**New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 6/7/24**

**Message from the Desk of the State Director**

Please keep checking the [SkillsUSA national website](https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/competition-updates/) for contest updates, as they are coming up on a daily basis.

**Contest Changes for Next Year**

Masonry is going back to the Apprentice Training Center in Bordentown, NJ. The competition will be on March 22, 2025.

*We will keep everyone informed of future date and/or location changes.*

**My Apologies to the State Officers**

In the Friday Flash from May 24th, I said I would be making appointments to visit the newly elected State Officers. Due to scheduling conflicts, I was unable to make this happen. I apologize for not being able to fulfill this promise. I will see you all at the Boot Camp in August, and some I will see in Atlanta.

**WLTI Overview**

The SkillsUSA Washington Leadership Training Institute conference (WLTI) is held each September in Washington, DC and offers students and advisors from across the country unique opportunities to advocate for skilled trades while receiving advanced leadership training. This year’s conference will be held September 21-25, 2024.

In addition to leadership sessions, other WLTI events include tours of DC’S famous monuments and museums, panel discussions with government officials, a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and more.

The highlight of the four-day event consists of student delegations conducting in-person visits with their elected officials on Capitol Hill to advocate for SkillsUSA and career and technical education. During those visits, students share the value and benefits of SkillsUSA participation through their own personal experiences.

WLTI is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the hundreds of students who participate each year.

Cost per person based on registration and double-occupancy hotel room is approximately $1000. Transportation to the conference will be provided if NJ registers at least 24 participants.

Contact our office if interested or if you need more information: rstarace@scvts.net or 908- 526-8900 X 7231

Have a great weekend!

*Ralph Starace*