

# Penn Pal

Volume XIX, Issue 2

Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America Newsletter

Spring, 2004

## STATE OFFICER TEAM

**Brett Hollister**

President

**Joshua Coleman**

First Vice President

**Nicholas Truesdale**

Secretary

**Jeffrey Selvoski**

Treasurer

**Brandon Mitchell**

Reporter

**Raul Patel**

Eastern District Vice President

**Aaron Geiger**

Central District Vice President

**Kayla Miller**

Parliamentarian

Dear FBLA Members:

Time flies! I cannot believe the State Leadership Conference is almost here and that my term as your state president is nearly over. It's been a wonderful ride, and I have all of you to thank for it.

First of all, thank you for supporting the plans of work that your state officer teams have developed during each of the past two years that I served as your president. Whether it was Habitat for Humanity or the American Lung Association, community service hours or increasing membership, you responded enthusiastically and worked diligently to reach every goal.

Thank you for accepting the challenge to increase membership in your chapters. It seems like just yesterday we were hoping to break the 11,000 membership barrier, and here we are today closing in on 13,000 paid members.

Thank you for supporting my candidacy each of the past three years. I have had the wonderful opportunity to meet so many of you at various conferences and workshops and share a laugh or two along the way.

I am confident that whomever you elect as your new state officer team will work just as hard to set attainable goals that will be exciting yet challenging.

Most importantly, however, I urge each of you to continue to spread the word about FBLA through every hall and classroom in your school. Too many students still do not realize the value of becoming a member of this great organization until they are seniors, and by then, it's almost too late! Get those freshmen and sophomore students involved early. That's what happened to me, and am I ever glad!

Once again, PA FBLA, thanks! Continue to lead. . . achieve. . . and succeed in all you do!

Sincerely,

*Brett Hollister*

Brett Hollister  
State President



Brett Hollister, Joshua Coleman, Nicholas Truesdale, Jeffrey Selvoski, Brandon Mitchell, Aaron Geiger, Raul Patel, and Kayla Miller

## Workin' It Up FBLA Style at the SLW

Kayla Miller  
Parliamentarian

To begin the year, Pennsylvania FBLA members from across the state gathered at State College for the 2003 State Leadership Workshop. At this time, members are first introduced to the goals and plans of work of the state officer team. Members witness the emblem ceremony, meet their officer team for the year once again, and are provided with informative leadership workshops.

At the 2003 State Leadership Workshop this year, we had outstanding participation. The state officer team conducted the opening session, which included introducing the state goals to the members and performing the emblem ceremony. After the opening session, members attended numerous informative workshops, many in which the state officers were present.

Also at the conference, the Auction for Oxygen basket auction and Charity Walk were held. Over \$9,000 was raised for the American Lung Association through these fundraisers alone. The Pennsylvania FBLA Pledge Program was also introduced to the members. Representatives from schools attending the workshop stood and pledged how much they would raise for the state project at the closing session. Fifty-seven chapters participated in this event at the workshop.

The 2003 State Leadership Workshop was definitely a conference to remember. PA FBLA members raised money for the American Lung Association but did not walk away empty-handed. Members walked away with more leadership skills and another memory in their FBLA experience.



**Over \$9,000 was raised  
for the American Lung  
Association during the  
State Leadership  
Workshop!**

## Unforgettable NFLC in Baltimore, MD

Joshua Coleman  
First Vice President

From November 20-22, 2004, Pennsylvania attended the 2004 FBLA National Fall Leadership Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. It was unforgettable. The experiences that were had by everyone in Baltimore were monumental and profitable. My hope is that everyone who attended enjoyed the conference and those who did not attend will consider it next year!

Some members arrived Thursday and treated themselves to the interesting and original dining experiences in the area. The Cheesecake Factory, Hard Rock Café, ESPN Zone, and the California Pizza Kitchen were all highlights of the conference. Thursday night was a relaxing and enjoyable time for everyone in attendance before the relentless schedule of the following two days.

Friday morning the conference got into full swing. Registration began at noon as everyone began pouring in from around the country. The excitement began to mount, and in some cases, overflowed to the first workshop session of the conference. TRI Leadership's Carrie and Ryan Underwood put on two fantastic workshops right off the bat and it became apparent that Baltimore was the place to be! After a few more invigorating workshops and a tasty dinner, it was time for the opening session! Being a part of the opening session as this year's National Eastern Region Vice President was an amazing experience, and I hope that the experience was shared by you, the members! The opening session was a great way to cap off a brilliant first day of the 2003 NFLC.

On Saturday the energy deficiency in everyone was hidden by the sheer excitement of being in Baltimore. The workshops, again, were extremely profitable and worth every minute. I had the privilege of giving two, and I want to thank all who attended for making it a great experience for everyone. After the workshops, the conference began winding down! However, FBLA winds down its conferences with excitement! The closing session was a revitalizing event capped with a great keynote presentation from Ryan Underwood. Once again, participating was an honor, and I am thankful for your support!

As always, the NFLC dance capped off an experience of a lifetime. FBLA raised over \$2,000 for the March of Dimes; thank you to everyone who participated! This year also featured a carnival simultaneous with the dance, which was a fresh new approach.



The next morning everyone strapped on the seatbelts and headed for home with memories of the conference still dancing in their head. It was a wonderful experience and I hope everyone had a great time. Next year's destination...Buffalo, NY!

# Much Planned for the Upcoming SLC

Nick Truesdale  
Secretary

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pennsylvania FBLA State Leadership Conference will soon be here! Members and advisers from across Pennsylvania will convene at Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center on March 29-31, to bring the "PA FBLA year" to a close. Although this is the last gathering of the state chapter in 2004, it is the greatest.

Delegates will arrive on Monday, March 29, to begin this momentous event. Although some members will have competitive events scheduled for Monday, the conference will start for most members with the Opening General Session/Campaign Rally. In addition to reacquainting ourselves with the state chapter's activities, we will hear each state officer candidate's two-minute campaign speech. The candidates' campaign booths will be open both for voting and nonvoting delegates to visit following this session. Be sure to stop by each booth to ask questions of the candidates and learn more about their campaigns.

Tuesday will definitely be the busiest day of the conference; members will have the opportunity to compete in their respective events, attend informative workshops, and network with members from across Pennsylvania. Many important topics will be covered at the Business Session, including the Installation of New/Reactivated Chapters. And

then, the moment we have all been waiting for—the Awards Session—where the best of the best will receive recognition for proficiency in their competitive events and the newly elected state officers will be installed. The National Leadership Conference meeting will be held directly after the Awards Session for all delegates who qualify to attend. Just as important is the Awards Dance; this year there will be a dance competition where registered couples will have a chance to win a cash prize. The proceeds will benefit the 2003-2004 State Project, American Lung Association of Pennsylvania.

All of the SLC activities will wrap up on Wednesday. The outgoing and incoming state officers will meet early for breakfast to give warm welcomes and say good-byes. The newly elected state officers will then meet with Mrs. Pamela Scott, State Adviser, Mrs. Janet Skiles, Conference Coordinator, and Mr. Bruce Boncal, Executive Director to be briefed on their duties and responsibilities for the next year. As everyone departs from Seven Springs, they will reflect on the wonderful experiences and opportunities of the State Leadership Conference.



# Answer the Call! Go to the 2004 NLC in Denver!

Aaron Geiger  
Central District Vice President

Get ready PA FBLA for this year's National Leadership Conference in beautiful Denver, Colorado! From July 12-18, you will find new friends and new ways to Lead, Achieve, and Succeed. Participate in useful workshops and cheer for Pennsylvania at the Opening and Closing General Sessions! In between all that, there is so much in Denver to see and do.

