



The Charge!

Volume 1995/96

Voice of the Peoria Jaycees'

June 1995

Jaycees' Members Acquire Antique Bus

Two members of the Peoria Jaycees have recently bought a slightly used antique 1950 bus. It is hoped by **Rick** and **Dennis Owens**, two of the newest board members, to recondition this vehicle and put it to use for many Jaycee functions to come. The bus is a Flexible with a GMC 401 cu. in. V-6 engine with a bumper sticker that says 'Virginia is for Lovers'. It is 36 feet long and 8 feet wide and is equipped with a booth and table, benches and a complete stainless steel bathroom and shower. It is currently needing a muffler and one of the cylinders is believed to be dead; in addition, some (more like a lot) of body work will need to be done as the exterior colors of the bus are red, silver chrome and rust. Eventually, we hope to be able to use it for parades, visitations, weekend getaways and partying.

Louie, Louie Parade

There was a great turnout for the Louie, Louie Parade on May 12th and the Peoria Jaycees was well represented in the Peoria community. Several Jaycees first showed up at **Dubby's** for drinks and burgers before going downtown to march. In attendance was, **Janet Neuswanger**, **Jeff Pulfer**, **Rick Owens**, **Dennis Owens**, **Diana Barach**, **Jeff Bilsland**, **Dan Schmidt**, **Mark Rosenberg**, **Beth Barr**, **Susan Wilbur** and **Nancy Rice**. The Jaycees were positioned in the parade between The Discovery Zone and Stanley Steamer Carpet Cleaner, but two groups ahead of the Jaycees were the women of Big Al's. Jeff Bilsland and "The Good Friar", Dan Schmidt followed them with their eyeballs popping out of their head and drooling tongues hanging out. Other than that, the Jaycees were represented with a homemade banner manufactured by Rick Owens and Dubby was out as his alter ego, "Dub Man", with a cape put together by Beth Barr.

The Jaycees took part in the festivities that took place after the parade in Ekwood Park. Janet Neuswanger brought the show to a close with her incapacitated condition. As she sat on a curb, trying to sleep, she was asked if she wanted to back to a car and lay down. Her response was, "I want to go home." "Where's home", she was asked in which she answered "Chillicothe!" Unfortunately, Janet was not going home any time too soon.

Bloomington Jaycees Got The Big One

"Oh my!", gasped **Kathryn Carmichael**, a member of the Bloomington Jaycees on a visitation to the Peoria Jaycee chapter's membership meeting, "It's so big!" Ms. Carmichael nearly fainted after seeing the size and quality of the wood it was made of, and... wait a minute, we're talking about our gavel. What did you think we were talking about? Yes, leave it up to you to come up with something obscene. You must be a true Jaycee?! However, during the May membership meeting, members from the Bloomington Jaycees came to visit, primarily to retrieve their gavel in which we acquired during their May membership meeting. Jokes were exchanged about how the Peoria Jaycees had a larger one than the Bloomington chapter. Apparently, the women from the Bloomington Jaycees were so impressed with our chapter and our gavel, that they ran off with it. More recently, a ransom note has been received stating that we must come back to Bloomington-Normal to get it back, if we wish to see it alive again. Their next membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14th at 7:00pm. If interested in going, contact **Rusty Greene** to be a ransom courier.

Arthritis Foundation Star

A star mounted in the ceiling at SOP's in downtown Peoria, bearing the name Peoria Jaycees is now installed. A donation of \$100 to the Arthritis Foundation was made so that the Peoria Jaycees could have there name up in ... well, a star. Stop by sometime and check it out.

From The Desk of the Most Dangerous Writer in America

by Rick Owens

In the last issue of *The Charge*, **Jeff Pulfer** wrote in his editorial that the new editor 'may be just the most "dangerous" writer in America'. Now that I have officially assumed editorship, I now have to keep up this reputation that Jeff has laid out for me. Even as I write this, sweat is now building on my forehead; the pressure is on!

