

[HOME](#)[MAIL](#)[enlarge thumbnails of newsletter pictures](#)

Southwest Virginia Education and Training Network
1 Partnership Circle, P.O. Box 1987, Abingdon, Virginia 24213-1987

Bruce Mathews, Executive Director

Stephen H. Peery, Board Chair

SVETN NEWS

Volume 1, Issue 4

Spring 2002

SVETN Tips

The most common technical problem in an SVETN classroom is audio difficulties. Since being able to hear each other is integral to a successful class, it is important to head off audio problems before they cause loss of teaching time.

A few quick tips to keep you and your students talking to each other:

- At the beginning of each class, check to see that student microphones are positioned optimally, connected properly, and unobstructed by books, backpacks, etc.
- Be sure the teacher microphone's power and audio buttons are on; keep power and auxiliary packs fully charged.
- Check the settings on the amplifier and Voicecrafter at each site. Increasing volume on the Voicecrafter will often resolve problems.
- Turn the Voicecrafter off and then back on at each site if necessary.

SVETN

In this issue

<i>Live Events on SVETN</i>	2
<i>Teacher Features: Breeding</i>	2
<i>Teacher Features: Cook</i>	2
<i>Technology Splash Plans</i>	3
<i>Summer Broadcasts</i>	3

Look What Else Is Going On in Your SVETN Classroom!

Everyone is aware of the array of classes taught in SVETN classrooms—high school and college classes originating at one site and



Coeburn High School
calculus students

shared with students at one or more other sites. While classes continue to be the main role, it isn't SVETN's only role.

What more and more members of SVETN are learning about and taking advantage of are varied teaching and learning resources deliverable by SVETN. Perhaps the most widely used non-class resource are the **broadcast series**. Recorded in advance for later viewing, programs in these series are useful instruc-

tional resources for middle, secondary, or college teachers. Broadcasts begin at 3:35 p.m. most Thursday and Friday afternoons. (Current broadcast schedule is available on our website.)

SVETN has also begun to make available a series of **live events** originating at sites throughout the region. (See article on page 2.)



Poet Patricia Johnson,
MECC events speaker

SVETN's flexibility makes it a valuable resource for stretching **professional development funds**. (continued on p. 3)



PDA Workshop
participants

Name the Newsletter Contest

SVETN is conducting a contest to rename this newsletter and redesign its masthead. Students, teachers, or entire classes are welcome to contribute their ideas. The newsletter's new name and masthead de-

Check our website for contest details and to download the entry form to accompany your design. You can call us at 276.469.4063 or 276.469.4045 to request details and an entry form by mail or fax. Submit your entries by

ter's new name and masthead design should reflect the nature of SVETN and the function of the newsletter.

mail or fax. Submit your entries by June 1, 2002. **The winning entry will receive \$150.00.** ♦

Live Events on SVETN

In November 2001 SVETN broadcast the 21st Annual Forum on Education, "The Public and Its Schools," live from Mountain Empire Community College (MECC) with William Boshier, Jr. and Sen. William Wampler. It was the first but has not been the last special event partnership between MECC and SVETN to share live events with SVETN members.

Beginning in January, SVETN has made available a series of **live cultural events** originating at MECC. Because these one-hour events begin at 12:15 p.m., they have been delivered in what is called the multicast mode, that is, 15 sites can receive the non-interactive live feed of the event. The first multicast event was a performance by the Aviv String Quartet; in February, poet

Patricia Johnson performed "Somebody's Child." The next programs in this series are "Islam in the Contemporary World," a lecture by Dr. Saleem Kidwai on April 18 and "Encore—The Virginia Opera" on April 25. Schools interested in receiving either of these programs need to contact Bruce Mathews at 276.469.4020 or bm4n@virginia.edu.

Is your school hosting an author, artist, scientist, musical performance, educator, storyteller, or an interesting community resource? Schools, colleges, or school divisions hosting any special event that other SVETN members might share, let SVETN know! SVETN will work with you to give other SVETN members an opportunity to participate in the event via interactive television. ♦

Teacher Features: Edna Sue Breeding and Melissa Cook

Edna Sue Breeding is the guidance counselor at Council High School. Council, located in Buchanan County, is one of the smallest schools served by SVETN with only 135 students in grades 8-12.

Students use Council's SVETN classroom each block of the day. This semester 28 students participate in classes either received or transmitted by Council. Mrs. Breeding says the main value of SVETN for her students is the opportunity to

take classes not practical to teach for small numbers of students. But nearly equal in importance is "exposure to students at other schools in a non-competitive situation." It is not unusual for Council students, especially seniors, to take 3 or 4 SVETN classes. "ITV is the next best thing to face-to-face instruction," Mrs. Breeding asserts. ♦



Melissa Cook, also a guidance counselor, serves students at J.J. Kelly High School. In contrast to Council, Kelly, with 563 students in grades 9-12, is one of the larger schools in SVETN, but they too use their SVETN classroom extensively. This semester J.J. Kelly either receives or transmits a class each block and expects the

students will participate in SVETN classes next year. "Our kids love the interaction with kids from other schools," explains Mrs. Cook. She credits much of the success of the program at Kelly to Kathy Hibbitts, the full-time facilitator for their SVETN classes.

Mrs. Cook says that Kelly takes "pride in sending classes, being the home school" for two classes this semester. It "boils down to recogniz-

sively. This semester J.J. Kelly either receives or transmits a class each block and expects the same to continue for next year. In fact, early registration numbers suggest even more Kelly

ing classes, being the home school" for two classes this semester. It "boils down to recognizing good programs and good teachers. Why keep it to yourself, share it with others!" ♦

Technology Splash Is Just around the Corner!

