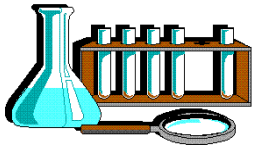
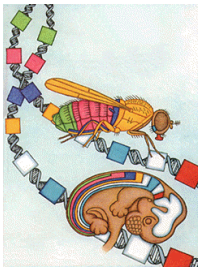
MSTA





Newsletter

SCIENCE Matters
National Science Teachers Association

Mississippi Science Teachers Association October 1, 2013

Table of Contents:

Don't miss the Russell C. Davis Planetarium Program

Russell C. Davis Planetarium will present a program for MSTA Conference attendees on Sunday, October 27th, at 6:00 for free. The planetarium program may be part of CEU's, if you sign up for CEU's. We will have the name of the program at a later time but the program will be for Science teachers both elementary, secondary as well as college.

MSTA will be offering CEU credit again cost will be $10 for 0.5-1.0 ceu.

Want to get your MSTA News faster?

Join the MSTA Listserv and the Mississippi Science Teachers Facebook page. All of the information in the Internet Resource section of this newsletter was gleaned from these two sources. Go to the instructions on joining the listserv by clicking on the links above.

Presidential Post:

How does science connect to Common Core? This is a question that is on the minds of most of science teachers and administrators. As Common Core is being implemented it is often necessary to demonstrate how we science teachers will utilize our content knowledge with the pedagogy of Common Core. I've chatted with many science teachers who fear Common Core. My response is, "Why fear this? Science teachers already use these methods!"

In the book, *The Core Six: Essential Strategies for Achieving Excellence with the Common Core* by Harvey F. Silver, R. Thomas Dewing, & Matthew J. Perini, the authors introduce the idea of the "Core Six." The Core Six include: 1) reading for meaning, 2) compare & contrast, 3) inductive learning, 4) circle of knowledge, 5) write to learn, and 6) vocabulary's CODE (Connecting with new words. Organizing new words into meaningful categories, Deep-processing the most important concepts and terms, Exercising the mind through strategic review and practice). Silver, Dewing and Perini do not promise the perfect classroom. Instead they support their strategies in

- Reading and understanding rigorous texts.
- Evaluating evidence and using it to support positions.
- Conducting comparative analyses.
- Finding important patterns and structures built into content.
- Mastering academic vocabulary and integrating it into speech and writing.
- Understanding and contributing to meaningful discussions about content.
- Using writing to advance learning and clarify thinking.
- Writing comfortably in the key Common Core text types: arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives

This list is direct from the book. Look at it again. Science teachers have been including these strategies for many years. We encourage our students to read non-fiction text. We promote developing hypotheses based on existing knowledge so that they can expand their understanding. We guide them through lab investigations where they develop data and evaluate their results and present their work. We use the jargon of science consistently to promote retention of terms and concepts. We require written lab reports in which students must discuss their results, identify patterns within their data, and identify possible errors and further research into the topic.

Still hesitant about Common Core and its connection to science? Don't be. You already incorporate these skills!

Sincerely, *Betsy Sullivan, President*

MSTA Fall Conference - What a Bargain!!

This is what you get for your registration fee—

- Conference registration (access to over 100 sessions on science)
- MSTA T-shirt
- Lunch on Tuesday (Awards Luncheon)
- MSTA Dues for one year.
- MSTA Reception and Auction
  - Free entry to the MS Museum of Natural Science exhibits
  - Heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverage
- And do not forget the six publications per year and listserv to keep you up-to-date on Science Education opportunities.

General Session Speaker Mr. Joseph Cornell

MSTA is proud to welcome Mr. Joseph Cornell as our guest speaker in the general session. Mr. Cornell is an internationally known nature educator and author. His first book, *Sharing Nature with Children*, sold 500,000 copies in over 20 languages. He has continued this book series and has developed a companion video that demonstrates the Flow Learning technique. As a scholar of John Muir, he has written his latest book on this famous naturalist.

Joseph Cornell received many awards for his work in nature education: the Honorary Award from the National Association of Interpretation, Honorary membership in the Hungarian Society for Environmental Education, ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award, as well as being nominated for the Right Livelihood Award, an international peace prize from Sweden. Mr. Cornell received an honorary doctoral degree from Unity College in Maine.

Joseph is a veteran classroom teacher. He has served as a school district outdoor educator and as the High Sierras camp naturalist for the Boy Scouts of America. He is also the Honorary President of the Japan Nature Games Association, a group of more than 11,000 Japanese educators who lead and teach Sharing Nature activities in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Cornell will have a dynamic presentation on bringing nature to your classroom and school. He will also bring books! Please see him after the opening session to purchase a copy!

Visit his website at: www.sharingnature.com

Local Science Fairs are able to take small town students to extraordinary heights!

In January 2013, 7th grader Brazos Webb from Seminary, Mississippi son of Tim and Tonya Webb entered Seminary Middle School's annual science fair. His project *"Instantaneous Hot Water Heater"* won first place. He advanced to the Regional Science Fair held at the University of Southern Mississippi. At the Regional Science Fair, Brazos won the I-SWEEP Award, which stands for International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering, & Environment Project. He was one of only two students chosen to represent the state of Mississippi. Brazos was the youngest student in the world to ever receive this distinguished award. This award is usually awarded to students in 9th – 12th grade. Brazos then went to Houston, Texas to compete. I-SWEEP brings together the top-ranking students from all over the world to compete, collaborate, and create innovative ideas.

These ideas are created to meet today's challenges in energy, engineering, and the environment in order to ensure a sustainable world for our future. At this completion Brazos received $150.00 cash award and the Engineering Bronze Medal and certificate.

While competing in the I-SWEEP competition Brazos met a lot of other students from across the world. Sixty-eight countries were represented along with forty-one states. There were 2,305 registered projects. Students were divided into groups and assigned a task that was designed to make them aware of our planet's sustainability challenges, grasp the extent of these issues, find a workable solution, and accelerate the process toward a sustainable world solution. This competition is designed to provide students with the opportunity to become the preeminent scientists and engineers of our future. Through this process, these students were able to achieve a greater understanding of global issues and be able to develop sustainable solutions to these global problems while using and developing new technology. I-SWEEP encourages students to become part of an environmentally conscious global community and to inspire all people world-wide to accept the responsibility of caring for our planet. I-SWEEP is organized by Harmony Public Schools, K-12 Public Charter School System. It is supported by the leaders of industry and higher education institutions.

I-Sweep provided students with training in many areas. Brazos was trained in robotics and performed experiments while operating a robot. On Sunday, I-Sweep took the students on a field trip to tour the NASA Space Center. Students where able to see the day to day working environment of NASA and get to see rockets, space shuttles, and other space equipment up close. This was an opportunity of a lifetime.

