

The Charge!

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EXTRA EXTRA

The August Membership Board Meeting has been moved to Friday, August 22 to coincide with the Annual Past President's Party

Night Golf is September 20. Entry forms can be downloaded at jaycees.com



Peoria and Bloomington-Normal members relax at the Mackinaw Winery Social

Mark your calendars

August

- Aug 22 **Membership Meeting and Past President's Party.** AMVETS 237 NE Monroe in Downtown Peoria.
Contact Kristin Smead
- Aug 23 **Horseback Riding.** Rockin' P Ranch in Pekin.
Contact Julie Hoadley
- Aug 24? **Dinner and a Movie.** Details to be Announced
Contact Mike Tucker

September

- Sept 4 **Board Meeting.** 7:00 p.m., Lakeview Library.
Contact Kristin Smead
- Sept 5 **Happy Hour.** Detail to be Announced
Contact Mike Tucker
- Sept 13 **Summer Bar Olympics.** 1:30 p.m., Alley Cats.
Contact Matt King
- Sept 20 **Night Golf.** 8:00 p.m., Detweiler Golf Course
Contact Toby Quin
- Sept 18 **Membership Meeting and Past President's Party.** AMVETS 237 NE Monroe in Downtown Peoria.
Contact Kristin Smead
- Sept 21? **Dinner and a Movie.** Details to be Announced
Contact Mike Tucker



From the Editor by Toby Quin

As most of you are aware, the Jaycees have decided not to have a Haunted House this year. I have been very active in the Haunted House since 1998. I have mixed emotions on our decision to not have a Haunted House this year. I definitely love working at the Haunted House, but it is a ton of work with very little in return for the amount of effort involved. Based on the survey results, the membership (including myself) thought it would best serve the needs of the Chapter to forgo having a Jaycees Haunted House this year. Maybe we just needed a break and next year interest will be rekindled and we will have a Haunted House again. I can assure that the decision to not have the Haunted House was not taken lightly demonstrated by the passionate discussion we had at the July membership meeting. The only thing I am asking is to use our free time during the months of September, October, and November to do something constructive. Let the VP's know of your ideas to recruit new members, help the community, improve the professional and personal skills of our members, and have fun.

President's Report by Linda Thomas



Greetings and Salutations-

I hope everyone is enjoying the end of summer and excited to enter my favorite season, fall. I love all the cooler weather, the colors of the leaves as they change, and, of course, football season. Along with these changes is a major change for the Peoria Jaycees. At the membership meeting in July the members in attendance voted not to run a **Haunted House** this year. This was a decision that was made after a spirited discussion by many of the members at the meeting once the results of the Haunted House survey completed were reported. The Haunted House will be missed this year and hopefully may come back with a new energy and spirit if the membership votes to run one next year.

This decision does allow us to **invent some new and exciting events** during the next three months. There have been a plethora of ideas about various events that members would like to start, including a Halloween Carnival, a Masquerade Ball, a Costume Run and a Food Drive. I believe these are all great ideas and hopefully some of them will come to fruition between now and the end of the year. If you have any ideas for a new project or would like to run a project listed above, please contact me.

An exciting thing that happened at the membership meeting was that we honored two members as **Member of the Month** for June. The Board felt both members were very deserving so we broke tradition and honored two members instead of one. Toby Quin has done a great job with the Newsletter this year and we felt that the dedication it takes to complete the Newsletter each month was worthy of praise. Plus, as most of you know, Toby is very supportive of the Jaycees and is at most events every month. Bryan Devine was our second honoree. Bryan ran the Chess Tournament in June and helped out immensely with the Storage Shed Clean Out. Plus he was a member of the Third Place Galesburg Jaycees Rib Cook-off Team. Bryan seems to have a renewed spirit and dedication for the Peoria Jaycees. Congrats to you both!!!!

