

# Wise Fox



## A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees – January 2023



Happy New Year, Foxboro Jaycees!!

Since the pandemic, we have welcomed each New Year with open arms, hoping for simple joys we once took for granted: good health, a sense of security, some peace - for ourselves and those in our community. Thankfully, 2022, despite some COVID cautions and concerns, offered opportunities for volunteers to engage in our treasured projects and activities: the Easter Bunny visited the Common; a graduating senior received a scholarship; summer concerts rocked the community each week; Founder's Day brought our community together; first responders were honored during Community Night Out; local businesses participated in both spring and fall Vendor Fairs; Overdose Awareness Day offered resources and heightened awareness for local citizens through the Stakes Are High Project on the Common; local veterans received Thanksgiving meals; all winter holiday projects ran successfully, from Santa and Mrs. Claus on the Common, to Fruit Baskets, to setting up the Nativity, to supporting a local child and senior.

Beyond honoring those treasured traditions, Jaycees found new ways to bring our community together through the Car Show, a project which drew lots of excitement while celebrating the small town feel by closing a major road, creating partnerships with local businesses, and providing a family-friendly activity. We are so grateful to Amy LaBrache for her efforts to connect with local businesses

Although many Individual Development projects found footing through virtual connections, in-person gatherings have returned: Book Club met all year - virtually and in-person; Trivia kept us connected with in-person opportunities; Ways and Means found success in two successful vendor fairs; and although all Board Meetings remained virtual, we have had some in-person General Meetings.

The New Year reminds us to reflect, give thanks, and look forward with hope and energy to build upon what we have learned. I am once again grateful to reflect upon the health and safety of my loved ones and friends, including my Jaycees family, and once again, I turn the calendar with optimism that 2023 will allow the good work to continue.

To my Jaycee family, I wish you all good health and safe tidings. I also hope to see you in 2023 during which we can collaborate on our good work together!

Yours in Jaycee Spirit,

*Deena Cummings*





# Secretary's Report

**Pam Warren**

Happy New Year, friends. It was a busy Holiday season full of great projects. I am looking forward to another year of doing great things for the community. I hope to see everyone in person at our January meeting with our rescheduled Yankee Swap and fresh-baked cookies!

As always, if you are unable to attend our meetings, but would like to know what happened, or what was discussed about a particular project, you can request a copy of the minutes. Send me an e-mail [locgazette@yahoo.com](mailto:locgazette@yahoo.com) and I will pass them on.

**Sunshine** – This month we send Sunshine to Kris Long for the passing of her Mother. Losing a parent is always tough, but to have it happen during the Holidays makes it doubly so. Our love and support goes out to you and your family. If anyone wants to send some Sunshine – let me know. It can be a Congratulations, get well, sympathy, thank you - Get me the details. **“Shared Joy is Multiplied; Shared Grief is Diminished”** Please Share!

**Wise Fox** - If you would like to have something posted in the Wise Fox, email me at [wisefox@foxborojaycees.org](mailto: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 would love to give a “Shout Out” to members who have made a difference – in the chapter or on their own.

## Our Award Winners from December 2022 GMM:

President Deena is holding the names of our December winners for Ransom – you will have to come to our January meeting to find out who won for November and December...

If you want to see your name here – volunteer to run a project or even to come help out!

## Something worth Celebrating...

### January Birthdays:

John Underwood	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Kevin Mack	7 <sup>th</sup>
Deena Cummings	21 <sup>st</sup>
Amy LaBrache	28 <sup>th</sup>
John Zarella	
Kelly Reid	

### January Anniversaries:

Deena Cummings	2004
Vanessa Shirley	2007
Michael Stewart	2015
Patty Reid	2015
DJ Jolicoeur	2017

Be sure to let us know if we don't have your birthdate (Month & Day) so we can recognize you here!