Brazos has been competing in the Science Fair since he was in 2nd grade. He has entered a project into the engineering category every year. Our small town of Seminary is extremely proud of Brazos and his success and achievements. We have faith that Brazos is going to become a fantastic engineer in the future and develop new and creative solutions that will enhance and make our lives better.

Seminary Schools may not be very big and have a lot of money, but we do offer all of our students the opportunity to reach for their dreams through providing an outstanding learning environment and education. We believe in each of our students and continuously support them in all of their endeavors. Our small school has been well represented in many aspects, in the field of science, two students, Amarette Aube and Shane Riels have achieved the prestigious opportunity to compete in the International Science Fair and achieving many awards along the way. Numerous other students have advanced to the Regional Science Fair and the State level fair.

As science fair coordinator for the past 26 years, I feel that the opportunity to compete in the local science fair will inspire our students to reach higher goals. They will be challenged to expand their thinking skills while striving and achieving at the highest level possible. They are challenged to think, research, collect data and develop solutions to problems expanding their minds and opening up the doors for their imaginations to take flight. Participating in a Science Fair helps students develop leadership skills, thinking skills, and problem solving skills that are necessary requirements for our future scientist, professors, inventors, engineers, world leaders and all around good citizens.

Written by Patricia Gingrich
Seminary Middle School
Seminary, Mississippi
September 13, 2013

Scholarship and Grant Opportunity
Otis Allen Criteria

1. Request a scholarship application (national or regional) from the scholarship chairperson).
2. Requests must be received two months prior to the national convention or regional meeting to be attended.

3. A person may receive a scholarship once in three to five years.
4. Earliest application received will receive first consideration.
5. Each recipient will receive scholarship monies as partial expense reimbursement after submitting a copy of their registration and a letter signed by his/her principal stating that the recipient attended the meeting.

To request a scholarship application, contact the chairman of the scholarship committee. Send the request to the following: Minnie C. Parham, Chairman, Otis Allen Scholarship Committee 402 Bell Avenue, Greenwood, MS 38930, Email: minnieparham@bellsouth.net

R. C. Roberts Grant Form

The R. C. Roberts Fund was initiated to honor Mr. Roberts, a long-time science supervisor in the Mississippi Department of Education and assist teachers in developing outdoor classrooms, nature centers, or nature trails at their respective schools. Maximum funding that can be obtained by one teacher from one school at a particular time is $100. Applications for funding must show that additional funds from sources other than R. C. Roberts have been obtained to support the proposed project. This may be "in kind" support as well as monetary. Individuals who receive support from the R. C. Roberts Funds may apply for additional funding provided a period of three years has elapsed since the original funding was granted.

Guidelines for the R. C. Roberts Fund

Individuals interested in applying for funding should get an application form the Newsletter or request an application form from the Executive Officer or President of the Mississippi Science Teachers' Association. The completed application must be attached to the proposal and returned to the Executive Officer. The Executive Officer will assemble a committee of at least three individuals involved in science education who will examine the proposal and recommend funding status. The decision of the review committee to fund or reject the proposal is final.

R. C. Roberts Grant Form

Name: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Phone: _____

Principal: _____

1. How long have you been at the school? _____

2. What do you plan to do with the money? _____

_____

3. List the materials and cost of supplies for this project. _____

_____

4. Where is this project located in relationship to the school? _____

_____

5. Do you have the support of the principal? _____ other teachers? _____

If so, name/s. _____

6. What kind of monetary or "in kind" support do you have? List. If "in kind" support is provided, estimate its monetary value. _____

_____

Complete the grant form and attach the proposal and return to: Bess Moffatt, MSTA Executive Officer, 1510 Oldfield Road, Gautier, MS 39553

Here are your science education resources and announcements for September 2013 provided by the Science Matters Network. Please forward them on to other science educators in your school and/or school district.

Table of Contents

California Adopts NGSS *with Unanimous Vote*

On September 4, California became the sixth state to adopt the *Next Generation Science Standards*(*NGSS*) after a unanimous vote by the State Board of Education. A timeline and plan for implementation will be decided in the coming months. According to Tom Torlakson, state superintendent of public instruction, "the adoption of the Next Generation Science Standards in California marks a crucial step in aiming [to be] sure our students are prepared to succeed after they leave our classrooms." Other states that have adopted the *NGSS* include Rhode Island, Kentucky, Kansas, Maryland, and Vermont.

Click here to read a blog post by *Education Week*'s Erik Robelen. Click here to read the press release from the California Department of Education.

(back to top)

Math Viewed by Americans as 'Most Valuable' School Subject, New Gallup Poll Finds

About one-third of American adults (34 percent) chose math as the most valuable subject to them in their lives, according to new survey results released earlier this month by Gallup. English came in second, at 21 percent, followed by science at 12 percent.

The results are—for the most part—similar to those from the August 5-8, 2002 poll. One notable difference is the sizeable increase in the percentage of respondents who picked science as the most valuable subject. In 2002, only 4

percent picked science, but in the most recent survey the figure jumped to 12 percent.

Read more about the results, from Gallup's August 7–11 Work and Education poll, here.

(back to top)

National Assessment Governing Board Seeks Nominees to Fill Open Positions

The National Assessment Governing Board—which supervises the suite of tests in the National Assessment of Educational Progress, the "nation's report card"—is recruiting new members.

The governing board will have five openings for four-year terms to start October 1, 2014:

- A secondary school principal;
- Two teachers, of 4th and 8th grades;
- A state education chief; and
- A representative of the public not employed by federal, state, or local governments.

Some of the governing board's top priorities for next year include:

- Research studies on students' academic preparedness for college and job training;
- A parent engagement initiative;
- Innovative computer-based assessments; and
- A computer-based assessment of technology and engineering literacy at grade 8.

Click here for information about nominating a board member. The deadline is October 18, 2013.

(back to top)

Kick Off the School Year with NSTA Competitions

Slightly cooler air and the smell of freshly cut grass and sharpened pencils can only mean one thing—school is back in session! NSTA and its sponsors are kicking off another exciting school year of rewarding and recognizing high-performing science educators and students through our large-scale, nationally known competitions and grant programs. As you begin another year with fresh ideas, focused plans, and great expectations, consider participating in one of the following programs for you and your students:

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision

ExploraVision is a competition that encourages K–12 students of all interest, skill and ability levels to create and explore a vision of a future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. Teams of two to four students research scientific principles and current technologies as the basis for deigning innovative technologies that could exist in 20 years. Students compete for up to $240,000 in savings bonds (maturity value) for college and cool gifts from Toshiba. First- and second-place teams also receive an expenses-paid trip with their families, mentor and coach to Washington, D.C. for a gala awards weekend in June 2014. Applications are now being accepted; the deadline for applications is **January 30, 2014**. For more information about the program or to learn how to apply, visit the competition website.

eCYBERMISSION

eCYBERMISSION is a free, online collaborative learning competition for students in grades six through nine. Sponsored by the U.S. Army and administered by NSTA, eCYBERMISSION is one of several science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) initiatives offered by the Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP). The competition challenges student to think about real-world applications of STEM by working in teams to identify a problem in their community and use the scientific method, scientific inquiry or the engineering design process to find a solution. Students compete for state, regional and national awards, with potential winning of up to $8,000 (maturity value) in U.S. savings bonds. Registration for the competition is now open. To learn more about the eCYBERMISSION program and to register, click here or contact eCYBERMISSION Mission Control at 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or via e-mail atmissioncontrol@ecybermission.com.

