

# Robbie's House Call



June 2025



## From the Director...

**Does it need to be said?...  
Does it need to be said by  
me?...  
Does it need to be said by  
me right now?**

These are the three things I have started to ask myself when in potential interpersonal conflict. Making a comment that could potentially anger or embarrass someone often is a guilty pleasure akin to scratching a rash or picking a scab. It feels good temporarily but in the end it just causes more harm, more infection. And it isn't *your* scab you are picking, but *theirs*.

When we say or do something we know we shouldn't we prevaricate in the defense of our actions

by saying... "well, it's true, isn't it?" or "well, he had it coming." Such explanations are not for the greater good, but to excuse selfish choices. Speak truth to promote better outcomes, not to tear down. An obese person knows they need to lose weight. The know-it-all the next cubicle over helps no one by stating that truth. BUT, that person's sister, saying it out of concern and love, might be the person that sparks a healthy change. Before speaking (or acting), be sure it is... 1. the right message; 2. that you are the right messenger; and 3. it is delivered at the right time.

Oscar Lilley

In this newsletter  
you can expect:

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Event Updates  
and Schedule

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Art Highlight

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Check out the  
Legion of the  
1000Tens!

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**RAMEN4ROBBIE  
ON JUNE 7TH!!!**

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A Little About  
Clubhouse

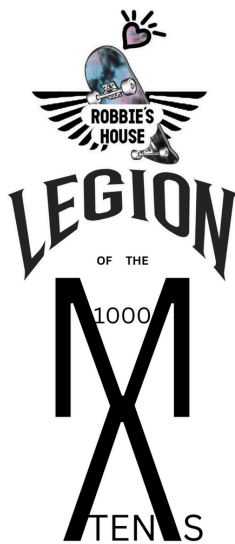
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Writer/ Writing  
Highlight



## Get in on the Petroglyph Bonanza before it's too late!

Our petroglyphs are starting to get grabbed up. Ranging from 10 to 30 dollars, these petroglyphs are all one-of-a-kind. The perfect proud display and conversation piece. While paying homage to the ancient indigenous art form, they also expose the unique minds of the members who made them!



**WE HAVE A NEW WAY TO GIVE!**  
Robbie's House has begun a new program for those who want to support us on a recurring basis. With the uncertainty of public spending in the nonprofit sector we are seeking stability through the dedication and kindness of our community and supporters. We are recruiting 1000 people to give Robbie's House at least 10 dollars a month. We will be able to operate indefinitely if we reach our goal. Consider joining the Legion of the 1000Tens! We are 37 strong and growing! (Click the donate button on our website)



## Schedule

- June 4- VOA Lunch 'n' Learn
- June 7- 3rd Annual Ramen4Robbie
- June 17- June Birthdays Celebration
- June 19- Juneteenth Breakfast
- June 27- Field Trip to Frontier House in Greeley
- July 4- Freedom Has a Birthday @ Washington Park (RH Participating)
- July 12- LJD Parade and Chili Cook-Off (RH Participating)
- July 16- WyoGives

For times and updates please follow us on Facebook or contact us for event confirmation.

## An Important Life Lesson: A parable by an unknown author

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one:

"What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade.

"Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello.'"

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

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More  
cool stuff>



## Our 3rd Annual Ramen4Robbie is coming June 7<sup>th</sup>. Bring Everybody!

We're gearing up for our 3rd annual joy-filled day of fun, fun, fun! Bring your skateboards, drop in and shred the halfpipe we will have on our street with your friends! Add a Ramen food truck by Devine Eats and live music from local bands and you're set to enjoy the day.

Without even thinking about it, you get to support our efforts to bring stability, encouragement, and acceptance for members of our community who are affected by mental illness.

We'll have the iconic Robbie's House T-shirts for sale, plus caps, beanies, and much more. Our art department has made pottery bowls especially for this occasion. Purchase one and you'll be set anytime you are ready for Ramen. We are also selling handmade plates, mugs, and petroglyphs and will have raffle items as well. Desserts and drinks will be available provided by our supporters.

If you would like to volunteer, we'll be getting everything ready starting at 10am. The food truck will start at 11am and will run until 2pm. The event will be held outdoors in front of Robbie's House with the street blocked off and parking courtesy of our generous neighbors at the Moose Lodge. Come have a fun day with us!



## So You Wanna Garden in Wyoming? Bren Lieske's journey at 7200 feet...

I moved here from Oregon where all I had to do was drop a tomato seed on the ground and collect tomatoes a couple months later. Oh Wyoming, what a challenge. Whereas I only had huge slugs and too much rain in Oregon; here I have pocket gophers, hail, tornado force winds, little rain, and the shortest growing season I've ever known. It took a lot of effort and my learning curve was rough. But, with the help of gardening mentors, books, regional conferences, and finally a greenhouse, those tomatoes are doing great!

## A Little More About...



# Clubhouse International

Creating Community: Changing the World of Mental Health

### **Participation is voluntary, membership is free, membership is for life...**

Often when we are recruiting people to join Robbie's House we see apprehension on the faces of those we ask. They must be thinking... "how much will this cost me?"; "how much time will I *have* to be there?"; "what will I *have* to do?" The answer? It costs nothing to be a member. The only voluntary charge is \$2 for lunch and we offer a free salad if you don't want or can't pay. First lunch and birthday lunch is free. Participation is always voluntary. Do as much or as little as you want. And, you could be gone for years and pop in and still be embraced as a cherished member.



Our Writing Unit handles the newsletter along with thank you letters, marketing projects, and other tasks that require that creative writer's touch. They are also working on publishing an anthology of work done during our creative writing wellness program after our work ordered day is done. This month's newsletter contributors are Delette H, Bren L, and Oscar L.

# The Open Window

an essay by jay robbins

Only a single panel from a single clerestory window from a single wall remained. Inhabitants were long dead or long gone, along with most of their home. But a lone pane, the center of nine, yet remained unbroken. A fugitive from the law of averages, it has stood where flesh and stone crumble against the King of Battle. Artillery does not think. Does not feel. It does not discriminate, mashing Slav, Anglo, and Ethiopian alike. So, what to make of this one defiant lite? His eight brothers knew their place.

This was the prevailing question on the parched lips of a disheveled squad of Dog Faces. They, whether Prussians of 1760, Confederates of 1864, Yanks of 1945, or those beyond our time have seen friends and foe ripped apart by shell and grape, by 88s, and guided missile.

They haven't changed; blood still pumps from the heart, blasts still rupture organs, metal cleaves flesh from bone. This squad,

representing centuries of combat, is resting on ruins, gazing through the window to nowhere.

A civilian might think this single pane a metaphoric survivor of an ugly war. Maybe these soldiers see this panel as a butterfly in a land of moths- a comely reminder of home. Maybe that single pane buttressed by resolute pairs of mullions and transoms represents the resiliency of the human spirit. But maybe that would all be wrong. These men are dirty and broken, sporting torn souls and trousers. And no mere window pane was due a better fate. They all hold doctorates in destruction. Nothing material survives the Scourge. That is sacrilege. Out come the butts of pikes and flintlocks and rifles and laser guns. The unspoken, implied internal order relays to the fingertips:

BREAK IT

There are no survivors.

*Thank you for reading!*

ROBBIE'S HOUSE	307.460.2627
<a href="http://www.robbieshouselaramie.org">www.robbieshouselaramie.org</a>	312 E. Custer St Laramie, WY 82070