I hope to see everyone at the Dinner, Membership Meeting and **Past Presidents Party** this Friday at the Amvets. This is our chance to celebrate our history and enjoy some fun, "honoring" our 2007 Peoria Jaycee President Becky Ulrich. I can tell you that being the President of the Peoria Jaycees is a task that one cannot understand until they stand in those shoes. This event is our way of honoring all those past presidents who took part in molding the Peoria Jaycees into the great organization that we are today.

Until Next Month,

Linda Thomas

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

THE CHARGE!
An Official Publication of the Peoria Jaycees

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Disclaimer: Portions of this newsletter are merely for the 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.

Firecracker 5000

The Charge!



Mike, Mary, and Debbie help at the registration table



Victor performs chair holding duties



You sure that was only 5k
It felt like 3 miles



MMMM Pizza and Beer or
The fox guards the hen house



I can't hear you now



Dubby took no chances
when he heard there would
be 5000 Firecrackers



Chairpersons Kerri and Tamara



Is it bigger than a bread box?



Pizza Pizza

Camping and Camping



Camping wears me out



That SPF 1,000 really works great



A bunch of Jaycees getting ready to swim

Mud Volleyball



The team demonstrating the skill that led to a 2-2 record



The before picture of Bitter's Ritches



The thrill of victory

Membership Report by Mike Tucker



What's up Peoria Jaycees!


We've got a few fun events coming up within the next month. On Saturday, August 23, we'll be doing some **Horseback Riding** at the Rockin' P Ranch in Pekin. The cost is \$10 to ride. We'll also be having a picnic lunch following, so come on out if you want to ride, or if you just want to come and hang out and have some lunch. It should be a great time. If you have any additional questions, you can contact Julie Hoadley.

Our September **Happy Hour** will take place at Oliver's Pub and Pizza in Peoria Heights on Friday, September 5. For those of you who haven't been there, they've got some great pizza and a cool outdoor beer garden. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and we'll be able to enjoy a pleasant evening with good food, good beverages and good friends. Hope to see you all there!

Finally, on Saturday September 13, we'll be having our 2008 **Summer Bar Olympic Games**. The Winter Bar Olympics held in February was a huge success, so this should be no different. The games will be for teams of two and will be held at Alley Cats on Pioneer Parkway. Registration begins at 1:30, and the games start at 2:00. The games will consist of ladder golf (aka hill-billy golf or redneck golf), bags, washers, and home run derby on the Wii. The cost to enter is \$5 per person (\$10 per team), and the winners will receive medals and a cash prize! If you have any questions or want to sign up, you can contact Matt King.

September Birthdays

- 9/1 - Michael Godar
- 9/6 - Jenny Turner
- 9/16 - Pat Klimaszewski
- 9/24 - Nathan Wenzel
- 9/17 - Chris Kneer
- 9/27 - Gretchen Bernardini
- 9/30 - Matt Jones



Who's Due

August (Final Renewal)

- *Jeff Bilsland
- Chris Differding
- Victor Dzekunskas
- Kurt Freidinger
- Dale Loshier
- Denise Merriman
- Jennifer Orange
- Nathan Shelabarger

September (Early Renewal)

- John Bandle
- Mary Gordon
- Tamara Parker
- Tamara Ruth
- Rebecca Ulrich
- Nathan Wenzel
- * Denotes Associate Member



- *Karen Fuller
- Megan Loshier
- Lori Mutton
- Ann Pettinger
- Leslie Barton
- Matt King
- Dave Peterson
- Tracy Street
- Scott Ulrich

Did You Know.... that employers are now using sites such as Facebook and Myspace as a way to make some hiring decisions?

A good practice is to set your account to private-friends only. Also, think about what you post and blog because you never know how it may affect your future. I bet there are some past US Presidents who are very glad that these Networking Sites were not around when they were younger.

In addition, please be thoughtful and respectful of what you post or pictures you may tag to the Peoria Jaycees MySpace and Facebook because these may affect others. Plus, we want these to be positive sites and support a positive image of the Peoria Jaycees because we do so many great things in the community which is what we need to share with the world.

