

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



*2008 is our 75th  
 year as an  
 association!*

**Winter 2008**

Published three times a year,  
 Fall, Winter and Spring

**Where is Technology Education  
 Headed in Connecticut?**

Don Schaer, CTEA  
 Newsletter Editor, an  
 editorial

The topic of  
 where Technology Edu-  
 cation is going seems to  
 be a hot one in discus-  
 sion circles around the  
 state. There are several  
 positions being sup-  
 ported and each has  
 their foundation. I am  
 not trying here to sup-  
 port one or another po-  
 sition; rather I intend  
 to stimulate the dia-  
 logue.

First of all, I am  
 writing from a position  
 of a history of influ-  
 ence. I have been in-

involved in Technology  
 Education for over 35  
 years in this state and  
 for much of those years  
 deeply involved in writ-  
 ing and establishing  
 Technology Education  
 curriculum. I am not a  
 stranger to the debate,  
 though many of you  
 reading this will have  
 no knowledge of my  
 participation or posi-  
 tions. That is fine. My  
 point of influence here  
 is to bring us as a pro-  
 fession, as a discipline,  
 forward through dia-  
 logue, disciplined, cou-  
 rageous, passionate,  
 yet controlled dialogue.

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Don Schaer,  
 Newsletter Editor



Paul Hoffman,  
 CTEA President

**Inside this issue:**

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**Special Points of  
 interest:**

- Conference Registration Form
- Conference Schedule
- Supporting Advertisers
- School Articles

**PRESIDENT'S  
 NOTES**

Welcome Spring

Well spring is  
 finally here. What  
 does that mean?

First of all  
 it is time  
 for our annual  
 spring conference.  
 This year is a spe-  
 cial spring confer-

ence, it is the 75<sup>th</sup>  
 spring conference  
 for CTEA. There  
 are a few different  
 things planned for  
 this conference

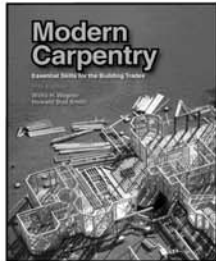
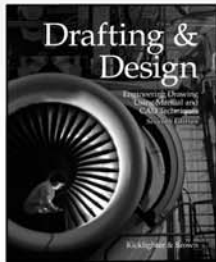
**Do you remember when:**

- ✓ John Larkin was President of the Connecticut Industrial Arts Association?
- ✓ In what year did Central graduate 54 new Industrial arts teachers?
- ✓ Answers are somewhere in the newsletter

Go to page 5

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## CONSULTANT'S COMMENTS

Gregory C. Kane, State Consultant for Technology Education and Engineering



The spring is a busy time for most educators and technology education professionals are no exception. With state testing, including CMT, CAPT, the Carl Perkins assessment, department budgets due, changes to the program of studies requested and in some cases the hiring of new teachers there seems little time for out of school activities.

Even with the busy spring schedule most teachers face, it is still a great time to learn of new programs, attend professional conferences and bring your students to new and existing competitive events. Below is a list of GREAT opportunities being offered in May.

**May 9, 2008- Hartford Convention Center-8:00a.m.-3:00p.m. - CT-TSA Conference and Competitive Events:** The 30<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Technology Student Association will hold their annual conference and competitive event. The conference for middle and high school students will feature 10 middle school and 10 high school competitive events. For additional information or to volunteer to judge contact, [Gregory.Kane@ct.gov](mailto:Gregory.Kane@ct.gov)

**May 10, 2008- Hartford Convention Center-8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.- 2008 Connecticut Innovations Expo:** The Expo features competitions by the Connecticut Pre Engineering Program, (CPEP), Connecticut Project Lead the Way student capstone course presentations (EDD), PLTW students course displays, Connecticut Innovation Academy (CTIA) competition, Connecticut Academy of Science Research (CTASR), The Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing, and Connecticut Career Choices (CCC).

