

Capitol Correspondent



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber of Commerce ● December 2008

Lansing Jaycees
PO Box 16150
Lansing, MI 48901

www.lansingjaycees.org

Region D
Population Division 7
Base Membership: 53

4th QUARTER HIGHLIGHT: FALL FUN FESTIVAL



Making treat bags

The Lansing Jaycees ran a very successful project in October – the First Annual Fall Fun Fest! The event was held on October 30 at the General Motors Lansing Delta Township Habitat. It was a free event for the community and the goal was to provide a safe environment for a Halloween Celebration.



Young kids line up for costume contest

Fall Fun Fest featured a trick-or-treat trail through the woods. Children were able to stop at 45 treat locations staffed by the students in the MSU Air Force ROTC program, and pick up treats including Detroit Tigers swag, toys and games, and candy. Thanks to a very generous donation by Bake N' Cakes, we conducted a Cupcake Walk and passed out 100 cupcakes! Alex Briseno and Angela Clock spearheaded the activities in the craft tent that included a coloring table, treat bag decorating station and pumpkin decorating. Amy Miller spearheaded the Slime and Sensory Overload tables, while Colleen Burton coordinated the costume contest, judged by Michigan Jaycees State Board Member Amy Fenner, radio personality Josh Strickland, and Cadet Wing Commander Thackaberry. We even had some visitors from Woldumar Nature Center – a painted turtle and some salamanders!



Trail volunteer "spooked"

Over 125 children participated in the event – truly a success! Special thanks go to committee members Bridget Burnell for coordinating the location arrangements and Celestina Luna for coordinating volunteers from the ROTC.

Carrie May – Fall Fun Festival Chairperson; carriemay@aol.com



Fun for kids big & small!



What's Fall Fun without carved pumpkins?



Older kids gather for costume judging

Lansing Jaycees

December 2008

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. (dinner from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) at Tripper's Bar and Grill in Frandor. Visit our website, www.lansingjaycees.org for more information.



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2008 Board of Directors

The Board meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month, 5:30 PM at the Jaycees Service Center

President

- Sheryl Soczek 517-862-6376

Chair of the Board

- Amy Miller 517-525-0129

Board Members

- Alexandra Briseno 517-974-0965
 - *Management VP*
- Angela Clock 517-410-9527
 - *Membership VP*
- Bridget Burnell 989-737-9685
 - *Secretary*
- Carrie May 248-756-3840
 - *Treasurer & Chaplain*
- Colleen Burton 517-281-6049
 - *Community VP*
- Michael Castelein 517-242-1050
 - *VP At Large*
- Michael Spaulding 517-490-8628
 - *Individual Development VP*

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! Every first Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 PM



Presidents Report

December 4, 2008

Happy Holiday's to you all!

Wow...what can I say, the year is almost over. We have accomplished many great things this year and are ending the year strong! Thank you to everyone for your hard work and dedication to the Lansing Jaycees.

We have had a very exciting last few months and some new projects this fall that turned out better than we all could have hoped. The Fall Fun Fest was a hit both with our members and over 100 children that attended. It was cold, but several people helped out the local Food Bank collecting food during an MSU Football Game in November. It was great to see the enthusiasm that everyone had for these new events and planning and participating in them.

As I look over the letter to you all I wrote back in February, I get a chance to review our goals for 2008. I am proud to say many of them did take place.

Topping the list was to start a Mentorship Program, although we did not implement this 100% yet, we did have members of the Board start to mentor others during projects this year, acting as co-chairs to those that wished to have some help.

Our membership did not grow as we expected this year, but those members we did gain are strong and I couldn't have asked for anything more.

We did it, the Constitution and By Laws were finally updated and we should be current for at least another few years. For those of you that didn't know, this was a very tedious project taken on by myself, Angela Clock, Angela Fossi and Colleen Burton. Countless hours were spent translating each document and bringing it into the present. This is a great accomplishment for the chapter as it has been the goal of several Presidents to get these revised. Way to go team!

I encourage each of you to check out our Archives area of the website and look over our Chapter Plan for 2008; it has been revised for each quarter and will be revised in January for our 4th quarter of 2008. Those documents will show you everything we accomplished this year and how our goals changed throughout.

I would like to give a special thank you to the 2008 Board of Directors for all of their hard work over the last 12 months. Our chapter wouldn't be where it is today without each and every one of you.

Happy Holidays!

Sheryl A. Soczek
80th President
soczek@mail.hfs.msu.edu
517-862-6376



Membership

A Message from the Membership VP

Sharing the Jaycee experience...

