

Our mission is to provide the opportunity for young adults to develop personal and leadership skills through local community service and organizational involvement.

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The  
United States  
Junior  
Chamber

### Bloomington-Normal Jaycees

P.O. Box 42  
Bloomington, IL 61702  
(309) 823-0509

bnjaycees@gmail.com  
www.bnjaycees.org

Membership meetings:  
Second Wednesday  
of every month at J. Buck's  
restaurant in Bloomington • 7:15pm

## IMPORTANT NOTICE: meeting location change

The Loft will no longer be open on Wednesday nights, so **from now on the monthly membership meetings will be held at J. Buck's** restaurant on Route 9 across from the airport. The date and time will not change (second Wednesday of each month at 7:15 pm). Help spread the word!

## can-a-thon 2008 kick-off sunday, march 2

*nicole williams, chair*

Can-a-thon 2008 kicked off last night with a bang! Like a shotgun start out of the blocks, Karen and I began our sprint around the community track that is Can-a-thon. Representatives from nine different food pantries attended last night's planning meeting eager to help and eager to fill local bellies with food! Can-a-thon is a food drive on

a grand scale coordinated by the Jaycees and sponsored by Kroger. Grocery bags will be inserted into The Pantagraph February 29 along with instructions to fill the bags with canned goods and set it on doorsteps March 2 for collection. Our job is to then drum up somewhere between 200 to 250 volunteers to

drive a route (encompassing about a two-block radius) in teams of at least two, grab the bags on the designated streets, and bring them in for sorting.

Choose to stay and sort, go home,

## bloomington-normal jaycees foodshare can-a-thon

grab a victory beer... whatever! But your good deed will be done for the day, and I guarantee you will have fun doing it. So, **Sunday, March 2, 2008** we would like to see the shining face of you and all your loved ones and friends at the Crossroads Center at 310 Wylie Drive Suite #143 in Normal.



## from the president

*lisa beohm, 2008 chapter president*



**Y**ou have to be the change you want to see in the world.  
– Gandhi

I heard this on the radio a few nights ago, and it's been stuck in my head ever since. How exactly do we go about doing this? For me, perhaps it's actually going to a council meeting and using my voice to advocate why Normal should have curb-side recycling pick up instead of just complaining that we don't.

Whether the change is big or small I think we all need to realize that each and every one of us can make a difference and have an impact. Being a Jaycee lends itself to Gandhi's quote very nicely. As members, we're given the opportunity to make change in our community. This can be through raising money, giving of our time by volunteering, helping other charities to accomplish their goals, learning personal leadership skills in order to be more equipped to give back, and making connections with other Jaycees and individuals throughout the community.

It's easier to identify when something changes for yourself, but you never really know when change happens for someone else with whom you've come in contact. I am reminded of the movie *Pay It Forward*, and for those that have seen it, you know what I'm talking about.



For anyone who has not seen this movie, I highly recommend it—what a powerful concept. Christmas shopping with the little girl from Catholic Charities this past December, I stood in awe at how the simplest things brought joy and wondered if just by participating in this fun activity I was somehow helping to bring change to this person's life. It was a memorable experience for me.

These types of moments are what motivate me to share my Jaycee story with others. Someone recently asked about my membership goals, and I didn't have a really good answer. I've always believed that you shouldn't expect any more or less from others than what you'd expect from yourself. Therefore, my challenge for each member is "go for one" this year. Most of us have a handful of people we know that are not Jaycees and/or don't know much about our group. If we each try to bring *one person* into the membership, this would dramatically grow our organization. That is the goal for me, so I ask each of you to "go for one."

*Be the change you want to see in the world.*

For the community,  
Lisa

*Lisa M Beohm*

## the jaycees book club



**W**atch your e-mail for the announcement of the next selection for the book club. The vote was between three books each which have an economic theme:

- *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't* by James C. Collins
- *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything* by Steven Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
- *The Richest Man in Babylon* by George Samuel Clason

If you are interested in participating, e-mail Emilie Schukai at [bnjcidvp@gmail.com](mailto:bnjcidvp@gmail.com). Details on the discussion meeting will be announced at a later date.

## happy hour fridays

*shawn hodina, social chair*



**J**oin your fellow Jaycees for "happy hours" the first Friday of every month.

Thanks to all for coming out to Maggie Miley's for the February happy hour. **Friday, March 7** we will meet at **Reality Bites** in downtown Bloomington barring any unforeseen changes. As I said in the meeting, I would appreciate any ideas that anyone has for social events. I have already gotten ideas from some of you, but the more the better. E-mail me your ideas at [bnjcsocialchair@gmail.com](mailto:bnjcsocialchair@gmail.com).

