



# Wise Fox

*A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees*

*October 2010*

Dear Foxboro Jaycees,

How often are you asked about the Jaycees? A few times a year? A few times a month? A couple times a week? No matter how often you are asked, you never know which of those situations can turn into a new member, a new project partner, a new sponsor, or even just a community friend. How you respond can be critical to the success of your chapter, so it may be good to mentally prepare for the next time you are asked, "What are the Jaycees?"

Some people refer to this as practicing your 'elevator speech' or the '10-second commercial'. I'm not really fond of either of those terms, but the theory holds. If you embarrassedly respond, "Oh, it's just this thing I have to go to today," or listlessly answer, "A friend of mine suckered me into this community group", it may reflect your desire not to try to peddle the Jaycees like a used car or maybe even be your mood in that particular moment. But, if you answer like that, it wouldn't do the Jaycees justice, would it?

After all, we have this great thing going: We get to hang out with awesome people from all walks of life, many of us forming meaningful, lifelong friendships. We get to make the world a better place by focusing on needs in our local community. We get to pick projects that are near and dear to our hearts – whether it is working with kids, the elderly, socially disadvantaged, the ill, our veterans, improving health or just enhancing the quality of life, supporting other organizations' causes and individuals' dreams. We can help each other come up with new ideas and learn new tricks in running projects. We make business contacts and learn valuable people skills that will stay with us the rest of our lives. We throw parties that are legendary and take ski and camping trips that other people only dream about.

But, best of all, we do it together as a team, and we have fun along the way.

I'm not asking you to blindsides some poor person with a 5 minute dissertation on "101 reasons why you HAVE to join the Jaycees." All I ask is that you make a conscious effort not to downplay your own involvement in the Jaycees. Don't sell yourself short. You put your time and energy into this organization and you should be proud of the good work you and your fellow Foxboro Jaycees have done for the last 50 years. Let your Jaycee pride show!

See you at the October GM!

Yours in Jaycee Spirit,

~Vanessa Linke

*"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment  
before starting to improve the world... "*  
- Anne Frank, Diary of a Young Girl

# Secretary's Report

Secretary: Andrea Cummings

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Minutes from Last Month's GM – Accepted –Andrea has a copy if anyone would like to see them



## *Sunshine committee*

Please let Andrea know if there is any sunshine that needs to be sent out!

## *Inventory Coordinator – Moshen Khalfa*

Please call Moshen to arrange to borrow any inventory items.

## *Wise Fox–Sandy Emery*

Please contact Sandy at [semery29@comcast.net](mailto:semery29@comcast.net) if you have anything that you would like placed in the Wise Fox.

## *Cards and Letters of thanks and appreciation – Wendy Kerchoff*

If you need a card sent please have all information sent to Wendy.

## *Electronic CPG Library–Bob Gillis*

Please email Bob if you have an electronic copy of a CPG so he can add them to the library.



# October Jaycee Birthdays

**Sandy Daniels**

**Mark Emery**

**Paul Kelly**

**Vanessa Linke**

**Dave Reid**

**Lynda Walsh**

**Be sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!!!**

# Individual Development

Vice President: Fred Badger

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## ***Meetings and Programs-October Chairman-Wendy Kerchoff***

Wendy is planning on having candy this month. I wonder if it has anything to do with Halloween?  
***Monthly Chairmen Still Needed.*** Sign up list will continue to be passed around at the GMs.

## ***Book Club-Laureen House***



October marks the 100th meeting of the book club. It will be held at Lynn Freerksen's house (aka: my house) October 20th. The book will be "The Last Leaf: Voices of History's Last-Known Survivors" by Stuart Lutz. The book club has been a long standing project with several good books being read, good conversation. You do not need to complete the book to attend. If you recently read a good book that you'd like to share and get the club to read, going to the meeting is the best way. Hope to see you out at a meeting.

## ***Networking-Bob Gillis***

Don't forget the networking page on the Jaycee website created & maintained by Bob Gillis. Several businesses are listed and we're always looking for more.

## ***Degrees of Jaycees-Heather Leow***

Contact Heather for details and to enroll in this program. This is a good activity for new members.