America's Home Energy Education Challenge

America's Home Energy Education Challenge (AHEEC) is a national student competition, created to help families save money by saving energy at home. AHEEC engages students in elementary and middle schools to make smarter energy choices that reduce U.S. reliance on fossil fuels and put money back in their parents' pockets. This initiative aims to educate America's youth about the benefits of energy efficiency, motivate students to play a more active role in how their families use energy, and help families across the country reduce their energy bills. Participating schools compete for more than $50,000 in prizes that will be distributed at the regional and national levels of the competition. Official registration for the Challenge ends **November 15, 2013**. To register to join America's Home Energy Education Challenge

or to find more information about the competition click here.

Shell Science Lab Challenge

The Shell Science Lab Challenge, sponsored by Shell Oil Company (Shell) and administered by NSTA, encourages teachers (grades 6–12) in the U.S. and Canada, who have found innovative ways to deliver quality lab experiences with limited school and laboratory resources, to share their approaches for a chance to win up to $93,000 in prizes, including a grand prize school science lab makeover support package valued at $20,000. The deadline for submissions is **December 20, 2013**. For more information about the Challenge or to download an application, click here.

The DuPont Challenge© Science Essay Competition

The DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition is a student competition that invites seventh through 12th grade students to write a 700- to 1,000-word essay about a scientific discovery, theory, event or technological application that has captured their interest. Developed in collaboration with The Walt Disney World Resort, NASA and NSTA, the competition offers young students the opportunity to explore science, develop new skills and gain confidence in communicating scientific ideas. Created to honor the Challenger astronauts, students can win savings bonds up to $5,000, and a trip to Walt Disney World and to the Kennedy Space Center. Teachers win too! Along with the trips with their students, teachers can also win $500 grants. To learn more about the competition, check out the website.

(back to top)

Teacher Education, Professional Development, and Grant and Award Opportunities

N-Visioning a Brighter Future Grant Program

Sponsored by Westinghouse, the N-Visioning a Brighter Future Grant Program awards grants to U.S. K–12 schools that want their students to learn more about science, technology, or mathematics through a hands-on project. Three schools will be awarded grants of $1,000—$3,000 to complete their projects and $2,000 for the schools' science department needs—for any creative project dealing with energy, mathematics, science, and technology, but those involving students directly, incorporate community resources, and use interdisciplinary or team-teaching strategies will receive preference. Click here for more information. Applications are due November 15, 2013.

NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants

The NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants provide funds to improve the academic achievement of students by engaging in critical thinking and problem-solving that deepens knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Maximum award: $5,000. Practicing U.S. public school teachers, public school education support professionals, or faculty or staff at public higher education institutions are eligible to apply. Click here for more information. Application deadlines are **February 1, June 1,** and **October 15.**

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant Program

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation will donate $5 million to schools and school parent-teacher groups at more than 1,000 different schools during the school year. Grant applicants may request between $2,000 and $5,000 per school. Once 1,500 applications are received, the application process will be closed and the "Apply Now" button will no longer appear on the website. The program has two grant cycles in a school year: Spring (February 15) and fall (October 15). Click here for more information.

(back to top)

Teacher Resources

Team Nutrition Curriculum: PreK–6

USDA's Team Nutrition curriculum can help preschool and elementary students connect gardens with nutrition messages in the classroom and cafeteria and at home. The resources teach children to think positively about fruits and vegetables and foster an awareness of where foods come from. In Grow It, Try It, Like It! Preschool Fun With Fruits and Vegetables, very young students explore three fruits and three vegetables inside and out. In The Great Garden Detective Adventure (grades 3–4), students grow, harvest, prepare, and taste fruits and vegetables; develop a class cookbook; track their fruit and vegetable consumption; and share their knowledge with their school and families. In Dig In! (grades 5–6), students learn about plant behaviors and nutrition as they design, grow, and harvest a garden of fruits and vegetables.

Geoscience Resources

Use the materials at this website to introduce middle school to college students to the Global Positioning System (GPS) and the many ways GPS is used in geodesy. Resources include animations, tutorials, lesson plans, and links to

geoscience projects. Student activities explore concepts such as creating and reading time series plots; learning to analyze GPS data; and using the web-based data viewing tool EarthScope Voyager Jr. to visualize relationships among earthquakes, volcanoes, and plate boundaries in the western United States.

Climate Education Resources

Teaching Climate, NOAA's newly redesigned web page, offers a searchable database of reviewed K–12 climate education resources produced over the last 10 years as part of various NOAA, NASA, and NSF federal education grant projects. The resources have been rigorously reviewed by teams of subject experts for scientific accuracy, pedagogical soundness, and usability. Educators can search for resources by type (e.g., Visual, Videos, Demos and Experiments, and Interactive Tools) or by audience (e.g., grade levels from intermediate to upper and lower college, informal, and the general public). Click on Teaching Climate Literacy to access Climate Literacy: The Essential Principles of Climate Science, a standards-aligned framework for educators who want to teach climate science. The Professional Development section lists upcoming webinars and other events for educators to learn more about climate change.

(back to top)

What Is Science Matters?

Science Matters is an initiative by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to bring content, news, and information that supports quality science education to parents and teachers nationwide.

Science Matters, sponsored by the ExxonMobil Foundation and Shell Oil Company, builds on the success of the Building a Presence for Science program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. Building a Presence for Science—now Science Matters—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia.

Why does Science Matter? Science is critical to understanding the world around us. Most Americans feel that they received a good education and that their children will as well. Unfortunately, not many are aware that international tests show that American students are simply not performing well in science when compared to students in other countries. Many students (and their parents!) believe that science is irrelevant to their lives.

Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy, and this innovation depends on a solid knowledge base in science, math, and engineering. All jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. The most recent ten year employment projections by the U.S. Labor Department show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully compete for a job

This is why Science Matters. Quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—are critical to science literacy and our future workforce. Feel free to publish this information in school newsletters and bulletins, and share it with other parents, teachers, and administrators.