Many of you have indicated to me to just go ahead and get as rank, disgusting, sarcastic, etc. as I want as they wouldn't be offended. I'm sure that they wouldn't be offended and I will do my best to fulfill their wishes. However, I'm sure there will be one or few members in this fine organization who will take some of this material the wrong way and probably start to wine and cry. The only piece of advice I can give those people is... "Get over it!" A major part of this publication will be for entertainment purposes only and the material only a parody. The more these people will wine, moan, rant and rave will only fuel the fire for further humiliation on their part. The best thing to do is to be able to laugh at yourself, unless that's against the Peoria Jaycees Constitution and Bylaws.

Also, as a reminder, that *The Charge* is your newsletter. If you have any ideas or anything you wish to submit in this publication, i.e. party announcements, weddings, etc., just call me at 243-7319, FAX me the information at 691-5196, or E-Mail me on CompuServe at 71332,2775 and consider it done.

The Charge
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Disclaimer: Portions of this newsletter are used for entertainment purposes only and they should not be taken seriously.

Mark Your Calendars

June

Regional Softball in Green Valley; Saturday, June 10 - call Dubby if interested

Sommerfest at Hickory Grove; Sunday, June 11 - call Pulfer for info of be there at 3pm if you are working

Chamber Night at the Chiefs; Wed., June 14 - for tickets, call Val Mount

Membership Meeting; Thursday, June 15 - at Amvets

Steamboat Days; Friday, June 16 - at Ekwood Park - call Pulfer

Caribbean Rendezvous '95; Saturday, June 17 - Pulfer hits 40, celebrate at 3pm to ????

Epicurean Night; Tuesday, June 20 - Scheduled for the RiverStation, if not flooded - call Sue Wilbur

E.Peoria Beer Tasting; Friday, June 23 - call Pulfer

Wines on the Waterfront; Saturday, June 24 - at the RiverStation (if rain, at John Bearce Auto Mall), call Pulfer

July

E. Peoria Jaycees' Fireworks; Sunday, July 2 - at ICC

Firecracker 5000; Tuesday, July 4 - at Ekwood Park- call Jay Denton or Jeff Bilsland

Fireworks Display; Tuesday, July 4 - with Canton Jaycees, call Val Mount

Volksfest at Hickory Grove; - Sunday, July 9, once again, call Pulfer

Ethnic Food Night; Thursday, July 13 - call Diana Barach

August

Summer Regional in Galesburg; Saturday, August 5 - at Benny's Tap, meeting starts at 2:00pm. Call Rusty Greene

Taste of Peoria; Wednesday, August 9 - as usual, call Pulfer

Summer G.A.; August 11-13 - held at the Pere Marquette, Peoria; call Rusty Greene

55th Anniversary Party; Thursday, August 17 - call Pulfer or Dubby

Community Development

By Jeff Bilsland

Firecracker 5000

There are now 6 major sponsors for the Firecracker 5000 this year, including the Peoria Jaycees. These sponsors are **Brewer's Distributing, Hinckley & Schmitt, The RiverStation, TCI Cablevision** and **WGLO Radio**. The race is to take place on Tuesday, July 4, 1995 at 7:30am. Therefore, we will need manpower well in advance of that time for setup. Entry packets for the race participants will be put together on June 24th between 2pm - 4pm at Leonardo's and the packet pickup is scheduled to be at Northwoods Mall on June 30th between 5pm - 9pm.

The Firecracker 5000 is a 5 kilometer run/walk to benefit the Special Olympics and the Midnight Basketball League. If you would like more information or to get involved, call the project chairman, **Jay Denton** at 274-2411.

Wines on the Waterfront

This event features wines from 5 area distributors for wine connoisseurs to taste. There is also food from local restaurants available as well. It is scheduled for Saturday, June 24 and the Peoria Jaycees have been asked to help out with set-up, serving and teardown. Only 6 people are required for the setting up and that will commence at 10am. Ten people will be needed for the teardown and clean up, which would start around 11pm. There is also a small need for table hosts (and if you help out as a host, you get to wear a free tux).

