



# The Ramrod

Chartered in 1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

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



Tuesday, January 5, 2021

By Kristen Jones

**President Dan** called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., welcoming 30 members to the new year of 2021. He then led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Nathan Russell**, via pre-recorded video, led us in singing our patriotic song, "My Country 'tis of Thee."

Today's invocation was given by **Janet Long**, offering a prayer imploring us to trust more fully, and serve others more selflessly. May peace and compassion be shared by all, that the world might become more reflective of God's love and grace.

Also helping today on technology was **Mindy Nielsen**.

A warm welcome to our newest member, **Annie Heidersbach**, president of Elyria Catholic High School!

[January 12, 2021](#)

TBD – watch your email for details

## Song of the Day

**Nathan** returned via video for the old chesnut, "R-O-T-A-R-Y."

## Announcements

- ERC Board meeting, January 19 at 8 a.m. You are welcome to attend. The link is on DACdb.
- District Conference 2021 has been cancelled. A virtual conference is in the works.
- Please create a log-in for DACdb, if you have not done so already. Please contact **President Dan** or **Dianne Brehm** if you need assistance.
- \$16,355 is the current new total for our Foundation drive. Thank you to the hardworking committee and to all who donated.
- The District 125 Club is being reinvigorated. Please see the District site for more information. This is a split donation between the Foundation and Polio.
- **Andrea Repko** and **Mindy Nielsen** gave their thanks for those who attended the Game Playing Social last week. There will be an email coming out announcing the winners, each of whom will receive gift cards to local eateries.
- Weekly Rotary meetings will continue to be held via Zoom **until further notice** until it is safe to meet in person again.

## **Happy Dollars**

**Greg Kruszka** gave a Happy Dollar for Northwestern's win in its recent Bowl Game. There was *some inference* that Northwestern had earlier defeated a *certain state team* who happens to now be playing in the National Championship game... but we won't mention that. *Go Bucks!* (Sorry, **Steve Hosler**, Alabama alum...)

**Mindy Nielsen and Rich Frederickson** gave Happy Dollars for all the promise of 2021. **Mark Mroz** gave a dollar for the mention of our **President Dan** in a nice article about the LCADA Way.

## **Today's Speaker – Virtual Consumer Protection and Senior Scams**

Katie Harper is the Outreach Coordinator from the Consumer Protection Office of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.\* Their job is to regulate the safe marketplace for consumers.

Most common complaints – motor vehicle sales, utilities, and phone/text/internet scams. They have a new unit working on illegal Robocalls. You can notify the OAG of suspicious Robocall texts by forwarding them to “**888-111**.”

Ms. Harper explained how vulnerable seniors are targeted, how scams are staged, and what people can do to avoid falling victim to these scams.

Beware of the following:

- requests for wire-transfers, prepaid money cards, or gift cards – particularly posing by name as the “CEO” asking employees to go buy gift cards.
- requests for personal information
- any pressure/threats to act immediately
- requests to keep conversation secret
- Coronavirus-related

Common Grandparent Scam: Posing as a member of your family needing funds or gift cards for an emergency need.

Be wary in contracting practices as well as any request to send any money out of the country. She also covered Government Agency, Sweepstakes, Online Relationship Scams, and Computer Repair scams (e.g. “Your anti-virus software is out of date.”) Identity Theft is a growing concern. Monitor your credit report on AnnualCreditReport.com.

More information at: [www.OhioProtects.org](http://www.OhioProtects.org), or at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov) (800-282-0515).

We will donate today's book, “Together We Grow,” to the Elyria Public Library in honor of our speaker.

\*Please note: Ms. Harper's talk was not sponsored by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The Ohio Attorney General's Office does not specifically endorse or recommend Elyria Rotary Club or any services affiliated with Elyria Rotary Club. There were no fees for participating in this program.

## **Weekly Elyria Zoom Meeting Link:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86461082213?pwd=aVhiV1FBQ1o3cnlwVHZ3dXptODRndz09>

Meeting ID: 864 6108 2213

**Passcode: Rotary**

## **Happy Dollar Link:**

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=2922TCG6S5HTA&Z3JncnB0=](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=2922TCG6S5HTA&Z3JncnB0=)

## **YouTube ERC Recording 01-05-21**

<https://youtu.be/a6g1h5BJE8k>