

Missouri Business Leader



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Inside This Issue:

District Competition Tips and Tricks	2
How Do You FBLA??	3
Dollars for Disasters	4
Rooting for Joplin Update	4
Check Out These Chapters!	5
Officer Spotlight- Secretary, Doug Hutcherson	6
Officer Spotlight- Treasurer, Sam Mahone	7

Pictured Above: Students show their FBLA spirit at the National Fall Leadership Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The NFLC this year was a blast! We had a large and excited delegation throughout the entire weekend. While attending workshop sessions, members learned things like dinner etiquette and how to maximize their leadership skills.

At the opening and closing sessions, we had fun “jumping on the mower” with Jerry Ackerman and rapping with speaker Derek Clark.

National conferences always hold lots of opportunities for members to grow as leaders, network with peers from across the nation and experience new places.

Talk to your advisers and be sure to attend one of the three National Leadership Conferences next year!

District Competition Tips and Tricks

Districts are coming! Here are a few tips from the State Officers to help you have a successful competition:

- Plan on Dressing Up: iron and lay out clothes the night before to avoid an early morning rush
- Bring Mints: not only do they give you good breath for meeting judges, the minty flavor helps to stimulate your mind
- Use the restroom before you get ready to test or present: you don't want to be squirmy or uncomfortable when you should be focusing.
- Find a study buddy to help you prepare: organize a food and study night with members to come together and work on events.
- Ask your teachers to bring in guest speakers that can talk about performance event strategies: having an adult talk to you about what they're looking for can boost the quality of your presentation.



feedback before you have to perform the real deal.

- Use practice tests to get an idea of what you need to study for before the big testing day.
- Don't wait until the last minute: be sure to leave plenty of time to have your project edited and revised.
- Have fun! Your confidence and overall experience will be much better if you maintain a positive attitude.

How do You FBLA?

Using All Aspects of FBLA to Grow



Imagine a spider web. At each end of a strand stands one of our FBLA members. Each member is responsible for holding up their end of the web, keeping it strong and off the ground. With FBLA we are all connected. Now if a member lets go, the web loses shape, strength and the original design.

Think of the web as your local chapter as a whole; as each person joins the web grows stronger and the picture it creates becomes more intricate. Each member contributes different strengths and talents to your group. As leaders we need to know and understand the diversity within our groups. You will have more success as a team and a group if you can learn and develop the talents that each individual possesses. Remember that is okay to be different; that's what makes FBLA the incredible organization that it is. Put in the time to develop relationships and discover the talents of others.

Now consider what FBLA means to you. Competitions? Networking? That resume plug? The thing is, FBLA means something different to every member. The officer team challenges you to take it and use FBLA in one way that you haven't in the past. If you've always done the contests, try branching out and meeting new people! You'll be amazed to see what can come from exploring all the advantages of FBLA.

It is important to know that it's ok to be different or nontraditional. Normal is boring! FBLA is not just about the suits and business. (We like to fun too.) Wherever you go, or whatever you do in this club, question how do you FBLA? Or how can you do it better?



DOLLARS FOR DISASTERS

State Wide Initiative

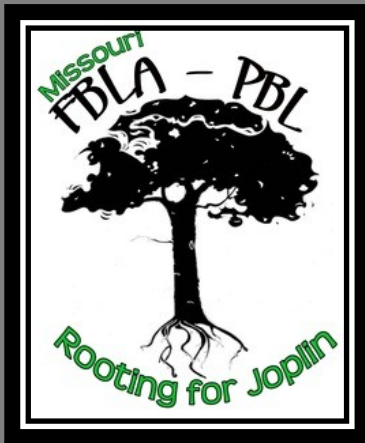
As your chapter continues to follow your plan of work and is looking for a community service project, please consider a fundraiser for Dollars for Disasters. Dollars for disasters is building a grant fund for Missouri chapters in need. When you become contributor to this fund, your chapter will be helping its own.

Dollars for Disasters is Missouri helping Missouri to continue to be successful. If you have any questions about how you can help, contact any of your state officers or the state office.



ROOTING FOR JOPLIN UPDATE

Spring 2012



Exciting Update!! Trees are now just \$20!

Because we are purchasing trees from a supplier, Missouri FBLA is asking for only monetary donations and volunteers to help plant on May 5.

Checks should be made payable to "Missouri FBLA" with a notation in the memo "For Rooting for Joplin."

Important Volunteer Dates:

- March 9- Registration Deadline
- **May 5**- Group Planting Day

To register your chapter to volunteer, please visit the Rooting for Joplin website:
www.rootingforjoplin.org

Mail checks to:
Missouri FBLA
PO Box 480
Jefferson City, MO
65102

Be sure to follow on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rooting-for-Joplin/>

Check Out These Chapters!

HANNIBAL PAINTS PUMPKINS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Hannibal Career and Technical Center chapter of FBLA held their first service project on October 27, 2011. The chapter headed to Mississippi Valley State School to help the students paint pumpkins. We had an amazing experience and realized that to be a great leader you have to interact with everyone. The students at the local school also had an excellent time and appreciated our taking time out of our day to come celebrate Halloween with them by painting pumpkins. The students took their pumpkins home on Halloween day and displayed them for everyone to see!



