AUGUST ISSUE



Penn Pal 2005-2006



♦ Message from Your State President

♦ Meet Your 2005-2006 State Officer Team



♦ Various Articles by State Officers



- ♦ Information on State Leadership Conference
- ♦ NLC Results

Welcome Back Letter

Dear Pennsylvania FBLA:

As this year's elected State President, I have the pleasure to welcome you back for the 2005-2006 school year. Summer is always a relaxing time while you're in high school, but now it's time to get excited for this school year and the many opportunities of which we can take advantage. Our state was well represented this summer in Orlando at the National Leadership Conference, earning 34 national awards. Way to go Pennsylvania!!! Let's join together to set goals that will surpass this number at next year's NLC in Nashville.

Your state officer team has developed fun and exciting goals for you and your chapter this year. Our goals for Pennsylvania FBLA are challenging, but we have faith your local chapter will help us attain these goals. All of our goals are listed on the www.pafbla.org web site, but four areas of emphasis are fundraising, recruiting, communication, and alumni involvement.

The American Heart Association has been chosen as the 2005-2006 state project. We encourage each member to do his/her part to help us exceed \$100,000 for this organization. Just as these national organizations need a little help from a lot of people, so does PA FBLA. Unfortunately, many chapters have fallen by the wayside, and some schools don't even have a chapter. Our second goal is to recruit, reactivate, and revitalize at least 20 new or inactive chapters throughout the state. Additionally, our goal is to surpass 12,750 members throughout the state. In order to achieve this goal, state wide communication is essential. We encourage each member to talk to the officers and each other about what is happening in their FBLA, utilizing the pafbla.org web site. Our final goal is to increase involvement of professional members and alumni in Pennsylvania FBLA. The alumni of FBLA are experiencing the changing dynamics of the business world. Many have good ideas to expand Pennsylvania FBLA and are willing to assist in our conferences and workshops, so let's get out and encourage the business people and alumni to help our organization reach new heights.

Our year is filled with exciting conferences and workshops for all the members to take advantage of. Spreading enthusiasm throughout your chapter, region and state is essential in order to reach new heights. Welcome back to school, and let's get geared up for an incredible year.

Sincerely,

Laura Barrett

PA FBLA State President



2005-2006 Officer Team Biographies

Laura Barrett

Laura is a senior at the Athens Area High School located in Northeastern Pennsylvania (Region 27). Laura has been a member of FBLA since 9th grade. She has served as her chapter's president and as the Easter District Vice President. Currently, she is serving as the State president.

Besides FBLA, Laura participates in National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, Technology Students Association, and a coed branch of the Boy Scouts, Venture Crew. She is a member of her school's varsity swim team and varsity cross-country team. In her free time, Laura enjoys to spend time in the outdoors whitewater kayaking, rock climbing, and/or backpacking.

Laura plans to attend a college or university to major in biology with hopes of one day becoming a surgeon. As of now,

Laura isn't sure of which school she will attend.

Azeem KhanVice President

Azeem Khan is a senior at Stroudsburg High School located in Region 21. In addition to serving as Pennsylvania State First Vice President, he is serving as the president of his region and the president of his local chapter. Besides FBLA, Azeem is part of Varsity Track, Student Government, Model Congress, Student Ambassadors, and is a National Youth Leadership Forum Alumni. Outside of school, Azeem enjoys snowboarding and playing basketball, football, cricket, and golf.

Azeem plans to attend either Temple or Drexel University after graduating from high school and major in business with a minor in political science. Future plans include law school to further pursue his education in business and corporate law.

Tim Biba

Tim Biba, who will be a junior during his term, attends South Western High School in Hanover, PA (Region 6). He currently serves as the Region 6 President and is very excited about his election as State Secretary. He has participated in FBLA since he was a freshmen, qualifying each year for the State Leadership Conference in Intro. to Business and Multimedia Presentation which earned him 8th place at the 2004-2005 SLC.

When he is not doing something for FBLA, Tim is the corresponding secretary for his school's student council. He is also on the varsity lacrosse team and the golf team at South Western.

