

Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber of Commerce ● January 2007

Lansing Jaycees
PO Box 16150
Lansing, MI 48901

(517) 853-8620
www.lansingjaycees.org

Region D
Population Division 7
Base Membership: 80

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 a map to the meeting location or call us at (517) 853-8620.



2007 Board of Directors

President

- Sheryl Soczek 517-664-1650

Chair of the Board

- Amy Miller 517-525-0129

Board Members

- Carrie May 248-756-3840
- Jamie Wilmoth 517-285-2571
- John Prush 517-699-8166
- Felicity White 517-490-0076
- Michael Castelein 517-242-1050
- Krik Mielke 850-339-7991
- Portia Dyrenforth 517-918-2786
- Michael Case 219-671-0064

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Presidents Report

Greetings and welcome to 2007!

I hope you all are as excited as I am to start off this New Year. 2007 will mark a year of growth for both the Jaycees and myself! I would first like to send out a thank you to the 2006 board for the great job you did leading our chapter. Your work will never go unappreciated! I would also like to send out a thank you to everyone on the 2007 board, by stepping up to lead our chapter, you are showing that you all are the leaders of tomorrow, today!

We had a board-planning meeting in December and I believe we are off to a great start. Along with the individual goals of each board member, we share some common goals. Top on our list is the formation of three standing committees: Membership, Public Relations and Fundraising.

Membership: We would like to not only see our membership grow; we would also like to see our current membership activated. We all joined for different reasons, one of our top goals is to find out what those reasons were and make sure those things are happening. However, this cannot happen without you. We need you to tell us what you would like to do. If you have an idea, great lets hear it. If you need help making that idea a reality, we are here for you too!

Public Relations: We want the Lansing Jaycees to become a household name. We need to advertise what we do, update our website, and get out there in the community. We want people to automatically know what we do and what we are about. We want others to become a part of us and they can't do that if they don't know who we are!

Fundraising: We would like some new fundraising ideas, we are looking to keep some and develop some new ideas too. We want to have fun with our fundraising, help us be innovative.

All three of these goals/committees connect with each other. With increased fundraising, we will be able to do more community service thus enhancing our public relations and drawing new membership.

I am hopeful that all of you will think about joining one or all three of these committees and help to leave your mark on our chapter. 2007 will be a great year, but it all starts with you!

Happy New Year,

Sheryl A. Soczek
79th President
Lansing Jaycees

Year End Banquet



SAVE THE DATE!

The 2006 Year End Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, January 20, 2007, at the Cadillac Club, 1115 S. Washington, Lansing, MI 48910.

Happy Hour begins at 5 p.m. followed by the banquet program and award commemoration at 6 p.m. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m.

Although we have no roosters aging out this year, there are plenty of accomplishments to celebrate! Hope to see you there.

General Membership Meeting

The January GMM will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2006 at Captain Joe's ~ Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 North East Street Lansing, MI. Please stay afterwards for the show at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$8. RSVP to Sheryl Soczek by January 3rd, so tables can be reserved.

Membership Information

January Birthdays

Stephanie Steere

January 21

October Renewals

Michelle Walk
Kathleen Hausbeck-Miller
John Prush
Jen Springer
Josh Springer

Upcoming Events

Carrie May will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on Friday, January 12, at 7 p.m. Bring \$5, quarters and beverages to her Canal Club apartment and have a great card playing time! Snacks will be provided. Carrie, any chance we'll get some of that awesome mostaccioli? Doubt it, but I know the card playing will be fun!

Super Bowl XLI is Sunday, February 4. Anybody want to host a football party? Let a board member know!

The Charlotte Jaycees will be hosting a Region D Meeting on January 20, at 12 p.m. (well before the annual banquet!) Please contact the Thomas Gooding, the Region D Director, to RSVP at 517-541-2978. The meeting will be held at their residence in Charlotte.

Just For Fun

THE TOP TEN LAMEST SUPERHEROES OF ALL TIME

By Sam Tweedle



#10. **Cypher** - Cypher (a.k.a. Doug Ramsey) was a member of the "New Mutants" which was an affiliate of the X-Men. They were the young mutants that were being trained by Professor X and the rest of the X-Men in the 1980s. Cypher's mutant ability was to basically decipher anything. You know, like languages and secret codes and stuff. Yup - that was it. He was pretty much a translator. Furthermore, he was just this little guy who didn't have any fighting skills. To put it bluntly, poor Cypher was worthless during battle. When it came to defeating Galactus he wasn't going to be much good, but if the X-Men's mansion's DVD player manual was only in Japanese, Cypher was your man. It's probably not any surprise to you that Cypher was killed off and never brought back. Yet, for some reason, he remains a fan favorite to this day.

