



# The Ramrod

Chartered in 1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

Visit the: Elyria Rotary web site: [elyriarotary.org](http://elyriarotary.org)



**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**  
**Tammy Bertrand**

**President Kristen** called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm with the ringing of the bell and the singing of our Patriotic song “God Bless America” followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. **Trey Bell** was on tech, and **Tammy** was on Ramrod and photos, and also on photos was **Bob Yun**.

**Reflection of the day:**

“Water is one of the most basic of all needs – we cannot live for more than a few days without it. And yet, most people take water for granted. We waste water needlessly and don’t realize that clean water is a very limited resource. More than 1 billion people around the world have no access to safe, clean drinking water and over 2.5 billion do not have adequate sanitation service. Over 2 million people die each year because of

**Next Meeting – March 25, 2025**

Dee Baker, Director of Civic Engagement  
Lorain County Urban League

unsafe water – and most of them are children!”

--Robert Alan Silverstein, author

**Guests and Students**

We welcomed Kai Toton, ECHS student who we have sponsored as a Rotary Youth Exchange. He’ll be headed to India, and he is excited to experience different cultures. His future plans after college are to become a missionary.

Also joining us today were friends from the Pathways Rotary Club: Jim and Sue Hunt, Steve Miller, and our speaker Eloisa Robledo.

**Happy Dollars**

Bob Yun had happy dollars in honor of our upcoming scholarship winners.

## Student Guests

Student guests today are both from Midview:

Ava Velez – senior planning on attending college to study Journalism. She volunteers at St. Mary’s, serves on NHS, Student Council and NAHS with a 4.45 GPA.



Jacob Armburger – Senior planning to attend Toledo in the fall to study Environmental Engineering. Plays on Grafton Hotstove baseball team, serves on the Athlete’s Buddy program and is the SWC Scholar Athlete for the Midview Golf team and has a 4.5 GPA.

## Announcements:

- Elyria Sunrise Rotary is sponsoring a 50/50 March Madness Bracket. Purchase up to 5 bracket entries, Entries must be submitted by Noon on Thursday March 20.
- Tuesday, April 8 is the State of the City/State of the Schools at Spitzer Center, LCCC. Register on the Lorain County Chamber site and please indicate ELYRIA ROTARY in the comment box. \$40. Register here: [2025 Elyria Mayor's Address and State of Schools - Event Registration](#)
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- The Northeast Quadrant conference is coming up on Saturday, May 3.

**REGISTER on DACDB HERE: [DACdb](#)**

**Rotary District 6600 NE Quadrant Conference**

Renowned Keynote Speaker Denise Cowburn, "Embracing Multigenerational Differences to Grow Membership and Engagement."

Service Project Opportunities including building Little Free Libraries, Blankets for Beds, and more.

Fun for the whole family! Learn Beach Glass collecting, Zip Lining, Giant Swing, Beach fun, and more.

Register Now on DACdb. No Cost! **Rotary** District 6600 Northeast Quadrant

**Saturday, May 3**  
12 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Beulah Beach  
6101 W. Lake Rd., Vermilion

Lunch Provided!

Enjoy the Lake Erie Shore Let's make May 3rd unforgettable!

## Activities for the whole family!

### Elyria Rotary Club Scholarship Applications

#### Open

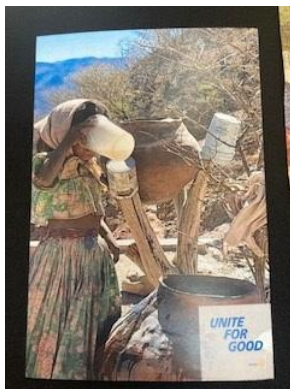
Applications are now open for the Elyria Rotary Club Scholarship! This year, the scholarship has been increased to a total of \$24,000, which will be awarded to one outstanding student. This scholarship is available to graduating seniors from Elyria City Schools, Elyria Catholic High School, Midview High School, Open Door Christian Schools, and First Baptist Christian School who are committed to making a positive impact in their communities. Applicants must plan to attend a baccalaureate institution full-time in a four-year degree program starting in Fall 2025. The scholarship is awarded in installments of up to \$6,000 per year to help cover tuition

costs at the college or university of the recipient's choice.

For full eligibility criteria and to apply, visit [www.elyriarotary.org](http://www.elyriarotary.org), scholarship details can be found in the "Documents" section under the "Club Links" drop-down menu. Deadline to apply: April 18, 2025.

**Program – Eloisa Robledo**

Our speaker today was Eloisa Robledo, a resident of El Paso, Texas and a member of Pathways Rotary. She was born to American parents but was adopted by a Mexican family. She is the incoming President of Pathways Rotary, although this will be her second service as President of a Rotary club. She originally served as the first President of the Guerrero, Mexico Rotary Club.



She founded an eye clinic that served marginalized families that continues to grow and include broader services. She also received the prestigious Meritorious Service Award from Rotary.



She served as an advocate for indigenous Tarahumara communities in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico. She was able to gain support from other Rotary groups to fund projects to serve these underserved communities. They shipped medical equipment, fire trucks and created a reforestation effort to protect mountain soils, restore springs and provide a source of building materials.



Eloisa

currently serves as Creation Care International, a non-profit agency that assists indigenous communities in the Sierra Madre range in Mexico. She has led the way for two Rotary Global Grants that enabled

her to bring clean potable water to the Tarahumara community. She is so passionate about the work that she does, it was certainly infectious as she encouraged us all to support the work.

discussed Steak Fry sponsorships and promotions.



**Book of the Day:** "You Are a Wildlife Warrior."

### **ERC Board – 3/18/2025**

Membership – as reported to RI for Mar-25 - 86 members – No change  
Attendance - 3 meetings – 37.2% - Feb 18 meeting canceled due to no school.  
45 of 86 members attended at least one meeting – 52.3%

### **Budget Summary**

Total INCOME ACCOUNTS 89,045 against projected 96,717 (7,672)  
Total EXPENSE ACCOUNTS 87,931 against 100,554 budgeted. 12,623 under budget  
Discussion items: member engagement and participation rate, ERC will build a Little Free library at the May 3 quad conference,