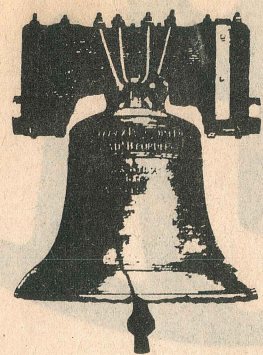
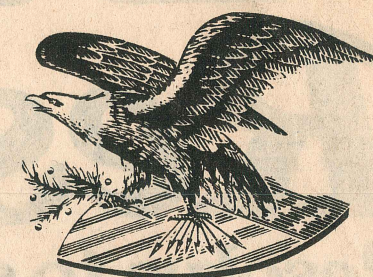


MADRID

AREA



# BICENTENNIAL



1776-1976

"Remembrances of Days Gone By"

## Madrid Jaycees: A Young Men's Civic Organization

The Jaycees is a young men's civic organization, encouraging its members a spirit of genuine Americanism and civic interest. It also offers to members the opportunity for personal development and achievement and serves as an avenue for intelligent participation in the affairs of the community, the state and the nation. The Jaycees is an organization devoted to developing true friendship and understanding among young men of all nations.

The only requirement for membership in this organization is that you are at least 18 and not older than 36. Otherwise, there are no other requirements for membership.

The history of the Jaycees dates back to October 13, 1915. It was on this day that a 23 year old bank clerk, Henry Gissenbier, Jr., and 31 other young men formed in St. Louis The Young Men's Progressive Civic Association.

Within a short time the organization grew to more than 750 members. The name was changed to Junior Citizens (JC's) in 1916 and to Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1918. In 1920, Gissenbier was elected president of a new national Jaycee organization known for 45 years as the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce. In 1965 this name was officially changed to the United States Jaycees.

When the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce was formed (1920) there were twelve local organizations and an estimated 2,500 members. By 1941, membership had grown to 78,000 and there were more than 1050 chapters. Then the Second World War took its toll and membership was cut almost in half.

At the war's end, a period of expansion and growth began. Membership topped 100,000 for the first time in 1946 and the number of chapters reached 1150. The pattern has continued and today there are more than 6000 chapters and over 300,000 individual members. There are now Jaycee organizations in eighty nations of the world.

In the early years, the office of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce moved to the home town of the incumbent president. In 1936 a permanent office was opened in St. Louis but three years later it was moved to Chicago. It remained here until 1947 when Tulsa became the new home and it is still there today.

The starting of the Iowa Jaycees was in October of 1923 when 28 young business and professional men, led by Wilson T. Clark, founded the Junior Division of the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce. On January 9, 1924, five young men, including George Olmsted, met to form the first Jaycee chapter in Iowa, the Des Moines Junior Chamber. Soon thereafter, the Jaycee chapters were formed at Fort Dodge and Ottumwa. From these humble beginnings came the second largest young mens' organization in the United States, the Iowa Jaycees.

During the 1950's, the Iowa chapters grew and matured as a state organization, reaching 6400 members in 1954 and over 6900 by 1959. Projects and participation were constantly on the increase. Participation in U.S. Jaycee affairs continued at a high level as Iowa entered a candidate for national office in almost every year since 1950.

As the years have come and gone, the Iowa Jaycees have continued to grow and prosper. In 1973-74 the Iowa membership reached 12,000 members for the largest membership increase ever since the group grew by almost 3000 early in its history. Today Iowa ranks as the largest Jaycee State in the country with 16,000 members and 359 chapters.

### Madrid Jaycees Formed in 1971

The present Jaycee group has been in existence since 1971, but the original organization formed back in the early 1960's. This group lasted three years and then disbanded.

The Madrid Jaycees received their charter on April 24, 1971 from the Iowa branch and four days later earned their approval from the national organization. Twenty-five names were needed on the original charter and those names were: Roger Alleman, James Anderson, Robert Belew, David Benshoff, Paul Bertini, Kenneth Bregar, Ric Hamm, Bob Henry, Barry Hughes, Robert Knox, Frank Lawson, Ray Magnani, Terry Magnani, Jerry Perkins, Roger Peterson, William Polish, Ronald Rose, Roger Rose, Larry Shearer, Leland Shell, Marvin Sowder, Richard White, Tom Williams and Gary Steffens.

