



Leader

Omaha Chapter of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce

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www.omahajaycees.org

Thankful for the Extraordinary Year



Last week was the Thanksgiving holiday and now that December is here I wanted to ask, "WHERE DID THE YEAR GO?" It seems like only yesterday that I was writing my January newsletter article as your new Omaha Jaycees President.

We had our more well-known and signature projects this last year that fell under the Management area that was led by VP Becky Kaup. We started the

year with TOYO Teens ceremony in May, Vibes all summer, Volleypalooza and Cox Classic in July, and ending the year with TOYO that will be held in January 2010. Becky had a great team this year with Lizzy Rasmussen, Kamilla Janitell, John McDermott, and Tim Lens. Management projects take months of planning but her team was great at making sure that whatever obstacles they had that the events went off with out any issues. Thank you to Becky for providing the leadership and attention to detail to her area. I wish her much success on TOYO being held next month. Side note...this is my all time favorite event of the Omaha Jaycees, please try to attend this event because it really is a great experience to see what great talent Omaha has to offer and the great things YPs are doing!

VP Lisa Tonjes led the Individual Development area this past year which was in charge of our speakers at the GMM but also organized other events such as YP Mayoral Debates, Bemis Center Tour and Speed Networking. Lisa's team was made up of Shonda Molacek and Kevin Vanourney. ID this year listened to our membership survey and provided new locations for our GMM's, new speakers and just overall new experiences for our members. I would like to thank Lisa for putting extra effort to truly provide development to our members this past year.

Our Community projects were headed up by VP Bruce Moritz this year. This year we did projects such as Special Olympics, Farming for the Food Bank, Night Sight Golf, Drumstick on Wheels and then Hometown Holidays is later this month. Bruce had a great team with Tami McDowell and Meghan Spence. My appreciation goes out to Bruce for leading the backbone of what being a Jaycee is, which is "service to humanity is the best work of life."

This last year the Membership area was guided by VP Wesley Siebert. Not only is Membership in charge of keeping track of all our members but they also planned such events at the monthly FAC, Summer Social, and Winter Social. Wesley's team was comprised of Aaron Luneke, Brent Proulx, and Molly Woodworth. I would like to express gratitude to Wesley for having the difficult task of keeping track of all our members and making that personal friendship connection with our members.

I had my own team that was made up of what I called the Admin team. They worked with all the VP's to complete their duties. I had Bridget Eggers (PR Director), Lindsay Gust (Treasurer/Secretary), Keith Le Blanc (Webmaster), Kevin Kasten (Legal Council), Katie Neddenriep (Newsletter Editor), and Amber Steege (Chairperson of the Board). I want to thank each of them for being able to work with the various areas but most importantly for being able to provide your own personal views on how you think things should be done. Thanks for keeping me in on track!

While I am thanking everyone for a great year I could not forget the one of the most important groups, our members. Thanks for coming out to all the great events. I hope that not only did you meet some great people but enjoyed the Omaha Jaycees experience. We really would not be the chapter we are without the support of our members. Although I will not be your president next year if you have questions please feel free to contact me. I have loved serving as your President and enjoyed the experience.

I wish Tami McDowell all the success in her upcoming year as your 2010 Omaha Jaycees President. She has shown that she has a great drive and ambition that I know will make 2010 another extraordinary year!

"So often we dwell on the things that seem impossible rather than on the things that are possible. So often we are depressed by what remains to be done and forget to be thankful for all that has been done."

