



BUILDER

BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE APPRENTICE SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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Out to the Ball Game

By Elise Feldt, E06S

Intramural sports have been an Apprentice School activity for several years. Softball in particular seems to make a comeback from year to year as apprentices rotate. Much of the popularity with apprentices could be said to come from dual benefits of versatility and camaraderie. Summer 2014 marked the inaugural season of the ASSA intramural softball league, organized by Tierra Jones, X32 Sheetmetal Apprentice and Apprentice School Student Association Activities Committee Co-Chair. Ms. Jones did a fantastic effort in managing the league. Turnout to games each week was roughly 75 players, including apprentices, alumni and staff. Family and friends even made a strong turnout in the stands.

The league began on July 19, 2014 at Briarfield Park in Hampton. There was an Opening Ceremony with speeches by Regina McLean, Lambert Butler (ASSA President), Tierra Jones (League Commissioner), and guest speaker Mike Altizer. Ms. Jones formed a Softball Committee that consists of Justin Rayburn (X76 Apprentice Alumni), Taylor Brooks (X32 Apprentice), Ramone Jones (X32 Apprentice Alumni), Cecil Lee (X76 Apprentice Alumni), Heath Ambrose (E63 Apprentice Alumni), Daniel Hudgins (X31 Apprentice), John Melzer (X11 Apprentice), and Cynthia Roberts (X18 Apprentice). There are 5 teams in the league and the final standings are as follows:

Ms. Jones gave an enthusiastic report to the Builder Bulletin:

The first Apprentice School Intramural Softball League was magnificent. There were several highly competitive and skilled teams

TEAM	WIN - LOSE
Pitch Slap	13 - 3
Night Night	12 - 4
Bobcats	11 - 5
Battleships	3 - 13
Foundry	1 - 15



Zachary Harding, X31 Electrician, hitting a home run. Catching at home base is Cynthia Roberts, X18 Welder.

According to one of these talented players, the softball league has been more than a casual way to play sports. Cecil Lee said this: "I feel like we started this league with the intentions of having a good time and getting employees and

apprentices close together, and we have done just that."

Ms. Jones echoed the same when she said, "The initial goal for starting this league was to help open the lines of communication... and [to] also enhance the skills and characteristics that are necessary to

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Get Involved!

You have heard about it on the radio: Thursdays by the Lake, a concert series during the summer. But did you know that your fellow apprentices are there? They come weekly, working alongside the staff. There are apprentices at Langley Speedways races, walking up and down the stands selling 50/50 raffle tickets. They were at the NNS 5K Fun Run in May, handing out water. They helped teach kids how to bait hooks and fish at the Fishing Clinic in July. Apprentices are going out into the community, and volunteering their time and their enthusiasm. They have families at home, classes to study for, and sometimes hours of commuting time to contend with, all after a full day of challenging work. But why do they do it?

One reason many apprentices are committing to volunteer hours is because it is a passion they have. The few apprentices who serve as

By Elise Feldt, E06S



Volunteers and local children fishing off Buckroe Beach Fishing Pier on July 26th. Apprentices work with volunteer groups to help kids bait hooks and catch fish.

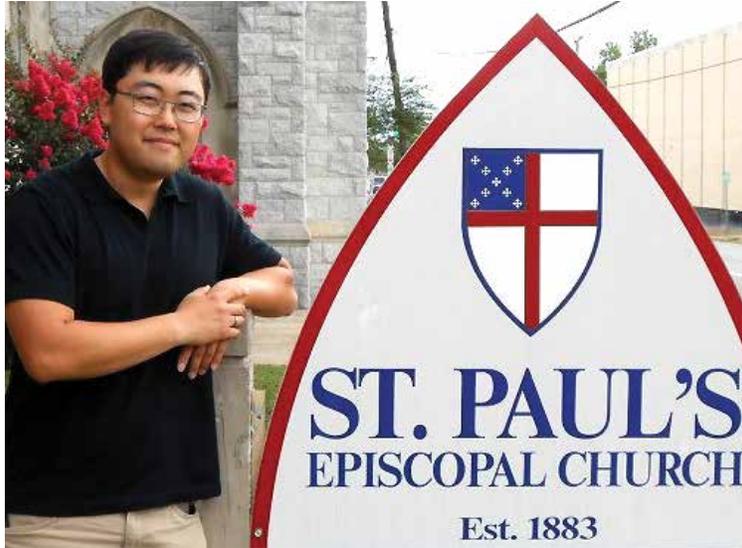
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Jaycees Spotlight: Apprentice Sin Yi

By Linda McMillian, O22

In 2004, The Apprentice Jaycees Chapter became the first collegiate chapter in the United States of America. The organization was built on the leadership abilities of dedicated, driven and hardworking apprentices in collaboration with their parent chapter, The Peninsula Jaycees. Through the years, the Apprentice Chapter has grown and become very highly regarded in the state of Virginia. The young leaders, past and present, of the Apprentice Jaycees have dedicated their time and effort to enhance the lives of its members as well as the community.

