



December 2009

Live Learn Lead  
DECA

# North Dakota DECA State Newsletter

## DECA ~ Can You Taste It in Bismarck! - Maria Pitner, State Vice President

The Taste of DECA took place in Bismarck on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November with an attendance of over 80 DECA members ready to get prepared for competition and further their understanding of the DECA organization. The day began with Kayla Effertz who spoke about our state's new youth forward program. The opening session also included a welcoming from

University of Mary's President Father Shay. Delta Epsilon Chi members gave the students a few tips and tricks for how to do well in their role play situations. Following the opening session, the group broke for lunch and then returned to start workshop sessions.

State Vice President Bobbi Jo Chesley and I presented on DECA opportunities. We discussed tips and tricks for competition, appropriate DECA attire, discussed conferences, and how to become a state officer. The other workshop focused on leadership and every student in

attendance competed in a role play event.

At the end of the day, all DECA members in attendance left with a further understanding of DECA as an organization and also with further knowledge of how to compete at the State and National levels come this March and April. To all of those members who could not attend, please feel at anytime that you can contact any of the state officers to answer any questions that you may have regarding competition or just DECA in general. I also hope that everyone that attended the Taste of DECA Day was able to take away further knowledge of DECA and confidence in themselves.



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### Special points of interest:

- February 1: Chapter News Due to State Officers.
- February 1: DECAcated Member Nominations Due to State Officers
- February 1: National Marketing Education Honor Award Nominations Due
- February 12: ND Honor Awards, ND Scholarships, National Scholarships Due

## Be the DECA Social Butterfly - Bobbi Jo Chesley, State Vice President

DECA is all about the great friends you meet, make, and keeping in touch with within your chapter and local chapters. It's easy to call a friend up just to hang out, well having a DECA social isn't much harder than that. It's all about your willingness to want to get to know others in your chapter and getting involved. The first and easiest step to having a social activity is getting an idea of what you

want to do at your social activity. Next, get some dates that would work best in your school or local area. Then the worst part is talking to your advisor, don't forget to show them how much thought you've already put into the idea and how bad you want this to happen. If you organize yourself well enough and have enough information then how could they say no! After getting the OK from your

advisor spread the word! The easiest way is making posters, texting, and announcing it over your school intercom. Make sure your idea is out there and everyone knows about how much fun it will be! Another great way to get students to get involved is to create a theme to the Social Activity and get them to dress up or find another cool way to get them involved!





# State President's Message

## - Evan Bong, State DECA President

Greetings, North Dakota DECA! I don't know about you, but I sure feel like this year has gone by way too fast. It is almost December! To me this has only a couple meanings: the snow is about to fall, Christmas is just around the corner, and DECA! We are getting to the point in the DECA year where most of you

are busy with chapter projects and different project activities. This is also a great opportunity to do some community service work around your community. There are many different options for serving the community you live in for DECA. It is a great opportunity to create a chapter project out of it and submit it through the Community Service Project at the State Career Development Conference. Submitting a community service project at state allows you to both feel good about the service you are doing with your fellow chapter and also focus on marketing aspects of the project by writing about what

you did. Another way community service can be fun is by making a chapter social out of it! The DECA members from the chapter would gain a great experience of serving the community with friends and also be able to meet new people in the process.

As a citizen we are called upon to take care of our community the best we can. Now go out there and make it a better place! There is no better feeling in the world than helping out those in need.

## DECAcated Members for November/December 2009

The DECAcated Member Recognition Program was developed by the state officers. The application/nomination is to be submitted by each chapter each quarter. The application is on the website and has been sent to all advisors. The DECAcated members will receive recognition on the website, receive a certificate and a t-shirt.

### November/December DECAcated Members are:

#### Brennan Lemar

Fargo North  
Junior  
2 Yr DECA member  
Shows excellent leadership by attending as many DECA activities as he can.



#### Austin Cariveau

Fargo South  
Sophomore  
1 Yr DECA member  
He made the Pancake Breakfast the best fundraiser ever at South.



#### Jerrica Luck

Minot  
Junior  
1 Yr DECA member  
Active in fundraisers, chapter meetings and serves as a chapter officer.



#### Larissa Knutson

Grand Forks Central  
Senior  
3 Yr DECA member  
She takes control! She asks "What can I do today?" She is the chapter president and sends memos and reminders about upcoming events.



