

MOMMY'S TIME OUT

Lakewood Ranch Mom's Group, Inc.

*The official newsletter of the Lakewood Ranch Moms Group, written by, for,
and about moms living in the Lakewood Ranch community.*



April 2014

2014-2015 Executive Board Positions Now Available

Please Contact Julie Ruffing if you are interested in volunteering for any of the following positions.

Administrative Vice President

Membership Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Growing Up Sale

Kids Outings

Moms/Couples Night Out

Newsletter Editor

Playgroup Coordinator

Preschool Picasso

Website Administrator

Welcome Coordinator



2013-2014 Executive Board

President	Julie Ruffing
Administrative Vice President	Victoria Cobb
Membership Vice President	Rebecca Gurski
Secretary	Becky Johnson
Treasurer	Michelle Dillingham
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Growing Up Sale	Michelle Dillingham
Kids Outings	Rebecca Murphy
Member Spotlight	Lauren Kelly
Moms/Couples Night Out	Candice Carr
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Newsletter Sponsor Liaison	Open
Playgroup Coordinator	Jenn Otterness
Preschool Picasso	Sarah Zabel
Public Relations	Melissa Rixon
School Ambassador	Lisa Albano
Sunshine Meals	Katie Bender
Website Administrator	Kristen Ranieri
Welcome Coordinator	Linda Tobiassen

Join the Fun!

Looking to be part of a fantastic group of Moms in Lakewood Ranch? Visit our website at www.lwrmomsgroup.com and start making friends and having fun!



A Message from Our President



Hi Moms,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Spring Break with family and friends!

We had our Moms Group meeting on April 9th at 7pm at The Ranch Grill. At the meeting we discussed the open positions that will start on July 1st. The open positions are listed in the newsletter. If you are interested in taking one of the positions or would like more information about a position please email me at grasshopper7707@yahoo.com. We also voted on a new logo for the LWR Moms Group. We will be finalizing that over the next month and adding color to it. The Spring Fling is coming up in June so make sure you check out the flyer for all the fun things that are planned for the event. Thank you to everyone that attended the meeting and for all your suggestions.

There are a lot of fun events coming up for the kids and the moms so make sure you are checking our Facebook page for all the details.

I hope everyone has a great Easter and I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events!

Cheers!

Julie Ruffing

You can't stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes."

~Winnie the Pooh~

A warm welcome to our newest members!

Please be sure to visit our website and Facebook Page for lots of fun events!

If you are interested in joining the Lakewood Ranch Mom's group, visit our website at: lwrmomsgroup.com and complete the *Become a Member* form.

New members are always welcome!

Little Ranchers Learning Center

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Lakewood Ranch



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STIMULATING. confident.
assertive. **PERSISTENT.**
INDEPENDENT.
extraordinarily EXCITING.

LWR Mom's Group

Apr 2014 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10am - March 30th	31 10am - Fire Station	1	2	3	4 2pm - Kids Outing	5
6 10am - LAST POLO	7	8	9 7pm - Moms Club	10	11	12
13	14	15 7pm - April Moms	16 4:30pm - Easter 5:30pm - PlayAway	17	18 10am - Fire Station	19
20	21	22	23 7pm - April Book	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

For more information on events, please visit our Facebook page, or link our Google Calendar at: www.lwrmomsgroup.com/calendar

LEADING-EDGE SURGICAL SERVICES at Lakewood Ranch

The Surgery Center at Lakewood Ranch Medical Center offers traditional and minimally invasive surgical services, delivered with high-quality care and respect for each individual patient. To ensure excellence in nursing care, a perioperative registered nurse is present in each operating room. Our hospital provides diagnostic and surgical procedures 24/7, to meet the needs of each patient.

Using the latest technology, surgeons at Lakewood Ranch use minimally invasive techniques for surgeries of the appendix, gallbladder, intestine, endometrium and other organs. Surgeries are performed through small, pencil-sized incisions, so patients can experience less pain, smaller scars and faster recoveries. LWRMC's surgical services include:

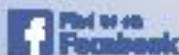
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cardiovascular surgery | Plastic and Reconstructive surgery |
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| Orthopedic surgery | Vascular surgery |
| Sports Medicine surgery | Weight-loss surgery |

For more information on
The Surgery Center at
our hospital, please call
941.782.2279.



Lakewood Ranch Medical Center

8330 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard
Bradenton, FL 34202
941.782.2100
www.lakewoodranchmedicalcenter.com



Physicians are on the medical staff of Lakewood Ranch Medical Center, but, with limited exceptions, are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Lakewood Ranch Medical Center. The hospital shall not be liable for actions or treatments provided by physicians.