Individual Development by Kriss Cochran



August is here and so are the 8's. We have seen the beginning of the Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. The opening ceremonies started on 08.08.08. Some Chinese assign a different set of meanings to the numbers and certain number combinations are considered luckier than others. In general, even numbers are considered lucky, since it is believed that good luck comes in pairs. The number 8 in Chinese customs means sudden fortune and prosperity. I hope everyone will enjoy the 8th month in the year 2008.

The Jaycees have kept very busy this year and our hope is to end the year as great as we started it. We still have time for some new projects this year with the Haunted House going on hiatus. This is a great opportunity to try out something new and you never know it could become a new favorite and turn into an annual event!

What ID has been up to...

We finished up our 3 month project **MOCK STOCK**. It looks like our top 3 were:

#3- Louis Eldrod + 1.93%

#2- Keith Winters + 2.83 %

...and taking it all home with the win...

#1- Mike Tucker +4.83% Way 2 Go Tucker!

I took 13th (my favorite # BTW) with a -14.33% if you want to know who dead last was...come to the membership meeting and find out!

Thank you Tamara and Eric Ruth for orchestrating a wonderful project!

Thank you Lynda Solin for putting together "**Help my house is on Fire!**". New member Anton Spence taught a highly informative class about how to prepare yourself and home in case your property is damaged due to a natural disaster. Anton is an insurance agent with American Family Insurance. For those who came we were taught about itemizing what is in your home and keeping documents in safe places. We received free first aid kits, detail lists to fill out and all had a chance to win a TomTom GPS system. The winner was Dubby. We are having a follow up to this event. If you show us a filled out detail list by the October membership meeting on the 16th, you will have a chance to win a fireproof safe. Even if you didn't come to the project you can pick up a detail list and instructions at the August membership meeting on the 22nd. You are also welcome to contact Anton himself aspence@amfam.com to get a list. A quick thank you to Victor and Kerri for arranging for the use of the meeting room at Woolsey Wilton.

Coming up in ID...

We will be starting our **BOOK CLUB** sometime in September so be on the lookout for more info.

We also are very close to setting a date for our **PLAN 4 THE FUTURE** project in October. This project is 3 tiered. Part 1 will enlighten us on the ins and outs of having a Will to ensure your family knows what your wishes are. Part 2 will explain the importance of pre planning your final resting wishes. Part 3 will provide important information about obtaining the perfect life insurance for your family. realize this doesn't seem like a particularly FUN project but it is truly very IMPORTANT project to truly take care of ourselves as adults. I highly recommend "planning" to attend.

Remember to take everything out of the Jaycees you can get...

Community Development by Tamara Parker

Hello Jaycees!

It's the beginning of the school year again and we want to support our Adopt-A-School, Calvin Coolidge by having a **school supplies drive** at our membership/past presidents party. Just bring some school supplies- paper, pens, pencils, markers, folders etc.- that we can donate to the school. I'm also planning to form a committee to focus on what we could do for Calvin Coolidge this coming school year. Please contact me if you are interested in being a part of this team.

We are also hoping to run a **food drive** for the Peoria Community before the Thanksgiving Holiday. The recession has hit Peoria hard and maybe we can do our part to help families in need make their Holiday season a blessed one.

Night Golf is fast approaching. Night Golf will be held on September 20 at Detweiler Golf Course starting at 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person with the proceeds going to Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Peoria Jaycees. There is space for a total of 18 four-person scramble teams divided into three divisions: men, women, and mixed. The winning team from each division will receive medals. Participants will use either a 7 or 8 iron and a putter. This event sells out most years so it is advisable to submit your entry forms ASAP. Entry forms can be downloaded at jaycees.com.

I know it seems too early to think about Christmas, but if anyone is interested in chairing either **the Santa Visits the Kids** project or the **Santa's Little Helpers** project, please contact me. These projects are great projects for newer members to run. Santa Visits the Kids involves taking presents and food to families at the Salvation Army Mission and presents to children at Children's Home. The Santa's Little Helpers project is when we take 10-15 students from our adopt-a-school to breakfast and then shopping at Walmart to buy gifts for their families with a gift card that we provide. Then we return to the school and help them wrap the gifts so they can show their love and share in the Christmas spirit of giving with their families.

