



The Charge!

Volume 1996/97

Voice of the Peoria Jaycees'

May 1997

Owens Wins in Landslide Election

It was the biggest railroad job in history and now it's a train wreck just waiting to happen. **Dennis Owens** has decisively won the office of president of the Peoria Jaycees during the April membership meeting. "It was stupid, but I did it!" Owens was quoted as saying for his entire acceptance speech. In searching for a possible nickname, if it all possible, president-elect Owens has already been loosely called 'the Governor' among his peers. Owens and the other elected board members will take office May 8th at the Installation Banquet. The banquet is to be held at a Peoria restaurant, the Lariat Club, located on Glen Ave at 7:00pm.

While reaction to the election has been positive, speculation still lingers in the local chapter as to how Owens managed to acquire the position. Rumors among the volunteer organization indicate that the current president, John Cima, agreed to be Owens' house boy for a year if he would take over the office. If true, Cima would have done better to remain as president.

The other winners in April's elections (aka, the railroad job) for the 1997-98 year include: **Heather Zech** for chapter management vice president, **Emily Duncan** and **Cindy Schwerer** will split the office of community development vice president, **Becky Lemont** for individual development, **Dan 'the Friar' Schmidt** for membership vice president, **John 'Caesar' Cima** for state director, **Monica Rhodes** for treasurer and **Eric Gengler**, a new member, as secretary. Local directors include **Joe Burkitt**, **Cara Freehill**, **Dubby** (yes, Dubby has returned), **Sandy Pearce**, **Shari Quin** (no longer will be the membership woman, but now 'First Lady?') and **Mike Rhodes**. Congratulations to all!

Brew Crew Off To Bad Start

The Peoria Jaycees softball team, the Brew Crew, got off to a slow and disappointing start three weeks ago. The Peoria Park District co-ed softball league started on Friday, April 18th, with a game scheduled for 6:00pm. The Brew Crew was playing against a team from Mulligan's that evening.

Things were not looking promising for the Brew Crew. The Mulligan's team scored several more runs early in the game than did the Jaycees' team. In addition, after about three innings, the weather started getting rough (taking a line from *The Ballad of Gilligan's Island*). As rain began falling and lightning was seen in the skies, the game continued. During the 5th inning, a member from the Brew Crew suffered personal injury. **Kris Joseph**, playing center field at the time, was struck in the head with a softball, creating an almost 2 inch knot on her forehead. Nine-one-one was called and emergency personnel were dispatched to the scene. Meanwhile, umpires at the game called all players to go back to the field, amid all the rain, wind, cold and lightning. After the Mulligan's team made their third out, the current inning was finished. By this time, all the players were wet and cold from the harsh elements beating down on them. Emergency technicians had arrived to the field. And it wasn't until this time when the umpires decided to call the game. The Mulligan's team had won the game with a final score of 23 - 1.

The following week saw another embarrassing defeat for the Jaycees' team. Playing against Kouri's, the Brew Crew lost with a final score of 30 - 0. However, no personal injuries were suffered, leading team members to believe that some improvement had been made. Last Friday's game was rained out.

Unbelievably, spirit on the team still remains high. If anything, the Brew Crew will have more fun than any of the other teams. The Brew Crew plays every Friday night at the Peoria Stadium. Come out some time and show your support for... The Peoria Jaycees Brew Crew!

Beer Fest Quenches Thirst

Once again, hundreds of people attended the Peoria Jaycees International Beer Festival on April 19, 1997. This year marked the 5th year of the popular event. Beer Fest co-chairs **Becky Lemont** and **Joann Ziegler** would like to thank everyone who sacrificed their time and energy to help pull this project off and make it a tremendous success. Thanks also go to the **Specialty Import Distributing**, **Par A Dice Riverboat Casino** and **Rock 106** for their support.

From The Desk of the Most Dangerous Writer in America

by Rick Owens

The election for the officers of the 1997-98 are complete. And by popular demand, it looks as though I will once again be your newsletter editor and webmaster, at least for the next 12 issues.

As I look back at the year past, *The Charge!* becomes more and more popular with not only Jaycee members, but others in the community as well. With such growth and support, I figured I'd present my own year end awards to show recognition for the fans of *The Charge!* and those who help make this publication the success it is.

Clip Artist of the Year: **Norm Huff**, for supplying me with clip art for 'Caesar' and the 'Mad Dog'... got anything for Dennis...

