We have prepared this information so that you may better understand the Gainesville Jaycees, and not only what we do for the community, but what we can do for you. The Gainesville Jaycees were organized back in 1945 with two main objectives. The first objective is to help train young men in the duties and responsibilities of citizenship and leadership. The second is to promote the welfare of our community through a planned program of civic projects.

To be eligible for membership in the Gainesville Jaycees a young man of good character should be, recommended by an existing member, be between the ages of 18 and 39, and be registered to vote. Young men usually enter the club as they are beginning their careers. The Jaycees help these men make this transition by giving them opportunities to develop their skills at a young age. The club does this by:

- providing opportunities for individual members to contribute to the development and enhancement of the economic infrastructure of our community.
- allowing young men to manage civic projects, which gives them experience in a leadership environment.
- developing the member’s sensitivity to problems in our society and providing experience in solving problems in our community.

In summary the purpose of the Gainesville Jaycees is to determine community needs and provide solutions by planning and facilitating community service projects. While serving the community, our members receive hands-on experience, which enhances their personal growth and the development of valuable leadership skills. We have attached a list of community service projects organized by the Gainesville Jaycees to help you understand the specific opportunities available with our club.

If you are interested in learning more about the Gainesville Jaycees please call our VP of Membership Brian Hughes at 678-316-4445. If you are interested in joining our organization, please complete the enclosed application and forward it to Brian Hughes at JayceesGainesville@Gmail.com.

Your completed application will be reviewed by the Jaycee Board of Directors at the first regular Board meeting following receipt of your application. Upon acceptance of your application your responsibilities will include quarterly membership dues of $150.00 and active participation with Jaycee projects, luncheons and socials. Dues may be considered tax deductible and can be billed directly to you or your employer.

The Gainesville Jaycees meet every Thursday at 12:00 noon at the Elks Lodge on Riverside Drive in Gainesville, Ga. Socials and projects are scheduled throughout the year.
Mule Camp Market

Mule Camp Market began years back as a farmer’s curb market near the downtown square. This market evolved into the Corn Tassel Festival, which was a fall festival with local craft exhibitors. About 1993, the Gainesville Jaycees began running the festival and changed the name to Mule Camp Market. In the short period of time since then the Jaycees have brought the Market from a local event to a regional fall festival with crowds of 75,000 for the annual 3-day weekend held the third weekend in October every year. The Jaycees also sponsor a carnival that is held in conjunction with Mule Camp every year.

With craft vendors from all parts of the U.S., and top quality country and Blue Grass entertainment, the Jaycees have turned the Market into the single largest annual event hosted in Hall County. Also, approximately 20 - 30 other non-profit organizations use the Market as their major fundraiser.

Gut Check Program

The Gut Check Program was created in 1989 to instill discipline and leadership to middle school males over a structured yet motivated 3 night adventure. The program is held in late summer, beginning on a Thursday and continues with intense activities through a Sunday graduation ceremony. The students are housed in the North Georgia College dorms located in Dahlonega, GA for the duration of the weekend. Past activities have included a visit to the Atlanta Falcons Complex and visits to local Detention Centers. Other activities include team building exercises such as rappelling off of the Columbo tower at North Ga. College, a field day at Pine Valley in Dahlonega, and a hike up Blood Mountain in the Great Smoky Mountains. The weekend concludes with an emotional graduation ceremony on Sunday, with the Gut Check graduate’s parents noticing a drastic difference in their demeanor from three days prior.

This program extends beyond the initial weekend to offer leadership and support activities throughout the year. The Gut Check Program’s success is dependent upon the wide range of expertise of our members. We have several members with military experience and several graduates of the cadet corps from North Georgia College participating in the program. This Program is as equally rewarding for the Jaycees that support it as it is for the young boys that participate in it.

Empty Stocking Fund

Beginning each Thanksgiving since 1955, the Gainesville Jaycees begin a three week campaign to raise money for our Empty Stocking Fund. The Jaycees in the past collected money on the streets of Gainesville, but since 2000 have collected money by having Gainesville businesses sell red stockings and also send donation letters to former Jaycee members for donations. Once these funds are collected the Jaycees meet on Saturday at Wal-Mart at 6:00 a.m. and buy the gifts for around 100-200 children selected by the Chatahoochee Baptist Association. The following week the Jaycees give the gifts to the children at Skate Country with a special visit from Santa to help bring in the holiday cheer.

