



PLEDGE

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NEBRASKA FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

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Harry Potter and Breaking Barriers A Week of Memories at the Orlando FBLA National Leadership Conference

By Amy Chin
State President

Breaking Barriers was certainly an understatement during the 2011 National Leadership Conference! On June 26, over 250 ecstatic FBLA members flew into the beautiful city of Orlando, Florida, for one week of hard core FBLA – with some fun activities mixed in, of course. Members made memories that will last a lifetime while trekking across Disney World, meeting and greeting with Harry Potter at Universal Studios, and representing Nebraska on the national stage during the Awards of Excellence Program!

The conference began with an energizing Opening General Session, featuring keynote speaker Paul Vitale and campaign speeches from 11 national officer candidates. Shawna Koger of Arlington was also recognized as Nebraska's Outstanding Adviser in the Parade of States, and Pat Olson of Blair was honored for her work on the National Board of Directors. The excitement continued the next day, which was filled with online testing, preliminary competition rounds, and the Mountain Plains Region Campaign Rally, where Mountain Plains Vice President candidate Whitney Redman shared her dreams for FBLA with the region.

After the NLC was in full swing, Nebraska held a meeting for the entire state delegation. At this meeting, members mingled with one another while participating in the FBLA Scrambler and worked as a team to determine where Nebraska's votes would be cast for the offices of national president, national secretary, and national treasurer. The State Officer Team also informed members of the new state program of work and the upcoming deadline for the *Pledge*, Nebraska FBLA's official newsletter.

This year's NLC was simply the biggest, with a total of over 8,000 members and advisers present! Nebraska FBLA was no small presence as we walked away with 24 competitive event awards. In addition, the state chapter had the second largest membership in the Mountain Plains Region and Pleasanton High School was the region's runner-up for the Market Share Award! Nebraska was also proud to showcase eight America Award recipients and six National Officer Assistants.

See page 2 for a complete list of NLC award winners.



Nebraska FBLA NLC Award Winners

First Place

- Ashley Quiring, Heartland – Accounting I
- Dani Carpenter and Lindsey Eubanks, Cambridge – Business Plan
- Amy Chin, Columbus Lakeview – Computer Applications

Second Place

- Ryan Erskine and Bill Spilker, Tri County – Computer Game and Simulation Programming

Third Place

- James McDonald, Joel Ratzlaff and Maggie Schneider, Aurora – Entrepreneurship
- Amy Chen, Gibbon – Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure
- Adam Britten, Bellevue West – Job Interview
- Tyler Wellman, Syracuse; Lauren Schneider and Kendra Nebel, Raymond Central; Josiah Hood, Bellevue West; Jessica Hansen, Dorchester; Amy Chin, Columbus Lakeview; Curtis Reynolds, Tri County and Jenna Woitaszewski, Wood River – State Chapter Annual Business Report

Fourth Place

- Amber Hagerbaumer, Ashley Kunes and Dana Johnson, Twin River – American Enterprise Project
- Jared Knust, Tri County – FBLA Principles and Procedures
- Manizha Kholmatov, Shannen Lambdin and Monica Lu, Lincoln East – Global Business
- Bailey Carr, Heartland – Word Processing I

Fifth Place

- Jenna Woitaszewski, Wood River – Client Service
- Dean Detten, Ryan Kula and Kelsey McKay, Gretna – Management Information Systems

Sixth Place

- Addie Corbit and Amanda Winstead, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge – Global Business

Seventh Place

- Michael Gilbert and Taylor Wenzl, Johnson-Brock – Computer Game and Simulation Programming

- Ashley Andersen and Stephanie Teten, Johnson-Brock – Digital Video Production
- Kelcee Matousek, Omaha Northwest – Job Interview

Eighth Place

- Curtis Reynolds, Calvin Ebke and Jared Knust, Tri County – Local Chapter Annual Business Report

Ninth Place

- Samantha Sorge, Cozad – Computer Applications
- Kendra Nebel, Raymond Central – Future Business Leader
- Adam Zehr, West Point-Beemer – Personal Finance

Tenth Place

- Christy Laughlin, Nikki Novak and Shannon Ronhovde, Elmwood-Murdock – Partnership with Business
- Allison Braun, Heartland – Word Processing I

Business Achievement Award America Winners

- Tabitha Urban, Arlington; Laura Komenda, Raymond Central; Amanda Fike, Sandy Creek; Laoln Strasburg, Silver Lake; Tyler Wellman, Syracuse; Ashley Kelly and Jackie Engstrom, Twin River and Jenna Woitaszewski, Wood River

National Officer Assistants

- Jena Gangwish, Adams Central – National President's Assistant
- Tabitha Urban, Arlington; Ryan Kula, Gretna; Kelsey Cherry, Twin River and Taylor Marten, Sandhills – Mountain Plains Vice President's Assistants
- Kelsey Cherry, Twin River – Mountain Plains Region Assistant Communications Director
- Kevin Thor, Stanton – Mountain Plains Region Treasurer