Proceeds from the event go to benefit the Easter Seals. The Peoria Jaycees is sponsoring a table for 10 members at \$150 (the going rate is \$300) for that evening from 7pm to 11pm. For more information or if you would like to get involved, call **Jeff Pulfer** at 675-7979 or the project chairperson, **Nancy Rice** at 579-2457.

T-Ball with Peoria Heights Jaycees

We are looking for members who would like to spend an hour every Wednesday in the month of June umpiring T-Ball with kids. Basically, this project is run by the Peoria Heights Jaycees, but the Peoria Jaycee chapter has been contacted to help out. This project only takes one hour, from 5:30-6:30, every Wednesday in June and you need a very minimal skills to umpire. All the rules are written out on paper so don't let umpiring scare you. We currently need people for June 14th and 28th. If you can help out, call **Jeff Bilsland** at 682-2897. This is something you don't want to miss!

Taste of Peoria

The annual "Taste of Peoria" is set for Wednesday, August 9th this summer. The Peoria Jaycees have been involved with this project for approximately the past 4-5 years now. Over 20,000 people turn out for this event to taste the 'food of Peoria', prepared by restaurants in the Peoria area. Since there is an extremely long waiting line to operate some type of beer concessions, we will probably be running the ticket or soda booth this year. If interested in helping out or chairing this project, contact **Jeff Pulfer** at 675-7979.

O.J. Simpson Trial

This is your chance to voice your opinion on what the outcome of the O.J. Simpson trial will be. **Susan Wilbur** has put together a poll to help raise money for Women's Strength of Peoria. For \$1.00, you can voice your opinion on whether the most famous and expensive trial of the 90's will be a mistrial, hung jury, guilty verdict or not guilty verdict.

Half of the money you donate will go to a worthy cause, Women's Strength, an organization that helps battered women in Peoria. The other half of your money will be pooled together and given out to the one who chooses the correct outcome. If there is more than one person, the names will go into a hat and a grand prize winner will be chosen.

This project started over a beer at Kouri's Pub and so far we have collected \$57.00. This pool will be circulated at the next G.A. (and how this trial is going, the next 20 G.A.s) and has a great potential of collecting much more money. Get our opinion in today by calling **Susan Wilbur** at 685-8365 or **Jeff Bilsland** at 682-2897.

Adopt-A-School

Well, another school year has come to an end and another successful Adopt-A-School program as well. We had fun with the kids at Blaine Sumner by taking them to a Bradley basketball game, a Peoria Chief's game and hosting an open gym night. This is a good project in which the Peoria Jaycees get a chance to interact with children between the ages of 10-14. There will be an appreciation party for the people who helped out. **Jeff Bilsland** will be contacting you.

Next year we have a new Jaycee volunteering to chair this project, Jason Arends. Jason is excited about helping these kids and will prove to be a fine chairman. Jason will need your help next year with the planning of events for these kids, so don't wait for him to call you, call him at 681-1839 or Jeff Bilsland at 682-2897.

There is talk about another project coming on-line in conjunction with Adopt-A-School. One that will target kids interested in gangs, drugs and violence. Watch *The Charge* for more details or call Jeff Bilsland at 682-2897. Just remember, "Get Tuff" on crime and help our kids succeed!

Community Development (cont.)

Kids Care

K-Mart is running a program that photographs and fingerprints children to help combat missing children. They occasionally need help and the Peoria Jaycees wants to get involved. If you would like to help out, call **Jeff Bilsland** at 682-2897, or stop by his new home for dinner.

Volleyball

Listen up all you volleyball buffs, the Jaycees are planning on holding a volleyball contest at Hickory Grove in August, 1995. **Sean Apsey** is the chairman of this event and is a volleyball enthusiast. The details for the event are not available at the time of this writing, but if you are interested, call Sean at 691-6302 or **Jeff Bilsland** at 682-2897.

This will be our first attempt at a volleyball contest this year so if you have contacts in the volleyball area or know quite a bit about USVA rules, gives us a call. We are looking for a set of rules to make our own rules up, so any help you can give us would be appreciated.

