



Wise Fox

A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees – September 2019

Whooo Hooooo! Welcome “Ber” Months!

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summers and are ready to kick off fall with our Membership Social cookout on September 11th at 6:00 pm, followed by our General Membership Meeting at 7:30 pm. Come on and join us for burgers, dogs, and desserts; bring the kids, it should be a great dinner and evening out with friends and family.

Yesterday, September 1, we had a decent turnout for the Stakes are High event. This was an event that I am glad I got to be a part of. It will continue to be an annual event that we should all put our support behind. It affects us all.

Your board is still working very hard, the Fall Fair Registration is open until October 15th, please spread the word via Facebook, twitter, and by word of mouth. Everyone knows someone trying to sell something, so let them know about our Fall Fair. The more vendors the more money we make for the chapter.

Did you know that we have quite a few new members, we have sworn in a new member at almost every meeting and even 2 at the concerts. They are taking on projects, winning awards and bringing new life to our chapter. Come down and meet them during the September social.

ARE YOU BORED, UNFULFILLED, LONELY???? Need some friends and companionship? Are you feeling like something is missing in your life???? Come and visit a General Membership Meeting and give us a hand or just lend some support in our mission to stay a driving force in the community.

Believe it or not the holiday season is just around the corner, we are looking now to find Chairmen for the major projects.

****If we do not have a Chairman for each of the projects, the chairman-less projects simply will not run, the board cannot and will NOT run everything. That being said, if there is a project you love and/or believe in, please step up to chair it before it goes the way of the haunted house and pancake breakfast****



Sincerely your President,

Jeanne Suttie Christian

Secretary's Report

Pam Warren

Minutes from last month's GM - Accepted, if a member would like a copy, contact me or any Board Member.

Sunshine - Summer is rapidly coming to a close and the shorter days of fall are returning. If anyone wants to send some Sunshine - let me know. It can be a Congratulations, get well, sympathy, thank you.... Get me the details.

Wise Fox- If you would like to have something posted in the Wise Fox email me at wisefox@foxborojaycees.org and I will get it included - ANYONE can add to the Wise fox - not just the board. I highly encourage Project leaders to post about events and am always looking for members who have made a difference to praise in the Shout-out section.

Our Award Winners from August 2019 GMM:

July 2019 Jaycee of the Month - Max Loew: Max has been a huge force this summer. He has brought 3 new project ideas to the board (including Football and the New Year's Eve Concert Fundraiser with his partner-in-crime Marc), has been a big part of our winning Trivia team, and was our Concerts chairperson again this year. Thanks, Max for all you do - Keep rocking!

July 2019 Project of the Month - 2018-19 Yearbook - Pam Warren and Jeanne Suttie: It took a while, but we finally got the Yearbook put together. Thanks so much to Lynda Walsh for getting it printed and distributed - I hope everyone liked it!

Congratulations to our winners!!!!

September Birthdays:

Mike Savage
Helene Savage
Paul Mbimeh
Sophia Manos
Mellyssa Coutinho
DJ Jolicoeur

September Anniversaries:

Bob Hickey	1993
Carl Bertolino	2017





Individual Development

Vice President: Bob Gillis

Hi friends. I'm jumping on the soap box and speaking as BOB the Jaycee (I am not speaking for anyone else and not for the board, just ME -- these words are mine).

Every year, my family and I head to Hingham for the July 2nd fireworks and carnival, hosted by the Hingham Lions. It's been going on for years and is well attended and a fundraiser for the Lions and the community LOVES it. The event was canceled this year... Why? No manpower. The Hingham Lions said It's the same 9 people doing the job every year.

Sound familiar?

Jaycees: We need our members to be more active. We have so many events, current and upcoming, and the board can't be the ones chairing these and ensuring they run. Many of you are working and raising families and don't have time right now; we get that, family and work first. But -- if you DO have some time, your Jaycee friends would love to see you and need your assistance. Newer members (anyone who joined in the past three years) we need to see you more. A year ago, FOUR people showed up to take down the Nativity set. Our roster is 70-80 people and we're only seeing the same folks for each project.

