

Wise Fox



A Monthly Publication of the Foxboro Jaycees – February 2023



The first winter weeks of 2023 offered a gentle entry into the quietude of February: holidays are over, football is not as exciting as years past for Foxboro fans, and the weather has not created the disruptions of January past. This does not mean, however, that the Jaycees have nothing to do!

We are so grateful as always to our amazing Nativity and Common Decorations team of leaders and volunteers who made quick work of the take down on January 7th. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their continued support with the movement of the set each season. And we are also so grateful to Kenny for his continued amazing work in the storage facility, ensuring organization and checking the working order of our equipment.

The Board has spent these quiet weeks of football and staying warm planning for the upcoming year. We reflected on new lighting and electricity on the Common, our new membership efforts, manpower for upcoming projects, and ongoing ID projects. The Nomination Committee to establish a new Board is under way. Are you looking to expand your Jaycees involvement by joining the Board of Directors? Reach out to me if you would like to discuss the possibilities.

Thank you, again, for supporting our holiday season events. We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting or project.

Yours in Jaycee Spirit,
Deena Cummings





Secretary's Report

Pam Watten

February is here, the season of Love and one of the coldest times of the year. But it's also time to start thinking about our Spring and Summer projects and looking for new people to serve on the Board for our next year. With so many things to look forward to, we hope to see some people stepping forward to run projects and help direct the Chapter. 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 and I will pass them on.

Sunshine – 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 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 Dec 22 & Jan 23 GMMs:

November 2022 Jaycee: Lynda Walsh – Lynda is always working to better her Community and in November, she spearheaded the project to bring Thanksgiving dinners to our Vets. The 10th annual Thank a Vet project was highly successful and brought together Jaycees and Community members in a positive light. Thanks, Lynda for all you do!

November 2022 Project: Website, Bob Gillis – Bob does an amazing job keeping our website up-to-date, including posting the monthly Book Club Summaries, Photos of events, Announcements of upcoming projects and The Wise Fox 😊 (Also Nominated: Thank-a Vet)

December 2022 Jaycee: Lindsay Denault Hobart – “Miss Lindsay” took on one of our “Quiet” holiday projects – the Adopt a Child / Adopt a Senior Project to spread some Christmas Cheer. This is one that happens mostly behind the scenes, but means a lot to the folks we help. Thank you for taking on this important project all on your own. (Also Nominated: Sophia Manos for running the Fruit Basket Assembly)

December 2022 Project: Caroling (In the Library), Lynda Walsh – The Weather failed to cooperate with our plans to Carol on the Common, but Lynda worked with the Boyden Library to allow us to continue the Tradition indoors. It was well attended by the public and the FHS Band and chorus did an amazing job! (Also Nominated: Light up the City, Fruit Baskets)

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

Something worth Celebrating...

February Birthdays:

Thomas Sullivan 2nd
Ed Miller 15th
Jennifer D'Amato 16th
Kris Long 20th
Jane Webster 27th
Lauren Bitar

February Anniversaries:

Bill Dempsey 2006
Joseph Nawn 2017
Dan Creavin 2022
Lisa Connell Dahl 2022

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



November Jaycee of the Month
Lynda Walsh during the Thank-A-Vet project. With her are Jim DeVellis (who has run this project with her for 10 years) and Veteran Earl Ferguson who provided the Squash for the care packages.

The flag was raffled and presented to a local veteran as well.

The Foxboro High School Jazz Band and Chorus performed a program of Holiday music while the crowd sang along during our December Project of the month – Caroling “On the Common” (Even though weather conditions forced us to move into the Library, the event was well attended and lots of fun)





Individual Development

Vice President: Sophia Manos

Book Club – Lisa Jolicoeur – 2/2/2023 In Person and on Zoom - 7pm

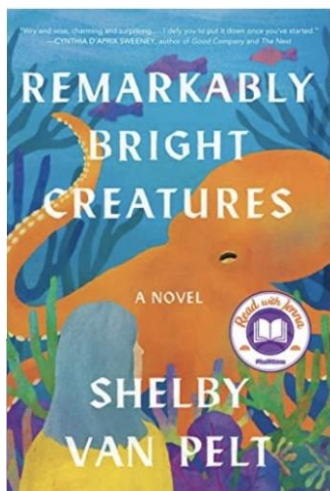
"Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt

