

Candor
Newark
Valley
Tioga

Tioga County Teacher Center

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Blog—<http://teachtioga.blogspot.com>

Newsletter

Conference: Making Connections

The Cortland-Homer-McGraw Teacher Center, with the support of other STTCN Teacher Centers, including TCTC, is presenting its 6th Annual Educator's Conference, "Making Connections: A Conference for Educators, by Educators," Saturday, March 3, 2007.

The keynote speaker will be Chris Sperry, his message: "Democracy and New Media: Literacy for the 21st Century." Sperry is currently the Director of Curriculum and Staff Development for Project Look Sharp, a media literacy initiative of Ithaca College working with K-12 teachers, librarians and technology specialists.

Some workshop topics include: Blogging in the Classroom, Media Literacy for Young Children, The New EdVideo Online: Using PowerMediaPlus in the Classroom, Teaching vs. Learning: the 5 E's, Teacher as Leader, Media Literacy: Integrating Critical Thinking across the Curriculum, and Hands-On Math, Science and Technology Enrichment. There will be "Great Food, Information Tables, and Door Prizes!"

The conference will be held at Barry Elementary School, 20 Raymond Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045. Registration runs from 7:30 am through 8:15 and the program runs from 8:15 until 2:30 pm. The registration deadline is February 24. A copy of the brochure is posted on the TCTC's blog at <http://www.teachtioga.blogspot.com>. Hard copies of the brochure (yellow) will be available in your mailbox.

January 2007

Intel® Teach to the Future

In early December the Intel Foundation awarded New York State Teacher Centers \$75,000 to put Teacher Centers in the lead in the state for Intel Teach to the Future. Teacher Center Networks are now in the process of working out the details and training schedules. Our Network, STTCN, is planning to offer the 40-hour training sometime this summer.

Stan Silverman of New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) informs us, "I was also able to convince NYIT's senior administration to allow us to offer 3 graduate credits for \$350 for the Intel courses. This is compared to our regular tuition of \$2100 per 3 credits and our Teacher Center tuition of \$740 per 3 credits course. All this translates to mean that we will be able to pay for the training in the networks and if teachers want graduate credit for the experience they can have it for \$350 from an NYSED, NCATE and Middle States accredited college."

Contact TCTC Director George Lohmann for more information.

Visit Our Blog!

If you want the most current information about upcoming opportunities and events, please visit our blog at <http://www.teachtioga.blogspot.com>. **ADD IT TO YOUR FAVORITES!**

Blogging Workshops

Director George Lohmann has been invited to conduct two blogging workshops at Chenango Valley on Friday, February 2. The first will be an overview of the uses and benefits of using blogs in the classroom and the second will be a hands-on workshop showing teachers how to create their own blogs. After Lohmann uses Chenango Valley as his guinea pig, he will offer workshop for the TCTC schools.

Our Services

Color Copies \$.30 Laminating \$.40 per linear foot
Bookbinding \$.10 each Posters \$.50 per linear foot
Ellison Die Machine Cutouts Free

Director

George Lohmann

Be a Bird Sleuth!

Attention science teachers of grades 4 through 8! Jennifer Schaus of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca) will present “Be a Bird Sleuth!” Session one will be Thursday, April 26, 2007, 4:00-6:30 pm—approximately 1.5 hours indoors and 1 hour outside at Sapsucker Woods—and session two will be Tuesday, May 1, 2007, 4:00-6:00 pm. You will spend the second session in the computer lab registering for the Lab’s “exciting new citizen science project—eBird.”

According to the flyer, “Engaging students in the process of science—from start to finish—becomes easy with BirdSleuth, a new curriculum developed by educators at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology! Your students will love going outdoors to collect *real* data for scientists.”

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Dryden Teachers’ Center and the Cortland-Homer-McGraw Teacher Center. Registration deadline is Thursday, April 5. View the flyer on the TCTC blog at <http://www.teachtioiga.blogspot.com> or contact Director George Lohmann for a copy of the flyer containing registration information.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Professional Development

TCTC has begun a dialogue among its member administrators and teacher representatives from its Policy Board. Nancy Riggs and Ryan Dougherty will represent Candor, along with Scott Senko and Lon Hayes from Newark Valley and LuEllen Hoyt and Kathleen Keene from Tioga. TCTC Director George Lohmann and Pat Kuennecke of Broome Tioga BOCES will also participate.

