



# LDA ALUMNI ZIPLINE

inspiring others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more.

## FEATURE ARTICLE: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Leadership Development Academy volunteers are in over EIGHTY community & civic organizations including American Red Cross to Junior Achievement to the Lion's Club.

We hold THIRTY TWO seats on local company and organizations board of directors.

We hold FIFTY-SIX seats on committees, coalitions and task forces for local government, school districts, companies and organizations.

We are the chairpersons/presidents for EIGHTEEN local companies, organizations, foundations and committees.

We hold THREE elected offices in government and on the school board.

We are associated with over THIRTY-FIVE business organizations.

We also coach softball and basketball for kids; participate in the Stateline Youth Sports Association; and are involved with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

### DID YOU KNOW...

**THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY ALUMNI ARE POSITIVELY IMPACTING THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY LIVE IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS? CHECK OUT OUR INVOLVEMENT BELOW:**

And we are represented at all levels of education in twenty-two different capacities from being a Wilson Elementary School volunteer to being a member of the Blackhawk Technical College Diversity Advancement Committee to being the UW - Rock County Foundation Board Vice President.

We also care about the community by their involvement with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Janesville Area Crimestoppers, active members of various church groups, Special Olympics, CAMDEN Playground committee, Hedberg Public Library, Rock County Older Adults Committee, Homeless Intervention Task Force, and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation to name just a few.

Recruitment for the 2008-09 class begins this summer. If you know someone who would make a good LDA candidate, please let Kelly Horrell know by calling (608) 756-3160 or emailing her at [kellyh@forwardjanesville.com](mailto:kellyh@forwardjanesville.com).

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# FAILURE TO MAKE A CONNECTION?

## COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS UPDATE ON WI-FI

The Janesville Wireless Advocacy Group (JWAG) is collaborating with the City of Beloit Wireless Committee to explore the possibility of wireless internet service in Rock County.

Wireless Fidelity (Wi-Fi) enables mobile commerce, increases public safety, and allows basic connectivity of consumer electronics such as computers and televisions without any cables.

The joint committee assessed the residential, educational, business and public service needs of the community and

then examined the business case for providing this service.

The committee sent out a request for qualifications to several service providers in the area and collected the responses for review.

The next step for the committee is to meet and analyze the responses provided by the interested vendors. The meeting is scheduled for March 26.

If you have questions or would like more information about the Janesville Wireless Advocacy Group or this project, please contact committee member Tim Lindau at (608) 755-8100.

## GRADUATION CELEBRATION IS NEAR!

Get ready for the next big LDA event! Please join this year's class in celebrating their graduation from the Academy on Thursday, May 8, from 5-7 pm at Best Events, 1741 Adel St. in Janesville. Join this year's class in celebrating their graduation and help launch the Alumni Association! Call Kelly Horrell at (608) 757-3160 to make a reservation for this fun event!

# LEADERSHIP TODAY



From the LDA Board Chair, Jon Wangerin

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

It is an exciting time to be a part of LDA! Many thanks to our sponsors, the LDA board, UW-Rock County, Forward Janesville, and most importantly, the commitments from all of you, the LDA is in it's fifth year of developing leaders for our community. We are also in our second year partnering with UW-Rock County as program facilitator and could not be happier. The energy and expertise that Diane Pillard and Stacy Randall bring to the Academy has allowed us to grow tremendously!

Collaborative project groups from each class are still active, working to better our community. This May, our fifth class will graduate, bringing the total number of LDA Alumni to over 100!

As an alum, you have shown the desire to better yourself and your community. The time is right for each of us to embrace that common goal through membership in the LDA Alumni Association.

This newsletter and upcoming speaker Jeff Russell are just the start of great things to come! Your membership in the Alumni Association will provide an opportunity to stay connected while continuing the LDA mission of working together to help make our community a great place to live, work, and raise a family. It will also provide opportunities for continuing education, and help sponsor scholarships for future LDA participants.

We will formally kick off the LDA Alumni Association at the Graduation Celebration on Thursday, May 8. I encourage each of you to attend and help celebrate this year's fellow LDA graduates' accomplishments, while reconnecting with your fellow Alumni. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

—Jon Wangerin



The 2007-08 LDA Class enjoys a moment at their retreat last fall.

