

Jaclyn Stapp

BY ALLISON WEISS BRADY

Jaclyn Stapp is the ultimate combination of grace, poise, and style. This stunning Palm Beach County-based beauty queen, winner of Mrs. Florida America, Miss New York USA, Miss Florida Teen All American and recently first runner-up at Mrs. America, is downright amazing. But it is impossible not to also be enchanted by her refreshing attitude and charitable aspirations.

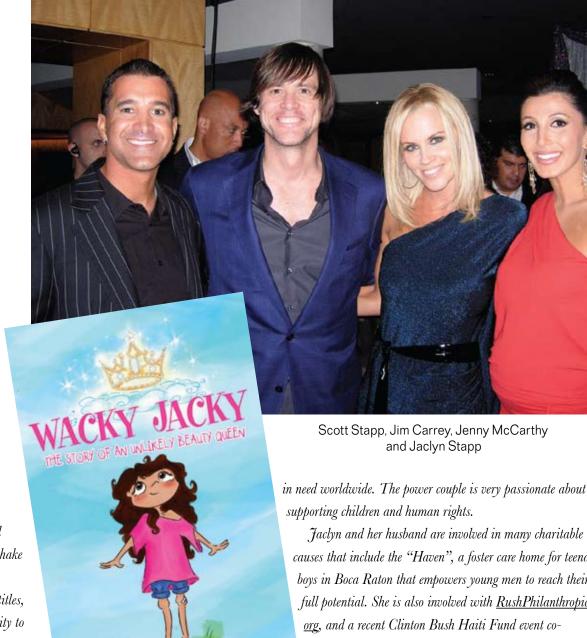
When Jaclyn walks into the room, she will greet you with a smile and a firm double handshake with a southern charm that is so welcoming. Although she has many beauty queen national titles, her status is not as important to her as the ability to use them to raise awareness for causes that allow her to give back to those less fortunate.

She is married to Grammy-Award winning rock star Scott Stapp, who is a super talented and magnetic frontman singer/songwriter of the band Creed. They have two adorable children (a daughter Milan together, and recently, she adopted Scott's son **Jagger**) and are expecting another bundle of joy —a son due this July.

Clearly, she loves talking about her children and shares, "Jagger has called me 'Mom' from a very young age, and it was just only natural to be able to legally raise the son I felt I already had. I want to continue to devote plenty of quality time to our children, and be there to support them with their school and extracurricular activities. Staying involved in my children's lives is so fulfilling for me," she says.

Jaclyn, a graduate of Stetson University, embodies the contemporary mother and wife who believes her life is a continual process of growing, learning, and giving. "I learned at a very young age what you make of yourself and how you positively impact others is important. Today, I am married to a loving husband and have two beautiful children that are my priority and definitely the reason my perspective has changed on many things in life."

From balancing a family, career, and life on the road when Creed is touring, she makes multitasking of family, modeling, career goals (she wants to be a teacher after her son is born), and philanthropy seem effortless. Collaborating with her husband on The Scott Stapp With Arms Wide Open Foundation www.WithArmsWideOpen.org, named after one of Creed's #1 hits, they have raised more than a million dollars for children and families



causes that include the "Haven", a foster care home for teenage boys in Boca Raton that empowers young men to reach their full potential. She is also involved with <u>RushPhilanthropic</u>. org, and a recent Clinton Bush Haiti Fund event cosponsored by LSN Partners. Faclyn has even traveled

overseas to discuss human rights with Iraq's Women's Governing Council.

A social issue that has always been close to her heart is the welfare of girls and young women around the world, which has inspired her to write a book dedicated to her children, "Wacky Jacky: The Story of an Unlikely Beauty Queen" published by Tri-Mark Press (at bookstores soon). "All women should have confidence and self-worth. I feel it is especially important for girls to develop their self-assurance early in life, so we started a Foundation to support them emotionally, spiritually, and financially. I would like my legacy to be that I contributed in helping to shape the lives of many of these young women."

The message of the book lets young girls know it is okay to be different, and it is to inspire these girls at an early age, that being different is unique and makes you really special! "Besides," she states, "beauty really does not come from outward appearances but from a person's honesty, compassion, and kindness, something my mother taught me early on."

"Now, having a family of my own, I am proud to have fully embodied the character, principles, and values of my mother, and it feels good that I can pass this on to my own children. With age comes wisdom, and with wisdom comes balance. My Christian faith and a very strong support system keep me firmly planted on the ground. I am looking forward with my family to make the difference I want in the world."