

Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber | October 2014

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

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

District 3

Seen in Action!



Top left: 90th Michigan Jaycees President Jay Johnson swears in three new members of the Lansing Jaycees. Johnson attended the October GMM to speak to Lansing Jaycee members and had the honor of swearing in our newest members.

Below left: Joe Kelly helps man a concession stand at a Michigan State University Volleyball game. The chapter has been selling bottled soda at home football games and this was our first opportunity to run a full concession stand at a MSU sporting event.

Below right: Exhausted Rooster Alex Briseno and 86th President of the Lansing Jaycees, Charlie Root, prepare hot dogs for attendees of the MSU volleyball game.



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

2014 Board of Directors

Meets every third Tuesday 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

Secretary/Management Director

Lauren Leeds, (989) 482-1232

Community Development Director

Angela Clock, (517) 410-9527

Membership Director

Colleen Burton, (517) 281-6049

Treasurer

Sheryl Soczek, (517) 862-6376

Assistant Treasurer

Jeff Straus, (989) 330-1956

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 for more information.



Letter from the Editor

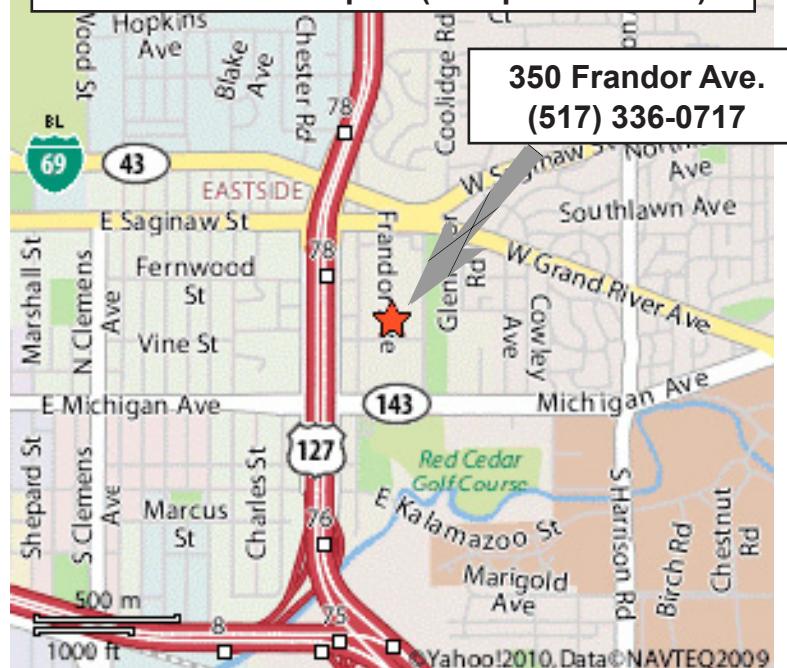
Thanks to the contributors of this month's newsletter, including:

Lauren Leeds, Carrie May Larsen, Charlie Root, Karin Root, Nick Horstman 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 by Oct. 21, 2014.

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



President's Report

Hello again, Lansing Jaycees!

Well autumn is upon us again, and you can feel the magic of the season in the air. The wind is getting cooler, the leaves are changing, Spartans and Wolverines alike are taking to the grid iron, and the Lansing Jaycees are looking for their next round of leaders to serve on the board of directors (BOD or "the board").

Yes, it is elections time for the Lansing Jaycees, and before we can have elections we must have some nominations. Nominations began at our October General Membership Meeting (GMM), but they can continue until the time of elections at our Annual Meeting, which will take place at our November GMM on Nov. 11. I will discuss the nomination and election process more a little later.

Now, I have already been in contact with some of our members that are interested in serving on our BOD next year, but I thought it would be good to share with all of you some of the challenges and rewards of serving on the board.

That's right, I said challenges. I'm not going to lie, serving on the board is no cake walk, and it shouldn't be. After all, how can you expect to gain any reward from being on the board if the experience never challenges you? Being a member of the BOD will require a fair amount of your time and energy.