## introducing the 2008 board

**President**

Lisa Beohm

**Treasurer**

Mark Oertwig

**Membership VP**

Patsy Cahoe

**Administrative VP**

Natalie McKee

**Management VP**

Brent Lee

**Ind. Development VP**

Emilie Schukai

**Secretary**

Alison Hodina

**Community VP**

Tara Jacquin

**Chairman of the Board**

Az Wazeer



## january birthdays



- Az Wazeer
- Mark Oertwig
- Karl Hoheisel
- Sarah Cantrell
- Alison Hodina
- Maggie Brown

## february birthdays

- Julie Wazeer
- Leslie Spafford
- Nicole Williams
- Sarah Backstrom-Baker
- Tom Pankonen
- Wendy Curr

happy birthday

from the jaycee kitchen...

## by far the best chili mark has ever tasted

submitted by mark oertwig

- 1/2 lb. ground turkey or beef
- 1 – 15 oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1 – 8 oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 or 3 jalapeños, sliced
- 1 – 15 oz. can dark red kidney beans, drained
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 3 teaspoons chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper



In a large saucepan, cook ground meat, jalapeños, onion and garlic until the meat is brown and the veggies are tender. Stir in the rest of the ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for at least half an hour. The longer you let it cook, the better it will taste. I put mine in a Crock Pot and let it go for 4 to 5 hours.

Need something to warm you up on those cold winter nights? Try this Keoke Coffee—it will make you feel warm all over!

## keoke coffee

submitted by alison hodina

- 1/2 oz. Kahlua coffee liquor
- 1/2 oz. creme de cacao
- 1/2 oz. brandy
- 4 oz. coffee
- Whipped cream



Mix liquors in a glass, add coffee and top with whipped cream. Enjoy safely!

## Fling-a-Football



jason roush, chair

Fling-a-Football will be taking place during the Bloomington Extreme football games. We will need around six volunteers for each game. We will be selling the footballs that the fans will try to throw into a bucket that is driven around during halftime of the game. The dates of the event will be determined.



meredith gray, chair

## minute dating

presented by the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees and WBNQ 101.5



This event will be held on **Thursday, March 6, 2008**, from 7pm to 9pm at The Loft. 101.5 WBNQ will sponsor the event by providing on-air advertising and an emcee for the evening. Registration for the event began February 11, 2008 with information on WBNQ's and the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees' websites [www.wbnq.com](http://www.wbnq.com) and [www.bnjaycees.org](http://www.bnjaycees.org).



emilie schukai, chair

**A**lright Jaycees...it's time to get involved! We have a new event this year and we're hoping to make a lot of money with Monster Mini-Golf. We're planning a mini-golf putting challenge/bar crawl in the downtown Bloomington area on the afternoon of **Saturday, April 26th**. The Jaycees need all the help we can get to make this project a success. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Emilie Schukai at **bnjcidvp@gmail.com**. I'll need people to help plan and volunteer the day of the event. As always, you're welcome and encouraged to create a team with friends and putt around downtown Bloomington with us!

## membership corner

patsy cahoe, membership vp

**F**irst of all, I would like to acknowledge new members Sarah Cantrell and Jessi Stading! Welcome to our group and we look forward to getting to know you better!

My projects this year include new member folders and increasing membership. The purpose of the folders is to provide newly initiated members with information about the Jaycees on a national and local level as well as members and their businesses. For those members that would like to contribute, please submit your business cards, profiles, magnets, pens, post-it notes, etc. to me as soon as possible so that they can be included. I would also like to ask that if anyone has any ideas or would like to help with recruiting new members, whether in conjunction with already scheduled events or by creating new ones, please let me know.

# Sandbox Days



submitted by alicia lawhun

**C**ALLING ALL CHAIRS!!! WE NEED YOU!!! Sandbox Days is a community wide event. Depending on the number of orders we have, there will be two to three teams driving around Bloomington-Normal delivering sand to children's sandboxes, local daycares, maybe even school playgrounds. In the past this has been a very successful event, and we hope to continue it and make the numbers grow. The sand is donated from Rowe Construction, and the truck is donated from Johnston Con-

tractors. The impact on the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees is amazing! Everyone has a wonderful time delivering sand to children all over the community. There are some great stories to tell each year, and I believe a good time is had by all. The kids we deliver to are very excited, and it is worth every minute of planning and implementing the event. This is not a new project so everything is laid out for you to get started. *This is a perfect project for new members to chair.*

Good luck!

## karl and patsy are engaged!

They are making plans for a September wedding.