On Thursday, January 5, 2023, with one member Zooming in from sunny Florida, other Book Club members enjoyed warm apple crisp, crackers, and cheese to discuss *Conviction* by Denise Mina, an interesting thriller with a unique

storytelling format: 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. Anna is contemplating how to kill herself and who will find her body when her best friend's husband, also shattered by this affair, shows up on her doorstep: Fin, a musician celebrity of sorts with an eating disorder. Anna shifts her concern for Fin and intends to drive him home. Instead, they embark on a journey to solve the crime Anna is following in the podcast. The story takes an interesting twist as Anna's first person story exposes her own complicated life -she had changed her name after notoriety of a gang rape. The social media following of Fin's fanbase as he posts live updates of their crime solving- and his eating habits - exposes her to the people who thought she had died. The book offered interesting topics to discuss, including real life crime stories. We liked how the narrator used a podcast-like story telling technique to have each character's story unfold and then she becomes a podcast writer at the end. The book has a sequel which is another adventure for Anna and Fin to solve a crime and mystery.

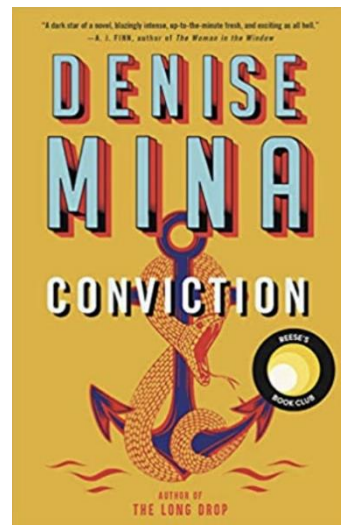
The book earned 1.5's and 2.0's on our new rating scale, which is as follows: 1 being "drop everything, turn off the phone, and read; no one should bother me until I am done; I might even be late for work; " 2 being "good, leave the phone on, recommend to my friends, not good enough to earn a 1 for a 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."

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.

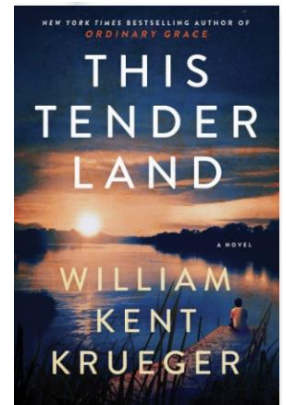
Part of Tova's routine is to greet each of the sea creatures when she arrives, including Marcellus, the giant Pacific octopus who is the aquarium's main attraction. These greetings are old-school etiquette, but with Marcellus it's more. Tova often talks with him, especially as she cleans the glass of his tank. And sometimes, she thinks he's responding. We readers know he is, because he narrates the first chapter



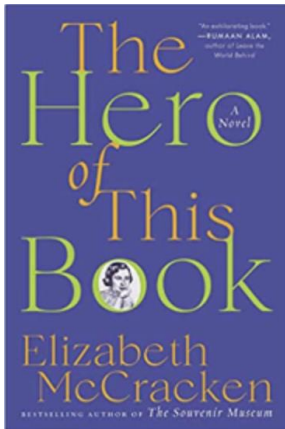
of Remarkably Bright Creatures. What an ingenious, observant, and cranky marvel he is. He knows Tova's story, he knows of her son and wants to help her find resolution to her pain.

Remarkably Bright Creatures' plot flows around characters 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.

March Book Choice: This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger: Set in 1932, Minnesota—the Lincoln School is a pitiless place where hundreds of Native American children, forcibly separated from their parents, are sent to be educated. It is also home to an orphan named Odie O'Banion, a lively boy whose exploits earn him the superintendent's wrath. Forced to flee, he and his brother Albert, their best friend Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own. Over the course of one unforgettable summer, these four orphans will journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.



April Book Choice: The Hero of This Book by Elizabeth McCracken: Ten months after her mother's death, the narrator of *The Hero of This Book* takes a trip to London. The city was a favorite of her mother's, and as the narrator wanders the streets, she finds herself reflecting on her mother's life and their relationship. Thoughts of the past meld with questions of the future: Back in New England, the family home is now up for sale, its considerable contents already winnowed.