Easter Craft: Stained Glass Easter Window



What you need:

thin white cardboard (A4 paper is also fine, just not as sturdy)
scissors
a scalpel
craft punches (optional)
cellophane sheets in different colors
glue
also required: a cutting mat or chopping board

Activity:

Step 1. Collect all the tools and supplies needed to make your stained glass Easter window decorations.

Step 2. Fold the cardboard over and cut out an Easter egg shape so you have two eggs exactly the same that are joined by a thin spine.

Step 3. Keeping the egg shapes folded, use the scalpel and craft punches to create various shapes that will be "colored" by the cellophane. If the scalpel doesn't cut through both sheets entirely, keep them together and use the first one as a stencil to cut through the second one. This part of the Easter craft is mum or dad only!

Step 4. Cut the cellophane into various shapes and sizes: strips, squares, circles, etc.

Step 5. Separate the two cardboard eggs by opening them out like you would a book and using the scissors to cut the joining spine (you may need to round the edges where the joined spine was so to get a proper egg shape). Set one aside and have your child apply glue on one side of the cardboard egg.

Step 6. Let your child stick on the colorful cellophane however they wish over the egg shape. Don't worry if the cellophane goes beyond the shape of the egg as you can fix that later.

Step 7. Now glue the other cardboard egg shape to the cellophane egg shape.

Step 8. Press both sheets together and smooth over with your hand.

Step 9. Trim around the outside of the stained glass egg, cutting off any excess cellophane. Hang with Blu-Tack or punch a hole in the top and hang from a curtain rod in front of a window with string or fishing line.

Have a cute saying that you would like to include in our next newsletter?

Send it to:

LWRNewsletter@yahoo.com.

School Happenings

General Manatee County Public School announcements:

- 1) Kindergarten round-ups are starting this month and continuing into May.
- 2) There is no Early release Wednesday scheduled for April. Elementary schools have an early release on April 4th @ 12:30pm because of the parent/teacher conferences scheduled throughout the week, and specifically into the evening on April 3rd.
- 3) April officially begins the testing period: 4/8 & 4/9- FCAT reading re-takes for HS, FCAT testing from 4/14-4/17- from 3rd-HS, FCAT testing 4/21-4/24- 5th-HS, EOC (End-of-Course exams) US History 4/28-5/2-HS. EOC'S scheduled throughout May as well for HS.
- 4) 4/18/14- Good Friday- no school.

Pre- school:

- 1) Jump Dance - 4/17- Easter party. 4/18 & 4/19- school and studio closed. Summer camp registration now available. 10 weekly sessions.
- 2) Little Ranchers- summer camp registration now available. 6 weekly sessions.
- 3) Kiddie Academy- 4/1-4/4- book fair. 4/6- school picnic @ Greenbrook park. 4/17- Easter egg hunt and special visitor. 4/18- school age camp open for Good Friday. 4/19- parent night out 6-10pm. 4/21-4/22- picture days. 4/22- parent committee mtg.
- 4) Kids R Kids- summer camp registration now available. 10 weekly sessions.
- 5) Primrose- 4/1-4/30- spring fling basket bazaar. Charitable fundraiser to benefit the Little People of America organization and Primrose Children's Foundation. There are 11 themed baskets. 4/29. Parent appreciation day.
- 6) Sprouts- summer camp registration available. 4 weekly sessions.

Elementary & Middle School (public and private)

- 1) Gullet: Nothing to report, other than the general announcements.
- 2) Imagine School of LWR- 4/4- early release is at 1:15pm instead of 12:30. 4/28-5/2- the school is holding a spring food drive. 5/2- early release 1:15pm.
- 3) McNeal- ** The walk-a-thon recently held raised \$8000, and 6, 987 laps were completed (about 1300 miles)! 4/7-4/11- the school is hosting a Bunny Hop Fun run /walk during the students' PE classes. Students, teachers and parents are LI encouraged to participate! 4/25- there is a Spirit Night at Crispers from 5-8pm.
- 4) Rowlett Magnet- 4/1- the school had its last RFS /SAC mtg. 4/4- last day of SSYRA. 4/10 & 4/11- Willie Wonka Jr., production- 6:30-7:30pm. 4/12- Odyssey of the Mind State Competition.
- 5) Sea Breeze- 4/3- science fair. 4/17- K field trip. 4/28-4/30- K-2- SAT10. 4/30-1st gr. field trip.
- 6) Wakeland- 4/4- PTO 8:30-10:30am. 4/24- PTO/SAC mtg 6:30pm.
- 7) Willis- K Round-up 4/8 from 9-12noon and 4-6pm. 4/8- All Pro Dad Breakfast, 7:30am. 4/11- PTO mtg @ 2pm. 4/11- movie night- 6:30.
- 8) Witt- nothing to report other than the general announcements.
- 9) Nolan: 4/28- SAC/PTO mtg 4-5:30pm.
- 10) Tabernacle Christian School- 4/4-4/11- book fair. 4/7-4/9- 6th gr trip. 4/15- spring pictures. 4/17- fun run. 4/18-4/21- Easter- no school. 4/24-4/25- 5th gr. Sea World trip.