Newer members, I am asking: how can we help you to get you to come out to projects, or perhaps even chair or co-chair a project? The board is always available to answer your questions, provide mentorship and training and co-chair projects with you. And we need new ideas, new blood, and PARTICIPATION. I'm asking all of you -- if you're a member of this chapter, be more involved. ASK QUESTIONS! We WILL answer the phone or emails, we will guide you. PLEASE -- Be involved, show up to help. Your chapter's future depends on it.

end of speech

OK, onto the fun. Save the date; the September General Membership Meeting, we are bringing back the pre-GM end of summer cookout! The senators will be there as our guests and there will be hot dogs, hamburgers and other treats. While not required, we are asking each person to bring something. MUCH more detail to follow in an email update from me to the entire chapter. Please join us Wednesday September 11 at the SFCC at 6:30-7:30 for the cookout, followed by the GM at 7:30. If you can't stay for the GM, at least come to the cookout.

Upcoming Projects

- Amerada – 9/6 – 9/8 in Canada – **Pam Warren** – Pam will be heading to Canada for the annual International Jaycee fun fest. Exciting news: The board has approved the Foxboro Jaycees to enter the process of asking to host the event here in Massachusetts in 2020.



Project Leaders Needed



- Friendsgiving Meeting – (11/13) – Thanksgiving dinner at the GM! May I get a coordinator/chairman please? Everyone will bring something, more details next month.
- Progressive Party – December – The annual Jaycee holiday party is usually held the second Saturday of December; looking for a chairman and I will reach out to a few folks I think might like to do it.

Ongoing Projects

- Book Club – **Lisa Jolicoeur** - On Hiatus until October – from Lisa:
I hope summer has been treating you well and that you have indulged in some literary delights! Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 3rd at Lisa's home in Mansfield. Hope you can come! Thursday, October 3rd from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Agenda: Catch up on summer fun with snacks and beverages! Discuss what books we read! Select book choices for the following Book Club Meetings! Would you like to host a future meeting? Summer Selections included the following: "The Alice Network," "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine," "The Lost Girls of Paris," "Where the Crawdads Sing," and "Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister." Did you read one of them? Two of the selections? Do you have other books that you read and would like to share? Please do!!! Watch for reminders and enjoy your current reading adventure!
- Trivia Night – **Kathy Brady** – 3rd Wed of the month 6:30-9pm (Red Stone Grill in North Attleboro). Jaycees won again last month!
- Committee to set up 501(c)3 - **Deena Cummings / Lisa Jolicoeur / Kathy Brady** – In progress
- Meetings & Programs – **Bob Gillis** – Survey results are in!

Individual Development Survey Results

Thank you to the 27 members who took the 2019 ID survey. We will definitely be talking about these ideas in the coming months and set up some great ID projects!

Suggested ID project	% of Interest of Respondents	# of People Interested
Movie night at Showcase Patriot Place - We'd get together and all take in a movie	55.17%	16
The Progressive Dinner / Party held in December	51.72%	15
Roger Williams Pumpkin Festival in October (walking tour of thousands of carved and lit pumpkins), not expensive but does require reservation. Been there, it's fun and tuns all October.	51.72%	15
Bowling Outing at North Bowl Lanes in North Attleboro (would be a family day)	48.28%	14
Pot Luck Cookout at a Jaycees home -- everyone brings something	48.28%	14
Trip to La Salette in Attleboro in December; Jaycee meal in cafeteria and then go see the 400,000 lights (free)	48.28%	14
Providence Bruins Game in February	48.28%	14
Sunday brunch get-together	48.28%	14
Waterfire Providence - Group gathers at a pizza place / inexpensive restaurant for a bite and then breaks off to enjoy Waterfire	44.83%	13
CPR training (chapter would help defray cost if this is a fee)	44.83%	13
Show at the Rodman Center (Orpheum)	44.83%	13
Apple Picking	44.83%	13
Muse Paint Bar at Patriot Place - For a fee, they provide you with the paint, a 16 x 20 canvas, and an apron. We also have delicious inspiration on hand – kitchen & bar are stocked with a great selection of eats, wine and beer.	41.38%	12
Scat/31 Card Game Night	41.38%	12
Cookout at SFCC in September before the GM, Jaycees chapter would provide hamburgers and hot dogs, everyone would bring something.	41.38%	12
Apps and Drinks at Rally Point Foxboro Downstairs	37.93%	11
Game night at SFCC; Cards against humanity, banana grams, card games, etc (or someone's house)	37.93%	11