Biggest Surprise That Caused A Cardiac Arrest: **Dan 'the Friar' Schmidt** for turning in this month's newsletter article only 5 minutes past deadline! He found my e-mail message reminder only 5 minute before deadline. This could also be the fastest newsletter article written!

Biggest Form of Flattery From A Fan: To the newsletter editor for the Springfield Jaycees. From what I heard, they tried to fashion a newsletter based on *The Charge!* It didn't exactly work for them, but the effort was made. Good try!

Rooster of the Year: **Vernon Welander**, for not only sending mail and clueing us in on what's been going on, but providing a change of address.

Best Sense of Humor: A tie! Goes to **Cindy Schwerer** and **'Commander' Steve West**, for countless stories written about them without complaint.

Until next month, I thank you for your support!

The Charge
An Official Publication of the Peoria Jaycees

Rick Owens - Editor
Editorial and Publication Headquarters:
1010 Wonderview Dr., Dunlap, IL 61525
FAX - 691-5196 / Clark_Kent@flink.com
<http://www.jaycees.com>

Published monthly, in mailboxes by the 2nd Thursday of the month.
Disclaimer: Portions of this newsletter are used for entertainment purposes only and they should not be taken seriously.

Mark Your Calendars

May

Business After Hours; Thursday, May 8, 5:00 - 7:00pm, hosted by Banc One - call Joann Ziegler

Installation Banquet; Thursday, May 8, 7:00pm, Lariat Club, Glen Ave., Peoria - call John Cima

Brew Crew Game; Friday, May 9, 6:00pm, Peoria Stadium - call "Mad Dog" Bilslund or Dubby

Firecracker 5000 Committee Meeting; Monday, May 12, 7:00pm, Monica Rhodes house, 432 W. Hampton Ct, Peoria - call John Cima or Cara Freehill

Membership Meeting; Thursday, May 15, 7:00pm, Amvets, downtown Peoria - call Dennis Owens

Louie, Louie Parade; Friday, May 16, meet at Hoops, downtown Peoria, 1:00pm, parade starts at 2:30pm - call Heather Zech

Brew Crew Game; Friday, May 16, 8:00pm, Peoria Stadium, possible forfeit due to Louie, Louie Parade - call "Mad Dog" Bilslund or Dubby

IBF Appreciation Party; Saturday, May 17, 3:00pm - ?, Sandy Pearce's house, 305 Timber Ln, E. Peoria - call Becky Lemont or Sandy Pearce

Brew Crew Game; Friday, May 23, 7:00pm, Peoria Stadium - call the "Mad Dog" or Dubby

River Jam; Friday, May 30, 5:00pm - 11:00pm, undoubtedly need beer servers - call John 'Caesar' Cima

Brew Crew Game; Friday, May 30, 8:00pm, Peoria Stadium, another forfeit? - call "Mad Dog" or Dubby

June

Board Meeting; Thursday, June 5, 6:30pm, Amvets, downtown Peoria - call Dennis Owens

Newsletter Articles Due; Thursday, June 5, board members required to submit new articles - call Rick Owens

Brew Crew Game; Friday, June 6, 6:00pm, Peoria Stadium - call "Mad Dog" or Dubby

Business After Hours; Thursday, June 12, 5:00 - 7:00pm, sponsored by Fast Signs - call Heather Zech

Membership Meeting; Thursday, June 19, 7:00pm, Amvets, downtown Peoria - call Dennis Owens



Mail Call

Dubby has received news from **Diana Janda** (better known under her pre-marriage name, Diana Barach). Normally, the entire letter would be printed, but in this case, Diana writes as much as she talks... so, you

know... As you recall, Diana married **Steve Janda** last summer. They honeymooned in South Africa before they relocated to the United Arab Emirates for a Caterpillar transfer. Last October, she took a job at the English Language Teaching Service in Dubai, teaching English as a second language. Diana is planning on returning to the US for August, September and most of October. She plans on being in Peoria for 2 weeks. Diana's address:

Diana Janda
c/o Caterpillar Overseas S.A.
PO Box 1170
Salah Al Din Road
Deira-Dubai
United Arab Emirates
Phone: 011 971 4 499132

Dubby has also heard from **Janet Neuswanger**. Ms. Janet is currently working at some type of blood bank and teaching at a local junior college in Dallas, Texas. She also had joined the Dallas Jaycees, but has not been around that much to get to know a lot of the members. Ms. Janet will be in Peoria to help her mother move, and will be around for the Louie, Louie Parade. Janet also says "Hello" to everyone (or to anybody that cares).