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program

Announcing the launch of the 2014-2015 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching (DA) Program Online Application for K-12 teachers!

Are you a U.S.:

- Primary and/or secondary classroom teacher?
- Guidance counselor?
- Curriculum specialist?
- Curriculum head?
- Talented and Gifted coordinator?
- Special Education coordinator?
- Media specialist/librarian?

You may be eligible to participate in a unique international professional development opportunity for 3-4 months through the Fulbright Program!

By conducting educational research abroad, U.S. teachers gain new skills, learn new instructional methods and assessment methodologies and share best practices with international colleagues and

students. Teachers also have the opportunity to expand their understanding of other cultures and international education systems that will enrich their U.S. schools and local communities with global perspectives.

Teachers may travel to: Chile, Finland, India, Israel, Mexico, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.

START YOUR APPLICATION TODAY: https://dafulbrightteachers.org/

Application deadline: December 15, 2013

Eligibility Requirements: www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org

Application Info: http://www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org/application-tp2

This program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is administered by the Institute of International Education.

Climate Change Workshop

Who: Formal and Informal Educators

What: A Two-Day Workshop on climate change topics (ocean acidification and sea level rise) with room, board, and a modest stipend provided to the first 20 educators interested in this Workshop and its commitments.

When: Friday, November 8, 2013 beginning at 5:00 p.m. through Saturday, November 9, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. Registration limited to 20 participants.

Where: Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS), 10801 Dolphin Lane, Gulfport, MS 39502

Why: To provide an enhanced understanding and awareness of climate change and its impact on our environment.

Contact: For more information and registration form, contact:

Chris Breazeale, IMMS, Ph: 228-701-1767; Fax: 228- 701-1771; email: chris@imms.org.

Funds for this program are provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-Office of Education through the Florida Aquarium in cooperation with the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies.

NSTA Learning Center Landing Page

NSTA has created a cohort landing page in the NSTA Learning Center for you and your teachers under the banner of Science Matters: Mississippi. At no cost to you or your teachers, individuals may create a Learning Center account (free to create an account and you do not have to be a member of NSTA to have one). After creating the account, just go to the web address below, the cohort landing page address, and enter the promo code in the field provided (about half-way down the page and to the right).

By entering the promo code participants of the Science Matters: Mississippi cohort will have access to their own private community forum, for asynchronous discussions, and will participate in the local leader boards list where they will be publicly recognized for their online learning experiences.

The NSTA Learning Center has over 3,800 free professional learning resources, PD tools to help educators manage and document their professional learning growth, all within an online community of learners (over 127,000 users).

(1) Create a free account here:
http://learningcenter.nsta.org/my_learning_center/register.aspx
(2) Go to the cohort landing page at:
http://learningcenter.nsta.org/sm-ms
(3) Enter the promo code in the field provided, about half-way down the page and to the right:
sm-m

Please send me your questions.
Flavio Mendez,
Senior Director, The NSTA Learning Center
National Science Teachers Association
1840 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201-3000
703-312-9250
703-243-3952 (NSTA Fax)

Kick off the school year with NSTA competitions!

Greetings!

Slightly cooler air and the smell of freshly cut grass and sharpened pencils can only mean one thing—school is back in session! NSTA and its sponsors are kicking off another exciting school year of rewarding and recognizing high-performing science educators and students through our large-scale, nationally known competitions and grant programs.

Please help us continue to promote quality STEM education by spreading the word about these amazing opportunities for teachers and students on your Websites and/or in your newsletters and communications. Check out the following opportunities listed below.

Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision

ExploraVision is a competition that encourages K-12 students of all interest, skill and ability levels to create and explore a vision of a future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. Teams of two to four students research scientific principles and current technologies as the basis for deigning innovative technologies that could exist in 20 years. Students compete for up to $240,000 in savings bonds (maturity value) for college and cool gifts from Toshiba. First- and second-place teams also receive an expenses-paid trip with their families, mentor and coach to Washington, D.C. for a gala awards weekend in June 2014.

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Registration for the competition is now open. Students registered by November 1st will receive a Free STEM Research Kit. All registered teachers will receive an eCYBERMISSION Starter Kit, which includes lessons, resources and tools available to introduce the competition in the classroom. To learn more about the eCYBERMISSION program and to register, click here or contact eCYBERMISSION Mission Control at 1-866-GO-CYBER (462-9237) or via email at missioncontrol@ecybermission.com.

America's Home Energy Education Challenge

America's Home Energy Education Challenge (AHEEC) is a national student competition, created to help families save money by saving energy at home. AHEEC engages students in elementary and middle schools to make smarter energy choices that reduce U.S. reliance on fossil fuels and put money back in their parents' pockets. This initiative aims to educate America's youth about the benefits of energy efficiency, motivate students to play a more active role in how their families use energy, and help families across the country reduce their energy bills. Participating schools and organizations compete for more than $50,000 in prizes that will be distributed at the regional and national levels of the competition.

Official registration for the Challenge ends **November 15, 2013**. To register to join America's Home Energy Education Challenge or to find more information about the competition click here.

Shell Science Lab Challenge

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The deadline for submissions is **December 20, 2013**. For more information about the Challenge or to download an application, click here.

The DuPont Challenge© Science Essay Competition

The DuPont Challenge Science Essay Competition is a student competition that invites seventh through 12th grade students to write a 700 to 1,000-word science essay in one of the four categories:

- Together, we can feed the world.
- Together, we can build a secure energy future.
- Together, we can protect people and the environment.
- Together, we can be **innovative** anywhere.

Developed in collaboration with The Walt Disney World Resort, NASA and NSTA, the competition offers young students the opportunity to explore science, develop new skills and gain confidence in communicating scientific ideas. Created to honor the Challenger astronauts, students can win savings bonds up to $5,000, and a trip to Walt Disney World and to the Kennedy Space Center. Teachers win too! Along with the trips with their students, teachers can also win $500 grants. To learn more about the competition, check out the website.