Trip to Factory of Terror Haunted House in Rhode Island in October	34.48%	10
Bingo Night	34.48%	10
Meditation Class / Stress Relief Class	34.48%	10
Dave and Busters in Providence (Arcade, Food, Games)	31.03%	9
Murder Mystery Night at SFCC	31.03%	9
Pot Luck Dinner at South Foxboro Community Center (not on a GM night)	27.59%	8
Scavenger Hunt	27.59%	8
SuperBowl Party at someone's house; everyone brings something (assumes Patriots are playing)	24.14%	7
Trip to Fright Kingdom Haunted House in Nashua New Hampshire (been there, it's REALLY good but it's a long drive)	17.24%	5
FreePlay Arcade (21+) in Providence RI	10.34%	3

Ideas about guest speakers:

Ideas for Speakers?
I will like for us to have a talk on cross border partnership in project identification and management.
Karen Delano parenting coach is awesome! She lives in Foxboro. She's attended many moms club events.
I'd like to hear educational speakers, on topics that families are faced with... like vaping, or dangers of smoking weed.
I don't unfortunately know someone who would be interested in speaking at a GM on a topic. As for topics I'm not 100% sure what topics would be beneficial for the chapter. It would of course be interesting to hear from speakers on different topics that benefit the community as a whole or give us ideas on better assisting specific people in our community (elderly, children, mentally disabled, etc.) Anything that can broaden my horizons is perfectly fine by me.
This is awesome!!! Thank you for bringing this back!
Financial Services explaining how to start thinking about saving for retirement, big life events etc.
We should be educating ourselves about services in our community. Foxboro may benefit from a resource dog?!
Have the current Foxboro VSO come speak about how Foxboro is now a Purple Heart Town, just like Mansfield. What does that mean?
Jack Authalet - how cool would that be to have him come speak?! He could pick the topic, he would have many!
Food Pantry, supported by St Marks Church and the consignment store in Foxboro, also of St Marks Church. How these are resources to people in Foxboro and the greater community.
Jaycee Speaker, how the Jaycees have impacted their lives. Maybe in conjunction with a Membership night.
Time Management - we had someone come back in the day to speak to the Blue Hills Jaycee Chapter, we all can still use this skill in this day.
I can't think of any not already maybe said in GM: Social workers, Financial Advisors, Nurses, Hospice Nurses, people from Library, historians etc.
Stress Management, Time Management, Retirement planning, Town current events
My interest in the events depends mostly on when they are scheduled.
Life balance and maybe yoga or meditation
Maybe one of those people for retirement planning or someone each month, covering a different topic/subject each month. The origins of homeopathy... holistic pet care... ways to meditate to dispel stress. What is Reiki and it's affects and why all hospitals require nurses and doctors to take courses in it now. On and on.

community Development

Vice President: Lynda Walsh



UPCOMING PROJECTS:

McGinty Fun Day – Lisa Jolicoeur ~ September 14

The Jaycees will be offering manpower help as well as sponsoring volunteer lunch. This is an event that we've helped out on for many years. Cindy McGinty, who lost her husband Michael on 9/11 wanted to give back to the community that surrounded her and her sons after this tragedy in her husband's memory. All proceeds go to fund scholarships given in Mike's name.

Alzheimer's Walk – Pam Warren/Marian McCabe ~ September 14

Pam and Marian will be walking and are welcoming anyone who would like to join them. Many of us have family and friends that have been touched by Alzheimer's and/or Dementia. It's a short walk around the stadium area to help raise money for a cure. Please reach out to Pam or Marian if you would like to participate. You can also donate by going to the team page:

<http://act.alz.org/goto/TeamFoxboroJaycees> Every dollar raised goes to helping find the cure for this debilitating disease – every little bit can help us reach our goal.