~Marian Wright Edelman

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Management

By Rebecca Kaup

Where has the year gone? The months have passed by and December is when I would like to THANK EVERYONE who has helped make 2009 a success for the Management area. I would like to give a big round of applause to my 2009 Management Directors and Chairpersons for their hard work and commitment during the past year. **Lizzy Rasmussen** who continued the great success of TOYO Teens. **Kamilla Janitell** led Volleypalooza and did a fantastic job. We had 16 teams this year and rose over \$400 for the chapter, plus everyone loved our t-shirts designed by our very own member, **Kelly Anderson**. **Tim Lens** led our largest volunteer and fundraising effort with Cox Classic. He did an extraordinary job recruiting numerous volunteers but also managing the 6 viewing boxes for those 4 days. **Mary Jindra**, **Fallon Salvage** and **Cole Groteluschem** controlled the distribution of products out to the viewing boxes during the Cox Classic. You guys did a great job quickly bringing out the needed items to our volunteers. **John McDermott** organized the Village Pointe Vibes volunteers each weekend over the summer. Many of you may not know that for those 16 weeks of Omaha Jaycees being "happy security", Village Pointe donated \$3,000 to the Omaha Jaycees for their appreciation to the chapter for our dedication and that they know we a reliable organization. Each weekend of Vibes one of the Management Directors was out at Village Pointe so volunteers always had a contact person.

TOYO Teens – 6th Annual

TOYO Teens award was created 5 years ago to honor Metro Omaha teens between the ages of 13-19 who are making a difference in the Omaha community. We partner with Village Pointe Shopping Center to acknowledge these teens. The committee is busy contacting schools, organizations and churches to promote the award. The application is due March 15th 2010, but with the holidays quickly approaching they are starting now. If you know of a teen that is involved in the community or has initiated a community project, please encourage them to apply for this year's TOYO Teens award. Applications can be downloaded at www.omahajaycees.org. If you have questions contact the Co-chairs Amy Eggers (ACEGGERS@hotmail.com) or Molly Woodworth (clarkson_molly@yahoo.com).

TOYO 77th

Our longest running event, TOYO (Ten Outstanding Young Omahans) honors those individuals between the ages of 21 and 40 who exemplify commitment to improving the community through selfless acts of kindness while excelling in their professional career. On December 2th, (9) TOYO judges will be interviewing the 15 finalist so that we can narrow them down to 10, plus determine who should be awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

Please mark your calendars for the TOYO Banquet

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Qwest Center Omaha

Cocktail Reception: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

If you are interested in volunteering the night of the banquet, please contact Rebecca Kaup (rakaup@up.com) or 402-680-4896. Volunteer duties will be check-in table, setup, and greeters.

With this momentous event, we are aiming to improve the event and bring it to the true spotlight level that it has become. With that improvement, if your company would be interested in the opportunity of a Sponsorship we offer various opportunities within the TOYO program. Please have your company contact Rebecca Kaup. Otherwise provide him their contact info and he can explain the various levels that are available.

I have enjoyed the past year as Vice President of Management. It has been an awarding experience to see all the chairpersons go thru their ups and downs which in the end all ran successful events! I encourage all Omaha Jaycee members to take up more challenges in the form of chairing a project or getting more involved. If you have suggestions I am always open to hear them. Feel free to give me a call 680-4896 or send me an email, rakaup@up.com.

Individual Development

By Lisa Tonjes

December General Membership Meeting (GMM)

Board Director Elections

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

McKenna's Blues Booze and BBQ

7425 Pacific Street, Omaha, NE 68114

6:00 – 8:00pm

Please join us to elect the Board of Directors for 2010. Come out to support the team that will be leading you in the upcoming year and learn a little more about your fellow members.

Food and Beverages will be provided!

November General Membership Meeting

Dr. Jim Eckman spoke on Ethics in the workplace. He presented us with a questionnaire that really got us thinking about how people view ethics in the workplace.

Speed Networking

Speed Networking will resume in January 2010 after the holiday season.

Contact Lisa Tonjes at tonjes74@yahoo.com or 402-350-3220 if you have questions.

Community Development

By Bruce Moritz

Drumsticks on Wheels

Thank you to the 10 volunteers who delivered Thanksgiving "Turkey n' Fixins" on behalf of the Open Door Mission to disadvantaged families. Our service was certainly appreciated and apparent in the faces of those we helped.