National Recognition Events

- Jenna Woitaszewski, Wood River, Who's Who in FBLA
- Shawna Koger, Arlington, Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser

Gold Seal Award of Merit Chapters

- Arlington, Blair, Chadron, Columbus Lakeview, Dundy County Stratton, Elmwood-Murdock, Fairbury, Fillmore Central, Johnson-Brock, Litchfield, Lyons-Decatur, Minden Omaha Northwest, Omaha Roncalli Catholic, Raymond Central, Sandhills, Sandy Creek, Tri County, Twin River, Wilber-Clatonia, Wood River.

Mountain Plains Region Recognitions

- Second Place, Market Share Award, Pleasanton
- Second Place, Membership, Nebraska FBLA

Congratulations, Nebraska FBLA Competitors!

In addition to the 24 Top 10 awards received at the NLC, Nebraska competitors received \$6,200 in cash awards! Below are the Nebraska recipients receiving cash awards at this year's Awards of Excellence program.

Event	Place	Name	Chapter	Amount
Business Plan	1	Dani Carpenter, Lindsey Eubanks	Cambridge	1,500.00
Computer Applications	1	Amy Chin	Columbus Lakeview	1,500.00
Accounting I	1	Ashley Quiring	Heartland	1,000.00
Computer Game & Simulation Programming	2	Ryan Erskine, Bill Spilker	Tri County	600.00
Entrepreneurship	3	James McDonald, Joel Ratzlaff, Maggie Schneider	Aurora	400.00
American Enterprise Project	4	Amber Hagerbaumer, Dana Johnson, Ashley Kunes	Twin River	300.00
Job Interview	3	Adam Britten	Bellevue West	300.00
Global Business	4	Manizha Kholmatov, Shannen Lambdin, Monica Lu	Lincoln East	200.00
Client Service	5	Jenna Woitaszewski	Wood River	100.00
Computer Applications	9	Sam Sorge	Cozad	100.00
Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure	3	Amy Chen	Gibbon	100.00
Management Information Systems	5	Dean Detten, Ryan Kula, Kelsey McKay	Gretna	100.00

Help Nebraska FBLA Celebrate 50 Years At the Fall Conference

By Trevor Sorensen
State Parliamentarian

Help Nebraska FBLA celebrate “50 Fabulous Years” at the Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) on September 27 at the Kearney Ramada Inn or September 28 at the Ramada Plaza Omaha Convention Center.

Meet members from across the state and learn the skills necessary to help better your chapter for the upcoming year. In the opening session you will learn about the goals created by your state leadership team and also learn the dos and don'ts of SLC attire in “What Not To Wear.”

Following the state officers, internationally known speaker Eddie Slowikowski will give participants the ride of a lifetime by taking the journey to discover the greatness within all of us. In over 18 years of speaking, Eddie has inspired thousands with his message of conceiving, believing and achieving one's dreams in life.

Following the opening session, attend officer development workshops led by the state leadership team. These workshops will help you to foster the skills necessary to fulfill your officer duties in your local chapter. In addition, Eddie will help chapter members find what is truly valuable in life through his workshop, *The Real You: How To Find Your True Values*.

In the afternoon, President Amy Chin, Vice President Pat Cook, and Secretary Shyanne Thompson will lead *Reaching for Gold*, a workshop designed to help you learn how to reach out to others. Treasurer Ashleigh Teten, Reporter Sally Moore, and Parliamentarian Trevor Sorensen will present *Gateway to a Great SLC*. You will learn what to expect from the SLC and tips to enjoy the ex-



Eddie Slowikowski
Keynote Speaker

perience. Learn about everything from the All-State Quality Member Award to running for state office.

You won't want to miss the other afternoon workshops provided by the FBLA Foundation Marketing Committee and the March of Dimes. In Kearney Wood River FBLA presents *Community Service 101*. Those attending the Omaha FLC will find out that *It All Comes Down to You* in Wausa FBLA's presentation about getting involved with your community. Auburn FBLA's session will help you learn how to network with businesses while the PBL State Officer workshop will enrich your leadership skills.

Each chapter may bring their officer teams and up to four other members to the conference. Registration is \$25 per member or adviser. Any member planning to run for state office must attend the conference to qualify as a candidate. Attendees are required to dress in business attire or wear their chapter officer uniforms.

This year's FLC will be simply ‘fabulous!’ I hope to see you there!

PBL's Publishings

“Gateway to Greatness” Leads to
Unlocking Your Potential with Phi Beta Lambda

By Chase King, Nebraska
PBL VP of Public Relations

Nebraska FBLA! When we hear Nebraska FBLA, we hear greatness, we hear success, we hear leadership. We hear many positive attributes that are changing your life for the better. Nebraska PBL saw this with your NLC award winners and active students on the national level.

