

# Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber | July 2014

Lansing Jaycees  
P.O. Box 16150  
Lansing, MI 48901

[www.lansingjaycees.org](http://www.lansingjaycees.org)  
[@LansingJaycees](https://twitter.com/LansingJaycees)  
[Lansing Jaycees](https://www.facebook.com/LansingJaycees)

District 3

## Seen in Action!



Above left: 86th President Charlie Root is the Lansing Lugnuts #1 fan! Above right: Storm clouds threatened to rain down on the members attending the baseball game. Below left: Members and guests enjoy themselves at the June Happy Hour at Soup Spoon Cafe, chaired by Jill Blust. Below right: Michael Leeds, Jason Larsen and Carrie Larsen traveled west to enjoy themselves on a Kalamazoo Jaycees' "Ghosts of Kalamazoo" tour on Friday the 13th in June. Lauren Leeds attended the tour as well.





## The Jaycee Creed by C. William Brownfield

We believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;  
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;  
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;  
That government should be of laws rather than of men;  
That earth's great treasure lies in human personality; and that  
**SERVICE TO HUMANITY IS  
THE BEST WORK OF LIFE**

The Lansing Jaycees is an organization of people ages 21–40 that promotes leadership training through community service. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Tripper's Bar and Grill in the Frandor Shopping Center, with dinner served between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Visit our website, [www.lansingjaycees.org](http://www.lansingjaycees.org) for more information.



### Letter from the Editor

Thanks to the contributors of this month's newsletter, including:

Lauren Leeds, Carrie May Larsen, Charlie Root, Colleen Burton, Paul Rathbun and Angela Clock.

### Remember, anyone can be an author!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to Lauren Leeds at [lleeds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleeds823@gmail.com) by July 21, 2014.

## 2014 Board of Directors

Meets every third Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

### President

Charlie Root, (517) 862-5326

### Chair of the Board

Abby Kelly, (517) 944-9729

### Individual Development Directors

Michael P. Leeds, (248) 622-1829

Nick Horstman, (517) 703-4565

### Management VP

Carrie Larsen, (248) 756-3840

### Management Director

Lauren Leeds, (989) 482-1232

### Community Development Director

Angela Clock, (517) 410-9527

### Treasurer

Sheryl Soczek, (517) 862-6376

### Assistant Treasurer

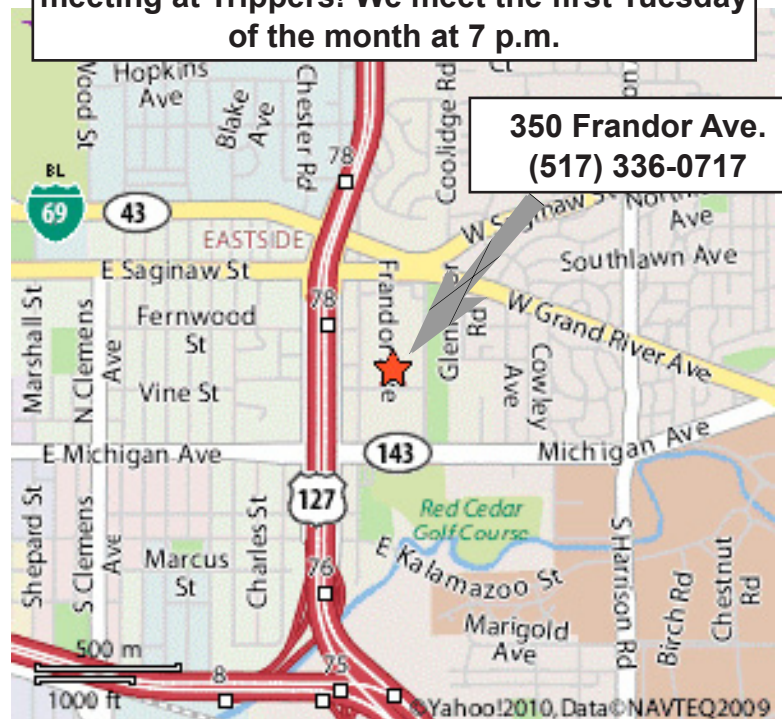
Jeff Straus, (989) 330-1956

### Secretary

Ilona Castelein, (517) 488-2245

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

350 Frandor Ave.  
(517) 336-0717



# President's Report

## Announcing Membership in Our Local Chamber of Commerce

The Lansing Jaycees is now a member of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce!