## OUR FIRST LDA SPEAKER WORKSHOP: LEADING OTHERS

### LDA WELCOMES JEFF RUSSELL

The Leadership Development Academy has formed an Alumni Association and would like to invite you to the first speaker workshop.

Jeff Russell, co-director of Russell Consulting, Inc. (RCI) will be presenting a workshop on "Leading Others when you are not the Boss." He specializes in helping leaders build productive, supportive, and motivating work environments. He serves as an adjunct faculty member at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Green Bay. He is also on the teaching faculty of the UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee and UW-Green Bay Small Business Development Centers.

**Date: Thursday, March 20**

**Time: 1-5 pm**

**Location: Pontiac Convention Center, 2809 N. Pontiac Drive in Janesville**

**Cost: Free for LDA Alumni!**

Please make your reservation by emailing or calling Kelly at (608) 757-3160. Seating is limited so please call as soon as possible!

Jeff Russell, co-director of Russell Consulting, Inc. (RCI) with his wife Linda, specializes in helping leaders build productive, supportive, and motivating work environments. RCI helps companies develop their leadership and strengthen team performance to achieve their great performance goals and outcomes. By guiding the exploration of key values held in common by organizational members and developing strategies and actions to express these values-in-action, RCI helps organizations achieve their strategic vision.

Through processes that include "visioning" retreats, Future Search conferences, process redesigns, improving decision making processes, implementing quality improvement strategies, and providing a variety of skill-building seminars, RCI enhances long-term organizational effectiveness and performance.

Jeff consults with public and private organizations in the areas of: balanced scorecards/dashboards; customer and employee focus groups; developing leadership; employee job engagement surveys; employee retention programs; Future Search conferences; leading and implementing change; organizational design; self-managed teams; systems

thinking applications for business; team assessment and intervention; total quality management; training needs assessment; visioning and strategic planning; and training expertise.

Jeff conducts an array of leadership and team development seminars on such topics as: business process reengineering; decision making and problem solving; leadership and strategic thinking/planning; leading change; managing conflict and win/win negotiations; performance coaching skills; performance management; project management; team building

fundamentals; team leadership and facilitation skills; total quality tools and techniques; and train the trainer.

Before forming RCI, Jeff served as human resource coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Administration. There, Jeff developed and coordinated the employee

assistance, leadership and employee development, and equal employment opportunity/affirmative action programs.

Jeff is a sought-after speaker at state, national and international conferences. He and his wife Linda have co-authored a number of management books including Leading Change Training, Strategic Planning Training, Change Basics (ASTD Press, 2006), and Strategic Planning 101.

*"Jeff is a wonderful addition to the LDA curriculum."*

*We are really excited to be able to bring his message to all of our LDA alumni!"*

*Jon Wangerin, LDA Board Chair*

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: AMY LOASCHING



## 2007-08 LDA

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### Contact us at:

**(608) 757-3160**

Amy Loasching is a 2005 LDA graduate. She is married to husband David and shares a blended family with him that includes five children and four grandchildren. Janesville is her home town. She works for General Motors and was recently promoted to a Retirement Benefits Specialist position based out of Chicago, IL.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE LDA MEMORY?

The ropes course and how it helped us bond as a group. We still do the secret hand shake whenever my partner and I greet each other.

### WHAT DID THE LDA MEAN TO YOU?

It was a great opportunity to learn more about our community and how important it is to get involved. Alone we dream of a better tomorrow. Together we build a better tomorrow. LDA

showed me just how easy it is to create change when we all work together.

### HOW HAS LDA HELPED YOU?

I was a leader in my union and at my workplace, LDA helped me see how I could use those experiences to help better my community.

### IDENTIFY AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY ISSUE YOU WANT PEOPLE TO BE AWARE OF, AND HOW CAN PEOPLE HELP?

Increased homelessness and poverty in our community are very important. Volunteer at House of Mercy. Begin to understand the problem so you can talk about homelessness and how it affects our community. Often we stereotype the homeless when in fact many in our community live paycheck to paycheck and are on the edge of homelessness every day.



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