One Apprentice Jaycee that has significantly contributed to the organization and the community is Sin Yi. Approximately a year and a half ago, X42 Apprentice Sin filled out a membership application looking for an organization that would provide development opportunities that empower young people to create a positive change. He found that and a lot more! Sin found an organization where he could showcase his talents of compassion and giving back. He has helped the Apprentice Jaycees significantly with state conventions and acting as ambassador when visiting other chapters in the region.



Apprentice Jaycee Sin Yi, an X42 by trade, is standing beside the hundred and thirty year old church on 34th Street where he volunteers to serve the less fortunate that live near the shipyard.

On any given fourth Friday or third Sunday of the month you can find Sin Yi working hard at the St Paul's Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen located in downtown Newport News. There, he is able to touch the hearts and lives of the less fortunate with his generous spirit. According to Sin, "serving a meal to those in need is a very rewarding task".

When Sin is not sweating over a hot stove to provide a nourishing meal for people in the community, he is hard at work representing the Apprentice Chapter as their International VP. In this role, he is able to connect the members to chapters all around the world and expose them to other cultures in the process.

Being a member of the Apprentice Jaycees has many benefits that will enhance the four primary areas of development: individual, business management, international and community. As stated by Sin Yi "a benefit from being part of this organization is having the support to carry out projects that an individual may have. I believe many individuals hold great ideas that the community can benefit from, but lack the know-how to carry out their projects. I believe this chapter and other local chapters offer the training to help aid in successfully carrying out a community service project. The Apprentice Jaycees have always been supportive and encouraged ideas. I hope to continue to benefit from what this organization and its members have to offer."

Sin Yi found an organization where he could make a difference, become a leader, and share his talents. If you share the same passions as Sin or would like to learn more about the Apprentice Jaycees, please contact Sean Brady at 757-615-2187 or Sean.P.Brady@hii-nns.com. To become a member you must be an Apprentice between the ages of 18 and 40.

Get Involved!

delegates on the Student Council meet every month and discuss when the next volunteering opportunities will be. They also plan out numerous social activities for students. They try to figure out ways to get apprentices on the waterfront more involved. But why? There must be a pretty good reason.

The answer to this question is actually self-evident. These are apprentices chosen to be in The Apprentice School. They were hand-picked from thousands of potentials to receive this opportunity for a very specific reason: because they are considered this company's future. One could even swap the word "future" for "opportunity," because they bring in new opportunities for the company to grow. So when apprentices go out into the community, they extend the opportunity to benefit others, and they take every new experience as an opportunity to benefit themselves. Volunteering is not an obligation, it's another chance to grow.

That value remains the core of why apprentices are out there volunteering. But there's also another pretty good reason: it's fun! Volunteering is an excellent place to meet people and do interesting new things. It is still work, and free work at that, but admittedly it is some of the easiest work to do, and it gives back in such an amazing way that it pays for itself.

The summer is almost over. Most of the apprentice volunteering opportunities take place during the summer, but there are still very important ones right around the corner. The Builder Bulletin wants to bring these experiences to its apprentice readers. The writers here are also working to bring you an electronic version available through email called Builder Highlights. If you want more information about apprentice events check out the new website created by the students for the students at www.apprenticestudents.com.

New and Improved

By Samantha Sawyer, X06

Exciting changes are being made in the Publications Committee. We all know and love the Hot Sheet. However, the Publications Committee wanted to revive and improve upon it. The Hot Sheet will be phasing out within the next few months and will be replaced by the Bulletin Board.

The Bulletin Board is a section of yet another new invention set in place by this year's committee, the semi-monthly publication: Builder Highlights. The Bulletin Board will contain all of the information in a Hot Sheet. There are really only two differences. One difference is the method in which it will be distributed. We will be sending Builder Highlights to every apprentice's email. The Bulletin Board will emphasize the upcoming events as the Hot Sheet did. The other difference is that the Bulletin Board will be very factual and to the point (short and sweet).

Although the Hot Sheet will be missed, it is our belief that the Bulletin Board will reach a larger census of apprentices. Apprentices will also know exactly where to go to find the information on upcoming events. The simplicity of the design will make it an easy tool to use. The Bulletin Board will go hand-in-hand with the new apprentice website and the information for events can be found in each. If you would like to see an event in more detail or photos of a past event, visit apprenticestudents.com.

Always Great Ships

On September 6, 2014, the only submarine ever to be named after a person was christened the USS *John Warner*. From as early as 1 p.m., volunteers made final preparations and stayed afterwards as late as 10 p.m.

As guests and their families entered the gates around 3 p.m., it was interesting to see their interactions. One shipbuilder pointed out where he worked to his wife and children. Other guests were fascinated by the presence of bikes in the yard. Some even posed with the bike rack. It was a fun and proud day for workers to show off their hard work. But it was not only a proud day for shipbuilders.

When the sun set and the audience's patriotic light-sticks flashed, Mrs. Jeanne Warner took the stage and tenderly expressed her pride. She said: "Each time I see her I'm overwhelmed with pride, emotion, and admiration because I know the USS John Warner will, like her namesake, do what is best for America, protect us and our freedom for many years to come."

Her husband, Mr. John Warner, added, "We're here tonight not just to honor Jeanne and John Warner.