High School & K-12:

- 1) LRHS- SAC mtg-4/24.
- 2) Cardinal Mooney- 4/4- faculty mtg- early release. 4/12- prom at the Polo Grill. 4/16- early dismissal. 4/17-4/1025- Easter break. 4/28- classed resume.

Event
Sponsor



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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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We pride ourselves in quality care, a clean and inviting facility and a warm and friendly staff. So that we may provide your pet with the very best in care, our office works by appointment.

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~ The Fox Family is a LWR Moms Group Family ~

~ We understand your pets are your family, that is why we treat them as if they were our own. ~

A list of life lessons I want to teach my children.

- Don't let a day go by without doing something for someone else. It's as easy as holding the door for someone. It makes them happy and makes you happy too.
- Invite the new kid to sit with you on the bus or eat with you at lunch.
- Be passionate about your job. You don't have to keep the same one the rest of your life, but like what you do.
- We all have to do the grunt work sometimes. It doesn't matter how educated you are or how much money you have.
- Be active in your own life. Don't let it pass you by.
- Dumb actions early in life can alter your ability to get the job you'd like in the future.
- Go on vacation with your family at least once a year. Families need to learn how to vacation with one another.
- Live without debt. Money problems ruin marriages, friendships, and jobs.
- Laugh! It's the best stress reliever.
- Give back to your community. While you're doing good for others, it really does the most for you!
- Try to use your time wisely. Too much free time is not productive.
- Life, love, and relationships are not like the movies.
- Wear Sunscreen. Trust me.
- Remember compliments you receive. Forget the insults.
- Using good manners and being respectful can help you land your dream job.
- Mental health days are good for the soul.



Mompreneur Spotlight

Kathleen Davis

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Work Smart Mompreneurs

We would like to update our website and include our Mompreneurs in our newsletters. Please email Kristen Ranieri at lwrnewsletter@yahoo.com to be included in the next newsletter. Please be sure to include your correct contact information.

Thank you Moms!

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Grasshopper7707@yahoo.com.

*All of our advertisers receive full color ads at
no additional charge.*

Mothers' Day... Short Story

For Mom, whom I love more than words can say or stories can tell.

Mothers' Day

The little girl sits at her desk, swinging her legs and chewing the eraser tip on her pencil, looking at the blank piece of paper before her. The assignment is to write a letter for Mother's Day, telling why the little girl loves her mother. She looks around the classroom for inspiration, then at what the classmate beside her has written. Finally, she leans over her paper, pokes her tongue out of the corner of her mouth in concentration and writes,

Dear Mom,

I love you because you are funney, and nice. I love you because you give good pushes on the swings. I love you because you help me to lern to cook macarony somtimes. I love you because you tried to help me lern to ride my bike, even wen you let go and I fall down. You are good at putting on bandaids and making me feel beter, to. Happy Mothers Day.

Satisfied, she takes out her pencil crayons and decorates the margins of the letter with colourful flowers. For the final touch, she draws a prize ribbon that says "BEST MOM."

Three days later, the little girl gets up very early, sneaks into her mom and dad's room, and leaves the letter and a small peat pot with a marigold sprig on Mom's night table so that she will be surprised when she gets up.

At breakfast time, the little girl gets a wet-eyed kiss from her mom, and hears, "thank you, honey."

Almost exactly ten years later, a girl sits at her desk in her bedroom, a blank piece of stationery before her. "Dear Mom," it says, and that's all it says. The teenager wants so much to write something special for her mother, but the words are all tangled. Tears start up and recede again and again. Tears of gratitude for the times when Mom came through with understanding or a hug at just the right moment; tears of anger when Mom said or did something unfair, or refused a special privilege that everyone else's mom was allowing. The gratitude wins out, and the girl starts by writing,

Dear Mom,

I know we don't always see eye to eye, but I just want to tell you that you are the best mom a girl could ask for. Thank you for bringing me into this world, and for listening and for...

Tears spill out of the girl's eyes onto the paper, and she crumples the splotted missive and tosses it in her trash can. After two more similar attempts, the girl rips the paper to shreds, dries her eyes, goes to the mall, and picks out a generic card. The best she can do.