**Congratulations!**



## general assembly (GA)

*lisa beohm, 2008 president*

At the year-end GA, held in Decatur January 18-20, we won several awards, a few of which included:

- MDVP Choice Award for 4th Quarter: Cheesecake Sales
- Outstanding Community Development Region for the 4th Quarter (East Region)
- Outstanding Community Development Chapter for the 4th Quarter
- Outstanding Officer for the 4th Quarter: Emilie Schukai
- Various members also received Presidential pins from 76th Illinois President Denise A. Lenz.

I attended a forum, *Effective Communication*, given by the Former JCI World President Scott Greenlee, the man who led the World Jaycee movement in 2007. He gave several tips on not only how to communicate better but communicating effectively with different personali-



ties. Scott highly recommended Jaycee board members be making monthly phone calls to members, along with publishing a weekly email update and having a current up-to-date website.

Another great seminar was *Time Management & Effective Meetings* with trainer Cindy Byrd. Key points were:



clarifying the purpose of your meeting to key participants, confirming participant and location availability,

distributing an agenda, circulating supporting information in advance and using action words to more



clearly communicate problem solving. Establishing ground rules for running a meeting is critical, along with keeping the discussion focused. There were two different techniques reviewed for helping groups make decisions: the affinity diagram and 0 to 10.

*Former JCI World President Scott Greenlee*



*Lisa with 2007 state president Denise Lenz*



## mark your calendars!



- March 2  
**Can-a-thon**
- March 3  
**Read Across America**
- March 6  
**5 Minute Dating**
- March 7  
**1st Friday Happy Hour**
- March 12  
**General Membership Meeting**

## individual development

*emilie schukai, individual development vp*

Individual Development has a very different objective this year. The plan that the board has decided on is to make ID projects more relevant to what is going on with the Jaycees. While horseback riding and golf lessons are a lot of fun, we feel it's more important to focus on learning more about the events the Jaycees sponsor each year. For instance, when SeptemberFest draws closer, I'd like to see a beer brewing and tasting ID project to help us understand the

differences between types of beer and the way it's brewed. It's important to have an understanding of the projects to which we're devoting so much time and energy. Another change for this year is that there will be one major ID project each quarter. This doesn't mean that we won't have smaller projects throughout the year, but that the goal is to have larger, more educational projects that everyone will want to participate in. If you have any suggestions for ID projects that you would like to see this year, please contact Emilie Schukai at [bnjcidvp@gmail.com](mailto:bnjcidvp@gmail.com).

## meet one of our newest members: sarah cantrell



**Birthday:** 1.20.79; That's right—one more year as a "twenty-something!"

**Where do you work:** I work at the McLean County Chamber of Commerce where I...

**Occupation:** ...am the Membership Director. My primary duties include: recruiting and retaining members, creating/fulfilling marketing opportunities for our members, and planning rockin' networking events! I'm also the staff liaison for our young professionals group, neXt Professionals, and our "unruly" volunteer corp, The Ambassadors. (Alison Hodina, Abby Walsh, and Brian Grant are really the only unruly ones...)

**Married:** Not even close!

**Children:** Nope.

**Where are you from originally?**  
Camp Point, IL (24 miles east of Quincy, 2 hours Southwest of here)

**Where did you attend college?**  
ISU, baby—GO YOU REDBIRDS!

**What was your major? What degree(s) did you earn?**  
B.S. in Public Relations, minors in Psychology and Sociology.

**When did you join the Jaycees?**  
January 9, 2008

**Why did you join the Jaycees?** Lisa Boehm strong-armed me... kidding! Lisa did invite me to a couple of meetings, though, and I met some really wonderful people at those meetings. Everyone was very welcoming, so if I felt that this was a group I'd be proud to be affiliated with. I also believe in all of the philanthropic things that the Jaycees do for our community.

**What do you like about the Jaycees?** I'll not lie; I've made some great friendships so far, so I'd have to say the relationships are pretty impor-

tant and personally enriching. I am excited to ease into some fundraisers and contribute to some of our world-class events, too!

**Current affiliations with other organizations:** neXt Professionals, Uptown Toastmasters, Central Illinois SCORE

**Church or other activities:** My job keeps me pretty busy running around to miscellaneous events, so I try to limit my "other activities" time to the things listed above.

**Past personal achievements and/or awards:** I will never receive an award as prestigious as being named "Class Flirt" my senior year of high school.

**Hobbies:** Reading, checking out new music, trivia games, going to live music concerts, working out

**Special/unique skills:** I pride myself on my wealth of useless knowledge and ability to kick some serious butt at most trivia games.

**How do you like to spend your free time?** Again, I don't know that I have a lot of free time. I do enjoy reading in my down time, and Brent and Virginia are trying to get me hooked on live comedy.

