

**Award Categories:**

**Overall Programs/Large Club** (alumni population of 1,501 or more).

**Overall Programs/Small Club** (alumni population of 1,500 or less)

**New/Reorganized Club**

**Individual Club Program** (service to university or community or unique programs or events)

**Volunteer of the Year** (individual recognized for outstanding service through his/her club)

Contact the UIAA with questions regarding eligibility for these categories

**RULES OF SUBMISSION:**

- o Programs sponsored between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 are eligible for awards.
- o Mark only one category on each nomination form. Forms may be copied for multiple entries.
- o Clubs may submit more than one nomination for the Individual Club Program category.
- o Nominations MUST include this form and a brief description of the club's qualifications, specifically addressing required criteria.
- o Multiple nominations may be submitted in one envelope.
- o Nominations will be reviewed by the IOWA Club Award Selection Committee.
- o All clubs will receive the selection results by Monday, October 3, 2016.
- o Nomination deadline is Friday, September 2, 2016.

**2015-16 IOWA Club Awards Nomination Form**

Award Category (please check one)  Overall Programs/Large Club  
 Overall Programs/Small Club  
 New/Reorganized Club  
 Individual Club Program  
 Volunteer of the Year

Club Name Paradise Iowa Club

Club Leader(s) Justin McBride

Phone 239-677-1354

Email paradise-iowa-club@hotmail.com

Nomination completed by (if different than club leader) \_\_\_\_\_

**Nomination deadline is Friday, September 2, 2016.**

Send your form along with description to: UI Alumni Association, IOWA Club Awards, P. O. Box 1970, Iowa City, IA 52244-1970.

Forms also available on the IOWA Club website at  
<http://www.iowalum.com/clubs/leaderforms/NominationForm2016.pdf>



Fort Myers/Paradise Iowa Club  
University of Iowa Alumni Association

"We're Hawkeyes...in PARADISE!"



**2015-16 Iowa Club Awards  
OVERALL PROGRAMS/SMALL CLUB**

The activities presented in this package outline Paradise Iowa Club's(PIC) continued commitment to give back to the University of Iowa. This is accomplished by supporting our fellow alumni and fellow Iowans and increasing the University's and Club's presence in the Fort Myers/Lee County area. Three categories are highlighted: Fundraising Efforts, Local Community Involvement, and Strengthening the Hawkeye Community.



**Fundraising Efforts**

**Gamewatch Raffles**-At each game watch hosted by a Board of Directors (BOD) member, the PIC raffles Hawkeye merchandise. All items are purchased in Iowa, most from the University of Iowa Book Store. Additional items are handmade by Iowans and PIC members also donate prizes for the raffle. At halftime, raffle ticket holders sit on the edge of their seats waiting for the chance to claim their prize by shouting "Go Hawks!" when their number is called. These funds are used to support local charities as well as our scholarship. The raffles are themed, and always include an infamous Schwag Bag. To encourage raffle sales, this year ticket buyers received an extra token of appreciation in the form of schwag. Also of note, our ticket prices have not changed in 10 years, a sign that the PIC is really worth its value. Pictured is Nile McBride watching the football game in between sales.



**Scholarship Fundraising**-Monies for the scholarship are raised throughout the year, as well as at the Annual Dinner. When the PIC scholarship money is awarded, the UIAA matches the amount, further supporting these deserving local Hawkeyes.

The Club has one current student on scholarship:

1. **Megan Murphy**: As a Senior, Megan is international studies major, is a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority and is chair to the executive board. She is also a member of Campus Activities Board.

**SPONSOR OF THE MONTH**

Paradise Iowa Club is proud to announce our sponsor for the month of July, Brian Hummel, M.D., F.A.C.S., Dr. Hummel is a proud alumnus of the University of Iowa College of Medicine where he received his medical degree and completed a cardiothoracic and vascular fellowship. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, American College of Chest Physicians, and American College of Cardiology. He is the senior partner of Gulfcoast Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeons, a very successful cardiothoracic and vascular practice with 11 talented surgeons in Fort Myers and Naples, Florida. The practice's surgeons specialize in all aspects of cardiothoracic and vascular surgery including the newest robotic minimally invasive surgical techniques. Dr. Hummel has been named in "Who's Who" and has been designated as one of the "Best Doctors in America." Visit the website [www.gulfcoastcardiovascular.com](http://www.gulfcoastcardiovascular.com) or visit [www.brianhummel.com](http://www.brianhummel.com) for more information.