***End of Summer BBQ*** - My thanks to Wendy Kerchoff for chairing this project. Although it was a late entry into the ID project list, it was run well and enjoyed by several Jaycees.

## ***Trivia Night-Kathy Brady***

This continues to be a fun event. Our latest installment resulted in the Jaycees winning. Congratulations to those that participated! The next date will be Monday, October 18 at the Pic. Trivia starts @ 7:00 but be there by 6:00 to get a good seat and some dinner if you prefer.

## ***Scat Night- Julie Grant***

The date will be Saturday, October 23 @ 6:30 at Julie's house. More details will be available at the GM. It's always a fun night so mark your calendars and save your quarters!

## ***Scavenger Night- Chairman Needed***

This project has run in the past and proven to be a lot of fun so let's bring it back!

# Way\$ and Mean\$

Vice President: Heather Leow

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## ***Yard Sale/Craft Fair on the Common***

This project was a great success! Thanks for your donations and an extra thanks to those volunteers who worked on Saturday. It was a productive day and we sold most of the donated items. Our remaining books were donated to the Boyden Library and other items that did not sell were donated to the Salvation Army so it was all for a good cause. Again, thanks to everyone helped out!

## ***Website Advertising***

The committee has been busy contacting local businesses to sell advertising on the website. We are hoping to cover the cost of all holiday projects with this fundraising effort. If you are interested in joining the committee, please let me know. Also if you have a business that would like to advertise on the website, please contact me for additional details.

## ***Haunted House DVD and Photos***

Tom Whiffen and Bob Gillis will be combining talents to put together a disc set of videos and photos of past Haunted Houses – just in time for Halloween! If you are interested in purchasing this great collection please let me know.



## ***Ways and Means Potential Projects***

If you have any ideas for fundraising projects for the chapter, please let me know. We are open to any and all suggestions!

# Community Development

Vice President: Wendy Kerchoff

Director: Deena Cummings

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**Publicity** - We are now seeking a Chairperson needed for Publicity! Please let Deena or myself know if you are interested!

## ***Doolittle Home Auction Manpower-Chairman Needed***

November 6<sup>th</sup>. Yup, it's that time again! If you'd like to chair the manpower for this awesome event, please call myself or Deena!

If you have any projects that you are interested in bringing back or starting new, please let Deena or myself know! We are open to any and all suggestions!

# Membership

Vice President: Julie Grant

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## ***Who's Who - Bob Gillis***

Be sure to read Bob's Who's Who about a member many people may not know!



## ***Web Site Page - Bob Gillis***

I went to the website today and saw a colorful Patriots' helmet. Leave it to Bob to keep up with the latest! The website continues to be my "go to".

## ***Jaycees Apparel-Julie Grant***

Call or email me if you need a Jaycee t-shirt or hat. Remember that you can get a Jaycee sweatshirt by chairing a committee run project, or by being on the board.

## ***New Members***

Now that vacations have slowed down, we have a great opportunity to recruit new members. I will be coming up with some new ideas as the weather keeps us more grounded. Scat night is a great place to bring prospective members. Please encourage prospective members to visit the website or email me at [membership@foxborojaycees.org](mailto:membership@foxborojaycees.org).

## ***New Member Social***

**We are still looking for a chairman for a New Member Social.** We are going to have it in conjunction with Individual Development's Scavenger Hunt.



## **Who's Who By Bob Gillis**

**Mike Lenihan** served as our Foxboro Jaycees president back in 1984-1985. In response to my question to former Jaycee presidents about their most memorable achievement and how to best recruit new members today, Mike responded with this heartfelt and detailed conversation. Mike presided over a very different Jaycee chapter, but his observations and comments are just as relevant today. So with great thanks to Mike, let's get right to his words...

## **About that era...**

It is hard to believe so much time has passed since I was President of the Jaycees -- 984! For about 10 years a good portion of my life and my wife's life was happily dedicated to Jaycees and Jaycee Wives. Every weekend was a project or a social get together with other Jaycees. A great period in our lives that we will cherish forever.