April 3, 1997

Gentlemen:

Thanks so much for all your hard work at the Easter Egg Hunt! As you can see, my son found the giant egg with the Beanie Baby in it... he had the best time ever and we really appreciate your efforts!

Ken, Vicki & Nicholas Williamson

A photo was included with this correspondence and is available for viewing on the Mail Call page on the Jaycees web site at <http://www.jaycees.com>.

Attention! All meetings are open to all Jaycee members and the public!



Board Meetings: Held the 1st Thursday of the month, 6:30pm at the Amvets in downtown Peoria

Membership Meetings: Held the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm at the Amvets in downtown Peoria

April 27, 1997

Dear Rick,

I enjoy reading the Charge and noting the changes over time since my time in the Jaycees. God it was in the mid-fifties! But my main purpose in writing is a minor change of our address. We still live in the same building but moved to a larger condo. We are in 2F instead of 2C. It sounds crazy but we received a notice that they will no longer forward from the old number (*Editor's Note: The Charge! is sent by bulk mail and bulk mail does not get sent to forwarding addresses; this is why it is important to notify the Jaycees of any address change. Therefore, Vernon gets the Rooster of the Year award for this one!*).

Last fall I spent two and a half months in Peoria helping my son close out our shoe store in downtown at 319 Main. Wish it would have been possible to meet some of the members. I did see three old members **Bill Ridgley, Gordon Peters and Randy West**

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely Yours,
Vernon R. Welander

Louie, Louie, Ohhhh Ahhhh....

Once again, the Peoria Jaycees will participate in the Louie, Louie Parade for Leukemia. The parade takes place Friday, May 16th at 2:30pm. It will start at the Civic Center parking lot in downtown Peoria. The Peoria Jaycees will be meeting in downtown Peoria at a drinking establishment called Hoops between 1:00 - 2:00pm. At 2:00pm, they will leave for the Civic Center. Dress attire for this event is once again going to be TOGA!!!! Bring your sheets and sandals. Safety pins will be provided at the event, but bring along anything that would dress up the look (i.e. head pieces, etc.).

The parade will end at the Riverfront. This is also the opening night of the Riverfront, so there will be plenty of bands and COLD BEER!!! This is for a good cause and is a lot of fun. Last year, the Jaycees had a great time in the parade and the parties thereafter. Perhaps this year, the Jaycees will make a 2nd appearance on the front page of the Peoria Journal Star or even take the stage with screams of SOCIAL!!

If you need further information, call **Heather Zech** at 274-4035. See you there!

IBF Appreciation Party

The appreciation party for workers and volunteers at the International Beer Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 at 3:00pm at the home of **Sandy Pearce** (305 Timber Lane, E. Peoria). For directions or more info, call Sandy at 699-8568 or **Becky Lemont** at 676-2780.

Beer and food will be provided. Guests and prospective members are welcomed! Hope to see you there!

Pushing Paper With Pulfer

More Comments, Notes, Faxes & Paper from Jeff Pulfer... (will it ever stop?)



Reasons For Not Recruiting New Members

- *I want to be on the board forever.*
- *New people in the organization will mean I'll have to listen to someone else's ideas.*
- *Someone else will do my paperwork.*
- *I can't be chairman of my favorite project for the 6th consecutive year.*
- *We won't be able to run bigger projects that make money.*
- *Somebody else will do the newsletter instead of me.*
- *I don't need more people who will disagree with my ideas.*
- *New people means change and I don't like change.*

If you agree with any of these you either need to see a psychiatrist or join an organization your parents belong to. As for me, I don't want to be on the board forever and I sure don't want to run car washes every two weeks that raise \$50 - \$100, I'll be damned if I publish another newsletter because no one else wants to, and I can't wait until someone else volunteers to run the awards banquet. Hey, if you feel the same way, maybe we can work together and find some more people to do our jobs, because if we don't, we'll soon all be too burned out to even bother with running projects much less to bother with recruiting new people.

This appeared in April of 1993. Four years later the article still seems to be appropriate, even though I'm now retired. Especially when we still have people thinking that if you have quality members, you don't need a quantity of members.

Granted we shouldn't treat membership as just achieving a numerical goal. Instead, we should treat our members as our most valuable assets and as with money or other tangible assets, the more we have, the richer or better off we are. Instead our projects and the money in our accounts tend to be more important to some of our chapter's leaders. If you don't believe me, just attend a board meeting and see what topics are debated and discussed more.