State Director's Report

by Rustin A. Greene

Now that I am in the powerful State Director's office, it will be my duty to update you pagans on upcoming state events and visitations. I am currently putting together the 1995/96 Visitation Schedule for the next year, so I want to see each and every one of you go on at least one visitation. Together, we can make every other chapter in the State of Illinois envious of the Peoria Jaycees.

To begin with, on May 3rd, **Rick Owens** and **Val Mount** went to Canton for their membership meeting. Pres. Donna Shockency has a novel gavel - a squirt gun. The Canton Jaycees are doing something new during "Good of the Order" - they take time out and play a short game. For May it was 'The Newly Wed Game - Jaycee style'. Rick's bride was played by Donna Shockency while Val tied the knot with Canton member (and JCI Senator) Bob Jump. Val and Bob divorced shortly thereafter. Rumor has it that it was an amicable divorce. The meeting adjourned to the local pool hall where pool, darts, beer and laughter brought an end to the evening - in the early hours of the morning. (I hear tell that Rick drove - somebody should tell him that Val doesn't really drive at the speed of sound!).

Caribbean Rendezvous '95...

... or a "dirty pirate looks at 40!" Come help **Jeff Pulfer** celebrate his 40th birthday on Saturday, June 17 at Party Central in Marquette Hts., Illinois (301 Beloit Rd, Jeff's home). The festivities begin at 3:00pm and can last til the wee hours of the morning.

Come help yourself to lots of food, music and fun! Sample freshly made home brews from the Beer Brewing Dynamics, micro-brewed beers and an assortment of tropical drinks. There will also be some whimpy American beer on hand for those who cannot stomach the good stuff.

Limbo and hula contests will be held along with live music from the latest rock band to hit the airwaves; 'The G-Men'. Beach attire is recommended, but not required. Guests are welcomed, as long as they can walk on two legs and can communicate with more than one syllable words.

Luxurious accommodations are available for those who need to spend the night... Rick, is this you?

On May 6th was the Regional L.O.T.S. (Local Officers Training Seminar) at Illinois Central College in East Peoria. President Elect **Steve West** and Membership VP Elect **Janet Neuswanger** attended the training. Several Peoria Jaycees served as trainers: **Jeff Pulfer** and past president **Karen Muskopf** served as Local President trainers, **Brian Milbrandt** trained Local Directors and **Val Mount** trained State Directors.

On May 10th, we made a visitation to the Bloomington/Normal Jaycees meeting. In attendance were: **Jeff Pulfer**, **Jeff Bilsland**, **Rick Owens**, **Dan Schmidt**, **Susan Wilbur** and of course myself, **Rustin A. Greene**. Rick and Jeff Bilsland signed up for their Dates for Dimes, a project to auction dates for women with the proceeds going to the March of Dimes. This event is to be held in October. After signing up, Jeff stated, "What am I doing; I'm going to be sold like a piece of meat!" Rick submitted that this was just the 'cheap exploitation of men'. By the time we left Bloomington, we had successfully ran off with the chapter's gavel (a much, much smaller one than what we have). This then forced them to come to the Peoria Jaycees' membership meeting to get it back (see related article on page 1).

During the weekend of May 12-14th, **Steve West**, **Val Mount**, **Joann Ziegle** and **Brian Milbrandt** headed down to St. Louis, MO for the State Convention.

Also a special note, the Prairieland Region Board Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm at Leonardo's on War Memorial. These meetings are open to all Prairieland Jaycees (this means us).

Chapter Management

by Valerie Mount

It's a short, sweet article this month - as I am writing this my apartment is inaccessible due to the Flood of '95. I'm looking for a knight in shining armor - without the armor, but with a boat!

I have a couple goals this year. The first is to stay up on the paperwork involved with the State organization. President Steve and I would like to see the Peoria Jaycee's attain "Blue Chip" status once again, so have patience and pity on me - I have a feeling I'm about to become a nag on getting Final CPG's in within 60 days of the end of the project. There'll always be some exceptions I know - like Haunted House and Beer Fest, but it can be done.

