

# JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • Summer 2011

## JJ13: Many Parts, One Whole

### From Rock to Reach; Supers to Seniors to Slides

Like a physical body, our annual Juggle Jam is made up of many distinct parts that comprise one production. And even that production only partly reflects the overall heart and mission of JH Youth Juggling Co. Whereas some roles in leadership, planning, and performing are more prominent than others, there are virtually innumerable different moving parts to make our annual show both entertaining and deeply meaningful. Much credit for managing all those parts is due to **Wendy Arneberg** and the JJ13 Parent Committee; the Student Leadership Team (Assistants/Officers and Volunteers); Fall Intern **Colin Revere** who volunteered three times a week for four months last fall; and the coaching staff, most notably Assistant Head Coach **Billy Watson** in his JJ swan song.

Informal feedback reveals a wide array of favorite moments, from the skits (e.g., the raw egg; lots of singing!) to club vignettes (e.g., **Mac vs. PC; Superheroes'** fighting) to electrifying stage presence (e.g., **Forrest M.**) to unique themes (e.g., **Amaretto**) to top-notch acts with several years' experience (e.g., **The Five of Clubs**). Of course, a whole newsletter could be devoted to a litany of accolades for many diverse parts of the "body" of work and people involved, but the best accolades will be the lifelong memories and virtues developed in and through the cast.

As we bask in free time at clubs (with much kid-driven effort to achieve higher standards); enter an exciting summer; and look forward to next fall, it is a good thing that the company body is healthy and growing, always with a heart for youth, from the youngest beginners to the world class contenders.

*NOTE: Thank you for the gift presented to us on Saturday night! We decided to invest that toward our respective pursuits of bluegrass banjo and various artistic home-based hobbies. —Paul & Wendy*

## Looking Ahead to 2011-2012

- **JJ14 Dates Set!** JJ14 is **May 18 & 19, 2012** at Hopkins HS; Dress rehearsals May 8 & 16.
- **Fall 2011 Registration:** The enclosed form details the registration process which opens to current members on **5/26**. All clubs (except Ultimate) will fill first-come, first-served. Rec. Clubs will open to any new rookies on **6/13**—that includes siblings of current Jugheads, and former Jugheads returning after a hiatus.



## Senior Voice: Jack Levy



I could never fully summarize what JH has done for me during my six years here. However, I can describe what I believe to be the purpose of JH.

On closing night of JJ13, I noticed every senior and many younger Jugheads in tears. It made me wonder: what was the complex meaning behind all the tears, including my own? As much as I loved working my way to the top of juggling by earning three IJA Stage medals, performing on *America's Got Talent*, and hopefully being on ESPN via WJF-7 this summer, I will always cherish the fulfillment I got from being an assistant.

Something I discovered about myself is that I am just as big a fan of JH as I am of my own juggling. As awesome as it is that I have achieved so much, it seems just as awesome to make a difference in the lives of others, whether it's helping someone achieve greatness or giving him or her something completely different that they can take out into the world.

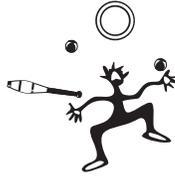
That is what I believe to be the dual purpose of the more involved Jughead. The goal of "Developing Youth Through Juggling" isn't just a learning process, but also a teaching process. Developing youth means preparing kids for the real world, similar to the meaning of the JJ finale, "Reach." I had never thought of it before, but "Reach" is the perfect way to describe what JH is all about. I will never forget Paul's audio recording in the DVD credits of JJ8, my rookie year. "Their goal in life, to reach as high as they can, starting here as youth, and for the rest of their lives reaching high for dreams, reaching out to others."