After 15 years in the Jaycees, the only times membership became a heated topic was when someone wanted to spend money in order to attract more people to the Jaycees or to spend money to train our members. Maybe it's time for a change! For the Peoria Jaycees to continue to thrive we need to get more people involved. The job of a leader in the Jaycees is to create opportunities for people to get involved and you start the process by asking them to join.

-- Quotables --

"It was stupid, but I did it!"

- Dennis Owens, 4/17/97 @ 8:28pm, giving his presidential acceptance speech

Soundbite

Due to the grief some of the female members of the Jaycees gave me over my December edition of *The Charge!* (**Sandy Pearce** in particular), here's a little tidbit to help balance the scale.

"Men are like fish. When you first reel 'em in, they wriggle around like crazy. But after a while, they just lie there with that glassy look in their eyes." - Roz (Peri Gilpin) on the television sitcom *Frazier*

There must be some truth in this, just look at what happened when some of our more boisterous male members became coupled up - **Rusty, Dan, Dennis**.....

Final Comments

Another Jaycee year has come and gone, but something is going to be different about the upcoming year, at least for me. I won't be there anymore. My hats off to **John Cima**. I know you didn't accomplish everything that you wanted to do, but the chapter rebuilding process that was started several years ago continued on through your leadership and I think the upcoming year we will see even greater things happening in the Peoria Jaycees due to your efforts and enthusiasm you brought to the position. Congratulations on a job well done!

Best wishes to the new board. I regret that I won't be around to help you anymore, but I'll be there in spirit. **Dennis** you lucky stiff, you'll be the first president in almost a generation that won't have me looking over your shoulder. Unfortunately, you'll still have the **Commander**.

In Heaven There's No Beer!

That's why we have to drink it here! Contact **Kathy Pulfer** if you want to pour beer at the German Picnics at Hickory Grove this summer. If you can't reach Kathy, call '**Friar**' **Schmidt**. The dates are Sunday, June 15th, July 6th, August 3rd and September 7th. The shifts are from 3:00pm to 7:30pm. Food and beverages provided to all workers. Those that worked last summer had a great time. Prospective members are welcome to work. The fests run from noon to 8:00pm. Come on out and do the "chicken dance!"



**Installation Banquet
Thursday, May 5th, 7:00pm
The Lariat Club**

**Take part in the installation of
next year's chapter officers!**

**Call John Cima @ 693-0631
for details**



Caesar's Scroll by John 'Caesar' Cima

It's hard to believe it, but my term as President is already up! I wasn't sure what I was getting myself into when I accepted the nomination in April of 1996, but it wasn't long before I found out- a lot of time commitments and hard work! Chapter, board and committee meetings, a lot of

involvement in all of our projects, communications with the membership, dealing with financial, organizational, and personality problems, dealing with the Region and State, and a ton of paperwork! Sounds glamorous, doesn't it? I can see why many worthy persons in this chapter have declined to take on the position. But let me let you in on a little secret- being President is one of the most personally fulfilling experiences that I have had the pleasure to be involved with! I feel that this past year has done more to develop my personal and leadership skills than any single thing that I have done in my life to date. You learn how to deal with issues and persons on a seemingly endless variety of levels, and, as a result, continually learn more about yourself in the process. All in all, I wouldn't trade this past year for the world! I want to take the time to thank every one of you who served on the board, served as project chairs/sub-chairs, and contributed your valuable time and energy to help strengthen this chapter and make this community a little better place to be. Without your support and efforts, my job would have been impossible and ultimately meaningless. I raise my glass to all of you for a farewell Presidential SOCIAL!!!

Just because I am leaving the Presidency, however, does not mean that I am going to drift off into the sunset. In the tradition of my predecessor, the hallowed **Commander West**, I will still be very active in the chapter. I will be the State Director for this year, taking some of the State and Regional burdens away from "Da Gubnah" **Dennis Owens** (it was actually a concession to get Dennis to run, as we all know his eloquent position on State and Regional matters!). The lovely **Cara Freehill** and myself (somewhat less lovely, but always lovable!) will be co-chairing this year's Firecracker 5000. I will also remain active in our ongoing projects, particularly the IBF (you know I would not just go away on that one!). So I will continue to be a familiar face at Jaycee functions, much to the dismay of many I suppose!