Recently the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) reached out to the Lansing Junior Chamber in an effort to forge a partnership between our organizations. After some discussion with LRCC, as a board we have decided to become a member of our local chamber.

This provides some great resources for the chapter and some direct benefits to you the member. Any member of the Lansing Jaycees may attend LRCC events at the member price. For example, the normal price for one of the LRCC Member Mixer events, which take place on the second Tuesday of each month, is \$30 but now Lansing Jaycees can attend for just \$10. This price includes the cost of food and beverage during the event.



Charlie Root  
President  
[croot80@gmail.com](mailto:croot80@gmail.com)

Many of you are probably not aware that there has actually been a big push at the state level between the Michigan Jaycees and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce to get local chambers and local Jaycee chapters to nurture, or begin anew, a partnership between the two. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce has actually encouraged local chambers to abandon their Young Professionals programs and utilize local Jaycees chapters instead.

What this means for us is that we will be able to begin new relationships with local businesses and other nonprofit organizations. This will allow us new opportunities to get the Lansing Jaycees name and mission in front of more community leaders. I'm sure they will be impressed with what they learn about us, and this will have them inclined to support our chapter as we lead the way to making our community a better place for everybody.

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## Board Change

Due to some personal matters in preparation for the addition of a baby Kelly, our Membership VP, Joe Kelly, has had to resign his position. It was not a decision that he made lightly, but after much discussion and consideration, it was determined that this would be the best decision for all involved.

If you have any questions about membership, or project ideas for some fun chapter activities, feel free to contact either Michael Leeds or me. We will be handling the membership responsibilities together for the remainder of 2014.

# Dates to Remember

## Individual Development Events

- JULY 8:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 pm, Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing
- JULY 19:** Brody Lunch & Broad Museum, 1-5 pm, Brody Dining Hall, East Lansing
- JULY 22:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 pm, Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing
- AUGUST 9:** Exploring Japanese Culture: Tea Ceremony/Garden Visit, 12:15-4:30 pm, Japanese Cultural Center, 527 Ezra Rust Dr., Saginaw

## Membership Events

- JULY 2:** Softball game, 6:15 pm, Nancy Moore Park, Okemos
- JUNE 6:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm, Location TBD
- AUGUST 1:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm, Location TBD
- AUGUST 5:** General Membership Meeting, 6-8:30 pm, Tripper's, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing
- AUGUST 22-24:** Annual Camping Trip, Oscoda KOA, 3591 Forrest Road, Oscoda

## Management Events

- JULY 7:** Fearsome 5K Mtg, 6:30pm, Olga's in Frandor
- JULY 9:** Debate Mtg, 8pm, at Panera in Frandor
- JULY 15:** Jaycee Bootcamp Part I: PMG Training, Time/Location TBD
- JULY 10:** Bylaw Review Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Biggby Coffee, 2250 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
- JULY 21:** Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River Suite 1, Lansing
- AUGUST 14:** Jaycee Bootcamp Part II: How to Run a Meeting, Date/Location TBD
- AUGUST 18:** Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River Suite 1, Lansing

## Community Development Events

- REST OF 2014:** Pop Tab Collecting, feel free to drop off pop can tabs to Angela Clock or Michael P. Leeds at GMMs or other events throughout the rest of 2014

## Happy Birthday!

### July Birthdays

Amy Simon  
Angela Fossi  
Sheryl Soczek  
Kris Dezelski  
Colleen Burton  
Jen Anderson  
Lauren Leeds

### August Birthdays

John Prush  
Mike Demmer

## Membership Anniversaries

### July

Danielle Wellington  
Jeff Straus  
Shantana Goerge  
Tracy Prush

### August

Anne Ribby  
Colleen Burton  
Jaimie Hutchison  
Jason Larsen  
Jenni Riehle  
Kris Dezelski  
Rudolph Warner  
Sam Keeney  
Sangs Kannan  
Shane Robbins



# Management Report

## Management Update

It's been a busy year and the ol' Management ball is rolling!