If you have any questions about any of the programs listed, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thanks,

Kate Falk, Senior Manager, Public Relations, National Science Teachers Association, 1840 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22303, Work: 703-312-9211, Cell: 510-828-9008, Fax: 703-243-7177, kfalk@nsta.org, www.nsta.org

MISSISSIPPI Natural Science Museum

FALL 2013 - SUMMER 2014

Join Us for these Exciting & Educational Museum Events

October 11, 2013	Fossil Friday! 10am-12 noon
October 25, 2013	Park After Dark 6-8pm
November 26, 2013	Turkey Tuesday! 10am-12 noon
December 6, 2013	Merry Mammals! 10am-12 noon
December 7, 2013	Christmas for the Birds 10-12 noon
December 14, 2013	Nature Made Christmas10am-12 noon
January 16, 2014	Family Fun Science Night 6-8pm
January 24, 2014	Fishy Friday! 10am-12 noon
March 1, 2014	Fossil Road Show 10am-3pm
March 10-14, 2014	Teacher Workshops! 9am-3pm each day
April 5, 2014	NatureFEST! 10am-5pm
May 3, 2014	Migratory Bird Day 10am-3pm
June 3, 2014	Snake Day! 10am-3pm
June 2014	Museum summer camps
July 21-25, 2014	Teacher Workshops! 9am-3pm each day

For more information please contact:

Megan.Fedrick@mmns.state.ms.us or Nicole.Smith@mmns.state.ms.us

What to expect at the MSTA Fall Conference: (A Partial List of Concurrent Sessions)

Title	Description
Mini Ed Camp	We'll model this session on EdCamp (edcamp.wikispaces.com). Come to this session with a question or issue in mind that you want to discuss. We'll set up stations around the room for particular questions or issues. Your job is to start the conversation, not manage it, not direct it. Just pose the problem. Participants are free to "vote with their feet" by moving to conversations that seem relevant to their work. Anything related to helping you learn more about teaching science better is open for discussion.
Phenomenal Physics For Upper Elementary and Middle School	Lots of counterintuitive events will be demonstrated. Many of the events have not been shown in a large group setting. Come and see the Ping Pong Ball Cannon demonstrated. Walk away with fresh ideas you can use in your classroom.
Phenomenal Physics For Upper Elementary and	Lots of counterintuitive events will be demonstrated. Many of the events have not been shown in a large group setting. Come and see the Ping Pong

Middle School	Ball Cannon demonstrated. Walk away with fresh ideas you can use in your classroom.
Less Discipline--More Learning--Small Changes--Big Results	Losing a lot of teaching time to disciplinary problems? Tired of issuing multiple warnings with no effect? Time To Teach provides concrete tools and strategies to give you just that...more time to teach. Research-based and field tested for 40 years. No gimmicks--no additional paperwork. Just results.
TANS Share-a-Thon: Favorite Classroom Activities for Chemistry, Geosciences, and Physics from the TEACHER ACADEMY in the NATURAL SCIENCES (TANS)	Walk on glass, make vegetable pH indicators, and have fun with cookie tectonics! The TANS program has concluded, but our teachers are still engaging their middle school science students. Join TANS teachers for their favorite chemistry, geosciences, and physics demonstrations for middle school science classrooms.
Let's rotate and revolve!	Come share your knowledge about the Earth's rotation and revolution in this hands-on session which is suitable for elementary and middle school. Activities will emphasize the Earth's relationship with the sun and the moon, with each participant receiving take-home materials and a greater understanding of their position in the solar system.
Integrating Geography Skills Into Your Classroom	Teachers will be introduced to a Giant Floor Map that can be brought to your school for feet-on activities that can integrate Geographic into the common core. Several activities will be discussed. Teachers will also have a chance to provide input in the development of new activities.
Interactive Science Notebooking	Do you want your students to connect to the content material on a deeper level? Do you want to teach your students to be independent thinkers and improve literacy skills? If you answered "yes" to these questions, this interactive science notebooking workshop will give you the tools you need to get started using this effective learning strategy!
Science Instruction Through Blended Learning.	This workshop will showcase how to create a blended learning environment, which is a concept that combines the live classroom with components of an online class. It will focus on the use of reflective writing, discussion boards, and live classroom activities.
Mission Intermodal	Planes, Trains, Cargo ships and Trucks. How do good get from one place to another? How do we measure environmental impacts and advantages? Learn about the Mission Intermodal program for teachers to assist them in bringing learning activities to their classroom to create a real impact in understanding our global infrastructure and economy and the impact on our environment.
Family Engineering Night	Bring Engineering to your school to support the science being taught in your classroom. This outreach effort by the MSU College of Engineering brings a night of Family Learning to your school. Come and try out some activities and see what this FREE program can do to invite family support and learning into your classroom and school.

NSTA Awards and Recognitions	Would you like to attend NSTA's April National Conference in Boston free of charge? Do you have a need for classroom resources? Would your family benefit from $10,000? At this session you will learn of the awards promoted by NSTA, how to apply, and tips for applicants. Handouts and promotional items will be given away during session!
Scientists Do Not Say "YUCK!"	This inquiry-based, hands-on series of activities focus on animal evidence, guiding elementary students in the use of science practices as promoted by NGSS. Participants will receive a list of free resources, a recipe for easy-to-make fake animal scat, and also literature connections.
The Best of the 2012 National Conferences	Join me as I share some of favorite resources and activities from the 2012 NABT Conference and the 2013 NSTA Conference. Handouts and Door Prizes!!!!
Science Activities for Rookies	This workshop is designed for first year teachers. Activities will include teaching tactics to enhance your classroom.
A Whole Lot of Science Going on	This session I will discuss some hands on activities. Using technology in Science classes. I will also give out a CD and free activities. So come to A Whole lot of Science Going On to see what is new in my classroom.
Solving History's Mysteries Redux	Join us for a solution to some of history's most intriguing unsolved mysteries. Original case studies, literacy connections and common core standards will be provided
TI and the STEM-based Classroom	Ned Colley from Texas Instruments will share innovative activities and resources for your STEM classroom. TI takes you far beyond graphing calculators to a whole-class, inquiry-based science learning system. Hands-on session using TI and Vernier technology. Take home materials, fun and prizes!
You Are What you Eat	What Do you mean that Mississippi children are the most overweight in the Nation ? What is a Nutritious Diet? Are there simple ways to test for fat in our diet ? Let's test, read, and write !.?? compliments of Delta Education!
Whats For Lunch??	The upper elementary student will be selecting foods from a cafeteria menu, most likely .. How can we, as teachers, help our students make healthy choices, and erace that "Mississippi has the fattest children in the Nation" statistic .. We will be examining menus, and testing for CHO.
Meal Wlorm Cookies are not so Bad !!	We will examine labels from another country , and relate it to labels that we see on foods packaged in the USA ... For our taste test, Meal Worm cookies will be supplied and evaluated ... Recipes will be shared ... Nutrition Readers will be given to enhance the literacy opportunity.
Sharing Nature Workshop	Sharing Nature Workshop In this session you'll experience many innovative nature awareness games from Joseph Cornell's award-winning Sharing Nature books. These activities make learning fun, meaningful, and deeply inspiring. You'll learn how to make ecological principles and attitudes come alive through experiential games that touch the heart as well as the mind.
Camp Lake Stephens Environmental Education Program	What if your students could study an ecosystem by actually visiting one? What if your class could perform a water study of a creek? Come learn how our Environmental Education Program has created outdoor educational experiences tailored to meet the MS Frameworks as well as Common Core Standards!