In closing, I would like to say congratulations to **Dennis Owens** and the newly elected board. It will be a long year with a lot of ups and downs, but in the end, I think you'll come to the conclusion that it was well worth the trouble. If you have the support of the rest of the chapter the way I did, things should turn out all right in the end. Good luck, work hard, and above all, have a ton of fun!!

Signing off,
John "Caesar" Cima

Individual Development by Dan 'the Friar' Schmidt

Yet another stunning year for the ALL POWERFUL PEORIA JAYCEES!!! The succession is almost complete as the chapter grows more POWERFUL and POPULAR!

I would like to thank the entire board for their excellent dedication to making the Jaycees more fun than last year- and that was not an easy task. First of all I would like to hail **Caesar** for his dedication and bravery in taking on the motley crew that we are, and bringing out the best in us and himself. Then I would like to thank the people who led me through the projects that I worked on: **Jeff "Mad Dog" Bilsland** during the Firecracker 5000 was like a mother hen over the project and me...and helped make us look really good! Then **Dennis Owens** for being the toilet fixing keyman that he is for co chairing the haunted house with me. I would also like to thank **Rick "Clark Kent" Owens** for being the most Powerful Web Master of Jaycees.com - we knew not what we had done - and editor of *The Charge!*...even though Rick ghost wrote some articles for me...and 106 STILL THINKS I WROTE THEM!!!!!! I sincerely appreciate the fun and commitment he has given us. Finally before I get too mushy I would like to thank **Steve "The Commander" West** for being a constant encourager and mentor, and friend for me and the whole board.

The last word on Peoria Jaycees for me is this: What group of people, in this whole world that have the most integrity, quality in friendship, stewardship to their community, and the God given right to have fun!!!? Simply put my wonderful friends the Peoria Jaycees!!!!!! SOCIAL!!!!!!!

Sincerely,
Dan "The Friar" Schmidt

Joke-A-Thon

As you know, **Becky Lemont** will be our Individual Development vice president next year. She is already busy preparing all sorts of activities for the chapter. At the next membership meeting, she plans on having a joke-a-thon, where everyone will exchange jokes.

What does a tornado and a redneck divorce have in common? Someone's gonna lose a trailer. Hear these and more jokes at the next membership meeting!

Jaycees Night at the Chiefs Game

The Peoria Jaycees are having a Jaycees night at a Chiefs Game at Meinen Field on Saturday, July 12th. This outing is open to all Peoria Jaycee members, any guests of theirs and other Jaycee chapters in the area.

Game time starts at 7:05pm. The Chiefs are playing against the Quad City River Bandits that night. Cost is \$4.00 per person for box seats. For more info, call **Dubby** at 691-6608 or the Jaycees Hotline at 676-JAYC.

Community Development *by Jeff 'Mad Dog' Bilisland*



Firecracker 5000

Planning is under way for our 15th Annual Firecracker 5000. **John 'Caesar' Cima** and **Cara Freehill** have volunteered to be co-chairs on this annual event and we are currently recruiting people to fill sub-chair positions. Among these positions are post race refreshments (**Kathy Pulfer** has volunteered to help out this sub-chair), water station, finish line, and possible outside manpower. All these positions are not that demanding (especially the finish line).

The next committee meeting is scheduled to be held at **Monica Rhodes'** house at 432 W. Hampton Ct., on Monday, May 12th at 7:00pm. All members are welcomed to attend.

If you are interested in becoming a sub-chair or just want to get involved, call Cara Freehill at 691-2301 or John Cima at 693-0631.

From your Outgoing CDVP

This is it. The final newsletter article for the 1996-97 Jaycee year as being your Community Development Vice President. No more threatening e-mails, no more attempts on my life, and no more harassment from the most dangerous writer in America, **Rick Owens**, for not getting my newsletter articles on time. Many a time did I think to myself that facing the President of the United States, **Hillary...uh...Bill Clinton**, and telling him that he is the best President we have ever had, would be less horrifying than facing Rick Owens and telling him I did not have my newsletter article ready. Rick has been nothing short than a pain in the ass but he gets the job done. Kiss off Rick, now go get the articles from **Cindy** and **Emily**.