In his free time Tim enjoys playing golf, polishing his lacrosse skills, and hanging out with his friends.



Sunny Saxena

Sunny Saxena is a senior at Freedom High School in the Lehigh Valley (Region 28). In addition to serving as a state officer, Sunny is the president of his local FBLA chapter and FBLA Region 28 Treasurer. His other leadership positions include Student Council President and Business Manager of his school newspaper. Sunny is also active member in Science Olympiad, DECA, National Honor Society, debate, and orchestra.

Outside of school, Sunny enjoys skiing and karate. He is currently a first degree black belt training for his second degree. In the future, Sunny plans to pursue a career in medicine and business.

Joey Bischof Reporter

Joey Bischof is a senior at Chestnut Ridge High School in Region 17. In addition to serving as PA State Reporter, he is serving as Secretary of Region 17 and local historian. Joey also participates in many other extracurricular activities: Varsity Soccer, American Youth Soccer Organization, Forensics Speech Team, Jazz, marching, and concert band, Ski Club, School Newspaper Writer, Scholastic Scrimmage, and Junior Executive Committee.

Outside of school, Joey enjoys playing soccer, guitar, going to the movies, and bowling. Joey's biggest passion is music. Being a very active member in his school's music programs, he enjoys all types of music. Playing and singing in a local band and going to concerts are some of his favorite things to do.

Emily Butler Vice President At Large

Emily Butler is a sophomore at Western Wayne High School. She has been an active member of FBLA since her freshman year. Last year, Emily competed in Public Speaking I and placed 3rd on the national level. This year she placed 2nd at the state conference in Public Speaking II. Emily is not only a state officer, but she serves as a regional and local officer as well.

Emily has been an active Girl Scout for 11 years. She is also treasurer of her class, a member of the local mock trial team, and a member of Tobacco Free Youth. She was recently inducted into the National Honor Society where she holds the office of treasurer. She is a Brain Bee competitor and volunteers on Saturdays at Community Medical Center.

Emily plans to go to college to study political science.

Patrick Landers Vice President At Large

Patrick Landers will be a sophomore next year at Central Columbia High School (Region 7). Besides being a state officer, Patrick is a freshman representative for his local chapter. He is involved in other extracurricular activities including Drama and Spanish Clubs, as well as playing soccer for his school. His favorite subject is history. In his free time he enjoys reading science fiction, historical fiction, and fantasy books.

Patrick also enjoys acting, having been in seven productions with his local community theatre. He even traveled to music conferences in Boston and Providence during 7th and 8th grade with his Middle School Select Chorus. He is an active member in his church and local youth group and also likes playing tennis and video games. He doesn't know what he would like to study in college, but he is interested in possibly studying either business or political sciences.

Biographies

Ryan Smiley ice President At La

Ryan Smiley is currently a junior at Pleasant Valley High School, located in Region 21. He is currently Chapter President of Pleasant Valley FBLA and served as Secretary during the 2004-2005 school year. This is his first year as a Pennsylvania FBLA Officer, and he plans to work diligently to better the State as a whole.

He attended the NLC in Orlando, for his first-place achievement at the SLC, for the Local Chapter Annual Business Report. He has attended many workshops at the SLW and NFLC, in addition to being on the winning Battle of the Chapters team at the 2004 SLW in State College. Both the Regional Leadership Workshop and American Enterprise Project are just some of the many events Ryan has helped to manage at a local level.

While not working on FBLA or school work, Ryan enjoys watching New York Yankees Baseball, working on the computer, and watching movies. He also likes to spend time hanging out with friends and reading.

His plans for college are to attend either the University of Michigan or stay here in Pennsylvania and study at Penn State. When he makes the transition from high school to college, he would like to major in business administration and earn an MBA.

