

Hit the road for Spring All-State Convention



**Spencer Sokoly,
State Delegate**

It has been a busy couple of months for the Saint Paul Jaycees and many of our members have traveled the state for different events. In February, we had a large contingent visit the Hopkins Jaycees at their annual War On Winter, a large social event celebrating the end of winter. Our chap-

ter also provided great representation at State Bowling, in Eagan, the first weekend of March with two outstanding teams. State convention. May 13 - 15 the Minnesota Jaycees will host Spring All-State convention at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd. The state convention is an opportunity to honor and celebrate the great projects and the great work that has been done throughout the state of Minnesota for first quarter 2005. State conventions not only recognize a job well done, they also provide opportunity for professional development. With training classes as well as competitions, all-state conventions give you a great opportunity to work on your speaking and writing skills.

ter also provided great representation at State Bowling, in Eagan, the first weekend of March with two outstanding teams.

Most importantly, state conventions are a lot of fun. It provides a weekend surrounded by friends, hear new ideas, learn new skills and a chance to possibly earn a few more bragging rights.

We have also had a team representing our chapter at Regional Darts on Sunday nights. If there are any dart phenoms within our organization please e-mail or call me.

I hope to see Saint Paul well represented in Brainerd. Please let me know if you have any questions about All-State Convention.

I would like to see us continue the Roadrun momentum and see large representation from the Saint Paul Jaycees at the upcoming All-

**See page 8 to learn more about
Convention competitions.**

Read any good books?

Well, here's your opportunity! We will read the book *Twelve Branches*, which was a project that was done by the Friends of the St. Paul Library. This book is written by four different authors who visited twelve library branches within the St. Paul Library system to interview patrons. They then wrote 12 short stories using material from the interviews. As an added bonus, one or two of the authors will be meeting with us to talk about how the book was written, and give us their own insights into the stories.

The Friends of the St. Paul Library have offered to make the book available to interested Saint Paul Jaycees for the cost of \$5.00 per book. The Individual Development Team will make the books available at the March and April General Membership Meetings. We are strongly encouraging folks who are attending the book club to read the book prior to the event, and to come with questions prepared.

The Saint Paul Jaycee Book Club will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, on May 4, at the Merriam Park Library, in the large meeting room in the basement. If you have any questions, need directions or a copy of the book please contact the project chair, Anneke Schultz: (h) 651-917-8272 or at ajohns14@comcast.net.

What would you do if you knew you couldn't fail?



**Laura Chesney,
President**

Just recently, I was sitting in the office of John Bennett, Sr. Vice President of University Bank, talking about the Saint Paul Jaycees and corporate sponsorship. Sitting on his desk was a cube with the following quote on it, "What would you do if you knew you wouldn't fail?" What a powerful and thought provoking question. It's amazing how many times, since that meeting, I have thought about that quote. Every time I sat down to write this month's article, that quote kept coming into my mind.

What would we, as a chapter, do if we knew we wouldn't fail? Quite honestly, I think we do it already. We run 120+ events each year. When we start them, we aren't thinking about failure - we're thinking about their success. We think about the number of kids who are going to have fun and learn, the benefits to the community, the amount of money we'll raise to

help keep our chapter viable, the number of members we'll get to keep our chapter growing strong and the number of members who will develop both personally and professionally.

But, even if we did have a project that didn't go as well as planned, that doesn't mean that we failed. It just means that we learned something along the way. We might not that particular project again, but we'll use what we learned when we run other events. In my mind, as long as we can learn from it, it isn't failure - it's knowledge.

Knowing that, everything we do in our chapter we should do knowing we won't fail!

The Saint Paul Jaycees are proud to welcome University Bank as our newest corporate sponsor. Look for a company profile in the May issue of the *Connection*.

Leadership Development gives back to the community



**Debbie Ackerman,
Community Development Vice President**

Are you looking for ways to develop your leadership skills? Would you like to take ownership in a project designed to improve our community? Do you enjoy working with kids? If you answered yes to any of these questions, both CIC (Community Involvement Committee) and YAC (Youth Activities Committee) are looking for people to chair or co-chair upcoming events.