It has been a wonderful time serving on the Executive Board and remembering projects such as the Firecracker 5000. Ah yes, the year I went out to California for the Fourth of July only to return to Peoria to find out that when the Firecracker 5000 commenced, there was not enough volunteers to monitor the streets, assignments for manpower were nowhere to be found and the manpower subchair showed up for 20 minutes and then left. The racers were mad and the police department was mad. One thing you do not want to do is piss off the police department. Since this project was under my area, I should take the responsibility. Hey, its not the first time I've pissed off the police department (that's another story).

Anyway the many times that we put smiles on kids faces for the Santa Visits the Kids and the Easter Egg Hunt makes all the bad things go away. One smile is worth a million screwed up projects. Hopefully we will not have to test this theory.

Its been a great time but don't think I am leaving. Just listen to the back of the room and the most annoying person you will hear, other than **Steve West**, will be me making stupid

State Director's Report *by 'Mad Hatter' Jason Arends*



General Assembly

The State GA is being held in Springfield at the Renaissance Hotel, Friday, May 9th to the 11th. Every year at this time, as usual, they hold this event on Mother's

Day weekend... but hey, why do you think they invented phones. If you are interested in going, please call me at 681-1839.

State LOTS

The Illinois Jaycees Local Officer Training (LOTS) is being held on Saturday, June 7th in Jacksonville, IL. This is one of the better programs offered at the state level. It allows you to meet persons from other chapters holding your position and have roundtable discussions on potential problems and possible solutions you will encounter. I recommend it for all executive board members who haven't attended in the past. In addition, we could get some rooms in Jacksonville the night before and show these people how to party! Hey, we might even find a strip club down there! Contact the State Director elect **John Cima** at 693-0631 or the President elect **Dennis Owens** at 693-8771 if you are interested in going.

Peoria Heights T-Ball

Once again, the Peoria Heights Jaycees will be conducting their annual T-Ball for 5 consecutive Wednesdays starting on May 28. They need umpires to help out. Our chapter usually gets involved every summer and has a blast doing so. If you would like to ump a game or more, please call **Jeff 'Mad Dog' Bilisland** at 682-2897 or the State Director elect **John 'Caesar' Cima** at 693-0631.

Final Message from the 'Mad Hatter'

Hey gang, it's been a great year as your state director. WOW, I can't believe all the places I got to visit this past year, and now it's over. Some of my better visits as your state director were **Asia, Candy, Betsy, Alice** and best of all, **Mistress Dawn**. Being your state director has been a very challenging and rewarding (oh yes, rewarding in many ways) experience and I would like to thank the chapter for allowing me this opportunity. I accomplished a lot this past year and I'm always ready to help the Jaycees in any way I can. If you ever need me, you know where to find me, right here in Creve Coeur at "the Club," and have a great day!

jokes. I plan on helping out the two new Community Development Vice Presidents, **Cindy Schwerer** and **Emily Duncan**. I will also be trying to get the Jaycees more involved in governmental affairs and I am sure that **Rusty Greene** will help out with that. I am always here for the young, intelligent, beautiful, single women that need me, so don't be afraid to call me at 682-2897.

Jeff "Mad Dog" Bilisland

Top Ten Things On Dennis Owens' To Do List

10. More beer parties!
9. Get "Mad Dog" his rabies shot.
8. Require Jaycee members to wear purple shrouds and Nike shoes.
7. Hold sleep overs in the Haunted House to pay for his presidential campaign.
6. Initiate standoff at his hog roast with Peoria Police in his vintage 1950 party bus.
5. Punch out Rick Owens for calling him "Wrongway" (Oops! That's things on Mark Klokkenga's list).
4. Do something about that Bud drinkin', gun toten', truck drivin' good 'ol boy image.
3. A little more softball practice wouldn't hurt.
2. Have Valerie Mount come over and kill his cat.
1. Quit smoking... then start up again.

Cindy Schwerer In Concert

Cindy Schwerer kicked off her world tour at Soldier Field stadium in Chicago last night, playing to a record crowd of over 80,000 screaming fans. The *You're Bad!* tour is scheduled for 350 stops in all parts of the world. It is also to promote Ms. Schwerer's latest compact disc, also entitled *You're Bad!* Sunning the crowd, she appeared on stage in her trademark, tight fitting black spandex mini skirt and flowing curly dishwater blonde hair. Ticket scalpers were purportedly in full force, with prices as high as \$1,000 a ticket.

Schwerer, a former employee of Thompson's Food Basket and world renown cake baker, opened the show with "MacArthur Park." Stadium security reported several incidents of fainting when she sang the lyric "and it took so long to bake it, and I'll never have that recipe again."