So to every Jughead out there, my advice is stick with JH! You may not realize it at first (I sure didn't), but what JH can do for everyone is truly extraordinary. The tears of a vast majority of the JJ13 cast right before "Reach" speak for themselves. JH has given all of us something we can benefit from and have for the rest of our lives. —*Jack Levy: EHS Senior, 6th year Jughead, Friday Rec. Assistant, Elite Club Captain & Ultimate Club Member*

## Senior Voice: Brenden Ying



My 10 years in JH have been filled with memories, friends, and juggling. I often think—how do I feel such a unique, emotional connection with JH? How does it become more than just an extracurricular activity and turn into a radiant world that defines characters and makes better people? I have a resonating quote from Rachel in the pilot episode of *Glee* that embodies the answer: "Being part of something special makes you



special.” When I initially joined in 2001, my brother was already a member and my family was friends with Paul and several other families. At the time, these things didn’t mean much to me personally; but upon entering Wednesday Rec. that first day, I started to truly feel the magic that only JH can make.

JH is a unique place where when you let your voice be heard, it answers back with something so special beyond words. I love JH for many things because it gives so much love in return. For instance, putting on an abnormal theater face for JJ, no matter how crazy the role may be, makes it the most fun and fulfilling show ever. Socializing more led me to discovering awesome passing partners and the best of friends. And disciplining myself to juggle makes me love juggling that much more. I’m deeply fond of these aspects not just for how wonderful they already are, but also for how much of myself I can put into them.

Being involved in something is never a one-way street: you cannot expect to automatically be great or get what you want. As Paul always reminds us, what you put in is what you get out. If you want to become a brighter star, you must help maintain the burning spirit of the community, being an active member and lending a hand to others. And simply taking the initiative to make the world a better place already makes your own world better in itself. The magic of JH can be even more extraordinary when we individuals make the magic as well. All it takes is heart and soul. —*Brenden Ying: EHS Senior, 10th year Jughead, Friday Rec. Assistant, Elite & Ultimate Club Member*

## Bulletins & Birthdays

- **SUMMER CAMP FORMS** are available on our website for our five weeks of juggling camps (June 13-July 15).
- **Stay tuned for an exciting opportunity** for your Jughead to perform “Rock This Town” on 7/20 at the Welcome Show at the IJA Fest this summer. Details will be emailed soon.
- **ULTIMATE CLUB DRIVE-IN:** Sat., 6/25. Look for email.
- **THE EDINA PARADE** is 7/4, 9 am. Email Paul to sign up.
- **IJA-ROCHESTER TEAM:** Keep posted for a send-off meeting July 12 or 13; final payment is due 6/17.
- **EYJA JOGGLING MEET** is 7/16, 9 am. Coach Billy will train kids on “Juggling Thursdays” (PM camps) 6/16-7/14.

## Paul’s Platform

### “10 Minutes for the Average Jughead”



As an all-weather fan of the Minnesota Vikings, I find it an interesting stat that in the average NFL game, the players are only active on the field for about 15-20 minutes for the three-hour game. Of course, this doesn’t include timeouts, half time, or commercial

breaks, but it also doesn’t include when a running play is stopped yet the clock keeps running. As is common knowledge, NFL players earn a lot of money for this relatively brief amount of action, but just think of the thousands of hours of training it takes to even last that long in one NFL game: weights, nutrition, team meetings, training camp, travel, and always striving for a better tackle, faster speed, or better read on the opponents’ strategy.

An odd topic for my annual post-JJ column? On the contrary: it occurred to me just a week before JJ13 that the average Jughead only spends about 8-10 minutes on stage during our 2.5+ hour show. “Rock This Town,” a club vignette, a slide show appearance, “Reach”...that’s it. But in my estimation, no one can truly quantify the efforts of the average Jughead to actually get to the JJ stage (physical skills, social growth, courage, commitment), nor can anyone quantify what those “10 minutes of fame” (or the journey thereto) does for the heart of the average Jughead.

C.S. Lewis wrote, “There are no ordinary people. You have never met a mere mortal.” Similarly, this company celebrates each child whether as a star or as an average member (but to paraphrase Lewis, “I’ve never met an average Jughead.”). May the blessings of this month follow each Jughead for the rest of their lives.

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