



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
December 21, 2011

Call to Order

President Linda Vogel called the meeting to order. Susan offered "The Christmas Prayer" by Robert Louis Stevenson, and this was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Kraig Noble led us in singing two holiday tunes – "Jingle Bells" and "We Wish You A Merry Christmas." Guests and visiting Rotarians were Jan Heinrich, wife of Jim; Steve Smith of NBANK; and Jonathan Noble, son of Kraig and grandson of Ed.

Happy Dollars

Linda Vogel, Frank Klatt, Kevin Harlan, Don Hinckley, Steve Smith, Keith Fledderjohann, Dan Burke.

Fines

President Linda got a call from Derek Vogel who was unable to attend due to business constraints, so she fined the following: anyone not yet finished with Christmas shopping; anyone not yet finished wrapping gifts; and anyone who has not yet visited the Memorial Park Christmas display.

Announcements

- The figure of \$506.00 donated to Goodfellows was increased by a donation of \$20.00 from Ed Noble, making that total \$526.00.
- On behalf of our club Linda Vogel presented a check for \$250.00 to Alex Pittman in behalf of Arts Place, Inc., in St. Marys. Alex was one of a number of volunteers (including Rick and Sandy Gerdeman) helping Arts Place with their 2011 campaign. Thanks to St. Marys Rotary.
- Linda Vogel read her own special "Night Before Christmas." Her version alluded to Rotary activities throughout the past year.

Program

Robbie Burke introduced Candy Dicke of the Family Life Center of Auglaize County. Located at 150 E. Spring Street in St. Marys, the center "gives hope to women and men in crisis." They operate as a non-profit through "donations and the dedication of volunteers," and there is no cost to anyone seeking their help. Their services include:

- Pregnancy tests and options counseling
- Limited obstetric ultrasound - women who hear their child's heartbeat often forego abortion.
- Resources and referrals - to meet any and all needs of clients
- Birth and baby preparation classes
- Bridges to motherhood - featuring speakers on pregnancy, childcare and relationships as well as appropriate emotional support.
- Maternity and baby boutique - a source of any baby needs, from diapers, clothing, books, strollers, etc. which are discounted to serve clients.

- Earn while you learn classes - busy teen moms that can't attend classes weekly are welcome to watch videos and earn credits redeemable for purchase in the baby boutique. Topics presented in segments shorter than 30 minutes are also available online.



The young men are significant, as 5% of births were out-of-wedlock in 1960 and now 40% are.

Many programs suited to the young man involved are for example: "Step Up to Fatherhood" sponsored by Midwest Electric.

"Legal Dad" including emotional support for young fathers and helping them learn their responsibilities.

Lectures on crucial topics like "shaken-baby syndrome."

These are crucial issues for the fathers and families involved, as just a few statistics indicate:

Incarceration - twice as many young men without fathers end up in jail as a two-parent home.

Suicide - 63% of the suicides of young men are from the families without fathers.

Dropout - 71% of high school dropouts come from homes with no father present.

Detention - 70% of young people held in institutions come from homes with no dad.

The father is important in the home too! Abortion is declining, but is often used as a means of birth control in families with more than one child.

More details are available at www.flcac.com or at the parent institution Heartbeat International in Columbus, OH (www.heartbeatinternational.org).

The results of helping each mother, father and child are very important to society.

Queen of Hearts

Ed Noble won the drawing and \$10.00, but the Queen escaped!

Upcoming Programs

- 12/28 Aug. Co. Special Olympics
- 1/4 Doug Spencer, Athletic Dir.
- 1/11 Russ Bailey, Dog Warden

Upcoming Greeters

- 12/28 Marty Dodrill
- 1/4 Jim Heinrich
- 1/11 Jerry Skiver

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

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 FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Cog Editor: Alex Pittman