



The Ramrod

Chartered in 1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

Visit the: Elyria Rotary web site: elyriarotary.org



Tuesday, January 26, 2021

By Kimberly Wilhelm

President Dan called the meeting to order at 12:16 P.M. "My Country 'tis of Thee" with piano from **Nathan Russell** was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Rob Ernst reflected on some of the amazing American women appointed in January past and present who have accomplished amazing heights within our Government. He also showed a photo of the women of Elyria Rotary who have offered their talent and service for the betterment of our Club's mission.

Guests

Nicolle Bellmore-Pierse introduced Matt Bahnsen from Horizon Education Centers.

Song Leader

Nathan Russell led us on piano in the singing of the song R-O-T-A-R-Y.

February 2, 2021

Lindsey Kerr

LifeLine Pilots

Announcements

President Dan announced that the club's Easter Seals project will appear in the next Rotarian Magazine so be on the loo out for that.

Contact **Dan** for more information on the upcoming "One Summit."

Happy Dollars

Don Schiffbauer is happy that he is clear to go back to work after his bout with COVID-19. **Sam Battle** is happy that **Rich Fredrickson** is recovering nicely. **Dianne Brehm** shared grand baby joy in that her daughter had a baby boy in July and his name is Caden. Thanks to all for sharing happy news in a time when we really need to hear it.

Today's Program – Blank Slate Elyria

Founders and Speakers Jaclyn Noga, Eddy Marflak and Steven Rice told us about Blank Slate Elyria - a community, culture, and art initiative. The founders believe that investing in today's youth is investing in Elyria's tomorrow. Providing a site for

alternative art to converge in Lorain County gives local artists impetus to establish roots in Elyria. The dedication to DIY ethics ensures that artists are compensated for their work, that minority voices are given as much clout as the majority, and that artistic resources are made available to the community. The name “Blank Slate” reflects programming based on the needs of the people, the expression of art, and all types of music.

Blank Slate provides a space for teens to express themselves. Blank Slate has hosted talent from all over, including France, the UK, and as near as North Ridgeville. There have been touring acts and local high school acts. On display are usually 10 – 15 pieces of art per artist. They have held art raffles for the benefit of Second Harvest Food Bank and have rented out their space for events.

The Black Art Matters series partners with emerging black artists and conducts interviews and photo shoots giving them the opportunity to have promotional materials for use. The group has community partnerships with the YWCA, Lorain County Anti-Hate Taskforce, Hot Meals, Genesis House, City of Elyria, and a Collaborative clothing line with visual artists.

They have moved out of the Kerstetter Way location due to the pandemic, are looking and for a new space which will re-open once it is safe. Future programming ideas include educational workshops, a recording studio, art studio space, and more community outreach, as well as a focus on the unique culture and history of downtown Elyria. They hope to display outdoor public art and have an informative walking tour through downtown Elyria.

Book donated to the Elyria Public Library:
“Ways to Welcome,” by Linda Ashman

Weekly Elyria Zoom Meeting Link:

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 864 6108 2213

Password: Rotary

“Happy Dollar/Jug Donation” link: [Happy Dollars](#)

ERC YouTube Recording:

<https://youtu.be/--clt67FaoY>