We all joined the Jaycees for different reasons. Some of us joined to meet new people. Others joined in order to get more involved in the community. And even others joined to develop in some way or another – personally, professionally, spiritually.

Whatever your reason was for joining the Jaycees, SHARE it with someone you know. It might be a neighbor, a friend, a co-worker. Have them come out to an event with you. You have the power to share the Jaycee experience with people you know – it can impact them as much as it has impacted you.

By sharing the Jaycees with others, we're helping to build a stronger community, make lasting friendships, and help people become tomorrow's leaders. Whatever the reason you joined – SHARE IT!

I hope everyone has a fantastic holiday season,
and a happy new year!

Angela Clock - 2008 Membership VP
fallingstar924@hotmail.com
517-410-9527



More Fall Fun!!

The Lansing Jaycees had some time to enjoy a few other activities this fall beyond the Fun Fest! Several members visited Uncle John's Cider Mill for some taste testing, pumpkin shopping, and excellent fall weather (*pictured right*). A few members made it out to some nearby haunted houses for some spooking action. And of course, there was the Halloween Pub Crawl where members dressed up and let loose around west Lansing!



S. Nees, A. Fossi, A. Amirahmadi, C. Burton & F. White at U. John's Cider Mill pumpkin patch

Lansing Jaycees



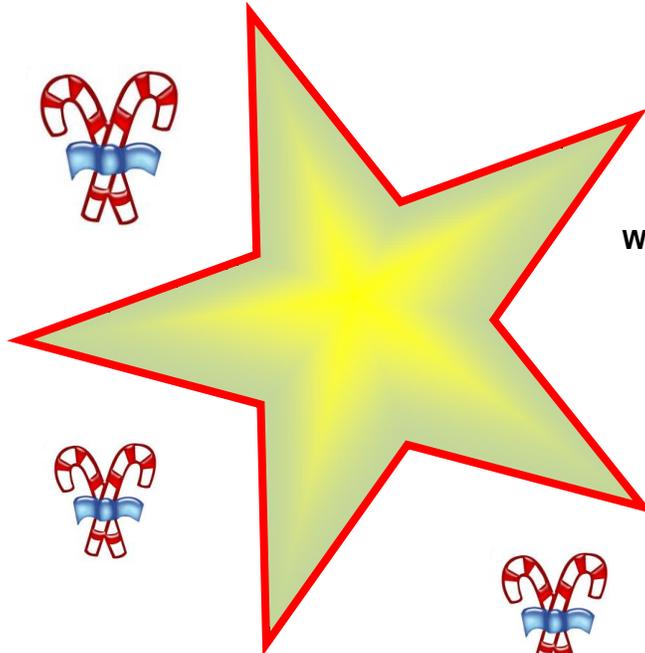
B. Burnell, A. Clock, A. Briseno enjoy an Irish Feast



W. Hutchison enjoys a family outing at the mill



C. Burton serves up some cider



A. Ribby & C. Luna are cats on attack



C. May, A. Clock, A. Miller represent Lansing (w. K. Brown)



Seen in Action



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Michael Ciranna

Occupation: Account Manager for Work Squared

Relationship Status: In a Relationship

Dream Job: Not to work and get paid for it! Haha

Favorite Movie: Out Cold

Dream Vacation: Heli-boarding in Alaska

How I spend my spare time: What is this thing you call "spare time"?

What I'd like to know about the future: Will I marry Scarlett Johansson? Pretty please?

If money were no object, what I would want for a holiday gift this year is: An Audi RS6 or enough money to buy an Audi RS6

Why I joined the Jaycees: After graduating from MSU, I wanted to meet people in the greater Lansing area that were NOT in college. Also I do enjoy giving back to community



Welcome New Members!

*Tamara Ferguson Julie Monroy
Jimmy Nguyen Al Puzzuoli
Robert Dowding Dan Klos*



Most Active Member 4th Quarter



Angela Fossi
For 3 Consecutive
Quarters!

*Board Members not Included...
(good thing she's joined
the 2009 Board!!)*

Thanks Angela!!

4th Quarter Member Awards Presented to:

Chairperson Awards:

Anne Ribby & Bridget Burnell (Road Rally), Angela Clock (Dinner & a Movie),
Carrie May (Fall Fun Festival)

Member Awards:

Alexandra Briseno. Arva Amirahmadi. Celestina Luna

Who should be featured in the next Lansing Jaycees Member Spotlight?
Submit your recommendations to Angela Fossi at kitispart@gmail.com

A Message from the Community VP

We have (and had) some great events happening in the community area this quarter. The Fall Fun Fest was a big success, you can read more about it in this newsletter. However, from a more personal perspective, I can say I enjoyed it very much. All the kids (and adults, including volunteers) were so cute in their costumes! And they all love Halloween so much, it's infectious. The activities all seemed to go really well, and I had to chuckle every time I heard the cadets say 'ma'am', yes ma'am, ma'am what do you want me to do' to our own Celestina. This is of course coming from a non-military person, it's just so formal and foreign to me.

