



The Ramrod



1919

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

2011-2012

Visit the: Elyria Rotary web site: <http://elvriarotary.org/index.shtml>

Don't miss this Month's Member Spotlight on Page 4!



January 24, 2012

By J.R. White

Well, the contenders for the Super Bowl are set and once again our beloved Browns will be watching the game from their living rooms, which I suppose means they have something in common with the average member of the Elyria Rotary Club. Granted, our living rooms are much smaller but we have all won the same amount of Super Bowls as the team, so there is that.

President Mark rang the bell at 12:20, calling today's meeting to order. He then led the group in singing Grand Old Flag followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. **Janet Long** gave today's invocation, in which she reminded us that even with the gray skies that are brought by winter, we must remember all the wonderful things around us.

Tim Donohue continued the weather theme by leading the club in singing "We've Got Rhythm". He noted that this winter's weather cannot seem to get a decent rhythm going and would be fired if it was the drummer for a band.

Jim Hunt, the steadfast and faithful Rotarian, brought a flag back from a Charleston, SC club, which he presented to President Mark. He shared

JANUARY 31, 2012

**Rita Campbell
Executive Director
Lorain County Red Cross**

Meet Rita Campbell, the new Executive Director of the American Red Cross Lorain County Chapter. And learn about what is happening at this local agency. She will be introduced by **Megan Flanigan**.

that the club served breakfast at the affordable rate of \$15.00 per meal. The club had 75 members. He lauded the Charleston area but encouraged members to stay away during the presidential primaries. Jim counted 17 campaign commercials during 30 minutes of the Today Show.

Nick Georgiandis from the Milan Club stopped by to tell us about the club's Constitutional Awareness Program. The program's goal is to teach school aged kids about the US Constitution and ensure they know its content. The Senior class of the local high school is presented with the opportunity to write an essay about how the US Constitution has affected them. The top three winners receive a \$400 scholarship. The program was featured in a local issue of the Rotarian. Since the Rotarian article, the Milan club has received positive response from

other clubs around the nation. They would like to expand the program to other clubs. It is nice to hear of the good work being done by other Rotary Clubs in the State of Ohio!



Don Boddy fined Don Sheldon at Rotary today for being "too powerful."

Announcements

Mayor Brinda will be with us on February 14th to talk about the future of Elyria. This will be a joint meeting with the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce. Tickets for prime rib lunch will be \$10.00. The sign-up sheet is at the back table at meetings. Plan to arrive early for this meeting as it is always well attended. Parking and seating will be at a premium.

Rotary clubs worldwide were challenged by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation to raise money to finally eradicate polio from the face of the Earth. The foundation pledged to donate \$350 million dollars if Rotary could raise \$200 million. Good news; we made it! Our club raised approximately \$6,000. Way to go ERC and Rotary International!

Boddy Mans the Jug

Don Boddy took up jug duties and promptly began lightening the wallets of members. Don's first victim was **John Nolan**. John was fined for a photo announcing his retirement from Lorain County JVS.

I'd pay a fine if it meant I got to retire. Congrats, John.

Joel Sinegar was fined because his daughter Ashley appeared in the meeting minutes for the Elyria City School District Board of Education. Apparently, Ashley has been hired by Elyria Schools. I am sure that Don is not such a schemer so as to hire Ashley in order to fine Joel. Then again, when one considers the glee with which Don goes about his fining, one has to wonder... Hmmm. **Don Sheldon** was the next victim, having been featured as one of NE Ohio's most powerful persons in the publication "Inside Business".

Janet Long was also fined due to a case of mistaken identity involving a different minister with the same surname. Boddy was apparently confused into thinking that Janet was a prosperity preacher who drives a \$350,000 Bentley Coup and owns a 6 bedroom, 9 bathroom mansion. Hey, Janet, can I take that thing for a ride?

Greg Kruska gave a happy dollar in commemoration of 50 years of marriage to his spouse, Susan. **Tim Donohue** gave a dollar in celebration of the birth of a grandson to his daughter Monica. It is her second son. **Sam Battle** gave a happy dollar in appreciation of the \$1,000 donation which was given to Second Harvest as part of the Interact food drive.

Alzheimer Awareness

The program was introduced by **Chris Green**, who announced Steffani Baker, Education and Outreach Specialist for the Cleveland Area Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Ms. Baker works out of the Akron office with a focus on Lorain County. She attended the meeting to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and the researches made available by the Alzheimer's Association. The Association offers respite care for caregivers who need a break, physical activity for those with dementia to try to reduce symptoms and a hotline affected people and their families can call at any time to receive information and/or be directed towards resources. The Association also provides support groups for affected people and their

families and strives to educate the public, healthcare providers and families about the disease.