**May 12, 2008 - CCSU, New Britain- 7:30a.m.-3:30p.m.- CTEA 75<sup>th</sup> Conference:** This is the annual conference for Connecticut technology teachers. The conference features, professional workshops, educational exhibitors, a CCSU alumni association reception, teacher awards, student project competitions and a luncheon. To register and for additional information, <http://cteaweb.org/conference/conference.htm>

**May 17, 2008 - Mansfield Middle School - CT-Junior Solar Sprint :** This middle school solar powered vehicle race is coordinated by New Britain middle school teacher Jeff Bechard. For additional information contact Jeff at (860) 225-6395, [jkbechard@aol.com](mailto:jkbechard@aol.com)

**May 20, 2008 - CCSU, ITEB Building New Britain- 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.- CT Technology Education Awareness Workshop on Construction Technology Program Certification:** Sponsored by the Home Builders Institute, the Residential Construction Career Institute and the Department of Education, participants will explore construction certification for high school technology education programs. For additional information and to register contact [Gregory.Kane@ct.gov](mailto:Gregory.Kane@ct.gov)

Continued on page 11

## 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.

**Booth 1&2:**

KELVIN [BYoungfert@aol.com](mailto:BYoungfert@aol.com)

**Booth 3:**

EMC Publishing/Paradigm Publishing/Symtalk [cmengel@emcp.com](mailto:cmengel@emcp.com)

**Booth 4:**

Downes&Reader Hardwood Co [DownesandReader.com](http://DownesandReader.com)

**Booth 5:**

Midwest Technology Products [BOB4TOOLS@comcast.net](mailto:BOB4TOOLS@comcast.net)

**Booth 6:**

Glencoe / McGraw-Hill [Michael\\_Stasack@mcgraw-hill.com](mailto:Michael_Stasack@mcgraw-hill.com)

**Booth 7:** CCSU

**Booth 8:**

GEARS Educational Systems, LLC [mnewby@gearseds.com](mailto:mnewby@gearseds.com)

**BOOTH 9:**

LightSPEED Technologies, Inc

[jeanh@lightspeed-tek.com](mailto:jeanh@lightspeed-tek.com)

**Booth 15&16:**

Technology Education Concepts, Inc [marketing@tecedu.com](mailto:marketing@tecedu.com)

**Booth 17:**

Thompson Learning/South-Western/Carse Technology/Delmar Learning [daniel.gasparino@thompson.com](mailto:daniel.gasparino@thompson.com)

**Booth 19:**

Modern School Supplies [cgagnon@modernss.com](mailto:cgagnon@modernss.com)

**Booth 20&21:**

Technical Education Solutions, LLC [fgregorio@tesolutions.org](mailto:fgregorio@tesolutions.org)

**Booth 22:** TSA

**Booth 23:**

Goodheart-Willcox Publisher [chegg@g-w.com](mailto:chegg@g-w.com)

There were 15 paid booths this year.

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



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# Now is our time to shine.

## Be part of this years CTEA 75<sup>th</sup> Conference.

Our conference planning committee has been working fast and furious to make this years CTEA Conference one not to miss. We have been meeting monthly to plan the Vendor Booths, Workshops, Student Expo and Time schedule. Back by popular demand is the Texas Barbecue for lunch and after Lunch, as always is the CTEA Business Meeting and S.H.I.P.S. Raffle.

To start off our day, Julie Feeney from the Institutional Advancement Office @ CCSU will be hosting an Alumni Reception to give many of us the opportunity to get reacquainted. If you are an Alumni, please let us know so you can be included.

To better service you our members, we have added a third set of workshops that will allow you the opportunity to explore many exciting facets of Technology Education.

We will end our conference this year with something new. Our plan is to have a Technology Education "Town Hall" style meeting which we want to begin right after the Raffle. Our intent here is to give you – our members the opportunity to talk about what is happening in our field of Technology Education in the State of Connecticut.

The only thing missing from all these plans is you. Please come join us on Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> and make this day one truly not to forget. Remember Conference info is available on our Web Site.

Hope to see you soon.

**Jerry Stevens**

**CTEA Conference Chair**

**President-Elect**

**Technology Education Teacher**

**Jockey Hollow School**

**[gstevens@monroeps.org](mailto:gstevens@monroeps.org)**

**203-452-2905**



## PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM PAGE 1

such as a special gathering for CCSU alumni. There will also be a reunion of past and present CTEA members. There will also be a few other surprises.

The conference will have many workshops, including workshops on Project Lead the Way and Engineering by Design. These programs are developing type programs that are changing all the time. EbD is new to Connecticut and you may want to sit in on the workshop to see what it is all about and maybe see if it is a program that is for you and your stu-



dents.

This spring also bring about a change in membership. The executive board decided to have membership renewal at one time of the year. Starting in October of 2009 everyone membership will be renewed in October. This will help if your district pays for your membership, then they will have plenty of money as op-

posed to the spring time. So what does this mean to you know? If you pay your dues now, you will not have to renew your membership until then. That is a year and a half membership for the price of one year.

Speaking of membership, ours is low. We have roughly 700 technology education teachers in Connecticut, of those 700 only about 200 are members of CTEA. Why? The executive board and I do not know. If you know of any reasons why people are not members, please let us know.