We also helped out with a very successful food drive at MSU tailgating for the last home game. It was a cold, early morning for us, but it was rewarding. The officials at the particular truck my group brought the donations back to told us they had more in that one spot alone than they had as a whole in 2007. And those tailgaters are so friendly, even if they don't have anything to give!

Our next big event is Stuff the Bus. It is again being held at the Eastwood Towne Centre Wal-Mart. The event will take place December 13 (that's THIS Saturday!) and we need all the help we can get! At this event we solicit donations, gifts and monetary, for local families we adopt through the Salvation Army. If we get enough for the families and still have time left in the day (the event runs 8-8) we will be soliciting for goods that many of the local shelters need desperately. This event has been successful in the past 3 years, and we hope to continue that tradition in spite of the tough economic situation this year.

I would like to thank everyone for all the help and time they've given me and the community area of our chapter this past year. I will be stepping down in 2009, and the very capable Alex Briseno will be taking over as Community Vice President. I know many of you joined or are interested in the Jaycees because of our commitment to and involvement in the community, and I encourage each and every one of you to volunteer for at least one community aimed event in the next year. I hope to see you all at STB Saturday!

***Share your Community Service Project Idea
with Colleen Burton – Community VP!***

Colleen Burton
2008 Community VP
colleen713@yahoo.com
517-281-6049



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE EVERYWHERE!

Look for Volunteer Opportunity Highlights in each issue of the Capitol Correspondent
There's something out there for everyone!

December Volunteer Opportunity Highlight **Haven House**

Haven House has provided temporary shelter for homeless families since 1983, including basic needs such as shelter, food and clothing. There are also programs at their shelter to help the families in the future, such as learning how to set and achieve goals, training & education.

Recently, funding for Haven House has become a significant challenge due to the troubled economy.

In addition to cutting cost and seeking funding, Haven House needs volunteers to keep the day to day business running. Volunteer contributions include office help, moving residents, providing children's activities, cooking, cleaning, and much more!

If you would like to volunteer at Haven House, visit http://www.havenhouseel.org/get_involved.php and download an application. To make a tax deductible donation to Haven House, send your contribution payable to Haven House, PO Box 961, East Lansing, MI 48826-0961

Counting for the Birds!

It's time for the annual Christmas Bird Count! Never heard of it? Prior to the turn of the century, people engaged in a holiday tradition known as the Christmas "Side Hunt": They would choose sides and go afield with their guns; whoever brought in the biggest pile of feathered (and furred) quarry won.

Conservation was in its beginning stages around the turn of the 20th century, and many observers and scientists were becoming concerned about declining bird populations. Beginning on Christmas Day 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman, an early officer in the then budding Audubon Society, proposed a new holiday tradition-a "Christmas Bird Census"-that would count birds in the holidays rather than hunt them.

So began the Christmas Bird Count. Thanks to the inspiration of Frank M. Chapman and the enthusiasm of twenty-seven dedicated birders, twenty-five Christmas Bird Counts were held that day. The locations ranged from Toronto, Ontario to Pacific Grove, California with most counts in or near the population centers of northeastern North America. Those original 27 Christmas Bird Counters tallied a total of 90 species on all the counts combined.

<http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/history.html>

Get Involved in the 109th Christmas Count!

Contact the Michigan Audubon Society if you'd like to set up a bird count or help with one already scheduled:

Nearby counts already planned this year include:

12/14/08 - Clinton

12/20/08 - East Lansing

12/21/08 - Mount Pleasant

12/27/08 - Kalamazoo

1/3/09 - Bay City

1/3/09 - Grand Rapids

<http://www.michiganaudubon.org/cbc.html>



HAPPY 150TH Lansing!



On February 15, 1859, the City of Lansing was incorporated, and in 2009 Lansing will be having a year-long celebration. For more on the history of Lansing, please visit www.Lansing150.com. By the request of the Mayor and the City Council, the Rotary Club of Lansing has taken a leadership role in planning and coordinating the many birthday celebrations that will take place throughout 2009.