After a Delightful trip to see all the entries and much deliberation, the winners of the 2022 Holiday Light Competition have been decided: (Thanks to everyone who entered)

1. “Bing Crosby” Award (traditional/Classic): 13 Baker Street – the Slattery / Contrino Families
2. “Martha Stewart” Award (Elegant & tasteful): 14 Kendall Drive – the Dantona Family
3. “Over the Rainbow” Award (ALL the colors): 355 South Street – The Donaway Family
4. “Toy Land” award (animatronics, air-inflated, etc.): 100 Beach Street – the Geaudreau Family
5. “The WOW Factor” Award (Most Creative / Original): 223 East Street – the Charbonneau Family (Loved the Zip Line Santa)
6. “Miracle on 34th Street” Award (Business): Grace Chapel – 115 Mechanic Street
7. “Clark Griswold” Award / “Friend of the Electric Company”: 189 Mechanic Street – The Patterson Family
8. The People’s Choice: 6 McNamara Way – The Silva Family







# Individual Development

**Vice President: Sophia Manos**

Happy New Year! In 2022 Individual Development saw another year filled with good ideas and chances for some get-togethers, but as we, in a sense, had a third straight year of Covid plus a flu resurgence, these gatherings were not meant to be. 😞 As such, this month's report is an update one of two gatherings postponed from last month. And we again ask for ideas and chairs for monthly projects.

*As it is out with the old and in with the new  
let's forget all we did not get to do.  
Instead let's look to twenty-three as  
a chance to meet up as Jaycee(s)!*

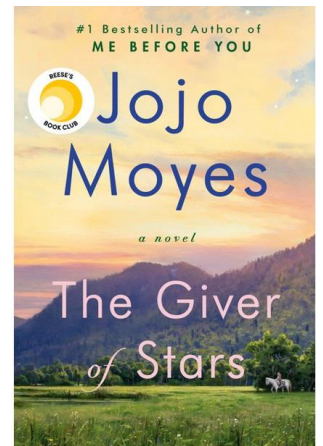
**Book Club – Lisa Jolicoeur – 12/1/22, 7pm** This month it is **in Person and on Zoom – “Conviction” by Denise Mina**

On Thursday, evening December 1, 2022, Book Club members convened at Lisa's house to discuss "Giver of the Stars" by JoJo Moyes and enjoy delicious homemade brownies (thank you, Martha), tea, cheese, crackers, fresh fruit, sandwiches, and sweets. Bonus fun in honor of ShovelTown's opening included some ShovelTown brew tasting.

**December Book Club Choice: Giver of the Stars by JoJo Moyes:** a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond in Depression-era America as the packhorse librarians. Alice Wright marries handsome American Bennett Van Cleve, hoping to escape her stifling life in England. But small-town Kentucky quickly proves equally claustrophobic, especially living alongside her overbearing father-in-law. So, when a call goes out for a team of women to deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt's new traveling library, Alice signs on enthusiastically.

The leader, and soon Alice's greatest ally, is Margery, a smart-talking, self-sufficient woman who's never asked a man's permission for anything. They will be joined by three other singular women who become known as the Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky.

What happens to them - and to the men they love - becomes an unforgettable drama of loyalty, justice, humanity, and passion. These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at others brutal, they're committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives. Based on a true story rooted in America's past, The Giver of Stars is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling.

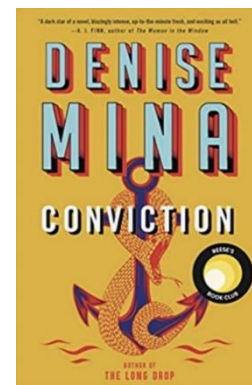


**Book Club members loved this book!** We enjoyed discussing all the characters, all strong women who find an important purpose and effect change in their rural environment. We read the Smithsonian article that inspired Moyes to write the book. We also loved the depiction of positive male characters and how the story unraveled for all of them. Life was not easy for any of them, but the ending offered resolutions that satisfied us.