Hope to see you at the conference.

Paul Hoffman

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Technology, by its very nature, is a thing of change. It never stands still and as we can see around us, is changing exponentially. I suggest that you need to be a part of that change, part of the discussion, part of the dialogue, or it will move without you.

CTEA is hosting a forum for dialogue, an opportunity for you to speak, to be heard, to be an influence, to state your position. At this year's spring conference, for those that would be moved to the center stage, we are creating a forum. Join us and let your opinions be heard. We are listening.

OPEN DISCUSSION FORUM

MAY 12, 2008

2:30 pm – BALLROOM

Stand and be counted. Help define your profession.

## WHERE IS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION HEADED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We are at a crossroad. I am not the originator of that idea, but I believe it. You also believe it, but may define it

that have been and will continue to be answered for you if you sit on the sidelines!

Let's be honest here.

This is not about a single person or point of view. It matters not what others think, only what you believe, your philosophy, if you will. When the door is closed you teach what you believe. On the other hand, when you close your door and believe you can keep things constant or in control in your space and ignore what is going on outside as though it will never affect you, you are sadly mistaken.

***Stand and be counted.***

***Help define your profession.***

differently. That is part of this debate. Who are we, who have we been, what have we become, where are we going, where do I want to go? These are questions that need answers. These are questions

## The Moran Middle School's 8th Grade Technology Education program has been invaded.

Computerized Robots are moving all over the room completing tasks that the students have programmed them to execute. Under the watchful eyes of Mr. Sygrove and his student teacher Mr. Notation from Central Connecticut State University, the Technology Education students are learning how to program their robots to make them move and perform specific tasks using; time, distance, and motion, as well incorporating sensors such as: light, sound, ultrasonic, and touch.

Some of the tasks that students are programming the robots to achieve are: 1. Travel a set distance, avoid an object, and return. 2. Travel through a maze, and return to the starting point (Home). 3. Pick up an object, move it to another location, and return to the starting place. 4. Locate and push a button. 5. Escape from a restricted location. 6. Enter a controlled location through a small opening. All robots are required to repeat all listed tasks without the students making any adjustments.

Some career possibilities from this program would include but not limited to: Manufacturing Automation, Fire fighting and rescue, Hazardous material handling, Security, and product assembly.

The robots are assembled using kits purchased through Lego Education Division and are called Mind-storm NXT Robotic kits.

Submitted By: James Sygrove



CCSU Students at ITEA Salt Lake City with Barbara Morgan, Astronaut

# CTEA SPRING CONFERENCE STUDENT EXPO

## Show off how good your students are

I am happy to announce a new addition to our CTEA Executive Board. Jim Brochinsky (Darien Public Schools) has stepped up to assume the role as Student Expo Chair. Jim has been actively involved over the past year preparing for this year's conference. Our Web Site has a link that will bring you to the portfolio form that will need to be submitted with each project. As always, you can enter any or all of the projects your stu-



dents worked on this year no matter what category they fit in.

Over the past few years we have been seeing more and more projects being entered into our Expo. We would like to keep that trend going and encourage you to participate.

Projects can be dropped off at the CCSU Student Center Ballroom on either Sunday May 11, 2008 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. (Yes we know it is Mother's Day, bring her along.) Or Mon-

day May 12, 2008 from 7:00am – 9:00am. Judging will need to start promptly at 9:15am Monday.

Speaking of Judging – we will be looking for 6 – 10 Volunteers (or we can volunteer you) to help with the awarding of ribbons. Please see Jimmy B Monday morning to sign-up.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jim.

See you and your projects on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Jerry Stevens

Former Student Expo Chair.

Jim Brochinsky's contact info: [JBrochinsky@darienps.org](mailto:JBrochinsky@darienps.org)

In 1972 There were 54 graduates in Industrial Arts

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# OPEN LETTER FROM DR. JOHN LARKIN

Dear CCSU Alumni and retired teachers of Technology Education/Industrial Arts:

On May 12, 2008, the CTEA will be hosting its annual Spring Conference. This will be a very special conference because it celebrates the seventy-fifth birthday of our professional association, dating back to its formation in 1933. This is quite a milestone because many associations do not persevere that long.