There are five Signature Events that are being planned for the year-long celebration:

Lansing 150 Celebration of Incorporation (February 15th)

Lansing 150 Parade of the Decades (May 16th)

Lansing 150 Rocks (July 5th)

Lansing150 Labor of Love Festival (September 4th-6th)

Lansing 150 Grand Finale (November 22nd)

PLEASE remember all of these events are in the early planning stages. Dates and activities have not been confirmed as of the publication date of this newspaper.

There are many ways you can help to make this a great celebration of Lansing's 150th. One way is to volunteer for any or all of the Signature Events. Please go to www.Lansing150.com and click on the volunteer icon. Volunteering can range from assisting at the actual event to being a project manager, which means you are a part of the planning committee. If you have ideas for other ways you can volunteer, please contact the office at 517-908-0185 or at www.Lansing150.com. Another way you can help is to donate money personally or ask your company to be a sponsor of one or more events. Please contact the Lansing 150 office to submit donations. A third way you can assist is to let the Lansing 150 office know about any historical or other information you have about Lansing in the last 150 years. They are looking for any and all items they can get. A fourth way is to spread the word to your family and friends about the wonderful and exciting events that are going happen in Lansing in 2009.

Keep watching www.Lansing150.com for updates on the events. The web site is being updated regularly. As the events get closer, there will be a multimedia blitz so that everyone will know that Lansing is 150 years old and proud of it. If Disney can have the year of a million dreams, why can't Lansing have a year long birthday celebration?

If you have any questions, or have information for the committee, please contact the Lansing 150 office at info@Lansing150.com or call them at 517-908-0185.

Written by Denise Kelley, with permission from Lansing 150

Let's Celebrate!

Individual Development

A Message from the Individual Development VP

Sorry – No Message This Quarter.



Mike Spaulding
2008 Individual Development VP
navy_1_01@yahoo.com
517-490-8628

*Have a new activity you want to try
- or something you want to learn
more about? Maybe some of our
other Jaycees members do too!!
Contact Mike Spaulding - ID VP
with your idea and lets all get
involved!*

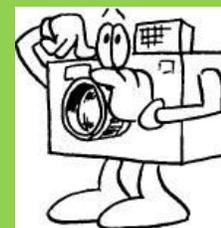
Try traveling “GREEN” for the Holidays!

How to Reduce Your Waste on the Road

Before You Leave

With a little planning and a few simple changes to your habits, you can make a big difference when traveling.

- Stop your newspaper subscription while you're away. Some newspapers will let you donate these papers to a school or other group. Check with your newspaper publisher.
- Use electronic tickets whenever possible for plane, train, boat, and bus trips. They generate less waste and cost less to replace.
- When planning a road trip, make sure your vehicle is “road-ready” to improve fuel efficiency, prevent pollution, and save money. Make sure your engine is properly tuned and your tires are properly inflated. If you change your own motor oil, be sure to recycle it at any “quick lube” shop, gas station, or auto parts store that accepts used oil for recycling.
- When booking your guestroom, campsite, or meeting location, consider locations within walking distance of planned outings or that are easily accessible to public transportation.
- If you have one, remember to take your own camera, so that you don't have to rely on a disposable one. To reduce packaging waste, try to use film with more exposures since 12-exposure film uses the same amount of packaging as 36-exposure film, or use digital!
- “Down-size” your toiletry items for travel by reusing and refilling small bottles and jars you already have with products you already have, such as mouthwash, shampoo, or other necessities.



Continued on next page...

Individual Development

How to Reduce Your Waste on the Road continued...

Hotel Tips

Many hotels have waste reduction and energy conservation plans. Book your trip with one that does. Otherwise, try these easy things to help hotels reduce waste.

- Participate in the hotel's recycling program. If they don't have a recycling program, ask them to start one.
- Let the hotel know that it's not necessary to change your sheets and towels every day.
- If the hotel provides a complimentary newspaper, or if you buy your own, ask the hotel to see that it's recycled.
- When you're out of your room, turn off the lights, radio, TV, computer, and other electric devices, and adjust the air conditioner and the heat to use less energy.
- On cold nights, draw curtains to keep heat in the room, and similarly on hot days, draw curtains to keep the heat out of the room.
- Take partially used shampoo, soap, and other complimentary hotel items with you when you check out; leave unopened items in the room.
- If available, use the hotel's electronic check-out program on the television or over the telephone to reduce paper waste.



Sightseeing, Outings, and Dining

Dining brochures, food, and packaging account for most of a traveler's trash. By taking some simple steps, you can eliminate or reduce this kind of waste, as well as cut down on other types of pollution.