After we spent some time updating our ratings to distinguish more clearly the criteria, we gave this book 1's and 2's. Our new rating scale is as follows: 1 being "drop everything, turn off the phone, and read; no one should bother me until I am done; I might even be late for work;" 2 being "good, leave the phone on, recommend to my friends, not good enough to earn a 1 for a potential flaw, but worth reading"; 3 being "glad I bought it and read it, will talk to my book friends about it, but I am not recommending it to all my friends; 4 being "I regret paying money for the book, but it's tolerable if I didn't pay hard earned money for it"; and 5 being "I wish I had not read it and wasted precious hours of my life."

Lisa J. presented on several potential book choices for February. After evaluating "To Paradise" by Hanna Yanagihar, "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng, "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt, "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver, and "Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty" by Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe, we selected "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt to be our February choice.

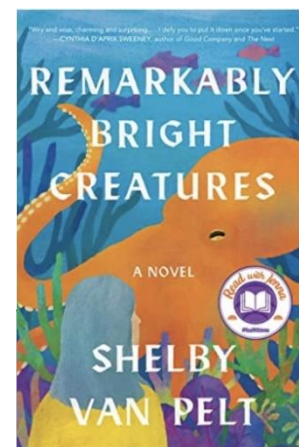
**January Book Choice: Conviction by Denise Mina. (a thriller) Summary:** It's just a normal morning when Anna's husband announces that he's leaving her for her best friend and taking their two daughters with him. With her safe, comfortable world shattered, Anna distracts herself with someone else's story: a true-crime podcast. That is until she recognizes the name of one of the victims and becomes convinced that only she knows what really happened. With nothing left to lose, she throws herself into investigating the case. But little does she know, Anna's past and present lives are about to collide, sending everything she has worked so hard to achieve into freefall.



**February Book Choice: "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt**

**Summary:** Remarkably Bright Creatures is a debut by Shelby Van Pelt that takes place in Sowell Bay, a fictional small town in northern Washington State. Tova is an elderly woman, who works nights cleaning the town's aquarium. It's quiet work that, on the one hand, suits her wish to avoid prying, but on the other reinforces the loneliness that has settled around her since her husband died a year ago. The passing of a spouse is not the reason for prying, it's the disappearance of her son 30 years. Erik was 18 when he went sailing at night and never returned. The boat was found, but not his body.

Part of Tova's routine is to greet each of the sea creatures when she arrives, including Marcellus, the giant Pacific octopus who is the aquarium's main attraction. These greetings are old-school etiquette, but with Marcellus it's more. Tova often talks with him, especially as she cleans the glass of his tank. And sometimes, she thinks he's responding. We readers know he is because he narrates the first chapter of Remarkably Bright Creatures. What an ingenious, observant, and cranky marvel he is. He knows Tova's story; he knows of her son and wants to help her find resolution to her pain.



Tova and Marcellus are joined by Ethan, a Scottish grocer with a secret crush on Tova, and later, Cameron, an aimless 30-year-old man who's never grown up and arrives in town looking for the father who abandoned him when he was born. Who he believes is extremely wealthy and should be prepared to cough up for everything that's gone wrong in Cameron's life.

Remarkably Bright Creatures' plot flows around these three as they navigate through loneliness, friendship, growing up (even if you're already 30), knowing when to grab hold and when to let go. There are times when this story's ending would have been far too tidy for me, but in a summer that's left me feeling adrift, I loved it dearly. Especially Marcellus, whose thoughts and astute observations are both humorous and poignant. A must read if you want pure, endearing entertainment.

## Upcoming Projects: Mark your calendars!

**January GM and rescheduled Yankee Swap – Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm – South Foxboro Community Center.**

**Annual Holiday Yankee swap as part of NEXT GM.** This was postponed due to multiple illnesses in December for an in-person meeting. One month later, it seems the coughing and sniffles can be at a minimum and we can move forward with the meeting and gift exchange.

For those who partake, it will be a \$25 *maximum* on the mystery gifts. There is no obligation to participate in the swap if you come to the GM in person. You can enjoy treats and company either way!