SVETN will participate again this year in the annual Technology Splash. This year's event is scheduled for **June 18, 19, and 20** at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon.

SVETN plans include sessions for administrators at all levels, experienced SVETN teachers, new SVETN teachers, SVETN facilitators, and anyone who wants to learn how to get the most out of SVETN classrooms. Our Technology Splash events will include a session specifically for administrators on scheduling conferences, meetings, and special events as well as supporting teachers and students participating in SVETN-delivered classes. For instructors preparing to teach an ITV class for the first time, SVETN will offer a two-part class on operation basics. For experienced instructors as well as

first-time users, we will again present tips for encouraging interaction among students. For the first time this summer SVETN will offer a session specifically for facilitators (but valuable to others as well) on troubleshooting equipment problems in SVETN classrooms.

Look for details on SVETN sessions at Technology Splash along with registration information in your mailbox (including your email-box) as well as on our website soon www.svetn.org. Feel free to contact us with your questions at dcolley@swcenter.edu or 276.469.4063 or bm4n@virginia.edu or 276.469.4020. ♦

TECHNOLOGY SPLASH
June 18, 19, and 20

Look What Else Is Going in Your SVETN Classroom

(cont'd from page 1)

By planning cooperatively, using multiple SVETN sites, and sharing expenses, colleges and school divisions can continue to offer high quality professional development for their staffs. In late March SVETN offered a very well-received professional development opportunity for administrators on use of the personal digital assistant. This event can serve as a model for planning professional development activities for any

groups of school personnel.

Such events may include live participation or be taped for use at a later time as part of instructional activities or to supplement professional development. Taping in an SVETN classroom is simple, little more than using any standard VCR. For directions, check our website at www.svetn.org and click on "How to Record in Your SVETN Classroom." ♦



VCR in SVETN classroom

Summer Broadcasts

Did you miss all or part of any of the broadcast series provided by SVETN? The information from the recent broadcast surveys suggests that may be the case. Most schools that have taped all or part of one series have taped multiple series, but several schools and colleges have not yet taken advantage of this opportunity.

life of the tape. SVETN has selected series that can supplement instruction in a variety of content areas—math, science, history, literature, and language arts—at both secondary and college levels.

To make sure everyone has had an opportunity to record all of these half-hour programs, the two most popular series, *Algebra: In Simplest Terms* and *Literary Visions*, will be rebroadcast

lies, but several schools and colleges have not yet taken advantage of this opportunity.

The license agreement permits schools and colleges to retain and use these programs for the

two most popular series, *Algebra: In Simplest Terms* and *Literary Visions*, will be rebroadcast in June and July. (See schedule on p. 4 or on our website.) ♦

Southwest Virginia Education and Training Network
1 Partnership Circle
P.O. Box 1987
Abingdon, Virginia 24212-1987

Bruce Mathews, Executive Director
Alicia Young, Administrative Assistant
Debra Colley, Program Development Coordinator

Phone: 276.469.4020
Fax: 276.628.9478

SVETN



SVETN Summer Broadcast Schedule

Algebra: In Simplest Terms

- 6/5/2002 Introduction
- 6/5/2002 The Language of Algebra
- 6/5/2002 Exponents and Radicals
- 6/5/2002 Factoring Polynomials
- 6/6/2002 Logarithmic Functions
- 6/6/2002 Arithmetic Sequences and Series
- 6/6/2002 Absolute Values
- 6/6/2002 Linear Relations
- 6/7/2002 Rational Functions
- 6/7/2002 Exponential Functions
- 6/7/2002 Functions
- 6/7/2002 Composition and Inverse Functions
- 6/10/2002 Linear Equations
- 6/10/2002 Complex Numbers

English: Literary Visions

- 7/29/2002 First Sight: An Introduction to Literature
- 7/29/2002 Ways of Seeing: Responding to Literature
- 7/29/2002 The Sacred Words: The Elements of Poetry
- 7/29/2002 A Sense of Place: Setting and Character in Poetry
- 7/30/2002 Tools of the Trade: Words and Images in Poetry
- 7/30/2002 Seeing Anew: Rhetorical Figures in Poetry
- 7/30/2002 Artful Resonance: Theme in Poetry
- 7/30/2002 Perspectives on Illusion: Setting and Staging Drama
- 7/31/2002 The Vision Quest: Myth and Symbolism in Drama
- 7/31/2002 A Frame for Meaning: Theme in Drama
- 7/31/2002 In That Time and Place: Setting and Character in Short Fiction
- 7/31/2002 The Author's Voice: Tone and Style in Short Fiction
- 8/5/2002 The Story's Blueprint: Plot and Structure in Short Fiction
- 8/5/2002 Telling Their Tales: Character in Short Fiction
- 8/5/2002 Playing Their Parts: Characters and Actors in Drama
- 8/5/2002 Patterns of Action: Plot and Conflict in Drama
- 8/6/2002 Suggested Meanings: Symbolism & Allegory in Short Fiction
- 8/6/2002 Sum of Its Parts: Theme in Short Fiction
- 8/6/2002 Distant Voices: Myth, Symbolism, & Allegory in Poetry

For more information on broadcasts, program descriptions, and latest schedule information, please visit our website at www.svetn.org



All summer broadcasts begin at 1 p.m.

<u>HOME</u>		<u>MAIL</u>
-----------------------------	---	-----------------------------