- Plan sightseeing activities where you can use public transportation or the hotel van, or walk, bike, or rideshare.
 - Don't litter. Carry your trash with you until find a waste container.
 - Buy recyclable products for your trip, or as souvenirs. Be sure to recycle them when you're finished using them.
 - Dine at "eat-in" restaurants and hotel dining rooms whenever possible to decrease the number of disposable items associated with meals.
 - When eating at carry out restaurants, take only the condiments, napkins, and utensils you need. Try skipping a straw altogether, or declining a bag when you don't need one.
- Take reusable plates and flatware on picnics.
- Clean up after picnics and other outings. Dispose of all waste in trash receptacles to pre-vent debris—especially plastic—from accidentally fouling the land, the water, or harming wildlife.



Individual Development

Managing Your Money... Financial Tips for Consumers

In these trying financial times, I thought it would be nice to offer some advice to those in need. I should tell you that I am not a financial advisor. These are tried and true methods to saving money. If you have any questions or would like to discuss one of these points further, please email me.

Thanks.

Troy Steere, Jaycee member since 4/1/2000

Troy-steph@juno.com

#1 It's hard to save money when you don't know how much you are spending.

Keep track of where you are spending your money. Either writing down on paper, use Excel or better yet, use a program like Quicken that helps you create categories and reports that will show you where you are spending your money. Create categories like: groceries, fast food, cell phone, Cable TV, etc. Make sure you capture every penny you spend because those pennies can add up. At the end of a month you'll total everything up and see where you should cut back. You might also find that you need to spend more on groceries and less on fast food.

Continued on next page...

Road map to self-development

- 1) Start Now!
- 2) Write down what you want to achieve
- 3) Learn from others
- 4) Embrace Change
- 5) Take Responsibility
- 6) Recognize your worth
- 7) Think about resolutions
- 8) Challenge, not strain
- 9) Accept some weaknesses
- 10) Keep at it



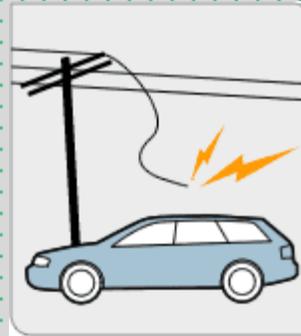
Chaplain's Message

Carrie May,
Lansing Jaycees Chaplain
carriemay@aol.com
248-756-3840



Safety Tips:

Friendly reminders to be safe...



Do not drive a station wagon if a power pole is protruding from the hood.



If you are sprayed with an unknown substance, stand and think about a cool design for a new tattoo.

(<http://www.debv.com/humorsigns.htm>)

Seriously, though, please be safe always, and especially during the holidays. Make sure to get plenty of rest, keep up your exercise routine, and if you're drinking alcoholic beverages, have a designated driver. We want to see you all in 2009!

To Stimulate the Transportation Sector...

Did You Know? More people are killed annually by donkeys than die in air crashes. So feel free to hop on a plane instead of a donkey!

Financial Advice Continued...



#2 Gas cards: 5% or 5 cents off per gallon, which is better?

I did the math on this with multiple different scenarios, it's no contest 5% off is better.

For example: if you bought 100 gallons of gas at \$3.50

5 cents off per gallon will net you \$5.00

5% cash-back will net you \$17.50

Do **not** get a gas card that gives you 5 cents back on every gallon of gas.

I suggest the Chase Rewards card that gives 5% cash-back on Gas, groceries and pharmacies. They also have other plans that pay you back 5% on the top 3 types of purchases that you have each month. (www.chase.com)

#3 Cash-back Credit cards are your best friends.

I know that some people have had bad dealings with credit cards or can't contain themselves and spend more than they should. But if you can pay your credit cards off every month and not carry a balance, then the cash-back credit card is your best friend.

My wife and I pay for everything with a credit card. I don't care if it's \$1 or \$100, I'll charge it if I can. This year we will get more than \$600 cash back from our credit cards. That's a lot of money for doing nothing, but buying the items that you already knew you would.

For those of you shopaholics, who don't have the self control to master the power of the credit card, I still suggest you have a credit card to pay for your utilities. Charge your trash bill, electric bill, water, phone, cable bill, car insurance, house/rental insurance, the things that you have to pay for to survive. This can still net you a couple hundred dollars a year in cash-back rewards.

My favorite credit cards:

I suggest that everyone have 2 credit cards: a 5% Gas and Groceries card and a Discover card. The Discover card automatically gives you 1% cash-back. But Discover also offers something new every month to give you 5% cash-back. They have given 5% back on hotels, rental cars, restaurants, book stores, pet stores, movie theatres and a host of other places. (www.discovercard.com)

#4 Have some credit card debt and need to get rid of it?

