



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P.O. Box 544

St. Marys, OH 45885

www.stmarysrotary.org

Sept. 22, 2010

Call to Order:

President-elect Linda Vogel called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests to the weekly meeting. Charles Richtmyer offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests included Marlin Yost, guest of Fred Wiswell, and Michelle Stein, guest of Deb Zwez

Kraig Noble was the song leader and in recognition for the local library's upcoming levy request led the club in singing Four Leaf Clover. Happy Birthday was sung to Linda Vogel.

Happy Dollars:

Happy Dollars were shared by Linda Vogel for not getting hit by a red SUV, Jeff Squire for his shot at the queen, Jon Hall for a good auction and one

extra point, Deb Zwez for her guest and newest Evening Leader reporter, Linda Haines for her stay at the Owl's Nest, Fred Wiswell for his guest, Ellen for four years with her soul mate, John Wale for the seventh grade volleyball team, and Jim Heinrich for seeing his old friend Marlin Yost again.

Fines:

Rick Gerdeman was finemaster and he tapped Celina residents, the Nobles, Jim Harris, Linda Vogel and anyone not wearing a Rotary pin.

Announcements:

Next week's meeting will begin at 12 noon, with lunch available at 11:15 a.m. to accommodate two speakers: Greg Freewalt on the proposed miniature golf course at KC Geiger Park, and Jim Flora of Pro-Pet.

Linda Vogel informed members she is sending weekly emails regarding program topics and anyone not receiving the emails is encouraged to check his or her junk mail or spam mail as she has tested the addresses and they are correct.

Program:

Sue Pittman was the first speaker and she outlined the St. Marys Public Library's upcoming levy request, which voters will see on the November ballot. The five-year, .75 mill operating levy 1.5 mills operating levy should raise \$??? each year of the levy, and is estimate to cost the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 \$26.25 per year. Pittman compared that to the cost of one hardcover book each year.

Pittman said the library has been a valuable asset for the community, as well as a valuable community partner. The library has been financially responsible and has taken steps to

survive with a lessening revenue stream. Those losses have initiated the closing of the library on Fridays, a halt to buying new materials and the initiation of an adopt-a-magazine program among other steps.

Sue said 96 percent of the library's funding comes from the Ohio Public Library Fund while the remaining 4 percent comes from fines, fees and gifts.

Alex Pittman concluded the presentation asking those present to vote yes for the levy.



Rick Green began the second part of the program, explaining the perks to pledging funds to the Foundation through Paul Harris funding. He introduced Frank C. Murray who outlined the impact members' donations to the Foundation have through the club's participation in RMMP.

Rotary Mexican Mission Project, a joint venture with the Celina and Wapakoneta clubs, has completed a number of projects to improve the quality of life in many impoverished Mexican communities. Through matching foundation grants and with the generosity of area Rotarians,

projects include a greenhouse, equipment for a vocational school, computers for a school, and a fire truck to Creel, Chihuahua, Mexico. In fact, internationally, our club has helped 12 vehicles be shipped to less fortunate areas.

While visits to the Mexico projects are discouraged due to the violence connected to the drug trade there, in 2010-2011 projects include a water pipe system from a the dam at San Jose de Pinar to local villages which Frank said would require a sizeable matching grant from the foundation.

Frank encouraged all new members to consider starting Paul Harris Fellow accounts to allow their donations start having a positive effect in poorer counties.

Queen of Hearts:

Ed Raudabaugh ticket was drawn for \$13 but the Queen lives.

Upcoming Programs:

09-29 Pro-Pet
10-06 Club Assembly - Strategic Plan
10-13 Galen Cisco

Upcoming Greeters:

09-29 Beth Noneman
10-06 Mary Riepenhoff
10-13 Kathy Sampson

The meeting was adjourned following the recitation of the Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Say or Do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FREINDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**Please note: All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 am.*