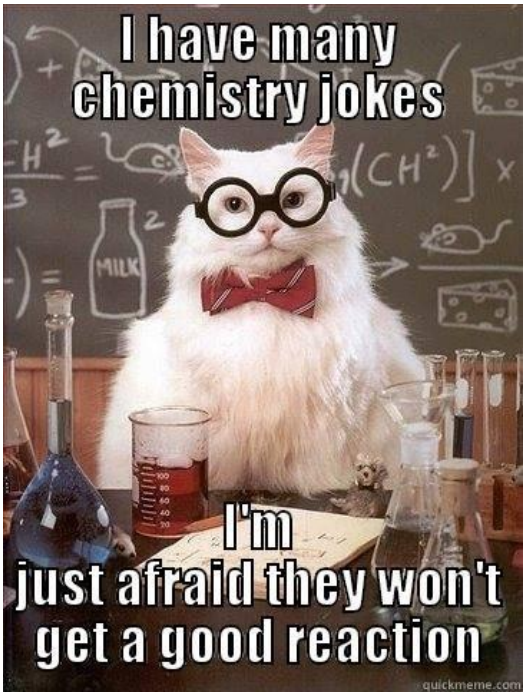
eCYBERMISSION: An Project Based Challenge to Improve the Community Through Science	This presentation will review a program sponsored by the U.S. Army and NSTA that promotes finding scientific solutions to various problems in the local community. Team project challenges within the middle grades is the focus. Details of the program and potential rewards for participation are discussed.
Science Fair: Making It Real, Easy and Successful	Exciting open-ended inquiry activities to introduce science fair process. Implementation and correlation of inquiry-based student research with Core Curriculum and NGSS. Motivating student interest. ISEF paperwork. ISEF opportunities for students and teachers.
Hippocrates and the Common Core State Standards	Have you been searching for activities to integrate Science and the CCSS? Come join me as I present a learning forum in which you change hats from teacher to learner/facilitator as your students become experts in the life and times of Hippocrates, from his early beginnings to the Hippocratic Oath. Handouts will be available.
Bring Science to Life with Live Animals!	Bring live animal presentations to your classroom! See a sample of the Free Mississippi Wildlife programs offered by the MS Museum of Natural Science. Programs can be on a variety of Wildlife related topics and are aligned with state and national science curriculums. Programs are hands on and include real specimens of pelts, skulls and even live animals!
New Spin on E and M	Hands On "Toys" from Arbor Scientific. They will put a new spin on the way you teach electricity and magnetism from K-12. Free teaching materials and door prizes included in the workshop.
PVC Physics 1.0	Come see how simple PVC "apparatus" can bring new life to physical science and physics instruction. Light, Force and Electricity applications will be explored. Among other things participants will participate in an obstacle course with a bowling ball and PVC mallets and get door prizes.
Bump, Set, Spike: Innovative Games for Teaching Chemistry	Want to literally get your Chemistry class “up and running”? Games are a great tool for science instruction. The presenter will demonstrate how to teach the Aufbau principle using a relay race, electron configurations via “pin the tail on the donkey,” evaporation using a balloon bump, and other exciting strategies.
Bump, Set, Spike: Innovative Games for Teaching Chemistry	Want to literally get your Chemistry class “up and running”? Games are a great tool for science instruction. The presenter will demonstrate how to teach the Aufbau principle using a relay race, electron configurations via “pin the tail on the donkey,” evaporation using a balloon bump, and other exciting strategies.
Big Kid Science	Big Kid Science is a program that encourages collaboration between high school Anatomy & Physiology students and 2nd grade students. Through this program young students are exposed to skin, bones, the heart, the brain, muscles, lungs, the stomach, and intestines in a hands-on environment that is fun and unforgettable!
4-H Maps & Apps	In this hands-on session participants will learn how to conduct a classroom friendly geospatial activity. Participants will create a GIS map and learn how to use plotted data to solve complex problems. Participants will also learn how to align this activity to common core.

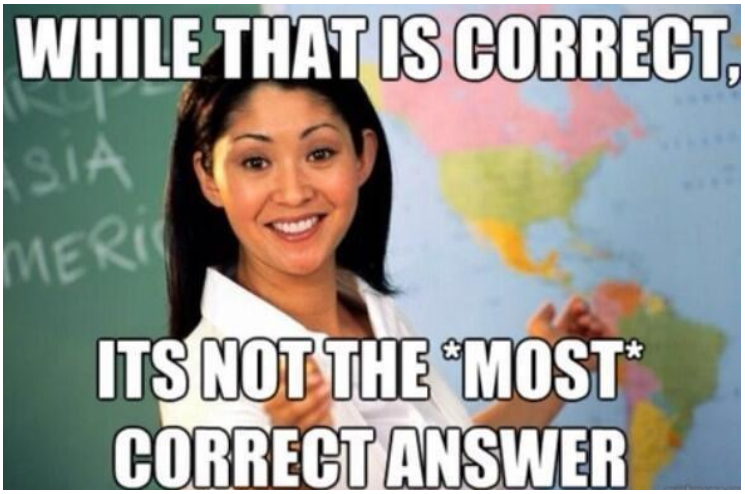
12 Month Guide to 4-H Robotics In or Out of the Classroom	In the hands-on workshop, participants will use the 12 month guide to 4-H robotics to introduce exciting (but inexpensive!) engineering concepts to their students. Find out how 4-H Robotics can supplement your classroom lessons.
Great Moments in INQUIRY	Revisit two landmark INQUIRY moments in science from the 1820s and then explore favorite discrepant events from the Partnership for Learning team's programs. Inquiry is as natural a response as curiosity to any unexpected phenomena and is a driving force in scientific progress. Enjoy science as compelling learning adventures!
Calder and His Mobiles	Bring the Arts to your classroom with Alexander Calder, the great American artist, known for his exceptional mobiles. Create beautiful mobiles that teach the concepts of balancing, use of fulcrums, and many other science concepts through the Arts. Leave the workshop with arts integration lesson plans and your own mobile.
Delta Environmental Science Workshop for Middle School Teachers	Science faculty at Delta State University recently conducted a hands-on, 2-week, inquiry based, interdisciplinary environmental science workshop that focused on aquatic food webs. Twenty teachers from the Delta area were selected and completed the course. Analysis of teachers' expectations, learning outcomes, and implications for impacting student learning will be discussed.
Big Kid Science	Big Kid Science will show high school and elementary school teachers how they can collaborate to meet the Common Core State Standards for 2nd grade students.
Population Growth of Humans as Related to Species Extinction	Our students should be made aware that a correlation can be seen between growth of the human population of the world with an increase in species extinction. This session will emphasize this fact and present possible reasons for this relationship. There will also be a discussion of what we as humans might possibly do to slow the rate of species extinction.
Aquatic Food Webs	Elementary and middle school teachers will work through exercises that illustrate the feeding connections within an aquatic ecosystem. Useful websites and handouts will be provided.
We Got Chemistry Baby!	Come and learn some ways to not only get excited about chemistry, but to understand the concepts they struggle with as well! This workshop will demonstrate effective ways to "hook" the students as well as help them understand difficult concepts such as electron configuration. Handouts and prizes will be given!
MORE THAN APPEARS TO THE EYE	Discuss microscope evolution, parts, and functions. What is the purpose of a microscope? Why do we need it? What is a macro organism? Why do they exist? How do they help the environment? What is their role is in an ecosystem? What is a healthy ecosystem and how do you determine it? We will answer all of these questions in a fun hands on activity with the use of STEM education.
From STEM to SWIM	Explore with over 30 STEM to SWIM (Science With Inexpensive Materials) activities. Easy, cheap and educational round robin style session focusing on energy transfer, force and motion, light, sound and engineering design challenges. Get new ideas for you classroom from STEM to SWIM!

