



# JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • September 2012

## Stable Stats for a Dynamic Company

Grace sufficient to start (and finish) each year!

It's frankly amazing to this director that despite the absence of any formal advertising or wringing of one's hands over annual turnover, we have a very predictable, very robust enrollment every year. What a blessing! Given that this company has never received (or desired) government grants, but rather is 100% backed by tuition dollars (with generous supplementary private grants from the **Edina Youth Juggling Association** via the **Edina Community Foundation**), it's a small miracle that we keep thriving like we do. We've started our 5th straight fall with a roster in the 140's (previous multi-year plateaus were 50 kids & 120 kids until we reached our current trend), and we have a full boat of coaches and student leaders, not to mention the ever-effective, perennial organization and panache of **Wendy Arneberg**.

Here is our annual list of basic company demographics:

### 2012-'13 JUGHEADS (JH) Company Stats At-a-Glance

<b>2nd Graders:</b>	1	<b>8th Graders:</b>	15
<b>3rd Graders:</b>	8	<b>Freshmen:</b>	21
<b>4th Graders:</b>	13	<b>Sophomores:</b>	9
<b>5th Graders:</b>	26	<b>Juniors:</b>	9
<b>6th Graders:</b>	16	<b>Seniors:</b>	8
<b>7th Graders:</b>	20	<b>[Grads since '06: 47]</b>	

**Total Current Jughead Members in a Weekly Club:** 146

**Returning Jugheads:** 119; **Rookie Jugheads:** 27

**Avg. Jughead's Grade in School (2nd-12th):** 7.11

**Avg. Jughead's Year in the Company (1-10):** 3.36

**Jughead Boys:** 97 (66.4%); **Jughead Girls:** 49 (33.6%)

**Sets of Siblings:** 29 (*Seven families have all three kids in JH!*)

**Edina Public Schools:** 98 (67.1%); **Non-E.P.S.:** 48 (32.9%)

**Cities of Residence:** 14 (Bloomington, Chaska, Eagan, Eden Prairie, Edina, Excelsior, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Plymouth, St. Louis Park, Savage, and Shorewood)

## The Return of the Coaches

Five men bring continuity & experience

Paul had built-in staff support when he began coaching juggling through the Wise Guys program, but he had a long nine-year stint of "flying solo" after he spun off the juggling clubs from W.G. in 1998. Discerning that hiring our own high school graduates would be the best way to preserve the developmental heart of the company, Paul brought on **Scott Richter** as our inaugural coach in 2007-'08 (not counting previous specialists or W.G. staff). Other JH grads

have coached since 2008: the legendary **Billy Watson** ('07) and '09 gold medal teammates **Ricky Harr** (Class of '09) and **Ben Hestness** ('09). This year, four men return with at least one full year of JH coaching experience, dedicating themselves to weekly involvement—both relieving Paul's former burden of sole leadership and offering a variety of personalities and coaching styles.

Our 2012-'13 coaches are: **Paul Arneberg** (on site daily with more of an office role on Thursdays); **Scott Richter, Class of '07** (5th year coach co-leading Mon. Rec., Elite, Advanced & Thurs.); **Kelvin Ying, Class of '07** (2nd year coach co-leading Elite, Ultimate, and Fri. Rec.); **Stefan Brancel, Class of '10** (2nd year coach co-leading Thurs. Rec. + part-time subbing/volunteering at U.C.); and **Jon O'Connor** (8th year specialist coach co-leading U.C.). Check out the coaches' bio on our website!

## IJA 65, JUGHEADS 17

Southern Hospitality for Jugglers, Take 3

Our 17th adventure to the 65th Festival of the International Jugglers' Association (IJA) was held for the 3rd time in Winston-Salem, NC. A small article can't encapsulate the scope or undertaking of this tradition, but here's a brief glimpse into our trip:

- 1) Our team of **20 Jugheads** had seven days & nights to bond via meals, flights, the hotel, juggling, and mingling with hundreds of other jugglers of all ages;
- 2) **Wendy** booked us zip-lining an hour away from the festival, enabling us to enjoy a non-juggling outing early in the week;
- 3) the Youth Showcase featured **JJ14 acts Acceleranduo, Gravity, and Just 4 Show**, plus a debut performance of Nick H. & Reid J. as **Nowhere Fast**;
- 4) **Danny G.** performed with four drops in the Juniors Stage Championships;
- 5) **Paul** led a workshop for youth juggling coaches from around the country;
- 6) many Jugheads continued our strong tradition in the Juggling Championships and the IJA Games;
- 7) there were about **10 JH grads** in attendance, who interacted kindly with our group while maintaining a highly competitive presence;
- 8) our chaperones made this trip possible! They were: dads **Peter Hedberg, Rich Lovdal**; Coach **Kelvin Ying**; Director **Paul Arneberg**; and Organizer **Wendy Arneberg**.

## Now Open: The JUGHEADS Store!

JugWare props, JugWear clothes for sale

Last week, as Wendy was carrying a box of shiny new balls, a young Jughead asked what they were for. She replied, "For the new JUGHEADS store." The young Jughead asked excitedly, "Really?! Where is it?" Wendy chuckled and pointed inside





the JH office and replied, “On that shelf.” :-) While it may be humble, we decided to put a concerted effort into stocking a number of popular juggling props (**JugWare**) that JH families will be able to purchase on site. Our current inventory includes Absolute rings, 4-panel colored balls, leatherette balls, weighted Power Balls, Russian balls, and silicone balls. Our main suppliers so far are Beard Juggling (from the UK), Prop Works, Pass the Props, and Penguin Props.

