



# JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • Summer 2013

## JJ15: A World of Delights

Themes, choreography, flow highlighted our show



Photo: George Hadjiyanis

Although it wasn't emphasized officially, our overall theme of JJ15 (for planning purposes) was "Around the World." Club routines represented a wide range of countries, from America to England to India to Ireland to a variety of countries in two club medleys. Even "Reach," our perennial grand finale, was written and sung by world-famous Cuban-American **Gloria Estefan**.

Far from being a thin attempt to draw everything together, the "world" theme gave us an excuse to focus our ideas. **Americana** mixed satire and grandeur; **Mary Poppins** was a feel-good tribute to a beloved movie musical; **Bollywood** helped to break the mold for a Monday Rec. routine; **Children's Books** blended comedy with drama and ended with two lone characters on stage; **Dance Styles** stretched the kids to learn non-pop-music moves and even paid tribute to The Charleston (as featured in "It's a Wonderful Life"); and **Irish Cascade** had happy music to match the predominant daily mood of our top club.

Our lone soloist, **Sam I Am**, had the 2nd-ever dropless specialty act in JJ history on Friday night! **TARP** juggled and emceed like brothers, inviting **Griffin K.** as the "+1" in their double-duty; **Tréith** had high energy and featured only rings (and the only girls in a specialty act); biological brothers **Simple Physics** poked fun at sibling rivalry; and **Tilt** tipped the scales with some impressive creativity.

After five years of dedicated coaching, **Scott Richter** enjoyed his JJ swan song by bringing down the house with fellow coach/friend **Kelvin Ying** with "Gangnam Style." Scott is seeking God for new career direction, and while he may return in the future, this may be good-bye ("God be with ye") for good. With eight graduating seniors and a departing coach, good-byes are bitter-sweet, but the memories of JJ15 and promise for future potential (for the youth and the company) makes a world of difference.

—NOTE: *The words of Rory & Natalie to us on behalf of the company during Saturday's show were humbling, and we're grateful to be able to serve youth in unique and creative ways. While we had planned on combining this year's gift with last year for a 20th anniversary adventure, we're instead going to apply both to a new backyard patio this summer for Wendy's love of gardening and hospitality. Thank you!!*

—Love, Paul & Wendy



## Taking Center Stage: 2013-2014!

- **Fall 2013 Registration:** The enclosed form details the registration process for next school year. All clubs (except U.C.) will fill first-come, first-served starting **Friday, May 24**; Rec. Clubs open to **new** rookies on **Monday, June 10**—including siblings of current *Jugheads* and former *Jugheads* returning after a hiatus.
- **JJ16 Dates Set!** JJ16 is Friday & Saturday, **May 16 & 17, 2014** at Hopkins HS; all-cast Dress Rehearsals are Thursday, **May 8** and Wednesday, **May 14**.



On 4/30, Paul & Wendy received the Mayor's Connecting With Kids Commendation. Above: Mayor Jim Hovland poses with Ron & Bonnie Arneberg and "historical" JH parents who go back as far as 1995.

## Captain's Column: Tom G.

A lot of endings come up this time of year, especially when you're a senior in high school. We all know the drill. Since 2003, when I joined JH, I've watched countless kids grow up and graduate. I just never thought it would happen to me. It's funny how the endings can sneak up on you.

I expected to be a mess when my last JJ came around. The last ten years of my life had led up to that last show, the last catch in that last routine, the last bow in "Reach". Here's the big surprising plot twist: I was hardly even sad when that last moment of JJ15 came. Honestly, it felt anticlimactic. At first I suspected that

I was in the wrong mind-set and the disappointment would come later, but then I thought to myself, "Why should I be sad?" I failed to think of any good reason. Next year, I will no longer be a member of JH, and I will go to college. Does that make me sentimental? Sure. But not everything has to change. Next year, I will still have my friends, and I will still have my juggling. Those are the important things.



I suggest that young Jugheads remember this: Your time in JH goes faster than you think it will. I know that's a cliché, but it really is true. Just enjoy it while it lasts, and never stop learning new tricks (juggling or otherwise). As for me, I may not have much time left here, but this is just the beginning. Meet me in ten years with six clubs and some old photos, and we'll keep the party going—because some things never end.

—Tom Gaasedelen: Edina Senior, Deca-Jughead, Elite Club Captain, Ultimate Club Member, 2011 IJA Teams Bronze Medalist

## Bulletins & Birthdays

- **SUMMER CAMP FORMS** are available on our website for our 5+ weeks of juggling camps (June 7-July 12; no camp on July 4-5).
- **2nd ANNUAL JH PICNIC:** Wed., 6/12. Look for email.
- **ST. LOUIS PARK PARADE:** Sat., 6/15. Email Paul to sign up.
- **THE EDINA PARADE** is 7/4, 9 am. Email Paul to sign up.
- **IJA-BOWLING GREEN TEAM:** Keep posted for a send-off meeting July 9 or 10; final payment is due June 27.
- **EYJA JOGGLING MEET** is 7/13 led by **Coach Stefan Brancel**. "Juggling Thursdays" will train kids through our camps!
- **Reminder: Paul & Wendy** will be out of commission May 27-31 while at Mayo Clinic/St. Marys Hospital for Wendy's heart surgery. Paul & Wendy dearly appreciate **Coaches Scott & Kelvin** leading in their absence so they both can be in Rochester.



Monday Rec. waiting backstage to perform their Bollywood routine for JJ15.

## Paul's Platform: "Stewards of Grace"

During our courtship, Wendy & I were involved in InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at the U of M, the same ministry through which we met and became friends for a year before officially dating. It was in that campus group that we both began to stretch and hone our various talents: my roles included worship song leader, Large Group announcements, comedic/dramatic presentations, and Bible Study leader; Wendy's roles included graphic designer, social event organizer, and occasional skit participant. We never would have guessed half a lifetime ago that those uses of our gifts would become the foundation for the mom-and-pop business of a large, one-of-a-kind youth juggling company! For this reason, I admonish young adults (including my own kin) to maximize their talents & interests, no matter how trivial or mundane they may seem. One never knows how our gifts can be used both now and in the future!

In addition to our "public" forms of expression, we've always tried to grow in our Christian faith as a couple. Our times of prayer, Bible study, and relational ministry hold some very sweet memories. Years ago, Wendy pointed out a passage that reflects our complementary gifts: "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:10-11, ESV)

Talk about weighty words! Speaking with God's words; serving with God's strength. If I had made that up, I would be guilty of tremendous arrogance—to dare to speak for God or serve in His strength! However, since the Apostle Peter wrote it under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, I believe it. For 20 years of marriage, Wendy & I have tried to live "as good stewards of God's varied grace": Wendy as the "server" (graphics, organization, hospitality) and me as the "speaker" (visionary, leader, communicator). Again, lest you think I'm ascribing divine qualities to our gifts and marriage by my own authority, I'm not—we're just relishing in the privilege to speak & serve as God's stewards for His glory, others' good, and our joy!

I know that many JH families do not share our Christian faith. However, in honor of our 20th anniversary next week, I wanted to shed some light on the spiritual history of Paul & Wendy Arneberg, and how our faith has not only sustained us for 20 years of marriage, but it sustains us in this work. As we face heart surgery on May 28, we'd like to deeply thank all who have expressed concern for us while expressing gratitude for JUGHEADS. God willing, we will continue speaking & serving for God's glory for years to come, and we'll continue helping youth and young adults to find their gifts which will then bless others for a lifetime.

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