#9. **The Red Bee** - Appearing in the 1940s in "Hit Comics #1" the Red Bee was basically your powerless vigilante type character. However ^{Logan} instead of wearing a cool costume like Batman or the Shadow, the Red Bee opted for a red pirate shirt with pink puffy sleeves and red and yellow striped tights. However, what made the Red Bee truly lame wasn't just his eyesore of a costume, but the fact that he fought crime with the aid of a trained bumble bee! That's right! You read it right! A trained bumble bee named Michael that lived in a compartment in the Red Bee's belt buckle. I'm serious! A frikkin' trained bumble bee... named Michael! So unless the Red Bee's villains were allergic to bee stings he wasn't much good. It may not surprise you that they also killed off the Red Bee in the pages of "All Star Squadron" but, again, the Red Bee remains to "bee" a fan favorite to this day.



8. **Brother Power the Geek** - In the late 1960s Captain America creator Joe Simon created Brother Power the Geek in the pages of "Brother Power the Geek #1". Brother Power was a mannequin that was hit by lightning and came to life with super strength and other limitless magical powers. Also, since he was a dummy you couldn't kill him or even really hurt him. Essentially Brother Power was more powerful than even Superman. I mean, in a fight between Superman and Brother Power, Brother Power could technically win considering that his powers were untapped and Superman can be harmed by magic. Anyways, Brother Power lived amongst the flower people and preached love and peace and fought against "the man" and "the establishment". Brother Power made an attempt to run for president, but was accidentally shot into space in the pages of "Brother Power the Geek #2". While that story was "to be continued" it wasn't completed for over thirty years. After two issues, Brother Power was cancelled, making it the fastest cancelled comic from a major publisher. Brother Power eventually made his return to earth in the 90's in a well-written story by Neil Gaiman in a "Swamp Thing" Annual. Once again, it may not be surprising that the two issues of "Brother Power the Geek" are cult favorites and very sought after books.

#7. **Matter Eater Lad** - Matter Eater Lad should at least get the award for the worst superhero name in comic history. Matter Eater Lad was a character from Legion of the Superheroes. Now in the 1960s the writers at DC comics were always looking for new and strange powers for their quickly growing cast of teenage futuristic heroes. However, though it seemed like they'd hit their all time low with Bouncing Boy, it turned out they could sink even lower with Matter Eater Lad. Get this - Matter Eater Lad's power was the ability to eat through any substance. Yup. The power of "super eating". It kind of worked like this: you needed to get through a steel door you got Matter Eater Lad to "eat" it. Dig? However Matter Eater Lad wasn't into cannibalism so he never actually chowed down on any bad guys. Mind you, I think cannibalism was against the comic code act back then.



#6. **Dogwelder** - Dogwelder was a character from Garth Ennis' "Hitman" series. Dogwelder was part of a superhero team known as Section Eight which was a band of these crazy guys that fought crime in rather inane ways. Dogwelder is my favorite of the bunch. He's this madman in a silver welder's outfit that basically just goes around welding stray dogs to villains' faces. That's it. That's how he fought crime. Welding dogs to people. Mind you it would be a bi*** of a thing to have happen to you. You try to rob a bank and you end up with a Lhasa Apso welded to your face, yapping for eternity. *shudder*

#5. **Arm Fall Off Boy** - Ah, that crazy Legion of Superheroes and their crazy writers! They'll let heroes with some of the stupidest powers into the Legion, but they pass up a great character like Arm Fall Off Boy. Arm Fall Off Boy is an oddity all his own because although he only made one appearance in a comic book ever (Secret Origins #46 [1989]), his appearance was so memorable that he has a cult following to this day. Arm Fall Off Boy made an appearance at a Legion of Superheroes recruitment drive where he displayed his "astounding" power to Saturn Girl, Lightning Lad and Cosmic Boy. His power? To detach his left arm from his body and use it as a club. Sadly, Arm Fall Off Boy was surprised when the Legion let him know that his talents weren't quite right for their organization. Arm Fall Off Boy sulked away into comic book oblivion, but was not forgotten. One only wonders how he felt when later on the Legion would accept Bouncing Boy and, well, Matter Eater Lad to their ranks.



