

# LA PORTE JAYCEES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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FIRST MIDDLE LAST

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STREET ADDRESS

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CITY STATE ZIP

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HOME PHONE

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E-MAIL ADDRESS

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PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT/BUSINESS

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WORK PHONE

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SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH

\_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE'S NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
REFERRED BY

*I WOULD LIKE TO REFER:*

\_\_\_\_\_

## La Porte Jaycees

PO Box 35  
La Porte, IN 46352-0035  
219-324-5828

We have printed this booklet to provide you with answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the Jaycee organization. We hope it will answer your questions!

### THE TOTAL JAYCEE CONCEPT

In the Indiana Jaycee's 70-plus years, three areas have proved to be vitally important to the well-rounded individual. They are the Total Jaycee Concept - none more or less important than the other. All are interdependent.

The beneficiaries of a program of Community Development, Individual Development, and Management Development are the individual member and the community. Most chapters will have a vice president in charge of each area.

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### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The environment, drug abuse prevention, and the problems of the homeless are just three of the hundreds of different areas Jaycees tackle. Thousands of county fairs, music festivals, community projects, and other events that provide recreation and tourism are Jaycee projects.

Each state organization, and The US Jaycees, provide resources on emphasis area projects. But the greatest strength is the initiative chapters take to find solutions to local problems.

Jaycees are also active in governmental affairs. While the Jaycees don't endorse candidates, they do promote participation in the political process. This includes the annual Governmental Affairs Leadership Seminar in Washington DC.

## MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Chapters run like a business. To assist the chapters, the Indiana Jaycees provide a large amount of information to supply officers with the knowledge to run the local organization.

Materials such as handbooks for the chapter president, officers, and committee chairpersons, chapter planning guides, a parliamentary procedure manual and Communicating Jaycees, a primer on public relations, are available from The US Jaycees.



## INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

Countless business and political leaders have been Jaycees early in their careers. Entrepreneurs and executives expanded their skills with Individual Development training in a chapter just like ours.

The US Jaycees provides training guides on today's most popular subjects. They include courses on personal dynamics, leadership, communications, time management, and stress relief. One of our most popular programs is Speak Up in which you will polish public speaking skills that will help you succeed.

Other areas of individual Development are Family Life, to help busy people make the most of quality time for spouses and children, and a myriad of Personal Skills programs, ranging from personal financial planning, to dress for success, to health and fitness.



## THREE REASONS TO VOLUNTEER

1) **SELF-IMPROVEMENT:** Expand or develop your leadership, decision making, and public speaking skills.

2) **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING:** You can contribute to identifying community needs, then plan and execute projects to help others.

3) **FELLOWSHIP:** Call it networking, camaraderie, or just plain having fun with new friends. You'll associate with progressive young people with similar interests and objectives on the local to international levels.



4th of July Activities – Parade,  
Arts & Craft Show, Kid’s Festival,  
Jaycee Beer Barns, VIP Tent,  
Fireworks



### **What and who are the Jaycees?**

The Jaycees, which is also known as the Junior Chamber of Commerce, is an organization that provides leadership training opportunities for its members through the projects and programs the members plan, organize, and conduct in both the community and chapter. Both young women and men ages 18 through 39 are eligible to be members.

### **What opportunities are available in my local chapter?**

The Jaycees is more than a community service organization because members have the opportunity to improve themselves while helping others. This idea of providing “leadership training through community service” has been the basis of the Jaycees since its inception in 1920. Members are encouraged to view their Jaycee activity as a learning experience...because it is!

By participating in your chapter’s activities you will have the opportunity to meet, network, and interact with a group of young people from the La Porte area and to conduct worthwhile projects that benefit others in our community. These opportunities are the Jaycee Advantage!

### **What can I expect from the Jaycees?**

You can expect to be encouraged to participate in the chapter’s activities. Quite often these activities are projects or programs that benefit others.

Jaycees view their activities as training opportunities. These opportunities are offered both on-the-job, such as chairing or serving on a project committee, and also in the classroom setting, with courses and seminars on personal betterment.

Your active participation in these activities will allow you to fine-tune your management and leadership skills and improve yourself.

### **How much time do I have to commit?**

The average member volunteers about four hours each month; however, there is no required amount of time you must participate in the chapter's activities. You are permitted to choose to participate only in the activities you desire to participate. It is reasonable to understand, of course, that the more you participate, the more opportunities you will have to learn, grow, and help others.

### **What about meetings?**

The La Porte Jaycees currently meet the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7:00pm and run about an hour in length. You are encouraged to attend meetings to learn about upcoming chapter activities and events and to socialize with other members.

### **Why and how are the Jaycees formed?**

Since 1920, young Americans have benefited through their active participation in the Jaycees. The organization started in St. Louis, Missouri with one young person's desire for a better life.

Henry Giessenbier, a young bank teller trying to get ahead, thought practical management experience on a social level could help him and his community progress. He contacted other young people with his idea and they became active in the area's civic affairs. The idea caught on and the organization grew.

