



Capitol Correspondent

 @LansingJaycees

 Lansing Jaycees



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LANSING JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | JUNE 2013

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

www.lansingjaycees.org

District 4
Population Division 6
Base Membership: 84

FIRST HALF 2013!

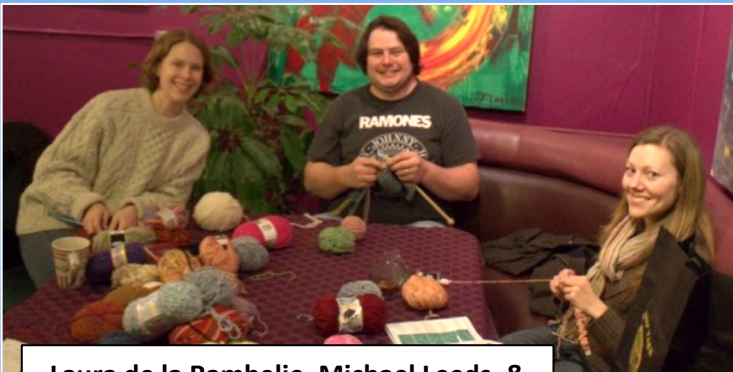
Lauren Leeds, Carrie May, Charlie Root, Angela Clock, & Sam Keeney are somehow smiling after their icy Polar Plunge.



The Easter Bunny waves as the Easter Egg Hunt begins!



Laura de la Rambelje, Michael Leeds, & Jill Blust enjoy the regular knitting circle.



Passover Seder attendees learn a prayer for wine.



Melissa Horste sprints for first base!



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 which promotes leadership training through community service. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social hour from 6-7 p.m.) at Tripper's Bar and Grill in the Frandor shopping plaza. Visit our website, www.lansingjaycees.org for more information.



Your 2013 Board of Directors

The BOD meets on the last Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Spartan Printing, 15551 S. US Highway 27, Lansing. All members are welcome.

President:

Abby Kelly queenpetunia@hotmail.com

Chair of the Board:

Lauren Leeds lleeds823@gmail.com

Membership VP:

Charlie Root croot80@gmail.com

Individual Development VP:

Ilona Hajdar ihajdar@gmail.com

Community Development VP:

Ruthi Dake ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com

Management VP:

Kris Dezelski dezelskik@gmail.com

Management Director:

Jessi Wortley Adler jessicawortley@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Sheryl Soczek soczek@msu.edu

Secretary:

Eric Richmond edr@thelastbyte.com

Director-at-Large:

Nick Horstman nhorstma@msufcu.org

A note from the Capitol Correspondent Editor:

Thanks to the contributors of this newsletter:

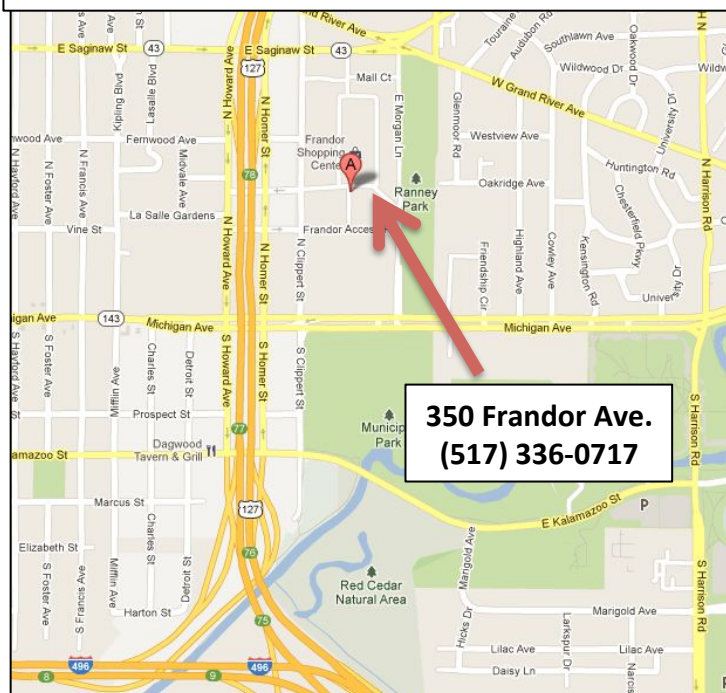
Abby Kelly, Nick Horstman, Charlie Root, Lauren Leeds, Ruthi Dake, and Jessi Wortley Adler

ANYONE CAN BE AN AUTHOR!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to: Eric Richmond

edr@thelastbyte.com

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! Every first Tuesday of the Month at 7 p.m.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Recently, in talking with one of our new members, I was asked if I get paid to be the President of this amazing chapter. The answer: no. None of the Board of Directors of our chapter get paid for their time, either. We give of ourselves and our time one year at a time on the Board.

