

South Dakota State
FBLA Newsletter

ACTION!

Helping FBLA members put their leadership in action!

Volume 9 Issue 2

February 2008

**FLC :
What
Students
Learned
About
Putting
Their
Leadership
In ACTION!**



PLUS

How to get
your Com-
munity
More In-
volved!

**And Much
More!**

*Meet your 2007 NLC
Winners!*



**South Dakota
State FBLA
Newsletter**

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When it comes to getting your community involved with your local chapter we all know that at times it's not always an easy task. In this article Kevin J. Van Duyn, from the Colman—Egan Chapter, gives solutions to the problems that come along with community

How to Get Your Community Involved

By, Kevin J. Van Duyn

In the state of South Dakota, many of us find that getting people involved in our organization's events can be hard. Most of the schools in the state are small and communities are comparable to other our small cozy community of support. But with community involved and organization is set up any reason to attend people think that if their organization they do not need to go, but what if we give them a reason to come.

“The best way of spreading the news is through word of mouth”

for the most part are not cities in Texas. Yet in communities we have a lot out getting your community telling them what your to do, they do not have your events. Many people child is not in the organization

When you are trying to get people to attend your events, the best way of spreading the news is through word of mouth. In our communities we are tight knit, we all know one another and word gets around quickly. Also you can hand out fliers, and announce your events on your school's webpage or at activities, such as basketball games or track meets.

One you have gotten the people there the best way to ensure that they will return is to actually make it interesting they do not just want to sit around and listen to some boring stuff, if it is a community meeting, get them involved. When it comes to finding help, make the kids do most of the work, the elderly in the community love, and I mean LOVE, to see the youth being active. In a total wrap the best way to get your community involved is to; give them a reason to come, spread the word, and keep it interesting.

Fall Leadership Conference

By Lacy Stafford

Lacy Stafford from the Ipswich FBLA Chapter tells of a fun day had in Sioux Falls at the 2007 Fall Leadership Conference. Members from across the state listened to guest speakers, attended workshops and learned more about what they can do to put their leadership in action!

The girls from Ipswich took off for Sioux Falls shortly after one of their team's high school football games. They were on the bus from about nine o'clock pm until about midnight with only a few pit stops in between. They spent the night at a motel and were up and ready bright and early on the morning of October 24, 2007.

While at Fall Leadership Conference, which was held on the campus of South East Tech, they attended many informational workshops, listened to speaker Jack Holmquist, and attended the State Executive Board Meeting. They had a great day and learned many new things. After the closing of the Conference the girls spent a couple of hours at the mall, enjoyed supper at Johnny Carino's Italian Restaurant, and then headed home. They learned many new business ideas and many new things about themselves.

Kristin

Kristin Payne is a Junior and an active member in the Leola FBLA chapter. Last summer at NLC in Chicago, Kristin blew the judges away with her speech in Public Speaking I, earning her a second place trophy and a walk across that big stage! See what she had to say when I had a chance to ask her a few questions about the experience.

BH: Did you have any previous experience in Public Speaking?

KP: Yes, I have had speech experience in Oral Interp and speech class.

I had to present demonstrations in 4-H, not to mention I was state President Kayla Lapka's Campaign Manager.

BH: What was the hardest part about writing the speech?

KP: Thinking of creative ideas that would make my speech original. Well, that and actually writing the speech was hard!

BH: Why did you choose to write your speech about what you did?

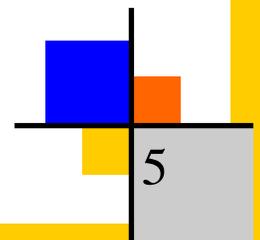
KP: I wrote the speech about my personal experiences because I thought it showed the FBLA goals in a way that I could best explain them.

BH: What was the most nerve-racking part about giving your speech?

KP: Having to give my speech to a room full of people during finals was very nerve-racking. That and the fact that my shoes weren't very comfortable!

BH: Which was harder; giving your speech at State or Nationals?

KP: I thought that giving my speech at State was more difficult because it was the



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Kristin and her advisor, Brenda Merkel pose with Kristin's trophy at NLC in Chicago.



Kristin, (front and center) poses with other finalists in the Public Speaking I division.

For more information on other national winners from across the country you can visit the FBLA National web site!



