

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

Monthly news of JUGHEADS Youth Juggling Company, LLC • Edina, Minnesota • September 2017

Always Faithful

Persistent blessings for this unique company

As a life-long patriot with several nephews and a dad in or out of the U.S. military, this director appreciates the Marines motto: “Semper Fi.” Given that this company is faith-based (with mostly subtle manifestations), that motto is equally applicable to JUGHEADS (JH)--not referring to our members, student leaders, or adult staff as much as to the One from Whom all blessings flow. “Great is Thy Faithfulness” could be our official hymn, with its chorus resounding ever more sweetly with each passing year.

As you’ll note in our annual stats below, the good news is that we have nearly 100 Jugheads this year! The bad news, if one might call it that, is that we’re *below* 100 for the first time since the spring of 2001. But even with our recent cancellation of Monday Rec. Club, we can say with musician Sara Groves, “He’s always been faithful to me” in providing all we need to survive and even thrive.

Whether this is any given member’s 1st year or 10th, and whether this is a top priority or sideline hobby (with a wide range of reasons for membership), may the identity of “Jughead” be both an immediate blessing and life-long conduit of godly character.

2017-2018 JUGHEADS Company Stats at-a-Glance

3rd Graders:	2	8th Graders:	12
4th Graders:	13	Freshmen:	12
5th Graders:	8	Sophomores:	12
6th Graders:	13	Juniors:	4
7th Graders:	12	Seniors:	8

[Total Jughead Grads since 2006: 88]

Total Current Jughead Members in a Weekly Club: 96

Returning Jugheads: 84; **Rookie Jugheads:** 12

Avg. Jughead’s Grade in School (3rd-12th): 7.54th

Avg. Jughead’s Year in the Company (1-10): 4.15th

Jughead Boys: 62 (64.58%); **Jughead Girls:** 34 (35.42%)

Sets of Siblings: 18 (incl. two families with *three kids* in JH!)

Edina Public Schools: 44 (45.8%); **Non-E.P.S.:** 52 (54.2%)

Cities of Residence: 19 (Apple Valley, Bloomington, Crystal, Eagan, E.P., Edina, Hopkins, Mpls., Minnetonka, Minnetrista, Orono, Prior Lake, Ramsey, Richfield, St.L.P., St. Paul, Savage, White Bear Lake and Woodbury)

Fall Flyer: Annual Waiver + MEA

PayPal peeps; one shot at fall camps

WAIVER: Our insurance requires that every family sign a liability waiver yearly. If you use PayPal for JH, please sign/turn in the attached form by 9/29, noting any changes.



RELEASE DAY CAMPS: We’re once again offering only two camp days this year: **Thurs. & Fri., Oct. 19-20.** Take advantage of MEA Break for a skills-boosting, friendship-enhancing day/half-day! Our 2018 summer camps: **June 11-July 13, 2018.**

Two Families, Four Titles, Many Hats

Adult staff = a marriage + a sibling set

It’s often fascinating how people’s personal connections and mentors lead them to diverse pursuits and even callings in life!

Director Paul Arneberg learned to juggle *and* work with kids at age 20 thanks to his big brother, **Tom Arneberg.** Paul is now in his 26th year of career youth work (and #20 as a full-time juggling director). He leads clubs on site every day, with a support role in Ultimate. Paul also leads the Student Leadership Team (SLT) and directs our annual *Juggle Jam* variety show every spring.

Operations Manager Wendy Arneberg met Paul just before he learned to juggle, began dating him right after he learned to work with kids, and has been at his side since the start of his career and in every company adventure. She’s in charge of our office, graphic design, producing *Juggle Jam*, managing their home in Year 25 of marriage, and training Chip, their Super-Kitty.

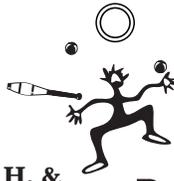
Coach Tom Gaasedelen (JH Class of ‘13) was inspired by his cousin **Xander Herman** to join in 2003. After investing a decade as a Jughead (including starting “Reach” as our Rudy in *Juggle Jam 7* and earning an IJA Teams bronze in ‘11), Tom is in his 3rd year as a coach, this year exclusively with Ultimate Club.

Specialist Betsy (Gaasedelen) Nelson has been a Jughead “super fan” since her little brother joined. She’s our resident Movement Specialist for Advanced and Friday Rec. Club. Betsy fits in well with our company, modeling and teaching gracefulness both here and full time at CREO Arts & Dance Conservatory.