I was very fortunate to be the President of the Connecticut Industrial Arts Association in 1983 when we celebrated the Association's Golden Anniversary Conference. At that time, Ronald Reagan was our President, William O'Neill was Connecticut's Governor and F. Don James was Central's Presi-

dent. (A little history!) The theme of the conference was "The Past, The Present, and The Future". Dr. G. Wesley Ketcham, Dr. Michael Williams and Mr. Peter Burns were the keynote speakers. Our banquet speaker was Major Sherwood C. Spring, a NASA astronaut from Rhode Island. Most of you in the profession will recall that CAD, CAM and CNC were not yet part of our curriculums. Computers were just being introduced into a limited number of programs. Wow! We have made giant strides in our curriculums and program offerings in the last twenty five years!!

Those of us who have retired from the classroom will have the opportunity to see and hear about contemporary classroom methods and activities, future directions for Technology

Education and socialize with some of our former classmates or teaching colleagues at a special scheduled Alumni Breakfast at the conference. There will also be a special session/gathering for retirees to share their experiences and memories.

I would encourage all retirees and CCSU alumni to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration of CTEA, and to help make the conference a success as well as to encourage the Association's continuance for another exciting 25 years.

Please contact anyone you know who might be interested in joining us and sharing in the celebration.

I look forward to seeing you at the Alumni Breakfast and during the day's events.

Dr. John C. Larkin, Professor Emeritus, CCSU

## Connecticut Night

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut Night at I.T.E.A. . . . .**

*. . . . . the tradition goes on*

Minneapolis, Charlotte, Kansas City, Nashville, Phoenix, Tampa, Forth Worth, Indianapolis, Atlanta, Columbus, Albuquerque, Baltimore, San Antonio and Salt Lake City. What do all these cities have in common? They have all been host to the Annual ITEA Conference, which means they have all been cities where we have attended, what has become one of the highlights for Connecticut ITEA Teachers and that is, "Connecticut Night". This year in Salt Lake City was no exception as we hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual CT Night. The evening,

multi-sponsored by Technical Education Solutions, Mastercam, SolidWorks and Techno-Isel, was held at Biaggi's a few short blocks from the convention center. This year we had about 40 people for dinner, 13 of which are current CCSU students.

The evening was dedicated to our long time friend Bob Teater. Bob attended his one and only ITEA Convention just a few years ago and I can still remember his grin. He was like a kid in a

candy store. Bob will continue to be remembered for his even tempered personality, for always seeing the best in people and his amazing gift of seeing the glass half full and making something out of the void in the other half.

Next year ITEA is in Louisville (March 26<sup>th</sup> thru the 28<sup>th</sup>) and I hope to continue this time honored tradition when we host the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut Night. Thank you for your continued support,  
Frank Gregorio.



**75<sup>th</sup> CTEA Spring  
Conference 2008  
MAY 12, 2008  
Registration Form**

**75<sup>th</sup> CTEA Spring Conference  
May 12, 2008  
HOSTED BY:**

Please Note: You must be a current Paid up CTEA member to attend.

**Central Connecticut State  
University  
Technology & Engineering  
Education Department**

You must register by the deadline or your meal cannot be guaranteed!

Name: CCSU Alumni check this box

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

1. Registration	\$ 30.00
Students	\$ 15.00
2. Food: BBQ	Free w/pre-registration
3. CTEA Regular Membership	\$ 30.00
4. Retired Membership	\$ 20.00
5. Scholarship Donation	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Payment Type (Check one)  
 Check (Payable to CTEA) by 4/21/08  
 Purchase Order Cut off is 4/21/08  
 PayPal – Cut off is 5/1/08 for Meal count  
 Cash

FAX: (203)-736-6157  
**Online Registration and Payment**  
<http://www.cteaweb.org>

Mail to: Paul Hoffman, Treasurer  
 88 Davis Street  
 Oakville, CT 06779



Pre-registration must be postmarked by April 21, 2008.

Join us as we celebrate the past and the future.!

**Special events and guests!**

Student Technology Exposition

Forms are located on the CTEA Website:

<http://www.cteaweb.org>

Print out the form and have the students fill them out and bring them in with the project.

A "Design Activity Abstract" found on the web site must accompany each design

**Texas BBQ Menu**  
 (subject to change).

Join us as we celebrate the past and the future. There are special events planned for our 75<sup>th</sup>.

**Each attendee will receive a free 1 GB USB flash drive with our CTEA logo.**

**CEU Workshops at this printing**

- EBD workshop for High School*
- EBD workshop for Middle School*
- Darien Solar Car*
- Affordable 3D Modeling in the Classroom*
- VEX Robotics*
- Classroom Amplification: Simple technology, powerful results*

Please register for the workshops on the day of the Conference.

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Curriculum Swap

Bring 50 Copies of your favorite curriculum activity.