Above: Hannibal Career and Technical Center FBLA poses with the students of Mississippi Valley State School while painting pumpkins for Halloween.

CARTHAGE FBLA DELIVERS MEALS ON WHEELS

As a Thanksgiving tradition, each year the Carthage FBLA chapter volunteers to take a week and deliver meals for the Over-60 Center. This year we chose the week of November 14 to help out. This is such a rewarding experience for all members involved. Not only do our members get to give back, we help to maintain the positive image of high school students within the community. Throughout the week we had 27 members participate. Senior member Allie Coss said, "It's something I've done every year and I love being able to give back and meet people in Carthage. They always have great stories to share!"



Above: Freshmen FBLA members Jared Coss and Jordan Gier deliver lunch to a homebound Carthage citizen.

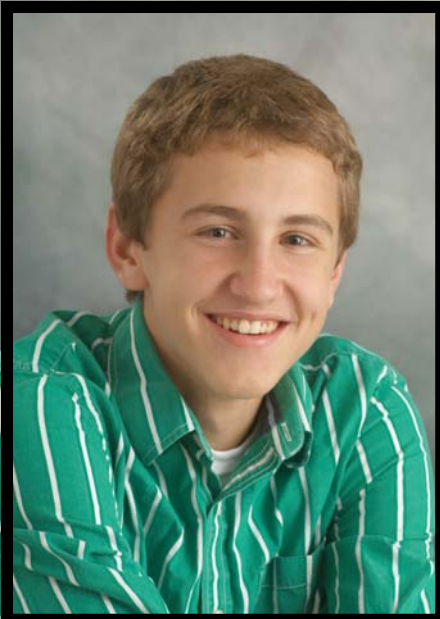
If you have an outstanding chapter story or accomplishment, please send it in with a picture to the State Reporter, Libby Shannon.
reporterlibby@carthagetigermail.com

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

STATE SECRETARY

Officers Love to Hear from You!

As we continue throughout the year, please feel free to contact any of the state officers. We want to hear your input, concerns and excitement about Missouri FBLA! Each officer has lots of experience with both FBLA and leadership and would be more than willing to share your ideas. Let FBLA be your "Gateway to Greatness" as we get ready to compete at districts!



Hello Missouri FBLA, my name is Doug Hutcherson. Some of you may know me better as Dougie Fresh. I am honored to serve as your 2011-2012 Missouri State Secretary. I have already met so many of you at the conferences we have had and I look forward to meeting many more of you at the State Leadership Conference.

At my school, I'm a member of my local chapter and my local officer team. As well as also being a District Officer, I'm a three sport athlete. My favorite sport is cross country. I love to be able to go out in the afternoon and just run. I love running because it doesn't take much concentration and I can let my mind wander. I also love track because it involves the same thing but it can get a little boring at times running around in circles. My winter sport is basketball.

In my free time, I hang out with friends or I sit at home and read or just watch TV. I also love music. I am in the high school band as a percussionist. I also play in the Drum Line ensemble. I love to play music all the time and I listen to music whenever I'm doing homework or when I am just lounging around. I love to listen to K-Love which is my local Christian music station.

I look to my family and the Lord when I am in need of help and when it is all said and done, I give the glory to Him. I am also involved in my local FCA and in my youth group at my church.

I don't know who said this but one of my favorite quotes is, "Good things come to those who work hard; slack and you will get what you receive."

See you somewhere,
"Dougie Fresh"



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OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

STATE TREASURER



Hey! I'm Samuel Mahone Jr., senior at Clyde C. Miller Career Academy in St. Louis. I have been in FBLA since my sophomore year, and I've got to say that FBLA has treated me well. I really didn't get involved in FBLA that much until my junior year of high school when I was preparing to campaign for 2011-2012 FBLA State Treasurer. I had the utmost fun campaigning for this spot. I met many people from many different cities and towns I didn't know existed. That made me realize that, hey maybe the world isn't so small, there are more places to explore.

After being elected as your new FBLA State Treasurer, I had to get comfortable wearing a suit (joke). Outside the suit you guys see me in most of the time, there are a few things I would for you to know about me. First and foremost, I do play sports. This Fall I played soccer as a defensive fullback and striker. No, we didn't win districts but we played a very good season. Other sports that I play are baseball and track and field.

As I continue on in life, I would like to become a Database Administrator/Systems Administrator. Sounds geeky and boring huh? Well that's because I am more the tech guy. My career pathway at school is Database Administration and these people have a salary of 81K a year. Yep, that's what I'm destined to be.

Outside of school, there isn't much to do in St. Louis but hang out with your friends. Places I visit most of the time are movie theatres, bowling alleys, malls, and all you can eat buffets, which are awesome. I'm a pretty cool person to be around, pretty chill.

Overall, FBLA is a life changing experience. It has made me identify myself in many perspectives. FBLA has brought many characteristics that I didn't know I possessed to life. FBLA'ers, I would like for you to give FBLA your 100% commitment and effort, because this a student organization which requires everyone to take part in many of the projects and events FBLA holds.

Peace, love, and unity,
Sam Mahone



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Officers are here to help!
Please contact any of them to come and speak to your chapter, induct new officers, or kick-off an event.