For those interested in history and science, consider going to the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave and learn about his life. Want to journey into the mountains? Then visit Rocky Mountain National Park and hike the trails or simply enjoy the view! Dinosaur buffs will love Dinosaur Ridge. Here you can see iguanodon tracks, stegosaurus bones, and other prehistoric treasures. Speaking of treasure, stop by the U.S. Mint where you can get some collectible treasures of your own! The Colorado State Capitol also offers free tours.

There are numerous museums in Denver. At the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, you can watch an IMAX movie, see rare minerals and gems, and learn about the stars in a planetarium. The Denver Art Museum offers over 46,000 works of art. You can even go to the Denver Museum of Miniature Dolls and Toys!

Do you like high-speed thrills and insane rides? Then take a trip to Six Flags Elitch Gardens to experience the power of the Flying Coaster or take a dip in the Island Kingdom Water Park! You might even see Bugs Bunny and his friends walking around!

Are sports your thing? Then be a spectator at a Colorado Rockies baseball game or take a tour of the team's stadium. See great athletes from Colorado's sports teams at the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame!

Denver is an attraction itself! Take a tour of one of America's youngest cities and the largest within a 600-mile radius! There are a variety of places to eat and shop in the Mile High City.

The Rocky Mountains are calling. Will you answer the call and travel to Denver for the 2004 FBLA National Leadership Conference? For more information on what

Denver has to offer, go to <http://www.denver.org/index.asp>.

For more information on the NLC itself, go to [www.fbla-pbl.org](http://www.fbla-pbl.org) and check for the latest updates. See you in Denver!





## Altoona



On January 24, 2004, fourteen Altoona Area High School FBLA members participated in a Bowl-A-Thon at the Pleasant Valley Recreation Center in Altoona. Members acquired pledges two weeks prior to the event. The members raised \$285 for the American Lung Association, the 2003-2004 State Project.

The event was not only an opportunity to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause, but it also gave the members an opportunity to socialize and have fun.

## Baldwin

Representing Baldwin High School of Region 24, Baldwin FBLA has put its best foot forward in making Future Business Leaders of America the most well-known organization at our high school. They have over 80 active members and participants in FBLA as well as an extremely devoted Executive Board. The members of the FBLA chapter at Baldwin High School have put their heads together to raise money for the American Lung Association. Baldwin FBLA has sponsored numerous fundraisers over the past six months.

On Halloween, they held a costume contest for the teachers. The teachers dressed up in their best costumes and the students would put any spare change into the teacher's bucket that they think had the best costume throughout the school day. Six-hundred dollars was raised from this activity to help the ALA. Fundraising is a big priority in their chapter. It helps take them to bigger opportunities to make the club widely recognized throughout the school district and community.



*Halloween Costume Dress-up Contest*



The second fundraiser this year was the *Andes Candies* chocolate covered pretzel sales. Each FBLA member sold at least one box which included 40 pretzel packs, each sold for \$1. They made \$20 for each box sold giving a profit of roughly \$1600. At Baldwin, they are very active with their local Chamber of Commerce. By attending luncheons and meetings with business owners around their community, they are able to learn more about different business aspects around them.

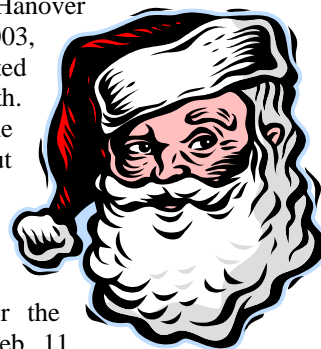
In the spring, a luncheon will be organized for FBLA members within our school to meet with different business organizations all over Pittsburgh called "Discovering Your Future in Business." This program gives students an opportunity to interact through the Chamber of Commerce and find a business career that suits their interest.

An FBLA Newsletter has recently been in progress at Baldwin to advertise and make students more aware to join the organization as well as keeping members updated. The newsletter includes highlights from the Regional Leadership Conference and State Leadership Workshop as well as fundraisers and activities that they participate in. At Baldwin High School, they have done their best to promote Future Business Leaders of America all around their community and to get more people involved!

## Bermudian Springs

The Bermudian Springs FBLA answered 143 "Letters to Santa" from the kindergarten students in its district. The letters were individually answered using word processing software and printed on Christmas stationery. To each letter, a candy cane was attached. In addition, members wrapped Christmas presents at the North Hanover Mall on December 16 and 17, 2003, from 5 -10 p.m. at the United Cerebral Palsy's gift-wrapping booth.

To celebrate FBLA Week, the chapter made announcements about FBLA Week and sold Otis Spunkmeyer cookies at a discounted price of 25 cents. In addition, Joe Corbi Pizza Kits and Cookie Dough, a fund-raiser for the State Project, was delivered on Feb. 11. Bermudian Springs donated \$500 to the American Lung Association. On February 13, each student and faculty member received a chocolate heart with a note attached that read, "FBLA Week: Business is the ♥ of the Free Enterprise System."



## Boyertown

Boyertown's FBLA activities this year were a joint venture with the Boyertown Professional and Business Association. In an effort to work more closely with the school community, the Boyertown FBLA members were invited to shadow a local businessperson for a day. Our members shadowed personnel in law offices, banks, elementary schools, engineering firms, and other businesses where the student had a true interest in the career.

The day began with a breakfast at Schaeffer's Family Restaurant where the members met their assigned employer. They listened to several guest speakers, and, after the meeting was adjourned, they departed to their designated business. Throughout the day, members worked side by side with their assigned professional and learned many aspects of the job. Because of the success of this program, it has become an annual event in the community.

A community project that they devoted many hours to during the month of December was the Boyertown Community Holiday House Tour. This year was the first tour and many volunteers from community organizations to school organizations were involved. FBLA members were very busy with this event volunteering their time with baking cookies, writing scripts for the tours, decorating, hosting and hostessing at the homes, and also assisting on the tour busses moving throughout the town.

This event was organized in the hopes that the school and local community could work toward a common goal of revitalizing and displaying our places of interest in our community. It truly was a success after many hours of hard work. Organizers hope to make this night an annual event every December.



position of Regional President at our recent Region 15 RLC. Along with Alisha Showers (Region 15 Vice-President) and Denise Damoa (Region 15 Secretary), Cedar Crest swept the elections for the 2004/2005 school year. Also, at the RLC, several club members qualified to attend the State Leadership Conference; of which 13 qualifiers will attend.

Overall, Cedar Crest FBLA is having a very successful year and we hope to continue this success in the future.

## Central Columbia

This year Central Columbia's FBLA Chapter of 116 students has been very involved with the community. A group of approximately 25 students traveled to the Ronald McDonald House in Danville for a day of cleaning and raking leaves. We continued with our Adopt-A-Highway responsibilities in November, wearing glamorous orange vests and picking up litter along Old Berwick Road. We recently received an award for participating in Adopt-A-Highway for ten years.

We volunteered at the American Cancer Society's Jail-A-Thon held in Berwick on November 7 by wrapping pennies, taking phone calls, and writing down names of people who made donations. Our FBLA chapter won a plaque for the highest donation. On January 26, approximately 70 students competed at our RLC and we are proud to have 31 students that qualified for State Competition.

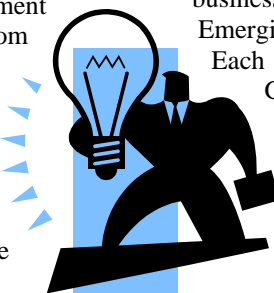
We are busy planning our annual field trip to New York City where we hope to tour NBC Studios and see the Broadway play, Aida. Our annual awards banquet is being planned for May and we hope most members and immediate family can attend. We will have a guest speaker and covered dish dinner.



## Cedar Crest

Throughout the 2003/2004 school year, Cedar Crest FBLA has made great strides in maintaining a successful chapter. At the State Leadership Workshop in October, the chapter pledged to raise \$1000 for the American Lung Association. By participating in the charity walk at the SLW and the DataMatch fundraising program, our chapter was able to raise a total of \$1136--\$136 above our goal. The club was also able to attain the National Membership Achievement Award for maintaining our chapter membership from last year.