Kat Lynerd Parliamentarian

Kat Lynerd, the 2005-2006 State Parliamentarian, is a senior at Chestnut Ridge High School. She has been a member of FBLA since her freshman year and has competed at the regional, state, and national levels. As a sophomore, she placed in the top five at nationals in Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures. She is currently competing in Parliamentary Procedures. As a member of FBLA, Kat has attended various conferences, including two Regional Leadership Workshops, three Regional Leadership Conferences, three State Leadership Conferences, a State Leadership Workshop, a National Fall Leadership Conference, and two National Leadership Conferences. She has served as her local chapter vice-president and Region 17 Secretary. Kat will also serve as the 2005-2006 local chapter president and Region 17 President.

Outside of FBLA, Kat is a member of National Honor Society, Teens Against Tobacco Use, and student council. She plays flute and piccolo in concert and marching band. When not in school, Kat enjoys playing soccer, shopping, and going out with her friends. She also holds a part-time job.

Message from the team-

We all hope to make this year another one of Pennsylvania's best.

We would like to thank everyone for giving us this opportunity to lead PA FBLA into the new year!



Azeem Khan - Vice President

◆ State Leadership Workshop ◆

School will soon be in session again, and PA FBLA is again soaring to new heights, hitting the ground running. Our first step in becoming a better leader is by educating ourselves, and there is no better way to be trained than through hands-on experience. This amazing organization provides this necessary understanding through attendance at workshops and conferences and having the ability to network with members throughout the state.

As the famous football coach Vince Lombardi put it, "Leaders aren't born - they are made.

They are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal." Our first step in becoming Future Business Leaders is to gain knowledge and get experience from resourceful individuals.

Pennsylvania FBLA is once again hosting its annual State Leadership Workshop in the town where there is Blue and White pride and Nittany Lions roar - -State College, Pennsylvania. On October 23-24, 2005, members will be provided with two days of intensive training and will have the-

opportunity to learn and work with members of Tri Leadership, participate in the annual state charity walk, compete in the battle of the chapters and show off their creative dance moves at the sports themed dance. Members will have the ability to network and communicate with other students and advisors from throughout the state. Tri Leadership will once again be providing you with hands on experience to become the Business Leaders of tomorrow and help you unlock your potential.

Patrick Landers -Vice President at Large



Hello FBLA members. This year of Pennsylvania FBLA is going to be amazing, and one of the best parts of it is going to be the many opportunities for you to fundraise. Fundraising helps to emphasize the importance of keeping careful records and to improve your sale techniques. Fundraising for charity, such as our state project the American Heart Association, also helps teach the value of giving back and helping others. You might be thinking that all fundraisers are boring, but some can be "fun."

Fundraisers come in many shapes and forms. Some fundraisers are unique to our state project. They include Heart Walks, Wear Red Days, and Hoops 4 Heart, a basketball-themed version of Jump Rope 4 Heart.

You could have healthy bake sales or sell healthy cookbooks. But there are also many great fundraisers that aren't associated with the American Heart Association. One fundraiser that is always fun to do is a pie or water balloon throwing contest. All you have to do is get a volunteer such as a teacher, principal, or even a willing FBLA advisor and charge students money to throw pies or water balloons at them. There are fundraisers that are seasonal, like selling Christmas wreaths in the winter or gardening supplies or flower bulbs in the spring. One popular type of fundraising is "A-Thons." You can have a radio-a-thon, read-a-thons, bike-a-thons or practically any type of "A-thon" you want.

You can have student/faculty sporting events such as donkey basketball or volleyball tournaments.

You don't have to organize a fund-raiser yourself; you can join a pre-existing event. One example is what Region 7 FBLA has in store for its members. Region 7 FBLA is planning to participate in a Heart Walk at Knoebels Amusement Resort this fall. If you attend the SLW, be sure to participate in the Heart Walk. Just make sure your fundraiser is fun, and it's sure to be successful.



Sunny Saxena - Treasurer



State Leadership Conference - Recap •

The 54th PA FBLA State Leadership Conference was a huge success. Hosted at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort, in Champion, PA, from April 13-15, FBLA members enjoyed business and leadership development within a recreational setting.

Qualifying members represented their regions and their schools in over 50 competitive events. Many members also competed in the open events. Recognition was given to the top 10

Awards Program, and the top winners in each competitive event advanced to the National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida. Chapter and membership awards were presented at the Business Session of the Conference.