Darkness To Light Training – Amy LaBrache TBD

Darkness to Light is a program that is meant to bring awareness to Child Sexual Abuse. It is sponsored by the YMCA nationally. Locally in town we have a committee that is charged with bringing awareness and educating people who work with children either as a volunteer or in a day care setting. Because the Jaycees are looking to involve more young children, we need to get our members trained in the program. Amy is a certified trainer and will be holding a training most likely in October.

Light Up The Night Liaison – Sophia Manos ~ November 30

Thank you, Sophia for stepping up to chair this project. This is traditionally part of the Holiday Decorating of the common. The Jaycees responsibility is to get the manger set up, garland on the lampposts, lights on the shrubs near memorial and bandstand, and ensure that Santa and the Mrs. arrive at the common that evening to help light up the large Tree. The recreation department works with the library to hold a small craft for children, and they also are responsible for getting lights strung on the large tree.

PROJECT LEADERS NEEDED:

If you're interested in chairing any of these projects, or have any questions regarding them, feel free to reach out to me, lynda1061@aol.com You could always check our website and view a past Chairman's Planning Guide (CPG) to get more specific information about what a project entails.

Fruit Baskets: The Jaycees put together fruit baskets to be delivered by the town's Discretionary Fund along with presents for children and other items to Foxborough's less fortunate during Christmas. We've been doing this project for many years and it's one of our Pride Projects for the Community Development Area of the chapter. The chairman would be responsible to gather a committee who will order/pickup fruit, baskets, and wrapping will be done at the South Foxboro Community Center. The Chairman will coordinate with the Discretionary Fund to see when deliveries will be and when the baskets will be needed. A real feel-good project!

Nativity Set up/Take down: Each year the Jaycees are responsible for placing the nativity scene on the bandstand and then taking them down. The chair would need to coordinate pick up of the large and heavy statues to be taken to the common for display. This normally happens the Saturday after Thanksgiving, so that it's visible for the towns Lighting of the Tree held later that Saturday afternoon.

Common Decorating: The Jaycees have done what we can to decorate the common. The chair would coordinate folks to get our Christmas decorations from storage and decorate the common with garland around the poles and lights on the bushes. This usually takes place along with the Nativity Set up and has been done on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Caroling on the Common: Traditionally held the Thursday before Christmas. The Jaycees invite the Foxboro High Holiday band to perform and welcome town folks to sing along with them. After the caroling is completed we all head over to The Doolittle home and entertain the seniors there. The Chair would need to coordinate with the music director at the high school and the Doolittle home.



Santa on the Common: For the past few years, the Orpheum has requested our Santa and Mrs. to be a part of a holiday party at the Orpheum, and then sit with the Children on the Common. One year we held the Santa on the Common for the public directly after the Children from the event had their opportunity to visit with the couple and in other years, we've held it separately. The Chairman would need to coordinate with the Orpheum if need be, and decide whether to hold the public event on the same day or at another time for the town's children to sit with Santa and the Mrs.

Sponsor a Child for Christmas: This is in conjunction with the Foxborough Discretionary fund - we are given a name and information about a child in Foxboro that is in need and shop for that child. The chairman for this project would reach out to discretionary fund to be given the name/age/list of a local youth, shop for that child and give it to the discretionary fund.

Sponsor a Senior for Christmas: The chairman would reach out to either a senior center or senior facility to request a senior who may be delighted to receive a gift this holiday season.

Lots of upcoming projects, especially for our approaching Holiday season. Again, if you're interested in chairing any of these projects, feel free to reach out to me lynda1061@aol.com. If you'd like to know more about a specific project you can always reach out to the chairman listed.

ON GOING PROJECTS:

Repair of Foxborough Sign on the Common – Kathy Brady

Kathy and Kevin will be reaching out for help with the finishing touches to our beloved Foxborough Sign and will be looking for folks to help with the transportation and installation of the remodeled sign.

Nativity Scene Repair – Jeanne Suttie Christian



Jeanne is still investigating the feasibility and cost of having the nativity statues repaired, looking into the cost for a total replacement and gathering ideas for how to get the community involved with raising funds, etc.