**Paradise Club Sponsors**

The following businesses are exclusive sponsors of the Paradise Iowa Club. Click on the logos below to find out more information about these sponsors, the services they provide, and how to contact them!



**Sponsorship** The PIC has partners with local business-owning Iowans to support the Club and the University. Each sponsor pays a fee to be advertised on the Club website and in weekly emails, and is introduced and promoted at each game watch. This allows the PIC to refrain from annual membership dues and helps fund charity events. The image to the left is the footer of all Paradise Club e-mails showing our sponsor logos as well as our monthly featured sponsor.

**Merchandise Sales**

For the benefit of our members, PIC offers club t-shirts and visors for club members to proudly wear their black and gold. Pictured is the front and back of the shirts, showcasing our sunny logo and our generous sponsors.





## Local Community Involvement

**Senior Friendship Centers Food Bag Program** Senior Friendship Centers coordinates ongoing food collection and distribution to needy seniors throughout SW Florida. The Big Ten Alliance committed a full year of coverage to the SFC. This year PIC packed and delivered food, and was again the only Club in the Big Ten Alliance to pay for all the groceries they delivered for the month of April. Twenty Four club members gathered and packed 65 bags in less than 20 minutes. The teams were then deployed to deliver food to seniors in the area.



**Support of Local Cub Scout Day Camp**- Paradise Iowa Club sponsored the Boy Scouts of America Panther District Cub Scout Day Camp. Day Camp is an opportunity for Cubs Scouts entering 1st - 5th grade during the 2016 - 2017 school year to make new friends, earn rank advancement, enjoy shooting sports, skills, crafts and games. The Boys Scouts of America reached out to Paradise Iowa Club due to their involvement in events in previous years. Paradise Iowa Club sponsored the end of week awards banquet which fed nearly 300 scouts and their families. Paradise Club President Justin McBride smoked over 150 lbs of pork and prepared the meal for the camp. The organizers and attendees formally thanked Paradise Iowa Club during the banquet.



### **Support of Children's Hospitals**

Both our local hospital (Lee Memorial Health System) and the University of Iowa have been in the process of building new children's hospitals. The PIC challenged its members to raise \$1000 for the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. If the monetary goal was met through individual donations, PIC promised to give a matching donation to the U of I Children's Hospital. The club exceeded the goal, raising \$1213. This effort will be memorialized with a brick paver engraved with "Paradise Iowa Club" in the "Walk of Heroes" pathway leading to the Fort Myers hospital.



## Strengthening the Hawkeye Community

**Communications with UIAA/Members** PIC members are informed of Club happenings and news from across the Hawkeye Nation through a variety of means.

- Weekly email distributed to over 450 member emails through Constant Contact
- Weekly updates to social media
  - a. Facebook page: includes photos of events, trivia, and interactive questions.
  - b. Twitter feed: updated weekly
  - c. PIC website: includes links to UIAA website and contact info for the BOD
- Semi-annual print newsletters
- Business cards available to the BOD to hand out to new acquaintances (or leave on the windshield of a car with an Iowa license plate)

### **New Member Recruitment**

This year was a banner year in terms of adding new members to the PIC. Over thirty Hawkeyes now call PIC home. Each new member receives a welcome packet that includes information on the club and its sponsors. New members are encouraged to join the UIAA, as an application is also included in the packet.

**2015 Iowa Club Leaders Workshop** PIC President Justin McBride attended the Club Leaders workshop held in Iowa City. He has also been active in supplying club leaders with resources and information on how to incorporate at a 501C.7 tax-exempt organization. This has come in the form of e-mails and plenty of time on the phone!



**Annual Board of Directors Meeting** Each year, PIC Board of Directors meet to review the past year, set an annual budget and plan programs for the coming year. This year, the BOD met at a historic landmark in Pine Island Sound in Lee County – a ‘fish-shack’ that has been in existence since the early 1900’s. The location is accessible only by boat. The all-day meeting included a little fun as members were able to take advantage of the location after the business was concluded. Board members also feasted on Amana Brats, supplied by one of our landmark sponsors!





each score, and dancing to “In Heaven There Is No Beer” when the Hawks win. Pictured is long-time member Tom Anderson, celebrating his birthday at a game watch with his extended family who were visiting from all over the US.