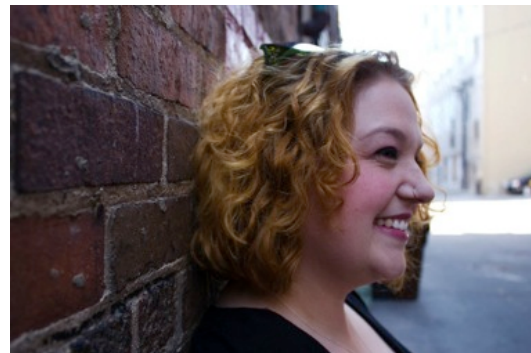
Why? This is always the next question. Why would we do these jobs if there wasn't compensation? As a group, we are all taking our next steps in our leadership development. We have all been general members, participated in volunteering events both in our chapter and in other organizations, and we were ready to be leaders in the Jaycees to make ourselves better, improve our chapter, and give back even more to the Lansing community.

Why do we get up at the crack of dawn the day before Easter and spread eggs on the Capitol lawn? Because we like it here, we want others to like it here, too. Why do we jump into freezing cold water in February? Because we recognize a need in the area and are willing to sacrifice a little comfort to help. Why do we spend time looking for good happy hour specials? Well, that one is just for us! We work hard in the community, and deserve some down time with each other to re-group and relax.

For my part, I grew up in the Lansing area. Like most young people from towns this size, I had a dream of getting out of this city. It took me years of being here to realize Lansing was just the right city for me. I wouldn't be able to handle living in a city like Chicago - too big, too busy. The people here are amazing, there is a lot to do, see, and learn in Lansing. I know not everyone would agree with these opinions, but after giving Lansing a chance, and not constantly looking for another place to live, I have come to this conclusion for myself.

Since this is my city, I've decided to be the best I can be for it. That's where the Jaycees come in. I have learned so much about leadership and making positive change in my community, being on the Board was the natural next step.

If you feel you are ready to move to the next chapter in your leadership development, please talk to one of our Board members, or attend a Board meeting to see what they are all about. 2014 will be here before we know it, and the chapter always needs new leaders.



Abby Kelly queenpetunia@hotmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

Management

Newsletter Submissions:

Contact Eric Richmond <edr@thelastbyte.com>
July deadline – Mon, July 15
August deadline – Mon, August 12
September deadline – Mon, September 16

Bylaws Review Committee: Carrie May
<carriemay@aol.com> - Wed, July 17, 6:30-8:45 p.m. –
Location TBD.

Help us refine our chapter bylaws for future generations.

Texas Hold'Em: Kris Dezelski <dezelskik@gmail.com> -
July 22, 23, 24, and August 8, 9, 10, 11, 11:30 a.m. – 2:15
a.m. – Trippers, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing.

Help the chapter out with our largest fundraiser by signing up for a shift! No poker knowledge necessary, this is to handle chips and cash only.

Board of Directors Meetings: Abby Kelly
<queenpetunia@hotmail.com> – Mon, July 29, August 26,
September 30, 6:00 p.m. – Spartan Printing, 15551 S. US
Highway 27, Lansing.

Individual Development

Knitting Circle: Melissa Horste
<melissa.emily.horste@gmail.com> – Tues, June 25, July 9,
23, August 13, 27, September 10, 24, etc., 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
– The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan, Lansing.

The knitting circle will meet every second/forth Tuesday evening. Project Committee members will provide instruction, assistance, and materials to new knitters.

Ebleskivers: A Danish Dish: Lauren Leeds
<lleeds823@gmail.com> – Sat, July 13, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. –
Leeds household, 1717 Bradley, Lansing.

Have you ever heard of "Ebleskivers?" Then join us as we learn how to make and enjoy these Danish delights!

Membership

General Membership Meetings (GMM): Abby Kelly
<queenpetunia@hotmail.com> – Tues, July 9, August 6,
September 3, 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Trippers, 350 Frandor Ave,
Lansing.

Softball Games: Charlie Root <croot80@gmail.com> –
Mon, July 8, 15, 22 – Nancy Moore Park, 1960 Gaylord C.
Smith Ct., Okemos.

Come out and cheer on the Lansing Jaycees Softball team! Or if you're interested in playing, just let Charlie know. Game times vary, check our website for specifics.

