



The Charge!

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Mailbag

Dear Jaycees,

Thank you for coming to create another wonderful Christmas Party at the Family Shelter on Saturday, December 6, 2008. The abundance of gifts was incredible, i.e. spaghetti, bread, pizza, ice cream, cookies. The Jaycees always do a terrific job and we are all very grateful for your generosity of heart and spirit. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

Sincerely,
 Paul Cousin
 Program Coordinator for Family Services
 Salvation Army



Mardee Landsverk and Ben Grethey getting sworn in

Mark your calendars

December

- Dec 13 **Santas Little Helpers.**
Contact Julie Hoadley.
- Dec 18 **Membership Meeting.** 7:00 p.m., AMVETS 237 NE Monroe in Downtown Peoria. Elections
Contact Kristin Smead.
- Dec 20 **Christmas Party/Year End Awards.** 6:00 p.m., Tillie's (old Riverstation)
Contact Jennifer Orange.

January

- Jan 8 **Board Meeting.** 7:00 p.m., Lakeview Library?
Contact Becky Ulrich.
- Jan 8 **Business After Hours.** 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Contact Becky Ulrich.
- Jan 9 **Happy Hour.** 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Castle's Patio Inn.
Contact Kerri Differding.
- Jan 15 **Membership Meeting.** 7:00 p.m., AMVETS 237 NE Monroe in Downtown Peoria. Elections
Contact Becky Ulrich.
- Jan 16-18 **Winter General Assembly.** Decatur.
Contact John McLoughlin.
- Jan 29 **Distinguished Service Awards.** Begins at 6:00 p.m. Pere Marquette
Contact Linda Thomas.



From the Editor by Toby Quin

My second stint as Newsletter Editor has officially come to an end. I have enjoyed being the newsletter editor and I hope you have been entertained and informed. Kriss Cochran will be taking over as editor of the Charge! in January. I am positive I am leaving the newsletter in capable hands as Kriss published a quality newsletter during her earlier hitch as editor in 2004. I was worried that we might not elect a full board at our November elections. My fears were unfounded as people rose to the occasion and filled all available positions. I am looking forward to next year as we have a nice mixture of experienced Jaycees along with newer members that bring fresh ideas and a lot of energy. As always, I am available if anyone has any questions, is looking for someone to bounce ideas off of, or needs to vent. Finally, this year's board's theme was *No meetings past 8 in '08*. The meetings were over by around 8 most months and that was a welcome change. Let's hope that next year's board comes up with a new theme because *No meetings past 9 in '09* does not sound very appealing.

President's Report by Linda Thomas

Fellow Jaycees,

I hope you all have heard the news about our terrific **new board**. I know that the 2009 President Matt King is very excited to get started serving as your Chapter President. I have immensely enjoyed being the 2008 Peoria Jaycees President. I wish the 2009 Board all the best and look forward to assisting as needed in the honorary role as Chairman of the Board. I hope you can all make it to the Christmas Party and Board Installation Event on December 20th 6pm at Tilley's downtown; it should be a great time.

At the November meeting, Randy Stevens was awarded the **member of the month** for October. Randy was the chairman of the first ever Peoria Jaycees Masquerade Ball. This was a huge undertaking and Randy met the challenge to make this an event to remember. He was also honored in October as one of the Forty Leaders under Forty in Peoria. This is a huge honor, so if you see Randy, be sure to congratulate him on his accomplishment.

Some more big news for our Peoria Jaycees is that the **2009 Illinois Jaycees State Board** was elected at the November General Assembly and we are now the home chapter for the 2009 Illinois State Jaycee President Scott Ulrich. Also, another Peoria Jaycee, Roxy Baker, was elected to the State Board as the Area 2 Vice President. Congratulations Scott and Roxy!!!

At the General Assembly in November, we were honored with some very **special awards**. Our Newsletter was named the Runner-Up best Newsletter in the State for the Second Trimester. The Firecracker 5000 was the Runner-Up Community Project in the State for the Second Trimester and we are currently in 6th place in the Parade of Chapters in the State. Congratulations to all the winners, Toby Quin, Kerri Differding and Tamara Ruth on these honors.

The **Santa Visits the Kids** and **Santa's Little Helpers** were great projects this month. We had many happy faces at both events, even when we tried to sing Christmas Carols that we didn't know all the words to they still clapped for us. Thank you to Jenni Wickert, Kerri Differding and Julie Hoadley for chairing these projects. These are the projects every year that remind me about the true meaning of Christmas.

Well this brings me to the end of my **final newsletter article** as your 2008 President. It has been a great year with many trials, changes and joys but through it all I have learned several things about myself and I know I will be a better person due to this experience. Thank you for allowing me to serve as the 2008 President of the Fabulous Peoria Jaycees!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Linda Thomas

GO BEARS!!!!!!!!!!