To complement competition, students participated in the 25+ workshops offered and toured the various business exhibits.

In one of the highlights of the conference, a \$109,000 check was presented to PA Special Olympics, the year's PA FBLA State Project. The election and installment of the 2005-2006 PA FBLA State Officer Team also took place.





Are you going to do your BAA awards this year? When I was asked this question at the beginning of my junior year, I did not know exactly what I was getting myself into. I did know that the BAA, or Business Achievement Awards, is a relatively new set of recognition areas within FBLA, but what else did I need to know to complete them?

There are four levels to the Business Achievement Awards. They are Future, Business, Leader, and America. They must be completed in order, but it does not matter if only one if completed per year or all four are done at once. One of my fellow local officers completed all four awards her senior year. I personally completed Future and Business my junior year and plan to complete Leader and America this year.



Kat Lynerd Parliamentarian

However, you do not have to be an officer to participate in these awards. Any FBLA member may complete them.

The first award, Future, focuses on your business skills, community service, and involvement in your local FBLA chapter. The Business level begins to concentrate on involvement at the regional, state, and national levels. An intermediate knowledge of business skills and leadership in your individual community is expected. After both the Future and Business awards are obtained, you can continue with the Leader award. This level continues to look at involvement on all levels, but also requires a business portfolio with a resume.

The America award is the final step to finish the Business Achievement Awards. All three lower levels are prerequisites. The national office is looking at total leadership, business skills, and community involvement, with a portfolio and resume.

Students who finish this level will be recognized at the National Leadership Conference this summer.

For all of these awards, papers must be completed by your local adviser certifying you finished all required areas in the past school year. The specific activities required are outlined in the Chapter Management Handbook. You will then receive a BAA pin that your local adviser may present to you at your local awards ceremony or other event.

These awards are a fun way to become involved in FBLA and to be recognized for your outstanding achievements. As each student's personal involvement increases, the school, community, and state benefit while you are educated on the American entrepreneurial system. Finishing these awards will also help you to better understand the Future Business Leaders of America and how the various levels work.

Ryan Smiley Vice President at large



◆ Great Ways to Serve ◆

Ways of getting members involved in the community

The fourth goal of the Future Business Leaders of America states; "Encourage members in the development of individual projects that contribute to the improvement of home, business, and community."

Communities are extremely important to our future, and there are multiple ways that you can help improve them. Most communities have organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, YMCA, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. These nonprofit organizations are similar to the Future Business Leaders of America because they deal directly with the future of America's youth. By volunteering with these organizations you can help guide children to the right path in life and show them how to have fun and still be safe.

If your community does not offer such organizations, there are still many other ways to get involved. As Future Business Leaders, we have the ability to help America's youth develop to their potential, which will ultimately improve the community as a whole.

In order to serve your neighborhood, you don't have to travel far. How about considering one or more of the following suggestions to improve your community?

- Most schools offer after school tutoring programs, where you can help students achieve their academic goals.
- ♦ Although youth involvement in a community is important, a great deal of knowledge can be gained by spending time with senior citizens. Visiting a nursing home and playing a game such as bingo can cheer up someone's day, while you learn about the past.
- ♦ Volunteer your time to help clean up a park in your area. Parks are vital to communities because they offer many activities such as biking, walking, camping, boating and much more. By promoting these activities and others, your community can stay physically and mentally fit.

- ♦ Throughout the year nearly all communities hold events to bring everyone closer, whether it is a county fair or a car show, and they are always looking for volunteers to help set and up and assist during the event.
- ♦ Many areas have food banks or a Salvation Army for the less fortunate. By holding clothing or food drives in you school or around your neighborhood, you are helping these causes.
- ♦ Numerous things may be done to improve a community that are simple and not time consuming: help plant a garden or pick up trash in pubic spaces.

This is just a sampling of what you can do to improve your community for the future. Every bit of help makes a difference.