The Christening of the USS John Warner featured a finale of fireworks and a laser light show at the September 6 event. The John Warner is the only submarine in the Virginia-Class named after an individual.

We're honoring America, America's strength, America's commitment toward peace and stability in the world. That's what this magnificent vessel hopefully will do for its entire thirty-five years. Say that in our prayers and our hopes."

In the self-proclaimed proudest moment of her life, Mrs. Warner stood at the bow and said, "I christen thee United States Ship John Warner. May God bless this ship and all who sail with her."

Immediately, the band

started playing Anchors Aweigh as the crowd cheered and waved their light-sticks. The newly christened USS *John Warner* stood majestically surrounded by smoke and lights flashing in the background. After what seemed like fifteen intense minutes of fireworks and laser-lights, the grand finale boomed like rapid gun-fire ending the ceremony with a bang. It was a beautiful celebration honoring not just a great man and ship, but a great nation.

Ball Game

promote great leaders. This league has accomplished that and more. I am elated about the future of the league and grateful to everyone that helped to make this season a success."

The apprentice league finished the end of the summer with Closing Day on September 6th. Apprentice Daniel Hudgins won that day's Home Run Derby. The competitive fun was even topped off by giving back to the community. Proceeds from the event were donated to Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters. Interest in continuing apprentice softball was so high that a large number of enthusiastic players are forming a team and plan to join the area league. The hope is to carry intramural softball into next year. Interested apprentices, faculty, alumni and staff should contact Tierra Jones (757)-537-4382 to hear more about the upcoming season.



Spirit of Norfolk

The Spirit of Norfolk cruise is always a festive event, and this year was a luau theme. Along with the theme, all you can eat crab legs were served and the bar was open. Apprentices got loose with a new DJ as well. Another first for this year was that we rented out the lower deck of the boat, which is the largest section. This was due to the growing demand for tickets. The Spirit of Norfolk cruise is one of the apprentices' favorite events of the year.

I asked a few friends and colleagues about how they liked the cruise and these were their responses:

"The luau theme was so appropriate. We had hula dancing lessons, all you can eat crab legs

and a steel drum band. It was a little taste of the islands on the Spirit of Norfolk." ~Charlene Barrington

"I have to say my favorite part about the cruise was sitting on the weather deck and sailing in high style. It made for one amazing date." ~Elise Feldt

"My husband and I look forward to this event every year. Charlene did a great job creating the luau experience." ~LaShonda Pearson

"This year's luau theme brought out the creative side of people, ranging from the outfits that were worn, to the entertainment. This year was definitely a change

of pace from years prior and I am looking forward to what new themes the ASSA will come up with next." ~Tameika Williams

Personally, I attended the event and had a blast. I feel that the music was an improvement from last year. I was also very excited about the abundance of crab legs. They were delicious. To be able to

have fun with fellow apprentices is what it is all about. The Spirit of Norfolk cruise is my second favorite event of the year, next to the Holiday Dinner Dance. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I encourage everyone to attend this occasion in the future. It is truly an amazing and unforgettable experience.

By Samantha Sawyer, X06

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EXTRA, EXTRA Write All About It!

By Samantha Sawyer, X06

Do you like to write (poetry, experiences, articles, etc.)? Do you know anyone that does? Good news! The Publications Committee of the Apprentice School Student Association would love to publish your work. Sharing information and creativity is a wonderful phenomenon that we would like to promote.

The Builder Bulletin is a quarterly publication that we produce to help spread the word and news of The Apprentice School throughout the yard to our fellow apprentices. What would you like to share? Do you know anyone with a poem or story to tell? Tap into your creative side and share your talents. Let us know if there is someone noteworthy in your area. Tell us all about your ideas or accomplishments. Encourage others to do the same. The Builder Bulletin's sole purpose is to pass information throughout the student body. Raise your voice! We are waiting to hear from you.

The Builder Bulletin is also in the process of an additional monthly publication online sent via email called Builder Highlights. The Builder Highlights will give apprentices more opportunities to share with their peers and stay up-to-date on the current events. We want the student body to become more involved. We want to raise awareness to all the wonderful things The Apprentice School is doing and has done.

If you or a friend is interested, please send your submissions to Samantha.N.Sawyer@hii-nns.com. Please spread the word, share this information, and involve your friends. We are very excited and anticipating your submissions. Let the sharing begin!

Love in a Mug

By Elise Feldt, E06S

During their regular session on August 8th, the Apprentice School Students Association (ASSA) Executive Committee voted to appropriate funds for three brand new Keurig coffee makers. The motion to appropriate funds was put forward by Ms. Regina McLean from student services. McLean proposed it after she was asked several times about having coffee available inside the school for students. The officers, committee chairs and co-chairs were resounding in their approval. The Keurig is a coffee brewing appliance made by American manufacturers for single-serving cups. The three that will be purchased for students will be placed on the 2nd and 3rd floors for use during break time. When the Keurigs come in students will be able to bring their own "K-Cups" or coffee grounds from home.



For any comments and/or suggestions please contact Elise Feldt, E06S

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