

# SkillsUSA Alumni

## The Journey Continues ...

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### Partner offers contest for travel scholarship

To kick off a new partnership with SkillsUSA, Proven.com is launching a travel scholarship contest. The SkillsUSA region with the most alumni to join the Proven.com site before Sept. 30 will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for a student competitor to attend the 2012 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

Proven.com offers a website for individuals to showcase their skills and get



connected with employers. Those who join Proven.com can connect with other skilled employees and earn badges based on their SkillsUSA experiences. The badges are added to participants' profiles.

Scholarship details will be provided to SkillsUSA State Association Directors. Contact Niki Clausen at [nclausen@skillsusa.org](mailto:nclausen@skillsusa.org).

### Pin design winner

Betsy Zelina of Pennsylvania, has won the 2011 SkillsUSA Alumni Pin Design Contest. Purchase pins for \$3 online at [www.skillsusa.org/store/](http://www.skillsusa.org/store/).



The 2012 Alumni Pin Design Contest entries are due at SkillsUSA headquarters in Leesburg, Va., by March 1, 2012. For more information, visit the alumni page: [www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumni.shtml](http://www.skillsusa.org/supporters/alumni.shtml).



New Alumni Coordinating Committee members for Regions 1, 3 and 5 were elected in Kansas City, Mo., in June. Elections for Regions 2 and 4, as well as for the committee chair will be held in 2012. Pictured above (l to r) are: Hal Casey, state association liaison, Maine.; Emily Hughes, Region 1, Maine.; Brice Harader-Pate, Region 4, Okla.; Coleen Read, Region 5, Nev.; Anne Dew, Region 3, Ohio; and George Laubmeier, Chair, Wis. Not pictured: Alicia Brown, executive secretary, Ark.; and Steven Hawes, Region 2, Ga.

### Alumni webinar to cover social media

A SkillsUSA Alumni social media webinar will address how business owners, authors and celebrities increase their profits with Facebook and Twitter integration. Log in Wednesday, Aug. 10, at 1 p.m. Eastern time, to learn how Mari Smith, president of the International Social Media Association, runs her own social media consultancy to help clients maximize their Facebook marketing. Log in at: <http://web.ganconference.com/?meeting=7994021>; then call: 888-222-0475. Use attendee code: 6837807.

FastCompany.com has dubbed Smith "the pied piper of Facebook." Smith will

give you tips to put Facebook to work by covering fan pages, groups and results reporting. Her Facebook page is at [www.facebook.com/marismith](http://www.facebook.com/marismith).

John Wiley and Sons Inc., publisher of the book, is offering an online 40-percent discount on Smith's book through Sept. 30. Use the promo code SKILL at [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com).



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(From left) Franklin Canales, Connecticut, pictured with SkillsUSA Executive

Director Tim Lawrence won the raffle for the 2011 Harley-Davidson Dyna Super Glide in Kansas City in June. The bike was custom-painted by Justin Barnes of JB Grafix (left, inset) pictured with Leah Rife of Colorado, who received a skateboard deck painted by Barnes during a demonstration at the SkillsUSA Championships.



## Alumni training

Fifteen alumni participated in training in Kansas City, Mo., in June. The agenda included the state of the alumni association plus seminars on how to start a state association and train volunteers. Professional development training by Amelia Powers and Bryan Doxford covered mentoring and being a mentor, and Stephanie Bland (*above, center*) discussed inclusion and diversity.

## Kansas City alumni events

Winners of the Champions 5K Race held during the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo., were Ashley Mueller, Tanya Wood and Jocilyn Skinner, the fastest three females.

Travis Taylor, Jason Saliga and Dalton L'Heureux were the fastest males.

At the Bosch dunk tank at SkillsUSA TECHSPO in Kansas City, Mo., more than \$1,900 was raised for the Alumni fund and scholarships. Maine provided the most dunking participants.

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## What's happening?

**Go to Bat with State Farm:** SkillsUSA supporters and baseball fans can visit [www.statefarm.com/gotobat](http://www.statefarm.com/gotobat), select SkillsUSA on the website, then swing for the fences in the State Farm Go To Bat game. Participation helps to increase the batting average of SkillsUSA. Once a week, for 10 weeks, State Farm will choose the charity with the highest Go To Bat batting average and make a donation of \$18,000 in support of its cause.

Any individual winner who goes to bat for the winning charity will be randomly selected to receive a trip for two to games 3 and 4 of the 2011 World Series. A total of 10 winners will be drawn during the Go To Bat program, which concludes on Sept. 26.

## Champion of the Year fundraiser nets grants to start up state Alumni groups

A new grant program has been established to assist states in starting State Alumni and Friends associations. This grant program has been made possible by the inaugural CEO of the Year Dinner recognizing Air Products chairman, president and chief executive officer John McGlade.

In this first year of the program, 10 states submitted applications. One grant was awarded per region: Region 1, New Jersey; Region 2, Virginia; Region 3, Ohio; Region 4, Oklahoma; and Region 5, California.

Keep checking the website to learn more about the program, or contact Niki Clausen for more information at [nclausen@skillsusa.org](mailto:nclausen@skillsusa.org) or 703-737-0639.

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