Along with the achievements of the organization as a whole, many members have also achieved individual goals. Andrea Sholley, our club Historian, was awarded the national Membership Mania award for recruiting 10 new members this year. Andrea was also elected to the



## Chambersburg

Holly Baranowske, Anthony "LA" Hankerson, Jr., Tiffanie Pritt, Rebecca Harvey, James Tassone, Marc Ross Dessel, Clinton Kasprovicz, Joseph Turner, Sean Fitzgerald, Katie Miller, and Miranda Rhone along with their advisors, Mrs. Crystal Lautenslager and Mrs. Kathy Jo Reinsmith, attended the Future Business Leaders of America, Region 26, 2004 Leadership Conference and Competition held on Monday, January 5, at Central Pennsylvania College.

The students took one-hour exams in various areas of business and technology while the advisors were judges for Emerging Business Issues and Parliamentary Procedures.

Each student competed against ten schools which included: Greenwood HS, Waynesboro HS, Cumberland Perry AVTS, Forbes Road HS, Southern Fulton HS, Shippensburg HS, Newport HS, Franklin County CTC, and Scotland School for Veterans' Children. Our students did very well. The Chambersburg Area Senior High School Future Business Leaders of

America Chapter brought home ten medals by those placing in first, second or third of their event and one fourth place ribbon.

Holly Baranowske placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Impromptu Speaking; Anthony "LA" Hankerson, Jr. placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Marketing; Tiffanie Pritt placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Public Speaking II; Rebecca Harvey placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Business Communication; James Tassone placed 1<sup>st</sup> in FBLA Principles & Procedures; Marc Ross Dessel placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Economics; Clinton Kasprovicz placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Economics; Joseph Tarner placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Banking & Financial Systems; Sean Fitzgerald placed 1<sup>st</sup> in C++; Katie Miller placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Word Processing I; and Miranda Rhone placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Word Processing II. Seven members will compete at the State Leadership Conference March 28-31 at Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA. Good Luck CASHS at States!

This is the second year that CASHS has had an FBLA Chapter. We have 20 members this year with one freshman. Next year, we would like to see more juniors and sophomores involved along with the Class of 2005 and the possibility of a Chapter at Faust. Recruitment for the FBLA Chapter for next year will be starting in the spring.



Back row L to R: Clinton Kasprovicz, Rebecca Harvey, Anthony "LA" Hankerson, Jr., Sean Fitzgerald, James Tassone, and Joseph Tarner.  
Front row L to R: Marc Ross Dessel (Treasurer), Tiffanie Pritt (President), Miranda Rhone (Vice President), Katie Miller, Holly Baranowske (Secretary)

## Chestnut Ridge

Business owners are the backbone of our local economy. To show appreciation for area entrepreneurs, Chestnut Ridge FBLA members interviewed business owners in the Chestnut Ridge School District in order to learn more about the pros and cons of owning and running a business. The information taken from these interviews was aired on the school's morning announcements.



Businesses could also opt to be part of our coupon campaign. Interested businesses will become part of American Enterprise coupon book of savings. These coupons celebrated our local business men and women and encouraged the community to buy locally. Coupon booklets were available at local businesses in January.



Additionally, Mrs. Trudy Barefoot, co-owner of H. Fred Barefoot Trucking, Inc. and Faye's Candies, spoke to two business classes in November. She discussed how businesses are run and the problems and advantages to owning and running a business.

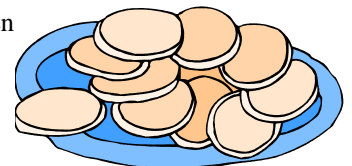
Our local businesses are an integral part of the local economy. The Chestnut Ridge Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America is proud to support our area businessmen and women.

## Clearfield

Clearfield FBLA has participated in many different activities from September through February. Their five officers, and Region 14 President Justin Luzier, attended the Region 14 Workshop in October at the Clearfield County Career and Technology Center. The team of Tim Duke, Jake Graham, and Justin Luzier participated in the Battle of the Chapters, winning first place.

The next event they attended was the State Leadership Workshop which was held in State College. There, they took part in a charity walk around the Penn State University campus in support of the American Lung Association and placed tenth for the amount of donations collected. Also in October, they held a canned food drive for Make-A-Difference Day and collected two boxes of food, which were given to the local food bank.

In November, an Open House was held at the school where members supplied cookies for parents who were visiting their children's teachers as a part of National



Education Week. Later in the month, many members took advantage of job shadowing opportunities in recognition of Free Enterprise Day. A variety of occupations, such as attorneys' offices and a speech therapist, were visited. Also in November, eight members attended the National Fall Leadership Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

Adding to the busy month of November, they held their yearly fundraiser: selling McDonald's coupons. At one dollar each, they sold 1,000 coupons and raised \$519. As another source of income, they stock and sell soda in their two faculty lounges.

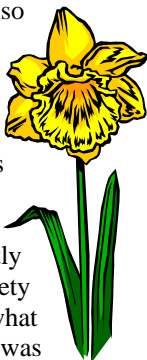
In January, the Regional Leadership Conference was held at the Dubois Business College in Huntingdon. Abby Hile, Priti Patel, Tim Duke, Alyson Lingle, Beth Williams, Matt Elensky, Sarah Graham, Ryan Sayers, LeAnn Trude, Breann Mikesell, Jake Graham, Jessica Graham, Ashley Harford, Nikolas Kyler, Justin Luzier, Dustin Walstrom, Samantha



Ambuski, and Josh Wisor all placed at the RLC. Eleven of these students, as well as Justin Luzier, who was re-elected as Region 14 President, will advance to the SLC in Seven Springs. Abby Hile, their local secretary, was also elected to serve as Region 14 Secretary.

Throughout the year, they actively sponsor and participate in many charitable events. For the State Project, they sponsor Casual for a Cause at their school. Two Fridays a month, their staff pays to dress casually and all the fund are donated to the American Lung Association. Clearfield FBLA is currently participating in an American Cancer Society project. Every year, they sell daffodils during what is known as Daffodil Days. Their chapter was recently recognized at an ACS sponsored dinner as the top selling school in 2003 of our local unit, raising \$1,401. In addition, they collected tabs from September to mid-January for Ronald McDonald House Charities. This charity helps provide a "home-away-from-home" for the families of seriously ill children who are receiving treatment at a nearby hospital. The total number of tabs collected was 870,443.

As one can see, they have had a very busy and productive year. They hope to continue this the rest of the year as they prepare to compete at the SLC, participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon, distribute daffodils, and honor their administrative professionals on April 21.



## Cocalico

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners annually presents the DeLancey Youth Awards to recognize valuable youth-oriented programs that improve the quality of life in townships and encourage youth involvement in the community.

A panel of judges selected the five winning groups in Pennsylvania who completed outstanding public service projects this past year and made their townships better places in which to live. Among this year's winners was the Cocalico High School FBLA, led by advisers Mr. Mitch Hummel and Ms. Kristi Ryland. Cocalico's FBLA Chapter will receive a \$250 prize and a framed certificate at the 2004 convention of the Lancaster County Association of Township Officials. The project was featured in the February issue of the magazine, "Pennsylvania Township News." In addition, Cocalico FBLA submitted a description of the project to PA FBLA as an entry in the "Community Service Project" division.

These students brightened up the holiday season in Lancaster County by donating their time and effort to the Salvation Army. The group bought 450 "angel" tags from the Salvation Army and distributed them to students, teachers, and community members who were willing to buy a gift for a needy child or family. The group then wrapped, organized, and delivered the presents to the Salvation Army, where they were distributed to the needy families.



