

# JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • January 2010

## JJ12 Q&A for Rookie Families...

...and Reminders for Veteran Families!

**Q: What is Juggle Jam?**

A: Juggle Jam 12 (JJ12), May 14-15 at Hopkins HS at 7pm, is our 12th annual production on par with a quality high school musical or POPS Concert. The climax to our year, JJ12 will feature all six weekly clubs, skits, specialty acts, an all-company Slide Show, and a Senior Presentation. New audience members are *surprised* with JJ's scope, entertainment value, and inspiration.

**Q: Does my Jughead have to audition to be in JJ12?**

A: No and Yes. Every Jughead is guaranteed to appear in our Opening & Finale, club routine(s), and Slide Show, but "specialty acts" (solos & small ensembles) are determined by auditions in April. Even Ultimate-level specialty acts may not make it into JJ.

**Q: Are there extra time commitments involved for JJ12?**

A: The only extra rehearsals involving the entire company are the evenings of May 4 & 12. However, every Jughead should try to stay until 5:45 p.m. (9 p.m. for Ultimate) on their respective club day(s) from now on. As a courtesy to our rehearsals, please email or call Paul with absent kids (esp. for May 4 & 12) and [kids leaving early from club rehearsals](#) for these next 4.5 months.

**Q: Are "Punchcard" Jugheads allowed to be in JJ12?**

A. No. Only weekly Jugheads may appear in JJ12.

**Q: How does the process of selling tickets work?**

A: Since '95 (including our three Wise Guys Juggling Shows), the primary means of selling tickets has been individual Jugheads' efforts. This year, there still will be an opportunity for kids to sell tickets, but the Parent Committee is looking into online reserved seating for about half of the house due to our sell-outs last year. Keep posted; and once available, buy your tickets early!

**Q: How will you communicate JJ12-related info.?**

A: This monthly newsletter, a separate "Final Memo" in late April, and occasional emails to our group list will keep all parents and performers apprised of JJ12 info. Please contact Wendy if you're NOT receiving any emails from "[jughheads\_parents]".



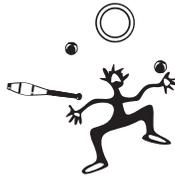
## Assistant Voice: Mara M.

My name is Mara and I am currently in 11th grade. When I was in 7th grade, my dad signed me up for a JH camp. My reaction: "Juggling? Why would I EVER want to do something like that?" I then proceeded to cry the day my mom dropped me off, begging her to not "make" me go. Yes, I was in 7th grade, and no, I do not think Paul will ever let me forget this embarrassing moment. Since my rather comical beginning, I have fallen in love with the company, juggling, and everybody that makes it what it is. Simply put, what I like about JH is how different it is from school. It doesn't matter how many varsity sports you play, how fast you can run a mile, or how many pounds you can bench press. You can be super cool, incredibly nerdy, kind of crazy, or just plain weird. Your grades are not uploaded to Edline, it doesn't matter what classes you are taking, and nobody cares about your GPA. You aren't judged by how many friends you have, or what clothes you have or don't have, or what your hair looks like on a regular basis. It doesn't even matter if you are the captain of the hockey team or the smartest kid in the school, because that isn't what defines you as a person. At juggling, these superficialities fall away. In JH, people can be real people with genuine laughter and honest-to-goodness fun. Then, what you make are incredible friends and true memories. Anybody, anybody, anybody can find a place at juggling, no matter who they are. I am not a great juggler, but I have found so much more in JH, and will always look to it as a wonderful, one-of-a-kind, and amazing place to be. —Mara M.: *Thursday Rec. Assistant, Elite Club member, 5th year Jughead*

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT: Advanced Club

### Feedback sheets bring indiv. goals into focus

After a few years of adjusted expectations, Advanced Club has been upgraded nicely into a hybrid of a Rec. Club and the Elite Club. The age range, ability level, warm-ups/workshops, and general focus level on Wednesday afternoons make it more intense than the generally younger Rec. Clubs while not as intense as Elite (which is run more or less like a JV sports team). The goal sheets that Coaches Paul & Scott facilitated with each of Adv. member in December revealed a surprising number of kids "under the radar" who have long-term goals of Ultimate Club and/or graduating as Jugheads, and such info. helps the leadership keep the kids motivated and challenged even when they appear uninterested or sluggish. Ever reliable for creative JJ routines, this year's Advanced Club group routine has the theme of "Board Games."