Both local Jaycee organizations were sponsored by the Boone branch and in 1972, Granger started a

similar organization under the sponsorship of the present Madrid chapter.

Jaycees involve young age group men with new ideas being continually brought into the club. Most of these ideas are geared to meet with the changing times.

The Jaycees have certain programs they initiate and carry out each year, but the same one are not always carried out annually. Things are left pretty much open so when one group needs help, the Jaycees can pitch in and assist if needed. Annual projects include the Easter egg hunt, sponsorship of the Labor Day celebration, BB gun shoot, Honey Sunday, get acquainted dinner for the Madrid teachers, and another project carried on in past years has been Bushels for Concern, where local farmers were contacted to donate grain, with the proceeds from the sale going to supply dental vans for the people living around Appalachia. Most of the projects they undertake however, deal strictly with Madrid or the immediate area.

The most recent undertaking was the circus that came back in June. The BB Gun Shoot is the upcoming project and will be held at the end of January.

During the first year of activity in 1971, the Jaycees held their meetings in the Legion basement, but in 1972 they purchased the hall over Perriers for \$1.

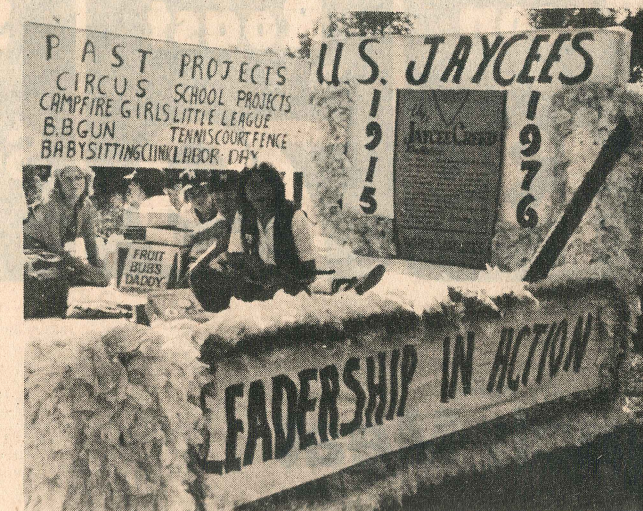
Election of officers are held in April with all candidates picked by a nominating committee composed of three members. There is also a Board of Directors voted upon each year, whose job it is to study and participate in the leadership in action course for better understanding and motivation of the members.

Officers are Ric Hamm, president; Steve Bradley, internal vice-president; Bob Krukow, external vice-president; Larry Peterson, secretary; Jim Brown, treasurer; Gary Kirkpatrick, state director; Steve Wren, Rod Urtel, Barry Hughes, Bernard Miller and Bill Young, board of directors. The present membership is 43.

The basis of the organization and everything Jaycees believe in is found in the Jaycee Creed which says: "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 government 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.

### First Jaycee Group in Madrid

In the early part of the 1960's, a Jaycee group was organized in Madrid. Like the present organization, 25 members were needed to get a charter, and during its



This photo shows the Jaycee float as it looked in the 1975 Labor Day parade. The float depicts various aspects of the Jaycees organization and also exhibits some of their projects.

three year existence, the Jaycees had a maximum membership of 33.

Past presidents of the organization were Marion Battani, Larry Shepard, and Carl Harestad. Other members included Rico Milani, Larry Swain, Bruno Isolini, Duane Lombardi, Ivan Scartweet and Don Welder.

The group met one or two times a month and held their meetings in the City Hall. A sponsorship was needed to establish the organization in town and this was fulfilled by the Boone Chapter, who sent some members to the early meetings to help in organization and carrying out of business procedures.

It was during this time that the Jaycees began sponsoring the plans and activities for the Labor Day celebration. An unsuccessful project attempt undertaken by the first group was the proposed establishment of a golf course west of town between Madrid and Woodward. The course would have been located on government ground, but not enough interest was shown by the Madrid group so Woodward took the project.

Carl Harestad gave one possible reason for the folding of the organization. He said there wasn't much interest in the group and this time and that many of the members worked night and were unable to attend the meetings.

### Jaycee Belles

The subordinate organization for Jaycee wives is the Belles. The local organization was started in 1972 and follows many of the beliefs used by the Jaycees.