



## Weekly Newsletter

### January 10, 2006

### Scientific Heroes

In addition to facts and theories, today's science teachers are required to teach character education to their students. The **My Hero** website offers some inspiring biographies of scientist from around the world. Many of these heroes suffered persecution, discrimination, and other hardships but still they persevered in their goal to become scientists.

<http://www.myhero.com/myhero/go/directory/directory.asp?dir=science>

### It's Science Fair Time

Students are busy putting the finishing touches on their projects for this year's science fairs. GK-12 Fellows have helped many students come up with their own original investigations. Locally, judging begins this week and we wish you all good luck!

<http://www.uncw.edu/smec/sciencefair.html>

Southeast Regional Science Fair website

<http://www.ncsta.org/sciencefair/index.html>

State Science Fair website



### Leap into 2006



The start of 2006 was delayed by one atomic "leap" second. Earth's rotation is very gradually slowing down due to tidal friction, but atomic clocks remain consistent. To learn more about this, visit:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/4562194.stm>

[http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/12/1229\\_051229\\_leap\\_second.html](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/12/1229_051229_leap_second.html)

### Celebrating Benjamin Franklin, Our Scientific Forefather

On January 17, 2006, the world — and especially Philadelphia — will celebrate the 300th birthday of universal icon, Benjamin Franklin. Many celebrations will focus on his scientific contributions. Franklin's most famous experiments investigate the nature of electricity. Check them out:

<http://www.ushistory.org/franklin/>

The Electric Ben Franklin

<http://sln.fi.edu/franklin/scientst/scientst.html> or

<http://sln.fi.edu/franklin/inventor/inventor.html>

Ben Franklin – Scientist and Inventor

<http://www.pbs.org/benfranklin/index.html>

An Extraordinary Life, an Electric Mind

[http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blfranklin\\_inventions.htm](http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blfranklin_inventions.htm)

Inventions of Ben Franklin

[http://www.tufts.edu/as/wright\\_center/fellows/bob\\_morse\\_04/](http://www.tufts.edu/as/wright_center/fellows/bob_morse_04/)

Benjamin Franklin and Electrostatics. Make sure you check out the link to **Ben Franklin as My Lab Partner** a wonderful lab manual containing experiments that you can do with your students.

