

North Carolina Jaycees History

By

A.J. Morton, Jr., JCI Senator 16254

The first Jaycee Chapter in North Carolina was organized 1929 in Charlotte as the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Charter Member #266 certifies date of affiliation with United States Junior Chamber as January 5, 1929. Winston-Salem was the second chapter, Raleigh the third and Fayetteville the fourth.

The North Carolina Jaycees was organized in 1937. At a meeting in Winston-Salem on April 17, 1937, the North Carolina Jaycees was founded, with T. Spruill Thornton of Winston-Salem being elected the first state president. The North Carolina Jaycees received membership charter #547 from the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce dated December 6, 1938.

State officers elected at the first annual meeting were a president and two vice-presidents. The secretary-treasurer was appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consisted of two delegates from each chapter. Those in good standing were entitled to the same number of votes and delegates provided in our present by-laws. From this nucleus has grown a statewide organization. Effective June, 1984, the North Carolina Jaycees voted to admit females as members to the organization. Age for membership requirement today is 21 to 40. This age requirement was adopted at the 1987 US Jaycee Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

In 1943, North Carolina Jaycees adopted the Miss America franchise, and in 1950 it was adopted as a permanent project. North Carolina was the first state organization to be affiliated with the Miss America Pageant.

In 1947, North Carolina's FUTURE monthly publication of the organization was born. Name of magazine changed to LEADER. Today, timely information is communicated by website.

State Headquarters was originally located in High Point in the basement of the Security National Bank Building. In August of 1952, it was moved to a building known as "The World's Largest Bureau," constructed to resemble a bureau, an article of furniture manufactured in High Point.

During the term of President Irvin Aldridge, 1966-67, the need for a new building was approached. Hickory's Glenn Hilton was appointed as Chairman of the Committee to study and recommend the feasibility of a statewide campaign for building a new headquarters. The study was completed in October of 1967, and at Mid-Year Convention in Greensboro on November 12, 1967, the North Carolina Jaycees approved the proposed building. Immediately following this meeting, the North Carolina Jaycees Memorial Foundation, Inc., was founded to oversee the activities of this important project. Hickory architect D. Carroll Abee was contracted to do the architectural work and Paul Trollinger Construction Company in Asheboro constructed the building. The building was dedicated on April 26, 1969 as an honorarium to the 12,800 young men who were members of the North Carolina Jaycees at that time.

This first Executive Vice President of the North Carolina Jaycees was Bill Reynolds of Montgomery County Jaycees. He began in High Point in 1965. Jim Jenkins of Edenton became Executive Vice President in 1968 and made the final move into our present state headquarters in Asheboro. In the fall of 1969, Stacy Johnson of the High Point Jaycees became Executive Vice President. In July 1970, John Gibson of the Newton-Conover Jaycees was elected to this position. Maurice Wilson of the Mecklenburg Jaycees became Executive Vice President in October 1975. Jerry Wall of the Yadkinville Jaycees filled the position of Executive Vice President which he served from 1980 to 1985. Phyllis Councilman was selected to fill the office of Executive Director in 1985 through 1995. Nancy Hayes served as full time Executive Director, followed by Jennifer Simms. State headquarters is now closed.

The highest achievement for a Jaycee chapter to attain is the U.S. Jaycees Harold A. Marks Memorial Award. The following chapters have achieved this: Winston-Salem in 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945; Rocky Mount in 1952 and 1954; Greensboro in 1965, 1968, 1991 and 1995; Pfafftown in 1967, 1970 and 1982; Wilmington in 1990; Raleigh in 1996; and Greensboro in 2009.

One of the coveted national awards is the Clayton Frost Memorial Award given by the Winston-Salem Jaycees to the Five Most Outstanding State Presidents in the nation each year. The following individuals have won this award:

1951-52	Harry Stewart	Raleigh Jaycees
1956-57	Robert Cox	Chapel Hill Jaycees
1958-59	Marvin Koonce	Raleigh Jaycees
1961-62	Fred Swartzberg	High Point Jaycees
1967-68	Luther Britt, Jr.	Lumberton Jaycees
1975-76	Jim Morgan	High Point Jaycees
1977-78	John Fletcher	Concord Jaycees
1978-79	Harold Herring	Mt. Olive Jaycees
1985-86	Jerry Wall	Yadkinville Jaycees
1988-89	Joe Walker	Elkin Jaycees
1990-91	Mossy White	Winston-Salem Jaycees

The Most Valuable State President Award.

In 1981 US Jaycee President Gib Garrow and the US Jaycee Executive Board voted to recognize a state president as "Most Valuable State President in The Nation." This was the first and only time the US Jaycees have presented such an award to a state president.

1980-81 John S. Lowery, President, NC Jaycees

The Clint Dunagan Memorial Award is presented annually to 20 outstanding Regional Directors in the Nation.