**Gamewatch & Event Numbers** Organized gamewatches are held for every football game and a number of men’s basketball games. Although categorized as a Small Club due to the number of alumni in the area, the PIC continues to be a leader in gamewatch attendance. For the 2015-2016 sports season, PIC attendance came in again at well over 1000 attendees (just for football). Members attending enjoy singing “The Fight Song” with

**Annual Dinner-** One of the major goals of the Paradise Iowa club is to strengthen the Hawkeye community. The annual dinner continues to be PIC’s signature event. We have had an amazing string of special guests at our dinners: Former student athletes Kenny Ploen (2009), Tim Dwight (2010), Chuck Long (2014) and Marv Cook (2015), Coach Norm Parker (2011), Hawkeye Hauler owner Mike Riggan (2012).



For the 2016 dinner, Paradise Iowa Club welcomed Kevin Kregel, the Associate Provost for Faculty. Dr. Kregel spoke to the Paradise members about the UI’s ongoing Cluster Hire Initiative, which is entitled ‘Meeting the Grand Challenges of the 21st Century.’ The goal of this initiative is to bring 100 new tenure-track faculty to campus to collaborate with existing faculty in key multidisciplinary areas (e.g., water sustainability, obesity, aging, informatics). To date, the initiative has been extremely successful, with over 60 faculty having been hired in seven distinct cluster areas. Several of the clusters will be highlighted in the talk, along with an overview of some of the unique research and creative work being performed by cluster faculty in addressing important societal challenges.

Paradise also welcomed Megan Murphy, her brother Ryan (U of I 2014) and John Sheeley (two Iowa Students) and their families. Over 80

Hawkeyes friends broke bread together and over 50 prizes were raffled and auctioned. The majority of funds went towards the PIC scholarship. The dinner is a family event...Pictured above are BOD member Amber Jandik with Hayden and Nile McBride.



### **Edison Festival of Light Parade Seats**

For the 5th year in a row, Paradise Iowa Club secured street seats for the famed Edison Festival of Light Grande Parade. Named as the largest night parade in the Southeast year after year, the Grand Parade is a two-hour extravaganza featuring national participants & local marching bands, floats, local government and law enforcement officials, clowns and much, much more. The parade brings the entire Southwest Florida community out in celebration of the life and achievements of our local winter resident, Thomas Edison. Spectators come from near and far to enjoy this event and often begin marking their viewing spot weeks in advance! Although the event is free for spectators, local non-profit groups sell reserved seats. Paradise is able to reserve a block of these tickets for our members each year so they can enjoy a front row seat!



### **Iowa Basketball Team in Orlando**

The Hawkeye Men's Basketball team played in the Advocare Invitational Basketball Tournament over Thanksgiving weekend in Orlando, FL. Over 20 PIC members travelled to cheer on the Hawks. At the pregame tailgate, members visited with the cheerleaders, Herky and other UI representatives that had come to the sunshine state for the game.

### **Iowa Baseball Team in Port Charlotte**



The Hawkeye Baseball team travelled to Port Charlotte for the Snowbird Classic in February 2016. The Tampa Bay Iowa Club again spearheaded efforts to welcome the team in true Hawkeye style with a tailgate and plenty of Hawkeye cheer. Paradise Iowa Club assisted with set up, cooking, and breakdown of the event. Many PIC members also went to the games to help cheer on the Hawkeyes. This was a wonderful event as we got to interact with the players and Coach Heller on a personal level and let them know

how proud we are of our Hawks. Most impressive was the gratitude displayed by the student athletes in thanking each club member individually for their efforts.







**Summation:**

Paradise Iowa Club has been extremely active during 2015-16. PIC has worked hard throughout the year to promote and support the University of Iowa and the University of Iowa Alumni Association. We hope you will agree that our continued efforts on behalf of the University of Iowa demonstrate that the PIC continues to distinguish itself as the premier Small Iowa Club in the nation. We thank you for your time and consideration.