My second goal is to remember that paperwork isn't everything. I joined the Jaycees to meet people, try new things (I didn't anticipate Beer Brewing Dynamics though!) and to have FUN!

Let's have a good year!

Membership Report

by Ms. Janet

The following members are coming due for the month of June: **Nick Dervenis, Norm Huff, Dubby, Bill O'Neill and Derrick Rodgers.**

For the month of July, members due are **Yolanda Adams, Beth Barr, Steve Dozard, Rick Kern, Valerie Mount, Terri Thomas and Greg Underhill.**

For the 1995-96 year, I am proposing to the Board two incentives towards recruitment of new members. If a member signs up 8 new members, the Peoria Jaycees will pay their next years dues (or reimburse if already paid). If a member signs up 12 new members, not only will their dues be paid for, but the registration and hotel will be paid for by the chapter for the May '96 State Convention. How about that?!

We are also looking into regularly advertising or announcing chapter functions and events through local media such as TCI Cablevision, Peoria Observer, Peoria Journal Star and the Peoria Chamber of Commerce's newsletter. This way, our members and prospective members can have another way of keeping up to date on what is going on. Until my next report, keep up the good work in recruiting new members.

Individual Development

by Diana Barach

We are looking forward to a very exciting year for individual development in the coming year. To start things off, an Ethnic Food Night is in the works, and is planned for Thursday, July 13th at 6:00pm. It is to be held at my apartment complex, located at 4403 Broyhill Ct. in Peoria. The complex offers such amenities as a swimming pool, so please bring your swimsuits (I know some of you would like to go skinny dipping, but please refrain yourself; we don't want to scare people). In addition to your swimsuit, everyone is required to bring a dish that has it's origins from another country. Also, please bring the recipe for your item and any background information that you may have.

For the July membership, there will be a chapter I.D. night with the theme topic of Leadership Skills. Included in this will be sub topics of time management, leadership dynamics and communication. This development project will start at 8:00 pm (by that time, we hope Steve West will be finished promoting his pancake breakfast ideas).

Upcoming attractions for Individual Development will include a project to foster teamwork and team building. Also, a CPR training project is being organized for those Jaycee members who would like to save people (just imagine coming out of a coma and you discover that Pulfer was giving you mouth to mouth - talk about beer breath). Stay tuned to *The Charge* for more info on Individual Development projects.

It's Summertime...

... and the living isn't as easy as you thought. Now that summer is here, people will be breaking out the swimsuits and beach towels and start worshipping, worshipping the sun that is. While a deep, dark tan may look good, it actually does not do you any good. Whether you have a blistering sunburn, or a light tan, there is still some degree of damage that has been inflicted to the skin and immune system.

What causes the damage is from ultraviolet light (UV light) from the sun. There are two different types of UV light, UVA and UVB. Most sunburns are caused by UVB light as it effects the surface of the skin. UVA light can be more dangerous as it effects the skin under the surface and leaves the skin looking tanned rather than burned. Also, the effects of UVA light can lead to localized cancers of the skin, premature aging, eye damage as it can penetrate through eye lids, and weakening of your body's immune system. So, for the summer of '95, let's stock up on the Coppertone!

From the Desk of West by Steve West

President Pledges FREE BEER

This is my first article as President of the great Peoria Jaycee's and I want to motivate each of you to help me to make this the best year ever for the Peoria Jaycee's. I know I want this to be the best year ever, but I cannot do it by myself.

On Saturday, June 3rd, **Val Mount, Rick Owens, Brian Milbrandt**, and yours truly spent most of the day in Jacksonville attending officer training sessions. On the return trip, Val and I stopped at the small town of Virginia to check out a barbecue and carnival that was being held at the courthouse square. As we waked around the carnival, I noticed a Virginia Jaycee named Bruce Moore that I had met at the State Convention several years ago. My enthusiasm was immense as I was reminded again how many friends and acquaintances I had made through Jaycee's. However, as we talked, he mentioned that the Jaycee chapter in Virginia had folded because they did not recruit enough new members. Me elation turned to concern as I realized that I was being cheated out of a chance to party with the Virginia Jaycee's at the State Summer General Assembly being held the weekend of August 11-13th at the Pere Marquette Hotel in Peoria, because they wouldn't be there.

