

### **Why Science Bowl?**

If we desire to maintain and ensure our world leadership in technology, then the k-12 students, our future, must be encouraged and afforded an opportunity to learn, practice and excel in math and science. Realizing this, the US Department of Energy initiated National Science Bowl to encourage high school students from across the nation to excel in math and science and to pursue careers in those fields. It provides the students, and teachers who have prepared them, a forum to receive regional and national recognition for their talent and hard work. This commitment to math and science education ensures a technically trained and diverse workforce for the Nation in the future.

### **What is a Regional Science Bowl?**

To have a successful National Science Bowl, competitions take place at regional levels sponsored by local businesses and supported by many volunteers. Winners at regional levels proceed to the national level. In Science Bowl, a fast paced and quick-response competition, teams of high school students answer questions on scientific topics in astronomy, biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, earth and general science. The teams are comprised of five students and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach. The competition consists of a round robin followed by a double elimination final. The questions are multiple choice and short answer. The teams and schools are rewarded for their participation and performance. Volunteers and local businesses support this program by donating their time and money.

### **FL Panhandle Regional Science Bowl and its Benefits to Local Schools:**

If we want a bright and scientific future for NW Florida, we urge you to support the Florida Panhandle Regional Science Bowl Competition to be held on Feb 25, 2006 at the UWF/OWCC campus in Fort Walton Beach, FL. Teams from 10 counties in NWF (Central Time Zone) will compete and top 3 teams and their schools will be awarded cash prizes. The cash awards are used to enhance science education. For each of the last 3 years, the total cash prizes were in excess of \$3100. There is no entry fee, and free lunch is provided to the teams and their coaches.

The benefit to the schools is tremendous, for example, one school added some money and bought 13 latest battery operated microscopes for their labs. This allowed them to do actual field work without any power requirements, and get a close up of the objects they were studying. The other school bought a whole suite of lab equipment that they couldn't buy before. And the students also have improved their scientific inquiry techniques because of their prizes.

### **Support the Future of Science in FL Panhandle**

We are asking you to support this effort so that we can hold the competition and reward the science Bowl teams and their schools with scientific prizes. Northwest Florida students deserve all the support they can get from local businesses, and local technical organizations like yours. For more information

visit the national website <http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/nsb/default.htm>. Your organization's name is printed in bold on the brochures and the t-shirts and projected on the computer screen as one of the donors. You will also get a t-shirt with a multicolor NWF Science Bowl logo.

Please, make checks payable to ***Science Bowl, IEEE NWF section.***