Chapter Management by Kristin Smead



Hey Jaycees!

Can you believe that the year is already at an end! Thank you all for such an amazing year! I hope that everyone enjoyed this year with the Jaycees as much as I did. I've learned so much this year while working as a member of your board. Thank you for this great opportunity.

Thank you to everyone who participated in elections and congratulations to our new board! Speaking of congratulations... we will be welcoming our newly elected members at the **Christmas Party and Year End Awards Banquet**. We will be celebrating a great year and welcoming our new board in style at Tillies (Old River Station). There will also be a gift exchange. If you would like to participate, please a \$10 gift. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Orange.

Agenda

- 6:00 Cocktails and Appetizers
- 7:00 Dinner- \$10 members, \$30 non-members. Members must be current on dues for \$10 rate
- 8:00 Installation of new officers
- 8:30 Awards and Gift Exchange

The **January board meeting** will not be held on the first Thursday of the month due to the holiday. Instead, the board meeting will be held on the January 8th, the second Thursday. Location for 2009 board meetings is to be determined, but we are trying to get the Lakeview Library again.

On January 29th at the Pere Marquette, the Peoria Jaycees 70th Annual **Distinguished Service Awards** Banquet will be held. At this event, awards are given out to Peoria area residents in categories such as Outstanding Young Officer, Outstanding Young Business Professional, and Outstanding Young Educator. Linda Thomas is chairing the event this year and is seeking nominations for the 8 awards that will be presented that evening. Nominations forms will be available to download on our website shortly. Invitations to this event will be sent out in early January.

2009 Peoria Jaycees Executive Board

Linda Thomas.....	Chairperson
Matt King.....	President
Becky Ulrich.....	Chapter Management
Garth Madison.....	Community Development
Kerri Differding.....	Membership Development
Tamara Ruth.....	Individual Development
John McLoughlin.....	State Director
Mike Tucker.....	Treasurer
Jenni Wickert.....	Secretary
Angie Walker.....	Local Director, Management
Renee Beard.....	Local Director, Community
Mary Gordon.....	Local Director, Membership
Kriss Cochran.....	Local Director, ID

November Membership meeting



Is this the 2009 Jaycees board or the cast of Deliverance?



I'm putting my money on "Rocky" Baker



Kerri and Tamara receive their award for the Firecracker 5000



Randy is the October Jaycee member of the month



Is Dave Facker explaining election rules or telling fish stories?

Car Care 101



What you talkin' about Willis?



This trunk is very roomy. You can fit 5 bodies in it

Membership Report by Mike Tucker



What's up Peoria Jaycees!!

It was great to see a lot of you at the **Happy Hour** this past month at the Firehouse Grill. We had about 20 folks come out and eat and drink and be merry. It was a great time as always. The January Happy Hour is tentatively scheduled for Friday, January 9 at Castle's Patio Inn. Hopefully, there will be enough room there for everybody to be comfortable. If not, I'm sure we'll figure out somewhere else to go that can accommodate a large group of hungry, thirsty young adults!

I just want to take this opportunity to say **thanks** to everybody that helped make my year as membership VP a really great experience!! There were so many people that helped me along the way - I don't want to single anybody out, since I'd probably forget somebody (as most of you know, my memory is awful)! When I started back in January, I was really nervous and doubted that I could do a good job. Now it's December and, upon reflection, I realize it was a great experience that I wouldn't trade for anything.

Next month, when you go to the newsletter, the membership article will have been written by Kerri Differding. Kerri's really excited to take on the challenge of being the **new Membership VP**, and I'm sure she'll do a great job. She's got a lot of great ideas, so I'm positive it will be an exciting year for membership! If you see Kerri, be sure to wish her good luck! And if you have any ideas for membership projects, let her know. I know there's a Jaycees Bowling night in the works for February, but I'll let her spill the beans about that later.

Thanks again everybody for a great year!! See you in 2009!! And if anybody needs any money for anything in 2009, come see me - I've got a Jaycees checkbook full of checks just waiting to be written!! You guys voted me in as treasurer? What were you thinking? :)

January Birthdays

1/01 - Stephanie Labanowski
 1/03 - Mary Gordon
 1/05 - Nathan Domenighini
 1/08 - Vicki Bilsland
 1/12 - Greg Johnson
 1/16 - Kerri Differding
 1/16 - Linda Thomas
 1/16 - Matt King
 1/18 - Dave Cookson
 1/24 - Lynda Solin
 1/25 - Kate Miller
 1/27 - Robert Walker



Who's Due

Dec. (Final Renewal)

Jason Kneer
 Brian Parker
 Chuck Wahlstrom



January (Early Renewal)

Joe Burkitt
 Brandy Malott
 John Sharp

Greg Haney
 *Stanley Munton

* Denotes Associate Member

Individual Development by Kriss Cochran



Happy Holidays from ID!

