

401 North Robert Street - Suite 150 - Saint Paul, MN 55101 – Phone 651/222-1708 - Fax 651/223-5119
www.stpauljaycees.org

DATE: 17 July 2003

CONTACT: Blair Selk
612/667/1785 (work)
651/295/9872 (cell)

Lisa Dinzeo Named 78th President

Newest Saint Paul Jaycee President will lead diamond jubilee celebration

SAINTE PAUL, Minn.— The Saint Paul Jaycees announced last night that Lisa Dinzeo will lead the chapter as President during its Jubilee Year. Dinzeo, a five-year member of the Saint Paul Jaycees, will be the organization's 78th president.

"I was thrilled when I learned that Lisa would be our next president," said Quinn Kolb, 77th President of the Saint Paul Jaycees. "She has the breadth of knowledge, experience and personality that makes a good leader great. She truly believes in the Jaycee organization and what it can and does do for so many young adults and the communities they live and work in. I look forward to working with her in the coming months as she prepares for her presidency!"

Rather than subject its members to campaigning candidates, the Saint Paul Jaycees designate a chapter committee to review all members eligible to serve and invite the best candidate to be Chapter President. Dinzeo will be formally endorsed by the membership at their monthly social in November and will take the oath of office at the Saint Paul Jaycees' Annual Gala in January. Between now and January, she will be busy assigning positions for the 2004 Board of Directors and setting goals for the chapter to accomplish in the coming year.

"Originally, I joined the Jaycees to become more involved in local community service projects," said Dinzeo. "I am truly honored and excited to serve as the chapter's president, and plan to continue to provide a variety of great opportunities and projects for our chapter members and the greater St. Paul community in which we serve."

While she will assume the role of the 78th President, Dinzeo is one of only nine women to serve this role in a chapter history that dates back to 1929. Starting in 1975, the Saint Paul chapter began admitting women as regular members, an act that prompted the U.S. Jaycees to threaten revocation of Saint Paul's charter. When Saint Paul elected Anne Ford Nelson as its first woman President, the charter was revoked. The Saint Paul Jaycees sued, taking the case to the Supreme Court, challenging that the U.S. Jaycees cannot deny any membership based on gender. The court ruled in favor of Saint Paul in April 1984, and its charter was restored by the end of August 1984.

Throughout her membership in the Jaycees, Dinzeo has been recognized for her contributions to the Saint Paul chapter. She received a gold key in 2001 as the Director of Community Involvement. Dinzeo has also received two bronze key awards, as well as recognized as the Jaycee of the Month twice. Last year, she chaired the inaugural Jaycee Garage Sale, which received state honors as the Gold Jaycee Project of the Quarter.

Dinzeo served as Community Involvement Director on the chapter's 2001 Board of Directors. In that role, she was instrumental in setting the chapter's agenda for community-oriented activities throughout the year. Under her direction the chapter participated in more than 20 community projects that year, including the Cinco de Mayo parade, Grand Old Day, Families First: Touch-a-Truck, Amy Johnson Residence ice cream social, Great River Greening project, and Habitat for Humanity.

Dinzeo grew up in Roseville, Minnesota, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1996. She recently completed her Masters in Business Administration from the University of St. Thomas. In addition to the Jaycees, Dinzeo has also volunteered with the Grand Avenue Business Association, Saint Paul Winter Carnival, Dispute Resolution Center, and Children's Home Society. She works as director of marketing and communications at Saint Thomas Academy, where she has been employed since 2000.

About the Saint Paul Jaycees

The Jaycee organization offers its members opportunities to serve their community, establish rewarding friendships, and create professional contacts. The Saint Paul chapter is one of Minnesota's largest, with nearly 200 members, and will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2004. Saint Paul and surrounding communities benefit from 120 Jaycee-run projects each year.

###