

Montana FCCLA Fall Mailer – Part 1

Happy September! Montana FCCLA has been working hard over the summer to make this coming year another successful one for chapter advisers and members in Montana! I have lots of information to share, so this fall mailer will come in two parts. Please keep an eye on your inbox for part #2 within the next week.

This year's State Leadership Conference theme is **"Lights, Camera, Take Action!"** This awesome logo was designed by Shae Bruursema, State Officer of Membership, from the Reed Point FCCLA Chapter – check it out on the front of the new study guide! With FCCLA, there are so many opportunities for our advisers and students to get involved – so be sure to TAKE ACTION this year, and try something new. You never know what good things might happen!

2012 State Leadership Conference Events

At the beginning of the year, chapters are always excited to learn what events Montana FCCLA will be offering at the SLC in March. Attached is a flyer listing all of the options for this year, and below I've highlighted some of the changes. Please remember all event decisions keep the needs of our Family & Consumer Sciences classrooms and curriculums in mind, and this is one of the most important factors in choosing events for our state. Our events have to match the content being covered in the classroom. During this school year, the advisory board and I will be designing a possible rotation system for STAR Events to allow our state to offer a larger variety based on a yearly rotation. If this idea works, it will be adopted next summer for the 2012-2013 school year.

What's been dropped:

- Proficiency Event – Consumer Event
 - Rationale – The event is currently outdated; a review committee will be formed to discuss the event and the need to either update it or remove it completely.
- STAR Event – Interpersonal Communications
 - Rationale – The event has been dropping in entrants consistently for the past three years; I will bring it back as an offering in the rotation schedule.
- STAR Event – Promote & Publicize FCCLA!
 - Rationale – While the event has only been offered for 2 years, it has had low enrollment. I will bring it back as an offering in the rotation schedule.

What's been added:

- STAR Event – Environmental Ambassador
 - Rationale – This is a newer event we weren't able to offer last year which is sponsored by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency); this type of event may be interesting to all members, and it promotes healthy school environments.
- STAR Event – Nutrition & Wellness

- Rationale – This is another newer event we weren't able to offer last year; with the current state and national focus on improving nutrition among our youth, we need to offer this event to stay on par with current trends. Also, this event is easily adaptable into lessons for the classroom.
- **Both events are offered in the Junior, Senior & Occupational Categories.*

Affiliation

Affiliation dues for the 2011 – 2012 year are \$9.00 for State and \$9.00 for National; this is the same as last year. However, Nationals has changes the minimum number of members to affiliate from 9 to 12. Also, there's a new online affiliation system – I will share more about the new system in the Fall Mailer Part 2.

When you affiliate, do you affiliate your students as comprehensive or occupational? This process has not been easy or clear in the past, but this year, I'm going to help clear up any confusion. Watch in the next mailer for guidelines on what each chapter will need to provide to request affiliation status for occupational members based on your high school FCS program and curriculum offered.

District Officer Elections

Students are busy deciding if they'd like to run for district office this year with district meetings coming up over the next few months. Attached are the revised District Officer Election Paperwork and 11-12 Study Guide documents. Please be sure to use these updated forms and read pages 1-2 with requirements. Here are a few highlights:

- ❖ All members running for district office must be affiliated before running for district office. Proof of current membership affiliation must accompany application.
- ❖ Candidates for President must have one year membership as an affiliated FCCLA member and be of grade ten standing or above. In special circumstances, the state adviser may make exceptions to this recommendation.
- ❖ Candidates for President and Vice President must meet a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA requirement.

Montana FCCLA on Facebook? Yes, in 2 places!

That's right, now in two different places! Last year, we worked hard to get student members to like our Facebook page, and we are still using it this year. So if you haven't already, please like our page and ask your chapter members to do the same.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Montana-Family-Career-and-Community-Leaders-of-America/149967771695571>

And new this year is the Montana FCCCLA Chapter Advisers Facebook Group. It was started this summer as a way to create an easy place for everyone to share ideas. Those of us using it have found it quite useful! In order to join, you have to have a Facebook account. If you do, please

select the link below and click on ask to join. I'll approve you as quickly as I can. Hope to see you on Facebook for some useful FCCLA networking!

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/248102661886036/>

Montana's National Officer

Congratulations to Ariana Lake from the Ennis FCCLA Chapter for being elected as the 2011-2012 National 1st Vice President of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America! Ariana was one of ten national officers elected during the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California this past July; being elected a national officer is the highest leadership honor an FCCLA member can achieve. Her chapter adviser is Martha Northway.

NEW State Outreach Project

The 2011-2012 State Executive Council (SEC) is proud to announce a new state outreach project and partnership with another deserving organization, the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Montana! We will be sharing more information about how to get involved as a chapter, at the district level and at the State Leadership Conference. Our goal is to raise at least \$12,000 as an organization; how will your chapter help us reach our goal?

Updated State Constitution

Based on student vote in March, some changes were made to our state constitution and bylaws to reflect the combining of Districts 6 & 7 on the western side of the state. Attached is the revised constitution as well as a new map outlining our ten districts. Both documents will be posted on our Montana FCCLA website.

Calendar of Events

October 5, 2011 – FCCLA District 4 Fall Meeting, Forsyth, MT
October 5, 2011 – FCCLA District 8 Fall Meeting, Glasgow, MT
October 9 – 12, 2011 – FCCLA Capitol Leadership, Washington, DC
October 19, 2011 – New CTE Professionals Workshop (including new FCCLA Chapter Adviser Training), Great Falls, MT (*Information to follow*)
October 25, 2011 – FCCLA District 10 Fall Meeting, Billings, MT
November 1, 2011 – FCCLA District 9 Fall Meeting, Lewistown, MT
November 8, 2011 – FCCLA District 11 Fall Meeting, Dillon, MT
November 11 – 13, 2011 – FCCLA National Cluster Meetings, Denver, CO & Minneapolis, MN
November 18 – 20, 2011 – FCCLA National Cluster Meetings, Atlanta, GA
December 6, 2011 – FCCLA District 2 Fall Meeting, Three Forks, MT
March 25 – 27, 2012 – Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference, Billings, MT