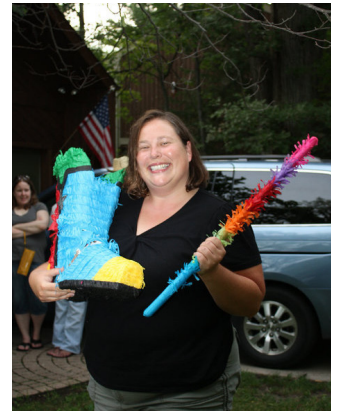
**Bylaws and Constitution review:** We have steadily been reviewing and making suggested revisions to our chapter's governing documents. Once we have finished, the changes will be submitted to the Board of Directors, and if they agree with the changes, the membership will vote on them at the Annual Meeting in November! The process reminds me a bit of Schoolhouse Rock!

**Fundraising:** We have been chipping away at our goal of raising \$12,100. We raised \$400 by selling Enjoy the City coupon books. We should be on track to run another Texas Hold 'Em tournament. And we are forming a committee for a Holiday Shopping Spree! If you enjoy golf or putt-putt, let me know – we're trying to put together a fundraiser at the Little Hawk Putting Course at Hawk Hollow ([http://www.hawkhollow.com/little\\_hawk\\_about.php](http://www.hawkhollow.com/little_hawk_about.php)).



**Behind the Scenes:** If you weren't able to participate in the Behind the Scenes at MSP: Criminal for an Evening held in April, you may be in luck! In late September, the latest MSP Trooper Recruit School will conduct night-time scenarios and will need actors again. To help us, we may also have a training opportunity on how to be a decoy! Stay tuned! As always, if you have any ideas for tours, get a hold of me or Lauren.

Happy Summer!



Carrie Larsen  
Management Vice President  
[carriemay@aol.com](mailto:carriemay@aol.com)

## What's This Great Lakes Scrip Anyway?

The Lansing Jaycees are selling Great Lakes Scrip cards again this year. You're probably wondering: what is that anyway?

This is how Scrip works: shop your favorite stores online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com), where you order gift cards like any traditional online ordering system. You get the full value of the gift card/certificate you purchase and a small percentage benefits the chapter!

If you decide to create an account on the site, simply use Enrollment Code: 1481A89233121 during registration to associate your account with the Lansing Jaycees. From now on any Scrip purchase you make will help raise funds for the chapter!

I'd like to highlight a few newer features: "**PrestoPay**," which allows you to make a quick, convenient and secure electronic payment with your debit card for your Scrip orders, completely cutting out the need to get a check or cash to me or another board member. Please note, there is a 15 cent charge per PrestoPay order. The "**Reload**" feature lets you reload a reloadable card at any time, meaning you don't have to wait for shipping! Orders by check/cash do have to be released by the Jaycee coordinator. Last, but not least is "**ScripNow!**" This features lets you order and print ecards from various retailers, avoiding the hassle of waiting for a shipment. Note both Reload and ScripNow! orders by check/cash do have to be released by the Jaycee coordinator.

**NOTE:** The Jaycees will not place a mail order until a threshold is hit that will allow the Jaycees to have a profitable order. Please order in advance and please be patient. The coordinator will contact you with an estimated order time - subject to change.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask - I'm here to help facilitate this program.



Lauren Leeds  
Management Director  
[l Leeds823@gmail.com](mailto:l Leeds823@gmail.com)

## Community Report

### You're Collecting WHAT?!?

Enjoying the outdoors this summer? Hosting a BBQ or picnic? If so, we are looking for the tabs from beverage cans to collect for the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan (RMHMM)!

Pop can tabs are collected by RMHMM and recycled for cash. That money then goes to fund the programs put on by the RMHMM.

We're hoping this project will allow many of our members to get involved in some small way!

Our goal is to collect 5 pounds of tabs by December 31! Bring them to GMMs or other events to collect. You can give them to myself or Michael Leeds.

Want to collect at work? If you have ideas, we are looking for some potential partnerships in order to reach our goal. Please let us know!