## 5th Annual EYJA Winter Showcase

March 19, 7:30 pm; location TBA

The 5th annual EYJA Winter Juggling Showcase is Friday, March 19 at 7:30 pm. We're shooting for a venue in Edina, but we haven't confirmed a space as of 1/7/10. (We'll send an email and post the info. on our Web site as soon as we confirm a location.) Sponsored by the **Edina Youth Juggling Association** via the **Edina Community Foundation**, this event is free and open to the public. The Showcase, advised by the JH coaching staff and assistants led by **Coach Scott Richter**, offers both a valuable performance experience and a free, entertaining show. This new performance tradition encourages a wide number of jugglers of all ages and abilities to show their creativity and skills to an appreciative audience.

Any polished solo or ensemble act from any club is invited to perform, provided they make their intentions known (including song choice, if any) by Fri., Feb. 5 to Coach Scott *and* preview the routine for Coach Scott and student leader by Fri., Feb. 26. (Please try to preview your act on your juggling club day if possible.) The time limit for each act is four minutes; all performers will be contacted with more info. soon after the cast is finalized.

*NOTE: Performing in the EYJA Showcase is a pre-requisite for JJ12 auditions in April. See Coaches Scott or Paul for more details.*

## JUGHEADS Community News

- **WELCOME to new Jughead Laura S.**, 4th grader in Friday Club. Laura's big brother Daniel was in Elite several years ago, and Laura is beside herself with joy to be a Jughead!
- **WINTER 2010 MEGA ALL-DAY CAMPS** are from 9-5 pm on 1/18, 2/1 and 3/5. Cost: \$55 w/lunch. Half-day option w/o lunch is \$25. Register online, via mail, or in the JH Office. NOTE: Camps are subject to cancellation if fewer than five (5) kids are registered by one day prior to each camp.
- **MONDO 2010**, a regional juggling & unicycling festival held at Concordia University in St. Paul, will take place **April 16-18, 2010**. Options to attend with our group are Friday night (Ultimates only) and Saturday (up to 50 Jugheads, all levels). Look for registration form in February.

- **REMINDER:** Monday Rec. will NOT meet on 1/18, 2/1, or 2/15 (school release days in Edina). Also, Friday Club will NOT meet on 3/5 (also an EPS school release day).
- **THE IJA FESTIVAL** is July 25-Aug. 1 in Sparks, NV. **A choice of two mandatory info. meetings will be held 1/28 and 2/2 at 6 pm in South Hall for anyone considering traveling with our group.**

## Paul's Platform

### "Relative Expectations"

I enjoy two quotes that speak to the balance we need in life regarding expectations, both self-imposed and externally-imposed: 1) "If you keep your expectations tiny, you'll go through life without being so whiny" (Matt Groening). 2) "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed" (The Apostle Paul). Given those two extremes—lowered expectations for daily life and heightened expectations for eternal life—I propose that we need to adjust our expectations according to each situation and circumstance. "Hope for the best, prepare for the worst," or so the old adage goes; such an attitude attempts to maintain optimism but also wise realism. Whether adjusting the family budget in a recession; re-directing energy after a sports injury; mending a heart after a broken relationship; or setting one's sights on a career-long or life-long goal, many expectations are always in flux and therefore a good test of personal character.

In 2010, the coaches & I will continue to help the Jughead youth shoot for high goals, graciously accept unmet expectations, and learn the virtues of perseverance, delayed gratification, and the peace that comes with knowing that some of the best hopes & dreams are fulfilled in unexpected ways. "Relative expectations" is not merely a New Year's Resolution; it's a noble lifestyle choice to learn the balance between optimism, realism, and eager expectation for our hopes to be fulfilled beyond all we could ask or imagine.

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**Web Site:**.... www.jugheads.com (info. & online registration)

**JUGHEADS Clubs and Camps Physical Location:**  
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**Scott Richter**, Tier 1 Coach (Mon. Rec., Elite, Adv.); JJ12 A.D.  
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