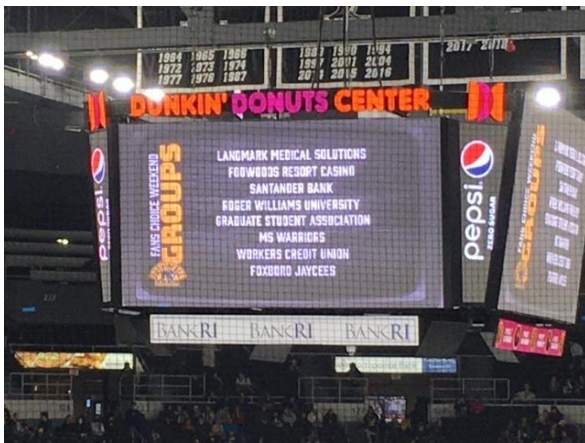
### Jaycees **Monthly Night/Day Out.**

#### **Meet and Greet – Chairs Needed for 2023**

Members – pick and vote for event and we will do it, but we need people to show up!

Trivia, music bingo, corn-hole, axe throwing, mini-golf, a cooking class, a guest speaker - what about all of them? Or if you want to chair any. all or have your OWN idea, please let us know!

### Providence Bruins Outing



Pam Warren Is once again planning a Jaycee outing to attend a Providence Bruins Game. She is checking the available Sunday Matinee games and investigating the group price. If you are interested in going, let her know at [lccgazette@yahoo.com](mailto:lccgazette@yahoo.com). Last year we all got a free hat for booking as a group!

**Keep your eyes peeled here and for emails about upcoming events when available.** Respond to me at [id@foxborojaycees.org](mailto:id@foxborojaycees.org) with your ideas!

**Please see the calendar on the last page for January / February Events**





## Development

**Vice President: Lynda Walsh**

Happy New Year all! Thank you for all the projects completed this past year! New Year's Resolution: invite some friends to join the Jaycees, invite them to foster friendships, learn some management skills, and have fun!

### Upcoming Projects:

#### Friends of Foxboro Fire Truck Restoration – Kris Long

Kris will continue to work with the Friends of Foxborough Fire to develop some fundraising efforts.

#### WIN Waste Mgmt. Day – Chairman Needed

We're hoping to work together with WIN to have some type of a fun day for all. If you're interested in working to plan out this event, let me know.

#### Common Decoration – Ken Wills/Marc Rivard – ~ Take Down January 7th

Ken and Marc will need your help getting our Christmas lights, and other décor off the common and bring to storage on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Please try to lend a hand between 9am and noon.

#### Nativity Scene Take Down – Ken Wills/Marc Rivard – Take Down January 7th

Our friends from the Knights will be there to help transfer the set to inventory, but there will be help needed to clean up the bandstand area too. Please plan on helping on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup>.



### Completed Projects:

#### Fruit Baskets – Sophia Manos – COMPLETED

Sophia along with several Jaycees and our friends at Partners Health created 210 Fruit baskets to be delivered with the Discretionary Fund packages.

<<< The folks from Partners Health with the baskets

#### Holiday Light Contest – Pam Warren – COMPLETED

Winners have been posted on Facebook and earlier in this issue.

### **Caroling on the Common – Lynda Walsh – COMPLETED**

Although the weather didn't cooperate, we were able to sing along with The Foxborough High Holiday Jazz Band at the Boyden Library. We thank the Library for helping us continue our tradition without the threat of being rained out. >>>



### **Town Holiday Banners – Monica Rigamonti - COMPLETED**

We had a problem with the new banners, we've been told that they are too short for the posts. We will investigate during the next few months on what can be done.

### **Support a Child/Senior for the Holiday – Lindsay Hobart - COMPLETED**

Lindsay took on the shopping for a Child/Senior in need this holiday season. Thank you, Lindsay, for taking care of this holiday gift.

If you have any community development ideas, feel free to reach out to me, [lynda1061@aol.com](mailto:lynda1061@aol.com), or 774-266-3140. If there's a project that interests you, let me know or call the Project Chairman.



The "People's Choice" Award winner from the Holiday Light Contest





# Ways and Means

**Vice President: Kris Long**



Happy New Year my fellow Jaycees.