If you currently have a credit card and are carrying a balance with finance charges you need to stop it now. Credit card interest rates are higher than just about every type of loan. You are better off getting a home equity loan or for another option, get a 0% credit card. There are lots of companies right now that are offering 0% credit cards on balance transfers and some even have it on new purchases for a year at a time. Depending on the company, some do not have a transfer fee and some will have a 3% fee. Even if you transfer your balance with a 3% fee, that is still a lot better than the 12-18% per month that you are currently paying. Get a 0% charge card, transfer your current balance and pay down that debt. (www.mycapitalonecard.com, also check out www.chase.com)



A Message from the Management VP

As the 2008 draws to a close, I wanted to recap on some of the programs and events that fell under the Management wing and how they affected the chapter:

Texas Hold'em Tournament

The four events we held helped to raise money that the chapter uses for community events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Children's Shopping Spree, Fun Fall Fest and Stuff the Bus. The funds also allowed the chapter to support our softball team this summer and reduce the cost of our annual banquet for the members. We have our four dates in place for 2009, so we can continue that trend.

Bob Pancost Memorial Golf Outing

Bob Pancost was a long time supporter of the Lansing Jaycee Chapter. He served as our 50th President and was awarded a JCI Senatorship. Bob continued to support the chapter by sponsoring many events until his untimely death in November, 2007. The chapter held a four-man scramble golf tournament in June at the Highland Hills Golf Club in DeWitt, Michigan. Thirty-two people participated and profits made during the event will benefit future chapter community projects.

GRC Networking Event

The chapter sponsored the Grand River Connection's (GRC) monthly networking event in August at the Spartan Stadium-MSU Spartan Club. It gave the chapter exposure to a wider young adult audience and to gain new interest in our chapter.

Capital Correspondent Newsletter

I also wanted to give thanks to Bridget Burnell for taking on the task of creating and publishing the newsletter. A lot of work goes into our quarterly newsletter and it is another avenue for our members and other Jaycee chapters to learn about the great things we continue to do.

I have enjoyed being the 2008 Management Vice President and am looking forward to new tasks as the 2009 Community Vice President. Happy holidays to everyone and best wishes for 2009!

Alexandra Briseno
2008 Management VP
xandrab@hotmail.com
517-974-0965



Changes to the Constitution & Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Lansing Jaycees has recently been revised. If you haven't taken the time to review the Constitution/Bylaws, please take a few moments to do so now. You can find them at www.lansingjaycees.org by logging into the membership area and opening the File Archive. A brief summary of the main revisions is below.

- 1) Updated example projects
- 2) Allow for electronic proxy votes
- 3) Annual meetings to take place in November; members must be in good standing as of the last day of the prior month to be eligible to vote
- 4) Elected officers serve from January 1 thru December 31, which is the fiscal year
- 5) Elected officer terms are for 1 year

BE SURE TO ATTEND THE 2008 AWARDS BANQUET AND MEET YOUR 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Angela Clock
Chairman of the Board: Sheryl Soczek
Treasurer: Carrie May
Secretary: Bridget Burnell
Membership VP: Angela Fossi
Management VP: Jason Niekamp
Community VP: Alexandra Briseno
Individual Development VP: Arya Amirahmadi
Director: Mike Spaulding



The banquet is on January 17th at Coscarelli's

6:00 – 7:00 PM Reception

7:00 – 8:00 PM Dinner

8:00 – 9:30 PM Awards

We will also be exhausting three of our members this year:

Teresa Dittmer, Laura Vieth & Rina Risper

Banquet cost is \$15.00 per person. Don't forget up to \$10 of Jaycee Bucks for the raffle!

STATE CONVENTION AWARDS
Michigan Jaycees 3rd Quarter Convention – Midland MI
Lansing Jaycees:

- WEBSITE OF THE QUARTER
- SINGLE PROJECT AWARD – CHILDREN'S SHOPPING SPREE
 - SINGLE PROJECT AWARD – ROAD RALLY

**Happy
Holidays!**



**From your 2008
Board of Directors**



Sheryl Soczek
Amy Miller
Carrie May
Bridget Burnell
Mike Castelein
Colleen Burton
Alexandra Briseno
Mike Spaulding
Angela Clock

A note from the Capitol Correspondent Editor:

Thank you Q4 '08 Newsletter Submitters for your article and photo contributions!