#### Brianna Fiala

SRCTC, Oakes  
Senior  
2 Yr DECA member  
She is a two year officer and attended every DECA activity this year. She also placed first in her role play at the Bismarck Taste of DECA.



#### Austin Luehring

LACTC Devils Lake  
Sophomore  
2 Yr DECA member  
He was the top seller of the Firebird Fan signs and encourages others in the chapter to be involved in DECA.



#### Sean Davis

Century  
Sophomore  
1 Yr DECA member  
He is the chapter president and attended the Taste of DECA and the CRLC and is the chairperson of the Spaghetti Dinner for charity.



**DECAcated members are nominated by each chapter and submitted to the state officers for selection.**

## Scholarships Can Help You “LIVELEARNLEAD” - Kayla Daley, State Vice President

Scholarships are a very important step on the road to post-secondary education. Even though they are for seniors, preparing for them when you are as young as a freshman is very important. When you first enter high school, keep a detailed list of all extracurricular activities that you are involved in and of any awards in those activities. Also, any type of volunteering should be kept on file.

These are two of the main things that many scholarships look for. Having this information available will also help with recommendation letters. It is very hard to write a letter

about someone without knowing what that person is involved in. Also, by having that information ready for them, they will be able to write a very flattering letter.

### Scholarship Applications Due

Applications for North Dakota DECA Scholarships is February 12, 2010.

After you have these steps completed, it is time to take a closer look at the application for the scholarship. The first thing that should be looked over is the list of qualifications for the applicant. Be sure that you are able to apply! You don't want to waste the time applying for a scholarship that you are not qualified to receive. Next, over the emphasis of the scholarship.

Many scholarships are based completely on merit, but others are focused on volunteering or personal character. After determining that, be sure to relay that focus onto the writers of your letters of recommendation. Now that you have looked over everything on the application, you probably want to roll up your sleeves and start filling it out. STOP! Never fill out the final application first. Make one, two, or even maybe three copies of the application. Fill out those copies until you have all of the information perfect. This makes the final copy of the application look professional. Almost every scholarship application asks for an essay, too. Do not wait for the last minute to write

it! Write it early enough to have either a peer, teacher, or other adult to revise it. Within this essay, remember to let your personality shine through. Now that you have all of your information ready to stuff inside the envelope, pause and recheck everything. This includes revising your essay for grammatical and spelling errors, but also that it is on the same topic that was described on the scholarship information. You may even want to check your letters of recommendation.

Now that you have checked everything, make a photo copy of all the information that is getting sent it. This makes it easier if there is a mail mishap or some other misfortune.



## Be A DECA Leader...Be A DECA Officer - Kasey Aune, State Vice President

There are many ways in DECA you can become a leader. One of the highest leadership positions you can apply for at the state level is running for DECA State Office. Why and how? You may ask yourself. There can be many different ways why you want to be a state officer but here are some main key points that might help you decide to run for this position.

If you want to help improve DECA in some inspirational way with your fresh and new ideas, this position could be good for you. If you are a great leader in your school or any other organization this could be for you. If you're organized, fun, determined, and creative these could be some good qualities that might help you in this position as well. The last question you are probably concerned about is how do I run for this state office position? There are many steps leading into this applying process including:

1. Must be a sophomore or Junior in high school.
2. Must be a DECA member.
3. Prepare a portfolio with the required information: photo, goals, letters of recommendation, transcript.
4. Successfully pass the DECA test—knowledge of DECA.
5. Give a 2 minute speech to North Dakota DECA members.
6. Set up a booth at the State Conference.
7. You will have an interview at the state conference which counts 40% of the election. Be prepared.
8. Make it to all required meetings once granted position.

As you can see this is a very rewarding

experience for most people who are elected. All you have to do is do these simple steps and you can be the Next State DECA President or Vice President.



**STATE OFFICER CANDIDATE  
NOMINATION FORMS  
DUE  
FEBRUARY 12, 2010**

# CHAPTER NEWS

# DECA LIVE LEARN LEAD DELTA EPSILON CHI

## Adams-Edmore

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Bismarck High

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Bismarck Century

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Bottineau

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Central Cass

The Central Cass DECA Program has been busy these last few weeks. We have been just starting to order seeds from Agassiz Seed Company. This takes a lot of time and some math to do, but it's a learning experience. The Central Region Leadership Conference was a very fun, adventurous experience. We were asked to do a thirty minute presentation at the conference. We accepted the offer, and it was a success. This presentation consisted of a power point presentation, and different speakers for each part of the presentation. Our officers were quite nervous for this project, but it turned out to be a success. We did a project for our community called the Kids Shopping Mall. We have been doing this for a few years now. Our Marketing 2 and 3 students run the shopping mall and the Marketing 1 students are "elves" and they help the little kids find things for them to buy. We have businesses that donate products from their company to this and we keep 10% of the profit, and they get the rest back. We also have a Santa Clause that comes and is there for the children to visit. This is a fun experience for us to do, and we get to learn how to work with other companies. This December has been very busy.

