



Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees

December 2003

So, what are we all doing with all that spare time now that the haunting season is over? In all likelihood we are racing around between festive gatherings of family, friends, coworkers, and even strangers. It can be uplifting, may without warning become overwhelming, but is always exciting. As customary at this time of year and even more so with the current state of international affairs, much will be made of the ideal for 'Peace on Earth and Goodwill unto Men.' It sounds good in theory, echoes with centuries of tradition and provides for a noble pursuit. But just how real and realizable is this goal in our everyday lives? Perhaps it all hinges on a matter of scale. We think globally, but act locally. Stories travel quickly and events on distant continents are everyone's news. Still, ours is essentially a small world, folks; insular or cozy, confining or comforting, depending upon the immediate context. Most times, it is all of these at once.

Last week I sat down for a cup of coffee with the president of another local organization and also attended my 20th high school reunion. These two events would seem completely unrelated and as dissimilar as could be. Yet they shared one striking characteristic; each provided stark reminder of both the perils and the privileges of living in a small community. The simple truth is that our interactions are not isolated and nor fleeting experiences. Our words, their delivery, our behavior all reflect upon all those with whom we are associated, whether that association is by birth, by contract, by choice, or even by misunderstanding. What we say and how we say it leaves a remarkably lasting impression upon the people to whom we speak. One misunderstood phone message call can alter a year's worth of cooperative ventures, and a single friendly exchange of words between highly unlikely conversationalists can resonate for two decades to add indescribable poignancy to a subsequent meeting. People can and will remember details which escape notice, except in hindsight when their importance is clear and startling.

We face that daily challenge of representing all of our cohorts, whether we wish to admit it or not; but these individuals and the organizations they comprise are also the very same people who become our network of support when we need them. During these days when we will meet and greet so many people in every imaginable setting, I invite everyone to take comfort in the knowledge that we are inextricably linked to all persons in this extensive community. If we truly believe that Earth's great treasure lies in human personality and that service to humanity is the best work of life, this is a perfect time to respect and savor both the responsibilities and the tremendous gifts these entail.

Happy holidays.

Membership

Vice President: Amy George
Director: Susan Gillis

Who's Who-Bob Webster: Membership has been quiet this month. Please be sure to tune in next month for there are a couple new people that are interested in joining. Thanks Bob for keeping us up to date with our newest members.

Activation/Mentor Program-Dave Fisler: Dave has the handbooks ready and has been pairing up our newest members with mentors. We are looking for some people to volunteer to be mentors. If you are interested in this please let Dave or myself know. Thanks.

Web Site Page-Bob Gillis: Bob as always is doing a great job handling our web site. Check out the great things he has been doing by logging onto www.foxborojaycees.org. If anyone should need to post anything on the web site please contact Bob.

Jaycee Week- Chairman Needed: This project generally is run either in January or February. I would REALLY like to see this project run this year. We can be as creative as we want to be with it. If you are interested in this PLEASE contact me, otherwise I will run this by committee.



Jaycees Celebrating Their Birthday This Month

Sheryl Conners
Gerry McNamara
Chris Olson
Rob Silver
Linda Strano
Judy Wood
Mike Wood

Be sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!!

Community Development

Vice President: Fred George
Director: Dave Fisler

Teddy Transfer. - Cathy Kelson-Reid

Teddy bears are available to any organization to give to children in frightening situations. If you know of any such organization please contact Cathy.

Winter Lights On Common - Dave Fisler

Dave, with help from Brendan Pentilla and Tree Tech, got the lights up in most of the trees. There is still one tree to do and run the main line for power.

Enduring Freedom - Elise Behn

Elise has sent out packages to our troops and has more things to send out a second round of packages. Thank you Elise!

Doolittle Home Support - Amy George

If anyone is interested in this project and would like to be on the committee there will be a meeting at my house Monday Dec 8th at 8 pm.

SERVE N.E. - Cathy Kelson-Reid

Contact Cathy if you would like to place an order for this month. Orders must be in before Dec 7th and pick up will be Dec 20th. Cathy has asked to move up the pick up time to 9-9:30.

Holiday Share- Jen Allsop

This project ran on Sunday Nov 30th. Jen, with help from her Mom, Cathy Reid and Monica Joshi served 8 women and 1 child a well-appreciated Thanksgiving dinner at a local woman's shelter. Job well done Jen!!

Fruit Baskets-Lauren Bitar

Lauren has stepped up to run this project and has been joined by Adam Nolin, who will help out.