New Member Orientation: Charlie Root
<croot80@gmail.com> – Wed, June 26, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. –
Grand Traverse Pie Company, 1403 East Grand River
Avenue, East Lansing.

Learn more about the Jaycees, the event planning process, and all the ways to take advantage of your membership.

A Very Nutty Happy Hour: Charlie Root
<croot80@gmail.com> – Thurs, June 27, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. –
Nut House Sports Grill, 420 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

The June Happy Hour will be at the Nut House as many Jaycees will be preparing to go to a Lugnuts game.

Lansing Lugnuts: Charlie Root <croot80@gmail.com> –
Thurs, June 27, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. – Cooley Law School
Stadium, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Root, root, root for the home team as the Lansing Lugnuts take on the Fort Wayne Tin Caps!

2013 Camping "OH MY!": Michael Castelein
<mcastelein@att.net> – Fri, August 2 – Sun, August 4 –
Oscoda KOA, 3591 Forrest Road, Oscoda, MI.

Join us for a weekend of FUN Jaycee camping!

Community Development

Home for Our Troops: Lauren Leeds <lleeds823@gmail.com> – Sat, July 13, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Lot 9 Oak Hills Dr., Eaton Rapids.

Homes for our Troops, along with Mayberry Homes, will be building a home for Sgt. Aaron Jolly who is paralyzed from the waist down. Come help volunteer!

Remembering President Ford, Part Deux: Lauren Leeds <lleeds823@gmail.com> – Fri, July 26, 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor.

We've visited the President Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, now join us for part two as we travel to the presidential library in Ann Arbor.

CHAIR OF THE BOARD REPORT



Lauren Leeds
lleeds823@gmail.com

Lansing Jaycees Earn Honors from USJCs for 2012 Accomplishments

As the 84th president of the Lansing Jaycees, I am happy to report that our Chapter was named one of best outstanding local chapters in the nation for our efforts in 2012. That means that out of about 600 Junior Chamber chapters across the country that we here in Lansing have quite a bit to be proud of and celebrate.

Fellow Lansing Jaycee member Angela Clock was present at the United States Junior Chamber Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington earlier this month to receive the Clarence H. Howard Memorial Award on behalf of the Lansing Jaycees.

Our Chapter was one of only five chapters in the nation (including Ann Arbor, which went on to win the Marks Award for the most distinguished chapter in the country) to receive this distinguished award.

Additionally, the United States Junior Chamber recognized the Lansing Jaycees with a Best Local Growth and Development Project for the Chapter's "Made in Michigan: A Happy Hour" project, which promoted Michigan-based or owned restaurants.

I am truly proud of everything the Lansing Jaycees accomplished in 2012. We made a lasting impact on the greater Lansing last year. The Junior Chamber movement is all about leadership development and we are indeed building young leaders here in Lansing.

I look forward to seeing what this amazing Chapter has in store for the rest of 2013!

June Birthdays

Renee Burck
Lori Castelein
Katie Fiero
Sean Gillis
Ilona Hajdar
Lauren Kenczyk
Eric Richmond
Andrea Stay

June Membership

Anniversaries

Meredith Blixt
Bridget Burnell
Ruthi Dake
Adam Garvey
Shawanna Henderson
Abby Kelly
Ryan Kiernicki
Charles Strong

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Why are You a Jaycee?



Charlie Root croot80@gmail.com

I have been a Jaycee for a few years now, and I don't often think about why really. I enjoy it so much that when it comes time for renewal I don't put much thought into it, and just sign up for another year. But it is good to reflect on it from time to time. I find that it can fan that flame of the Jaycee spirit, and maybe give you a new look at how you approach your Jaycee experience. This is why you will often be asked why you became, and why you continue to be, a Jaycee.

As the Membership Development Vice President, I encourage you all to reflect on this. If you find that you love being a Jaycee for the camaraderie, community service, leadership development, or some combination of those and many other things, then great! I'm glad you're enjoying your membership, and I look forward to seeing your smiling face for years to come.

If you take a look at the benefits you get and find your membership lacking, then by all means, grab the nearest board member and let us know. We are here to serve you and make your time in our organization as beneficial to you as we possibly can. One of the greatest aspects of the Jaycees is that we can go anywhere that our members want us to go. You are in the driver's seat, so let us know if we're not going where you want us to. We'll be more than happy to work with you to provide the kind of events and opportunities you are looking for.

So, from time to time, take a moment to ask yourself why you're a Jaycee. I'm sure that most people will be able to come up with many wonderful reasons. And, if you cannot, then let me know and we will see what we can do to correct that. Chances are that with a few minor tweaks we can turn this around and make your Jaycee experience a great one that will stick with you for the rest of your life.