In addition, 60 members of the Cocalico FBLA spent an entire day volunteering at the Salvation Army assisting in bagging bulk cookies, food, clothing, toys, and blanket contributions from county businesses into family-unit packages for distribution to the needy throughout Lancaster County.

## DuBois Central Catholic

This year the DuBois Central Catholic FBLA Chapter, Region 14, had a record number of students qualify for the State Leadership Workshop. As a small chapter in a private school, the students receive little funding and have been working hard to raise all the money necessary to attend the conference.

In addition to the usual fundraisers such as running a bookstore that supplies middle and high school students with

books, breakfast, and serving food at the monthly bingo, the FBLA members organized a bake sale, a Valentine's Day carnation sale, and ran a concession stand during the district basketball play off games.

"We're really excited to have so many of our members attending the State Workshop this year," said president, Molly Vallely, "We'll do whatever is necessary to make sure that everyone who qualified has the opportunity to attend."

The students also planned a special St. Patrick's Day fundraiser and an Easter candy sale.



## Kennett

FBLA, the largest student organization of Kennett High School in Kennett Square welcomes the second half of the school year. Previously, they kept busy by designing and marketing their own stylish t-shirts and selling snacks at homecoming. They have also hosted a "Mistletoe Magic" holiday dance in December.



Currently, they are involved in Data Match, a matchmaking survey for students who pay a small fee to discover the top ten students with similar personalities. Their organization uses fun and unique money makers to partially fund the 42 students who will be competing in various competitions at the state level in beautiful Seven Springs.

Throughout the year, adviser Mrs. Jean O'Neil and Kennett FBLA officers, plan Power Lunches which are held by successful business leaders that present interactive lectures during the lunch period. They also are avid sponsors of the American Cancer Society and participate in a local "Relay for Life," a 24-hour fundraising event. Kennett FBLA is taking the initiative to help their school and community one event at a time; and along the way, they have discovered the vital steps needed to achieve their business dreams of tomorrow.

## Marion Catholic

The 2003-2004 school year has proven to be an exciting year for our chapter at Marian Catholic High School, in Region 21. On November 12, 2003, we held our annual FBLA mass during which we inducted the chapter's forty-three members, including the five officers.

In September, our chapter contributed to the Bike 'n Hike, to help aid the State Project, The American Lung Association. Also, in November, our chapter held a food drive in order to help local needy families have a wonderful Thanksgiving. In December, along with Marian's SADD club, we sponsored a giving tree to give underprivileged children a merry holiday. On December 9, 2003, our chapter's officer team traveled to Stroudsburg for the Regional Leadership Workshop to learn how to improve the chapter. On January 22, 2004, over thirty of our members traveled to Pleasant Valley High School in order to participate in the Regional Leadership Conference. Eight of our members placed high enough in their competitive events to advance to the State Leadership Conference in Seven Springs, PA.

Our FBLA year does not end there. In March we have many fundraisers planned, including the very popular Penny War. In addition, a box will be set up for eyeglass donations to support the local Lion's Club. Also, in April there will be a Career Day in which local successful career men and women come to talk about their professions and others in that field. This looks to be a very fun and informative day.



It has been a very prosperous year for Marian's FBLA chapter, and we only hope that next year will prove to be even more successful!

## Marion Center

The Marion Center Chapter of Future Business Leaders of America has had a wonderful year. Since the last Penn Pal, the members sponsored the school-wide February Food Fight to benefit the needy in Indiana County. Our goal was to collect over 2,000 items as we did last year. All proceeds go to the Indiana County Community Action Program food pantry.

In March and April the chapter visited personal care homes in the community to brighten some elderly people's day.

We also participated in the annual daffodil sales with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society.



We still maintain the gym lobby beverage machines that have juices and sports drinks.

On March 29, 30 and 31, Marion Center will have 19 members attending the State Leadership Conference at Seven Springs. Mrs. Barbara Treese and Ms. Denise Henry will be attending with outgoing Region 3 Secretary Amanda Schurr and incoming Region 3 President Brianna Robertson. Fifteen members of the Marion Center Chapter earned a qualifying place at the Region 3 competition at Cambria Rowe Business College in January. Way to go, Marion Center. We are hoping to bring home trophies and plaques from the SLC!

In April, there will be a Senior Recognition Banquet for all the members in the chapter. It will be held during a luncheon on April 28 at the Ponderosa Steakhouse in Indiana. This will give all members a chance to thank the 22 seniors for being great FBLA members.

The Youth Relay for Life will be held May 28 and 29. We have an FBLA team for this 24-hour, lock-in event at the IUP fieldhouse track. The team captains for the FBLA relay team are sophomores Corey Tost and Erica Yarko. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

## New Oxford

On January 12, 2004, the Region 6 Leadership Conference was hosted by Northeastern FBLA at Central Penn College in Summerdale. Members enjoyed donuts and juice for a morning snack until the meeting was called to order. The local presidents were introduced followed by a secretary's report. After the emblem ceremony and campaign speeches, members headed toward the testing rooms. After testing, everyone enjoyed the sandwiches and cookies provided by Central Penn's Hotel and Restaurant Management students. Lunch was delicious. When lunch finally ended, it was time to give out the awards to those FBLA members who placed one through five in their competitive event.



Twenty-two members of New Oxford High School's FBLA attended the conference. Over half of the members that attended that day placed in their competitive event. In Banking and Financial Systems, Nichole Therit placed fourth. Eric Smith placed third in Business Math. Andre Knight and Drew Irwin placed first and second in Computer Concepts, and Kaitlyn Slothour and Kayla Kreeger placed first and second in their competitive event of FBLA Principles and Procedures. Andrea Paul placed fourth in Impromptu Speaking, and Nick Truesdale won Mr. FBL. Other members that placed were: Justin Gilmore, second in Public Speaking; Barbara Huggins, third in Public Speaking II; Justin Dehoff, first in Technology Concepts; and John Weiss who placed second in Visual Basic.

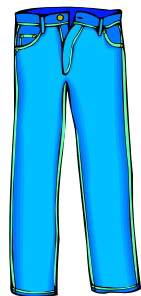


The following students placed at the Region Leadership Conference and qualified to attend the state conference at Seven Springs Ski Resort in Somerset: Justin Dehoff for Technology Concepts, Eric Smith in Business Math, Andrew Knight and Drew Irwin in Computer Concepts, Kaitlyn Slothour and Kayla Kreeger for FBLA Principles and Procedures, and Nick Truesdale who won Mr. FBL. Everyone is very excited about all of the fun they will be having when they attend the State Leadership Conference in Somerset, Pennsylvania on March 29-31, 2004.

## Northampton

Northampton Chapter of FBLA got the parents of its members involved in raising money. They set up a lottery calendar for the month of December. The calendars were \$5 each. With these calendars the buyer had a number, and if their number matched the daily PA Lottery number, they won a set amount of money for the day. The prizes ranged from \$25 to \$100. It was a great success.

Another fundraiser Northampton hosted was a "Casual for a Cause Day" in honor of the American Lung Association. It was January 30 and many teachers participated. The final fundraiser was the Data Match surveys. These surveys are a way to find out who you are compatible with by answering a few questions. Northampton was able to beat their pledge goal of \$1,000 and donate over \$1,500 to the American Lung Association. With these fundraisers Northampton put the FUN in FUNdraising.



Northampton also helps provide gifts for a local needy family. Many members brought in gifts and the club was happy to make a family's Christmas brighter.

Finally, this chapter had great success at regionals. They had 39 members compete, 19 students placed and 16 of those were offered an invitation to the SLC. This is one of the largest groups to go from Northampton. Amanda King also won the election for 2004 – 2005 Region 28 secretary.

## Pequea Valley

We have been very busy with FBLA at Pequea Valley as we give our members a chance to Lead, Achieve, Succeed! Our club seems to be growing every year and this year we reached an all-time high of 100 members. We are very proud of the club's enrollment, considering the small size of our school.