I would like to take this opportunity to open the floor for future community projects and ideas. Please feel free to contact me.

Chapter Management by Kristin Smead



Hello Jaycees!

This has been an exciting year so far with a lot of great and successful events. Lets add one more to it! **Rock The Boat** really ROCKED this year! A big thank you to Renee Beard for chairing the fifth annual Rock the Boat. Also, a big thank you to all of the Jaycees that helped out and those that attended. We all had a great time socializing, eating and boogieing down with Rachel's Hippo. The proceeds this year went to Habitat for Humanity and back to the chapter to fund many more of our projects.

This fall we will not be hosting the Haunted House which was one of our largest chapter management events. If you have any projects that you would like to see run this fall send me your CPGs. There has been talk of a masquerade ball this fall so be on the lookout for new projects. If you have never run a project or would like to just talk about some new ideas for projects that you have, feel free to talk to me or any of the board members to get more information on how to get started. This is your chance as a Jaycee to start something new and exciting!

State Director's Report by Victor Dzekunkas



On July 19, the Peoria Jaycees entered a team in the Le-Win Jaycees **Mud Volleyball Tournament**. We changed things up this year and camped the night before so we would be well rested. This paid off as we doubled our match wins from last year with 2 victories to go with 2 loses. Way to represent Peoria.

On Aug. 2, the Peoria Jaycees met with the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees at **Mackinaw Valley Vineyard** for a summer social. There was a tour of the vineyard followed by a tasting of wines. Later, we were able to enjoy the live music of Bubblegum Jack while making new friends. We should definitely get together with the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees more often. A good time was had by all!

The **State Planning Boards** were held on August 2. One big thing happened at planning boards. Scott Ulrich was nominated to be the 2009 Illinois Jaycees State President. Scott has served many roles in the Jaycees- Peoria Jaycees Treasurer and Chapter Management VP, Prairieland Region Director, and Area 2 VP for the state. Voting for Scott will take place at the November General Assembly. I will have further details on the GA in next month's Charge!

That's it for this month. PEACE.

Peoria Jaycees Building Fund Collapses

The Peoria Jaycees Building Fund recently lost over 75% of its value due to poor investment decisions. Tamara Ruth chaired a project called Mock Stock. This training would give the participants some valuable real world experience in investing by buying and selling stocks, bonds, and mutual funds in the virtual world without risking any money. The person whose portfolio increased the most over the 3-month investment period would win a fabulous prize. 18 people decided to take advantage of this opportunity. The results were very good in the beginning with an average of 5% gains over the first month. Unfortunately, the mock stock participants became a little too confident and wanted to branch out and invest real money. They requested to manage the building fund for the final two months of the contest which the building fund committee agreed to for some unknown reason. Unfortunately, the results were not good. Toby Quin evidently misunderstood Tamara and bought high and sold low. Mary Gordon did not take into account the commission as she bought a few shares of cheap stocks from several companies that would have to double just to cover the commission. The real blow came when Dale Loshier decided to invest the whole building fund in Comtech Group Inc, COGO on NASDAQ. COGO is based in China and is a leading design services provider, serving the wireless, telecom equipment, and home entertainment industries. The day after purchasing COGO it lost over 60% of its value and has yet to recover. "China is the fastest growing economy in the world. The Olympics should only increase the exposure of Chinese products", commented Dale when asked why he chose COGO. Linda Thomas, Peoria Jaycees President, had this to say about this development. "This was incredibly bad news for the Jaycees. We have been investing money for over 30 years in hopes of getting our own building. Just when we had enough funds to begin preparations for the building, this setback occurred. I will forever be known as the President who presided over the death of the building fund." Mike Tucker was the winner of the Mock Stock with a return of 4.93%. Unfortunately, he did not receive a fabulous prize as the Jaycees had no money to pay for it. Instead, he received a signed photo of John Ritter, an investment consultant for Edward Jones.

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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This Issue

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- * Summer Bar Olympics