**Favorite movie:** *Rebel Without a Cause* (such passion, such angst!)

**Favorite book:** Tough one: I would say *A Prayer for Owen Meany* or *Catch Me If You Can*

**Favorite genre of music and/or musician:** I am a total rock chick! Anything that came from Seattle in the early-to-mid 90s gets me going, but Ed Vedder and Pearl Jam are my all time, hands-down favorites. LOOOOOVE THEM!!!! The Beatles are a darn close second, though.

**Favorite restaurant and/or type of food:** Right now, DESTIHL is my absolute favorite place to eat—oh flat iron steak, you are so yummy. Also—kooky as this is— I love the hashbrowns at Denny's—they make me so happy!

**Favorite sport and/or game:**  
You all will soon learn that I AM

NOT athletic! Also, I'm not a huge fan of sports, just teams: the Red Sox, the Patriots, the Bloomington Extreme, and the Bloomington Prairie Thunder. \*To clarify, I lived in New Hampshire for a bit, so I'm a FAN, not a fair-weather follower.

**Where do you see yourself in five or ten years?** YIKES—that's a scary one!

I have been in Bloomington-Normal for ten years, and it feels like home to me. I don't see myself moving any time soon, but I'm willing to move if it were the right time, place, and reason. I'll also not say I'm going to be married with kids or anything like that, but still not going to cross that off the list of options for my life. I can confirm that I WILL NOT be the crazy lady on the corner with 20+ cats, though. I also really enjoy association work. What I do now affords me so many opportunities, and I like being responsible to people who are affiliated with your organization out of want and not need. Long story short, check back with me in five years and I'll let ya know!

**What would people be the most surprised to learn about you?**

I am PETRIFIED of snakes and have three distinct "bad snake experiences" to justify my fear. I also have a huge family—I'm the sixth child of six, and the 38th grandchild of 38. Lastly, I collect some really random things: John Deere things, PEZ dispensers, and CDs—I have over 300 CDs, 100 of them Pearl Jam alone. (That's right people, you've inducted a big geek into the B-N Jaycees!)

**Do you have something you want to share with the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees?**

Send your submissions to [bnjcadminvp@gmail.com](mailto:bnjcadminvp@gmail.com). The next deadline is **Wed., March 12.**

## "have a heart...help a kid!" toy box auction

natalie mckee, admin vp

This year we were approached by Terry Dodds, a board member for the Boys and Girls Club, to sponsor and/or decorate a toy box that would be auctioned off to raise money for the Club. After careful consideration, we enthusiastically agreed to decorate a toy box!

Sarah Backstrom-Baker provided the space in her home, art supplies, and real-time lessons for the project. After several evenings and one long Saturday, the toy box was complete. It is a farm animal theme with hints of Charlotte's Web. The inside was

finished with a padded lining, chalk-board lid, and safety hinges (to prevent finger smashing). It was filled with books, toys, stuffed animals, a hat, toy tractor, puzzles, and sidewalk chalk.

The toy box was on display at Central Station prior to the auction, which was held at the Bloom-



ington Center for the Performing Arts following the production of the Velveteen Rabbit on February 9, 2008. Thanks to all members that contributed to this fantastic project!

## 2008 past presidents' mixer: feb 8, nv ultra lounge

az wazeer, chairman of the board

Thanks to those that attended and helped make the 2008 Past Presidents' Mixer a successful event. In attendance were several past presidents and our 2008 Region Director from the Danville Jaycee chapter, Lacey Veach.

**Congratulations go to:**  
 2007 Jaycee of the Year (tied):  
**Alicia Lawhun and Jeremy Kelley**  
 2007 Board Member of the Year:  
**Julie Wazeer**



## 2008 bloomington-normal jaycees executive board

Chairman of the Board.....	Az Wazeer
	bnjccob@gmail.com
President .....	Lisa Beohm
	bnjaycees@gmail.com
Administrative VP .....	Natalie McKee
	bnjcadminvp@gmail.com
Management VP .....	Brent Lee
	bnjcmanagementvp@gmail.com
Community Development VP.....	Tara Jacquin
	bnjccommunityvp@gmail.com
Membership VP .....	Patsy Cahoe
	bnjcmembershipvp@gmail.com
Individual Development VP .....	Emilie Schukai
	bnjcidvp@gmail.com
Secretary .....	Alison Hodina
	bnjcsecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer.....	Mark Oertwig
	bnjctreasurer@gmail.com
Social Director .....	Shawn Hodina
	bnjcsocialchair@gmail.com
PR Director.....	Tim Bill
	bnjcprdirector@gmail.com

### **the blast**

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Julie Wazeer, editor  
e-mail submissions to:  
bnjcadminvp@gmail.com

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### **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.*

**BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL JAYCEES**

Bloomington, IL 61702  
P.O. Box 42