Seniors, this involvement doesn't stop when you hit the graduation stage in May. The next level of FBLA is waiting for you: PBL! Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) holds opportunities that can keep changing your life after your FBLA experience is over.

Nebraska PBL sets high standards each year. This year at the NLC, we had 44 top ten awards given to students across the state! We continue to set our sights higher and higher.

Along with Nebraska FBLA, we are celebrating our 50th anniversary, and our goals show that our 50th year is going to be a year like none other! One goal is to set a good foundation for the “Gateway to Greatness.” We are looking to increase state chapter membership by 25 percent. PBL plans to get



involved and log 2,012 hours for our own Tally-It-Up program this year. We are also committed to raising \$1,000 for the March of Dimes.

PBL is also making a transition into technology by having 100 percent of our members liking or following our Facebook and Twitter pages. Finally, we are going to key into yesterday's members and today's leaders by putting together a database of PBL alumni to keep them posted on our progress.

For more information visit ne-pbl.org or contact Chase King, Vice President of Public Relations, at nepbl.vppr@gmail.com. Nebraska FBLA is a “Gateway to Greatness!”

DUES DEADLINE

State Dues	\$4
National Dues	\$6

Deadline: October 20

All membership
must be submitted
online at:

www.fbla-pbl.org



Check In With Chin

Amy Chin
State President

Ready ... Set ... RECRUIT! Recruiting can be one of the hardest things to do as a chapter, but at the same time, it can be one of the most rewarding. The Nebraska FBLA State Officer team has set a goal to increase state membership by 300 members. When broken down, it only requires a gain of about two members per chapter. Here are a few tips and tricks for maintaining and increasing your chapter membership!

Tip Number One: Focus on Freshmen. Younger students, who are excited about finally being in high school, are usually willing to join just about any club or organization if you give them a good reason. Ask your administration if the officer team can host a Freshman Orientation Night, where officers serve pizza, give tips on entering high school and assist incoming freshmen with lockers. In the spring, visit local middle school or junior high schools and present an icebreaker and short FBLA information session. They may not quite understand what FBLA is all about, but it is a great time to familiarize them with the FBLA acronym!

Tip Number Two: Make Paying Painless. It should be easy for students to join FBLA. Use posters, daily announcements and electronic media, such as Facebook, to make sure potential members know the cost of dues, whom to pay and the deadline to pay. During the first or second week of school, put a table in your school's commons area and have officers work shifts before school, during lunch and after school so that members can easily pay their dues at convenient times.

Tip Number Three: Give Out Grub. One of the best ways to get potential members to come to meetings is to promise food – especially homemade food. Sure, store-bought candy is always tempting, but why not go bigger? If each officer in your chapter were to bake a 9" x 13" pan of brownies the night before the meeting, you would have enough to feed every attendee a brownie.

Always remember to couple these tips with your chapter officers' enthusiasm for FBLA. This potent duo should be enough to help you break through the tape with two, or more, new members for your chapter!



Shawna Koger, Arlington

Mrs. Koger works tirelessly to ensure that Arlington FBLA runs smoothly. She dedicates countless hours planning, organizing and advising members so the Arlington chapter is the best it can be.

Jan Went, Lakeview

Mrs. Went's passion for FBLA is evident as she devotes countless hours to helping our chapter plan, promote and provide a variety of projects throughout the year.



2011-2012 State Goals

Focus

- Increase participation in Business Achievement Awards
 - a Future – 40 members
 - a Business – 25 members
 - a Leaders – 20 members
 - a America – 15 members
- Promote All-State Quality Member Awards
- Incorporate area meetings
- Inform members about Money Smart Week

Information

- Utilize electronic communication
- Update online resources
- Expand parliamentary procedure knowledge

Fundraise

- Raise \$16,000 for the March of Dimes
- Increase Foundation funds
 - a Donate \$10,000 to the Nebraska FBLA Foundation
 - a Participate through iGive

Teamwork

- Complete the Go Green Challenge
- Connect 2 Business with Nebraska Career Connections
- Strengthen relationship with PBL
- Foster bonds with other CSOs and school organizations
 - a Participate in Just Drive Campaign

Yield

- Encourage all populations to join
- Gain 300 members
- Charter 5 chapters
- Develop FBLA Middle Level
- Tally it Up to 8 service hours per member (42,000 hours)

Participate in Milestone Year by Attending NFLC

By *Shyanne Thompson, State Secretary*

After recently attending the National Leadership Conference in sunny Orlando, Nebraska FBLA continues to find ways to celebrate 50 Fabulous Years! A great way to become a part of this milestone year is attending the National Fall Leadership Conference held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Nov. 11-12.

