



The Rotary Club of Elyria Ohio

The Ramrod

1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

2009-2010

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January 26, 2010

By J.R. White

Rotarians Lend a Helping Hand to Haiti and EHS!

President Janet Long

rang the bell at 12:20, calling to order today's meeting. As usual, she led the group in the singing of "You're a Grand Old Flag" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. **Joel Sinegar** gave a timely invocation, praying for the earthquake ravaged country of Haiti and those affected by the disaster occurring there two weeks ago. After the introduction of a large number of guests, **Jennifer Koba** led the group in the singing of "A Helping Hand", which encourages Rotarians to lend a helping hand through Rotary.

Midview High School Sends Exemplary Students to Rotary

Terry Doan introduced today's students who are both Seniors at Midview High School. Justin Caithaml is a very active student who is co-president of his senior class. Justin also participates in many extracurricular activities related to singing, including choir and the formation of a barbershop ensemble. Justin is currently auditioning with Ohio colleges to gain entry into their vocal music programs.

Jennifer Wilson is also a senior at Midview. Jennifer has taken advanced courses throughout her

time at Midview High School. On her own time, Jennifer chooses to volunteer with her church, North Eaton Christian Church. Through the church, Jennifer has gone on several mission trips, which have focused on helping those less fortunate. Ms. Wilson plans on attending LCCC for a year or two in order to determine a college major.

Our Next Meeting:

February 2, 2010

Robert Brown

Case Western Reserve University



Terry Doan introduced visiting Midview High School students Jennifer Wilson and Justin Caithaml.

Announcements

President Janet announced to the club that she had obtained a final report on the proceeds collected through Elyria Rotary's efforts in the Apple Festival. Our club generated \$12,842.03 in profit from sales of fried ice cream and photographs at our photo booth. This year was one of the most successful years ever at the Apple Festival.

Janet also wished to announce that on February 2, 2010, there would be a meeting of the World Community Service Committee. In addition, be sure to register next week for the State of the City Address, given by Mayor Grace. The event is being sponsored by Elyria Rotary Club and Lorain County Chamber of Commerce so if you happen to be members of both organizations, please register only once, preferably through Rotary. Finally, on April 9, members of the club are invited to Lorain County Rotary Night in Oberlin. This event will include dinner at the Oberlin Inn, a concert featuring the Cleveland Orchestra at Finney Chapel and an afterglow. Reservations will be taken at our meetings on February 16th and 23rd.

Happy Dollars for the Jug

Greg Kruska had a couple of happy dollars for our jug today. Greg's first dollar was in honor of the contribution of **Bill Tattersall**. Mr. Tattersall spends the winter in Arizona, but continued his tradition of submitting a check on his birthday, with one dollar representing each year of his life. This year Bill's check was made out for \$82.00. Thanks Bill! Greg's second happy dollar was given in honor of Greg and his wife Susan's celebration of 48 years of marriage! **Don Andress** also gave a happy dollar in thanks that our club's wireless microphone is now functioning properly. .

Mike Gebhardt did today's fining and though others were mentioned, one Rotarian made this week's news in a big way. **Paul Rigda** was seen in local papers and national television sitting prominently behind President Obama during his visit last week. I cannot verify, but I have heard that with the proper technology, one can zoom in close enough to see that Rigda was wearing a

Rotary pin on his lapel. Is it the truth? Probably not! In any event, the fines went to a good cause, as this week's jug proceeds will go to help earthquake relief in Haiti, with all donations going to provide Shelter Boxes to Haitians in need.



Paul Rigda and Ed Stewart greeted our speakers from the Elyria Schools: Zora Kovanovic (left) and Amy Higgins (right).

Elyria High School Wi-Fi Café Update

Ed Stewart introduced Amy Higgins, with Elyria Schools. The purpose of today's program was to educate those of us that, while aware that our club has donated resources to the Wi-Fi Café, don't really know what it is about. Our club, in conjunction with the Sunrise Club, has pledged to donate \$100,000 over a five year period to the café.

Ms. Higgins explained that the café will be staffed by students in the "Breakfast Nook", a program through which special education students learn life skills through the preparation of food and coffee for students. Higgins displayed a video that drove home the point that those involved in the Breakfast Nook benefit from their involvement. The Wi-Fi Café will benefit the Breakfast Nook by providing a centralized location for its operation. At this point, the Breakfast Nook operates on a cart that travels between classrooms. In the future, the Breakfast Nook will be able to sell its wares all day every day at the café.

Higgins introduced Zora Kovanovic, a Project Coordinator with Architectural Vision Group. Kovanovic provided a wonderful virtual tour of the Media Center in which the Wi-Fi Café is situated as well as of other features currently under construction at Elyria High School. The tour was a treat for Rotarians who are excited for this new and hopeful chapter to our history.



A standing room only crowd attended Rotary today to learn about the WiFi Café at the new Elyria High School.

Make Ups

Ellie Bricmont, Chris Fichtner, Bob Bowman, Ron Cocco, Carol Hoffman, Bob White, Debbie Warden 1/15/10, Rotary Grants, Scholarship and Endowment Committee meeting

John Nolan, 1/15/10, Oberlin Rotary

Paul Rigda, 12/3/09, Elyria Sunrise

Bill Tattersall, 1/5/10, 1/19/10, Fountain Hills, AZ Rotary

Jennifer Gallant, Jennifer Fate, Megan Flanigan, Tom Hoover, Ken Glanc, Speedy Amos, 1/26/10, Elyria Rotary Literacy Committee meeting

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

Upcoming Programs & Special Events

February 2 – Robert Brown, Case Western Reserve University, Introduction by **Jeanine Donaldson**

February 9 – Elyria Mayor Bill Grace, State of the City Address, Joint meeting with the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce. RSVP at the Rotary meeting on 1/26 or 2/2 and plan to arrive early to get a seat!

February 16 – Rotarian **Ted Wallingford** will talk about using Facebook and Twitter in your business. Introduction by **Mike Jaworski**.

February 23 – Dan Samms from Church of the Open Door will talk about volunteer efforts in the community. Introduction by **Ted Wallingford**.



Corn Toss Tournament Planning Underway

Planning is underway for the 2010 Corn Toss Tournament. Will you be there this year? Ed M. Stewart reports that planning is underway for the 2010 Tournament which will benefit the EHS Wi Fi Café project. Plan to participate and to help with the event! Date and location will be announced soon.