

CONNECTION

A SAINT PAUL JAYCEES PUBLICATION

MEMBERS OF  JCI

www.stpauljaycees.org

March 2010. Volume 23. Issue Three

How Would You Grow Membership?



Joy Goodwin
84th President

Coming into my eighth year of membership, I know that the challenges that face our organization are not unique to my year as president. The chapter needs to grow membership; currently there are not enough people to run all of the fundraising events

that are needed to keep the chapter financially viable. That leads to another challenge: raising the money we need to cover our operating costs. If we can't maintain our operating costs and we don't have members, how do we continue to provide the community of Saint Paul the service and programs that we do?

Every year, we run many of the same events and fundraisers hoping somehow we recruit new members and raise enough money to pay our bills. However, we can't expect different results if we do much of the same. I recognize that as a volunteer organization, it is hard to ask people to take the extra steps necessary to institute change.

Well, what if there wasn't a next year? Or what if you had all the time and resources in the world to institute a change that would meet the challenges that the organization faces year after year? How would you do things differently?

In school, I recently read about "catalytic mechanisms." A catalytic mechanism is a change that triggers multiple actions across a system. By their very nature, catalytic mechanisms have a ripple effect—they tend to trigger further actions, often unexpectedly. Since they spread responsibility and accountability over a large part of the organization, catalytic mechanisms are powerful tools for sweeping people into a change effort.*

This got me thinking about what catalytic mechanism the Jaycees could use to draw members to our organization, give us the money we need, or give us the time we need to put more efforts into organizing membership drives and finding long-term fundraisers. As of now, I do not have an answer, but I have asked the board to start thinking about it too. It's not something I expect us to uncover overnight, but I hope that by visiting with current members and alumni, we can find those opportunities for change. Hopefully we will find those ideas that will have a ripple effect throughout the organization.

The questions I am posing are not meant to be rhetorical. I welcome your feedback and ideas. Please give me a call (612) 508-8699 or send me an email justjoy1@gmail.com.

**Gilmore, Tom; Pool, Ivy; Charvat, Benjamin. Using Catalytic Mechanisms to Drive and Institutionalize Change. 2002. <http://www.cfar.com/Documents/Catamech>.*

Les Farrington Best 100 Excitement Continues

Josh Ackerman
Community Development Vice President

The Saint Paul Jaycees started the Les Farrington Best 100 Juried Art Exhibition in 1957, making this year the 53rd anniversary. This event is now the longest-running project organized by the chapter. The Saint Paul area high school students are invited to submit their original artwork for competition to be judged by a panel of three jurors from the art community.

This year's judges are Amy Clark, Scott Demeranville, and Lynda Monick-Isenberg. Amy is an artist at AZ Gallery and is also a past Best 100 participant. Scott is in charge of deciding which pieces of artwork are displayed in the Black Dog Café, which is adjacent to the AZ Gallery. Lynda is Chair of the Foundation Program and Coordinator of the Teaching Artist Program at the College of Visual Arts; she is also a Best 100 returning judge.

The judges will be narrowing down more than 1,000 pieces that were submitted for the event. There are multiple rounds of judging. The first round is presenting all the artwork submitted. Those selected are placed in the back room of the gallery for other rounds. For the next rounds, the judges work hard to filter and compare different styles and views. There is much debate over pieces, as they want to make sure that the best 100 are really the Best 100. You would think that 100 pieces of art would be plenty of art and therefore easy to narrow down. I can tell you, it is not that easy. I have worked this event from the back room for the last six years and my experience is that the judges do not have an easy job figuring out the best of the best.

The Opening Gala starts on March 4th. The AZ Gallery is packed to the ceiling with kids, parents, and other VIPs who attend! The Gala is where the artists are honored and presented with their certificates. The chapter distributes over \$4,000 in scholarships with the help of the Saint Paul Jaycees Charitable Foundation.

I truly love this project. To demonstrate my passion, I started volunteering for this project long before I was a member of this chapter!

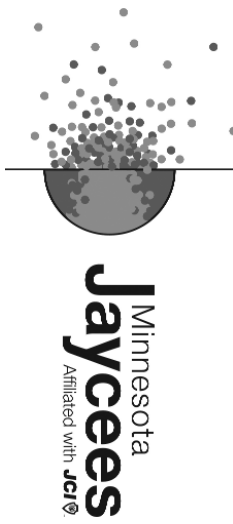
The Best 100 is a HUGE project with an amazing history. The AZ Gallery will be home to the Best 100 art pieces for the month of March. The gallery is free and open to the public on weekends. The gallery is located at 308 Prince Street, Suite 130, Saint Paul, MN 55101.

LES FARRINGTON BEST 100 JURIED ART EXHIBITION

For more information on how to volunteer and attend this event, visit www.stpauljaycees.org and click on "Calendar of Events".

For more information on the AZ Gallery, visit www.theazgallery.org.





401 Robert Street, Suite 150
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Leadership Development Through Community Service

www.stpauljaycees.org

Special thanks to our corporate sponsors

Travelers

Wilkerson & Associates

Anchor Bank

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 treasury lies in human personality;

And that service to humanity is the best work of life.

Upcoming Events

Please see our website for complete details
www.stpauljaycees.org

Thurs., March 4 - Best 100 Opening Gala; AZ Gallery

Fri., March 5 - Meet and Greet Social; Shamrocks

Sat., March 6 - MN Jaycees Bowling Tournament; Mankato

Sun., March 7 - MN Jaycees Bowling Tournament; Mankato

Sat., March 13 - Treasure Island Casino & Bowling; Red Wing

Thurs., March 18 - Membership Meeting; El Toro

Fri., March 26 - City Pages Wine Tasting; Int'l Market Square

Mon., March 29 - Ruffed Grouse Society Dinner; Hastings

Sunday, Feb 28 - Best 100 Art Pick-up; AZ Gallery

City Pages Wine Tasting

Mark your calendars to help us with our latest fundraiser on March 26.

Contact Sandra Sims for more details at LLee1605@yahoo.com or (612) 221-6113



Image courtesy of MGM



2010 Stats Corner

What have we accomplished this year?

Total Members: 98

Funds Raised: \$600

Manhours Executing Community Events: 128 hours

Committee of the Month

Annual Gala Committee

Thank you to Dawn Stillmunkes, Kerri Booher, Natalie Vestin, Anneke Schultz, and Kari Keller for their efforts in planning and executing a wonderful evening. The team worked countless hours to plan an event that recognized the Chapter's accomplishments in 2009 and welcomed the 2010 board of directors.