1958	Stover P. Dunagan	1959	E.J. Bundy
1960	Al Sharpe	1960	Warren Twiddy
1962	John McNair	1964	Guy Buckle
1967	Luther Britt, Jr.	1968	Jim Ollis
1972	Jim Hastings	1976	Joe Hollowell
1977	Andy Johnson	1978	Roger Allen
1978	Harold Herring	1979	Alan Dossenbach
1980	John Lowery	1985	Rick Byrd
1989	David Hughes	1991	Gate Tutor
1991	Vicki Cannon	1996	Randy Bunn

The M. Keith Upson Memorial Award is presented annually to 30 outstanding District Directors in the Nation.

1961	John McNair	1962	W.H. Bullard
1962	W.H. Singleton	1965	William Cowart
1966	Don Setliff	1969	Bill Hobbs
1971	Jim Hastings	1976	Andy Johnson
1977	Eddie Ellis	1977	Keith Evans
1978	Chris Crawford	1978	L.D. Still, Jr.
1979	Mike Cole	1979	Butch Gudger
1979	Eric Prevatte	1980	Tommy Huskey
1986	Ronald Dunn	1986	LeGrande Smith

1989	Jeff Steelman	1989	Steve Harrington
1990	Vicki Cannon	1991	Debbie Mills
1991	David Strickland	1992	Terry Troutman
1996	Terry Jones		

The Don Cavalli Memorial Award is presented annually to the most outstanding National Vice President in the Nation. The recipients from North Carolina are:

1979-80	J. Harold Herring
1986-87	Jim Godfrey
1990-91	Donnie Solomon

The C. William Brownfield Memorial Award is presented annually to the five outstanding first-year Jaycees in the Nation.

1989-90	Karen Eaker
1991-92	Toni Harding
1993-94	Mark Reavis

The John H. Armbruster Memorial Award is presented annually to the five outstanding Jaycees following their first year of membership in the Nation.

1958	John Brock	1979	Ashley Houser	1994	Joel Pearce
------	------------	------	---------------	------	-------------

Overall Jaycee Speak-Up winner in the Nation:

1968	Phillip Quidley	1986	Shelia R. Lee
------	-----------------	------	---------------

The Andrew and Charlotte Mungenast Award is presented annually to the three outstanding families in the Nation.

1983	Jim Weathers Family	1984	Mike Turlington Family
2005	Art & Heather Caldwell	2009	Hughes Family

The Dennis Hamilton Memorial Award is presented annually to ten outstanding statewide Vice Presidents.

1982	Paul Gosnell	1983	Jim Godfrey
1984	Randall Essick	1985	Joe Walker
1986	Glen Daly	1988	Donnie Solomon
1989	Gene Linkous	1990	Mossy White
1991	Wes Googe	1992	Jim Pritchett
1996	David Strickland	2011	Carmen Miller

The Steve Little Memorial Award shall be annually to ten outstanding Membership State Vice Presidents.

1986	Rick Byrd	1988	Paul Barfield
1989	Donnie Solomon	1990	T.W. King
1994	Bill Sharek	2009	Maria Hicks-Few

The Seiji Horiuchi Award is presented annually to three Individual, Community, Management State Program Managers.

1977	Gerald Wheeler	1991	William Mills
------	----------------	------	---------------

1992 T.C. Deluca 1993 David Strickland
1994 Linda Reid-Oldham 2009 Renee Shipko
2011 Mitzi McClean

The R. Bradley Trafton Award is presented annually to three outstanding State Chaplains.

1986 Linda Peterson

The Gilbert Haith Memorial Award is presented to an outstanding metropolitan conference officer.

1996 Stewart Mones

The Charles Kulp, Jr. Memorial Award is presented annually to sixty outstanding Local Presidents in the Nation.

1980 Ashley Houser	1981 Jim Collins
1982 Hank Smith	1985 Mark Kendrick
1986 Sid Adams	1986 Mossy White
1988 Patti Atkins	1988 McArthur Simms
1989 Tim Bryan	1989 Ken Arrowood
1990 Mary Schoot	1990 Debbie Carter
1991 Chris Dunbar	1991 Dave Beauchamp
1991 Rob Bencini	1992 Bobby Saunders
1992 Chuck Millisor	1993 Rudy Ogburn
1994 Linda Barrett	1995 Stewart Mones
1995 Randy Bunn	1996 Wayne Prince

The Seldon Waldo Memorial Award is presented annually to two outstanding US Jaycee Committee Chairman or National Consultants.

1969 Jim Ollis 1988 Jim Godfrey 1997 Stewart Mones

The Allen Whitfield Memorial Award is presented annually to the top twenty most outstanding State Presidents in the Nation.