Adopt a Kid for Christmas-Monica Joshi

Monica has purchased the gifts for the children that have been chosen. She will be turning in the gifts to the Discretionary Fund on Friday Dec 5th. Good job Monica!!

Sand for Seniors- Lauren Bitar

Lauren and a small committee have already started this project and delivered buckets of sand. Thank you LB.

Way\$ & Mean\$

Vice President: Kris Long
Director: Frank Jager

Well its time for Ways and means to take a short break. After all the Haunted House's and all the side projects that run with this, Christmas trees look like a breeze! I'm not going to write about Haunted house again until the report becomes final, but my final will be detailed for all to see. Again, Great Job Haunted House crew, Mini Haunt crew, Concessions Crew, T-shirts Crew and everyone else who had a part in this years productions!!!

Haunted House- Dave Fisler/Paul Lanza

The closeout meeting for the Haunted House will be held **December 10th at 7:00 PM** (just before the GM).



Christmas Trees-Fred George/Dave Fisler

The trees are all set and ready to go home with families. They look great this year! We do, however, have many nights that aren't covered for selling them, so please call Fred and let him know when you're available! We will be selling them on Monday-Thursday 5:30-9 and Sat & Sun 9-9. There are a lot of shifts to be filled and it's really not fair to take advantage of the same people. Call a Jaycee you haven't seen in a while and work together! Please help Fred & Dave out.

Gillette Stadium - Steve Fruzzetti

Yes, you've read it correct, Steve contacted me this past weekend and inquired about this mini- fundraiser. The date he will be working is December 27th, for the Patriots VS Buffalo, a 1:30 PM game!! This will be a great game!! The more people we have working, the more money we make, so give Steve a call at 508-386-3649 and get on his list!! Thanks Steve, and it was nice to hear from you!

Chili Fest - Chairman needed

I would love to have a Chili fest here in Foxboro. It would be to benefit the chapter, but if you know of some charity or family that might need help please call me. This would be a cooking contest open to the public, with a restaurant category as well. If this is done right, it might just be made into an annual event!

Have a wonderful Christmas and see everyone at the December GM! Yankee swap!!!

For those of you who may have missed Dave Fisler's speech at the Breakup Party...

I lay awake one night going over all the things I had to do. Of the many, one really stuck out and worried me: the speech I would give at the break up party. What was I to say? I had so many people to thank. Not being able to sleep, I attempted to write down a few thoughts and to my dismay realized I am not good at this. I knew what I wanted to say, but I could not find the words to express my thoughts, let alone *spell* them.

So after about a ½ hour I decided to start with the committee. It seemed like a good place to start, right? Well here goes: Paul, I came to you late in the process, asked you to help me run this project, for your strengths are my weaknesses. To my great joy you said yes. I believe you were more excited than I was at the prospect of running this project. Your enthusiasm and attention to detail made this project run as well as it did. When the show was running, you always had time to listen to me between groups and always had an optimistic point of view. I could not have run this without you. Thank you.

Phil, you are a pain in the ass, and I thank you for it. It wasn't too long after last year's break up party that Phil started with "So, you're running the house next year." My response was, "I would have to be crazy to run that project." Well, I guess I am crazy, for here we all are. Phil, you were my head of construction, and there were a few times I wanted to choke you, but when push came to shove you were there. For that I thank you.

Monica, I was dreading asking you, "Would you be my head guide?" I was expecting a "You've got to be kidding me" and a whole lot of pleading. You simply answered, "Yes". Now I can't run the Mini Haunt." Oops, I had not thought of that. Hopefully Kris had someone else in mind for that. Monica, you did a hell of a job; through the rain, pain and illness you were there. If I had a problem with a guide, you took care of it. You constantly updated your guides on new room script, and made sure we had enough guides to run our show. Thank you for all your hard work.

Mr. Holtzman, our headroom. Steve, not once did you have 1 negative thing to say. You took on the task after a little coaxing from Paul, and did a bang up job at it. When I had a problem with a room you fixed it, from cleaning out cabin 3 so we could pass inspection to addressing certain reading material that appeared during the show. Steve, every time I ran by you always had a word of encouragement, even when I had to speak to you about *your* cabin. You still encouraged me and kept my spirits up. Thank you Steve for all you have done.

When I asked Helene to be my treasurer, her response was "Ya, sure I can do that." And I was really glad she did. From straightening out my attempt to make a budget to deciphering all my notes and scribbles, Helene, you were everywhere. Selling tickets, helping out in concessions, returning phone calls, restraining your impulse to pummel certain people; if it was not for you I would still be trying to figure out how the budget worked, and probably hand writing everything. Thank you.