I was robbed of a chance to party with the Virginia Jaycee's because the Virginia failed to recruit!

Rusty Greene said it best at our most recent board meeting (held the first Thursday each month at 6:30pm at a new location at RLO, Inc., 2885 W. Willow Lake Dr., across from the Knight of Columbus Hall; please see related story on page 7). "If each member of the Peoria Jaycee's recruited JUST ONE NEW MEMBER this year, our chapter would really take off!" Rusty is right. Our new year

officially started on June 1st and each of us needs to recruit at least 1 new member. Remember: We're not the Virginia Jaycee's, we're the GREAT PEORIA JAYCEE'S. We have the best damn chapter in the State of Illinois and it is time we start acting like it and telling people about it!

We have the best membership meetings around. Where else can you win a cash jackpot just for attending? Also, 50/50 drawings will now be a part of each membership meeting. Monthly meetings are held the 3rd Thursday each month at 7:00pm at the Amvet's which is located at the corner of Monroe and Fayette in downtown Peoria. When the meeting is over, the party has just begun! We are a very friendly and enthusiastic group. I am convinced that most people that attend one of our meetings or events will want to join.

I know what you are thinking: What does any of this have to do with the free beer mentioned in the headline. Good question. To encourage old and new members and guests to attend our meetings, I, as your President, hereby pledge to buy at least one pitcher of beer or soda after each membership meeting. I will also buy each new member a beer of soda on the night they are sworn in. so please take advantage of these offers. If you haven't been to a meeting for awhile, don't be shy about showing up and asking someone to point out **Steve West**, the guy that wants to buy you a drink. (Editor's Note: Steve will be the guy who will be endlessly talking to you, and somewhere in there, will be promoting his pancake breakfast.)

I want to mention that 676-JAYC (676-5292) now rings at my home. Feel free to call it and check out the message. My work number is 673-8108. If there is any way that I can help you, please let me know. Feel free to call anytime prior to 11:00pm.

We need everyone possible to help with the Firecracker 5000. Meet at the RiverStation on Tuesday, July

4th at 6:00am. The race starts at 7:30am and we will go out for breakfast after the race.

This is also the 55th year for the great Peoria Jaycee's and the 75th year for the Illinois Jaycee's. Our anniversary celebration will be held at our August 17th membership meeting. All current and former Jaycee's (old farts) are invited as well as guests. We will have a huge celebration with food and beverages before the meeting along with an anniversary cake.

I promise this will be a fun year. In fact, I guarantee that if you are not having fun this year, it's because you didn't show up. I'm proud to be your Commander in Chief. I'm proud to be a Peoria Jaycee.

With Regards,
Steve West

Points to Ponder

"Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it."

-Henry Ford

"The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it.

- Theodore Roosevelt

"Proper Prior Planning Prevents Piss Poor Performance"

- A Labor Relations Instructor at SIUC

Anniversary Party

The Peoria Jaycees is to hold their 55th Anniversary Party at the August membership meeting on August 17th. We will also be commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Jaycees.

Social hour will be from 5:30-6:30, dinner from 6:30-7:30pm, with the membership meeting to follow. All current and past members are invited to attend. Guests are also welcomed.

The cost per person will be \$5.00 and will include a grilled sandwich of some sort, potato salad, beans, chips, anniversary cake, soft drinks and beer.

Jeff Pulfer (675-7979) and **Dubby** (691-6608) are organizing the event. They are asking for some help from both current and past members in getting the word out and to assist them with additional details of the event. For those of you who are past members, this is an effort to bring back the "Rooster Banquet" that was held in the past, only with a little more emphasis on our history.