T. Steere, S. Soczek, A. Clock, C. Burton, C. May, A. Briseno

ANYONE CAN BE AN AUTHOR!

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

Get Ready Membership!

Starting in 2009, you will again start receiving a monthly newsletter to help provide more timely information!

Bridget Burnell
(2008/2009 Lansing Jaycees Secretary)
989-737-9685 bridget.burnell@gm.com

Upcoming Events

Have you been out to see the Jaycees Bowling Teams Yet?

Every other Saturday at Royal Scot, 8:30 PM (12/13 is the next night!) – Contact Chairperson Angela Fossi for details at 586-484-7027 or ktispart@gmail.com

Also, Mark your calendar for...

Dec 12th – The last **Happy Hour** of the Year! Don't miss it! We'll be at Tavern on the Square, Downtown (Details = A. Clock – 517-410-9527)

Dec 13th – Come help collect toys, clothes and other Christmas Gifts at the annual **Stuff the Bus** event at Walmart in East Towne Center, in partnership with the Salvation Army (Details = C. Burton 517-281-6049)

Dec 16th – The **Book Club** will meet to discuss "The Daily Show and Philosophy" at Carrie May's House (Details = A. Clock – 517-410-9527)

Jan 6th – Join us for the monthly **General Membership Meeting** at Trippers in Frandor – 6-7 social hour; 7:00 Meeting (Details = A. Clock – 517-410-9527)

Jan 17th – Don't miss the **2008 Awards Banquet** at Coscarelli's on Cedar St. where we will exhaust 3 members, recognize 2008 accomplishments, and swear in the 2009 BOD! 6-7 Reception, 7-8 Dinner, 8-9:30 Awards (Details = S. Soczek – 517-862-6376)

And watch the Juice Weekly for other Events yet to be planned!

And in Lansing...

Holiday Road Rally!!!

Did you miss the Jaycees Road Rally? Or are you now an expert rallier?? Try out the Holiday Road Rally on Friday, December 12th! 4-6 member teams will meet at the Foster Community Center at 6:30 PM to start a hunt for predetermined items to photograph (so – yea... bring your digital camera!) Each picture earns the team points for prizes! Following the hunt, participants will have dinner at a local restaurant (included in event cost). Earn extra points by dressing in holiday attire!! Cost is \$75 per team. To register, contact the Lansing Parks and Recreation at 517-483-4233

Meijer Holiday Hoops Invitational

Support the Sparrow Foundation by attending the Holiday hoops games on Saturday, December 27th at the Breslin Center on MSU's campus. Six games will take place throughout the day, featuring select high school teams from around Michigan. The first game starts at 11:00 AM. General Admission is \$12 (children under 2 are free). For more information visit www.holidayhoops.org

Year End Convention – February 13-15, 2009 Big Rapids, MI
Sign up to attend or get more information by contacting Angela Clock
fallingstar924@hotmail.com

There are **TONS** of Holiday Events around Lansing and throughout the State – visit the Michigan Visitors Bureau online to find events near the town where you will be spending the holidays! Here's a little flavor...



Ice Sculpting Competition – Holland

Saturday, January 10th – For the first time, Downtown Holland and the National Ice Carving Association will host a competition in which 150 lb blocks of ice will be transformed into works of art!



Christmas at Crossroads Holiday Magic – Flint

Visit Crossroads Village in Flint as it sparkles with thousands of lights! A month-long holiday celebration is happening now! Visit 4PM – 9PM Thursday-Sunday. For information call 800-648-7275



Holiday Glow - Lapeer

Check out the artistic local talent from the Lapeer Art Association – the gallery and gift shop are full of décor, art, jewelry, wearables and more! Call 810-667-3632 for information.



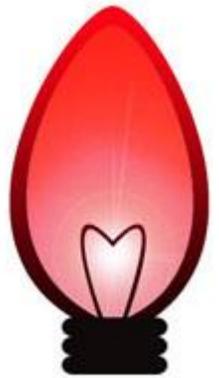
Woodward Wonderland – Detroit

December 12th – 14th visit the Detroit Institute of Arts for the annual production of *Woodward Wonderland: A Detroit Holiday Celebration...* holiday stories, Mosaic Singers and more!



Holidays in Henry Ford Museum – Dearborn

Come see the giant Christmas Tree decked with *American made* ornaments & vintage model train displays. Visit with Santa, make holiday keepsakes, and hear daily readings – call for details 800-835-5237



How big is a bottle?

Why did 3/4 liter (750ml) become the norm for most wine bottles, rather than a nice, round liter? Let's spend a few minutes tracing the long story of the wine bottle.

