



NEW MEXICO HOSA

A Groundbreaking Celebration after 20 Years!!

*Submitted by Marko Mijic
Region I Vice President*

On March 10, 2006 HOSA representatives Mrs. Kim Smith, Assistant Director, and Marko Mijic, Region I Vice President traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico to attend the first New Mexico HOSA Conference in 20 years. The entire day was filled with a variety of different events which showcased HOSA and the members of our organization. From the opening session to the awards session, HOSA members enjoyed networking with other members, advisors, and industry representatives.

HOSA members had the opportunity to attend a leadership workshop, compete in five different events, network during lunch with medical, pharmacy, and nursing school students and networking with a number of different industry representatives. Throughout the conference, members were given the opportunity to find out more about our organization and were encouraged to take the information they gathered and apply it in their own chapters.

Towards the end of the day, HOSA members were excited to find out who was to be crowned state Champion in 20 years. New Mexico HOSA State Advisor, Mr. Michael Stanton gave out five gold medals, five silver medals, and five bronze medals. Fifteen proud young men and women were applauded for their hard work and dedication in the preparation for this conference. All of the attendees whether it was the members, advisors, or industry representatives were encouraged to continue their journey with HOSA. It was obvious to many that New Mexico HOSA will become the pipeline of future health care professionals in its state.

Welcome Back New Mexico HOSA!

It was obvious to many that New Mexico HOSA will become the pipeline of future health care professionals in its state.





GET INVOLVED *with Blood Drives*

*Submitted by Meghan Homa
Region II Vice-President*



The average adult has about 10 to 12 pints of blood in his or her body. Losing more blood than what is needed for the body to function can cause serious damage. In order to restore the blood loss, there is a need for blood donors. Blood cannot be manufactured therefore we need the help of any person fitting the criteria to donate blood.

With this information, a great community service project for your chapter is sponsoring a blood drive. Many high schools across the country hold blood drives. The way you can get involved is by donating blood yourself and/or recruit possible blood donors. Even if you do not donate yourself, recruiting donors will help you save the lives of many people.

For more information on how to sponsor a blood drive or help with one, please contact you local American Red Cross or other local blood donating centers.

INDIANA

American Red Cross Donation

Indiana Chapter President, Jason White presents a check for \$1000 to local American Red Cross Director Mary Ellen Anable. The students raised the money for hurricane relief through their annual fund-raiser. The chapter (I-HOSA) includes students from Columbus East, Columbus North, McDowell, Jefferson, Hauser, Brown County, Seymour, Crothersville, Greensburg, North and South Decatur, and Ivy Tech.



American Red Cross
Celebrating 125 Years of Service





GEORGIA on My Mind

*Submitted by Reginald Coleman
National President*

In March, I was privileged to be able to attend the 6th Annual State Leadership Conference of Georgia in Augusta. Georgia HOSA has grown in leaps and bounds since its inception six years ago. In just six years, their membership now exceeds over 2,700 members. Congratulations Georgia HOSA!

At the Opening General Session, I was honored to give the welcome speech on behalf of the National Executive Council and the HOSA Inc. Board of Directors to nearly 900 attendees. It was also a privilege to meet the new Program Specialist for Health Science and Medical Services and State HOSA Advisor, Ms. Julie Garrett.

While at the conference, I met some very interesting and enthusiastic members and advisors by helping with events, by the interaction of those who attended my leadership workshop and talking to everyone in the halls. The Georgia delegation showed me why I should have Georgia on My Mind through their high energy level, motivation, enthusiasm, hospitality and spirit.

We look forward to seeing a large Georgia delegation in Anaheim, California for HOSA's 30th Anniversary Celebration!



PENN-HOSA

*Submitted by: Reginald J. Coleman
National HOSA President*

From the moment that I arrived in Pennsylvania, I knew that my experience would be one that I would not forget.