There will be more information in next month's newsletter.

New Roster

Rick Owens has been diligently working on a database application for the purpose of keeping the Peoria Jaycee roster in a more current manner. With some assistance from **Val Mount**, we are getting the job done. Included in this newsletter is what we currently have. Please look for your name and check to see that the information is current and correct. If not, please call Rick at 243-7319 or Val at 579-3076.

Other information that is being kept of file are a cellular phone number (if applicable), name of company you work for and your position. We would appreciate it if you could share this information with us.

This listing is what is being used to mail out *The Charge* and will eventually be used for other Jaycee functions. A current list will be published in *The Charge* every two or three of months exclusively for members of the Peoria Jaycees. Copies will also be made available at membership meetings.

Board Meeting Location to Change

The Board has agreed to change the location of the board meetings. The board meetings had taken place at Methodist Hospital in room G506. The venue has now changed to RLO, Inc., 2885 W. Willow Lake Dr. in Peoria. This is the business office of **Rick** and **Dennis Owens** and several board members have already been there for a planning session.

This location is at the corner of Willow Knolls Rd. and Willow Lake Dr. and is across from the Knights of Columbus Hall (please see map to the right). If you need further directions, please call Rick at 243-7319.

The Peoria Jaycee Board Meeting is held the first Thursday of the month, now starting at 6:30pm.

It's A Little Known Fact...

Wine Tasting Tips

By WILLIAM RICE of Knight-Ridder News Service

Try these tips for finding your way in wine country. Though the lingo of wine experts may seem like a foreign language, it's not really so difficult to figure out the main points.

Tasting wine is no more difficult than tasting water. Sip and swallow. That's it. The effect can be refreshing if the wine is light and lightly chilled, or it can provide intriguing aromas and tastes, or simply wash down food with more élan than other beverages can provide. If the wine you serve brings pleasure to you and those you share it with, you have chosen the right wine, whatever its pedigree. There are, however, elemental procedures, including a painless extension of the "sip-and-swallow" approach to tasting, that will help anyone assess a wine.

Let's consider three factors that prevent humans from turning the tasting of wine into a mechanical, objective procedure: Not everyone has an equally keen sense of smell and taste. Sensitivity varies considerably from one person to another and may even vary within an individual during the course of a day. The taste of wine is extremely subjective. Beyond the four basic taste sensations-bitter, sweet, salt and acid-people discover all sorts of taste references in wine. These range from some fairly specific and familiar smells and tastes, such as raspberry, coffee, or chocolate, to things quite esoteric such as pebbles, earth, wood.

The character and personality of wine tend to be more pronounced the more special it is. In general, nuances of aroma and flavor, like the extras on an automobile, come a la carte. So don't feel inferior if you fail to find the magical aroma of violets, cedar or blackberries in a red jug wine made from cabernet sauvignon grapes. You may not find any significant "nose" in an expensive young wine either. In its adolescence, wine often goes through a "dumb" period.

With this understood, it's time to taste a wine in four easy steps. (Fill your glass no more than halfway, so that the "bouquet" can form within the glass and your nose doesn't get wet smelling it.)

1) **Look.** The color and clarity of a wine may contain hints as to its age and health. The brightness and sparkle fade from red wine over time, while a white may develop a yellowish hue. Poorly made wines may look cloudy or dull, though it is rare today to find a young wine in a retail store or restaurant that is not bright, even brilliant. With a sparkling wine, look at the size and frequency of the bubbles.

2) **Sniff.** To wine experts, this and not the act of tasting, is the key step in identifying a wine and assuring that it is correctly made. The expert puts his nose into the glass and rather aggressively sniffs two or three times. (Prolonged sniffing is considered counterproductive.) He is searching for odors (which come to you), aromas (which you inhale) and "bouquet" (the sum effect of odors and aromas) attempting to associate them with flowers, fruits or herbs and then linking the association to a wine or wines tasted previously. A pleasant bouquet predisposes you to like the wine; sharp or overly perfumed odors set off a warning signal and you will be cautious as you take the next step.