Hopefully everyone has enjoyed the projects we set up for you this year!

For our final ID project of the year we have **Book Club** going on. We have read the first chapter of 1984 and discussed it at our first meeting on Dec 10th at I Know You Like a Book in Peoria Heights. This book was written in 1949 but it is timeless. The book reminds us of what has gone wrong, what can go wrong, and what will go wrong when government becomes all-powerful. Our next meeting will be sometime in January. Thank you Roxy Baker for setting up this great project.

Tamara Ruth will be **IDVP** for the 2009 Jaycee Board. I actually will be her Local Director so I am still happy to keep my toes in the water. I had a couple of projects on the back burner that we decided to hold off and do next year. So be on the lookout for Knitting and eBay.

I hope everyone who is free will be going to our annual **Christmas Party**. Jennifer Orange is running the party and it is all set up for Dec 20th at Tilly's downtown. As always, it will be a great time to celebrate the wonderful year the Jaycees have had and unwind a bit with your friends.

I would like to take a minute to thank the 2008 Board. They were so much help and a true pleasure to on the board with. Linda Thomas did an outstanding job as this year's president and I am looking forward to 2009 when Matt King takes over and leads this great chapter to great projects! Also, **THANK YOU** to the membership for all their hard work and tireless efforts from the first project of the year to the last. 2008 has been just stupendous!

Be on the lookout for great projects and events you can get involved in for next year. Remember **YOU** are the reason the Peoria Jaycees are the best!

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and Cheers to a new year!

THE CHARGE!
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Disclaimer: Portions of this newsletter are merely for entertainment purposes and should not be taken seriously.

Attention! All meetings are open to all Jaycees members, prospective members and the public!
Board Meetings: Held the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Lakeview Library.

Membership Meetings: Held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the AMVETS Post 64, on the corner of Monroe and Fayette in downtown Peoria.

Community Development by Tamara Parker

Hello Jaycees

The snow has fallen, Christmas is just around the corner, and it's time to prepare for the New Year. They say that time truly flies by when you're having fun. I think this must be true. 2008 has been a very interesting year for me and it seems like I was just celebrating Memorial Day. Well the Community Development division has had a very exciting year as well with 2 new projects and more to come. I would like to thank everyone that has ran a project and volunteered their time, ideas and experiences. These Community events wouldn't have been successful without you and your determination as a Peoria Jaycee. This is all the more reasons why the Peoria Jaycees have been an enlightened pillar in the Peoria community. As I end my position as Community VP, I would like to say that this was a great experience and I wish that I had more time to make a difference. A special thanks to Kriss Cochran. She has helped me the most by taking time to go over ideas, projects, procedures, and implementing the Fall Festival. Thanks to Tamara Ruth, Community LD, for her support and Ideas.

2008 Community Development Projects

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Relay for Life
- Fall Festival
- T-ball
- School supply drive for Calvin Coolidge, our Adopt a School
- Masquerade Ball
- Firecracker 5000
- Night Golf
- IBF Soup Kitchen
- Santa Visits the Kids
- Santa's Lil' Helpers
- Providing manpower at several area events

"Making a difference is the Difference"

State Director's Report by Toby Quin

At the **Fall General Assembly**, our very Scott Ulrich was elected 2009 Illinois Jaycees President and Roxy Baker was elected Area 2 Vice President. Congratulations to you both. The **Winter General Assembly** will take place on January 16-18 at the Decatur Convention Center. This is probably the most important GA to attend all year as there will be training for all the newly elected officers. In addition, there are the ever popular year end award presentations.

That's it for this month. PEACE.



Fall General Assembly



Scott Ulrich gets sworn in as 2009 Illinois Jaycees President by 2008 Illinois Jaycees President Tonya Lee



Victor indicates he would like two tacos from Taco Bell



Evidently there was a wedding going on the same time as the GA



Peoria receives a well deserved award



The cast of Little People Big World was staying at the Lisle Wyndham Hotel

2008 Peoria Jaycees Executive Board

Becky Ulrich.....Chairperson
Linda Thomas.....President
Kristin Smead.....Chapter Management
Tamara Parker.....Community Development
Mike Tucker.....Membership Development
Kriss Cochran.....Individual Development
Victor Dzekunskas.....State Director
Kerri Differding.....Treasurer
Mary Gordon.....Secretary
Keith Winters.....Local Director, Management
Tamara Ruth.....Local Director, Community
Matt King.....Local Director, Membership
Garth Madison.....Local Director, ID

The Jaycee Creed:

We Believe:

That faith in GOD gives meaning and purpose to human life;
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;
That government should be of laws rather than of men;
That earth's greatest treasure lies in human personality;
And that service to humanity is the best work of life

Peoria Jaycees



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