Today the Jaycees continues its dedication to members and community improvement. In more than 4,000 communities throughout America, men and women ages 18 to 39 are developing their personal and professional skills and helping fellow citizens through membership in Jaycees.

Locally, the La Porte Jaycee chapter was chartered as an official member of the Indiana Jaycees in January of 1946.



2003  
Haunted  
House



2002 Children's  
Ghost Walk and  
Haunted Trail



## Children's Easter Egg Hunt



## Super Bowl Kickoff Dance



## **How is my chapter associated with the Indiana Jaycees?**

When you join the La Porte Jaycees you also become a member of the Indiana Jaycees. Therefore, the Indiana Jaycees are the members of over 120 local chapters like ours in communities across Indiana. In addition, you also become a member of the United State Junior Chamber of Commerce and Jaycees International (JCI).

## **What is the purpose and make up of the Indiana Jaycees?**

The executive committee of the Indiana Jaycees is responsible for serving the Jaycee chapters in Indiana. Members of the executive committee are members of local chapters who have been elected or appointed to those leadership positions.

The Board of Directors of the Indiana Jaycees meets four times annually. These meetings provide opportunities to recognize excellence in individual and chapter accomplishments, to provide training sessions for the attendees, and to facilitate the exchange of ideas between chapters from across the state.

## **And there are national and international Jaycees, too?**

The United State Junior Chamber of Commerce is based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The US Junior Chamber is led by a president and ten national vice presidents. In addition, there is a world organization – Junior Chamber International. JCI is based in Coral Gables, Florida. Its world president and twenty-one vice presidents serve Jaycees in over 100 countries worldwide.

## **Where do my dues money go?**

Your dues, which is set by the Indiana Jaycees, help fund the Indiana Jaycees, the US Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the JCI for support staff and training materials, for promotion of the objectives of the organizations, and for the incentives. The La Porte Jaycees annual dues are currently \$30.00 for the first year and \$30.00 for renewal and provides you with membership in all four organizations.

**The La Porte Jaycees run many projects and programs each year. Below is a sampling of these projects that you might be interested in helping out with.**

**MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

The Management Development area includes all the money-making projects for the La Porte Jaycees. The Management Development Vice President is responsible for the major portion of the income for the club.

A few of the projects in this area include:

4th of July • Port a Pit  
Haunted House • Super Bowl Kick Off Dance  
Jaycee Newsletter (The Twister)

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

The Community Development area is composed of a variety of projects that are directly related to community involvement. The Community

Development Vice President's area includes all segments of our community – youth, senior citizens, the environment, parks, and recreation. Here is a list of just some of the Jaycee projects in the Community Development area:

Deserving Children's Shopping Tour • Senior Citizens Light Tour  
Jaycee High School Senior Scholarship  
Children's Ghost Walk • Park Projects • Easter Egg Hunt

**INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

The Individual Development Vice President is responsible for the programs within the Jaycee organization. These projects generally fall into several categories – personal development programs, membership recruitment, and social programs. A partial list of individual development programs would include:

Membership Nights • New Member Orientations  
Family Picnics • Degrees of Jaycees  
Leadership Training • Road Rally

One project that probably requires a description all by itself is the **La Porte Jaycees Annual 4th of July Celebration**. No one other project requires as much planning, manpower, and hours of work than this one project. Literally, 9 months and thousands of "people" hours are spent each year to provide the community of La Porte and the surrounding area with the best Independence Day Celebration.

Instituted in 1946, this celebration has been sponsored, organized, and run solely by the La Porte Jaycees. Of course, it takes complete community cooperation to run such a project and it is this cooperation with which the Jaycees have been blessed. A myriad of activities make up the 4th of July Celebration each year and among them are:

4th of July Parade – Billed as the Midwest's finest 4th of July Parade, it annually lives up to its top billing as each year the 100 plus unit parade winds its way down the 2 mile route. Because of its parade, La Porte is annually proclaimed as Indiana's Capital For a Day by the governor of Indiana.

Arts & Crafts Show – Started in 1974, the show is now well established with steadily increasing numbers of participants with their hand-made crafts and buyers.

Kid's Festival – 1996 began the fun for kids of all ages with the addition of games like pop bottle ring toss, duck pond game, bozo buckets, basketball shoot, etc. And don't forget the Moon Walk to jump around in.

Beer Barn – What's a 4th of July Celebration without an old fashioned beer barn featuring live music, food, dancing and plenty of your favorite suds!

Giveaway – It takes money (and lots of it) to put on a parade and the giveaway helps to defray a part of that expense. People buy chances on a variety of items which are then given away on the evening of the 4th at the Fireworks.

Fireworks – What better way to end the 4th of July Celebration but with a spectacular fireworks display at the La Porte County Fairgrounds.

All of the above, and more, is compliments of the La Porte Jaycees. Some years we make a decent profit to put back into the community while in others we hope to just break even. However, the main consideration has always been to celebrate the 4th in La Porte and to provide the community with a variety of activities.