COMPLETED PROJECTS:

Concerts on the Common – Max Loew

Despite the weather, Max was able to ensure that all the bands were able to visit and perform for us this concert series. Thank you, Max for another successful year!

Wiffleball Tournament – Amy LaBrache

Thank you, Amy for coordinating our team to compete for the fundraiser in honor of Officer Joe MacDonald. It was a great day all around. Thank you, Max, Marc, Kris and Sophia for playing and Mike Mills, Heather & the boys, and Sarah for being the cheerleaders for our team.

Town Flag Displays – Max Loew

Thanks, Max for helping us get involved with the town flag display and teaming up with the Scouts.

Community Night Out – Amy LaBrache

Nice work Amy, although many may have been scared away because of the early rain, the folks that participated enjoyed themselves. It was nice to see many of our Public Safety folks present for the event, and town people were able to get to know them all a little better.



The Stakes are High – Kris Long

Congratulations Kris, this is one of the “Proud to be a Jaycee” moments when we bring awareness to our community about an important topic. The event was a huge success, FCA taped and aired live, if you didn’t get a chance to attend, find the video on FCATV. <https://www.youtube.com/StakesAreHigh>



Okay, back to work, back to school, back to helping the Jaycees. Summer is over, bring on the chilly nights, pumpkins, football, and Fall Vendor Fair! If you have any community development ideas, feel free to reach out to me, lynda1061@aol.com, or 774-266-3140.



<< Kris Long being interviewed for Channel 25 News



Ways and Means

Vice President: *Sophia Manos*



ONGOING PROJECTS

FALL VENDOR FAIR – Deena & Lynda, Co-Chairs – Saturday, October 19th 9am-3pm/ Rain Date is Sunday the 20th.



We have 40 plus vendors already in the queue for what we hope is a lovely Fall day and the kickoff to the holiday shopping season. Come on down to help set-up by 7am and stay for the warm cocoa and get a sneak peek at the vendors putting up their wares.

You can be first in line to buy!

If you are interested in joining the Vendor Fair Committee, please let me know or reach out to Lynda or Deena. These projects are our major annual fundraisers and it is important we have folks who can run them even when Deena is not off getting married.

We need some runners to help on this day: filling in for vendors on bathroom breaks, helping direct vendors to parking lot, lunch runs etc.

FALL VENDOR FAIR CONCESSIONS – Pam Warren.

We need volunteers to cook and be cashier for this fall's concessions. This is a more steady and calm training ground for Founder's Day.

Who says Labor Day ends the BBQ season? Please reach out to me or Pam if you can help sling some burgers, dogs and maybe even sausages. Pretend it is summer again!

Or if you enjoy counting, come work the cash box. *We tried to get The Count from Sesame Street © but alas he was too pricey.* 😊

FALL VENDOR FAIR RAFFLE – Marian McCabe

Our thanks to new member Marian for stepping up to run her first project! As I promised her that she would not do it all solo, Jeanne volunteered to help her, but let Marian take the reins and gather the donations from the vendors.

ONGOING/UPCOMING PROJECTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT AT THE ORPHEUM – Marc and Max.

Marc and Max brought up a great idea to further partner with our friends at the Marilyn Rodman Performing Arts Theatre for a local way to bring in the new year by listening to some cool rock cover bands, enjoying some Chinese food. Marc and Max are working hard to get some cool bands lined up. Stay tuned here for more.

There may also be a "KIDS New Year's Eve" countdown and series of events for that day. Please stay tuned for more.

SOUTHERN NE ADMIRALS SEMI PRO FOOTBALL CONCESSIONS - Max and Pam

The Admirals will wrap up their inaugural season with 3 home games in at Alumni Field at Mansfield High School on Sept 21, 28 and Oct 12. Games start at 7. Jaycees sell concessions much like we do at concerts at the games.

If any of you can help or fill in for Pam (as needed) these last 3 games, please reach out to us. You get to watch football and help bring in some revenue.