The woman, a writer, recalls all that made her complicated mother extraordinary—her brilliant wit, her generosity, her unbelievable obstinacy, her sheer will in seizing life despite physical difficulties—and finds herself wondering how her mother had endured. Even though she wants to respect her mother's nearly pathological sense of privacy, the woman must come to terms with whether making a chronicle of this remarkable life constitutes an act of love or betrayal.

The Hero of This Book is a searing examination of grief and renewal, and of a deeply felt relationship between a child and her parents. What begins as a question of filial devotion ultimately becomes a lesson in what it means to write. At once comic and heartbreaking, with prose that delights at every turn, this is a novel of such piercing love and tenderness that we are reminded that art is what remains when all else falls away.

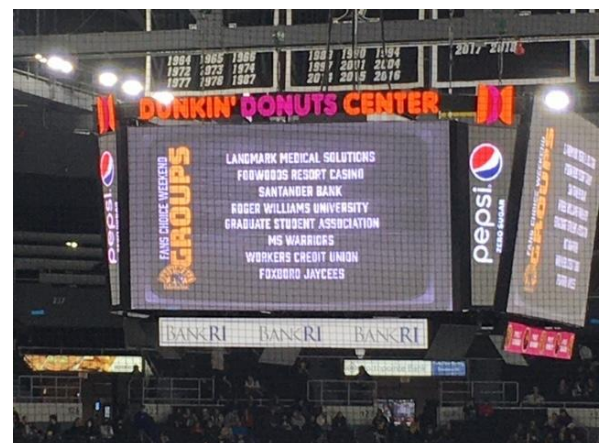
Upcoming Projects:

Providence Bruins Game – Pam Warren – 2/26/2023 3pm

Always a fun outing! Come see the baby-B's take on the Rochester Americans at the Dunkin Center in Providence.

Please let Pam (lccgazette@yahoo.com) know if you are interested in tickets.

They are usually around \$20 each but include a voucher for popcorn or the like. Last Year we all got free hats!



Trivia at Conrad's – Amy Labrache – 2/6/2023 6-8pm

Dinner and Team Trivia at Conrad's in Foxboro. Dan Maloof does a great job hosting Trivia – we even win sometimes!

If you are interested in joining us, please send Amy an email (afoxb1@icloud.com) or shoot her a text at 508-369-0039 so that she can get there early and save seats.

Jaycees Quarterly Outings

Chairs Needed for 2023

We are all busy, lots to the daily grind. Wouldn't be nice to get away and go "where everybody knows your name", well, your fellow Jaycees will know your name. 😊

Let's make 2023 a year to return a little bit more fun!

Respond to me at id@foxborojaycees.org if you are interested in chairing one of these or introduce your own great idea!

Trivia – See above. Each Monday there is trivia at Conrad's in Foxboro

Music bingo - *Music bingo is a fun and exciting take on the classic game of bingo. With songs replacing the numbers on a bingo card. After receiving a card, the host will play music, and if you have that song listed on your card, you tick it off. (Google)*

Music Bingo is offered at Box Seats in Attleboro, Franklin and other locations.

Corn-hole - Some fun facts, it is also known as *Baggo, bean bag toss, dummy boards, doghouse, dadhole, sacks, beans, beanbag and ramps, (Wikipedia)*

Available at Squadron 21'ers in Foxboro

Axe throwing – This is self-explanatory, but - **axe throwing** involves a competitor throwing an axe at a target, attempting to hit the bullseye as near as possible. (Google)

Nearby is Axe Bar in Lincoln, RI

Mini golf – *A good one for late Spring or Summer! Last time in 2021, we had a great time at Easton's Golf country.*

Cooking class – Know a chef from one of the local new restaurants? Are you a good chef? Have a specialty recipe you want to teach others to do? Then cooking lessons can happen at a host home or in the kitchen of the South Foxboro Community Center.

Keep your eyes peeled here and for emails about upcoming events when available. Respond to me at id@foxborojaycees.org with your ideas!

Please see the calendar on the last page for February / March Events



Vice President: Lynda Walsh

Now that the Christmas items have all been packed away safely for another year, it's time to get ready for the Easter Bunny and look forward to Founders Day!

Upcoming Projects:

Sand/Salt for Seniors – Sophia Manos and Mike Mills

We've been pretty lucky so far this winter, but Sophia and Mike will continue to deliver a bucket of salt/sand to any seniors this season.