ANDY



Andy Olson of the Madison FBLA Chapter never got to experience a walk across the stage at NLC in Chicago this past summer, but he still got his trophy! After judges had discovered that they had made a crucial error in scoring, Andy discovered that he was actually a winner at the 2007 National Leadership Conference in Accounting II. See what he had to say about being the unexpected winner.

BH: Where are you from, and what school do you attend?

AO: Madison, Madison High School

BH: How long have you been involved with FBLA?

AO: Two years

BH: Which project area did you place in at Nationals?

AO: Accounting II

BH: What was your reaction when you found out you had placed?

AO: I was a little mad. But it didn't really matter after about 10 minutes because I placed at Nationals.

BH: Where you disappointed that you didn't get to go on stage?

AO: Yes. I think it would have been really awesome to have gone on stage and accept my award.

BH: What has FBLA taught you that will help you for a future career or life goal?

AO: Leadership

BH: What made you decide to do the project/ test you did for competition?

AO: I took the class and did well in it so I figured that I would give it a shot. I never thought that I would place at State, let alone at Nationals. Also, my mom was my teacher so she kind of made my mind up for me.

BH: What are you planning to compete in this spring at SLC?

AO: Business law, Business calculations, and Business ethics.

Fundraising!

By, Melissa
Schulte

South Dakota State FBLA Newsletter

Melissa Schulte , a member of the Redfield FBLA Chapter, enlightens us on different things that her chapter does to get its much needed funds throughout the year.

The Redfield FBLA Chapter does many different activities to fund-raise. One of our biggest ways we get money is by selling suckers or candy canes near Valentines Day and Christmas. It is fun for all the different grades to get, and send them. Each one is sold for 25 cents and they can send it to anyone in the school. Parents can also call and give us the money to send a candy cane to their children. Another big way to give back to the community is by our Winter Coat/Clothes Drive. People bring in their winter clothes that they have grown out of and we give it to the Good Samy's here in Redfield. We also, later in the year, do a Blood Drive for the teachers, students, and the community. These are some of the activities that our FBLA Chapter does to raise money, get points for state, and give back to the community for their support!

Every week in South Dakota one baby **dies** due to premature birth.

What are you going to do to **stop** it?

By Bethany Hill

It's an incredible and joyous occasion when a baby is born into your family, but for some families, that joy and excitement are replaced by a crippling and terrifying fear for their baby's life. Cases like this happen all too often. When I first pursued writing this article, I wasn't sure what to expect when I started doing research on premature birth. After all, low birth weight and premature babies seemed like problems the rest of the country had to deal with. Unfortunately a quick trip to the March of Dimes national website opened my eyes to how serious this issue truly is. The statistics were unbelievable; premature babies caused 62% of all neonatal deaths during 2004 in South Dakota. What was possibly more startling was that 24.9% of all pregnant women in South Dakota, as of 2005, smoked during their pregnancy. I could go on and on but it all comes down to one bottom line: Premature birth is a problem in South Dakota and we need to help!

Over the past 30 years the March of Dimes has partnered up with FBLA to raise over 12 million dollars to help babies live healthier lives. There are many different things that chapters can do to help with the fight against premature birth. The local chapter from Sisseton does Baskets for Babies, which is a half-time hot shot competition that is held during boys or girls home basketball games. We also made a deal this year with our local flower shop to sell carnations at school for





In an average week in South Dakota.....

Valentines Day with all proceeds going to the March of Dimes. We are also doing Change for Babies, which allows all the classes to enter a competition to see who can collect the most spare change for the March of Dimes. On a state level, we have done a walk at SLC and charged members a dollar in dimes to participate.

The March of Dimes national web site (www.marchofdimes.com) is a wealth of information about fundraising as well. From doing different activities in your community, or to donate privately, check out their web site for more information. A representative will be at SLC in Aberdeen to talk with chapters about how they can help. I can't stress enough how incredible this organization is and how important it is to help them as much as possible. Together we can all put our leadership in action to make a change for babies who truly need a helping hand.

- 24 babies are born preterm
- 4 babies are born VERY preterm
- 15 babies are born at a low birth weight
- 3 babies are born at a very low birth weight

* All statistical information was obtained from the March of Dimes national web site.