Also – be on the lookout for opportunities to make dinner for the families staying at the RMHMM! We'll be setting some up later in the year!



Angela Clock  
Community Development Director  
[fallingstar924@hotmail.com](mailto:fallingstar924@hotmail.com)

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### It's an Election Year ...

This year is a big election year in the state of Michigan. Many statewide races are going to be happening, with primary elections happening on Aug. 5, 2014. Once those occur, general elections for U.S. Senate, governor, attorney general, secretary of state, Michigan Supreme Court, both the Michigan Senate and House, and many other elections will be held on Nov. 4, 2014.

Are you interested in helping the chapter put on a potential event regarding the elections? Want to learn more about what you'll be voting for? Please let me know!

Get ready to make your voice heard in an important election year!

*Submitted by Angela Clock, 2014 Community Director, amclock924@gmail.com*

# Lansing Jaycees Trivia

What was the name of the organization that eventually became the Jaycees?

Answer: The Young Men's Progressive Civic Association

## Individual Development Report

### The Art of Tea

It's hard to be a tourist in your hometown - you grew up thinking that there's nothing fun to do. Luckily, as you mature, you realize that's not entirely true. As a Saginaw native, I've tried to make a point of going to, doing or seeing new sights in my hometown.

One place I've always wanted to visit, but haven't yet, is the Japanese Cultural Center, Tea House and Gardens in the city of Saginaw. That's why I've planned an Individual Development project for Saturday, Aug. 9 where interested members will carpool to Saginaw to attend a tea ceremony.

A trained docent will explain the tea ceremony as well as how Japanese hand tools were employed to construct the sukiya (rustic) structure.

Tea Ceremonies are presented on the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. throughout the year (except for December). They are part of the Tea House tour which includes a cup of green tea and costs \$8 per person.

After the tea ceremony people will be free to explore the three acres of gardens located on the property.

A carpool for those interested in attending will be planned closer to the event - but we'll plan to leave Lansing at 12:15 p.m. with an estimated arrival time in Saginaw of 1:45 p.m.



Lauren Leeds  
Management Director  
[lleds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleds823@gmail.com)

## Jaycee Trivia

Can you name four notable Jaycees?

Answer: Charles Lindbergh  
Hubert H. Humphrey  
President Richard M. Nixon  
President Gerald R. Ford

Can you name famous recipients of the US Jaycees Ten Outstanding Young Americans award?

Answer: Elvis Presley  
Pat Boone  
David Copperfield  
Christopher Reeve

## Membership Report

### Meet Colleen Burton!

Having joined the Lansing Jaycees nearly seven years ago in order to “meet new people who do things,” Colleen Burton is a one of our more experienced members.

Colleen works as a disability examiner for the state of Michigan. While she’s not married, she is “currently accepting applications from qualified candidates.”

Her favorite Lansing Jaycees project is Easter Egg Hunt for the “sheer madness of it.” She also enjoys Stuff the Bus “because we get to see the generosity of others and make a special holiday for families who otherwise may not have one.” Colleen also likes attending happy hours and the annual camping trip for spending time with other Jaycees and fun/relaxation.

When she’s not at a Jaycee event or helping make our community and the world a better place, Colleen enjoys reading mysteries and adventure suspense (as they are categorized in the library) books and watching her favorite TV shows, which happen to be crime dramas: *NCIS*, *NCIS: LA*, *Criminal Minds* and *Rizzoli & Isles*.

Besides watching TV and reading, her other hobbies/interests include anything involving swimming or playing in water, helping others, meeting new people and engaging them in friendship or activities and spending time with family.

Random fact about Colleen: she’s walked on fire! Ask her about it sometime.

Colleen’s favorite quote is: “Sometimes all it takes to be a visionary is to open your eyes.” ~Anonymous.



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# SHOUT OUTS!