Aside from monthly meetings of the BOD, and attending the monthly GMM, many of your evenings and weekends will be at least partially dedicated to planning meetings and events. The specific expectations and requirements of attendance can vary somewhat from year to year, because it is up to each president to set the requirements. But, typically most board members are not required to attend every single event held by the chapter. It'd be pretty cool if you did, but I just don't think that's even possible. Generally, the rule has been in the past that you attend planning meetings for projects that are under your purview on the board. You would also be expected to attend the events that fall under your area of responsibility, when possible. When you can't make it, you'll need to make sure that another member of the board can be there so there is a board presence at the event.

As a member of the board you will also be present for all of the debate and discussion of the chapter's business. Sometimes the discussion will be simple and other times it will be contentious. You will, at times, disagree with your fellow board members and you will argue with them, or at least you better. Your role on the board is to represent the interests of our general members. If there is something happening that you don't like, you better believe there is at least one other person in our membership that agrees with you. And that means it is your responsibility to voice a contrary opinion when you have one. It can get heated at times, some people on the board will get upset with you when you stick to your guns, and you will get equally upset with them. At the end of it all, the BOD is a democracy, and there will be a vote to decide every issue. You will be emotionally invested in the plans of our chapter, and you will be upset when that vote doesn't go your way. The tough part is walking out of that board room confident that your fellow board members, your team, have voted and made the best decision for the chapter. But that is what you absolutely must do. The time for arguing a point is before the matter is settled by a vote. After that vote you have to leave the room knowing that your fellow board members are all competent human beings and that if they decide on a plan, you have to pour your support into that plan even if it wasn't the one you would have picked. You have to do this for the good of the chapter. Divided leadership is not going to help the members you agreed to serve. So, feel



Charlie Root
President
croot80@gmail.com

President's Report

Hello again, Lansing Jaycees! Continued ...

free to voice your contrary opinion and argue in its defense as best you can while the matter is before the board. But once that issue is settled you must be prepared to swallow a little of your pride and go forth from that meeting in full support of the board's decision. I'm sorry if it seems I am going on about this point at too great a length, but this is possibly one of the biggest challenges you will face on the board. It can be very hard to put your support and effort into a plan you don't agree with, but you must be willing to do just that.

The main thing to keep in mind in all that you do as a member of the board is that you are there to further the interests of the chapter and its members. When you are considering your vote, you will need to consider not only your personal opinion, but whether or not this is good for the chapter. That must be the deciding factor in all of your votes. It cannot be about who or what you like and don't like. Most of the time, your interests and the chapter's will be one and the same, but you must be willing to put the chapter's best interests ahead of your own when they are not in sync.

Well, now that I've spent some time making board service sound like something nobody would ever be interested in, let me talk to you about the rewards. Believe it or not there are many rewards for serving on the BOD. But, because nobody gets paid to be on our BOD, they are mostly intangible rewards.

Perhaps most obviously you will be rewarded with an education in leadership. You will learn what it takes to properly delegate authority and responsibility, how to work effectively with people you don't see eye-to-eye with, and how to put the interests of the people you serve ahead of your own. This is a brief summary of exactly what I think a good leader should know, and serving on the BOD will help you with all of these.

The greatest reward for your service is one that some people may not recognize immediately. Your time serving on the BOD will give you many opportunities to gain some deep-seated friendships. You could get to know some of your fellow board members better than many of your long time friends. You will also get to know more of our general members, and find more people in our chapter that share your interests and sense of humor. I can say for a fact that I have made friends in the Lansing Jaycees that I will keep until the day I leave this planet. Friends that I would not hesitate to drop everything for if they needed help, and I know they'd do the same for me. Some of those friendships have come from my time as a general member, but many of them have come from my time spent serving on the board. That kind of reward is invaluable. To have an unwavering support network that will help you out when trouble arises, or laugh with you when trouble is far from anyone's mind, is rewarding on a level that is much deeper than any monetary gain. This is what people are talking about when they say money can't buy happiness.

So, these are things I'd like you to consider if you are thinking about serving on the BOD, either for 2015 or further in the future. I am also available for one-on-one discussion to answer any questions you may have or to discuss any of your concerns. And I promise I will not sugar-coat anything, but rather give you an honest assessment of what you'd be committing to, and what you may get as a reward for your commitment. Call me anytime at 517-862-5326 or email me at croot80@gmail.com and we can discuss your future with the Lansing Jaycees.

