



Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees

November 2010

Dear Foxboro Jaycees,

Well, here we are in November, the leaves are blowing off the trees like crazy, Football season is in full swing (go Pats!), the Board year is half over, and the holiday season is right around the corner – how on earth did THAT happen so quickly?

There are quite a few exciting things to report, so I will get right to it: First and foremost, I would like to officially welcome Pam Warren, our newest chapter member. She recently moved back to Massachusetts from New York where she was a Jaycee in the Batavia chapter. Welcome to Foxboro, Pam!

October started for us with a successful Yard Sale/ Vendor Fair on the Common – Heather and Wendy did such a fantastic job with it (with relatively little prep time) that we are considering expanding and repeating the event in the Spring 2011 timeframe!

Also, our beloved Book Club celebrated its 100th book at the October meeting. My calculator tells me that that translates to a little over 8 years, a run which is truly quite impressive for a monthly event. I have been fortunate to enjoy a few of those meetings and books myself and am proud to have the Book Club as one of our project offerings for our members.

Finally, there are a lot of projects coming up in the Thanksgiving-to-Christmas time, and while many of them have picked up Chairmen over the last month, there are still quite a few in need of a Chair or a Committee. Please consider chairing or otherwise volunteering for one or more of our wonderful Holiday events, since they are some of the most fun and fulfilling projects we do in the year. Bring your family, friend, significant other, coworker, or neighbor, and let's spread the Holiday Cheer in Foxboro like only Jaycees can!

See you at the November GM!

Yours in Jaycee Spirit,

~Vanessa Linke

*"Volunteering can be an exciting, growing, enjoyable experience.
It is truly gratifying to serve a cause, practice one's ideals, work with people, solve problems,
see benefits, and know one had a hand in them."
- Harriet Naylor, a pioneer force of volunteerism*

Secretary's Report

Secretary: Andrea Cummings

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



Sunshine committee

Sent a card to the Widmer Family for the birth of Katherine Elizabeth (Kate), 8 lbs. 12 oz, 21 inches, 4:50 PM on October 12th. Congratulations to all!!

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 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.



November Jaycee Birthdays

Dave Brown

Bob Gillis

Be sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!!!

Individual Development

Vice President: Fred Badger

Meetings and Programs-November Chairman-Bob Gillis

I'm sure Bob will have something good at the GM. ***Monthly Chairmen Still Needed.*** Sign up list will continue to be passed around at the GMs.



Book Club-Laureen House

The November book club is reading "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay. The meeting will be on Wednesday, 11/17 @ 8pm at Monica Rigamonti's home.

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

Heather continues to look for participants for this program. Be sure to contact her if you want to participate.

Trivia Night-Kathy Brady

Trivia Night's next get together will be Monday, November 15 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

Scat Night was held on Saturday, October 23 @ 6:30 at Julie's house. It was a fun evening for those who attended. Word has it, some of the people in attendance were upset at the fact that one particular individual won the final 3 games. I say, good for you!

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!

Progressive Dinner-Helene Savage

This year's Progressive Dinner will be chaired by Helene Savage. Helene has just begun working on the event. Look for an ad in this month's Wise Fox.



The Kid's Christmas Party is a long running Jaycee project. We are looking for a chairman for this year's party. If you're interested, please contact me.



Family Outing-Heather Lowe and Monica Fisler

The Family Outing at Edaville Railroad will be held on December 12th. Look for more information at the GM and in next month's Wise Fox.

Jaycee Ski Trip-Julie Grant

Julie is once again chairing this event. This year's trip will be held January 21st-23rd at the Mountaineer Inn in Vermont. If you're interested, contact Julie for more information.

A Wine Social & Networking event sponsored by the Taunton Jaycees will be held on November 5 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Segregansett Country Club, 85 Gulliver St., Taunton, MA. The Taunton Jaycees are looking for new members and we've agreed to attend to show our support to an ailing chapter. Please attend if you have the time to show your support to our Jaycee neighbor.