We are looking for someone to facilitate a game night/flower planting with the Marian Center, work with the Grand Avenue Business Association to help with the Grand Old Day Parade, solicit volunteers to assist H.E.A.R.T. (Helping Enable Alcoholics/Addicts Receive Treatment) with their annual silent auction. If you are interested in helping chair an event working with children, we have Pitch, Hit and Run (a baseball skills competition) coming up in May and we also need someone to organize the tailgating party for the Midway Little League team we sponsor.

Chairing an event is a great way to develop leadership skills. If you haven't chaired an event before never fear, we will work with you and guide you

through writing a CPG (Chairperson's Planning Guide), presenting the project to the board and running the project. Please contact Debbie Ackerman at 612-868-2356 or debbieackerman@comcast.net if you are interested in helping to chair an upcoming event.

Express yourself at spring convention



**Karla Winter,
Individual
Development
Director**

Each year members have the opportunity to develop their skills in speaking, writing and debating through the competitions program held at the state conventions. At this year's Spring All State Convention, Saint Paul Jaycee members can compete in Write-Up, Speak-Up, Debate and Jaycee Jeopardy.

Write-Up and Speak-Up competitions are designed to give members an opportunity to refine their writing and public speaking skills. The topics for Spring All State are:

- The key to life is balance.
- If I walked out this door right now...
- My reality show

Participants in Write-Up select one of the three topics and compose a 500 word essay. These are submitted prior to the start of the convention and the winner is announced at the banquet held on Saturday. The winner also has his or her winning essay published in *The Gopher*, the Minnesota Jaycee publication.

Participants in Speak-Up select one of the three topics and write a three to five minute speech. Then at the Spring All State Convention the prepared speech is given in front of judges who determine the winner based on delivery, speech content, salesmanship and continuity.

Do you have no problem expressing your opinion? Then the Debate competition is for you. Debate is a team competition, consisting of one coach and two debaters. The topics for the debates are not revealed until the debate and vary from current news to Jaycee issues.

Winners from Write-Up, Speak-Up and Debate at Spring All State will compete against the winners from the Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans Convention, in Sept. 2005, to determine who will represent Minnesota at the 2006 National Convention.

The just for fun competition is Jaycee Jeopardy and is a great way to get excited about and getting to know more about the Jaycees. Simply take a written test which tests your knowledge of the Jaycees and the top four competitors will be called back for an oral round which will consist of five questions.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above, please contact Karla Winter at klynwinter@yahoo.com by April 10, 2005. All those participating will have their convention registration paid for, although room costs are on your own.

Moonlight Bowling

Did you miss the moonlight bowling with the Hugo chapter or state bowling in March? Come join the Saint Paul Jaycees for cosmic bowling.

On April 16, from 10:15 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. we will meet at West Side Lanes for a night of bowling and fun! Whether you form your own team or are coming solo, there is no limit, just be sure to RSVP to the chair Robin Olson by Thursday April 14, at Tweediebyrd1@aol.com.

Event: Cosmic Bowling

Date: Saturday, April 16th

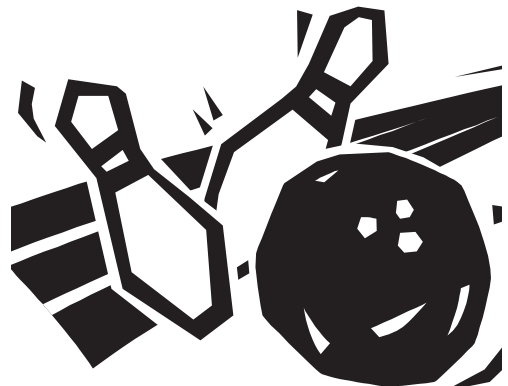
Time: 10:15pm - 1:00am.