Their first meeting will take place at Candor High School on Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at 4:00 pm. Such topics as what constitutes Professional Development (PD), what does high quality PD look like, what are the roadblock and challenges to evaluating the effectiveness of PD, should student achievement be the only goal of PD and what effects change in the classroom will be some of the topics discussed.

Discounted Computer “Bundles” from TPP

Shopping for a computer? Visit <http://www.nytp.org/>. This new program offers reduced-price computers and software tailored specifically to meet the needs of teachers. But that’s just the beginning. Because we know your time is limited, your Teacher Centers have ensured the technology “bundles” available through TPP also include advanced software, helpful training and computer support. They are offering one PC bundle and two laptop bundles. If you purchase one of the bundles, your director has coupon codes which you can use for 10% off anything Dell offers in their catalogue. If you’re in the market for a new computer, make sure you check out this offer.

Here’s the TPP Ordering Procedure. Originally you had to get a code from your director to order your computer bundle. But now you will only have to contact him for an order number to receive the discount on other Dell products:

- 1) Go to <http://www.nytp.org>.
- 2) Shop for the bundles on the Dell Site.
- 3) Order the computer (no code required).
- 4) Submit ORDER NUMBER to Teacher Center and get a 10% coupon off the Dell accessory catalog.

Roadblocks to Learning: Strategies for Teachers

The deadline for the STTCN sponsored conference on learning disabilities, “Roadblocks to Learning: Strategies for Teachers,” will be here before you know it. The conference is Tuesday, February 27, 2007, 8:00 am to 2:30 pm, featuring Dr. Susan Beltz, who was so critically acclaimed after her last conference presentation for the STTCN in October that the Network is bringing her back.

Flyers have been distributed and also appear on the TCTC blog at <http://www.teachtioiga.blogspot.com>.

NYSUT Workshops

In conjunction with the Teacher Center of Broome County and the Endicott Educational Resource Center, the TCTC is arranging three workshops provided by NYSUT. The TC of BC is offering “Supporting Students with Autism” on Tuesday, March 6, the TCTC is offering “Disability Awareness” probably on Wednesday, March 7, (date pending) and the EERC is offering “Dealing with Difficult Students” on Thursday, April 19. Details are forthcoming.

PowerMediaPlus

Director George Lohmann is in the process of arranging workshops with Cynthia Lyszczek, WSKG Education Specialist, to instruct teachers about PowerMediaPlus, the system that replaces United Streaming. This service provides access to 2,800 full-length videos, 20,000 clips, 4,300 audio files, 25,000 images and 5,000 print resources. Lohmann is also planning to provide flash drives to participants so they can save what they want to use later with their classes. Stay tuned for further information.