Community Development

Vice President: Wendy Kerchoff

Director: Deena Cummings

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

Doolittle Home Auction Manpower-Sandy Emery

November 6th is the date. If you can help and have not already signed up, please call me at 508-543-3634 or email semery29@comcast.net



Decorating the Common-Julie Grant

Come get into the spirit and help decorate for the holiday season, November 27th at 10AM. Please call Julie if you can assist.

Adopt a kid for Christmas – Jen Franco

New member Jen has taken on this holiday project and she will be shopping to make one happy child!



Caroling on the Common-Julie Grant

Event will take place December 16th at 6PM, ending at the Doolittle Home at 6:45 PM

Upcoming Holiday Projects-Chairman needed

Fruit Baskets - **Chairman Needed**

Santa Phone - **Chairman Needed**

Santa On the Common - **Chairman Needed**

Please let Deena or myself know if you are interested!



**FOXBORO JAYCEES
ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2010
6:00 P.M.**

We are excited to begin the planning of our annual progressive dinner! For those of you who have never participated in the event, the Jaycees use this event at our annual holiday party. It's always a great time to celebrate the season with our Jaycee friends.

However, the real beauty of this event – and in true Jaycee spirit - is that everyone helps out and has a task! We will be looking for hosts and cooks for appetizers, dinner and dessert.

This event takes a lot of planning, so if you are interested in participating, please contact Helene Savage at (508) 380-3312 or via email at helene.savage@comcast.net by Wednesday, November 24. Don't miss this special night!

Way\$ and Mean\$

Vice President: Heather Leow



Craft Fair – Spring 2011

Based on the success of the craft fair/yard sale in October we will be holding another craft fair in the spring on the Foxboro Common. In order to hold a successful event, we will need to find potential vendors and crafters many months in advance. If you are interested in chairing or helping with this project, please let me know.

Website Advertising

The committee has been busy contacting local businesses to sell advertising on the website. Thanks to Dave Brown for selling the first ad for the committee! We are looking for additional committee members to help with this fundraising effort, so if you are interested, please let me know.

Haunted House Video Treasury

Tom Whiffen has created a video treasury collection containing 15 years of Haunted House memories. Bob Gillis has also compiled a photo disc to be included with the set. We will be selling the DVD set for \$15 – a great deal for only \$1 per year! If you are interested in purchasing this great keepsake 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!

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Membership

Vice President: Julie Grant

Director Moshen Khalifa

Who's Who - Bob Gillis

Be sure to read Bob's Who's Who-find out about another member many people may not know!

Web Site Page - Bob Gillis

Be sure to visit the website for important updates!

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

Don't forget to talk to friends about the Jaycees and all the fun we have! Share some of the projects you enjoy. Please encourage prospective members to visit the website or email me at membership@foxborojaycees.org

New Member Social – Sandy Emery is chairing this fun event on Saturday, November 13th at 6:00PM. Please RSVP to the invites sent and come and meet our newest members!



Who's Who By Bob Gillis

This month: Former Jaycee president Bill Byrnes (1982-1983)

In the last decade, we've seen our chapter become leaner, both in membership, and what we can do financially (due to the loss of large fundraisers like the haunted house). We've shared the concern and worry that the Jaycee's hard times might mean the end of our chapter – but then we turn things around, recruit new members, and find new fundraisers, and things are back on the upswing.

Like last month's who's who with Mike Lenihan (Foxboro Jaycees president 1984-1985) this month's interviewee, former Jaycee president **Bill Byrnes**, who served from 1982-1983, spoke about a very different Jaycee chapter, one that was literally on the brink of financial disillusion, far more serious than anything I have seen in my own 17+ years in the Jaycees.

Bill's interview is a fascinating look at a different era for the chapter, and an optimistic lesson that lean times and low membership periods are inevitable (and perhaps cyclical), and are followed by periods of prosperity. So to any naysayers down on our chapter's future, take Bill's experiences to heart, and look at the tremendous efforts by recent boards to revitalize, streamline and improve our chapter.

I hope you find Bill's story as inspirational as I did.

A very tired group of volunteers...

Bill Byrnes: "First a bit of background as context. When I joined the Jaycees it was run by a group of very dedicated and active members. Unfortunately, many had been active in running the organization for many years, were growing tired, and looking for new blood to manage things. Some had been on the Board for almost a decade. So, I became president a year or so before I was ready. In other words, I didn't have a clue what being president and managing the Jaycees was all about."