Hometown Holidays

It's once again time for our signature community event of the year. Hometown Holidays provides gifts for the kids of the Nebraska Children's Home, who without our help would not receive any holiday gifts. We are once again working with merchants at Village Pointe Shopping Center who will host holiday trees. Each tree will be decorated with names of children and what they need

this holiday season. Patrons will be encouraged to take a tag and purchase approximate \$50 in gifts for that child. Unwrapped gifts can be returned to those merchants or the Village Pointe Management office. Trees are located at Scooters Coffeehouse, Paradise Bakery and Café and Harry & David. Thank you to the volunteers who set up trees on Tuesday November 24th. Additional volunteers will be needed to shop for children's gifts on Saturday December 19th at Wal-Mart on 72nd and Pine at 9:00 am. For many Jaycees, shopping for Hometown Holidays is their favorite event of the year. This volunteer opportunity fills up quickly. Be sure to get your name submitted early. Contact Bruce Moritz at bmoritz@woodmen.org or bruce_moritz@yahoo.com or signup on our website.

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered for community events this year and wish everyone a very happy holiday season and new year. I hope that you take the time this month to reflect on all that we as a chapter and each of you have accomplished this year. I encourage you to continue your commitment to philanthropic endeavors as a Jaycee and helping to make our community a great city. I would also like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Community Vice President. Please help me welcome Amy Eggers as your new Vice President Community.

Membership

By Wesley Siebert

If you haven't done so already, please make sure to mark the Holiday Social (details below) on your calendar. RSVP immediately as spaces are limited on the bus for the lights tour. This event is **open to the public** and would be an excellent opportunity to introduce other young professionals to the Jaycees.

I want to personally wish "the very best in ALL that you do" to the Omaha Jaycees, especially those VP's and Board Members selected for 2010. It has been an amazing (although not perfect) 2 years and I am personally excited for those who have stepped up in leadership positions for next year.

2009 Holiday Social

When: Friday December 18th 6:00pm-1:00am (Open to the Public)

Where: Sam and Louie's 6920 N 102nd Circle

Take I680N to Blair/Irvington exit, take a left off of the exit, at the 2nd traffic light take a left, continue for a block to Cherry Hills Plaza, it is located in this shopping center.

Details: Dinner at Sam & Louie's and Dirty Santa exchange 6-8pm. Please keep gifts gender-neutral. At 8 the party bus leaves for the Sheppard's Light Christmas Light Display. The bus is limited to 28 people, the first 28 to sign-up that evening at Sam & Louie's will be able to ride the bus. When the bus returns around 9:15 we will be hanging out at Legends bar next door. This would be an excellent opportunity to introduce your friends to the Jaycees organization.

Are You Up for Renewal?

If your name appears below, please contact me (or renew online) by December 14th to receive your discounted renewal rate of \$60.00.

Omahajayceesmembership@yahoo.com

John	McDermott
Kacey	Wandrey
Mark	Wandrey
Michael	Egermier
Rachel	Lewis
Sara	Monk
Shonda	Molacek
Tobin	Vontz
Rob	Schlueter
Don	Williamson
Paula	Nunez

First National Bank Subgroup

By Doug Gilbert

Happy Holidays from the First National Subgroup! We have had a very busy month with projects as well as our board elections. I am pleased to announce the 2010 Subgroup Board:

President-Jessica Coufal
Vice President-Douglas Gilbert
Membership-Debi Havlovic
Treasurer-JR Rother
Secretary-Mary Jane Tritsch

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulation to the new board member's as we are excited for the opportunities involving the group in the next year. We will continue to build off of the membership survey results that we collected last month and are ready to hit the ground running in 2010!

As far as project go we are in the midst of one of our larger community activities with Santa's Helper's. This has been a great tradition that the subgroup has supported bringing awareness to the divisions of FNB, raising money and buying gifts for the kids. Last year First National helped bring Christmas to over 185 children who typically would not get to experience it.

Official Check Presentation from Cox Classic!



December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Justin Jurgens	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Chad Tettenborn	10	11 Velendena Wolfe	12
13	14	15	16 GMM	17 Paul Bures Brent Worick Mark Wandrey	18 Holiday Social	19 Hometown Holidays
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Tara Stingley
27	28 Mike Egermier	29	30 Kevin Vanourney	31		

Birthdays in Black

Omaha Jaycees events in Red