This conference is a great opportunity for members and advisers to meet the national officer team, which we had a part in electing. Each attendee will have the chance to network with other members across the United States and attend workshops for educational experiences. Those choosing to travel with Nebraska FBLA will load the bus to Milwaukee on Thursday, November 10, arriving in Milwaukee around 11:30 p.m.

Friday morning the delegation will head to the U.S. Olympic Training Center at

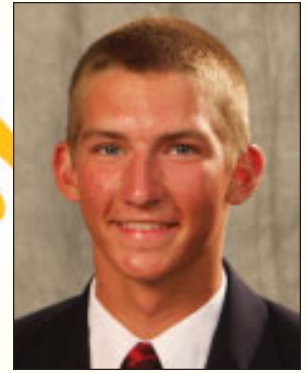
the Pettit National Ice Center followed by a unique scavenger hunt tour of Miller Park, home of the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team. NFLC activities kick off with the Nebraska meeting at 5:00 p.m. followed by the opening ceremonies at 9:00 p.m. with keynote speaker, Derek Clark.

Members and advisers will be able to participate in energizing workshops on Saturday. Following the closing ceremonies on November 12, members will be off to the Blue Jeans for Babies Dance, a fundraising activity for the March of Dimes. The Nebraska bus will travel home immediately following the dance, arriving in Nebraska on November 13. Lodging arrangements will be at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center.

Be sure to meet your adviser's requirements so you can be a part of this exciting event with Nebraska FBLA!

Cook Connection

Pat Cook
State Vice President



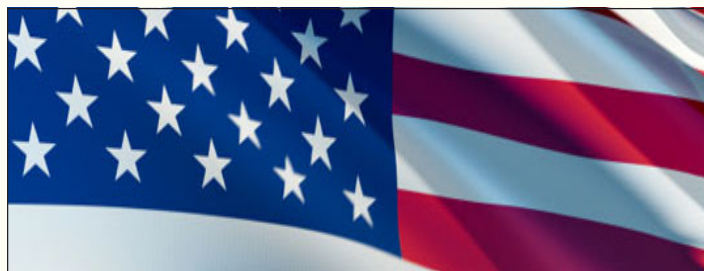
When you meet a new person, one of the first things you may do is ask them to add you on Facebook or follow you on Twitter. On your page, there are three very important things to censor. The three things are political views, religious beliefs and your family/personal life.

First, political views are a very controversial subject. Each person has his/her own opinion and it may differ from your own opinion. It should not be displayed on your page because a person may start an argument with you. This may also hurt your future career due to the fact that your employer may have a different political view.

Next, religious views are the same as politics. This subject causes controversy and could hurt you when running for a position that requires voting delegates as well as getting a promotion in your career. You may be highly qualified for the position but once a person sees your beliefs and does not agree, this may affect your chances of moving up your career ladder or cause many voters to support another candidate.

Last, your personal life is very important to you and only to you. What is done in your personal life should be kept personal and not publicized on Facebook or Twitter. There was an account of an employee being fired due to inappropriate pictures and comments found on their Facebook page. Therefore, it is very important to make sure your personal life is shown only in moderation. Only show appropriate pictures and comments, and if applicable, qualities about yourself that employers can use to help your chances of being hired.

Censoring your Facebook and Twitter pages is very important to your future endeavors through FBLA, especially with future careers. Keeping your political views, religious beliefs and your family/personal life off your social media will give yourself a better opportunity to build on your future.



Oh, Say, Can You Sing? National Anthem Singer Needed

Would you like to sing the National Anthem at the 50th Anniversary State Leadership Conference in 2012?

Interested members should submit the application form from the Nebraska FBLA website along with an audition CD of your a cappella solo of the National Anthem by December 1 to:

Jan Went
Lakeview High School
3744 - 83rd Street, Columbus, NE 68601

PLEDGE

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It is the policy of Nebraska FBLA not to discriminate on the basis of gender, handicap, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national or ethnic origin in its education programs, membership policies, or other administered programs.

www.nebraskafbla.org

CHAPTER CHATTER

Chapters share community service ideas.

Arlington

Arlington FBLA hosts Vollerama, a volleyball tournament where high school students have the chance to compete against one another. Concessions, team entries and admission to the tournament raise money for March of Dimes and the FBLA Foundation.

b

Auburn

The Auburn chapter passes out index cards at each monthly meeting for members to keep track of the community service hours they have dedicated.

b

Aurora

This past year, the Aurora chapter went caroling in our long-term hospital wing and retirement home.

b

Blair

Blair FBLA completes 4-6 community service activities each month. The chapter partners with many community civic organizations on a variety of projects such as volunteering at our recycling center, teaming with our Chamber of Commerce and working on fundraisers for the American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, FBLA Foundation and Huntington's disease. Our chapter also volunteers at our local nursing homes, library and county museum. These community service projects also feature many ways to network.