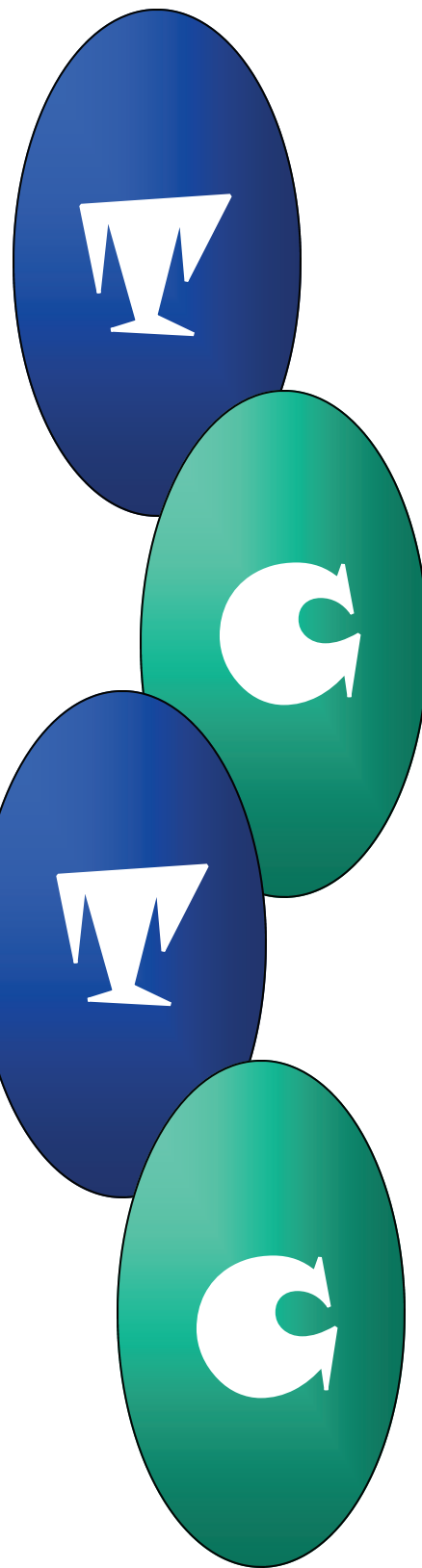
Waiting for Our SMART Board

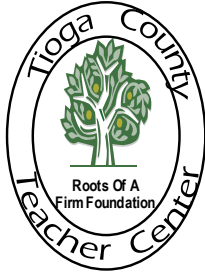
Director George Lohmann is waiting—not so patiently—for the TCTC’s SMART Board to arrive. The projector has already arrived and as soon as the rest of the equipment is in hand and set up, he will arrange and announce workshops to train teachers in using the SMART Board with Smart Notebook. It’s the software that “makes all the difference.” Without the software, a SMART Board is little more than a projection screen. With the software, according to Lohmann, “it makes PowerPoint look like an old chalkboard.”

Because the TCTC was able to buy the equipment at such a low price, it can only be used for training teachers. The software, however, is free to any teacher of a school district that has SMART Boards. Otherwise, it is a copyright infringement.

Study Group Blogging

The TCTC would like to encourage study groups to consider setting up a blog for each of their study groups. It’s easy and TCTC Director George Lohmann would be glad to show you how. It’s a valuable way of communicating with one another when not meeting face to face. You can link Websites that you want to share with your colleagues without printing and copying them. It’s much easier than you might think.





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Workshop

The Solar System & Beyond: New Ideas in Space Science

Kopernik's staff will help you stay informed on the latest robotic missions to the Solar System. All participants will receive hands-on science activities that are fun and easy to do with your class.

Activities include:

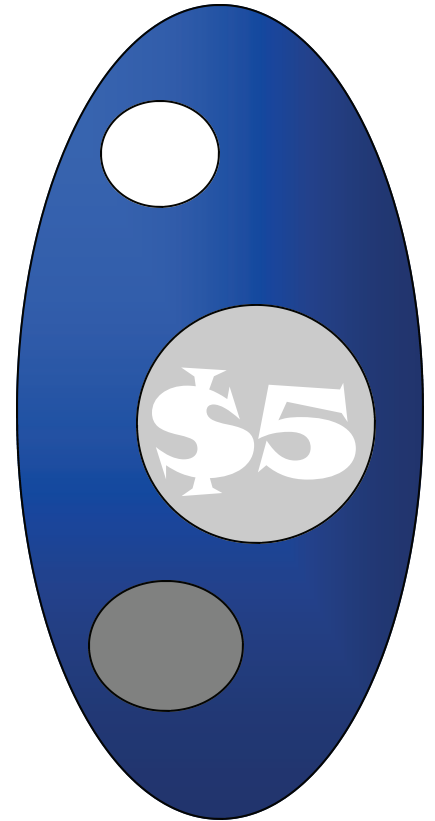
“The Invisible Universe”—see the universe in many different wavelengths - make 3D viewers, “Interplanetary Geology”—comparing craters, volcanoes on the Moon and Mars.

The Observatory will be open for solar observing and possibly daytime planets.

Kopernik has an Earth Science Lab, a Physics Lab and a Space Science Lab along with the best equipped public observatory in the Northeast.

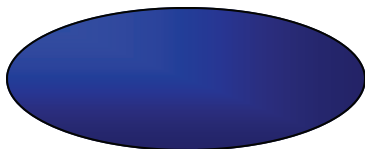
More information about us at: www.kopernik.org

Co-Sponsored by
the Teacher Center of Broome County



Instructors

Tish Bresee
and
Roy Williams



When and Where

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

4:00-6:00 pm

Kopernik Observatory and Science Education Center
698 Underwood Road
Vestal, NY

Sign Up At

teachercenter13845@yahoo.com

Director

George Lohmann