Some of the things we have been doing to raise money for the state project are Casual for a Cause and Data Match. We managed to recruit over 40 of our high school teachers to donate to the American Lung Association and dress down for a day. Over Valentine's Day we also ran the Data Match campaign to raise more money. The Data Match results were sold during lunch in the cafeteria. Students flocked to buy them to see whom they match with for the upcoming Valentine's Dance. Along with the walk-a-thon at Penn State, we managed to meet our entire projected donation.



Our club represented our school very well at the Region 18 completion with 59 of our members competing. We had the highest number of members in attendance, and represented our school commendably. Forty-seven of our attendees placed in their competition with 23 of our place winners qualifying to go to states. This year we took more first place honors than ever before with 17 members taking home those plaques!

Another activity that we offer to give our members is a taste of the business world with the Stock Market Game. Members volunteer to play the game and the club funds those participants.



As the year winds down, we begin to plan for our annual ice-cream recruitment social. In addition, we are looking forward to having a national officer from Louisiana attend our club meeting in April and share with our membership what it is like to be an officer on the national level for FBLA!

The Pequea Valley chapter of FBLA has definitely Led, Achieved and Succeeded this year!!!

## Peters Township

February 13 saw the completion of PTHS FBLA's third annual Blossom Express fundraiser. In October, the club pledged \$1500 to the American Lung Association, this year's state project. Following up on the success of the Teacher Costume Madness and Candy Gram fundraisers, FBLA members worked hard to make this year's Blossom Express sale one of the most rewarding since the program began three years ago.

After selling over 300 flowers to the students during the four lunch periods, the FBLA club's members decided to expand the scope of the project and donated five dozen carnations to the residents of the Manor Care Nursing Home on McMurray Road. The residents, already planning a Valentine's Day celebration, were delighted to have their plans complemented by a lovely array of carnations assembled by the Washington Wal-Mart Super Center. In the end, PT FBLA not only met its goal through fundraising, but was also able to spread the Valentines Day spirit to both the student body and respected, valued members of the community; a testament to the fact that a little bit of compassion can go a long way toward making a difference in someone's life.



## Pine Grove

The Pine Grove Area FBLA got into the Christmas spirit this year. We visited a local nursing home and played bingo with the residents to enliven their holiday. Before Christmas break, we incorporated a meeting with a Christmas party. It was a fun way to celebrate and take care of some business.

In January we began to prepare for the Regional Leadership Conference. Students researched events and chose one to compete in at the competition. On January 23, 58 of our members participated at the RLC at Bloomsburg University. Pine Grove's own Erin Kintzel and Gwen Wiscount were elected Region President and Secretary. Twenty-one qualified for the State Leadership Conference.

On February 9, 2004, our state qualifiers were recognized at our Spirit Week Pep Rally. During this winter sports pep rally, our president, Amanda Emerich, introduced all regional winners, their events, and how they placed. Getting recognition in front of the entire student body is a great opportunity to show how important FBLA is and how well our school does at the regional level.

Now with the state competition approaching, we have begun to organize fundraisers to pay for the conference. Members have been very successful selling candy bars, lollipops, and doughnuts in past years, so we will continue with those fundraisers.



## Pleasant Valley

The 2003-2004 school year is half over, and Pleasant Valley FBLA is moving into its final stage of achieving their chapter goals. One of the biggest successes this year has been the "new" and "improved" American Enterprise Project. On November 14, the AEP team was joined by local business people and the middle school students for a day filled with excitement and knowledge. During the morning hours, business people from the community taught techniques in personal finance and entrepreneurship. The afternoon was taken up by middle school student teams creating their own business and presenting their ideas in a contest. The day was enjoyed by all, and the middle school students had lots of fun!



Pleasant Valley FBLA tried something new this year. In December, regional competitors took part in a local chapter workshop. Local officers, advisers, and alumni members taught competitors the in's and out's of Pleasant Valley FBLA and joined in study sessions. The day ended with a little Karaoke PV style, and members left with memories to last a lifetime!

## Purchase Line

Purchase Line's chapter of FBLA has been busy with a variety of activities. In October and November, we held a citrus sale and sold Tom Wat kit items as fundraisers. Santa's Workshop in December was a huge success with over 125 children from the community attending. We also participated in the Region 3 Leadership Workshop and Conference in December and January. Twelve members from our chapter will attend the State Leadership Conference at Seven Springs in March.

During FBLA week, our chapter hosted a faculty breakfast. We served bagels, cookies, coffee, and tea as the teachers arrived for the day.

We also held a "find the letters - F.B.L.A." game for the students. Individual letters were hidden throughout the school and students needed to collect all four (FBLA) in order to win. All day everyone scrambled to find the letters and by the end of the day, we had two winners.





## Shippensburg

On Sunday October 12, Shippensburg Future Business Leaders of America visited the residents of Outlook Point from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Prior to the trip each member "adopted a grandparent," which literally means that each member is given a companion that they will send cards, letters, and/or gifts to throughout this year.

The trip was organized by Munira Shamshudin, a sophomore at Shippensburg Area High School and member of FBLA. When members arrived at Outlook Point, they sang songs with the residents for about an hour. For the last half hour the members and residents played several games of bingo. Members enjoyed visiting the residents of Outlook Point and are planning to visit at a later date.

The Shippensburg Future Business Leaders chapter has been raising money for the American Lung Association since August. Recently, they held a homeroom competition in an attempt to get the whole school involved in raising money for this charity. The FBLA chapter has held this fundraiser for the last three years.

They hold the fundraiser around the holiday season since this is the "season for giving."

Brittany Manning, FBLA Co-Vice President, chaired the fundraiser. Coffee cans

were placed in all homerooms at the senior high school from November 19 through December 12. Students were encouraged to place their "loose change" into the coffee cans.

The homeroom that raised the most money for the American Lung Association was awarded with a big Christmas Breakfast Party during homeroom on Thursday, December 18. Mr. Mike Swartz's homeroom 71, placed first in the competition, raising a total of \$377.93. Coming in second was Mrs. Cote-Glander's homeroom 82, bringing in \$237.27. Mrs. Cote-Glander's homeroom won this competition last year. Ms. Benford's homeroom 39 came in third place raising \$111.36. The second and third place winning homerooms were awarded with donuts. First, second, and third-place were also awarded a Certificate of Achievement.

The total amount collected was \$976.04. This total amount will be donated to the American Lung Association.

The Shippensburg FBLA chapter is just short by \$700 of reaching its pledge goal of \$2,500 for the 2003-04 year. They will be having two more fundraisers before the end of February to raise money for the American Lung Association in hopes of reaching that goal.

Each year the Shippensburg Area High School Future Business Leaders of America Chapter supports the community in various ways. This year the chapter is working with the Shippensburg Lions Club.

Mr. Ron Reed, Lions Club member, has coordinated the community service project with the FBLA Chapter. This year

FBLA members are picking up the trash on the mornings and/or after school following home football and soccer games. On Saturday mornings following home football games, FBLA members report to Shippensburg Memorial Park around 7:00 a.m. to pick up the trash. Each member is required to participate in trash pick-up at least once in order to be eligible to attend chapter workshops and conferences.

On Friday November 14, Future Business Leaders of America in the Shippensburg Area High School celebrated American Enterprise Day. To celebrate this occasion a member of the club, Jamie Oberholzer, designed and hung posters. These posters asked each and every student and faculty member to take part in a professional business dress up day on Friday, November 14.

On Monday January 5, 2004, the Shippensburg Area High School Future Business Leaders of America attended the Region 26 Leadership Conference at Central Penn College. They left the conference with eight first-place winners, three second-place winners, and one fourth-place winner. The first- and second-place winners will advance to state competition at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in March. The following are the first place winners: Jared Gastrock – Impromptu Speaking, Brittany Manning – Ms. Future Business Leader, Jamie Oberholzer – Job Interview, Amberle Zeiler & Amber Shope (team) – Desktop Publishing, Amanda Shotts – Computer Applications, Munira Shamshudin – Introduction to Business Communications, Zachary Taylor – Public Speaking I. The following were also second place winners: Tara Myers – Computer Applications, Julie Watkins – Word Processing II, Dan Coy – Accounting I.