At this time the membership dues have not changed.

# SPRING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

MAY 12, 2008

*Sunday – May 11, 2008*

3:00 pm – 6:00pm

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Student Technology Expo Drop-off  
Commercial Exhibitors set-up/Display

*Monday – May 12, 2008*

7:00 am – 8:00 am	<u>Registration/Commercial Exhibitors</u>
7:00 am – 8:00 am	CCSU Alumni <u>Continental Breakfast</u>
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Student Technology Expo Drop-off
7:00 am – 2:00 pm	Commercial Exhibits Open
8:00 am – 9:00 am	<u>Workshop Session 1</u>
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Judging Student Technology Expo
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Commercial Exhibitors
10:30 am – 11:30 am	<u>Workshop Session 2</u>
11:45 am – 12:45 pm	<u>Workshop Session 3</u>
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon
	Awards & Business Meeting
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	SHIP Awards
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	<u>The State of Technology Education</u> in Connecticut discussion.



## Why You Should Attend:

- Professional Development Workshops to Choose from – CEU's .
- Commercial Exhibitors displaying the latest technology education equipment and supplies.
- Commercial Exhibitors Workshops – Hands-on educational demonstrations.
- Technology Expo – student activities and work displayed from throughout the state.
- Curriculum Swap – teachers “show and tell” and share classroom activities.
- Come back to CCSU to see what is new and different. You won't believe how it has changed from when you were a student.
- Networking.
- The State of Technology Education in Connecticut discussion.

## CTEA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ANNOUNCEMENT



ATTENTION CONNECTICUT  
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATORS

JOIN or RENEW your CTEA MEMBERSHIP for 12 months and you will not have to renew membership until **October 1, 2009.**

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.

Don't miss out take full advantage of this opportunity.

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



THE CTEA WANTS YOU

## DIRECTIONS TO CCSU for the Conference

Parking will be behind the

**Student Center Only.**

### FROM THE EAST

Take I-84 West to Exit 39A to Rt. 9 South. Take Exit 29 off of Rt. 9 to Ella Grasso Boulevard.

At the end of the exit take a **RIGHT** on to Ella Grasso Boulevard.

At the traffic light, continue straight on Ella Grasso Boulevard.

Then at Harold Lewis Road go **LEFT** into the parking area.

Park in the North Garage.

### FROM THE WEST

Take I-84 East to Exit 35, Rt. 72 East (New Britain Exit).

Follow Rt. 72 East and take Rt. 9 North.

From Rt.9 North take Exit 29 to Cedar Street (Rt. 175).

At the end of the exit ramp, go straight onto Fenn Road.

At the SECOND light go left onto Ella Grasso Boulevard.

At the traffic light, continue straight on Ella Grasso Boulevard.

Then at Harold Lewis Road, go **LEFT** into the parking area.

Park in the North Garage.

### CONSULTANT'S Corner from page 2

**May 30, 200 - Lime Rock Park - – Connecticut Electrathon Competition:** - Electrathon vehicles are single person, lightweight, aerodynamic, high efficiency, electric vehicles with three or four wheels. They must meet specific design and safety rules. They are powered by deep cycle lead acid battery packs not exceeding 64 pounds. For additional information, [http://www.ctelectrathon.org/index.php?pr=Home\\_Page](http://www.ctelectrathon.org/index.php?pr=Home_Page)

While the number of Connecticut Project Lead the Way schools have increased for the 9<sup>th</sup> year in a row, I am pleased that 14 Connecticut schools/districts have signed the Engineering by Design network agreement and will begin offering EbD courses in September. Training for all courses will be provided by Donald Schaer and will take place the last week in June. Details on the training will be sent to our Connecticut EbD Network schools in the near future.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce working with the CTEA, and CCSU, we will be sponsoring the **2009 VEX Robotic Competition at CCSU in early April 2009**. While the FIRST organization will no longer be supporting the VEX platform, I felt it important we did not abandon all the Connecticut schools who participate in VEX and use that platform for their robotic curriculum/program. With over 700 VEX teams in the US, we will help become the national model for keeping this great program/competition going. Lots more detail to follow later this year and at the beginning of the 08-09 school year. Stay tuned.



CONNECTICUT TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Connecticut Technology Education Association  
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Watertown, CT 06779

hone: (860) 274-0593  
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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).

**Monday May 12, 2008**

*Central Connecticut State University  
New Britain, CT*

Return to:

CTEA

c/o Paul Huffman, President

88 Davis Street

Oakville, CT 06779