



Laura Schoenike Region VI Vice President



Greetings Wisconsin Region VI FBLA!

My name is Laura Schoenike, and I am your 2009-10 Wisconsin FBLA Region VI Vice President! I am extremely honored to have been elected to this position, and I plan to fulfill my responsibilities to the utmost of my ability.

As I send out my first regional newsletter, I realize that the year is already off to a running start. Wisconsin FBLA had a great summer and I hope you all are as excited as I am to get this new year going. Though the start of a new year brings new classes and responsibilities, it also brings new opportunities. Take advantage of all of the opportunities that FBLA has to offer you this year.

Be sure to check out future newsletters to get more information on upcoming conferences and other opportunities for you and your chapter. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any of my fellow officers if you have any questions throughout the year. I know that together we can make this year "Simply the Best!"

Wisconsin FBLA Website

<http://dpi.wi.gov/fbla/index.html>

To assist members, officers, and advisers in staying up to date with Wisconsin FBLA, we use a website to present information as quickly and efficiently as possible. To use the website, simply access the link above and navigate to the page you need. Throughout the year, dates and information will continually be updated. If any questions or concerns arise regarding the website, please don't hesitate to ask!

What is...?

As with many organizations, FBLA has many of its own acronyms and terminology. Please reference the list below whenever needed!

FBLA: To start with the most important acronym, FBLA stands for Future Business Leaders of America.

CTSO: This acronym represents what FBLA is: a career and technical student organization. There are many other CTSSO's besides our own organization including DECA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, and Skills USA.

RLC: This stands for Regional Leadership Conference. There are six across the state: one held in each region. Regionally, they are held at the school of the Regional Vice President, this year on February 6, 2010.

SLC: State Leadership Conference, will be held at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells this year. It is always held near the beginning of April.

NLC: National Leadership Conference, was held in Anaheim, California this past year. This year, it will take place in Nashville, Tennessee on July 14-17, 2010.

NFLC: The National Fall Leadership Conference is typically held in four locations across the nation in November. This year it will be held in only three: Baltimore, Denver, and Orlando.

WFLC: Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference, is the alternative for the NFLC this year as all three locations are too far to travel. The WFLC will be held November 2-3, 2009, at the Chula Vista resort in Wisconsin Dells.

FLL: The FLL's are also known as the Fall Leadership Labs. These are one day conferences geared towards first year FBLA members and/or freshmen and sophomores. There will be two this year: the first being on October 13 in Eau Claire and the second on October 22 in Madison. Chapters can choose which of the two to attend.

BAA: Business Achievement Awards, consist of four levels: Future, Business, Leader, and America. Beginning with future, levels become more difficult to achieve. To earn each level, certain tasks are required and can be found in the Chapter Management Handbook. Those members achieving the America level are announced at the National Leadership Conference.

POW: This acronym stands for Program of Work. A POW is important for a chapter to develop as it maps out the future year. A POW contains what service opportunities the chapter will participate in, what goals they wish to complete, etc. To complete a POW, forms are available online or you can email any state officer to receive a copy.

MOD: March of Dimes, is an organization that FLBA-PBL partners with. March of Dimes' purpose is to help premature babies survive. Throughout the year, FBLA holds events to benefit MOD locally, state-wide, and through the national organization.

A special thanks to Chelsea Ruda, Wisconsin FBLA State Parliamentarian for her ideas and contributions to this article.

Upcoming Conferences: Fall Leadership Labs & WFLC

As October is already upon us, many opportunities arrive for FBLA members. Two of these opportunities are the Fall Leadership Labs and the Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference. Both of these workshops are designed to excite members and encourage them to get involved in their chapters.

The Fall Leadership Labs are aimed for younger members or those new to FBLA. This year there will be two FLL's, one in Eau Claire on October 13, and one in Madison on October 22. The state officers and Eddie Slowikowski will be hosting workshops and giving members tips for becoming great FBLA members. The FLL's are a great way to gain new leadership skills that can be brought back to chapters.

The Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference will be held on November 2-3, 2009 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. This conference focuses on returning FBLA members to help them maintain their original excitement and involvement. Once again, the Wisconsin FBLA State Officers as well as their advisers will be presenting at this event. Make sure your chapter stays involved by sending members to the Fall Leadership Labs and the Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference!

New Chapter Interest

If you know of a school in your area who is interested in beginning an FBLA chapter, please have them contact either myself or the State Office. We would be more than happy to work with new chapters to begin their chartering process!

Professional Division

Although it focuses mainly on high-school and college age members, FBLA is not just for students. In addition to the Middle Level, high school, and PBL programs, FBLA also offers a Professional Division. Members of this organization assume a tri-fold goal of supporting FBLA-PBL programs and serve as liaisons between the workplace and the classroom, mentoring FBLA-PBL members to strengthen leadership and provide career counseling, and keeping members informed on current business trends. Anyone interested in being a member of the FBLA Professional Division should contact myself or their local chapter.

March of Dimes

As in the past, National FBLA has once again paired with the March of Dimes to help support their cause. March of Dimes is an organization that supports pre-mature babies and their families. Over the last 30 years the March of Dimes has had a successful partnership with FBLA-PBL. In this time, FBLA-PBL has raised over \$12 million for the March of Dimes. We have reached hundreds of thousands of young people with our health and mission messages.

I encourage all chapters and members to assist this worthy organization by giving of both your time and talent to raise money and get the word out! For information about March of Dimes Partnerships contact partnership@modimes.org.

Advisers' Corner

As the FBLA year continues, dates and times of meetings, conferences, and other events can become very hectic and confusing. To stay organized, please mark your calendars early with these extremely important dates:

October:

- 13th : Fall Leadership Lab in Eau Claire
- 22nd: Fall Leadership Lab in Madison
- 15th: Dues need to be in to be eligible for Gold Seal Chapter Award

November:

- 2nd-3rd Wisconsin Fall Leadership Conference
- 15th: Dues need to be in for RLC eligibility

December:

- 1st: Program of Work needs to be handed in to state officer for eligibility for Gold Seal Chapter
- 7th-18th: RLC Registration Window
- 15th: Regional VP Applications due to State Office

February:

- 6th: Regional Leadership Conferences (held at Oconomowoc High School)
- *Please note that this is also an ACT testing date. Please advise students to avoid conflicts.

April:

- 12th-13th: State Leadership Conference (held at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells)

Introducing the 2009-2010 State Officer Team

- Larissa Speerstra, State President
wifblapresident@gmail.com
- McKenzie Becker, State Vice President
wifblavp@gmail.com
- Jennifer O'Rourke, State Secretary
wifblasecretary@gmail.com
- Lindsay Pappenfus, State Treasurer
wifblatreasurer@gmail.com
- Sarah Rivord, State Reporter
wifblareporter@gmail.com
- Chelsea Ruda, State Parliamentarian
wifblaparlamentarian@gmail.com
- Johanna Smith, Region I Vice President
wifblaregion1vp@gmail.com
- Ann Reetz, Region II Vice President
wifblaregion2vp@gmail.com
- Kyle Ashauer, Region III Vice President
wifblaregion3vp@gmail.com
- Shannon Heller, Region IV Vice President
wifblaregion4vp@gmail.com
- Jenny Nash, Region V Vice President
wifblaregion5vp@gmail.com
- Laura Schoenike, Region VI Vice President
wifblaregion6vp@gmail.com