b

Elmwood-Murdock

The Elmwood-Murdock chapter verified the dates of Elmwood's 125th birthday and volunteered to participate in celebration activities.

b

Lakeview

Each year for the past 17 years, the Lakeview chapter

has conducted a food drive for the local food pantry. What makes our project unique; however, is that we also donate a percentage of the cookbook sales revenue from our three cookbook editions to the food pantry.

b

Minden

Towards the end of the 2010-2011 school year, Minden's FBLA chapter sold snack items during students' study hall period to raise money for the Water4Haiti organization. It proved to be a huge success as it raised over \$300! This money has helped toward fulfilling the Water4Haiti mission, which is to help satisfy Haitians' water needs.

b

Stanton

The Stanton chapter helped the local Women's Club at its annual 4th of July Pancake Feed. Without our help over the past three years, the Women's Club wouldn't have been able to continue this long-running annual event. An added bonus to volunteering at this event is that the Women's Club gives a donation to our chapter.

b

Twin River

Twin River FBLA members donated numerous hours of community service during the summer to ensure that the Genoa Pawnee Days would be successful. Members assisted with the organization and implementation of the Genoa Medical Facilities Health Fair by helping set up displays, preparing balloons for the parade float, distributing complimentary dinners for all exhibitors and by helping take down displays. Members also took admission at the annual Demolition Derby.

Accomplish with Ashleigh

Ashleigh Teten
State Treasurer



The All-State Quality Member award recognizes eager and involved members. The award is not competitive; therefore, all members are eligible to receive this recognition.

The All-State Quality Member award consists of seven categories: meetings and conferences, chapter contributions, community service, school service, public relations, leadership development and professional activities. If your chapter conducts activities in each of the seven categories, the activities can count for the award. You can plan your chapter's program of work so members have many ways to earn the 100 points needed to qualify for the award.

Ask your advisers to show you the guidelines in the *Nebraska FBLA Handbook* and the points template, which can be found on the Nebraska FBLA website under SLC Registration. (<http://nebraskafbla.org/conferences/state-leadership-conference-slc/slc-registration-information/>) On the template, you will see the seven categories, each containing five boxes where you can enter activities. The award guidelines are detailed in the Nebraska FBLA Handbook found on the state website under the Resources tab. Also, have chapter members fill-in the award template at chapter meetings so they can see their progress for earning the recognition.

Recipients of the All-State Quality Member award will receive a pin and white ribbon to wear on their nametag at the State Leadership Conference. You all do great things in FBLA by participating in community service as well as many other activities. Show off your involvement in FBLA by receiving the All-State Quality Member award this year!



Julie Jensen, Aurora

Mrs. Jensen dedicates her time to assisting the officer team, preparing members for competitive events and motivating members to be involved. Her passion for FBLA helps inspire members in our local chapter to be the best they can be.

Linda Jacobi, Twin River

Mrs. Jacobi continues to establish partnerships through school and community projects where members have the opportunity to develop networking connections with business and community leaders. In June, Mrs. Jacobi received the 2011 ACTEN Community Service Award. She continually relates FBLA activities to real work experiences and encourages students to get involved within our school and communities.



Shyanne's Shenanigans

Shyanne Thompson
State Secretary

50 FABULOUS IDEAS

As the school year fast approaches, we are thinking of fresh ideas to help boost new membership. Each chapter is likely to have a special event to gather the incoming freshmen and explain FBLA to them. And many chapters are working to convince those upperclassmen that FBLA isn't just for people considering a business major. Although FBLA successfully prepares its members for the world of business, anyone seeking to gain leadership skills for any field of interest should consider becoming a member of this growing organization.

No matter what students' futures hold, FBLA enables its members to learn various skills through many opportunities. For example, members of FBLA are able to develop communication skills, gain presentation experience and assist others in finding success.

As individuals, members may participate in areas of interest such as preparing a business financial plan or studying parliamentary procedure, which will enable FBLA members to learn while preparing for other opportunities throughout their lifetimes. Further, through networking with FBLA members and business people, traveling to conferences, attending workshops and even representing Nebraska FBLA at its best, FBLA members have the chance to explore areas of interest and ability not offered through the classroom.

Certainly, FBLA is an excellent organization where students with many career interests can acquire numerous specialties to help boost career advancements in their future. Encourage classmates to break barriers and join FBLA!

SLC T-shirt Design Competition

Win a free SLC registration! The annual SLC t-shirt design competition is looking for talented FBLA members.

Enter your design using the following guidelines by December 1.

SLC t-shirt design competition guidelines:

- Design can be for either a front or back design or for both a front and back design
- Design should be broad enough to include all Nebraska FBLA members
- Design may or may not include the Nebraska

- FBLA state theme
- Design should include the words, "SLC 2012"
- Choose color of t-shirt
- Choose color(s) of design
- Any electronic software may be used to create the design.