2022 ended quietly for our family, and we are looking forward to an exciting New year! It's funny when you think about your New Year's resolutions, and have all these big ideas, and you remember that last year's lasted about 5 mins!! So this year I have kept it really simple, my resolution is to be present. It's one action that can have a ripple effect on many aspects of my life.

So, as you enter into the New year, think about what is right for you because if you take care of yourself first all the rest will fall into place!

I want to thank everyone for their kind messages, cards and flowers we received with the passing of my mother on December 17th, it really means so much to me.

Happy New year from my family to yours.  
Kris

## Note Cards - Kris Long

We still have some of our current note cards that could make great Thank you cards!!

Calling all amateur photographers, we are looking to produce a new set of Notecards, we are looking for Fall landscapes as well as Winter wonderland! Your photos will be voted on and if selected will be used for our next set of Foxboro Note Cards! As a thank you to those who are selected you will receive a package of the newest note cards! Spread the word, all photos can be emailed to [Krismas3535@gmail.com](mailto:Krismas3535@gmail.com).

## 2023 Car Shows – Amy LaBrache

Due to many people reaching out to see if we were planning a second car show this fall, we will hopefully be having 2 shows next year since there was a high demand for us to have another one. If you are interested in joining the committee, please drop Amy a line at [afoxb1@icloud.com](mailto:afoxb1@icloud.com), or call/ text her cell at 508-369-0039. There is much to do, so anyone is welcome!!!!!!





# Membership

## Vice President: Amy LaBrache

Hello Fellow Jaycees!

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a nice holiday with their friends and family. We had so many wonderful community projects.

BRAVO to all who stepped up to chair these projects and to those who came out to support.

Moving forward into the new year we have a little lull after the hustle and bustle of December.

It will be very nice to see everyone at the January meeting and celebrate our accomplishments.

If you would like to participate in Yankee swap, do not forget to bring a gift.... Or gag. 😊

In the next couple months, we will be rolling out Junior Jaycees, and looking for new and exciting

ways to encourage those in our community to come and check us out! If you have any ideas,

thoughts or would like to chair or learn more about a project, please let me or the area VP know.

Looking forward to what the new year will bring!

As always, please reach out to me with any thoughts or ideas!

In Jaycee Spirit,

Amy

### Junior Jaycees:

We are so close! CORI's are being submitted and drafts for permissions slips are starting to be made! This is a very exciting adventure, and I will be looking for help to mentor this group of kiddos! Please let me know if you are interested!

### 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!

### Membership Committee:

If you are interested in sharing ideas and thoughts, please e-mail me.

### Jaycees Apparel:

I have plenty of T-Shirts!! If you need a T-shirt, please let me know. We have also purchased Junior sized t-shirts, so if your child is participating in upcoming events, they will earn a t-shirt as well! Do you have any ideas for something new? Send me an email with your thoughts! If you are interested, send me an email at [afoxb1@icloud.com](mailto:afoxb1@icloud.com).





## Website – Bob Gillis:

Our all-star webmaster is doing a wonderful job keeping our website current and looking good! 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 or social media, please forward them to Bob. He will ensure that they are included appropriately. You do not need to be on the board to contribute to the website, our social media, or the Wise Fox. If you have something to share, please send to Bob, Marc, Pam, or myself.

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](http://www.foxborojaycees.org). Please email Amy with any questions or new ideas: [Afoxb1@icloud.com](mailto:Afoxb1@icloud.com)



Right – The fruit baskets were ferried upstairs as we assembled them.



<<< Marc Rivard kidding around with some Bananas at Fruit Basket Assembly

The Jazz Band Chorus lead the singing during Caroling in the Library >>>






## January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 Book Club – "Conviction" by Denise Mina	6	7 Common Deco / Nativity Take Down
8	9	10	11 <i>GM at SFCC 7:30 PM – Yankee Swap</i>	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Board meeting on Zoom	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

## February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2 Book Club – 7pm "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt	3	4
5	6	7	8 <i>GM on Zoom 7:30 PM</i>	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day 	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day	21	22 Board meeting on Zoom	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4