



The Ramrod



1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

2008-09

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Quick click to: Previous Ramrods: <http://elyriarotary.org/newsletter/ramrod.shtml>

Quick Click to: Weekly program: <http://elyriarotary.org/calendar/weekly-programs.shtml>



Tuesday, September 30, 2008
By Ed Stewart

President Clarence hit the gong for his 14th time today, marking the first fourth of his tenure disappeared. He seems to have it down pat and he also has learned more of the Pledge, climbing to four words to get us started on the right foot. No one knows if he only lip-syncs the remainder of the recitation, not that it matters anyway. The **Kobas** treated us today with **Jen** “Twinklefingers” and Basso **Tim** leading us in *God Bless America* without the aid of on-screen lyrics.

Sadly, we noted the loss of past member **Mike Medders'** son, whose life was lost in Iraq last week. When our children give their lives for our country we are all losers and must join the parents in the grief of such a loss. Our prayers and sympathy go out to Mike and his family.

Dennis Willis juggled some names around today laying out fines left and right. Disappointingly, he only fines people for real events; come on DW, you can get creative in that job and help the club make some real money.

A special note of thanks was given by a guest – EHS CBI/OWE Coordinator Curt Karpinski thanked us for the recent STRIVE scholarships awarded to three of his students. He also made a

request for help in finding meaningful work opportunities for some of his current students.



Curt Karpinski, EHS CBI/OWE Coordinator was introduced by Steve Hosler.

Our speaker today was introduced by **Bill Tattersal**. Don Chopchinski is a retired pharmacist, instructor in pharmacology, charter airplane pilot, and drug enforcement team investigator.

Don's talk today was about the misuse of prescribed drugs. Don talked about many types of drugs and their potential for abuse. He mentioned how drugs have been classified into levels of addiction and with these come differing levels of concern. The top class is not even allowed to be sold in the USA. The next levels are highly protected and guarded for abuse. The lower the level of addictiveness the lower the level of concern and monitoring. He also

cautioned the audience about how they use their own drugs even though they may have no addictive quality. He cautions that the same drug chain should be used for all prescriptions because within a chain they will monitor for overuse and possible negative interaction. One should always keep their physician informed of all drugs, including over-the-counter and supplements used. While marijuana is the number one drug of abuse, prescription drugs are the number 2 in concern.



Bill Tattersall introduced speaker Don Copchinski

Mr. Chopchinski tried to lay blame for all drug abuse on Michigan State but later acknowledged that the more potent type of marijuana in vogue today was the brainchild of the Ohio University. Could this be another reason it is referred to as a party school? No one asked that question. Just as well.

A closing thought:

“No drug, not even alcohol, causes the fundamental ills of society. If we're looking for the source of our troubles, we shouldn't test people for drugs, we should test them for stupidity, ignorance, greed and love of power. “

-P.J. O'Rourke, writer (1947-)

Make Ups

Greg Elek & Jerry Skully, 9/16/08, STAR Committee

Steve Hosler & Mike Meecha, 9/18/08, ERC Golf Outing

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

October 7, Larry Tracey, **Programmed For Success**, Intro: **Estelle Dobrow**

October 14, Elyria Interim Fire Chief Joe Pronesti, **General Industries Fire**, Intro: **Rob Demby**

October 21, Brian Jankowski, **Home & Business Security Systems**, Intro: **Rob Demby**

October 28, Joseph Cirigliano, **The Judicial System**, Intro: **Rob Demby**

Make Up Locations & Times

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: www.rotaryclubone.org