Place: West Side Lanes

1625 S. Robert Street
W Saint Paul

Phone: 651-451-6222

Cost: \$14.00/person (includes ball and shoes)



Spring into city crawl and healthy challenges



Kathy Harvey,
Programs Director

Mayor Kelly was very disappointed that he had to miss our General Membership Meeting in March, so we have rescheduled him for our April Meeting on the 21st.

Spring is here and it is time to get out and explore the great city of St. Paul. What better way to do that than with the Annual Saint Paul Art Crawl? Local artists created the Art Crawl to provide a public venue to display their work and interact with the community. Art is displayed at almost twenty buildings in downtown St. Paul. You can enjoy the Art Crawl with fellow Jaycees on Friday evening, April 22. Typically, we meet at a central location for appetizers (cost is your own), depart for various art locations, and reconvene at the end of the night to discuss our experiences. Keep an eye on the web site or the *What's Happening* email for more information as we finalize these details.

Coming in May, is the Healthy Living Challenge (HLC). The kick-off will be at the May General Membership Meeting. The challenge started in 2004, by then Saint Paul Jaycees President, Lisa Hiebert. This year, the program expanded to a state program for the Minnesota Jaycees. It will include activities in at least four areas that will help you achieve more balanced, healthy living, including: Nutrition, Physical Activity, Stress Management and Spirituality. If you would like to recommend or chair an activity for any of these areas, please contact me. Look for more detailed information in the May issue of *Connection*.

Do you want to party with the STARS?

So do you want an invite to the most exclusive party in town? All you have to do is earn a "Membership Star" during a trimester this year. Each party will have a theme, and the first STARS Party theme will be "Party like a ROCK STAR". There will fun, laughter and, of course, fabulous prizes! Each star you and your friends earn, goes towards the drawing for prizes, but you must be present to win! The first STARS Party is scheduled for Friday, May 20th - so mark your calendar and work on earning your STAR this trimester. Hope to see you there!

There are two simple ways for members to earn Membership STARS - here's how:

JAYCEE MEMBERS	YOUR FRIENDS
BRING A FRIEND, EARN A STAR. Invite a friend to an project or event, and if he or she gives us their contact information*, you earn a "STAR."	ATTEND A PROJECT, EARN A STAR. This can be anything, a New Member Orientation, a Meet and Greet...whatever! All your friend has to do is give us their contact information*. (maximum 2 stars per trimester)
BONUS STAR, If your friend join. Even if it's months down the road, you earn another star!	BONUS STAR, if your friend joins. Just like you, even if it's months down the road, he or she will earn another star.
-OR-	-OR-
SIGN A MEMBER, EARN TWO STARS. If you sign a friend outright, we'll give two stars for a job well done!	JOIN and EARN TWO STARS. So your friend joined on the great salesmanship job you gave them...we'll give them two stars for the leap of faith!
*Contact information is Name, email or phone number.	
**Eligible friends must be Jaycee age and not a member of another chapter.	

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event details are on the backside of this calendar. Selected Road Run opportunities are indicated in *italics*.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Meet & Greet	2
3	4	5 Individual Development Committee Meeting	6	7	8	12
10	11 CIC/YAC Committee Meeting Board Meeting	12	13	14	15	16 Moonlight bowling
17	18 <i>Road Run: Regional Meeting</i>	19 Live Trivia Pub Quiz	20	21 General Membership Meeting	22 St. Paul Art Crawl	23
24	25 Board Meeting	26	27	28 Best 100 - Art Pickup	29	30
		<p>April birthday wishes go out to: Laura Chesney, Bridget Delaney, Erin Erickson, Shannon Gherty, Nicole Goodson, Shirley Lee, Felicia Lyons, Chris Marsh, Cindy Miller, Tim Simplot, Elyssa Weber</p>				

APRIL EVENTS DETAILS

1st - Meet and Greet

6:00 p.m. at Buggs,
925 Concord St, South St. Paul
Greta Utvik at 651.457.3310

16th Moonlight Bowling

10:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.
West Side Lanes
1625 S. Robert Street, West St. Paul
Robin Olson at 651.451.6222