In ancient times, the Romans and others usually kept wine in clay pots. Glass blowing technology was known, but bottles were rare and expensive novelty items that may have been used for serving wine but rarely for storing it.



By the 1500s, glass bottles were fairly commonplace in commerce and in well-to-do households, but they were used only to tap a ration from a wooden wine barrel and bring it to the table, still not for storage. The bottle became an important part of wine only in the 17th Century, says Hugh Johnson in his "Vintage: The Story of Wine," when improving technology made it possible to produce bottles in a consistent size and shape that could be easily stored in quantity. Through the 18th Century, the standard wine-bottle shape stretched from a squat decanter-style flagon to a fat "pot" to, eventually, something close to the cylindrical bottle size we know today. Not coincidentally, the use of the natural cork stopper as a reasonably reliable way to close the bottle also developed about around this time.



Bottle sizes seemed to develop by a similar trial-and-error process. In England, the old-fashioned pint and quart sized were popular, perhaps by analogy to other bottled liquids. Most antique bottles, however, seem to fall into the range of 600 ml to 800 ml. Britain and the U.S. eventually legalized the "fifth" bottle - one-fifth of a gallon - as a standard size for wine and liquor, while Europe gravitated to the similar 750 ml size in the metric system, although with many variations such as 700 ml or 730 ml. Only as recently as the 1970s did most industrial nations standardize on the 750 ml size for consistency in importation and taxation, a move that saw Americans lose about 2/10 of an ounce from the standard bottle.

But all this begs a question: Why the specific "fifth" or 750ml size? Theories abound, but three in particular sound reasonable:

- This is the average capacity of a glass-blower's lungs, and thus the approximate size of a bottle created in one blow.
- A typical "fifth" bottle full of wine and corked weighs about 2 1/2 to 3 pounds, a convenient size to pack and carry while shopping.
- Perhaps most interesting, it's widely reported that the "fifth" size originated as proper ration for a grown man at a meal. Nowadays, a full bottle may seem more like enough for a couple, and then some. But in those times, everyday table wines may have contained 10 percent or 11 percent alcohol, making a larger ration at least slightly more reasonable than with today's "blockbusters."

Article Submitted by Sheryl Soczek

Happy Birthday!



4th Quarter!

Bridget Burnell – 10/11
Andy Miller – 10/19
Mike Spaulding – 10/25
Amy Miller – 10/28
Darin Beauregard – 10/28
Celestina Luna – 11/12
Sarah Reckhow – 11/19
Tamara Ferguson – 12/7
Carrie May - 12/12
Jeremy Jestila – 12/15
Jaimie Hutchison – 12/22
Robert Dowding – 12/23
Jimmy Nguyen – 12/25

December is:

The month with the shortest daylight hours of the year in the northern hemisphere; and it starts on the same day of the week as September!

Random Christmas Facts... maybe...

- 1) December is the most popular month for nose jobs.**
- 2) 1 in 3 men wait until Christmas eve to finish their shopping**
- 3) Americans eat 10 million turkeys over the Christmas period**
- 4) Apx. 400,000 people become sick each year from tainted Christmas leftovers**
- 5) 17% of us will embarrass ourselves in some way at a Christmas party**
- 6) The average American takes 6 months to pay off the holiday credit card bill**
- 7) A Mongolian wild ass can run 8 mph faster than a reindeer**
- 8) There are 1.76 billion candy canes produced each year**

Jaycee Business Directory

Pure Romance by Kim

There is something to be said about Pure Romance..... it's for everyone! We put the "O" back in Romance!

Bring the girls together for a birthday, bachelorette, suddenly single party or any special occasion. With Pure Romance you're always going to have fun, and you don't have to "fake" it to enjoy the party. Ladies, how would you like to rekindle that love affair or embrace yourself and your desires with that special someone in your life? Then call me now to get a free catalog or to book a party.

H: 517-980-0989

kdoug5@jcpenny.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

cvieth@viethconsulting.com

ClockRocks

One of a kind, handmade jewelry! Contact Angela Clock at for information or to see samples, or visit:

http://www.etsy.com/shop.php?user_id=5189064

H: 517-410-9527

Membership has its Benefits!

Enjoy a great selection of gourmet foods such as smoked salmon, fabulous desserts, and much more! Visit www.gourmetfoodfundraiser.com and select the USJC or type in Code 1127. Browse and order from the comfort of home and the USJC's will receive 40% of the purchase price!!

To find out how to take advantage of other Jaycees perks visit

http://www.mileyccees.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=36&Itemid=123