When I said I would take on this project, I told Kris Long there was a few people I needed on board, and if they are willing, I will run it. The next morning I called Yvonne. I knew that this project needs a complete overhaul in the PR area. So knowing how anal Yvonne is, I asked her to run the PR campaign for the HH. She said yes, but only if Tom Whiffen would help her. I thought this is great, Tom is sure to help her and I would have the two most anal people in the chapter doing PR. What could be better? Because of their efforts and efforts of their team we got highway signs, radios stations, a rolling bill board, fliers, interviews and an additional 1000 people from last year. Thank you Yvonne.

Tom there were many times I thought you were going to kill me, but for some reason you didn't. Instead you would just say "you need to do this" or "you're doing fine but you might want to do this." Tom not only did you do a great job with PR, but your advice and continued mentoring has enabled me to do the projects I set out to do. For these and many more reasons, I thank you.

There was 1 more person I needed to have on my committee, and that was Karen Apgar. It happened that I was working at her house and we started talking. She was thinking of doing tickets this year, which sent me into a panic. She said she knew what I was going to ask of her and she would be happy to cook for us. This year's food was great; soups, grilled cheese, turkey dinner and sandwiches. All served to us before the house opened. Everyone was well fed, and ready for a full night of acting. Karen, thank you and your girls for feeding this crew. It is no small task but you make it look easy.

Well while Karen fed us before the show it, Carl was preparing to feed us during the show. Carl put together a fantastic menu, which had our mouths watering. Carl you made my life easy. I did not have to remember to order food-you had it covered. You had the pizza on Sundays, and every other night you had a 3-course meal for us. Thank you.

Paul and I were thinking, "Who could we get to do show night manpower?" Then Paul said "What about Andrea? I think she would do a good job at it." She did do a good job; every night she walked the house, clipboard in hand, stationing people where she thought would they get the most screams. She also told me she would run the break up party. Of course she had to tell me that a couple of time before it registered.

Andrea, thank you for all you have done.

Brendan, where would I be with out you? You were my "everything" person, from acting to maintenance. You did it all, and you did it without question. Just an "OK Fiz, I'll take care of it." Thank you Brendan.

This year, as in the past, manpower during construction was scarce. There were the room people, which is normal; 2 guides; and a handful of others. This was really stressing me out. Phil saw this and said "Don't worry, I got it covered." And lo and behold Brian, Eric, and crew arrived. If not for these guys, I would not have gotten much done. From bracing the maze to helping Krystle with the swamp, to manning paintball; they mostly did what was asked, and sometimes not asked of them. Guys, thank you and I hope to see more of you around the chapter.

LB you're amazing; you do make-up, act in a room, shoot commercials and even give a quick trim when asked. I never worried about the guide building or make-up. You did a fantastic job, transforming our actors into bloody beaten ghouls. Thank you for all your hard work.

This year's electrician was Bill Long. Bill was kind enough to step in and really pull me out of a bind. Who knew? I really never knew what Bill did. Now I know. Bill made my life much less stressful; he wired all of the cabins, and only asked me where stock was and what's next. Bill, your work is greatly appreciated. Hope to see you next year. Thank you.

Kris Long and Lynda Walsh handled procurement this year. Ladies, I have to say you made me nervous, but you were true to your word and got everything I asked for from the materials that we needed to build the house and the soda and aspirin we needed to run the house.

In closing I would like to thank everyone that has worked on this project, especially those that many of you did not see. People like KB, who kept the dining hall clean, refilled the TP in the bathrooms, kept soda in the guide room, helped out at concessions and tickets. Scott Rogers, making sure we had beer at the end of the night.

Elise Behn, for filling the ticket and timer positions. Mark Emery, for being the timer and keeping me from killing anyone. Sandy Emery, for filling in for Helene and helping out at the ticket booth. Sue Gillis, for running a great concession stand. Linda Magovern, for selling our tee shirts. Pete Sorrow, for his help in construction. Pauline Brown, for her artistic ability. Mike Wood, for setting up groups and helping wherever needed. Judy Wood, for sitting up at the membership booth. Lesky, for the loan of his paint ball guns. Gerry Mac, for all his grounds work and help putting up the signs. Kevin Coleman, for all the signs and banners and the paint ball booth. Matt Fling, for the building of our fireplace and the relining of the dinning hall chimney. Fred Badger, for taking on the task of re-roofing Gerry and Kenny's cabin. And to all of you, for without you we would not have a show.

Thank you and enjoy this evening.