

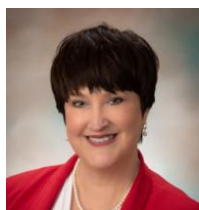


# The Ramrod

Chartered in 1918

News of the Elyria Ohio Rotary Club

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



**Tuesday September 22, 2020**

**By Kristen Jones**

**President Dan** called the meeting to order, with 27 members present virtually, and led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Today's invocation was given by **Janet Long**, who offered thanks for lives of public servants who inspire us. May we too be inspired to be of benefit to all.

Guess what?! It's officially autumn! Guess who already knew that?! Birds.

But more on that later.

Also helping today was **Mindy Nielsen**, managing our Zoom platform each and every week!

### Guests

**Mark Mathes** introduced Chris Baumgartner, a longtime friend of his and also of **Spencer Ryan**, and an avid bird-watcher.

September 29, 2020  
**5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Social! (See below)**

Spencer introduced Ken Glanc, a new agent of Ryan St. Marie, and known to many of us.

### Announcements

**Fried Ice Cream Day –**

**Sunday, October 25** (*note date change*) **11-4-ish**. Thanks to **Steve Hosler** for setting up this ordering link:

<https://friedicecream.itemorder.com/sale>

**ERC 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Social –**

There is a **5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Social** planned for **Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00**. The social will be a hybrid format with members being encouraged to meet (adhering to social distance guidelines) in person or join via Zoom. There will be 3 competitions for best face mask, best background and best dressed. \$20.00 gift cards will be awarded to the winners and we will also be playing our version of the popular game *Would You Rather*.

## Happy Dollars

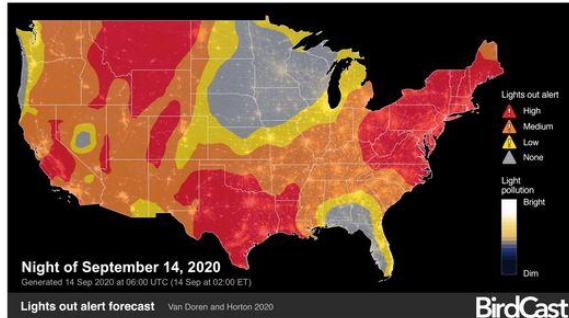
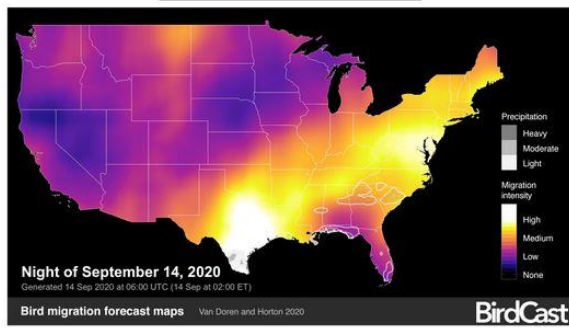
**Dan Haight** is happy that both of his nieces delivered beautiful newborns safely this past week!

## Today's Speaker

**A man who needs no introduction, our own Spencer Ryan**, loves birds and beers, particularly Great Lakes Brewery's limited edition, "Wandering Pelican" Black Ale, named after a pelican that wandered up this way last year and has now been forever immortalized in a brew.

Spencer brought us one of our favorite programs and begin his talk with the hot spots of bird migration visible on [Cornell Lab of Ornithology's web site](#). A great website that you should visit. And whoa, are they ever on the move right now!

Night of 14 September 2020  
**Over 400 million migrants aloft**  
**50 million over the Northeast**



He showed spectacular photos of some of his favorite birds, a few of which will be referenced here.

- The avid hunter, The Great Blue Heron, common in our area. If you're a snake, fish, or possibly even a chipmunk, you don't want to meet this dude in a back alley. Or your local marshland.
- The Brown Booby, not the Brown Don Boddy, who was brought north from the tropics by a hurricane – the first ever recorded in Ohio. He lived out the rest of his brief life in media notoriety.
- 2 adorable Great Horned Owlets – from Spencer's backyard, just 2-3 weeks old. These two are destined for Hogwarts, for sure. He gave a shout out to *Ken Busch Photography*, who took the amazing photos of the owls. If you see a nest of sticks in one of your trees, it might be owls! If it's full of leaves, it's probably squirrels.
- The Red Shouldered Hawk, perched peacefully on a church cross in Avon Lake.
- The Rose Breasted Grosbeak, a noisy little bird that sounds like basketball shoes squeaking on a wood floor. This little guy's got nothing on Lebron.

Even bird watchers have trouble identifying birds sometimes, as many birds have similar markings. Help identify with these tips:

- Compare it to something you know in size
- Try to identify its habitat (in a marsh, on the ground, etc.)

- Look for identifying markings (patterns on its breast, its wings, its tail feathers).

Great places for birding:

- Sandy Ridge Metropark in North Ridgeville;
- Magee Marsh in Oak Harbor (currently closed because of COVID). Magee Marsh is like a reverse funnel, and the birds are all channeled into it from their path across the lake.

Bird populations are being tracked and banded for their migratory patterns, and for the effect of wind turbines. Bird banding is done by hanging safe netting, and the federally qualified banders collect the birds every 20 minutes to evaluate, band, and release.

Back to some more favorite birds.,.

- The Black Throated Blue Warbler, currently migrating through this area to Mexico/South America. Hummingbirds are also migrating now *all the way down* to the Tropics!
- The Black Throated Green, another type of warbler, that is black and yellow but not green.
- A master of camouflage, the American Woodcock, has an instinctive call as well.
- The elusive Cerulean Warbler, another beauty with a stunning migration pattern.
- A real beauty high up in the tree canopy, the Blackburnian Warbler, looks like his throat is on fire...uh...*in a good way...*, and is

migrating from the far north in Upper Canada.

- House Wrens are assertive little birds who are very vocal in your neighborhood and have an outstanding repertoire. They will nest anywhere and are fearless. Unlike a sparrow, a house wren will only build its nest of sticks.
- The male Scarlet Tanager has bold colors that defy science. Many of the females in the bird realm got ripped off, though, and this one is no exception: she is drab and brown. The Baltimore Oriole, though, presents its beautiful yellow colors in both.

If you find an injured bird, take them to Lake Erie Science and Nature Center in Bay Village. They are experts at rehabbing.

There is so much migratory activity going on right now, that if you see one of these fellas (or ladies) in your backyard, they are pretty tuckered out. Frankly, I get excited when there's a Cardinal at the bird feeder – who knew there was so much activity in our midst?



To see these great bird photos and more, as well as some random business construction photos that may or may not have been a Jug offense...please see today's [YouTube recording](#).

Today's book donated to Elyria Public Library in honor of our speaker is "What I

Like Most.” And what **Spencer** likes most, or at least a whole lot, is birds.

Thanks for a great program, **Spencer**!



**Weekly Elyria Zoom Meeting Link:**

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 864 6108 2213

**Passcode: Rotary**

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,86461082213#,,,,,0#,,872821#

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+19292056099,,86461082213#,,,,,0#,,872821#

US (New York)

Dial by your location

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 864 6108 2213

Passcode: 872821

**YouTube ERC Recording 09-22-20:**

<https://youtu.be/q77OJ7D4Hu8>