Christopher Gray is competing in Website Development. He will be contacted by February 11 to see if his website is eligible for state competition. Angie Jackson placed fourth in Business Procedures.

Also, Jamie Oberholzer was elected Region 26 Secretary. She was initiated by the local outgoing President, Jared Gastrock, and outgoing secretary, Brittany Manning. FBLA advisors, Mrs. Molly Mowers and Mrs. Doris Jackson, were very proud of all the accomplishments the Future Business Leaders have demonstrated.





## South Western

The holiday flew by as our local chapter prepared for our regional competition. Our meetings focused on competitive events and the organization of the basket bingo event we have planned for early February, which is to raise money for the state project, the American Lung Association. Once January arrived, our chapter competed in the regional competition. The majority of our organization participated and many qualified for the state competition in late March. Our meetings continue to be held on a regular basis. Officers and those closely involved with the basket bingo plans are meeting on a weekly basis with our advisor to make sure that everything will go smoothly at the bingo. With the regional competition completed, our efforts focus on the organization of the basket bingo and preparation for the state competition.



## Stroudsburg

Winter has been an extremely busy season for Stroudsburg FBLA. We welcomed in the season by traveling to Baltimore, Maryland in November for the National Fall Leadership Conference. Seven members and two advisors participated in the conference and attended the Blue Jeans for Babies Dance to help raise money for the March of Dimes.

On December 9, we hosted the Regional Leadership Workshop for Region 21. At the Regional Competition on January 22, Stroudsburg was very successful, placing second overall, and will be sending 40 members on to the State Competition in March.

At the State Leadership Workshop in October, Stroudsburg pledged \$2,000 to Pennsylvania FBLA's state project. Thanks to the many successful fundraisers we ran this year, such as our district-wide dress down day, selling Christmas wreaths, a 50/50, and our annual Breakfast with Santa. We managed to exceed our original pledge and raised a total of \$2,672 for the American Lung Association.

Although it has been a very busy year, we are not done yet! Members are keeping busy planning a golf tournament for the beginning of May and preparing to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Great job this year Stroudsburg!



## Twin Valley

Twin Valley's chapter of FBLA from Elverson, Pennsylvania worked hard to raise money for this year's state project, the American Lung Association. Our chapter was split into six committees to make more efficient use of our time. One of our committees is in charge of Twin Valley's school store, which set aside 10% of its sales. At the State Leadership Workshop at Penn State, we raised money from our silent auction basket and the Charity Walk. During the holiday season, the State Project Committee held a candy cane sale for the students. In January, we held a district-wide teacher dress-down day, where teachers paid \$5 to wear casual clothes. Our goal this year was to raise \$1,500 for the American Lung Association; and our 42-member club is proud to say that through hard work and team effort, we exceeded our goal and raised \$1,531.06.

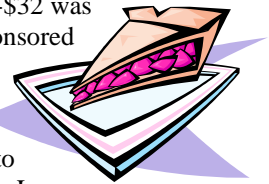
Our club has also participated in many community service activities. We worked with the local Rotary Club to clean up the highway and help with their annual art auction. Our members also helped the elementary PTOs with their Fun Fests, and we donated money to our local food bank during the holidays.



## Warrior Run

Warrior Run FBLA has had a very productive year to date. We had eight FBLA members attend the State Leadership Workshop held in State College in October. Our chapter donated a basket of candles for the Auction for Oxygen. Members were brainstorming for other ways to earn money for the American Lung Association. The entire school participated in our "Bring Your Loose Change" campaign. This activity surpassed our expectations—students and staff donated \$1,140.72 in change!!

During a school talent show, one FBLA member agreed to have a pie thrown in his face. Tickets were sold to determine who would be the pie-thrower--\$32 was earned from this activity. FBLA sponsored dress-down Fridays for the month of October and a Chinese Auction near Christmas time. Proceeds from these activities brought the total amount to \$1,325.75 raised for the American Lung Association.



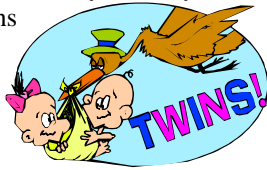
On October 30, 17 FBLA members attended the Region 23 Leadership Workshop held in Milton, PA. Many of our members especially enjoyed the workshop on court stenography. When the workshop was over, our bus had to stop for a train. We couldn't believe it when the next to last car stopped on the crossing. We sat there for over 20 minutes and the train still didn't move. Our bus driver had to back up and turn around—it made the trip extra memorable!

In January, Warrior Run sent 31 students to Bloomsburg University for regional competition—21 students placed and 12 are eligible to go to Seven Springs for the State Leadership Conference. Warrior Run's school store, created and run entirely by FBLA, is helping to defray some of the costs associated with the conference.

Our two major fundraisers during the year were selling hoagies and Krispy Kreme donuts. This year members were given an extra incentive to sell by being able to "bank" some of the profits to help pay for expenses they might incur going on field trips or to various workshops. Several members are going to Central Pennsylvania College in March and used their "banked" dollars to pay for the registration fee and lunch.

Under doctor's orders, Mrs. Mendler, the FBLA advisor, quit working on January 16. She had twin boys (Brady and Bryce) on February 19. Congratulations to her!

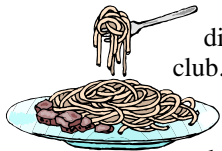
It's been a very exciting and eventful year for FBLA, and we hope that we can continue and keep growing in years to come.



## Waynesboro

The Waynesboro Chapter has done a lot in FBLA. We have progressed since last year, and we are continually growing. Our chapter has done various fundraisers for our personal treasury and for the state project. Our community service has also increased.

Our fundraisers were a spaghetti dinner, dime a day, school store, bonus books/ornaments, walk for life, Santa hats, candy canes, and hat day stickers. The spaghetti dinner was a fundraiser for our treasury. Each member sold ten tickets and



was required to work a shift at the dinner. The dinner was held at a local club called the Elks club. Dime a day was done recently for the state project. For all of FBLA week a member went to each room every day to collect spare change. We raised around \$1,000. School store

was opened as a fundraiser for our treasury and for the benefit of the school. The store is open during all lunch periods and each member is asked to voluntarily work the shifts. The store sells various school supplies needed for any student that is not prepared. Bonus books and ornaments are sold every year for our treasury. Each member must sell ten books. Ornaments were optional. The bonus books consisted of coupons for various activities and restaurants in the area. We had two people walk in the walk for life. Santa hats and candy canes were sold during the holiday season for the state project. Students could purchase either item during their lunch period. Hat day stickers were to support the state project. Students wishing to wear a hat on hat day during spirit week had to buy a sticker.

Events held for FBLA were the regional workshop, Baltimore trip, regional competition, and National FBLA week. All members were strongly encouraged to participate in these events. The Baltimore trip was optional. Jen Barciz ran

for regional president this year and was elected.

Activities specifically held for chapter 26 were spirit week and the bulletin boards. During spirit week members were encouraged to participate in various activities including blue and gold day or FBLA t-shirt day. Bulletin boards are run by the bulletin board committee. The boards are located outside the meeting room and were decorated in FBLA themes.

Volunteer work has increased this year for our chapter. Working the school store, helping at the new hope shelter, and basket bingo are all things we did as a group. Members were asked to sign up to volunteer.