Notification of Elections

Notice of the Lansing Jaycees 2015 Elections

Elections for the 2015 Lansing Jaycees Board of Directors are just around the corner. The election will be held at the November General Membership Meeting (GMM), scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. at Tripper's Sports Bar, located at 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. Current members in good standing with the chapter are eligible to nominate members for a given position as well as vote in the election. All members interested in running for a board position must be in good standing with the chapter.

Procedures for Nominations

Nominations for elected positions may be made and seconded in writing to the Elections Committee. Written nominations may be made from the time the September newsletter is published until the GMM/Annual Meeting on Nov. 11. Nominations were accepted at the October, and may be made and seconded at the November GMM as long as the nominee consents to the nomination. Chaplain will be elected by the 2015 Board of Directors; interested parties should contact the 2015 president-elect.

Available Positions

The following are positions and brief descriptions for which members in good standing may run. You may read more detailed descriptions in the chapter's Constitution and Bylaws, located in the file archive at www.lansingjaycees.org or speak to current or past board members.

President: Serves as the chief executive officer of the organization and has general charge of the business of the organization. The president presides at all meetings of the membership and of the Board of Directors.

Secretary: Keeps the minutes of meetings of the membership and the board of directors.

Treasurer: The treasurer keeps custody of the chapter's funds and provides accurate accounting of receipts and disbursements for the chapter. The treasurer ensures completion of tax returns and financial statements as required.

Assistant Treasurer: Assists and learns the duties of the Treasurer.

Vice Presidents: Shall supervise the portfolios of the standing committees, shall chair the standing committees, and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as necessary.

Directors: May assist a specific area of opportunity or serve as a director-at-large and assist the Board of Directors as requested.

Legal Counsel: Shall be a member in good standing of the Michigan Bar Association and represent the Lansing Jaycees in legal matters affecting the Corporation.

Nominations for the 2015 Board of Directors

President
Michael Leeds

Executive Vice President
Vacant

Programming Vice President
Eric Richmond

Directors
Keri Brown
Colleen Burton
Rob Dowding
Ryan Kiernicki
Alex Nelson
Jenni Riehle
Danielle Wellington

Treasurer
Jeff Straus

Assistant Treasurer
Vacant

Secretary
Angela Fossi

Dates to Remember

Membership Events

- OCTOBER 26:** Painting with a Twist - Dia De Los Muertos, 12:30-3 p.m., 580 Frandor Ave., Lansing
- NOVEMBER 1:** Beer Bus 2014: Dia De Los Muertos, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Okemos Park and Ride, Exit 110 on I-96
- NOVEMBER 7:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Location TBD
- NOVEMBER 11:** Annual Meeting/General Membership Meeting, 6-8:30 p.m., Tripper's, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

Individual Development Events

- OCTOBER 14:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing
- OCTOBER 28:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing

Management Events

- OCTOBER 21:** Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River Suite 1, Lansing
- OCT. 25 & NOV. 8:** Concession Sales at MSU football game, various times, East Lansing
- NOVEMBER 15:** Holiday One Stop Shop, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbott Road, East Lansing

Community Development Events

- OCTOBER 27:** Trick or Treat on the Square face painting, 5-7:30 p.m., Washington Square, Lansing
- DECEMBER 6:** Stuff the Bus, Time TBD
- REST OF 2014:** Pop Tab Collecting, drop off pop can tabs to Angela Clock or Michael Leeds throughout 2014

Happy Birthday!

October Birthdays

Abby Kelly
 Danielle Wellington
 Eric Sheppard
 Heather Kalso
 Jenni Riehle
 Ryan de la Rambelje
 Ryan Kolb

November Birthdays

Dana Martinez
 Mary Ouellette



Membership Anniversaries

October

Jessi Wortley Adler
 Keri Brown
 Michelle Meriwether



November

Angela Clock
 Angela Fossi
 Ilona Castelein
 Jackson Buddingh
 Jennifer Young
 Michael Castelein
 Shawn Wiltfong

Management Report

Management Update

With a few more months left in the year, we still have a lot going on in the Management area! Our big projects include:

MSU Concessions: We have been earning money by selling bottled beverages at carts at Spartan Stadium. We have been guaranteed \$300 per game or 10 percent of sales. So far, we have exceeded the minimum per game! There is a lot of potential for long-term fundraising. If you haven't volunteered for a shift, please do - it's easy, fun, and time passes quickly!