Almost exactly fifteen years later, a woman is awakened by whispering at her bedside. She turns away from the little noises and cracks an eye open to look at the clock radio. 6:45 a.m. Her husband is grinning at her, so she rolls her eyes, and turns over to face her three children, who are armed to the teeth with homemade bead necklaces and cards, and hug coupon books. She makes a suitable fuss over everything thrust at her, and then gets up to make toast for her hungry two-year-old, who is demanding breakfast in a language that only a parent can understand.

That evening, the mother creeps into her children's rooms to kiss them as they sleep. As she looks upon them, she is hit with a wave of what can only be described as mother love, and she thinks, now I understand those wet-eyed kisses when I was seven. And I probably should have given my mom the letter I tried to write when I was seventeen.

ADVERTISE WITH THE LAKEWOOD RANCH MOMS GROUP

Below you will find a list of available ad sizes, along with the price and dimension of each ad They are:

- **Business card ad (full color) \$30.00/month 3.5" x 2.5"**
- **Quarter page ad (full color) \$50.00/month 3.75" x 4.875"**
- **Half page ad (full color) \$75.00/month 7.75" x 4.875"**
- **Full page ad (full color) \$100.00/month 7.75" x 9.75"**

(There is a 10% discount if you choose to pay for 1 year of advertising.)

All of our advertisers receive full color ads at no additional charge.

Event Sponsorship:

The following Moms Group events are available for sponsorship: The Spring Fling, The Luau, The Halloween Extravaganza, or The Sunday with Santa. There are different levels of sponsorship available and the details of each level are listed below. They are:

1. Platinum Sponsorship (\$600 minimum)

- Half page advertisement for 6 months in the monthly Lakewood Ranch Moms Group, Inc. newsletter (ad will print for 6 months after the event date). [\$450.00 value]
- If the sponsor wishes to do so, they may write an article for the LWR Moms Group newsletter. The article must be family friendly. The LWR Moms Group reserves the right to not use any article which is deemed not so.
- Recognition as a Platinum Sponsor on all promotional pieces and registration materials for the event (both on website and our monthly newsletter).
- Sponsor may provide a table and/or a banner at the event for increased exposure! Sponsor is also provided the opportunity to raffle a door prize. All materials and door prizes must be suitable for viewing by children whom attend all of our events.

2. Gold Sponsorship (\$350 minimum)

- Quarter page advertisement for 3 months in the monthly Lakewood Ranch Moms Group, Inc. newsletter (ad will print for 3 months after the event date). [\$150.00 value]
- If the sponsor wishes to do so, they may write an article for the LWR Moms Group newsletter. The article must be family friendly. The LWR Moms Group reserves the right to not use any article which is deemed not so.
- Recognition as a Gold Sponsor on all promotional pieces and registration materials for the event (both on website and our monthly newsletter).
- Sponsor may provide a table and/or a banner at the event for increased exposure. Sponsor is also provided the opportunity to raffle a door prize. All materials and door prizes must be suitable for viewing by children whom attend all of our events.

3. Silver Sponsorship (\$150 minimum)

- Quarter page advertisement for 2 months in the monthly Lakewood Ranch Moms Group, Inc. newsletter (ad will print for 2 months after the event date). [\$100.00 value]
- Recognition as a Silver Sponsor on all promotional pieces and registration materials for the event (both on website and our monthly newsletter).

4. Bronze Sponsorship (\$75 minimum)

- Business Card advertisement for 2 months in the monthly Lakewood Ranch Moms Group, Inc. newsletter (ad will print for 2 months after the event date). [\$60.00 value]
- Recognition as a Bronze Sponsor on all promotional pieces and registration materials for the event (both on website and our monthly newsletter).

Payment arrangements and newsletter ad artwork should be submitted in .jpeg or .pdf file format to Julie Ruffing at grasshopper7707@yahoo.com. Please make sure to specify the size of the ad when you email payment and the ad artwork. Ad submissions are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication. For example, materials for an ad placed in the August newsletter must be received by July 10th.

We look forward to working with you! If you have any questions, or need any further information, please feel free to contact Julie Ruffing at (941) 807-4359 or grasshopper7707@yahoo.com or the Newsletter Editor, Kristen Raniere at lwrnewsletter@yahoo.com.

April 2014

Looking for a Playgroup?

We are always happy to start new playgroups or help place you and your child in an existing group. Our playgroups are for children up to three years old. For more information please contact Jenn Otterness at jenn.otterness@gmail.com



Dinner Conversation: “Shane, my parents are coming over tomorrow to watch the kids.”
Braden (4 years old) “YOU have parents?!”



WWW.LWRMOMSGROUP.COM

**Lakewood Ranch
Mom's Group Inc.
8374 Market Street # 435
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202**