We could use some more members working on getting a feel for concessions in general (as it is basically "our school bake sales" and is a consistent means of income). Pam is a wonder woman, but she can't be at all events, all the time. So please let us know if you have interest in helping.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

CONCERT ON THE COMMON CONCESSIONS - Pam Warren

Another successful sugar-filled season! Concessions for the series wrapped up on a high note and our thanks again to Pam for running it throughout the summer and thanks to new member Catherine for helping fill in for her on the final show! Way to go!



CONCERT ON THE COMMON SPONSORSHIPS - Lynda Walsh

We can't run the concerts without the help of some wonderful local sponsors. Our thanks to Lynda for being our main contact within our local businesses to secure sponsorships.

Outreach and bookings for sponsors start as soon as this winter! Please reach out to me if you would like to chair this for next year's concerts. The earlier the better so Lynda or Max another Jaycee can mentor you in the process.

As always - we appreciate everything you *all* do to make sure we raise the funds we need to continue our work in the community.

Membership

Vice President: Amy LaBrache



August has been a quiet month in Membership, we did however welcome a new member to our chapter at our August GM. Please join us in welcoming Catherine Schwarting. Catherine came to us with her friend Marc Rivard to the Community Night out. She then swore in at our August Meeting. Welcome Catherine, we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

As always, we are really focusing on recruitment along with retaining our members we already have. We have been doing an amazing job the last few months with swearing in at least one member a meeting, however us seasoned members need to get out to projects to help mentor our new members so that they are supported and want to keep coming back. If you haven't been to a GM lately, please join us!

Amy

Who's Who – Lisa Jolicoeur This is a project that helps us learn a little more about our fellow members. With some new members joining, I am sure we are going to have some exciting reading ahead of us! If Lisa sends you a questionnaire, fill it out and send it back – you could be featured in a future Wise Fox! This month we get to know Individual Development Vice President Bob Gillis!

Membership Committee – I am looking to put together a committee that will meet to discuss and share new ideas on how to increase our membership. If you are interested, please let me know!

Concerts on the Common Membership Booth - Thank you to everyone who have been supporting this for me. With my new job it has been difficult to arrive on time. I really appreciate all of your help
Jaycees Apparel – The T-shirts are in! Thank you Lynda for helping with this. If you need a T-shirt please let me know. We have also purchased Junior t-shirts, so if your child is participating in upcoming events, they will earn a t-shirt as well!

Website – Bob Gillis –Thank you Bob for doing a wonderful job keeping our website current, please be sure to send him any pictures or Jaycees-related information you might have for Jaycees events so that he can post them at <http://www.foxborojaycees.org>.

Jaycee Photographs: if you have any pictures of Jaycees or Jaycee events and would like to share them on the website please forward them to Bob. He will ensure that they are included appropriately.

Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FoxboroJaycees>) and Follow us on Twitter (@FoxboroJaycees) or find us on Instagram (foxborojaycees) and you can always find the latest updates at www.foxborojaycees.org. Please email Amy with any questions, or new ideas Afoxb1@icloud.com



Who is Bob Gillis?

Bob grew up in Uphams Corner in Dorchester, a close-knit neighborhood where his entire world (family, school, stores, friends) existed in a one-mile radius of his house. After their marriage, Bob and Sue moved to Foxboro knowing absolutely *NOTHING about the town, but they fell in love with it pretty quickly!

Colin McNelley (now 22) is the son Bob never had, and he oozes pride and joy whenever Colin's name is mentioned. Colin has been helping the Jaycees since he was 8. Sue and Bob have fond memories of their dogs, long since passed, and currently have two very talkative and amusing parrots. (hmmm.....)

Since college, Bob lists "computer programmer" as his occupation. When explaining coding, web design, IP addresses, Weblogic, JDK, and Linux, Bob notices people's eyes tend to glaze. But he LOVES it. He spent 12 years working on the Mass Medicaid program for the Commonwealth of Mass through a company, and these days he works on a new Point of Sale system for a new company.

How did Bob find the Foxboro Jaycees? Cold call: in 1993, Bob and Sue got a call from the Jaycees asking for help to build the Founders' Day float. Their immediate response was to ask, "Who are the Jaycees?" and "What is Founders' Day?" They remembered the Jaycees from the awesome haunted house the previous October at the old state hospital, so they went to Bob Webster's to help with the float and were sworn in the next month after being made to feel very welcomed.