## Devils Lake—LACTC

We conducted a fundraiser which we sold Firebird Fan signs as a competition in classes. The winning class got a pizza party! We had a dress up day for DECA week and also participated in some DECA information quizzes that could win items in the Snack Shop. We had sales on items during DECA week also.

## Des Lacs Burlington

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

Each Chapter is listed in the Chapter News section and they are encouraged to submit an article for each newsletter. Articles are submitted to your assigned state officer by the deadline each month.

## Fargo North

Fargo North DECA is off to a great start this fall with more than 80 paid members to date! In addition to participating statewide activities like the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast and the Taste of DECA Conference, we've been busy working on a number of community service projects, and just having fun getting to know each other!



National DECA Week was a huge success at North, with activities including DECA T-shirt Day, Wii Games in the commons, DECA Blazer Day, DECA Diamond Scavenger Hunt, Where in the World is Mr. Erickson Contest, and a huge promotion at Ben Franklin Middle School. Everyone had a great time promoting DECA, and we are eager and excited to see even more growth in our program next year as a result!

We have also been busy working to raise money for our adopted aboriginal school in Australia, along with the United Way of Cass Clay and the local branch of the Salvation Army. Many of our students also participated in a silent auction at the NDSU Alumni Center to benefit "For the Love of Dog" which is an organization that rescues abandoned and abused pets.

Of course, DECA wouldn't be much fun without the chance to get together, hang out and have fun! We made a trip to the Haunted Farm in October, and are planning a Holiday Social in December that should be lots of fun!

## Fargo South

The Fargo South chapter has been busy these past months. Members have been busy getting their projects under way, and new members are really starting to get what DECA is all about. Mr. South, a mock male beauty pageant to raise money for MDA, is coming up in December. We are also planning for our holiday social, along with a candy cane drive and ugly sweater contest. Other activities have included the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast, a school-wide DECA diamond hunt, working concessions, and running a store at South Campus II.

**Chapter News  
Due February 1, 2010**

## Grafton—NVCTC

The Grafton DECA Chapter has completed many activities and has some events planned already. One thing we have done is completed our Little Caesars Pizza sales. Also, we had seven students attend the Taste of DECA in Fargo, ND. One of the events we have planned is the Bowling Social to try and stay involved with the other extracurricular student organizations. The two other student organizations are Grafton's FCCLA and FBLA. The last event we have planned is the First Snowball Dance. This event is also planned with Grafton's FCCLA and FBLA. We are all very excited for the upcoming events!

## Grand Forks Central

Our DECA chapter is off to a good start. We celebrated our five reasons to be thankful, friends, family, good health, GFC DECA, and five days off of school on Wednesday the 25 of November with pumpkin pie and ice cream. While we ate our pumpkin pie and ice cream we decided as a chapter to adopt a family for Christmas. Each student donated anywhere from 5-20 dollars we were able to spend around \$130.00 dollars on the family of 3 and get them a few presents for Christmas. We will end this short month with our annual Christmas party, and be looking forward to the New Year!!

## Jamestown—JVCTC

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Maddock

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## McClusky

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Mandan

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## Minot

Minot DECA Members and Character Counts are teaming up together to conduct an unforgettable shopping experience for underprivileged children in the Minot Public School District. Members have worked with the Minot Public Schools Homeless coordinator to receive permission for the children to attend our shopping experience. Students gathered at the Sleep Inn, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>. DECA and Character Members teamed up with a child and took them shopping for a Christmas present for their parents. Once the shopping was complete, members helped the children wrap their presents and decorate a card for their parents.

## Red River

As the First quarter of school wrapped up recently, the Red River DECA club is well on its way to another very successful year. We had a very eventful and fun DECA week, which ended with a great Applebee's fundraiser. All the students seemed to enjoy it, along with the parents and patrons! In the last week, we have also started selling Clubs Choice, which has been a very successful and interesting fundraiser for our club each year. Our students will also be ringing bells for the Salvation Army come thanksgiving time, which has provided a great way for our club to volunteer in the community each year. We are looking forward for the rest to the rest of year!

