

Cell Phones For Soldiers

Since its inception in 2004, Cell Phones for Soldiers has worked to keep military families connected by providing FREE communication tools to those serving overseas in the United States military. In seven years, the registered 501(c)(3) has provided troops with more than 2.5 million prepaid calling cards, equating to 181 million minutes of FREE talk time.

Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to continue its mission to provide troops with FREE calls home through generous monetary contributions and the recycling of used mobile phones. Used mobile phones from all service providers are accepted. Each \$5 contribution, or donated device valued at \$5, will provide troops with 2.5 hours of FREE talk time.



Cell Phones for Soldiers was founded by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist of Norwell, Massachusetts, at the ages of 12 and 13. The organization has prevented more than 10.8 million cell phones from ending up in landfills.

"Cell Phones for Soldiers started as a small way to show our family's appreciation for the men and women who have sacrificed the day-to-day contact with their own families to serve in the United States armed forces," says the teens' father, Bob Bergquist. "Over the past few years, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of others. But, we have also seen the need to support our troops continue to grow as more troops are sent overseas for longer

Donation Process:

1. Power off cellular device
2. Place cellular device(s) and any monetary donations in a sealed envelope or package
3. Mail envelope or package to:
 - Cell Phones For Soldiers
 - 6111 Cochran Road
 - Solon, OH 44139
4. Fill out donation receipt on the IASC website and mail to:
 - Lane Bennett
 - PO Box 293
 - Oakwood, IL 61858

What is Accepted:

- New or used cell phones
- Cell phone cases
- Cell phone chargers
- Monetary Donations

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS®



OUR MISSION: HELP OUR TROOPS CALL HOME

WWW.CELLPHONESFORSOLDIERS.COM

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80th Annual IASC Convention at Springfield, IL

The 80th annual IASC convention will be held May 1-3 at the Hilton hotel in Springfield Illinois. With the event fast approaching, many deadlines are approaching! The deadlines are in this issue as well as the website, Illinoisstuco.com.



The next page discusses the speakers attending the convention

A'ric Jackson

For the last eight years, people have allowed themselves to be motivated and inspired into action by the words of A'ric Jackson. His mission is to T. I. E.—Teach, Inspire, and Encourage all those who hear him, and to take on the challenge of helping others pursue their goals and dreams.

What began as passionate poetry designed to uplift the spirit has turned into the pursuit of affecting attitudes and changing conventional thought. A charismatic and genuinely heartfelt facilitator, A'ric knows that his passion and desire for his audience allow him to connect and engage them while he is speaking.

After a Chicago Poetry Slam, he was told by a viewer, “before I heard you, I didn't know if I was going to live to see tomorrow...but after hearing your poem, I know I will.” In that moment, A'ric's life changed and he immediately began realizing how affected and impacted his audiences were by the poetry he would share. That day, A'ric began to feel the tug of moving to the next level with his words.

Selected as Best New Speaker in 2000 by the Chicago Chapter of the International Speech Organization, Toastmasters, made him realize how much he wanted to pursue this and make a difference with others. He admits that he did not know who he wanted to impact. He just knew he wanted to make a difference.

Growing up in a small town outside of Chicago, he saw how gang violence and drugs were having a devastating impact on the very kids he grew up with. He was always known as the “Dr. Phil” at his high school, but it was a life changing event that his teenage sister went through that he realized a void needed to be filled with more strong teens and youth across America.

Watching him speak on stage helps you realize why he is such a unique and gifted orator, for it takes a genuine speaker to present information with shared experience, real life stories, passion to research a topic much deeper, and to share that information with the audience using skills that will make it a memorable and exciting experience for all.



Mr. Phil



“At least once in your life, you must experience Mr. Phil Gugliuzza! He is a dynamic, creative, and inspiring speaker—a true master! As a highly recognizable national and international youth speaker, Phil has spoken to audiences of teenagers, educators and college students in all 50 states and 12 foreign countries. In fact, he travels over 100,000 miles each year doing outstanding programs. With such a rare accomplishment you can be sure his work is AWESOME.” - The Fisher Agency -

Mr. Phil is very energetic and likes to stay busy! He is a former Speech, English, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Social Studies teacher. During those years, he served as Director of Student Activities at a large suburban high school near New Orleans. He is currently serving as Executive Director for the Louisiana Association of Student Councils, and is Executive Administrator for Key Clubs in Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Tennessee.