Holiday One Stop Shop: Our tables are filling up for this event! Direct sales vendors have the opportunity to rent a table to sell their products to the general public. We are working to finish filling the tables, but we also need help getting the general public to the event to make it worth our vendors' time to be there. Please spread the word - the event will be Nov. 1 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Constitution and Bylaw Review: The committee worked very hard to carefully review the governing documents of the organization. Hopefully you had a chance to review them. If you have questions about the Constitution or Bylaws, contact Charlie Root or Carrie Larsen.

Behind the Scenes: We would love to squeeze one more tour in before the end of the year. If you know of a business to visit, or there is a tour you have wanted to experience, contact Carrie Larsen or Lauren Leeds.

Beer Bus 2014: Dia De Los Muertos: Mark your calendar for Nov. 1! Our Beer Bus is back in action on the Dia De Los Muertos! We'll travel to Marshall, Battle Creek and Kalamazoo in a 32-passenger bus and hope you will join us. Your trip will include a T-shirt, on-board entertainment, pizza on the bus ride home, and a swag bag. Tickets will be \$30 for Jaycees and \$35 for non-Jaycees. Stay tuned for more details from your Beer Bus Committee!

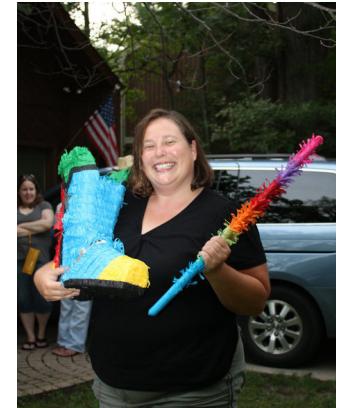
It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like ...

As much as I hate to admit, and as much as people seem to hate to be reminded of it, the holidays are just around the corner. Luckily the Lansing Jaycees have a few projects lined up to help you get in the holiday spirit and help the chapter at the same time.

Carrie already filled you in on the "Holiday One Stop Shop." If you don't know what I'm talking about, read her article above.

Next, we are selling gift cards, which are perfect for gift giving, from Great Lakes Scrip. You can order gift cards for the full face value and the chapter gets a predesignated percentage of the sale. Last, but not least, we have Operation Snowman Army, where you can purchase a squad (10 snowmen) or a brigade (20 snowmen) and we'll deploy them to a friend or relative's house for you.

If you are interested in more information on any of these projects, please let me or Carrie Larsen know.



Carrie Larsen
Management Vice President
carriemmay@aol.com



Lauren Leeds
Management Director
lleeds823@gmail.com



Holiday One Stop Shop hosted by



November 15 • 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**East Lansing Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823**

Interested in becoming a vendor?

Tables can be rented for the following:

\$25 for Lansing Jaycees members

\$40 for Michigan Jaycees members

\$50 for General Public

We will accept one table per company on a first come-first paid basis. Those paying by check must remit payment within seven days of registering. Space is limited to the first 30 vendors who respond. Cash and carry is encouraged.

Table rental includes the following:

1 6-ft. table, 2 chairs, advertising, and assistance with load-in and load-out

Up to 30 Vendors Including:

**Stampin' Up! * Origami Owl * Stella & Dot * Lia Sophia * Chloe + Isabel * Quilling Maven *
Young Living Essential Oils * Tupperware * Norwex * Avon * Matilda Jane Clothing * Thirty-One
* Jamberry * Scentsy * PartyLite * Usborne Books & More * Mary Kay * It Works! Global * Long-
aberger * Between the Buns and More/Incu-Bake ***

Vendors contact Holiday@lansingjaycess.org for information

Individual Development Report

Our Chamber Membership

As the Jaycees continue to grow within the community we have acquired yet another benefit for our members. As some of you may have heard we have recently established a membership with the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce in order to develop and strengthen a relationship that has lacked between our groups.

What this means for our membership is that the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is now a resource to our group. In addition we are now able to attend Chamber mixers that occur once a month on the second Tuesday of every month. You only need to let them know you are a member of the Jaycees and pay the discounted price of \$10, to engage in some of the larger networking events in the community. In addition to the networking opportunities you can also help your self to wine, beer, and hors d'oeuvres. The benefit of this partnership does not end here though, as the Chamber host many other events that can be found on their website www.lansingchamber.org.