"It's incredible!" stated one fan, "She really knows how to sing a song." Ms. Schwerer also sang her other well known hits, "That's Beautiful," "Yea, Whatever," "You Wrecked My Car Old Lady," and the title track to her latest CD, "You're Bad!" The next stop on the *You're Bad!* tour is at a Peoria, IL Amvets post for a local volunteer organization.

It's A Little Known Fact... Volcanoes

A volcano is a geological landform, consisting of a fissure in the earth's crust, above which a cone of volcanic material has accumulated. At the top of the cone is a bowl-shaped vent called a crater. The cone is formed by the deposition of molten or solid matter that flows or is ejected through the vent from the interior of the earth. Most volcanoes are composite landforms built up partly of lava flows and partly of fragmental materials.

Mount St. Helens is located in southwestern Washington, in the Cascade Range. The volcano, which had been dormant since 1857, began to show signs of renewed activity in early 1980. On May 18, 1980, it erupted with such violence that the top of the mountain was blown off and a cloud of ash and gases was sent to an altitude of 12 miles. The blast killed 57 people and destroyed all life in an area of some 70 square miles; a vast area was covered with ash and debris. It continues to spit forth ash and steam intermittently. As a result of the eruption, the mountain's elevation was decreased from 9,677 ft. to 8,364 ft. A National Volcano Monument was established in 1983.

Until 1991, Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, was classified as inactive because it had been dormant for at least 600 years. In June and July of that year, the volcano erupted several times, throwing millions of tons of ash and other volcanic material almost 50,000 ft. high into the atmosphere. Much of this volcanic material spread around the world in the upper atmosphere. Locally, the ash reached a depth of more than 10 ft. Heavy tropical rains turned the ash to mud and triggered massive mudslides. By late August 1991 it was estimated that 550 people had died because of the eruption and its aftermath. In addition, more than 650,000 people had lost their livelihood, and almost 250,000 acres of agricultural land had been devastated. Mount Pinatubo erupted again in August 1992, causing more destruction.

The Jaycee Creed:

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 Governments 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.

Peoria Jaycees



Peoria Jaycees
PO Box #2
Peoria, Illinois 61650
<http://www.jaycees.com>

Bulk Rate
US Postage
PAID
Peoria, IL
Permit No. 700

This Issue:

- Election Results
- Louie, Louie Parade - May 16th
- Brew Crew Update: The Team Sucks!
- Installation Banquet - May 8th

Previously Unpublished: Long version of the editor's letter, featured on the Peoria Jaycees internet site in May, 1997.

From the Desk of the Most Dangerous Writer

by Rick Owens

The election for the officers of the 1997-98 are complete. And by popular demand, it looks as though I will once again be your newsletter editor and webmaster, at least for the next 12 issues.

As I look back at the year past, *The Charge!* becomes more and more popular with not only Jaycee members, but others in the community as well. With such growth and support, I figured I'd present my own year end awards to show recognition for the fans of *The Charge!* and those who help make this publication the success it is.

- ❑ **Clip Artist of the Year: Norm Huff**, for supplying me with clip art for 'Caesar' and the 'Mad Dog'... got anything for Dennis...
- ❑ **Biggest Surprise That Caused A Cardiac Arrest: Dan 'the Friar' Schmidt** for turning in this month's newsletter article only 5 minutes past deadline! He found my e-mail message reminder only 5 minutes before deadline. This could also be the fastest newsletter article written!
- ❑ **Biggest Form of Flattery From A Fan:** To the newsletter editor for the Springfield Jaycees. From what I heard, they tried to fashion a newsletter based on *The Charge!* It didn't exactly work for them, but the effort was made. Good try!
- ❑ **Most Outstanding Hate Mail Received:** Goes to past Jaycee member **Jim Anderson**. When a list of Jaycees past due on membership fees emerged, his name appeared on the list. Apparently, this must have irked him enough to submit a fiery letter. This letter had so many misspellings, use of poor grammar and obvious bitterness towards the organization, it was hard to take it seriously. This letter was never published in the newsletter and is believed to be the only negative letter ever received.
- ❑ **Rooster of the Year: Vernon Welander**, for not only sending mail and clueing us in on what's been going on, but providing a change of address.
- ❑ **Best Sense of Humor:** A tie! Goes to **Cindy Schwerer** and **'Commander' Steve West**, for countless stories written about them without complaint.

Until next month, I thank you for your support!