Penn-HOSA was celebrating their 27th annual State Leadership Conference with more than 1,000 members, guests, and judges in attendance. With nearly 3,100 members, Penn-HOSA continues to grow by adding 10 new charters this year! The membership totals are not the only thing growing in Pennsylvania. The Penn-HOSA Foundation gave out thirty \$1,000 scholarships for a total of \$30,000 and this is the fourth year in a row that they have given this amount in scholarships!

It was such a pleasure to meet some really great members at this conference who are truly loving the profession and living the dream.



One of the highlights of the conference was a surprise visit from Goofy inviting all attendees to Disneyland in Anaheim for HOSA's 30th Anniversary Celebration at this year's NLC. Also attending the conference was the 2004-2005 National Region III Vice-President and Former 2003-2004 Pennsylvania HOSA President Edward Callahan III.

When was the last time you played competitive Bingo? You cannot attend a Penn-HOSA conference and not get excited about the fun that this game brings. And the prizes were great as well – baskets filled with all kinds of goodies.

As I travel to various state leadership conferences, I have the opportunity to see firsthand how members across the nation are Loving the Profession, Living the Dream and members of Penn-HOSA are no exception!

Postsecondary/ Collegiate Update

This winter I'm sure has been full of planning, hard work and fruitful results. Congratulations to all of the chapters that have taken the challenge to increase their HOSA membership. A special thanks to Alabama's postsecondary chapter, Bishop State Community College, for their dedication and determination to increase their membership. This chapter, through their mission of sharing their personal learning and growth experiences, has and continues to demonstrate enthusiasm and sincerity in their active participation in HOSA.



I do hope that each of your chapters have found their way to participate in the National Service Project by holding an "Alzheimer's Memory Walk". Through this event, we are able to show to Alzheimer's patients and their families the support and assistance they need to handle this debilitating disease. This event for our local chapter is a value added activity as we are trained by our local Area on Aging as Care Team Members for Alzheimer's Patients. Our members go to a local nursing home and work with the patients using memory boxes and other activities to help them continue remembering. Thus, the Memory Walk is a special event for us. In addition,



to the positive impact we are having in helping to fund research, the coordination with other college and community organizations has proven to be a learning experience as we network to achieve a goal. This year our chapter is working with the high school chapters in our community and making our Memory Walk a HOSA community/state event and we are selling Forget-Me-Not Flowers provided by the Alzheimer's Association and six of the high school chapters across the state have joined in the effort to sell the flowers. There are many ways our organization can participate in this worthwhile event. This event projects HOSA's image as a caring and active organization. It demonstrates our leadership abilities and teaches us how to work for the common good through forming community networks.

*I look forward to seeing you
in Anaheim!*



North Carolina HOSA Chapters Partner with Organizations to Provide Blood

North Carolina HOSA has a partnership with several blood donation services. This year the North Carolina American Red Cross received our Partnership Award for years working together to provide much needed blood to the communities of North Carolina and providing recognition for the HOSA chapters who have the blood drives. This year at our state conference, eighteen schools received certificates of appreciation from the Red Cross. Several other schools received awards for having the most donors, highest percentage of donors, and having the most drives in a school year.

Three years ago another blood service, Rex Blood Services, approached NC-HOSA to arrange a similar partnership. Rex Blood Services is a not-for-profit organization that started supplying the blood needs of one hospital back in 1962 and now supplies the needs of hospitals and military bases across the central region of North Carolina.

Since last year's state conference, high school blood drives, through the Rex Blood Services, have seen 2,924 donors, collected 2,119 pints of blood that helped save approximately 6,357 people. Rex Blood Services offers t-shirts to the student donors to encourage and celebrate their participation.

Sue Cain, the high school representative, stated that because of the support and enthusiasm of the local HOSA chapters, the design on this year's t-shirt for the Rex Blood Services High School Blood Donor Program displays a new acronym for HOSA – Helping Others Stay Alive. Ms. Cain stated that through the high school blood drives, the members of HOSA are helping persons stay alive by donating much needed blood.

This year at our state conference, eighteen schools received certificates of appreciation from the Red Cross.