3) **Sip and swish.** Take a modest amount of wine into your mouth. Roll it around your tongue and breathe in a little air if you wish. (The slurping noise this may produce is acceptable in tasting circles.) At this point the taste buds will be challenged by sensations more varied than any other beverage offers them. Tartness (acidity), the possibility of bitterness (astringency), sweetness, all manner of flavors. The mouth also can weigh the wine's body: its texture and density.

4) **Swallow, breathe and think.** We're not quite finished. After swallowing the wine and taking a breath, we become aware of the duration and complexity of its aftertaste or "finish." These impressions are recorded instinctively and very quickly. How consciously and how thoroughly depends on the taster. To move to the next level of awareness, it is essential to reconsider these impressions briefly before moving on or taking a bite of food.

Top Ten Signs That Rusty Greene Has Had Too Much to Drink

- 10.) Stands on table and announces to public that he is not wearing any underwear.
- 9.) Begins every sentence with "When you get to be my age...".
- 8.) Thinks Brian Milbrandt's dogs are good looking; starts to hit on them.
- 7.) His guitar playing actually improves (Oops, that signs that you've had too much to drink).
- 6.) Wants everyone to begin prayer service to the 'Lord Newt'.
- 5.) Starts sounding like a broken record telling you how busy he is and how he needs to go home.
- 4.) If he's not preaching Newt, he's singing Zeppelin.
- 3.) Try's to get you to check into Proctor Chemical Dependency before he does.
- 2.) Runs off with neighboring Jaycees chapter's gavel.
- 1.) Considers everyone to be a 'pagan liberal democrat'.

It's A Little Known Fact... Wine Tasting Tips (cont.)

Here are several factors to consider when drinking wine:

Temperature - In general, we serve white wines too cold and red wines too warm. Over-chilling dulls the flavors of a white wine, while a red at our room temperature-not the distinctly cooler French room temperature- will emphasize the alcohol, which overwhelms whatever subtle flavors may exist. Experts suggest serving red wine in the low- to mid-60s and still, dry whites in the high 40s or low 50s. To obtain these temperatures, remove a white wine from the refrigerator at least 15 minutes before serving it, and put a red wine into that same refrigerator 15 minutes before serving it.

Opening a bottle - Corkscrews come in various shapes and sizes, but be sure yours has a screw (or worm) at least 2 inches long in the shape of a hollow coil. Avoid straight, augerlike corkscrews that resemble screws used in carpentry; these tear up the cork. Perhaps the best corkscrew of all the Screwpull, has a Teflon-coated 5-inch coil. The most useful nonscrew opener is a two-pronged ex-tractor called the "Ah So." It is particularly valuable when dealing with corks that are dried out or have be-come stuck to the side of the bottle.

'Breathing' - This term introduces an unanswerable question: Just how long before drinking a wine should you uncork it? Wine snobs have a field day speculating on just how many days, hours or minutes of exposure to the air a specific wine should be given. In theory, a wine-especially an older wine of great breeding- needs some fresh air after long captivity in the bottle. In practice many believe breathing makes little, difference. Sometimes the wine is poured, or "decanted," into another container. With older red wines, the purpose of this is to leave behind the natural sediment.

Glassware - Taste in glassware has varied over the centuries. Currents simple, sleek, clear glasses are favored. The best place to start is with a dozen or so inexpensive glasses caned "all-purpose" that hold 8 to 10 ounces. Various shapes of glassware are available for various types of wine. Matching a wine type and a glass is not essential, but it is something to explore if you become a hobbyist. Avoid glasses that are extremely small, large or fragile.

Wine with food - Just when you think you have a handle on this business of tasting wine, someone suggests tasting the wine with food. Although this makes great sense, if only because most wine is consumed with food, wine-lovers often resist. That is because a wine will taste remarkably; different when consumed with a specific food. The possibilities multiply sharp when the food comes with a sauce or accompaniments, and trying to isolate flavors and perfect pairings can drive a person to iced tea.

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.**

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