1985 Randal Essick	1986 Jerry Wall
1988 Rick Byrd	1989 Joe Walker
1990 Donnie Solomon	1991 Mossy White
2009 Valerie Huffman	

The Dr. Jerry Bruce Memorial Award is presented annually to the chapter having the best single project entry in the Nation.

1965 Greensboro Jaycees 1988 Greensboro Jaycees
2007 Raleigh Jaycees

The State Vice President Award is presented annually up to five outstanding Administrative Vice Presidents or State Vice Presidents who are not included in the Dennis Hamilton or Steve Little Competition.

1994 David Strickland

North Carolina has had three National Presidents, Bob Cox of Chapel Hill, Bill Suttle of Marion, and Joanie Cramer of Charlotte. The National Vice Presidents to serve the US Jaycees from North Carolina

are Jim Ollis, Bill Hobbs, Avery Nye, Jim Hastings, Micou Browne, Harry Steward, Jim Godfrey, Donnie Solomon, Mossy White, Joanie Cramer and Troy Powell. Jim Ollis served as Junior Chamber International Vice President.

The North Carolina Jaycees were the first state in the US to recognize the need to extend chapters into the correctional system. The first institutional chapter was chartered at Sandy Ridge by the Greensboro Jaycees in 1967. The Raleigh Jaycees next formed one at Central Prison in 1968. In 1973, the North Carolina Jaycees received the coveted Bill Butler Award at the National Convention in Minneapolis. In 1993, Crede et Vincent won the Institutional Howard Award for the most outstanding Institutional Chapter in America. North Carolina is currently one of few states that have active Jaycee chapters in the correctional system.

The Wayne McColl Award is presented annually to three outstanding Junior Chamber (JCI) coordinators in the nation.

1969 Norman Lee, Rocky Mount 2001 Gene Shanks, Greensboro

JCI Senatorship Honor - Created in 1952

The Senatorship Honor is the highest honor recognized by the international, national, state and local Jaycees which an active Jaycee may receive. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding accomplishments and services to Junior Chamber at all levels; to provide a subtle link of continuity and friendship with present and past members; and to strengthen the Jaycee movement.

North Carolina JCI Senators add strength to the Jaycees movement by providing guidance, training & manpower when requested. In addition, Senators assist in recruiting new members, judging speaking, debate contest, and year-end chapter competition. JCI Senators raise thousands of dollars each year for the state organization. Funds are used to sponsor Family of the Year Program, Scholarship Awards, Duke Cancer Institute, NC Jaycees Burn Center, and Boys/Girl Homes of NC.

Local Jaycee Chapters in 115 nations around the world may nominate a qualified and deserving member for JCI Senatorships. US Junior Chamber policy 23-9 requires a minimum of at least five (5) years membership before a member can be nominated for JCI Senatorship Honor.

1952 Joaquin V. Gonzales, JCI Senator #001, Past President, Philippines,
First JCI Senator in the world

1960 William B. Harrison, JCI Senator #108, Past President, NC Jaycees,
First JCI Senator in NC

Hall of Leadership Honors – Established in 1983

As stated by US Jaycees Foundation, purpose is to recognize former Jaycees over 40 years of age whose active leadership qualities during their Jaycee career contributed a continuation of leadership and service in their communities subsequent to their active Jaycee years. Activities and accomplishments must exemplify Jaycee Creed.

1985 William B. Harrison	1985 James Ollis
1986 James F. Morgan	1987 William R. McDonald
1991 A.J. Morton, Jr.	1992 Robert Cox, Sr.

Ambassador Honor - Introduced in 1976

The Ambassador Honor Program is US Junior Chamber's highest honor. This life-long honor recognizes those who have served the US Jaycees and their community with highest distinction and greatest contribution. Criteria have been established to be considered for the honor. Aside from displaying a record of outstanding service and involvement, an Ambassador must have been a four-year member in

good standing; have served one year on the local Junior Chambers Board of Directors, or have served one year on the State Executive Committee. North Carolina US Ambassador:

#0060 – James F. Morgan – First NC Jaycee Honored

The Corps Honor - Organized in 1958

The North Carolina Jaycees highest honor is that of Cardinal Corps. The Corps Honor award program was organized in NC in the year 1987 to recognize outstanding NC Jaycee members for their contribution to the local and state Jaycee organizations. Corps members focus on having fun while financially supporting the state organization's priority programs—Boys and Girls Homes, NC Jaycees Burn Center, and the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Treatment Center.

Corps are established in many states across the US. Members are known as "Colonels" and each state has its own unique identification. Georgia, the first state corps, is known as "Rebel Corps," Florida, the "Gators," Texas, the "Rattlesnake," Maryland, the "Crab," and Tennessee, the "Volunteers." NC is known as "Cardinal." The top elected leader of each state corps is called Commander.