Since the establishment of these two partnerships has been so successful, we now have an additional two partnerships with the Blood Donor Center of Cape Fear Valley and the Community Blood center of the Carolinas. Through these partnerships, the people of North Carolina received the possibility of having a much needed supply of blood and the members of HOSA have the opportunity to be involved in their community and receive recognition for a job well done.



Utah HOSA State Leadership Conference

“Capture the Magic of HOSA”

Submitted by: Marko Mijic, Region I Vice President

HOSA members from all over the state of Utah came together for the 2006 Utah HOSA State Leadership Conference in Layton, Utah. The newly developed Davis Conference Center was filled with HOSA members, advisors, and industry representatives. With nearly 960 registered competitors and 36 different competitive events, Utah HOSA members were able to demonstrate their determination for our organization and their desire to become future health care professionals.

The opening ceremony was filled with enthusiasm as the Utah HOSA Executive Council unveiled their conference theme, “Capture the Magic of HOSA.” HOSA members enjoyed a magic show by Don Paulus and the keynote address by Dr. Thomas Kennedy who works as a member of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Occupational Medicine in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Utah. The Utah HOSA Executive Council also acknowledged the secondary and postsecondary institutions which are affiliated with HOSA and gave special recognition to their advisors for their determination in spreading the mission of HOSA and enabling opportunities for their students.

The conference was filled with activities and networking opportunities. Utah HOSA was able to showcase its chapters and was able to celebrate a year of growth. New advisors and members had a chance to get oriented to HOSA and were given the opportunity to meet other advisors and members. As the conference came to a conclusion, HOSA members were invited to the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California and were encouraged to participate in HOSA activities in the coming years.

Utah HOSA members are excited to meet other HOSA members from across the nation at the 2006 National Leadership Conference this June at Anaheim, California.





Outbreak at Watersedge

A Public Health Discovery Game

The need to recruit the next generation of public health professionals has never been greater. University of Minnesota's Midwest Center for Life-Long-Learning in Public Health has developed an interactive web-based game that provides a fun and challenging way to learn about the field of public health. Players will learn how public health investigates disease outbreaks; discover the roles of public health professionals and how they promote health and prevent illness; and race to find the cause and stop the spread before more people become ill. The game is available in both English and Spanish. To play the Outbreak at Watersedge game, visit <http://publichealthplanet.org/watersedge>. HOSA chapters should watch their mail for a copy of the CD in the coming weeks. To request additional copies of the CD, contact Amy Scheller at sche0526@umn.edu.

Amy Scheller
Assistant Education Specialist
Centers for Public Health Education and Outreach
University of Minnesota School of Public Health
2221 University Avenue SE Suite 350
Minneapolis, MN 55414
sche0526@umn.edu



WORKING PART-TIME DURING COLLEGE

By: Brittney Earle
Region III Vice President

During college many students have jobs to help pay their college tuition. If a student is interested in medical school and a career in medicine, then working as a Pharmacy Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, or a Nursing Assistant during college is both beneficial and rewarding to college students who want to go to medical school but need a job. These jobs not only help with finances, but they also give students opportunities to start their careers in the health care industry.

A **Pharmacy Technician** is a skilled professional who assists a licensed pharmacist. Duties of a pharmacy technician may include maintaining patients' records, setting up, packing and labeling medications, filling and dispensing routine orders for stock supplies of patient care areas and maintaining inventories of drug supplies. One can become a Pharmacy Technician by taking a class either at a technical college or online. After completion of this class, a student can take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Examination. This is usually done after a student's 18th birthday depending on state requirements. Once certified, one can apply for positions and work part time, while still going to school.



Nursing assistants work under the direction of other health care professionals, usually in nursing homes or hospitals. Their duties include taking the blood pressure, temperature, and pulse of patients. One needs to take a class at a technical college or at career center to become a nursing assistant. This job is very beneficial if a student plans to become a nurse after college.