Tim Biba - Secretary



Hey PA FBLA,

I wish you all a happy rest of the summer, and I hope that all of you enjoy the nice weather. As the summer begins to wind down and the school year starts up once again, it is time to start thinking about recruiting new members for the 2005-2006 school year. The state officers have set a pretty lofty goal for membership recruitment, and ask for your help in attaining these goals.

This year our membership goal is to increase our organization's student membership by one percent. While this may seem like a small undertaking, it would make our total membership about 12,750 members.

This goal will only be reached if every local chapter works as hard as they can to get some new faces in their organization. Recruiting these new members will not only add depth to your competitive event categories, but they will enhance the FBLA experience. There is nothing more fun at an FBLA conference or event than being and working in the company of your friends. I encourage every member to participate in the national Membership Madness campaign by recruiting as many of your friends and classmates for your FBLA organization as possible.

Another membership goal that has been set for this year is to reactivate, revitalize, or recruit at least 20 new or inactive schools. The state officer team is working very hard on this goal in their local areas, and we ask that your local chapters do the same.

Recruiting a new school is easier than you think. In fact, your FBLA advisor may have already established some contacts in other local "non-FBLA" school districts. If this is the case, and communication with this contact has been established, direct the prospective school district to the PA FBLA website (www.pafbla.org), and the state officer team will send them a new chapter information and start-up kit.

Judging from PA FBLA's commanding performance at the National Leadership Conference, it looks like 2005-2006 will be another exciting year for the state. The state officer team has set some high goals, but we know that these goals are very reachable with your continued support. I look forward to working with everyone this year, and I hope to see you in Pittsburgh for the National Fall Leadership Conference.

Enjoy your summer,

Tim Biba, State Secretary



Emily Butler Vice President at Large

National Leadership Conference

This year's NLC held at the Walt Disney Swan and Dolphin Hotels in Orlando, Florida, was certainly a memorable one. We made history. We were the largest Pennsylvania delegation to have ever attended a National Leadership Conference—numbering more than 250. In attendance were FBLA members and advisers as well as teachers, parents and other family members. However, for some members, the NLC started off a bit shaky. Because of dangerous thunderstorms, several of the flights to Florida were delayed for hours. Despite the long wait that many of us endured, the important thing was that we all arrived safely.

Conference "bonding" began at the PA FBLA meeting held early the following morning. Here, the state officers introduced themselves to the delegation. In addition, roll call of all competitors was taken, and those in attendance were the first to hear this year's state project and theme. Thanks to the wonderful planning of Mrs. Skiles, our conference coordinator, we all gathered for a wonderful Italian buffet dinner at the EPCOT World Showcase. She also arranged for two caricaturists to be available so that the members could sit for personal portraits. Dozens and dozens of members took advantage of this opportunity. Then, we walked the short distance to the Italy Isola (special terrace on the lagoon) which was reserved especially for Pennsylvania FBLA. We had front row seats for the spectacular Illuminations light show. Wearing our cantaloupe-colored PA FBLA shirts, everyone at EPCOT that evening saw us.

The following day the real fun started. Friday was the official start of the National Leadership Conference that began with an exciting opening session and campaign rally. Armed with our Pennsylvania FBLA thundersticks, our delegation represented PA FBLA enthusiastically and loudly. The following day all the competitors participated in their specific written tests while the performance events held their preliminary rounds. Later that afternoon, the Eastern Region met for the Eastern Region Campaign Rally, where we met our only candidate for Eastern Region Vice President, New York's Tommy Fijacko.

On Sunday morning those members who advanced to the final round in the performance events did their thing and did it well. Many of us attended these various events to support the participants.

Monday morning marked the beginning of another early, but exciting and eventful, day. Voting delegates gathered to cast their votes for the national officers for the 2005-2006 school year. We also attended the Eastern Region Recognition Ceremony in which many members and advisers were recognized for their contributions to FBLA. Then we had a few hours to ourselves before the exciting Awards of Excellence Ceremony. Some of us headed to the pool, others went souvenir shopping at Downtown Disney, and still others used the time to relax and get ready for the big night. And what a night it was! Pennsylvania FBLA showed the more than 5,000 people in attendance just what we were made of that night, taking home 38 awards, second only to California, The conference officially concluded at an ice cream party following the awards program. For those of us fortunate enough to attend the NLC, we can look back on a wonderful week—great weather, new friendships, and memories that will last a lifetime. All in all, this year's National Leadership Conference was another great success.