Requirements for membership in North Carolina's Cardinal Corps are that an individual must render outstanding service to the Jaycees, and if a regular member, must have been active and in good standing for a minimum of three years. In addition, nominees must have accumulated 30 points during his or her Jaycee career. Points are earned by being involved in Jaycees: local project chair and offices held, state programs participated in, and national or international involvement.

1987 Randy Croft, Corps #001 – first Commander

Crew Honor - Set Sail in 1931

The idea of an honor called the CREW of the SS Fellowship was conceived by John Armbruster, one of the founders of the US Junior Chamber.

When Armbruster "aged-out" of the Jaycees in 1931, he wanted to find a way to keep alive the many friendships he had made during his active Jaycees days. To maintain communications with other "old-timers," he founded the mythical S.S. Fellowship and invited all past US Jaycee directors and officers to become members of its mythical ship. Thus, these Mates could sail through life aboard the SS Fellowship and maintain those friendships made during service as active Jaycees

Records of a ships sailing is called a LOG. In the first issue of the Log of the SS Fellowship, Armbruster wrote "I fancy I see spiritual ship—'Fellowship,' the crew of which consists of men who have been associated with the US Junior Chamber of Commerce movement-men who were together in furthering this cause and who thereby came to know and become fond of each other. We can sail this ship together-we can be present in spirit if not in person."

Sailors aboard a ship, of course, are called Mates. Past Jaycees honored with CREW membership on this mythical ship SS Fellowship refer to each other as "Mates." This ship sails to a different port each year called "Reunions." A periodic newsletter called Log of SS Fellowship provides sailing directions (location of annual events) and roster of Mates so they can keep in touch with each other.

Requirement to become a member of the CREW is to be nominated in by one of the current Mates. Acceptance is based strictly upon ones outstanding credentials/awards achieved during ones Jaycee career. There are currently over 100 Jaycee "old timers" in North Carolina on board the mythical ship called SS Fellowship.

For more information about the Crew of the SS Fellowship, you can go their website at <http://www.usjcccrew.org>

The mission of the NC Jaycees since 1937 has been to provide young people the opportunity to develop personal and leadership skills through local community service and organizational involvement while expanding the Jaycee movement.

State Jaycee presidents who have had vision to lead NC Jaycees in this mission effort are:

1937-38	Spruill Thornton*	1938-39	Dallas Alford, Jr.*
1939-40	Wisner Chamblee*	1940-41	George Lentz*
1941-42	Basil Whitner*	1942-43	Howard Halberstadt*
1943-44	Ray Bandy*	1944-45	Robert Albernathy*
1945-46	Clayton Frost*	1946-47	Odell Lambeth*
1947-48	Ed Ellis*	1948-49	William Harrison*
1949-50	Micou Browne*	1950-51	Edgar Snider*
1951-52	Harry Stewart	1952-53	J.B. Brame
1953-54	Gene Ochsenreiter	1954-55	William Henderson
1955-56	Edgar Gurganus*	1956-57	Robert Cox
1957-58	Jack Sharpe*	1958-59	Marvin Koonce, Jr.
1959-60	Al Harrison*	1960-61	Al Sharpe
1961-62	Fred Swartzberg	1962-63	John Kennedy
1963-64	Bill Suttle	1964-65	Bill McDonald
1965-66	Cabel Ramsey	1966-67	Irvin Aldridge
1967-68	Luther Britt, Jr.*	1968-69	Jim Church
1969-70	Jim Ollis*	1970-71	Bill Hobbs
1971-72	Avery Nye, Jr.	1972-73	Fred G. Morrison, Jr.
1973-74	James C. Hastings	1974-75	Gus Tulloss
1975-76	Jim Morgan	1976-77	Joe Hollowell
1977-78	John Fletcher	1978-79	Harold Herring
1979-80	Maurice Wilson	1980-81	John S. Lowery
1981-82	Reich Welborn	1982-83	Jim Cole
1983-84	Jim Godfrey	1984-85	Randall Essick
1985-86	Jerry Wall	1986-87	Glen Daly*
1987-88	Rick Byrd	1988-89	Joe Walker
1989-90	Donnie Solomon	1990-91	Mossy White
1991-92	Bill Sharek	1992-93	Wesley Googe
1993-94	Mary Shott Speaker	1994-95	T.W. King
1995-96	Terry Bennett	1996-97	David Strickland
1997-98	Randy Bunn	1998-99	Alan Hemphill
1999-00	Michael Woodard	2000-01	Milton Kern
2001	Kristy Whisnant	2002	Tom Cramer
2003	Michele Denton	2004	Shannon Foster
2005	Kenn Kubacki	2006	Joanie Cramer
2007	Sharon Worthington	2008	Chris Hardee
2009	Valerie Huffman	2010	Maria Hicks-Few
2011	Troy Powell	2012	Jennifer E. Salmon
2013	Scott Alexander		

* Deceased

History update as of April, 2013