To Ruthi and Jill, nice job on Relay for Life, ladies!  
~Lauren

Jill and Ruthi - you both did an amazing job with Relay for Life this year; I hope you are both very proud of your efforts! ~Carrie

Hey Colleen, thanks for agreeing to be featured in the Member Spotlight! ~Lauren

Sheryl: Thanks for offering to work on the Holiday Shopping Spree - I’m glad to see it come back!  
~Carrie

To Jill Blust and Ruthi Dake, way to rock out Relay!  
~Charlie

Lauren, Michael, and Dan - thanks for hanging for the fireworks at the Lugnuts game! ~Carrie



## Past President Spotlight

### Meet Paul Rathbun!

Serving as chapter president in 1986, when the size of the chapter was approximately 250 members, Paul Rathbun is the 58th president of the Lansing Jaycees.

Paul is the owner of the Rathbun Agency, Inc., which is an independent insurance agency that was founded in 1956 and has more than 4,000 customers. With 14 employees, they handle personal insurance, small business insurance and employee benefits.



He joined the organization for several reasons, including: networking, community service and leadership training. "I grew quite a bit as a person through my involvement with the Lansing Jaycees," Paul said. He was a member of the chapter from the age of 22 until he exhausted at age 40.

When asked about great memories/stories he'd like to share, Paul said: "I remember joining at age 22 and within a year or two being the Lansing Jaycee liaison to the Riverfest Committee (the pre-cursor to Common Ground). As part of that I worked closely with the mayor's office, heads of the UAW Locals and heads of the various city departments running the largest festival at the time in the Lansing area that had an attendance of over 50,000 people. The leadership training I got from the Jaycees allowed me to do things I never thought possible. I also chaired the Lansing Gus Macker Basketball Tournament with over 2,000 teams through my involvement with the Jaycees."

Paul continued: "The greatest skill I learned was leadership training. This taught me how to take an idea, set measurable goals, set a plan, arrange for the monetary and human resources needed, and how to make a project happen. This has guided me in my work and in my involvement with other nonprofit groups. Also the friends that I met in the process are still some of my best friends to this day, and I have literally traveled throughout the world with them."

According to Paul, joining the Jaycees was one of the best life decisions he ever made.

## Jaycee Trivia

How many members were there initially in the Jaycees when it was founded in 1920?

Answer: 3,000

# Jaycees Business Directory

## Auto, Home, Life & Tax Deferred Annuities

Member: Shantana Goerge

I specialize in home, auto, and life insurance. I'm passionate about the fact that insurance is boring and confusing to most people. Let me keep an eye on it for you, so it can keep up with you without the worries.

**Phone:** (517) 347-6772, ext. 56547

**Fax:** (517) 347-6983

**Email:** [shantana.goerge@libertymutual.com](mailto:shantana.goerge@libertymutual.com)

**Facebook:** [Shantana Goerge](#)

## Keller Williams Realty

Member: Rob Dowding

I pride myself and the Robert Dowding Team at Keller Williams Realty with excellent customer service in the representation of sellers, buyers, and investors in the entire Greater Lansing Area. Leverage yourself by hiring a true professional to assist you, your friends, and your family in achieving your Real Estate dreams and goals.

**Phone:** (517) 853-6390

**Email:** [Sold@RobertDowding.com](mailto:Sold@RobertDowding.com)

**Website:** [www.RobertDowding.com](http://www.RobertDowding.com)

**Blog:** [www.RealestateRealresults.com](http://www.RealestateRealresults.com)

## Clearing Blocks: Editing Services & Creative Content Development

Member: Jen Anderson

I offer comprehensive copy editing services, from light editing to line editing, in addition to creative content development. If you have a special project you'd like a professional set of eyes on, don't hesitate to get in touch! Please check out the website for sample rates and services, or call for a consultation.

**Phone:** (603) 548-0840

**Email:** [jennifer.margaret.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.margaret.anderson@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.clearingblocksediting.com](http://www.clearingblocksediting.com)

## The Law Office of Eric J. Sheppard

Member: Eric Sheppard

I provide dedicated, personal attention to all of my cases. I will assist you and your family with all of your questions and concerns relating to your legal matters. I am highly experienced in criminal law, family law, and general practice matters.

**Phone (Office):** (517) 618-1580

**Phone (Cell):** (216) 973-9996

**Website:** [www.ericshppardlaw.com](http://www.ericshppardlaw.com)

Want to see your business featured?  
Contact Lauren Leeds at: [lleads823@gmail.com](mailto:lleads823@gmail.com)