

**36-45 Year Group | Vice President | Matt Valenzuela, '85** | "My first day at Boys Town was January 3, 1979. I was 12 years old and from Carson, California. While at Boys Town I spent a majority of my time in the Career Center. My first job was in the Ceramics shop making Boys Town statues. Then, while in high school in the morning, I would work in the foundry for the machine shop making parts that we would finish in class. After school I worked as a student janitor. I had the privilege of singing in the choir touring around the United States for six years. I graduated from high school mid-term and enlisted in the Navy. After my "A" school I came back for the graduation in my dress blues. I was an Instructor Mechanic in the Navy and stayed in California for 10 years. I came back For my first convention in 1995 and got home sick and had my job transferred to Omaha. I have been a Diesel mechanic ever since I was in the military. I started a real-estate business with my wife renovating houses, flipping and renting them. I have not missed a convention since 1995. I have always felt that I want to commit more time to the place that shaped my life. This is why I want to be you're representative for our year group. To give back to the home that has helped me in my life so much with college and getting me settled back here in Omaha is something that is important to me. I want to let other Alumni know that they can come back whether they graduated from here or left early...we are family and we welcome them back." Matt is a Lifetime Member of the BTNAA. His term will expire in 2027. [Email](#)