2005 PA FBLA NLC AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations are in order for Pennsylvania's competitors for another outstanding performance at the 2005 NLC in Orlando. Pennsylvania had the second highest number of award winners among all states at the NLC.

First Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Robert Poulson-Houser	Banking and financial systems	Abington heights (22)
Kristi Giles	Business Communication	Chestnut Ridge (17)
Levi Cromer	Parliamentary Procedure	Chestnut Ridge (17)
Kat Lynerd		
Brady Schade		
Angie Smith		
Curtis Adams	Virtual Business Challenge	Jersey Shore (7)
Miranda Charles		
Nathan Welshans		
Matt Thompson	Web Site Development	Mt. Lebanon (24)
Alejandro Barretto		
Robert Poulson-Houser	Investments*	Abington heights (22)
Pennsylvania	-Largest local Chapter Membership, Easter Region (410 members)	Hazleton (16)
	-Largest state chapter Membership, Eastern Region (12,605 members)	

Second Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Hang Lin	Business Law	Jersey Shore (7)
Paul Blascovich	Business Calculations	Central Dauphin East (15)
Kristi Giles	Leadership*	Chestnut Ridge (17)
	Local Market Share Award, Eastern Region	Bishop Canevin HS (10)
	Eastern Region	

^{*} indicates the category was an open event.

Third Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Jonathan Weimer	Business Math	Upper St. Clair (24)
Jarred Cipriani	Business Plan	Upper St. Clair (24)
Erika Batzel Wendy Hollendonner	Multimedia Presentation	Western Wayne (22)
Shanna Ross	Introduction to Business Communication	Central Columbia (7)

Fourth Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Erica Roninson	Emerging Business Issues	Boyertown (8)
Diana Trench		
Vanessa Bower	Introduction to business	Jersey Shore (7)
Vincent Roscioli	Visual Basic Programming	Freedom (28)

Fifth Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Jesse Bischof	American Enterprise Project	Chestnut Ridge (17)
Brandon Leonard		
Jessie Mitchell		
Anna Sawyer	Public Speaking I	Western Wayne (22)
	Public Relations award	Chestnut Ridge (17)
Pennsylvania	Largest State Chapter Membership	



Sixth Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Nicole Newman Holly Sheaffer	Desktop Publishing	Midd-West (23)
Keith Jaenke	Economics	Montoursville (7)
David Rudnick	International Business	Hershey (15)
Matt Vitovsky	Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure	Western Wayne (22)

Seventh Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Cassidy Clauss	Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure	Western Wayne (22)
Steve Bowers	Partnership with Business Project	Cocalico (18)
Nolan Faulkner		
Raul Patel		

Eighth Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Chris Allen	C++ Programming	Freedom (28)
Megan Prier	International Business	Great Valley (9)
John Brennan	Virtual Business Challenge	Carbondale (22)
Mike McHale		
Shawn VanNort		

Ninth Place

Name	Category	School (region)
Daniel Marjoncu	Business Law	Hazleton (16)
Andrea Kustenkow	Introduction to Business Communication	South Side (13)
Josh Hathaway Cody Klink	Entrepreneurship	North Hills (13)
Ben Reese		

Tenth Place

Name	Category	School (Region)
Alyson Lorenz	Word Processing II	Kennett (9)
	Local Chapter Annual	Pleasant Valley (21)
	Business Report	

Special Recognition

Name	Category	School (Region)
Raul Patel	Who's Who in FBLA	Cocalico (18)
Jessie Mitchell	Distinguished Business Leader Scholar	Chestnut Ridge (17)
Mitch Hummel	Outstanding Adviser	Cocalico (18)
John Whitelock	Longest Serving Adviser (37 Years)	Great Valley (9)



Penn Pal 2005-2006