#4. **Vibe** - The year was 1983. Break dancing was big. I mean really big, and being a fad that grew out of the Spanish American subculture all of America was embracing Spanish culture. Yup - Spanish Americans were a big thing. This was when Menudo was a sensation and Eric Estrada was a sex symbol. Anyhow, DC comics followed suit with their own break dancing Spanish superhero called Vibe. Vibe, a former Detroit gang leader left his West Side Story antics behind and moon walked his way into the Justice League and had fairly good powers (the power to create shockwaves - much like an earthquake) but spent most of his time hitting on women and dancing the night away. It should be no surprise that Vibe was also killed, and never brought back and actually has no cult following at all. Everybody just kind of likes to forget about him. Vibe is thought of today as the stain on the legacy of the Justice League.



#3. **The Legion of the Superpets** - In the late 1950s and the early 1960s DC just kind of got



weird. They kept introducing all these super intelligent animals with the same superpowers as Superman who all wore red capes. The first was Krypto the Superdog who was sent to earth by Superman's father Jor-El in a test rocket before he sent Superman to make sure it worked alright. Superman and Krypto were reunited on earth when Superman was a teenager and they fought crime together. Next was Beppo the Supermonkey. Beppo had pretty much the same story. Jor-El also sent a monkey to make sure the rocket would work. Everybody knows that comics need a chimp, so Beppo provided comic relief by wearing a Superman costume. The next was Streaky the Supercat. Now Streaky wasn't sent from Krypton in a rocket but was infected by white Kryptonite which gave earth animals superpowers.

Finally came Comet the Superhorse. Comet was an alien horse that was really a man who had a curse put on him by some scorned goddess (or something like that) and turned human once a year and romanced Supergirl, but the rest of the year was nothing but her pet horse (holy bestiality Batman!). Anyways, these animals eventually joined forces to become the Legion of the Superpets. I swear to god.



#2 - **Zan from the Wonder Twins** - Remember the Wonder Twins from the Superfriends cartoon? Zan and Jayna were these alien twins - Jayne could turn into an animal while Zan turned into a water element. So while Jayna could be a gorilla or a rhino or a cobra, Zan could become a bucket of water or an ice cube. To say the least, Zan wasn't much good when it came to saving the world. I mean what would have happened to Zan if he was faced with Doomsday? Get Doomsday wet? Yeah... sorry Zan, that's NOT going to stop him. However, if the Superfriends ever fought the Wicked Witch of the West, Zan would be your man. Unfortunately for Zan, the Wicked Witch of the West is not owned by DC comics.

and finally....

#1 - **Aqualad** - Now everybody likes to pick on Aquaman as being lame - but can you imagine being his sidekick? I take you now to a meeting of the Teen Titans...

Robin: Okay everybody - how was your week this week? This week Batman and I stopped the Joker from causing mass genocide! What did you do this week Speedy?

Speedy: This week Green Arrow and I shook down some crooked politicians, joined a peace rally, stopped some racist cops and fed the homeless some of Green Arrow's famous chili - how about you Donna?

Wonder Girl: Wow - me and Wonder Woman flew to Mount Olympus in her invisible jet and had a special meeting with Zeus and the other gods of Mount Olympus... how about you Aqualad?

Aqualad: Ummmm... me and Aquaman stopped some dolphins from going into a hydro dam!

Kid Flash: Wow - you suck Aqualad.

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January 1 – February 17, 2007 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 General Membership Meeting @ Comedy Club	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Euchre Party Carrie May	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Year End Banquet Cadillac Club
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	February 1	2	3
4 Super Bowl XLI	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

Jaycee Business Directory

Patrick Brazil - New York Life

My work involves offering insurance and other financial products to help people with their personal needs such as funding for college, retirement and IRA funding as well as mortgage protection and estate conservation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions and check out our incredible website.

W: 517-819-5433

pjbrazil@ft.newyorklife.com

www.patrickbrazil.com

Kim Lundberg - Real Estate Broker

13 years of matching buyers with homes and helping sellers move on. Specializing in personal service and always going the extra mile to make life easier for my clients. Buying a home can be fun or stressful. Increase your odds for fun by putting the right people in your corner. For more information view my website by clicking the link below.

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kimlundberg@briarwoodrealty.com

Website Design Services

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

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