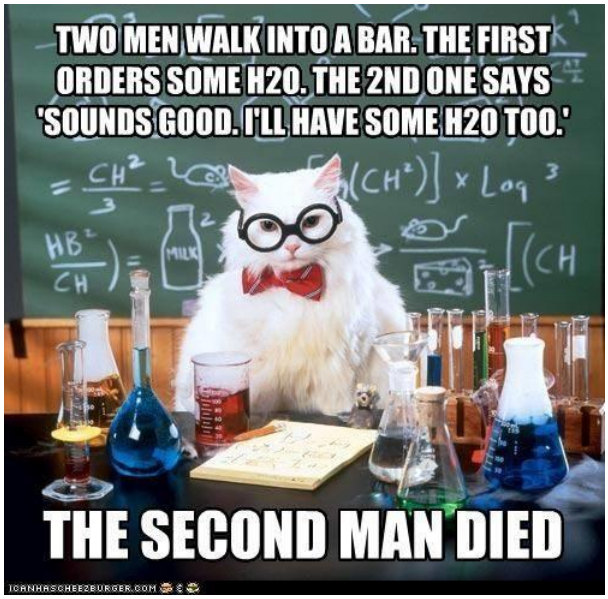
Uke-LIGO-Scope	Building a Uke-LIGO-Scope. Use common and easily accessible materials to build a instrument that will allow you to visualize waves formed on vibrating strings. Visit the LIGO SEC exhibit booth before the session for a demo of the Uke-LIGO-Scope!
Our Garden: "Its Only Elementary"!	You will learn to germinate and grow seeds to create a workable, edible garden that your students will have fun doing!
Bringing the Natural Science Museum to Your South Mississippi Classroom	Come find out what opportunities the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science can offer to you and your classroom, from live animal and endangered species presentations to teacher workshops to kits for loan. You might even get to meet one of our special guests!
Black Bears in Mississippi	Come learn about one of our most elusive animals in Mississippi, the Black Bear. We will discuss bear biology, conservation status and recovery efforts, research, bear myths, and ways you can use black bears as teaching tools in your classroom. Appropriate for all grade levels
Deerly Beloved Deer	In this session, we'll cover many aspects of white tail deer biology, such as their day to day habits, survival techniques, adaptations, morphology, rut and reproduction, conservation history, as well as management practices. We'll also show you some fun hands-on activities regarding deer that you can use in your classroom.
Qualitative Research: Fun for Students and Teachers	Fun! Fantastic! Frolic! Teachers often do not have an adequate background to make the process of qualitative research both informative and (darn it) just a lot of fun. Come for laughs and hands-on/minds-on activities that you and your students will remember for years.
Bits – n - Pieces	Come join us as we share ideas, demonstrations, activities and resources to provide a “lil’ bit” of the biological sciences and a “lil’ bit” of the physical sciences. Handouts available.
Mississippi Science and Engineering Fair	We will present last year's winners, Regional SEF Directors and information, and information about 2014 Mississippi Science and Engineering Fair.
Family Nature Detectives	Do you want to inspire creative play and learning in your children? One way is to connect your children to nature! Join us for the Family Nature Detectives mini-workshop where our naturalists will share with you ways to explore a few of nature's mysteries with the children in your family, and with your students.
Cut Across the Core with GLOBE	Come see how GLOBE protocols and learning activities literally cut across grade levels and the Common Core: from English to math to social studies and all disciplines in the sciences. Go away with teacher-made supplies.
Science Teachers Are From Mars, Middle School Students are From Venus	Do you feel like your students are “not the sharpest tools in the shed” because they spend more time worrying about “Roses are red, violets are blue, I’ve never met anyone as hot as him/her?” This workshop uses humor, Nerds, Red Hots, & electrical current to join the 2 worlds.
Biology Bootcamp 3	Back Again for the 3rd year! We are bringing our best hands-on materials to help teach on a budget. "Taking the boredom out of biology" is our motto. Come join the fun and get some fresh ideas.
Who's Your Teacher?/Who's Your Classmate?	This beginning of school 'get to know you' activity teaches observations versus inferences in a simple, yet creative way, allowing students a chance to practice writing and presentation skills. And the classroom gets plenty of a