Summer ‘17 Highlights: IJA, RFKC

After a year off in 2016, we returned to the 69th annual **International Jugglers’ Association (IJA) Festival**, this year held in Cedar Rapids, IA. 21 Jugheads traveled, lodged, ate, and juggled together for a full week, led by **Paul & Wendy Arneberg** with support from participatory chaperones **Kevin Ashton** and **Scott Purser** along with tag-teaming moms **Ann Marie Ashton** and **Sue Cantor.** Here are seven selected highlights from IJA:

- 1) After a bus ride on a chartered coach, our group enjoyed pizza & arcade games with grads and current/former coaches **Tom, Jack & Chris;** 2) several JH families attended separately, and at least 15 Jughead grads were in attendance,



making for a fun reunion; 3) **Jared A., Clay D., Peter H. & Eva H., Kayla M. & Elizabeth S.,** and **Mirrandra M.** all performed in the **Youth Showcase**; 4) our **Ultimate Club** performed very well in the **Teams Championships** guided by **Coach Tom** and **Captains Cole D. & Steven K.**; 5) eight Jugheads and the director earned **Juggling** medals (at least one gold each!): **Jared A.** (5K, 4x100), **Isaac C.** (100, 5 ball 100, 400), **Eva H.** (100, 4x100), **Peter H.** (100, 400, 800, 4x100), **Kayla M.** (100, 5 ball 100, 400, 4x100), **Rebecca M.** (100, 400, 800, 4x100), **Elizabeth S.** (5 ball 100, 400, 4x100), **Laura S.** (100, 400, 800, 4x100), and **Paul A.** (5K, 100, 400, 800); 6) many Jugheads fared well in the **IJA Games**; 7) workshops and shows featured juggling stars from all over the world (at least four continents!).

NOTE: We're returning to the IJA Festival as a group July 16-22, 2018 in Springfield, MA! Email w/q's; info. meetings in January or February.

Shortly after IJA, **Paul & Wendy** invested a week ministering to children ages 6-12 in Minnesota's foster care system through **Royal Family KIDS Camp**. The exhausting yet fulfilling trip expanded the Arnebergs' experience of Christian compassion. Paul adjusted to *not* being in charge and he learned new forms of patience; Wendy's goal is to recruit 10 more volunteers for 2018!

Welcome Notes & Bulletin Board

- **Welcome to 12 rookie Jugheads!** **THURSDAY REC. CLUB:** **Henry B.** (3rd); **Frankie M.** (5th); **Michael M.** (3rd); **Andy N.** (4th); **Luke N.** (4th); **Thomas R.** (4th); **Max W.** (5th). **FRIDAY REC. CLUB:** **Leona Barocas** (7th); **Matthew J.** (4th); **Seth J.** (9th); **Timothy J.** (9th); **Max M.** (6th).
- **GAMES WEEK '17:** Our fall kicked off with games and prizes *plus* points toward top prizes in each club. Overall winners: **Joshua N. & Skip N.** (tied in Elite); **Noel D.** (Adv.); **Eli B.** (Thur. Rec.); **Rebecca M.** (Fri. Rec.). Way to go!
- **Congrats** to seven Ultimate Club rookies! Freshman: **Nathan D.**; Sophomores: **Jacob D., Kayla M., Isaac N., Elizabeth S.**; Juniors: **Jared A., Eva H.** All will aim to letter in juggling this year!
- **Ultimate Club Banquet:** 10/14. Look for emailed invitations.
- **The JugStore:** We have an ongoing inventory for sale: **juggling props, apparel,** and **branded misc.** Pick up some bling this fall!

Paul's Platform: The 'Versus' Series Part 7: "Facebook vs. Face-to-Face"

This 2017 series on the importance and proper use of words attempts to articulate the ways in which language influences how I mentor and lead this youth company. Whatever one's worldview or quirks, may these topics serve to edify and challenge.

I've never had a Facebook page. This isn't necessarily due to a moral aversion to it (although the gossip-oriented origins of its founding should give one pause); I just know that my personality is too obsessive to dare to have one, at least amidst my intense people-oriented career. I'm the only one of my siblings on both sides of the family who eschew Facebook, and I think all of my Millennial nieces & nephews have one even as other venues of social media are more in vogue with the under-35 generation (Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat...I'm sure I'm forgetting some ;-).

I do know of *some* Millennials who are at least *cautious* in their use of Facebook, wisely noting that once something is posted online, it may be permanent. Posting photos of oneself in embarrassing situations or engaging in groupthink political rants may appeal to one's friends, but it is dangerous when it comes to job prospects and losing others' respect due to digital versions of TMI. My nephew was recently granted a phone interview with an exciting new job prospect. Nice, but the real prize was his follow-up *in-person* interview. A Facebook minimalist, he has nothing to hide online from his potential employer, and his current customer relations career surely served him very well in that interview.

As for me, I am face-to-face every day. Yes, I email and text, but to be present in a conversation seems sadly rare, and that's an advantage of having a brick-and-mortar location for our juggling clubs in our age of increasingly doing business and communication online. Even though technology helps our lives in innumerable ways (just ask the Floridians currently out of power for days or possibly *weeks*), it can also become a barrier to real, flesh-and-blood relationships for which we're designed.

The Apostle Paul ends his famous "love chapter" this way: "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known" (1 Cor. 13:12). Real life ultimately beats digital life every time.

We as humans need to know and be known. Choose face-to-face over social media whenever possible. That's one of the benefits of JH. I thank you all for empowering your kids to pause their devices and "like us" by having human interface through the excuse of juggling and growing together, in person.

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*Betsy will resume her work with us in November.