In addition, Wendy will be putting together an order form for families to order a variety of **JugWear**, a collection of JH-branded sportswear. She’s still working on the details, but forms will come out in October and orders will be due before Thanksgiving to ensure a pre-Christmas arrival. We’re excited about this mutually beneficial venture!

## Welcome Notes

- **Welcome to 27 rookie Jugheads!**  
MONDAY REC. CLUB: **Mimi B.** (5th); **Sonja B.** (4th); **Thomas C.** (4th); **Noel D.** (4th); **Maria H.** (2nd); **Lexie H.** (3rd); **Zoe H.** (3rd); **Kristen L.** (3rd); **Luke M.** (4th).  
THURSDAY REC. CLUB: **David B.** (7th); **Jasper B.** (3rd); **Jacob C.** (8th); **Clay D.** (7th); **Nick D.** (9th); **Evan J.** (5th); **Tao H.** (3rd); **Hans J.** (5th); **Sawyer K.** (9th); **Patrick M.** (3rd); **Darien S.** (4th); **Daniel V.** (7th); **Max W.** (3rd); **Reese W.** (5th).  
FRIDAY REC. CLUB: **Elizabeth A.** (9th); **Alex A.** (5th); **Jonathan H.** (5th); **Maya K.** (7th).
- **Congrats to five (5) Ultimate Club rookies!** Freshmen: **Riga M., Chris V.**; soph: **Sam K.**; juniors: **Erica L.** and **Graham R.**
- **Student Leader Retreat:** 9/15, 9-3:00 @ Wooddale-Edina.
- **Ultimate Club Banquet:** 10/13. Look for emailed invitations.
- **School Release Day Camp forms** are attached. The dates follow the release days for Edina Public Schools: Oct. 18-19; Oct. 29\*; Nov. 19-21; Jan. 21\*, 22\*; Feb. 19\*; Mar. 8\*. (\*=5 pm end time.)
- **Congrats to Uncle Scott Richter**, whose nephew was born to **Sam & Ashley** on 5/29/12.

## Paul's Platform:

### “Reflections on 20 Years of Youth Work”

In my summer column, I described how God called me away from my planned vocation in talk radio and to the unlikely career of older child care manager, which led to the one-of-a-kind business that I’ve now run for 14 years after leaving Wise Guys in 1998. But whether going to Wolf Ridge with the Wise Guys, IJA with the Jugheads, or any myriad of experiences in between, youth work has been the calling that ties together the last 20 years, three months, and 11 days of my career.

I’ve had interpersonal fulfillment in youth work too vast to even summarize here, but suffice it to say that my direct experience of making a difference in (many) kids’ lives, and the amazing support from the parents over the years, are major factors keeping me going. I realize that 20 years really isn’t a big deal from the perspective of a classroom teacher; I respect that profession greatly, and I don’t know that I could have kept up with either those early hours or the perpetual “home-work” had I pursued my thought of teaching high school English. However, as my job more closely resembles a youth pastor than a teacher, and since the average youth pastor reputedly only lasts about 3-5 years, 20 years is a long haul indeed!

Given my career origins in child care management, I must admit that the term “juggling coach” has always been a little uncomfortable for me, since I have neither formal training nor can I match the skills of Ultimate Club (let alone my coaching staff!). However, by God’s grace, I do consider myself a “life coach,” and I can think of no greater joy than to comprehensively influence and guide others who seek, or at least are open to, mentorship.

Don’t get me wrong: I’ve had real desires—and real attempts—to change my vocation since 1992, but I’ve been met with closed doors. Even when I hired Scott in ‘07, I dreamed of pulling back more and more in order to try out new sidelines. However, even if my technical skills are lacking and my ego has longed for other forms of talent-based accolades, my passion for youth work has had a 2nd (or 20th?) wind in the last couple of years, and contentment is now more common than elusive for me.

So, I can say after 20 years that despite all of the world-class accolades this company has garnered, juggling is still just a tool—a means to an end—toward true youth development.

Developing Youth Through Juggling Since 1994,

**Paul Arneberg**, JUGHEADS Founder, Director & Head Coach  
cell: 612.978.9707 • coachpaul@jugheads.com

**Wendy Arneberg**, JUGHEADS Office/Operations Manager  
cell: 612.229.3348 • wendy@jugheads.com

**U.S. Mail:** 5905 Concord Ave., Edina, MN 55424 • **Web:** jugheads.com

**JUGHEADS Location:** Wooddale Church, 5532 Wooddale Ave., Edina 55424

**Coach Scott Richter**, Monday Rec., Thursday Rec., Advanced, Elite Club  
cell: 952.797.3671 • coachscott@jugheads.com

**Coach Kelvin Ying**, Friday Rec., Elite, Ultimate Club  
cell: 612.250.0173 • coachkelvin@jugheads.com

**Coach Stefan Brancel**, Thursday Rec. Club; Ultimate Club Volunteer/Sub  
cell: 651.890.2938 • coachstefan@jugheads.com

**Coach Jon O’Connor**, Ultimate Club • coachjon@jugheads.com