

## NFA FALL NEWSLETTER

October 19, 2011

Dear Colleagues: By now you should have received the Notes from the Tournament Director. I hope you have downloaded them and read them carefully. I know that if they are followed, it will clearly make it easier for the Director to verify every qualification and help in getting things set up for the National Tournament.

This edition of the Newsletter will contain several items of interest as well. You may have noticed that in his Notes, the Tournament Director mentioned that the Executive Council engaged in a multi-day retreat over the summer to address issues of inconsistencies and vagueness in the rules and policies that govern the NFA. The retreat experience provided a platform for lengthy discussion and debate on some of the most important issues facing this organization and an opportunity to revise the bylaws and constitution accordingly. The retreat produced some significant revisions to the governing documents and Executive Council is presenting to the membership this year to determine implementation.

The Revised Constitution and Bylaws are attached to this e-mail to give you the opportunity to review them before they are presented to the membership. At the NCA meeting in New Orleans, there will be a time limited period for discussion of the items. At our annual business meeting in April, we will present the Constitution and Bylaws to the organization for action.

The revisions in the Bylaws are an attempt to help clarify the events and to enable decisions to be made in regard to any challenges to performances at the National Tournament. The revisions in the Constitution are to bring it into line with current practices and operating procedures.

In addition to the attachments, this Newsletter contains several other items of information. The first will be related to our panels and business meeting at the NCA convention in New Orleans. The second will be the procedure for the selection of the Lincoln Douglas Debate topic for the academic year 2012-2013.

On behalf of the Executive Council, let me express that we hope to see many of you at the NCA convention. We also hope your forensic season is off to a good start.

Yours truly,

Larry Schnoor, President, NFA

## **NFA PROGRAMS/MEETINGS AT THE NCA CONVENTION IN NEW ORLEANS**

### Wednesday, November 16:

7:00-10:00 p.m. – Forensic Reception, Sheraton New Orleans, Room-Oak Alley (All forensic organizations)

### Thursday, November 17:

9:30-10:45 a.m. – Graduate Student Directed Forensic Programs: A Panel Discussion on Maintaining Team Voice Without Faculty Position Support. New Orleans Marriott, Room-Mardi Gras B, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

12:30-1:45 p.m. – Employing and Firing the Cannons of Extemp: Building a Theory of Extemporaneous Speaking with the Five Canons of Rhetoric. Sheraton New Orleans, Room-Salon 816, 8<sup>th</sup> floor

### Friday, November 18:

7:30-9:00 a.m. – Executive Council Meeting – Place to be determined.

12:30-1:45 p.m. – A Reassuring Voice in a Sea of Chaos: Application of Theory to the Practice of Mentoring Forensics Coaches, Sheraton New Orleans, Room-Salon 820, 8<sup>th</sup> floor

2:00-3:15 p.m. – National Forensic Association Business Meeting, Sheraton New Orleans, Room-Nottaway, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

### Saturday, November 19:

9:30-10:45 a.m. – Shock Treatment: Giving Voice to Narratives of Culture Shock and Border Crossing Within Forensics. Sheraton New Orleans, Room-Salon 821, 8<sup>th</sup> floor

11:00-12:15 p.m. – Tuning the Millennial Voice: Meeting Pedagogical Challenges of “Millennials” in Classroom and Competition Contexts. Sheraton New Orleans, Room-821, 8<sup>th</sup> floor

There are a number of panels at the convention from other forensic organizations that may be of interest. Please go on line to check out the NCA Schedule to discover what might meet your interests.

## **NFA LINCOLN DOUGLAS TOPIC SELECTION FOR 2012-2013**

The process for the selection of the Lincoln Douglas Debate topic for 2012-2013 will be as follows:

1. Topic Areas with briefs should be sent to the Chair of the NFA Lincoln Douglas Committee and to the President of the NFA by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.
2. A ballot listing all of the topic areas with briefs, will be e-mailed to the NFA Membership by February 6<sup>th</sup> to select the top five topic areas for consideration. This ballot must be returned by e-mail by February 16<sup>th</sup>. Only one vote per school may be submitted.
3. A ballot listing the top five topic areas will be e-mailed to the NFA Membership by February 20<sup>th</sup> and must be returned by e-mail by February 27<sup>th</sup>. Only one vote per school may be submitted.
4. The Topic area selected will be announced by the NFA President on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The LD Committee will work on the development of resolutions for the topic area with 5 proposed resolutions to be submitted to the NFA President by April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
5. A ballot with the 5 proposed resolutions will be e-mailed to the NFA membership on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Ballots must be returned by April 30<sup>th</sup>, either by e-mail or at the NFA National Tournament. Only one vote per school may be submitted.
6. The 2012-2013 LD Debate resolution will be announced by July 1<sup>st</sup> by the NFA President.

All NFA Members schools are encouraged to engage in the process of selecting the LD Topic areas and the resolutions. Please feel free to send comments, suggestions, wording, to the Chair of the Lincoln Douglas committee so they may be shared with the members of the committee in the development of the resolutions.