Our speaker, Steffani Baker, was introduced by Chris Green.

SECRETARY'S REPORT **By Greg Kruszka**

January Board Meeting

December attendance 67.1 percent, December 31 membership was 119. Finances continue to be solid, with 2011-12 club event results favorable to budget. STAR is active with new members greeting at meetings. Vocational Service is considering ideas from a recent Rotarian magazine article. Grants and Scholarships will update forms and instructions on our website and communicate 2012 scholarships information to school principals and guidance counselors. The Board approved a \$1000 donation for a new roof on the pediatric cancer center in Honduras (Dr. Jeremy Watson, President of Amherst Rotary Club, spoke at our meeting Jan. 10).

MAKEUPS

Technology Committee meeting, January 24, **Kent Iler, Maggie Kelch, Dave Holland and Gary McIntyre**

ERC Board meeting, January 19, **Jim Backs, Chris Fichtner, Mike Gebhardt, Ken Glanc, Steve Hosler, Mike Jaworski, Maggie Kelch, Greg Kruszka, Mike Meecha, Joel Sinegar, Cheryl Steris, Mark Wagner, Debbie Warden.**

Committee Chairs – you and your committee members are eligible for makeup credit when you have a committee meeting. Send the list of attendees and the date of the meeting to Maggie Kelch for inclusion in the Ramrod at: (mkelch@rossenvironmental.com)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

2/7 - David Stull, Oberlin Music Conservatory, introduced by **Jeanine Donaldson**

2/14 – Mayor Holly Brinda, Elyria State of The City Address, introduced by **Chris Green – joint meeting with Lorain County Chamber of Commerce – arrive early as this has been a full house in the past**

MAKE UP MEETINGS

Monday: Amherst - 12:05 p.m. St. Joseph Church Social Hall

Tuesday: Avon -Avon Lake - 7:30 a.m. Sprenger Retirement Center On Community Drive (off of Rt. 83 Avon Belden Road) just north of Wendy's.

Wednesday: Vermilion 12:00 noon, German's Villa

Thursday: Lorain 12:00 noon DeLuca's 6075 Middle Ridge Rd

Thursday: Elyria Sunrise, 7:45 a.m. Wesleyan Village, Cascade room

Friday: Oberlin - 12:10 p.m. Oberlin Inn

Friday: North Ridgeville 12:00 noon Senior Center (City Hall Building)

Internet Make Ups: <http://www.rotaryclubone.org/>

Read this month's Member Spotlight

On Page 4





**Spotlight for January 2012
Jennifer Gallant**



Works at the Elyria Public Library

Number of years as a Rotarian:
“Three, but who's counting?”

What do you like most about what you do (or did) for a living?-

Jennifer enjoys the variety of her job. She says her job provides her with the “...opportunity to interact with a number of diverse people, the opportunity to do something different almost every day, and the opportunity to be surrounded by books and ideas.”

Indeed, her job is full of different people and events. She says from time-to-time she runs into fellow Rotarians along with “...a number of moms, city officials, the homeless, the unemployed, the computer literate and illiterate, and people of all ages and sizes. I get to break up fights and comfort small children, talk to vendors about asphaltting and leaking roofs, investigate mysteries and make a nuisance of myself with others. Every day is a surprise and sometimes a challenge. How could my life get any better?”

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

Going to the movies is something Jennifer enjoys outside of work. She likes most she sees, with only a few exceptions. One very interesting part of her life is that she once was a juror for the American Film Institute. “I used to be a head juror for various categories for the American Film Institute and never knew what categories I would be assigned to,” she said. “That was many years ago.” She has also served for almost a decade on an American Library Association Selected Films committee. Bottom line though, is that she prefers “large screen movies to video” and “technically complex movies.”

What is one thing most people don't know about you?

“When I will retire, if ever.”

What has surprised you most about your Rotary membership?

Jennifer is surprised at how much she enjoys “...running into other club members in the community.”

What one suggestion would you make to improve Elyria Rotary club?

Here are some interesting suggestions from Jennifer for improvement of our Rotary Club:

- Prepare as a group to celebrate our centennial anniversary in 6 years.
- Get national speaker(s).
- Bury a time capsule.
- Honor our historian, Dave Holland, with a tribute.
- Elect Don Boddy as president that year.

What is your favorite hidden gem in the community where you live?

Jennifer’s hidden gem is Baycrafters in Bay Village, Ohio. “As for Baycrafters, I like to be a patron of the arts. If I ever get time, I might take a class or volunteer there. As it is, I just like to enjoy all their events and offerings.”

(Spotlight Monthly feature by **Debbie Richter**)