Membership – You get out what you put in.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT



Community VP Ruthi Dake
ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com

Relay for Life went great! At the event the team was able to raise more than \$800 towards the fight against cancer! Great job team! This puts us absurdly close to our goal of \$5,000.

We can do it!

There are going to be a couple of unconventional community projects coming up shortly, so keep your eyes open. Our Community project attendance has been very low lately and I would love to see more of your beautiful faces!

The Jaycees are about passion. What are you passionate about? It is getting to be that time of the year when we have take a step back and really analyze why we are a Jaycee.

Everyone has a reason for joining the world's greatest young person's organization. It is time to remember why you are a Jaycee and shine. The world isn't going to change on its own. Let's change it together!

You don't like all the homeless holding signs on the corners? Let's make a plan together to get those people off the street and make their lives better. Who knows ... maybe you are the saving angel they have been praying for. You don't like all the drugs and violence in your area? Let's make a plan together to organize neighborhood watches and raise money for extra police forces!

Your community needs you. Are you going to be there for it?



MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR REPORT

Perfectly Good Airplane



Jessi Wortley Adler
jessicawortley@gmail.com

“That’s awesome!” “You’re crazy!” “Looks like fun!” “I could never do that!”

Those are just a few of the converse comments I heard from friends and family after telling them I jumped out of a perfectly good airplane.

Yes, that’s right. I jumped out of a perfectly good airplane. On purpose. Because ... well, why not? To be clear, I did not jump on my own; I jumped tandem with a skilled and trained skydiver who does it for a living and actually knew what he was doing. My only real responsibility was being strapped to my coach, following his directions and having fun!

Skydiving had been on my bucket list for years, but I’d never pursued it until last year. A friend who is a certified skydiver finally convinced my husband and I to come down to Chicago and jump. We were supposed to go last fall but had to postpone the trip, so I spent the last nine months alternating between worry, excitement, anxiety and anticipation.



I knew I wanted to do it, but the ‘what ifs’ kept nagging at me. What if the plane goes down? What if the parachute doesn’t open? What if this? What if that? And then I realized that the what-ifs didn’t matter. I had a better chance of a catastrophic event happening to me on the way to work or the grocery store than I did skydiving.

Life is full of what-ifs. Many of us go through life scared to take risks, scared to make decisions, scared to let go, scared to make changes ... all because they involve unknowns. If skydiving taught me anything, it’s that letting go and stepping outside the comfort zone is a necessary part of life. It builds character. It builds confidence. It builds a sense of accomplishment.

Now, I don’t suggest that everyone go skydiving (wait, yes I do-it was a blast!), but I do encourage you to find that one activity you’ve always dreamed of but were scared to do, and make it happen. Maybe it’s rock climbing, bungee jumping, riding a motorcycle, scuba diving, whitewater rafting.

Take the plunge and sign up. Cross it off your bucket list. Be proud of your achievement.

For me, jumping out of that perfectly good airplane was a thrilling, unique and adrenaline-pumping adventure. From the initial plunge out the door and freefall, to the relaxing canopy ride with a view for miles and miles, it was an extraordinary experience I’ll never forget. I’d love to do it again someday, but for now, I’m focusing on my next bucket list item...running a half-marathon.



DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE REPORT

Are the rising gas prices gouging your pockets? If so you are not alone. Think back to the last couple weeks and try to remember if you have heard anyone complain about gas prices, and I am sure you can think of more than one instance. As gas prices increase it is making it more and more difficult for families to budget their expenses and keep their tanks filled. If only there was a way to put an end to this problem!