## Oakes—SRCTC

Holiday greetings from your DECA friends in Oakes! I hope this article finds you in great health and good spirits! It's getting chillier in southeastern North Dakota, which means that it's almost time to road trip to Minneapolis! Our chapter officers are all gearing up to go to the leadership conference in December. In fact, we can hardly wait to pack our bags! We held a Schwan's Truckload Sale to help raise money for our trip costs in October. Currently, chapter members and officers are selling candles through My Own Candle Company, based out of Pennsylvania. The candles look and smell fantastic! Best of all, they'll arrive in Oakes right before Christmas so they make the perfect gift for loved ones. Can't wait to see you all in Minnesota soon!

## Valley City

No article submitted for this newsletter edition.

## West Fargo

West Fargo DECA Chapter had a great DECA WEEK! To start off the week we placed DECA diamonds around the school for students to find and to get the awareness out that it was DECA week.



Also, our chapter president Kayla Hawley announced that it was DECA week to our school. The next day we had Breast Cancer Awareness Day. We sold ribbons to help raise money for breast cancer. Then on Thursday we had our "sell out" day where our chapter wore our DECA shirts and we had a sale in our school store. Then our best event took place on Friday. We had a "Pie a Teacher" day. We had over 17 teachers "pied" during all three lunch periods and it was a hit – literally! Students paid to pie their teacher of choice in the face for \$1 a throw and \$5 for a toss. It was a great success! We raised money for MDA and the Breast Cancer Awareness in the process.

## Taste of DECA in Fargo

- Jennifer Wolf, State Vice President

On October 31<sup>st</sup> the first annual Taste of DECA conference was held in Fargo. The conference was open to all first year members who wanted to know what DECA was all about.



There were three separate workshops each telling new members what DECA is all about and what it can do for you.

In the first workshop members learned all kinds of ice breakers and participated in many team building activities. The second consisted of a judged role play competition and the third workshop taught members about the opportunities DECA offers like leadership development and community service.

There were more than 60 members in attendance from schools including: Fargo North, Grafton, Adams-Edmore, and West Fargo. Also there were representatives from the Delta Epsilon Chi collegiate division and a guest speaker, Kayla Effertz from the Department of Commerce. The conference was a success and members who attended received a full "Taste of DECA".

### Check out the On-Line DECA Competitions

Virtual Business Challenge-Finance

Virtual Business Challenge-Retailing

Virtual Business Challenge-Sports Marketing

Stock Market Game

Check with your advisor or the website!



## CRLC in Minneapolis

- Nick Nelson, State Vice President

R U prepared to "Txt it Up?" The Central Region Leadership Conference was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota this year. If you did not get a chance to attend, you missed out on a great conference. Be ready to "Txt it Up" was this years theme.

The Central Region Leadership Conference, or CRLC, gave DECA members the opportunities to learn about specific topics. It was great for members to venture off and learn what they wish to learn about, because there were workshops out there for everyone.

CRLC promised to become the highlight of your DECA year, as there are many aspects of the conference. And it was. There were various breakout sessions, targeting your specific interests. These were taught by enthusiastic leaders. There are many social events, including a dance and a conference party. North Dakota had 225 people attend this years conference and 170 of them attended the Minnesota Timberwolves game versus the Utah Jazz. DECA members also visited more than 35 exhibitors and more than 100 stores at the Mall of America!

Also, this was the perfect opportunity to communicate with 2,900 other enthusiastic members. It's time to make new friends, and bring other great ideas back to your chapter.

DECA members had the opportunity to hear from two great leaders at the Central Region Leadership Conference. Judson Laippy gave a presentation on leadership and provided inspirational comedy as well. For those who don't know Judson, he starred in the original "Evolution of Dance" Youtube hit. He will finish with his notorious finale—The Evolution of Dance. The closing speaker was Matt Bellace, a former stand-up comedian. He is the founder of the grassroot prevention group called C.A.L.V.I.N & H.O.B.B.E.S. His presentation provided laughs as well as a message to all members.

CRLC was loaded with new opportunities and gave us new insights on DECA. Congratulations to Minot High School for winning first place in the OMG Teambuilding competition and to Kayla Hawley of West Fargo and Justin Hamilton from Fargo North for placing in the top 10 in the Comprehensive Written Exam competition! Way to represent North Dakota DECA.

