

the leader's link

A Publication of Oregon Future Business Leaders of America



Pop-Tab Challenge

By Willen Sin



Has your chapter made a New Year's Resolution to collect more pop-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House (RMHC)? If not, today would be a good day to do so.

This state wide community service project is to assist the Ronald McDonald House in collecting pop-tabs. The Ronald McDonald House provides shelter for the families of children in need of serious medical care at nearby hospitals. Due to some families not being able to receive the aid that is necessary for their child's sickness, they have to drive to the closest hospital, but the closest hospital may not be for another hour or more. This is where the Ronald McDonald House comes in.

If you would like to help support families that are in

need, it is very easy. Just remember to pull the tab off pop cans, soup cans, or other tabbed items. When they have reached a certain amount, they then sell the pop tabs to local metal companies.

This would be a good community service project for chapters that are interested in competing in the Community Service event at the 2007 State Business Leadership Conference. By having this as a competitive event, there is also a second chance of recognition. Being known for a state wide community service project, this is also a state wide competition. The chapter that collects the most pop tabs by the State conference will receive recognition on stage.

So remember to pull those tabs! This is a great opportunity you or your chapter wants to miss out on. For more information, feel free to e-mail any of the state officers. You can find their e-mail addresses at www.oregonfbla.org.

Huge Roaring Crowds

By Paul Braun

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Huge roaring crowds, thousands of people from all over the US and even the world, what could this event be? While you may be thinking of a sporting event or maybe a movie premiere this is actually the National Leadership Conference. Last year more than one hundred delegates from Oregon, including the entire State Officer Team attended NLC in Nashville, Tennessee and it was the most amazing experience. Attending the National Leadership Conference shows you just how vast FBLA's network is, and gives you an awesome chance to bond with members from your State and to meet new people from all over.

Aside from just the magnitude of the conference, and all of the people you are sure

to meet there, the National Conference offers many different workshops and even has IFL or the Institute for Leaders. IFL is two days of intense leadership training and is one of the most valuable experiences you can get from FBLA. If all of the amazing opportunities that Nationals gives you don't entice you, just think about the fact that Nationals will be held in Chicago, Illinois this year and aside from all of the work that you can do at nationals, there are also awesome times to just go out and explore and visit the city you are in. Nationals is one of the most amazing things you can do in FBLA so I encourage you all to try and go.

Our National Theme: FBLA-Your Ticket To The Future!

Moving on up!

By Stephanie Trago

Even though the Red Lion Hotel will be missed, change can be good! This year the State Business Leadership Conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel (Lloyd Center) and Oregon Convention Center. The Doubletree Hotel is in the middle of many great attractions. Adjacent to the hotel is the Lloyd Center Mall, just blocks away are the Rose Garden Arena and Memorial Coliseum. Also it is close to the campuses of Portland State University, Oregon Health Science University and Concordia University.

There are many businesses that surround the Doubletree Hotel. The offices of PacifiCorp, Liberty Northwest and Kaiser Permanente are just some of these businesses. At SBLC there will be business tours offered that will give credit for career pieces and graduation requirements for school. Take advantage of killing two birds with one stone and participate in the tours and get some of your Career Related Learning Experiences out of the way while seeing what really happens in the business world.

The Doubletree Hotel is a beautiful hotel with over 400 rooms; with your choice of the city skyline view or the majestic Cascade Mountains. Not only does it offer wonderful views, but there are two restaurants located in the hotel: Multnomah Grille and Eduardo's Mexican Grill and Cantina. After a long day of competing take advantage of the outdoor pool or take a walk across the street

to the Lloyd Center Mall that has over 200 stores, an ice skating rink and movie theaters! If you don't have your fill there, just down the street are many trendy shops!

Just don't forget about all the action at the SBLC! There will be many workshops from always exciting and entertaining speakers! This year most of the conference will be held at the Oregon Convention Center. This is the largest center in the Pacific Northwest! Oregon FBLA has grown so much that now our State Conference needs to be held in THE LARGEST conference center in the Pacific Northwest! Also surrounded by many great opportunities like businesses and beautiful scenery. Since the Oregon Convention Center is located in the city center the MAX light-rail makes getting from point A to point B extremely easy and to anywhere downtown it is FREE!!

*-fantastic
keynote
speakers-*

Keeping with tradition there will be some fantastic keynote speakers at the 2007 State Business Leadership Conference. Not only that, but there will be State Officer Candidates looking for your support and vote!

Work hard, study hard, compete at Regionals and make it to State so that you can be apart of this great experience. Your hard work is your "Ticket to the Future!"



Running for State Office

By Jessica Herring

It has commonly been said that what a member puts into his or her FBLA experience, is what they will get from it. There are many different ways to experience FBLA. You can compete and have the chance to go to the national level, be active in the community with fundraising and community service, but a very special position that a member can experience is being a state officer. Running for a state office is an amazing experience that allows the FBLA member to be part of a team, learn new and polished leadership skills, and travel to visit other FBLA members.

When an FBLA member runs for a state office and is elected the member is inducted during the Awards Ceremony at the State Business Leadership Conference, then a new journey will begin. They will make life long friends with the other state officer team over a course of a year. During that year there are going to be reports, newsletter articles, scripts, speeches, reflections and portfolios. But no worries, that isn't the whole experience and there is

plenty of time to complete all of that and have fun too! One of the highlights of being a state officer is getting the opportunity to travel, you will travel all over Oregon during the Chapter Officer Leadership Tour, and other trips like the option to travel to the National Leadership Conference, where you will have the opportunity to interact with fellow FBLA members.

