



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
March 12, 2014

Call to Order

President Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Kathy Sampson offered the invocation. Our guest today was our speaker, Harry Hooyenga. Jeff Squire led us in signing "All Hail to Rotary." There were no birthdays.

Happy Dollars

President Dan was happy for those of us who made it to the meeting, Jeff Squire for a chance at the Queen last week, Marty Dodrill was just happy to be here despite the sparse crowd due to the nasty weather, Ellen Hunter for business being good, Robbie Burke for organizing the Rotary March Madness bracket with Kathy Sampson, and Jon Hall because he should be skiing soon.

Fines

Jon Hall was the fine master today. Everyone received a 50 cent credit for showing up, however, fines were raised to \$1.00. Pat Cogan was fined for the PA system issues during prayer since the Seagrant of Arms is in charge of the grounds, Rick Gerdeman for stealing food off Sandy's plate and then another dollar for arguing about it, Jim Heinrich for being the last Rotarian here as usual, Randy because he should be skiing, and Keith Fledderjohann for the Queen drawing not being large today.

Announcements

If interested in being a corporate sponsor for the Governor's Cup Regatta please contact Allen Baskett by March 31st.

Program

PE Randy introduced today's speaker, Harry Hooyenga, a fellow Rotarian in the Kenton club. Harry resides in Perrysburg, but owns and operates a nursing home in Kenton. He is district chair for the Paul Harris and joined us today to speak about PolioPlus.

In 1985, Rotary International launched PolioPlus which is the first and largest internationally coordinated private sector support of a public health initiative. The initial pledge from Rotary was \$120 million. By 1988, Rotarians had more than doubled their original goal and raised \$247 million, and it didn't stop there. Fast forward to 2011, and Rotary's

funding for polio eradication exceeds \$1 billion dollars.

Harry stated that polio has been reduced by 99%. There are only three countries left that have polio: Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria. Currently in Nigeria there is a huge effort underway to reach nomadic farmers' children who live in remote areas. Rotarians are searching the vast farmlands by mopeds on dirt roads to reach all the children of the country.

The hope of a Polio free Nigeria is very promising for the near future. The effort has been successful to this point and there has been good cooperation with the government of the country. Unfortunately, it's a different situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It's been a daunting task in these countries because the government isn't as open to working together and access has been limited. Harry stated that all indications are that Pakistan could be the last place in the world with Polio. Just recently a new case of Polio was discovered in Syria that has been making headlines and it has been traced to Pakistan as its origin.



Rotary is very close to making polio the second human disease -after smallpox- to be eradicated. After the

meeting Harry stayed to speak with anyone wanting to make a donation to PolioPlus. If you didn't attend the meeting and would like to give, contact Jeff Squire.

Queen of Hearts

Mick Temen won the weekly drawing but the Queen lives.....

Mark Ashman won tickets to the Kiwanis pancake breakfast that were raffled off.

Upcoming Programs

3-19 Polly Raudabusch
3-26 Russ Bailey
4-02 Allison Brady
4-09 Social Security

Upcoming Greeters

3-19 Don Hinckley
3-26 Ron Gorby
4-2 Susan Crotty
4-9 Kevin Harlan

**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, and 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?