"Joining the Jaycees was the best decision I ever made!" In the early years, Bob and Sue participated in the haunted house, pancake breakfast, and Founder's Day each year, but in 1997 after Bob started attending regular GMs, Scott Rogers suggested the need for a website. Bob then became the entrenched webmaster, Board member, project leader we have grown to know and love today!

Bob enjoyed immensely "The Haunted House" because it brought together a hundred Jaycees and dozens of town helpers to create something HUGE, memorable, and SO much fun, an event that truly made a difference in the community. Bob also loves, loves, loves Turkeys for Veterans in November, all the Founders Day events in June, National Night Out in August, Santa activities in December, Easter Bunny in March/April, and especially the summer time concerts on the Common: "And this is not self-compliment but my own favorite project is the web site because I get to be the keeper of the archives and promote the chapter in such a positive manner. When someone says he or she joined because of something on the web site, I am so proud to be the digital ambassador for such an important organization."

Bob has a special place in his heart for one particular event. Back in 2002 the Jaycees held a one-year memorial for 9/11. That evening, at the vigil, a woman from Medford approached Bob, in his Jaycees shirt, and thanked him for having the vigil, for giving her something to do to honor the memory of a painful event. Moved to tears, Bob realized at that moment the impact of the event and how proud he was to be a Jaycee. He has had many moments since in which he was honored and proud to wear that Jaycee shirt, but that moment stands out as memorable.

Bob is involved in other aspects of the community.: "Sue and I help at La Salette. I write for the Foxboro Reporter (albeit not as much as I used to). Sue and I used to run food drives for the Foxboro Food Pantry and these days I am very involved at Saint Mary's Church as a collector and reader. My Catholic faith is important to me and keeps me grounded."



Bob explains that his role models are the firefighters and EMTs - those who run INTO the smoke and fire. He says they are true heroes as are military personnel: "Heroes include Deena, Ed, Jen, so many others, I could never do what they do and could never thank them enough for their service. THEY are my role models and heroes."

Role models and heroes (especially sports heroes) can often let us down. Bob stresses that it's important for children to observe what ALL adults DO, not what they SAY, and decide what aspects of each person they want to emulate. Children need lots of role models: "People are all flawed. Emulate the good qualities and learn from everyone. No one is perfect, but we can learn so much from each person we meet and say, 'I want to do more of what THEY do.'"

Driving around Foxboro Common fills Bob with a sense of pride: the flagpole and the bandstand especially. It's a beautiful place for the community to come together and preserves a sense of community that often gets lost in the "busyness" of our day to day lives. He values his time with the Jaycees because the group is not a religious organization but strives to celebrate the good in everyone by creating opportunities to help others.

People who know and love Bob Gills know that he loves to talk! Bob explains that as part of his constant journey for self-improvement, he is working on listening more and talking less: "I need to LIVE a little more and get away from the keyboard and learn how to SLOW down and take health breaks (such as a day at the beach) and when I die, I hope that people remember me as being kind."

Shout Out

Big Shout Out goes to everyone who came out to help with the Stakes are High project – With so many willing hands, the nearly 8,000 flags were planted and ready in much less time than we expected. An Especially big thanks to Dave Fislser who came up with an ingenious method for laying out the grid for the flag placement.

The Last Word

As your Editor, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to come out and join us at the pre-meeting Barbecue on September 11th! The Senators will be coming as well – this is an opportunity for us to all get to know one another and enjoy some great food. We will be providing the hamburgers and Hot dogs, the rest will be pot-luck. I encourage you all to bring your favorite picnic dish to share. Drop us an e-mail so we can get a head count and know how much to bring. Email IDVP Bob at jayceesfoxboro@gmail.com or me at wisefox@foxborojaycees.org

Finally – Fall is here and with it comes cooler weather, everything Pumpkin Spice.... And a LOT of projects. Please consider pitching in, offering to chair, or at the very least showing up at some of the great things we do in and for our community. I look forward to seeing you ALL there!