### **Mike, what was your best accomplishment as President?**

We had a lot of great projects and I worked hard to keep up the image of the Chapter. Also, there was intense differences of opinion on allowing women to join the Chapter during my year (the first woman Jaycee was admitted the next year). Those were big issues in the Chapter, pretty stressful, and much more than I had signed on for. I guess my greatest accomplishment was holding the Chapter together during these two watermark events. I passed the Chapter to the next President a little bruised but still with solid membership and money in the bank.

### **Moving on...**

In my early forties I began to get more responsibility in work and my career became more of a focus. My attendance at Jaycee events and meetings tapered off. But back then all good "Roosters" [*Associates – ed.*] eventually moved on from Jaycees because it was time to let younger guys (and gals) run with the ball.

### **Staying in touch...**

I have nothing but good memories of the "old Jaycees" and I have watched with pride and have been thoroughly impressed with the new Jaycees and their achievements over the many years. As you may know there is group of about ten "old Jaycees" that are still connected after all these years and we get together for golf trips twice a year -- going on year # 22 in two weeks. None of us knew each other before meeting in Jaycees.

### **How'd you learn about the chapter in those days?**

Most of the ten old Jaycees entered Jaycees in the 70's and 80's thru softball. Most of them started with softball but got both feet in and became Presidents and Key Men. It seems softball does not have the same draw these days, possibly because you are attracting a larger variety of members than the Jaycees in the past. With that in mind, the current Jaycees must have multiple recruiting methods that will appeal to varied types of members.

### **Speaking of that, how can the Jaycees recruit new members in 2010?**

There are a lot of people in Foxboro that could benefit from Jaycees to not only do some good things for the Community, but to create a larger circle of friends and in many case create lifetime friendships.

Back in the old days the members were predominately married couples. Most had children. So there was common interests immediately between the members and the wives. I think it made it easier to attract members and to foster friendships when you have similar family circumstances. By expanding the family of Jaycees to the variety of personal and family situations that exist in the community today, it is a very noble thing, but it creates an inherent difficulty in keeping people interested as the Chapter strives to satisfy everybody's varied personal reasons for joining.

I am in favor of as many people as possible to enjoy the Jaycee experience and walk away with the same satisfaction and lifetime friendships like my wife and I did. But the wider the range of members that you go after, the more varied the membership recruiting techniques that you need to use.

If I were recruiting today, I would put a high emphasis on recruiting at family events like Santa on the Common and set up an interactive booth on Founders Day that attracts kids. When you pull in kids, you get their parents there and then you have the chance to recruit. You guys get pretty good coverage in the Reporter, but I think it could be better. Not just ads, but more news articles covering your projects.

**Today's chapter...**

I truly admire the recent Jaycees and the lofty goals they set and accomplish. However, the larger a Chapter becomes, the more difficult it is to maintain or grow since the Community hardly has grown at all over 20 years. Don't be too concerned with quantity of members as long as you can maintain the quality.

I still believe in the Jaycee experience, and I wish you guys nothing but the best as you try to keep the ball rolling.

**Mike, thank you so much for sharing your thoughts – and valuable insight – with us!**

*JC News*

Did you know that Bill Byrnes has run 2 miles per day, every day, for over 28 years now, which equates to over 9900 days! Talk about dedication.....

We wish him luck in his quest for the next milestone of 10,000 days!!



**Reminder-Trick or Treating in Foxboro has been moved to  
Saturday October 30<sup>th</sup>**

## October 2010 Jaycee Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Yard Sale/Craft Fair on the Common 9-2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 General Meeting 8:00 p.m. S. Foxboro Community Center	14	15	16
17	18 Trivia nite at the Piccadilly Pub 7PM	19	20 Book Club 8PM Lynn Freerksen's House	21	22	23 Scat nite 6:30 PM Julie Grant's house
24	25	26	27 7:30 Board Meeting	28	29	30 Trick or Treating in Foxboro
31 Happy Halloween!						

## November 2010 Jaycee Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Doolittle Home Auction
7	8	9	10 General Meeting 8:00 p.m. S. Foxboro Community Center	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Happy Thanksgiving!	26	27
28	29	30				



Foxboro Jaycees  
PO Box 169  
Foxboro, MA 02035

# *Meetings and Programs*

**Don't miss the next GM on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at  
the South Foxboro Community Center!**

**There will be candy treats for all!  
Please join us to see what is happening in the chapter.**