Fred George Memorial Scholarship – Lisa Jolicoeur

Lisa is putting together packages/applications for local folks to apply for our scholarship. Be sure to tell anyone looking for assistance to submit an application.

Easter Egg Hunt – Chairman Needed – April 1st

If you're interested in chairing this project, it's a fun one, and you'll get help from chapter members. Each year the Easter Bunny hops into town to check in on all the littles before making his big trip. We stuff about 4000 eggs with small candy and place them on the common for children to gather in their baskets. As chair you'd be responsible for getting approval from the Selectmen to hold the event, get the eggs from storage and purchase any that we may need. You can set a date for folks to come and help stuff the eggs prior to the 1st. You'll need to have manpower for the morning to distribute the eggs on the common. We have a direct line to the Easter Bunny and you can count on him being there. Let me know if you'd like to chair or help out on this project.

Completed Projects:

Common Decorations / Nativity Scene Take Down – Ken Wills/Marc Rivard –

Thanks to help from the Knights and a small but dedicated group, it took us an hour and a half to take down all the decorations that took more than 6 hours to put up.

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



Ways and Means

Vice President: Kris Long



Happy Winter!

Now that the holidays are behind us it's time to snuggle up with a good book, or maybe a few movies around a fire. Maybe it's off to the mountains for some skiing or cross-country skiing. For me it's the time of year I love to cook stews, soups, chili, whatever is yummy !! I'm looking forward to some quiet time this winter, and my hope is that the world will become a little happier. We do have something in the Spring to look forward to, The Car show!! We have a date, we have the location, we just need some people who might like to help. The car show is a one-day event that takes about 3 months of planning, the meetings are held a few times a month then just before the event, the meetings are short but are held weekly. If you love cars and want to join in, please reach out to Amy so she can include you in committee meetings!!

Kris

Note Cards - Kris Long

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

In the Spring we will be opening up a contest for new images, for the next round of Foxboro Note cards, they can be of any season we just ask they are from our little town.

2023 Car Show – Amy LaBrache

Amy has gone before the Selectmen to get approval for us to block the street and have our big show on Sunday, June 25th. Amy can always use more hands, if you are interested in joining the planning committee, please drop Amy a line at afoxb1@icloud.com, or call / text her cell at 508-369-0039. There is much to do, so anyone is welcome!!!!!!

Spring Vendor Fair – May 20 (rain date 21st) – Deena Cummings

We are at that time of year again where this project is beginning their planning, if you'd like to join please contact Deena.

Vendor Fair Concessions – Pam Warren

We all know Chef Pam will put on a great spread during the Fair, would you like to help?? Give Pam a call, she welcomes any and all assistance.

Vendor Fair Raffle – Chair Needed

This is a great little one-day project where you are at the fair, selling raffle tickets to prizes that have been donated by the vendors!! Super easy, lots of fun!!



Membership

Vice President: Amy LaBrache

Hello Fellow Jaycees!

Happy February! I hope this finds you all well! This month we will be brainstorming ideas on how to recruit new members to finish out our Jaycee year strong. I am looking for support at projects as well as Ideas on new ways to attract new members. If you are interested in helping, please shoot me an email at afoxb1@icloud.com I will be having a meeting in the next couple weeks. Please we need your help!!!!

Many Spring projects will be coming up soon. Hope to see you all there!

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

In Jaycee Spirit,

Amy

Junior Jaycees:

We are working towards launching this very soon. If you are interested in helping, please let me know as I will have to run a CORI and have you take Darkness to light. But this a huge opportunity to revive our membership!

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.

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. Please email Amy with any questions or new ideas: Afoxb1@icloud.com



Our January General Meeting was held in person at the South Foxboro Community Center. We had a Fun Yankee Swap and some of Pam's Fresh Baked Cookies!

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2 Book Club – 7pm "Remarkably Bright Creatures" 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 Fat Tuesday	22 Ash Wednesday Board meeting on Zoom	23	24	25
26 Providence Bruins Game 3 pm	27	28	1	2	3	4

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1	2 Book Club – 7pm "This Tender Land" William Kent Krueger	3	4
5	6	7	8 <i>GM on Zoom 7:30 PM</i>	9	10	11
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins	13	14	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day 	18
19	20	21	22 Board meeting on Zoom	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1