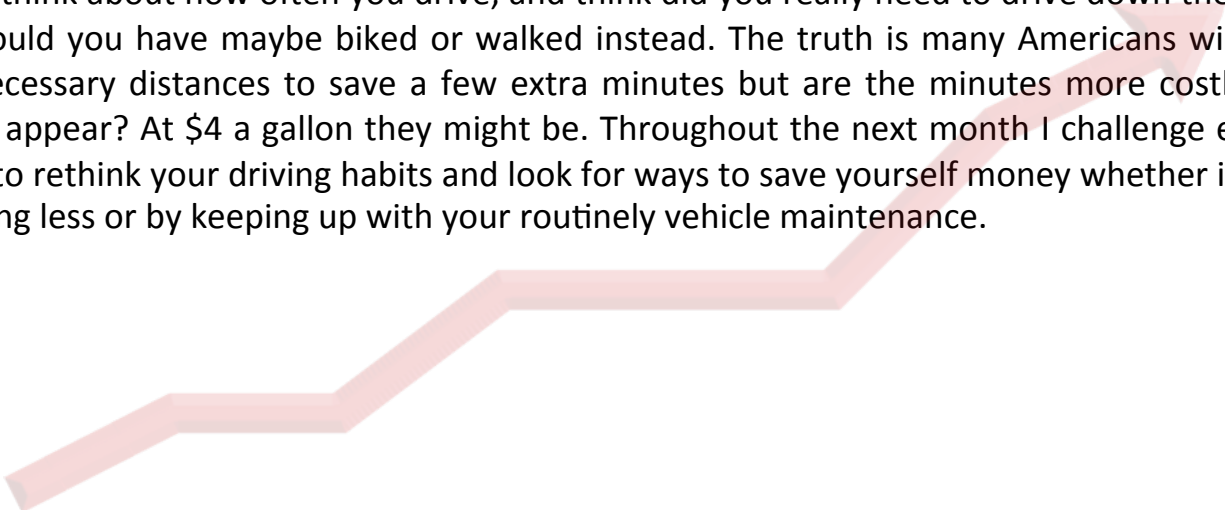
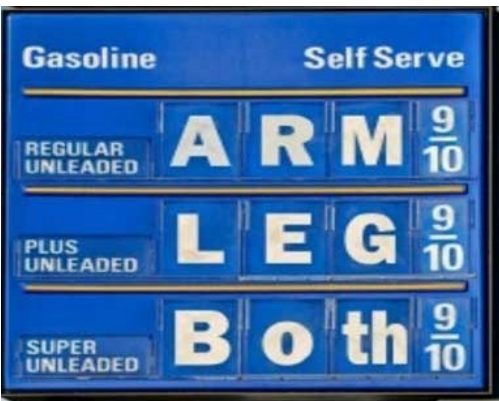


Nick Horstman
nhorstma@msufcu.org

Unfortunately unless you have access to your own fuel station and/or own multiple oil refineries this problem will probably continue to be an issue for you. On the bright side there are opportunities to reduce these expenses! Currently there are numerous gas stations that offer discounts to loyal customers of which I recommend you take advantage of (Kroger, Speedway, Sam's Club, etc.), but these are not the only option. As we enter the

summer, oil companies will be forced to switch back to the summer blend of gasoline and prices will rise once more, but did you know that by keeping up with maintenance on your vehicle can get you more miles per gallon? That's right, by simply getting your timely oil changes, tire rotations and alignments, you could find yourself lasting one to two days longer before you need to visit the dreaded gas pump.

Also think about how often you drive, and think did you really need to drive down the street or could you have maybe biked or walked instead. The truth is many Americans will drive unnecessary distances to save a few extra minutes but are the minutes more costly than they appear? At \$4 a gallon they might be. Throughout the next month I challenge each of you to rethink your driving habits and look for ways to save yourself money whether it be by driving less or by keeping up with your routinely vehicle maintenance.



WHAT EXACTLY, ARE EBELSKIVERS?



Last year we learned all about crêpes, otherwise known as “Parisian pancakes. This year, we’re going to learn about another culture’s pancakes: Ebelskivers (pronounced “able-skeevers”).

These oddly named delicacies are traditional Danish pancakes that have a distinctive sphere shape and are filled with a variety of sweet or savory items. The Danes typically enjoy these treats during the holiday season and at celebrations.

Intrigued? Want to know more about these round, stuffed pancakes? Then join the Lansing Jaycees for the “A Danish Dish: Ebelskivers” event scheduled for Saturday, July 13 at 4 p.m. (evite to follow with event location information).

We will cover everything from how to make the batter, to filling and cooking with the special pan and utensils and finally, to eating these delicious snacks.

A variety of items will be available for filling/dipping: bacon, cheddar cheese, scallions, bleu cheese, ham, apple, ricotta, berries, nuts, chocolate chips, Nutella, maple syrup, cream cheese frosting, powdered sugar, cinnamon sugar, etc.

Please notify project chair Lauren Leeds (lleeds823@gmail.com) of any dietary restrictions/allergies or filling/dipping requests.

Lansing Jaycees Business Directory

Keller Williams Realty

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 family in achieving your Real Estate dreams and goals.

Ph: 517.853.6390

Email: Sold@RobertDowding.com Website: www.RobertDowding.com

Blog: www.RealestateRealresults.com

Website Design Services

Vieth Consulting provides development services for organization and commercial websites. Contact Chris Vieth for more information or for a quote.

H: 627-7145 W: 930-3611 ccvieth@viethconsulting.com

The Law Office of Eric J. 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.

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