19th Live Trivia Pub Quiz

7:00 p.m. at O'Gara's
164 Snelling Ave N, St. Paul
Gena Johnston at 651.226.6312

21st General Membership Meeting/Mayor's Social

7:00 p.m. at O'Gara's
164 Snelling Ave N, St. Paul
Kathy Harvey at 651.578.6884

22nd St. Paul Art Crawl

5:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Christos Two
214 E 4th St, St. Paul
Kathy Harvey at 651.578.6884

28th LF Best 100 Art Exhibition- Pick up

2:45 p.m. to 6 p.m.
St. Paul Academy and Summit School
Harry M. Drake Gallery
1712 Randolph Ave, St. Paul
Elizabeth Lukanen at 651.698.5331

Get in the know!

Visit our website at www.stpauljaycees.org
to sign up for events online. Or receive our weekly
"What's Happening" email by requesting to join our
Yahoo! group:
groups.yahoo.com/groups/stpauljaycees.

Board Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month.

They start at 6:30 p.m. at the Saint Paul Chamber of Commerce offices and are always open to the general membership.

Regional Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of every month. They start at 7:00 p.m. at Wells Lanes, 365 Concord Exchange, South St. Paul

2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dawn Wojtowicz, Youth Activities Director

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Email: dawnwojto@msn.com

Interested in shooting for the stars with this great group of people? Contact President Laura if you are interested in any of the following open positions:
Management Development Vice President, Fundraising Chair, Webmaster, PR Director, Membership - Activation Chair.

Upcoming Meet & Greets

Share a drink or two with your fellow Jaycees. This monthly event is a great time to get to know other members. Meet and Greets are the first Friday of every month and it is purely a social event, no Jaycee business is discussed.

Friday, April 1st - 6pm - Buggs Place

(We will be celebrating President Laura's birthday!)

Friday, May 6th - McGoverns Upstairs

Friday, June 10rd
- Great Waters Brewing Company



Live Trivia Pub Quiz

O'Gara's Bar & Grill

164 N. Snelling Avenue, St. Paul (651-644-3333)

April 19, 2004 7:00pm -- ?

Teams can be up to five members at a table
Six rounds of live trivia covering topics from: movies, sports, music, current events and more!!
Test your knowledge, drink some beer and have a great time!
\$15 per team

Check out www.stpauljaycees.org for more information and to sign up!

Hosted by native Irishman John Cosgrove & Supported by:



2005 Incentive/Activation Program Details

Shoot for the

S T A R S

Service (CD)	Training (ID)	Action (MD)	Recruiting (Membership)	Socializing (Roadruns/State Delegate)
Participate in one Youth Activities (YAC) event	Participate in two recreation events	Participate in two fundraising events	Sign a new member	Attend two Roadrun events
AND	OR	OR	OR	OR
Participate in one Community Involvement (CIC) event	Compete in an individual competition at State Convention (I.e. Write-Up, Speak-Up, Debate, Jaycee Jeopardy, etc.)	Chair a fundraising event	Attend 8 out of 12 General Membership Meetings	Be part of a Chapter Roadrun (3 or more chapter members)
OR	OR		OR	
Chair a YAC or CIC event	Chair an ID event	Be a STAR Party qualifier 2 out of 3 "quarters"		

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We encourage all new members to attend our New Member Orientation, to learn more about the organization, programming opportunities, and meet fellow new members.

- Chris Aune
- Lori Baker
- Kelly Wagner
- Tom Stuurop
- Tim Knutson
- Sara Evans

Get to know our new members

Chris Aune is an employee of St. Paul Travelers. Chris likes playing golf, bowling, going to the lake, being with friends, taking walks, and working out. Chris was encouraged to join by Kelly Wagner.

Phil Baumer works for Sherwin-Williams. Phil likes to run, play basketball and hang out with friends. Phil was encouraged to join by Joy Goodwin.

Tim Knutson works for the Veteran's Administration. He had an entourage encouraging him to join - Amy Bicek, Katie Merrild and Anne Currie.