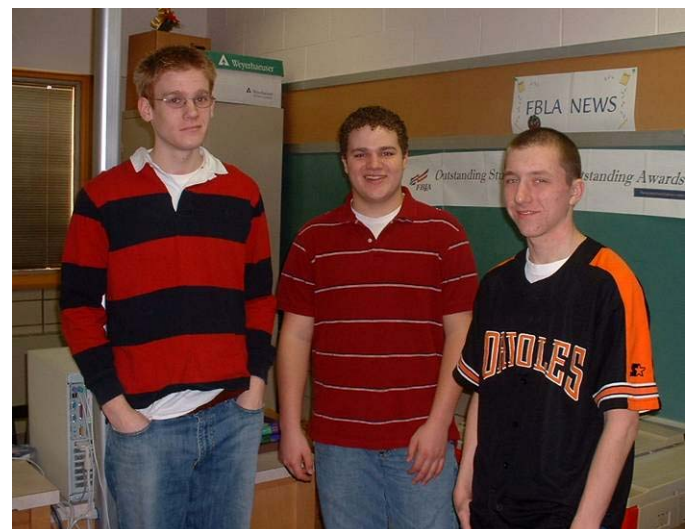
## Wilmington

Contrary to past Region 2 Leadership Conferences, this year's conference was held on February 3, 2004, despite many obstacles including school cancellations due to snow and two-hour delays. Two schools, Titusville and Commodore Perry, were able to attend the day's activities but were unable to make up the event tests the following day.

Special thanks go out to the students at Commodore Perry for hosting this year's conference; Westminster College and Tom Rosengarth's SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) students for accommodating our high school weather changes; and Mr. Bill Lyon, Wilmington's High School Principal, for allowing Miss LeAnn Petro, Region 2 Advisor, Elizabeth Rodgers, Region 2 President, and Megan Aliulus, Region 2 Secretary, a traveling day to administer the makeup competition events.

Four Wilmington students walked away with Region 2 officer positions for next year. Congratulations go to Garrison Phillis, President; Marshall Stewart, secretary; Phillip Kapcewich, Vice President; and missing from the picture, Shawna Medvec, Treasurer.

One important change for next year includes the adoption of a Region 2 treasury. The money generated from the new account will be used to help defray RLW and RLC costs, award cash prizes and/or trophies to RLC winners, send thank you gifts to those individuals who assist with the RLW and RLC, and aid with the cost for NLC participants.



## Wyoming Valley West

Students at Wyoming Valley West High School are very excited that they will be attending the 2004 State Leadership Conference. For six of the twelve students, this will be their second, third, and fourth time for attending.

The twelve members of the Wyoming Valley West's Future Business Leaders of America Chapter who qualified to attend the 2004 Pennsylvania State Leadership Conference on March 29, 30, and 31 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Pennsylvania are listed below. The students qualified for the state competition by placing in various competitive events at the Region 16 Leadership Conference.

Those students who qualified include: Juhn Matusek, Business Calculations; Valerie Hoodle, Computer Concepts; Susan Chen, Accounting II; Mary Kasenchak, Introduction to Business Communications; Bill McGarry, Banking and Financial Systems; Heather Janoski, Business Law; Zachary Snyder, International Business; Sam Siracuse, Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure; Alan Sheydwasser, Business Procedures; Casey Helfrich, Introduction to Business; Ravi Mahajan, Networking Concepts; and Mary Jonelle Pisaneschi, Business Communications. These students as well as Wyoming Valley West High School's Advisers, Miss Geraldine Pointek, Mrs. Toni Madden, and Mrs. Michelle Pisaneschi, will attend the State Leadership Conference.

## Keystone Leadership Award Winners



Megan Beatty

Keena Gates

Ralph Kreider

Kayla Miller

Raul Patel

Jeffrey Selvoski



### Congratulations!

## State Project Update

As of March 19, \$88,817 has been raised for the American Lung Association!

With your efforts, PA FBLA can reach its goal of \$90,000 by the State Leadership Conference.

Thank you for all of your hard work this year. PA FBLA thanks you and so will the American Lung Association!







# Welcome New and Reactivated Chapters!

Region 5

Cambria Heights High School

Region 7

Muncy J/S High School

Region 10

Keystone Oaks High School  
South Fayette Twp. High School  
Taylor-Allderdice High School

Region 12

Bensalem Township High School

Region 13

Union High School

Region 15

Hershey High School

Region 17

Blue Ridge High School

Region 18

Lancaster Mennonite High School

Region 20

Harriton High School

Region 21

Palmerton High School

Region 24

Mount Lebanon High School

Region 25

Edison-Fareira High School  
Franklin Learning Center  
Strawberry Mansion High School



# Officer Farewells

Over the past three years, I have experienced the most distinguished honor of my life so far. I have had the opportunity to serve as a state officer for the Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America. I have traveled across the state and have met hundreds and hundreds of our members. From what I've seen, I can predict a very bright future for the members of Pennsylvania FBLA.

I would like to thank all the officers with whom I have served. Each of the state officers has made this an even more exhilarating experience for me. For that, I thank you James, Mike, Todd, Hillary, Chuck, Brent, Heather, Josh, Kelly, Jennifer, Nick, Sean, Ashley, Raul, Brandon, Kayla, Aaron, and Jeff. Each of you is an extraordinary person and is bound for success no matter what path your life takes.

The membership of Pennsylvania FBLA cannot be beat. After attending three national conferences, I can attest to that! Whether it was watching one Pennsylvania member after another receive a national award in his/her competitive event, or observing a state coming together to raise over \$80,000 each year for the state project, I know that Pennsylvania FBLA does not know failure.

Advisers, I appreciate all your dedication to our organization. Without you, where would we be? You have helped to mold young adults into the future of our country. You take that extra time to be an FBLA adviser, and you deserve an incredible amount of thanks for that.

It has been an honor and a privilege to lead your home state for the last three years. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you in the capacity I have. It has truly been the most rewarding experience of my life.

***-Brett Hollister, President***

Thank you. Thank you for everything. PA FBLA, I want to thank you for a fantastic experience in PA FBLA. Because of you, the members, I have been able to experience something I may never experience again...so thank you!

PA FBLA had another wonderful and successful year in 2003-04. Our membership was up, we raised a ton of money for American Lung, and our conference attendance has been one of the largest ever. This is all a credit to your hard work and dedication to this organization. Through your recruitment efforts, more people participated in Membership Madness than ever before. Through your fundraising, FBLA will be able to save lives. I speak on behalf of all the officers when I say thank you for that.

The 2003-04 PA FBLA campaign was kicked off at Penn State University for the SLW. Our next stop was Baltimore, and we will be finishing up the year at Seven Springs and in Denver, Colorado for the State and National Leadership Conferences. I want to wish everyone who is competing this year the best of luck!

Through the past three years of my life, FBLA has played a large part. I have been very involved, and I wouldn't give up a second of it! I learned many lessons and overcame many difficulties. Throughout those three years, I learned

that the most rewarding thing was to see other members succeed. The look of happiness and self-gratification are unforgettable, and I will cherish those memories forever. To all the seniors, I wish you the best of luck in college, tech school, the work force, or whatever your future entails. For the underclassmen, I wish you the best of luck next year in FBLA and I hope that you will work hard to Lead...Achieve...Succeed! Thank you all for everything!

***-Joshua Coleman, First Vice President***





As I reflect upon my state officer experiences over the past two years, I am overcome with many thoughts and emotions. First, I want to thank everyone who supported me in my FBLA endeavors: my parents, my advisers Mr. Gochenauer and Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Janet Skiles, Mr. Bruce Boncal, Mrs. Pamela Scott, my fellow state officers, my teachers, my school administrators, and the members of Pennsylvania FBLA. All of these people enabled me to grow intellectually, socially, and personally. Without some I might not be serving, and without others I have no reason to serve.

