Listserv was shut down, I contacted SDE right away. I was told it was shut down because they (SDE) did not have the people to coordinate it. Fact or fiction?

2<sup>nd</sup> STEM meeting was as interesting as the 1<sup>st</sup>. It feels good to be part of a State Committee where T.E. is treated as an equal and with STEM, we are. We are working on educating the public and the SDE about the importance of Technology.

Paul and I went to talk to the 18 students in Dr. DeLaura's TE 400 class. We brought in 9 Pizzas and some soda – then spent the next 1 ½ hours talking about being a TE Teacher.

Did you hear – ONLY 300 TE Teachers graduated NATIONWIDE last year. We need PR badly. CTEA is working with CCSU to assist with a Senior Open House day. I will keep you informed.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, At the NEATT Conference, I was very fortunate to meet with the other New England Tech. Ed. presidents. Since I just got home from NEATT as I am writing this, I will have to give you the full version later – but here is a summary. Mass., Maine, NH, RI, and Vermont are all experiencing the same road blocks that we are in promoting the TE experience. Some Labs have closed, some programs have been changed – and in some States, CTE has drained TE funds. As I made the 3 ++ hour drive home – I realized that in some ways – we here in Conn. TE are fighting the good fight. I promised to give you more info about the New England TE president meeting in the future.

Have a great November.

Jerry Stevens  
 CTEA President  
 Technology Education Teacher  
 Jockey Hollow School  
[gstevens@monroeps.org](mailto:gstevens@monroeps.org)  
 203-452-2905/ext 6120

# Technology Education Retirees

If you are a retired Connecticut Technology Education, Industrial Arts or Manual Arts teacher please forward your contact information (email, address and phone number) to Retired State Consultant Greg Kane at [Gkane@aol.com](mailto:Gkane@aol.com) or mail him at 27 Pitkin St, Manchester, CT 06040.

Do you know this retiree enjoying the beach in South Carolina?



## OUT OF THE VIEWFINDER Continued from page 9

industry is right on top of new trends. Ask any internet expert and they'll tell you that most of the innovations start with the porn industry. In a similar vein, most technology in the television industry grew from the military industrial complex. I wonder what Patton would think of South Park? I digress. It seems that some porn sites were attempting to set up bogus profiles on our forums so that they could divert unsuspecting pocket-protector carrying, shop-coat wearing Tech Ed teachers to a different form of learning. These profiles were not able to post, and security measures in place allow the administrator to dump them in the trash with a few simple keystrokes. No harm, no foul.

We should nurture the forums, and give them plenty of time to catch on so that people know they exist. Once that happens, individuals will figure out how they want to incorporate them into useful dialogue, or the ability to get help on a subject. I plan to use the communications forum for my Digital Media classes and when ready, will begin posting. This is the first newsletter to promote the forums officially, and I am proud and happy to report on their addition to the CTEA site. They are a clear sign that we as an organization are doing all that we can to help our members stay in touch and share our successes.

With all due respect, my two cents.

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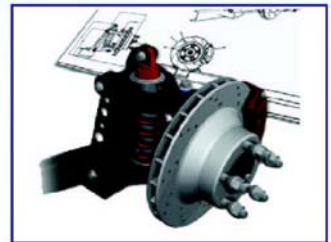
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PURPOSES OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION I. The general purposes of The Association are:

To research, define, stimulate, coordinate and strive for the ideal form of Technology Education for all students on all levels, elementary, secondary and adult, for the inherent welfare of the students, the local communities, the geographic regions and the State.

To promote, i.e., identify and enhance, the improvement of the quality and content of instruction in Technology Education via assistance to educators, students and all others concerned in assuring instructional contents, methods, and facilities to be current with the literal growth explosions of the technological-industrial complex.

To assist and promote in the development of local involvement and support, formal or informal, representative of geographic Connecticut.

To promote, encourage and be actively affiliated with the New England Association of technology Teachers (NEATT), the International Technology Education Association (ITEA), and The American Vocational Association (AVA).

To encourage and support the valid constitutional goals of the Connecticut Technology Student Association (CT-TSA).