What was that like?

Bill: "My board (about eight guys, yes they were all guys, no women in the Jaycees yet) were even less knowledgeable than I was. Most were in their first year. Total membership was fourteen!"

Money woes

Bill: "When I took over in June I was told we had about \$1200 in the bank and no income (fund raisers) until October when the concession stand at the stadium would open. The \$1200 might barely cover the cost of projects already planned for the summer, but probably not."

"John Freudenberg, the new treasurer, took over the financial records (He won a state award for his Treasurer activities that year). He called me the day after the Installation Banquet to tell me that he had spent several hours going through the financial records only to find that we not only didn't have the \$1200, but didn't have enough cash to cover outstanding check and debts owed! We were broke!"

All hands on deck...

Bill: "That week we had a cookout planned for the kids at the State School in Wrentham. We held it every year and the kids looked forward to it. Bottom line, we had to call all the Jaycees and their wives/girlfriends to ask for manpower (person power) AND could they also bring hot dogs, buns, charcoal etc. We had no money to buy it with. It was an embarrassing struggle, but we all pulled together and it was a success. The kids had fun once again!"

"Likewise, we pulled together with the help of the older group to have a quick fund raiser... a Casino night or whatever they were called then. They were at the end of their popularity and we ended up losing money."

A call to action...

Bill: "At the July Board meeting (a cookout at John Freudenberg's house) I looked around the picnic table at the eight board members, brought them up to speed on all the stuff I mentioned above, looked at all the glum faces, and said that we had a challenge in front of us. We can be as good as the older group and build the chapter anew or we can fail and with it the Foxboro Jaycees disappear. Suddenly, the faces changed from glum to "We can do this!" ... And we did. That was my proudest moment!"

What happened next?

Bill: “[That] was followed by a concerted effort to grow the chapter and a General Membership Meeting in the fall when John Freudenberg announced that all bills and debts had been paid and we had a surplus that month of \$1.75! He got a standing ovation from the membership which now approached 30 members! Of those sitting around the picnic table at the July board meeting, three members became the next three presidents: Paul Howard, Mike Lenihan, and Bob Kilroy (two terms). Paul Howard's year was a great success. The chapter grew in every way and membership exceeded 100 active members. The rest as they say... is History!”

How to recruit new members in 2010

Bill: “The best way to recruit new members: Have fun! The right attitude and enough helping hands makes all projects fun rather than “work.” The fun grows camaraderie. Then reach out to others (call nights were very effective, if run properly AND followed up by mentoring or having a current Jaycee offer to pick up the newbie, bring him/her to the meeting, and introduce him/her to all members... Make them feel welcome and wanted. Invite them to participate in projects. The key is to get new members and retain them. Having fun is the best way. Ultimately, it builds friendships.”

From Bob... “All this has happened before, and will happen again.”

November 2010 Jaycee Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Wine Social- Taunton JCs 6:30-8:30PM Segregansett Country Club, Taunton, MA	6 Doolittle Aucrion 12:30PM-6:30PM High School
7	8	9	10 General Meeting 8:00 p.m. S. Foxboro Community Center	11	12	13 New Member Social 6 PM Emery's House
14	15 Trivia nite at the Piccadilly Pub 7PM	16	17 Book Club 8PM Monica Rigamonti's House Board Meeting- Savage's residence 7:30PM	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Happy Thanksgiving!	26	27 Nativity set-up and Common decorating 10AM
28	29	30				

December 2010 Jaycee Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 General Meeting 8:00 p.m. S. Foxboro Community Center	9	10	11 Progressive Dinner 6PM
12 Family outing Edaville Railroad	13	14	15	16 Caroling on the Common 6PM	17	18
19	20	21	22 Board Meeting 7:30PM	23	24	25 Merry Christmas!
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Foxboro Jaycees
PO Box 169
Foxboro, MA 02035

Meetings and Programs

**Don't miss the next GM on Wednesday, November 10th at 8:00 p.m.
at the South Foxboro Community Center.**

**Loads of projects to participate in for the Holidays!
Please join us to see what is happening in the chapter.**