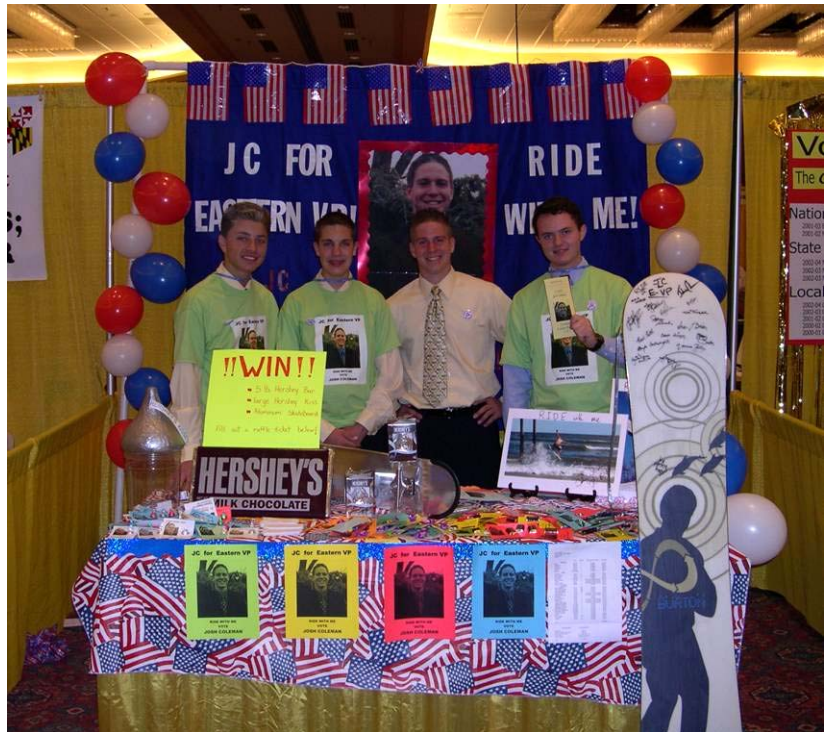
My two years in state FBLA offices have given me innumerable opportunities for gaining and improving many leadership skills. I am now very comfortable with public speaking; in sharp contrast to the first time I addressed the Pennsylvania delegation with wobbly knees and sweaty palms. I have improved my networking skills considerably since I was just a sophomore, when I shied away from groups larger than two people. FBLA has given me very much, and I believe that I have duly reciprocated. The state goal that I worked on for the past two years has been the PA FBLA Scholarship Program. I have attempted to augment the program by adding new four-year universities, and I also promoted the value of these scholarships at the FBLA functions I attended. I hope that through my efforts I leave my mark on FBLA for years to come.

When my state officer term ends Wednesday, March 31, 2004, I will be sad yet content. I will miss the company of the seven other state officers and my leadership position for sure, but I know that it will be time to move on to even greater things. No matter how far I make it in life, I will always remember the organization that set me in the right direction.

***-Nicholas Truesdale, Secretary***

Well, PA FBLA, it is now time for me to say, "Goodbye." The 2003-2004 school year is one that I will always cherish. Through my involvement in FBLA over the past three years, I have learned so much. Representing you on the State Executive Committee as your PA FBLA State Treasurer has been both rewarding and fun! As a senior in high school, handling thousands and thousands of dollars was a unique experience. I am grateful and thankful to be associated with terrific members, advisers, officers and the Board of Directors. It makes me proud to say that I was a member of one of the top five FBLA state chapters in the nation. A special thanks to Mr. Boncal, Mrs. Skiles, and Mrs. Scott for all of their hard work and dedication to this organization. All the hours I spent for FBLA will not equal the rewards and benefits it will supply me with for the rest of my life. Once again, thank you Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America. I am proud to have served you. "Keep improving, do your best, and as always—have fun!" Until our paths cross again. Farewell!

***-Jeffrey Selvoski, Treasurer***





When I attended my first State Leadership Conference three years ago, I looked up on stage and thought, “Why in the world would anyone want to be a state officer?” Here I sit, though, organizing the second edition of the *Penn Pal* wondering where all the time went. Being a state officer has been one of the most memorable experiences of my life; it has allowed me to meet many new friends, learn necessary business and life skills, and have fun! As I reflect back on my senior year, it would not have been the same without FBLA.

I would like to thank the members of PA FBLA: you made this all worthwhile. If it wasn’t for you, we would not have raised as much money for the American Lung Association, we would not have a member in the top ten of almost every competition at the National Leadership Conference, and we would not have increased our state membership yet again. Other states look up to Pennsylvania because of all the superb things we do.

If it wasn’t for our advisers and mentors behind the scenes, none of us would be a part of this great organization. First, I would like to thank my local adviser, Mrs. Wenger, as well as Mr. Gall and my parents for allowing me to pursue my goals of becoming a state officer. To Mrs. Skiles, Mrs. Scott, Mr. Boncal, and the other advisers—thank you for leading the State Officer Team this year. Finally, I wish to thank all the State Officers. I made some great friendships on the team, and I look forward to continuing these friendships throughout college and into the real world. I wish all of you the best of luck in all you do!

Again, thank you Pennsylvania FBLA for giving me the opportunity to serve as your state reporter. Just remember, don’t cry because it is over, smile because it happened.

***-Brandon Mitchell, Reporter***



Thank you Pennsylvania FBLA for electing me as your Eastern District Vice President! This past year passed quickly. In fact, I can still remember when my name was announced, and I was called up to stage. It’s proved to be a terrific opportunity even through the difficult times. I could not have done it without the support of my advisors Mr. Hummel and Ms. Ryland. The executive committee and I really came together as a team this year, and I got to work with all the great people behind PA FBLA such as Mr. Boncal, Mrs. Skiles, Mrs. Scott, and my fellow officers. It has been my duty, privilege, and honor to serve you Pennsylvania!

***-Raul Patel, Eastern District Vice President***

It's been a great year PA FBLA. We achieved much and I know that we will continue to do so in Denver. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you this past year. It was great to meet so many members from PA and the entire country! This organization is the best because its members are the best. PA FBLA is known for its successes. Let's continue to surpass our goals and be all that we can be. Though I will not be serving as a state officer next year, I will continue to help this organization grow and succeed.

Brett, Josh, Nick, Jeff, Brandon, Raul, and Kayla, it's been an honor to work with you. We became a great group of friends since last year's SLC. I was nervous at the beginning of this year because I wasn't sure what to expect. That feeling ended after our first meeting together. Since then, we have led cheers, stapled packets at one in the morning, and practiced speeches for hours at a time. We became a team, and we made it through this year together. I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors, and thanks for the memories.



***-Aaron Geiger, Central District Vice President***

As I prepare to graduate, I look back on my last four years of high school. FBLA was a huge part of my life in those four years. Without FBLA, I would have never had the opportunities and experiences that I cherish so much today. My term as an officer is quickly coming to an end, but the memories I've had will never leave me.

Pennsylvania FBLA members, you made such a huge impact on my life. You've given so much back to your schools, communities, and our state that I wonder if your hearts can get any bigger. Your dedication and hard work is what sets PA FBLA apart from the rest. It is what makes us one of the best chapters in the nation.

Chestnut Ridge and Pennsylvania advisers, you are some of the most wonderful people I ever met. You've taken a small, timid young girl and turned her into a strong, confident leader. I admire you for your motivation and commitment. Thank you for your encouragement and guidance--it will remain with me forever. Thank you for believing in me even when I didn't believe in myself.

State officers, I wish you all the very best in life--you deserve nothing less. Your futures will be filled with love, laughter, and the knowledge that any dream you have will come true. Thank you for your friendship and support. You will always be in my heart.

I am sincerely thankful to all of Pennsylvania FBLA for your encouragement, support, and dedication that you give to me in the past year. I ask you to make a commitment to yourselves to make each day better than the day before--make today better than yesterday, and worse than tomorrow. That way, every day is the best day of your life.

***-Kayla Miller, Parliamentarian***