I encourage every one of our members to attend an event that interests them to take advantage of this new partnership.

November Member Mixer – Nov. 11, 5 to 7 p.m.

LaFontaine Ford
5103 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI

December Member Mixer – Dec. 9, 5 to 7 p.m.

Knapp's Centre
300 S. Washington Square
Lansing, MI

For more information, visit: www.lansingchamber.org.



Nick Horstman
Individual Development Director
nhorstma@msufcu.org

SHOUT OUTS!

Jason, you and your morals ... ~Clock

Eric: Was that shots fired or just a floor mat?
~Carrie

Dawn, Charlie, Angela and Lauren - thank you for your help, patience and support in reviewing the Constitution and Bylaws! ~Carrie

Charlie, where's the Turkeyman? ~Clock

MSU Concessions Crew: Thank you to all who have worked concessions so far! I hope you have had fun! ~Carrie

We handled that concession cart like a BOSS, Ilona!
~Clock

Community Report

Get Involved to Help Your Community

Our community activities are going to amp up for the remainder of the year! This month, we will need some fantastic individuals to volunteer at Trick or Treat on the Square on Monday, Oct. 27 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The Lansing Jaycees will be face painting for kids at this free event! We'll also have candy for the kids!

We've also started planning our holiday event, Stuff the Bus! This event includes our chapter adopting families in need for the holidays. We partner with the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) and put a small bus in front of a local store for a day, asking patrons to consider donating an item to our families. It's a great event and we need your help! Would you be interested in co-chairing? Being on the committee? Send me an email!

We'll also be planning at least one opportunity this year to make dinner at the Ronald McDonald House! This event is coming back by popular demand, so stay tuned for information!

Also remember that we're collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House to go toward their fundraising efforts. Our goal is to collect 5 pounds for them!



Angela Clock

Community Development Director
fallingstar924@hotmail.com

Membership Report

Dia de Los Muerotos - Painting with a Twist

If you have been paying attention to social media, painting parties are a new trend in entertainment. The premise is this: an aspiring artist will conduct a class and teach the attendees how to paint a simple and fun painting; everyone paints the same basic image and gets to keep their work. The twist is this: the attendees get to bring in drinks and food and get to play games during the two hour class!

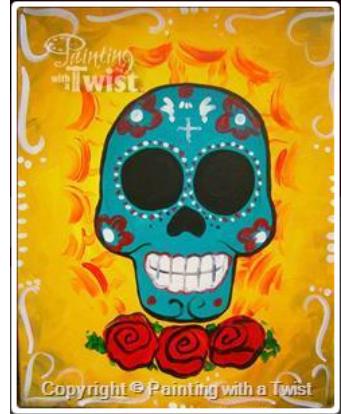
Speaking from experience this is a great time no matter what your skill level. So, in lead up to our Dia de Los Muertos Beer Bus, we are having a Dia de Los Muertos painting party at Painting with a Twist in Frandor (<http://www.paintingwithatwist.com/lansing/>). This is a private party scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 26. We have the room starting at 12:30 p.m. for our 'happy half hour' and painting begins promptly at 1 p.m. (don't worry - you can keep your drinks with you when you paint, just don't rinse your brush in your drink). We will be done painting at 3 p.m.

The cost of the class is \$35 and includes the instruction and all materials needed (easel, canvas, paint, brushes), and you get to keep your finished work. All guests have to be pre-registered by Oct. 22 at midnight. We have selected a painting of a Dia de Los Muertos skull for this event.

To sign up for the class follow this link: <http://www.paintingwithatwist.com/events/viewEvent.aspx?eventID=296751>, the registration password is "ROOT". We need to have a minimum of 10 people attend this event, so feel free to invite guests, but because it is a private party they will have to register using the above link and password as well.

Please note that alcohol is limited to beer and wine, no hard liquor is allowed and unfortunately the site cannot accommodate observers or infants at the event. If you have questions about the event or would like to bring food for the 'happy half hour' and breaks, please contact Karin Root at kmroot8@gmail.com.

Submitted by Karin Root



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
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
Website: www.RobertDowding.com
Blog: 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
Website: 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.ericsheppardlaw.com

Want to see your business featured?
Contact Lauren Leeds at: lleeds823@gmail.com