An **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is an emergency responder trained to provide emergency medical services to the critically ill and injured. An EMT's duties are to respond to many types of emergency calls, including medical emergencies, hazardous materials exposure, childbirth, child abuse, fires, injuries, trauma and psychiatric crises. To become an EMT, a person must successfully complete a 110 hour class from any technical college, be professional level CPR certified, and pass both a written and practical skills test. This job gives hands on experience in emergency care for students interested in this field of work.

All of these classes can be taken during a student's senior year in high school so that students can work in these fields part-time while still furthering their education. It is also a plus when applying to medical school because of the hands-on experience. All of these fields are under HOSA's competitive events. If interested in any of these job options, competing in one of these events will be beneficial as well.

ARIZONA

The Grand Canyon State

*By: Reginald Coleman
National President*



The sun was shining and the birds were singing and nothing could stop Arizona from having their 1st State Leadership Conference. Only a year ago, HOSA representatives were in Phoenix meeting with legislatures, educators, and industry representatives sharing the HOSA story. It was a pleasure to see the fruits of the labor from so many dedicated and determined individuals.

In less than a year, the membership is already over 700 and still growing. That is very impressive and noteworthy.

To see the smiles and feel the energy from the over 200 in attendance was priceless. I can say the excitement in the room grew more and more as the Opening General Session began. Yes, everyone was nervous about their competitions but the tension slowly eased away as time went along. The Opening General Session was packed with VIP's from industry representatives, educators, and even Arizona Senator Richard Miranda. The Governor signed a proclamation declaring March 14, 2006, HOSA Day in the State of Arizona.

HOSA truly welcomes Arizona as a new state association and wishes them many years of great success.



In less than a year, the membership is already over 700 and still growing. That is very impressive and noteworthy.

For Immediate Release



Jefferson College Area Technical School Students To Compete in HOSA National Competition

Photo: Jacalyn Eberhart, HOSA Advisor, with Ben Klein, owner of Fetus Nursing Skilled and Rehabilitation Facility, and HOSA members: Samuel Benne, Alisha Knight and Michelle Gale.

After their first place finish during the recent Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) state competition, three students from the Jefferson College Area Technical School Health Services Assistant program are the first in the school's history to earn the opportunity to participate in the national HOSA competition in Anaheim June 21-24.

Nationally qualifying students include Samuel Benne of Arnold, who won first place in Medical Math; Michelle Gale of House Springs, who won first place in Extemporaneous Writing; and Alisha Knight of High Ridge, who won first place in Digital Medical Photography.

Other ATS winners were Diane Clippard of Festus, who won second place in Extemporaneous Writing; Lauren Tator of Festus, who won second place in Digital Medical Photography; and Tiffany Flynn of High Ridge, who won third place in Extemporaneous Health Poster.

HOSA, a national career and technical student organization, has a mission to promote career opportunities in health care for students in secondary and post-secondary/collegiate institutions. The organization provides opportunities for leadership and technical development to students pursuing a career in the health care industry.

Needing funds to sponsor the trip to California, Eberhart began to make contacts in the community to help with expenses. After learning of their need, Festus Manor- Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility in Festus (owned by Ben Klein) generously offered to underwrite the entire trip for the three students, as well as for Eberhart and her husband. They will fly first class and stay at the Anaheim Hilton.

Additionally, Sharon Greco (facility administrator) and Marilyn Dawson (director of nursing) are members of the Health Services Advisory Committee at the Jefferson College Area Technical School.

This is the first year that the Jefferson College ATS has been involved with HOSA. Under the direction of Health Services Assistant Professor Jacalyn Eberhart, the local chapter was formed last fall.

Jacalyn Eberhart can be reached at (636) 797-3000, ext. 457 for additional information.

It is the policy of Jefferson College that no person shall, on the basis of age, ancestry, color, creed, disability, gender, national origin, race, or religion, be subject to discrimination in employment or in admission to any educational program or activity of the College.

NOTE: If accommodations for a disability are needed, please contact Sundaye Harrison at (636) 797-3000/789-3000/942-3000, ext. 169. If special dietary needs are a consideration for your participation in this College activity, please contact the sponsor of the event.