Please email your design in a .jpg format to Pat Hinkle, Bellevue West FBLA, at hinklepat@gmail.com. Please include the following in the email message: name, school, adviser name, phone number and email address.

The design winner will be notified in mid-January.

Adams Central

Each March, Adams Central FBLA members travel to our five elementary schools for Dr. Seuss week. The members read books to the kindergarten through 3rd grade classes and lead an activity related to the books.

Arlington

Arlington FBLA members volunteer at the Summer Story Hour, which is held once a week for kids ages 4-8 at the local library. Each week FBLA members read stories to the kids as well as play games, make crafts and share snacks with them.

Auburn

Auburn FBLA works each year with local small business owners and Auburn High School's athletes to sell "Bulldog Cards." These cards are sold by athletes and offer discounts to the majority of local businesses. This fundraiser is our ticket to the SLC.

Aurora

The Aurora chapter organizes a dodge ball tournament each year to raise money for the FBLA Foundation.

Blair

Blair FBLA created the "Haunted Game of Life" and shared economic lessons in a fun environment at our local museum during the Halloween season.

Elmwood-Murdock

Members from the Elmwood-Murdock chapter created a tourism attraction for their community: barn quilts.

Lakeview

Lakeview FBLA will hold "A Wish for Pie" contest this year. To raise funds for the

Make-A-Wish Foundation, teachers' names will be placed on buckets and then students will place their loose change in the buckets. The teacher whose bucket has the most donations will get a pie in the face!

Minden

Minden FBLA's chapter trip to Lincoln this past year was a fabulous experience. Entirely food themed, we toured three unique businesses, including Sugar Plum Candies, Licorice International and Ivanna Cone. The trip proved to be a blast and a half as well as exceptionally delicious!

Twin River

The Twin River American Enterprise team expanded their project to include a presentation at the Genoa Senior Center where they spotlighted current local entrepreneurs and also recalled past entrepreneurs. This presentation provided an opportunity for youth and senior citizens to interact and learn from each other.



Conestoga

Conestoga FBLA participated in the annual Murray Fourth of July Parade. Members had a great time passing out candy to the little parade attendees.

Success Stories

Minden

On May 6, ten Minden FBLA members were able to attend the Chick-Fil-A LeaderCast convention at Minden's Opera House. The Chick-Fil-A LeaderCast Convention is a leadership event taking place in Atlanta, Georgia, every year in May. What makes this day unique is that it is broadcast live to hundreds of locations across the globe (one of them being the Opera House in Minden). Anyone seeking leadership advice and inspiration can attend the one day convention at a broadcast site or in Atlanta. After expressing interest, Minden FBLA received ten free tickets for members to attend.

This year's LeaderCast convention theme was *Voices of Change*. It consisted of several renowned speakers, including Dave Ramsey (personal finance expert), Seth Godin (entrepreneur and marketing guru), Sir Ken Robinson, Mack Brown (head coach of Texas Longhorns football team), Suzy Welch (noted business journalist) and more. These speakers gave our chapter invaluable advice regarding leadership, perseverance, collaboration and management.

One speaker that intrigued our chapter was Erin Gruwell, founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation. She spoke about her experience as an English teacher in Long Beach, California, where she was able to inspire hundreds of her students who were written off by the education system and deemed "un-teachable." Another unique speaker we enjoyed was Alison Levine, a well known mountaineer, who described her extraordinary ascent of Mt. Everest. Both speakers' stories were captivating and motivational.

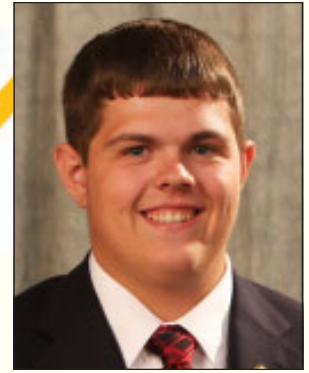
Chapter members not only watched the convention but were able to help the LeaderCast producers at the Opera House as well. The minute we arrived, we were put to work. Some of our volunteering consisted of facilitating registration, setting up book displays and operating the concession stand. It was a fun experience helping with the event, which attracted many of the local and surrounding area's business contingents.

The Chick-Fil-A LeaderCast event was informative and motivating. We urge more FBLA chapters to attend a LeaderCast site in future years to absorb the great experience. It was truly a highlight of our year!

[More Success Stories on next page](#)

Trevor's Tips

Trevor Sorensen
State Parliamentarian



Although it is only August, FBLA is getting back into full swing. As of August 1st, the updated Business Achievement Awards have been uploaded to the national website. The Business Achievement Awards (BAAs) is a program developed to help students enhance their business and leadership skills. There are four levels to the BAAs: Future, Business, Leader and America.