Mr. Phil has received numerous awards for his dedication to the development of leadership skills. He has been named as the Louisiana Student Council Advisor of the Year, the Southern Association Advisor of the Year, and the national Leadership Workshop Director of the Year.

Dedra Stafford

Dedra Stafford is a former professional development specialist and educator. She is an Educational Speaker and has presented at international, national, state, and local conferences across the nation sharing inspirational ideas, from technology to school climate. Dedra is passionate about providing quality staff development for educators.

Dedra is an internationally known speaker, trainer and author in the educational world. Dedra creates entertaining workshops that get crowds energized, motivated, and inspired to be their best for the students they serve. As a former classroom teacher, she understands the need for professional development where practical ideas can be implemented immediately into the classroom. She creates fun filled workshops designed to be hands-on and interactive. Dedra has a unique ability to put teachers at ease as she teaches concepts and beliefs incorporated with humor in a user friendly way.



Activities at the State Convention

Reflections:

We are asking each advisor to nominate one student for the reflection ceremony to take place on the night of the banquet. The nominee should be a student who has exceptional leadership skills, stands out, raises the bar, and is a hard worker. The nominee should be one who deserves to be recognized in front of the IASC at the State Convention. Please attach a short (150 words or less) essay on your nominee stating why you have chosen him or her and what he or she has contributed to your school council or the IASC. Please have this nomination postmarked by March 14. Forms will be sent out in February and should be returned to Kyle Gordon. If there are any questions, contact Delaney Egan at Delaney.egan@gmail.com.

T-shirt Swap:

IASC is all about exchanging ideas, and this activity is another way to fulfill this goal. The t-shirt swap is a chance to interact with other schools, change ideas and forge memories. Please bring shirts from your school for members to swap during this activity.

The next issue of the *Reporter* will have the tentative schedule of events for the state convention. Stay tuned!



Dynamics of Trust

The Dynamics of Trust workshop was an amazing opportunity for me. I was able to travel to Lake Williamson Center and participate in an interesting and fun low ropes course. Even being a tad late, I was quickly welcomed into my group. Having gone to the Milliken summer workshop, I was able to see old acquaintances and I also met some awesome new people. We participated in many different kinds of activities, ranging from balance beams to working together in hopes of moving everyone from one island to the other. After each activity, we discussed how it was relatable to student council; some took on a leadership role, while others stuck to working with each other as equals. It was interesting to see who was willing to take charge, and how they were able to organize the group to achieve the task at hand. Overall this was a great experience, and I recommend this workshop for anyone willing to improve their teamwork or relationships with other people. Anyone who has the chance should definitely go; it's fun and, better yet, you can take what you've learned and apply it to Student Council, high school, and life in general. I'm glad I was able to attend.

Patrick Delgado

York High School



North Central District's Winter Retreat

Every year, the North Central District comes together for our district Winter Retreat at George Williams College in Williams Bay, Wisconsin. We participate in activities including a team building low ropes course, a leadership scavenger hunt, and to top off the night, a talent show. This year it was a goal of ours to put our focus on service in all of our communities. Keeping this in mind, we asked each school attending to bring a service project to make that could be taken back to each school's local charity or organization. These projects ranged from candy cane reindeer for children in the hospital to thank you cards for our local police and firemen to placemats for Meals on Wheels. We had stations set up for each project and everyone came together for two hours to make sure everything was finished. By doing this, it gave us the amazing opportunity to give a little piece of the NCD to our communities while having fun along the way. Our hope is that this is something that will be carried on for years to come.



Upcoming Events

February 1st: Deadline for proposed constitutional amendments

February 14-16: National Lead Conference (Westin Lombard Hotel)

March 22-24: Leadership Academy (Bloomington)

April 7th: Deadline to register for the State Convention

Coming Soon to Illinoisstuco.org

- An FAQ page for new advisors, answering questions from the IASC in general to specific convention questions
- The tentative schedule of the 2014 State Convention





If you are interested in having information in *The Reporter* from your school or district, contact the Assistant Communications Director, Mike Jorgensen, at:

mjorgensen1013@yahoo.com

Visit us on the web at:

Illinoisstuco.org

The IASC is Everywhere You Are

Join us on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on upcoming events, registration deadlines, and more