Charity Ball Fundraiser

Each December the Gainesville Jaycees participates in the annual Charity Ball. The Jaycees select a candidate to sponsor as our Belle of the Ball. The Jaycees work with our Belle candidate’s family to raise money in order to win the Ball. All of the funds raised by the participating civic groups are distributed to local non-profit agencies by the Ball’s organizers, the Junior Service League of Gainesville.
Hawgin’ On Lanier BBQ Competition

With fundraising for non-profits being the never ending process that it is, and with the economy in the state that it is, the Jaycees are always looking for new ways to raise money for our local community. In 2012, the Jaycees got together and decided to try something new. In November of 2012, the Jaycees held their first ever Hawgin’ on Lanier BBQ Cookoff Competition, which turned out to be a great success.

The event takes place in a great setting at Laurel Park here in Hall County, which sits on the shores of Lake Lanier. With a mixture of professional teams and local backyard teams, along with vendors and other spectator events, we have a wonder crowd of people that come out and support the Jaycees. All of the proceeds raised from this event go to help support the Empty Stocking Fund and the Gut Check Program, all sponsored and run by the Jaycees.

Work Projects

At various times during the year the Gainesville Jaycees are asked to lend a hand by providing services to charitable organizations. These services could range from cleaning up a playground, painting a building, working at other events or delivering fans to people during the summer. This list is not all-inclusive and could include any type of service requested.

Young Man of the Year

Each year the Gainesville Jaycees host Gainesville’s Young Man of the Year Banquet in February. The man awarded Young Man of the Year is honored for his unselfish volunteer efforts and civic service to the community. The services for which he is honored must be performed while the man is 40 years old or younger. The evening includes a silent auction and a presentation of the recipient’s accomplishments for which he is honored.

Socials and Team Building Activities

With a growing organization like the Gainesville Jaycees we have to find avenues to blend our senior member’s experience with our newer member’s energy and ideas. Like many companies today, the Gainesville Jaycees have found that that social interaction and team building activities are vital to our continued success. This is the reason the Jaycees sponsor softball and basketball teams, and other similar social activities. These activities build camaraderie and team working skills that carryover to our community projects.

Plan of Action and Website Management (www.gainesvillejaycees.org)

The Plan of Action is the Jaycee Membership Handbook. It contains the membership roster and contact information. The Plan of Action is an electronic format on the Jaycee website at www.gainesvillejaycees.org. Each member’s information will be included on the website’s Plan of Action page. Information contained on that page will be a current picture, work and home address, telephone numbers, and Email addresses. A monthly calendar with upcoming events and pictures of past socials are also on the site.

Award’s and Installations Banquet

At the conclusion of each the year, the Jaycees close the books on the current administrations term with the Award’s and Installations Banquet. This is normally held in the middle of January and at this banquet we recognize the outstanding Jaycee’s who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. This banquet is also a time to install the new Officers and Directors for the coming year.
GAINESVILLE JAYCEES
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: ______________________ SPOUSE’S NAME: ______________________

HOME ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________

CITY: __________________________ STATE: _______ ZIP: __________ DOB: __________

(H) PHONE: _______________ (C) PHONE: _______________ E MAIL: __________________

EMPLOYER: __________________________ POSITION: __________________________

PRIMARY TYPE OF BUSINESS: __________________________________________________

WORK ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________

CITY: __________________________ STATE: __________________ ZIP: __________

WORK PHONE: ______________________ FAX: __________________________

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS: _______ HOME _______ WORK

HOW DO YOU WISH TO BE CONTACTED WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING CLUB FUNCTIONS OR OTHER

CLUB ACTIVITIES: _____ E MAIL _____ FAX _____ MAIL _____ PHONE

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING YOUR DUES: _____ SELF _____ EMPLOYER

PREFERRED BILLING ADDRESS: _____ HOME _____ WORK

HOW WERE YOU FIRST INTRODUCED TO THE GAINESVILLE JAYCEES:

__________________________________________________________

PLEASE REVIEW THE DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS LISTED IN THE
INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE AND RANK EACH PROJECT, IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE, WITH 1 BEING THE
HIGHEST PREFERENCE:

_____ MULE CAMP MARKET _____ GUT CHECK PROGRAM

_____ 5k OBSTACLE RACE _____ YOUNG MAN OF THE YEAR BANQUET

_____ EMPTY STOCKING FUND _____ WORK PROJECTS

_____ GUT CHECK FUNDRAISER _____ BBQ COMPETITION

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION VIA
EMAIL: JayceesGainesville@GMAIL.COM
OR FAX: 770-535-6622
ATTN: Brian Hughes
678-316-4445