To begin a level of the BAAs, you need to first talk with your adviser. Your adviser has to set up an account for you to participate in the program. After you are registered, you will receive a login passcode to begin the process. After that, you may begin to work on the project. To complete a level, you must put a plan in place to stay on track. If you are determined, it is possible to complete more than one level per year. Each level will have various activities based on the categories "Service," "Education" and "Progress." For example, in the Education area, you may research a specific career and how it relates to business. You must complete the required activities and a certain number of the remaining activities.

After you have completed the activities in the level, go back to your adviser and have him/her submit your work to the national office before the deadline. For the Future, Business and Leader categories, the deadline is March 1st. The America category has an April 25th deadline. Your work will be reviewed and you will receive recognition for your achievement. For the Future and Business levels, you will receive a pin in the mail to commemorate the accomplishment. If you complete the Leader level, you will be recognized at the State Leadership Conference in Omaha. If you go even further and complete the America Level, you will be recognized at the National Leadership Conference!

In order to accomplish a level of the BAAs you will need to be dedicated to your plan. Rev. Norman Peale said it best: "Plan your work for today and every day, then work your plan." I wish everyone a great school year!

Admirable Advisers

Betty Shanle, Twin River

Mrs. Shanle exhibits her creative talents through project ideas and encourages FBLA members to take advantage of all of the opportunities FBLA has to offer.

Becca Moore, Wood River

Although she was asked to serve as chapter co-adviser with no previous FBLA experience, Ms. Moore has shown her curiosity to learn more about the organization and has helped to bring new ideas to the table for our chapter to succeed.

facebook Changes

Notice

The Nebraska FBLA group on Facebook is being archived.

Due to the changes implemented for Facebook groups, the State Officer Team is creating a Facebook page where members will have complete access. To expand our Nebraska FBLA networking capabilities, a Twitter page is also being added for members who find it easier to follow Twitter rather than Facebook.

Success Stories



the tallest tower using only tape and balloons. The second ice breaker required students to create a tower using toothpicks and marshmallows. Winners with the tallest towers received prizes.

The officers then distributed information about summer FBLA activities designed for member involvement. Members could earn points to qualify them for the State Leadership Conference as well as the opportunity to letter. New members were paired with current FBLA members to create positive FBLA mentors.

Several new members signed up to assist with summer activities and this newest recruitment strategy helped to promote our chapter's program of work and to increase membership. Our summer projects require the active involvement of all FBLA members and by recruiting members in the spring rather than in the fall allowed for a larger number of volunteers.

Elmwood-Murdock

Happy Birthday, Elmwood! In honor of Elmwood's 125th birthday, Elmwood-Murdock FBLA members contributed to

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Arlington

Over the past few years, Arlington FBLA has hosted Summer Story Hour held weekly for five weeks at the Arlington Public Library for children ages 4-8. Each week during Summer Story Hour, FBLA members volunteer to read, play games, make crafts and feed snacks to kids. The goal of Summer Story Hour is to give kids a fun place to go and to learn over their summer break.

This year's theme, *One World, Many Stories*, helped members choose stories to read, games to play and crafts to make. The stories that were shared each week were based on different cultures and experiences. The games that were played taught the kids such items as their directions but also provided an outlet for their extra energy! The crafts also were focused around the theme of *One World, Many Stories* with the attendees making things such as passports, compasses and money pouches. In addition, FBLA members decided to include fun facts each week as the goal of Summer Story Hour was centered on learning new things. On one occasion the fun facts included how to say hello and goodbye in other languages.

Overall this year's summer story hour was one of the most successful yet. Each week nearly 30 kids attended. FBLA members worked hard to ensure the kids would have a good time and be excited to come back again.

Twin River

The Twin River FBLA leadership team took the initiative to organize a recruitment meeting for new members in May. Intercom and classroom announcements were made to ensure all future FBLA members were informed about the meeting.

The meeting started with a presentation about the benefits and opportunities of FBLA and told about activities that the Twin River chapter had organized for school and community involvement over the summer. Next, officers conducted two interactive ice breakers where students teamed together in small groups. The first ice breaker involved the creation of

Success Stories

the town's celebration, which was observed on May 28. Three committees contributed to the project's success. The Marketing Committee created a website that publicized the schedule of events and highlighted 125 community attributes during the 125 days prior to the celebration. They generated interest in the celebration by creating signs and handing out "Save the Date" cards at local businesses and at a holiday parade. The Education Committee solicited local civic groups to create 25-year period educational exhibits. In addition, a Nebraska State Historical Society representative talked to the members about how to organize a time capsule, and members encouraged teachers and civic groups to donate items. Over 200 items were collected and dedicated during the community celebration. Finally, the Gift Committee created a tourism attraction by producing barn quilts and laying the groundwork for an attraction entitled "Fences of the Back Roads and Byways."

was left in place for several weeks and reminded students every day of their promise to "Go Green" by turning off lights when they leave a room, turning off the water while they brushed their teeth or even taking shorter showers.



