



# 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 25, 2025**  
**Kristen Jones**

**President Kristen** called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm with the ringing of the bell and the singing of our Patriotic song "America the Beautiful" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. **Nancy Lauren** was on tech, and **Kristen** was on Ramrod and photos, and also on photos was **Bob Yun**.

### Reflection of the Day:

"Difference is of the essence of humanity. Difference is an accident of birth and it should therefore never be the source of hatred or conflict. The answer to difference is to respect it. Therein lies a most fundamental principle of peace: respect for diversity."--John Hume

### Happy Dollars

### Next Meeting – April 1, 2025

Ethan West

Stories of Elyria's black citizens from Elyria's founding to today

**Annie Heidersbach** gave in honor of Kristen's headline news over the weekend. **Kristen** gave in honor of the power of Philanthropy and the impact it can have on many lives, AND for the start of Major League Baseball Season! **Jim Miller** gave in honor of some big winnings over the weekend from a charity fundraiser, and Jeannine Donaldson gave in honor of **Tennille Power's** marriage over the weekend! Congratulations!

### Song of the Day

**Jim Miller** led us in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," appropriate to the start of baseball season.

### Guests and fellow Rotarians

We welcomed Tony Cuevas, Lorain Rotarian and our Assistant District Governor.

## Announcements:

- **Amber Fisher** read a thank you note from the two students we sponsor in the Guatemala RISE program.
- **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Northeast District “Quadrant” Conference will take place on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from Noon to 5. at Beulah Beach in Vermilion. The event will be free, and will have family activities available. Our Club will also be building a Little Free Library. This one-day conference takes the place of the former District conference.

[Register here](https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77797262) for **Northeast Quadrant Conference/Event for Saturday, May 3:** - <https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77797262>

If you don't know your DACdb password you can register here - <https://Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/ezLink.cfm?EventID=77797262>

(you will have to enter 6600 for your District). Please contact Dianne at (440) 320-8394 or email [dianne.brehm@uwloraincounty.org](mailto:dianne.brehm@uwloraincounty.org) if you have any questions or need help registering.

**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!

- Tues. April 29<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Social Event (takes the place of the Noon meeting) and “play date” to try out the Girl Scouts Dream Lab. Details to follow.
- Tues. May 13<sup>th</sup> – “Rotary on the Road” will tour Stocker Center at LCCC. Lunch will be by RSVP, details to follow.

## Tuesday, April 8 State of the City/Schools Reminder

The Honorable Mayor Kevin Brubaker will present the Elyria Mayors Address and **Superintendent Ann Schloss** will present the State of the Schools at this luncheon event to be held at LCCC Spitzer Center. This event will be in conjunction with the Elyria Rotary, and will take the place of our meeting that day.

Tickets are through the Chamber and can be purchased here: [2025 Elyria Mayor's Address](#)

[and State of Schools - Apr 8, 2025 - Lorain County Chamber of Commerce](#)

You must purchase tickets by April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please indicate Elyria Rotary in the comments section.

**Elyria Rotary Club Scholarship Applications Open**

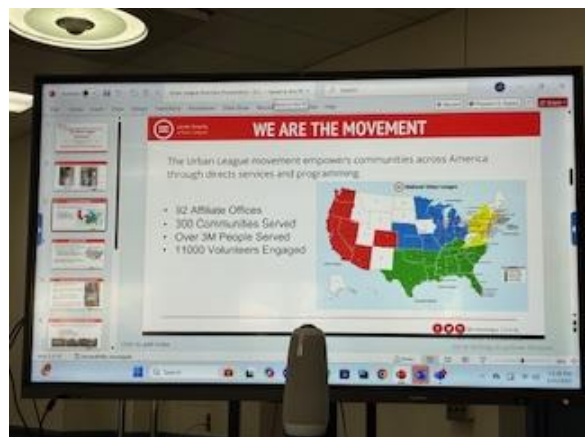
Applications are now open for the Elyria Rotary Club Scholarship! This year, the scholarship has been increased to a total of \$24,000, which will be awarded to one outstanding student. For full eligibility criteria and to apply, visit [www.elyriarotary.org](http://www.elyriarotary.org), scholarship details can be found in the “Documents” section under the “Club Links” drop-down menu. Deadline to apply: April 18, 2025.

**Today’s Program – Dee Baker and Angela Lee – Lorain County Urban League**

**Jeannine Donaldson** introduced Dee Baker, Director of Civic Engagement. Dee has been recognized with the Eric Nord award for leadership-by-Leadership Lorain County. Previously, she was active in the greater Cincinnati area where she also received the Outstanding Community Service Advocacy Award. She is on the boards of Leadership Lorain County, Main Street Lorain, and the Palace Theatre among her many activities.



Since 1978, the Lorain County Urban League has been a steadfast force for equity and empowerment, championing opportunities for African Americans and all underserved individuals in our communities by meeting them “where they are at.” Through programs in education, housing, employment, entrepreneurship, health, and justice, they equip individuals with the tools to break systemic barriers and build brighter futures.



Founded in 1910, the national program has 92 affiliates in 300 communities. They serve 3 million people, with 11,000 volunteers engaged in wrap-around services.



Dee also introduced Angela Lee, who heads up the “Serving Our Streets” program. This program serves vulnerable 15–25-year-olds who are previous offenders. Through 96 “credible messengers” they try to get to the root cause by identifying and changing the thinking and behavior of those at highest risk.



The annual “Road to Success” College Tour takes forty students from Lorain County on a comprehensive visit to an array of higher education institutions in urban, rural, public, private and historically black institutions to prepare them for the next step.

Traditionally, 97% of students on the Tour enroll in college.

Through interactive questions and answers throughout their program, they engaged with the Rotarians in attendance. When asked about Wish List items and threats, they noted the desire to continue the “Road to Success” college tour. They receive federal funding from the National Urban League that is now very much in jeopardy and could influence their ability to provide all their summer programming. For more information about LCUL, visit their website at <https://www.lcul.org/>.

**The Book of the Day** donated to Elyria Public Libraries in honor of our speakers was, “Bert the Bowerbird.”