Another place that you will interact with FBLA members is during your campaign at the State Business Leadership Conference. When you are campaigning you will need a board that is creative, a brochure/flyer, some sort of give-a-way, a speech campaign, and then a shorter statement. Each of these things should include your campaign theme and goals. To find more information, the application, and the State Officer Candidate handbook go to the Oregon FBLA website, www.oregonfbla.org. Win or lose, in the end the experience will be make you a winner.

National Update

By Thomas Stratton

The FBLA-PBL organization has been changing drastically during the past several months; here is another some change to be aware of! The Membership Department, along with the FBLA and PBL National Officer Teams, are sponsoring a nationwide Recruitment Drive, which kicked off on Monday, January 15 and will end on January 31. To kick off this event, the NEW FBLA and PBL State Officer Board Room was unveiled - providing states with new recruitment and motivational tools. Each State Officer was challenged to meet the following goals:

- Sponsor a Local Chapter Recruitment Drive during these dates and recruit and enter the "Target Young" Campaign by recruiting at least one NEW Freshman or Sophomore member to the local chapter.
- Promote this "Target Young" Campaign to local chapters

within their State, asking each local chapter officer to complete this challenge.

Each State Officer participating in this challenge will be asked to complete a brief interactive form so that they will receive recognition on the national web site. The amount of members recruited during this time period will be tracked. One State in each Region will receive national recognition, with the State winning the challenge overall, receiving a traveling plaque.

This challenge was made for the state officer teams, but what a great opportunity to help your state officer team in gaining our state recognition at the National Leadership Conference. Now it is my turn to challenge you! Sponsor your own Local Chapter Recruitment Drive and see who can recruit the most members in your chapter!

FBLA Week/Adviser Appreciation Day

By Lindsay Gehres

This year February 12th-16th is FBLA Week! This is a great opportunity for your chapter to spread the awareness about FBLA throughout your school and bond as a chapter.

How can you spread the word about FBLA? Plan a day during the week that your chapter meets and makes posters/flyers

to hang around the school about an upcoming meeting or how to join. Schedule a day where your chapter officers or your whole chapter wears business attire to school. This actually gets teachers and students curious as to why you are dressed up. Someone approaching you to see why you're dressed up is the perfect opportunity to talk about what FBLA is and how to get involved! Also,

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plan a meeting during a break or at lunch for the members to get updated on the status of your projects, fundraisers, or community service events. FBLA Week comes but once a year, so make it count!

Adviser Appreciation Day is February 14th; the one day out of the year that you get to thank your adviser for all that they do! They all work so hard year-round

attending Board Meetings, assisting with projects, scheduling events, supervising activities, and answering hundreds, if not thousands of questions! Make sure to show your appreciation for them! Something as simple as making them a card or as creative as cooking their favorite food. You could make them breakfast or cookies, take them out to dinner with your chapter, buy a gift, or just give them a heartfelt thank you. Whatever your preference,



Regional Skills Conference

By Jordon Melberg

Every year Future Business Leaders of America members compete at various events and levels in hopes to attend the National Leadership Conference. With a month or so left before the qualifying round, have you asked yourself if you are knowledgeable of the material? The Regional Skills Conference is your ticket to the future competition you will face at State and possibly Nationals. Here are a few ways to help get you and/or your team recognition.

PREPARE:

As of everything you compete in, you must be fairly knowledgeable about the material you are competing in. The best way to gain this knowledge is to study! Take fifteen or so minutes out of your day to read up on some material. Downloading practice tests are a great way to test out your newly found information. If you must, ask an adult who has experience with the subject. It is more than likely that they will assist you in your time of need.

SET GOALS:

Taking the time to put together a goal or strategy for completing your test is a great idea. Having a set time limit for finishing and having a reasonable score in mind that you are shooting for, is proven to increase your score. Having the confidence to do well will create a less nervous feeling when the time comes.

TIME MANAGEMENT:

You are told day by day to never wait until the last minute to finish a project, however you always end up waiting. Taking a simple 15 minutes everyday to read up on one new fact about your event will help increase your ending score, and help get you that invitation to the National leadership Conference. Study weeks, months before the test date, and a week before the test, relax; give your mind that opportunity to rejuvenate and catch up. Then a few days before, quickly read up and refresh your mind with this vital information.

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FBLA-PBL Mission Statement:

To bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.

FBLA-PBL Websites to Visit:

Oregon
www.oregonfbla.org

Western Region
fbwr.fbla-pbl.org

National
www.fbla-pbl.org

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Find us on the Web!
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FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA- PHI BETA LAMBDA is a non-profit professional technical student education organization for students who are interested in or preparing for careers in business or business education. It is composed of four divisions: FBLA at the high school level, FBLA at the middle school level, PBL at the post-secondary level, and the Professional Division.

The Oregon Chapter of FBLA, referred to as Oregon FBLA, was chartered by the National organization in 1959. The State Program Coordinator plans, organizes, coordinates and conducts statewide student activities along with being responsible for the clerical and bookkeeping activities involved with Oregon FBLA. The current State Program Coordinator is Samantha Kline.

The responsibility for overseeing Oregon FBLA is in the hands of a Board of Advisers (BOA). The Board of Advisers consists of eight FBLA advisers representing each district, the Professional Division Liaison, the current state president and state secretary of FBLA, as well as ex-officio membership by the State Program Coordinator and State Specialist. The current Business and Management specialist from Oregon Department of Education is Ron Dodge.

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Send in your articles today!