Auburn

Each year the Auburn FBLA hosts a free-will car wash at the middle school in Auburn along Highway 75. Last year the members even had the privilege of washing an ambulance! The car wash is a great way to begin the year, and members love getting wet while helping others.

Lakeview

Before the first day of school, the FBLA officers host a night for incoming freshmen and their parents. The evening includes a pizza supper, a question-and-answer session with parents and mixers for the students. Freshmen are greeted with cheery locker posters that include their name and a welcome message.

Helpful advice is shared from the officers to the new students to help make the transition from grade school to high school easier. Officers stress the importance of getting involved, as freshmen, in school organizations. Informational brochures about FBLA are distributed. The evening concludes with a school tour and assistance with lockers and combinations.



Stanton

One of Stanton's most successful activities during Go Green Week was the Pledge Tree. Stanton High FBLA and Stanton Middle Level members worked together to create leaves and a tree trunk to put up on a wall near the commons area. High school members designed the tree trunk and the middle level members designed the leaves. Both chapters worked together to cut out approximately 400 leaves to hand out to students in grades 5-12 during home room. On each leaf was room for students to write their environmental pledge to help the earth stay green. After they wrote their pledge, they put it on the tree trunk in the commons area. The tree

Foundation Fundraising Success

Membership Dues - \$5,249
 Chapter Contributions - \$8,910
 SLC T-shirt Sales - \$4,084.50
 Other Donations - \$2,807.09
Total - \$21,050.59



Nebraska FBLA's strong tradition dates to its official organization in 1962 when Dorothy Hazel, Business Education staff member at the University of Nebraska, became State FBLA-PBL Adviser. Nebraska was the 32nd state chapter receiving its charter on June 11, 1963. The Nebraska Chapter of FBLA-PBL operated as one organization with the state officers consisting of PBL members and one FBLA representative.

In 1967 Nebraska FBLA and PBL split into two organizations and Larry Bonner of the Nebraska Department of Education became the first FBLA state adviser. Since that time, the FBLA-PBL chairman and

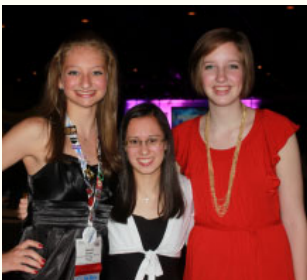
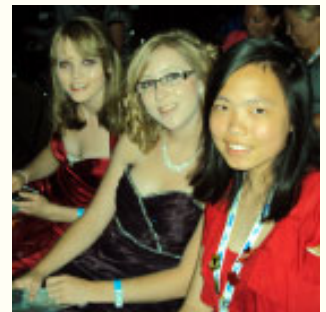
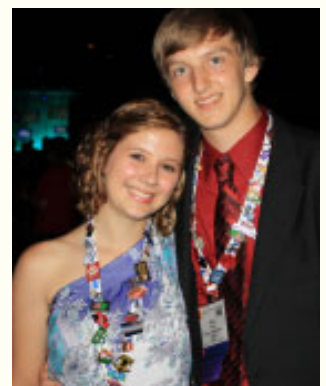
FBLA state adviser have been located at the Nebraska Department of Education.

The first State Leadership Conference was held in 1962 in Lincoln at the University of Nebraska. Ann Bartholomew Masters was elected as the first FBLA-PBL State President at the 1963 state conference where 60 members from 8 chapters met for a two-day session. Mrs. Masters became a business instructor eventually transitioning to the Nebraska Department of Education in 1970, where she served as the Business Education Director and FBLA-PBL State Chairman and State Adviser.

FBLA Fun Facts

- First FBLA chapter chartered on November 19, 1959, at Bellevue High School (now Bellevue East High School) as Chapter No. 2063.
- In 1966 there were 585 members in 7 FBLA chapters. FBLA chapters included Bellevue, Chadron, Crete, Fremont, Grand Island, Randolph and University High.
- In 1966 dues were 25 cents a member.
- In 1966 members attending the state conference in Fremont at the Pathfinder Hotel paid \$2.50 per night for lodging and \$1.50 for the banquet meal.
- The 1966 state conference offered 7 events: largest chapter membership, largest chapter attendance, best chapter exhibit, spelling relay, public speaking and Mr. and Miss Future Business Leader.
- The first Nebraska FBLA State Officer Team was elected in 1967 with the following results:
 - Jeanne Busboom of Crete High School, president
 - Susan Muhle of Fremont High School, Vice President
 - Eileen Ann Kellie of Fairbury High School, Secretary
 - Kathy Nemetz of Blair High School, Treasurer
 - Nancy Stier of Lincoln Southeast High School, Historian
- In 1973-1974 the state officer team expanded to include a parliamentarian.

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