Tom Stuurop works for the MN Swarm. He is new to the area and is anxious to get involved with the chapter.

Kelly Wagner works for St. Paul Travelers and enjoys hanging out with friends, reading, going to movies, meeting new people, working out, playing any type of sport for fun - basically, she's pretty much up for anything once! Kelly was encouraged to join by Josh Bohmbach.

Dave Wenell is an Information Architect at U.S. Bank. He enjoys scuba diving, home remodeling and good laugh. A bona fide computer geek, he is looking forward to meeting new people, trying new things and having fun. He was asked to join by Admin VP Erin McComb.

Where in the World is President Laura's gavel?

New member, Tim Knutson, gets his first glimpse of the elusive presidential gavel. Where will the gavel appear next? Check your next issue of the Connection to find out!

Submit your idea on what Tim is saying to VP Erin, by emailing her at erin@gumpton.com. The winner will be announced in May's Connection.

Jaycee of the Month

Aneke Schultz

You can blink because you certainly won't miss her - she's everywhere!! Anneke was especially present during the second weekend Winter Carnival Merchandise Sales. She looked at the sign-up and filled in where there were empty spots - including one working right after she got done running the Frozen 5K race!! Thanks for all your hard work Anneke.

New Jaycee of the Month Justin Wilm

As a new Jaycee, Justin has been out and about at a lot of events in February. He attending the Meet & Greet/Regional Social at Fabulous Ferns, volunteered at the Torchlight Parade, played games with the residents at the Amy Johnson Valentine's Party and attended the February General Membership Meeting. He's another member that's everywhere!!!



Joseph C. Uchytel Blood Drive success!

The first Joseph C. Uchytel Blood Drive of 2005 was held on March 12, 2005.

Twelve units of whole blood were collected, one unit of platelets were collected.

A total of 20 Saint Paul Jaycees participated in the project, and six of them were new members. That is just terrific!

Our hearty thanks and congratulations to you all! We hope you know that you are some body's hero, as through your donation, you are helping to save lives.

First time donors:

Gena Johnston
 Anne Currie
 Kurt Nelson
 Phil Baumer
 Bryant Hardy

Earning their one gallon pin (8 pints)

Rob Sakkinen
 Anneke Schultz



Justin Wilm and first time donor, Gena Johnston show their support.



Barb Uchytel and Karla Winter were among the many volunteers and donors.



Kurt Nelson of Real Estate Masters has been an active Saint Paul Jaycee member for over four years. He has also served on the Board of Directors.

THE SAINT PAUL JAYCEES' TOP REALTOR

"Kurt definitely went above and beyond the call of duty to respond to the unique needs of selling our townhouse."

Lisa & Chris Hiebert

"Kurt made the entire selling and buying process completely stress-free. His professionalism and experience, made the whole process smooth as silk."

Kathy Harvey

Over a decade of experience, helping my clients find their way home.

Need help buying or selling? Call Kurt today.
 Email: kurt10@comcast.net Phone: 651-730-9922



Licensed in MN & WI.

Kurt Nelson is proud to sponsor this issue of the *Connection*

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 great treasure lies in human personality;
And that service to humanity is the best work of life.

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- Anchor Bank of St. Paul
- Briggs and Morgan, P.A.
- St. Paul Travelers
- TDS Metrocom
- University Bank
- Wilkerson, Guthmann & Johnson, Ltd.

THANK YOU

- **Elizabeth Lukanen** for chairing the Les Farrington Best 100 Juried Art Exhibition
- **Josh Ackerman** (Lake Elmo Jaycees) for designing the logo for the Les Farrington Best 100 Juried Art Exhibition
- **Dawn Wojtowicz** for chairing the Les Farrington Triple Play Leg #2
- **Barb Uchityl and Justin Wilm** for chairing the Joseph C. Uchytel Blood Drive at the Red Cross
- **Beth and Dan Sazl** for chairing "Let Dish"
- **Matt Dougherty** for chairing the Minnesota Swarm Game
- **Abby Sookraj** for chairing the Summit Brewery Tour