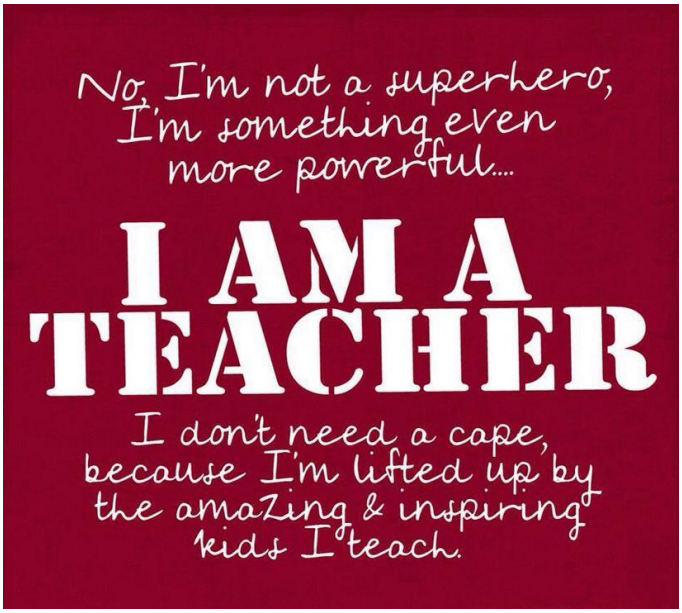
	much needed supply to use throughout the year!
Polymers, Polymers Everywhere!	Come and join our merry band of polymers teachers to get your hands on -- and into -- polymers of all kinds. Participants to this session will get hands-on and minds on materials and lessons that can be used right away in the classroom, regardless of the teaching level. We will model the 5-E lesson format and discuss and give ideas about literacy and STEM connections to polymers lessons. Door prizes will be given, so you don't want to miss this session!
iPads in the Classroom - Year Two	In this session, James and his super band of polymers teachers will discuss how teachers all over Mississippi can harness the power of the iPad and integrate it into their teaching strategies in the classroom. All teachers can benefit from attending this session. We will highlight and demo as many different apps as possible to show teachers just how versatile -- and just how engaging -- this type of technology can be in helping them to motivate and teach their students. Door prizes will be given so don't miss this session!
GMO - The Right to Know	An update on genetically modified foods and the controversy that surrounds them. Should producers be required to label foods that contain foreign DNA?
Utilizing the Resources of the US Fish and Wildlife Service	Learn about resources that the US Fish and Wildlife Service have for teachers and students. Find out what might be in your backyard as well as online resources to engage students. In addition, learn about some of the career options for your students.
Life in a Tree	Explore the abundance of life that can be found all in one microhabitat. We are sharing techniques to bring science alive in the early elementary classroom.
The Endangered Skill: Reading to Learn	Common Core pushes students towards skills we as teachers take for granted: reading to learn & critical thinking. This workshop will look at some new and some tried-and-true strategies that encourage this basic skill for middle high school students who too often say "I don't like to read!"
Technology Update: New Programs and Apps for Teachers and Students	Join chemistry/biology teacher and tech geek Don Bratton for a discussion and demonstration of useful techniques, technologies, apps, and programs in the science classroom. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mobile device and/or laptop.
Safety in the LAB	No matter the subject or test, Safety is the most important thing! Discover not only first aid techniques, but also how to keep yourself safe in the lab. Realize that OSHA has guidelines for your lab facility and your equipment. As the science teacher, you have a responsibility to the students, administration, and community to keep everyone informed and safe.
Garden Party!!!	Does your school have an outdoor classroom? No? Does lack of funds stop you? We can show you how to make a garden on a shoe-string budget. You can even use these ideas at home!

Joke Corner:


I have many chemistry jokes
I'm just afraid they won't get a good reaction
quickmeme.com


WHILE THAT IS CORRECT,
ITS NOT THE *MOST* CORRECT ANSWER


TWO MEN WALK INTO A BAR. THE FIRST ORDERS SOME H2O. THE 2ND ONE SAYS 'SOUNDS GOOD. I'LL HAVE SOME H2O TOO.'
THE SECOND MAN DIED
ICANHASCHEEZBURGER.COM


No, I'm not a superhero, I'm something even more powerful....
I AM A TEACHER
I don't need a cape, because I'm lifted up by the amazing & inspiring kids I teach.

MSTA CONVENTION ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

2013 MSTA Annual Convention October 27-29, 2013

Marriott Jackson, Jackson, MS

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Each person attending the annual convention must complete a separate form.
- Spouses must file separate forms.
- Convention attendees must wear their nametag to gain admission to all convention activities.
- Early Bird Advanced registration deadline is Wednesday, **October 9, 2013 (applications MUST be postmarked by October 9th for early-bird "free" t-shirt).**
- **Continued Advanced registration (no t-shirt) can be made through October 18 (postmarked date).**
- **For hotel reservations:** Marriott Hotel-Jackson, Mississippi (Phone: 601-969-5100) Cut-off-date for rooms is September 28, 2013)

1. REGISTRATION INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____

_____

School/Organization (for convention badge)

PROFESSIONAL ADDRESS

Address

City/State/Zip _____

School Phone _____

Grade(s) and/or subjects that you teach:

_____

_____

HOME ADDRESS

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

_____

Home Phone: (_____)_____

E-mail Address please **print carefully**: (If you have a personal email address you may want to use it so if you change schools your newsletters and communications will follow you.)

_____

_____

* On-site registration fees will be $5.00 higher and does not include T-shirt.

** Teachers who are also part-time graduate students must register at the Member/Nonmember rate.

Send completed form and payment to:
MSTA - Aleta Sullivan, Registrar
PO Box 588
Poplarville, MS 39470
email: aleta@peoplepc.com and I will let you know by email when I receive your registration

2. REGISTRATION FEES*

Full Program (Mon. & Tues.) Rates

___ Member/Non-member $70.00

___Undergraduate/Graduate Student $25.00

___Non-teaching Family/Guest/Spouse $35.00

These Include the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday.

___OR ___ Daily Admission: [Check the day(s)]

Monday. October 28 only:

___Member/Non-member $40.00

___Full-time Undergraduate/Graduate Student $15.00

___Non-teaching Family/Guest/Spouse $20.00

Tuesday, October 29 only:

___Member/Nonmember $70.00

___Full-time Undergraduate/Graduate Student $25.00

___Non-teaching Family/Guest/Spouse $35.00

The Tuesday registration fee includes admission to the Awards luncheon.

Total Payment $_____
Make checks payable to MSTA
Early Bird Advanced Registration fee includes T-shirt. MUST be postmarked by 10/09/2013.

No registration refunds for registrations after 10/04/2013

T-shirt size: _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

___ Personal Check ___ Cash

___ School Check ___Purchase Order

Amount Received: _____

By: _____ Date: _____

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MSTA on the Internet: Join us at the **MSTA Listserv** by visiting this site ***http://lists.ms-meca.org/mailman/listinfo/msta*** and filling out the form found there. **Visit our website at *www.MS-Scienceteachers.org*** The listserv and website are services provided for MSTA members at no additional cost. Don't forget the MSTA Wiki space at http://msta.wikispaces.com Websites and more can be found here. MSTA on Facebook: Join ***Mississippi Science Teachers*** page on Facebook. **Please send information** on workshops, announcements, other matters of interest to our membership to me,

Deborah Duncan, 1402 Golf Course Rd., Philadelphia, MS 39350 or email me at **deb50duncan@gmail.com**

MSTA Membership Application

Mississippi Science Teachers Association cordially invites you to become a member.
To do so, please complete the items below. Return completed form and the $10.00 annual membership fee ($5.00 student) to:

Melinda Miller, Treasurer
Mississippi Science Teachers Association,
PO Box 588
Poplarville, MS 39470

Email address: Please print and use your personal address.

_____

Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Home Address: _____
Street or Box City State Zip

Name of School or Institution: _____

Work address: _____
Street or Box City State Zip

Grade Level: Circle the correct grade K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 College Informal

Subject(s) Taught: _____