



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
May 11, 2016

Call to Order

President-Elect Ellen Hunter opened the meeting and Rev. Bill Maki offered the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests / Song / Birthdays

Visiting Rotarian Bob Ruehl (Lima) joined along with guests, Beth Keuneke (Arts Place), Clara Cuny (guest of Kraig Noble), Sarah Paulus & Deb Hinckley (SM City Schools), Kim Ray (guest of Tami Sanford), Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), Jenny Thompson (guest of Kevin Wolfe), Jenna Siffringer & Phil Thomas (WLIO).

Kraig Noble led the Club in the singing of "Vive Le Rotary". There were no birthdays to recognize.

Happy Dollars / Fines

Kraig Noble was happy to host an intern from France and for a quick trip

to New York, Don Hinckley for the awarding of academic M's at SMCS, and Susan Crotty for attending after some absence. Bill Maki added a dollar for his vacation and Kevin Wolfe for support of the Brat Dinner.

Travis Elsass credited those joining District Conference and those planning to join the Carp Derby & Circus (and fined those who hadn't joined).

Announcements / Presentations

- Beth Keuneke announced upcoming "Arts in the Park" programs
- The Club presented a check to Sarah Paulus (SMCS) for Academic M's



- Other checks went to Linda Haines for Hospital Foundation and to Jeff Vossler for JTDMH Surgical Center



- Carp Derby on 5/13/16 weekend
- Rotary Circus planned for 5/17/16
- Kim Ray has been nominated for membership by Tami Sanford. Comments can be directed to Don Hinckley or Kathy Sampson.
- P-E Ellen is asking for members' choices of committee assignments

Program

P-E Ellen Hunter introduced Joanne Huist Smith who joined to talk about the book that she wrote out of the experiences faced by her family after the sudden and unexpected passing of her husband several years ago.



Soon after her husband's passing, the family found themselves facing their first Christmas without him. Although it was very difficult to embrace the normal holiday traditions, exactly 13 days before Christmas, unexpected gifts began arriving at their home with references to the "Twelve Days of Christmas".

Joanne and her family tried desperately to identify the source of the gifts, but the giver remained

anonymous until later. The series of gifts offered them a 'distraction' and the comfort of knowing that someone really cared for them. The gifts also helped them begin to cope with their loss and they became the inspiration for the title of Joanne's book, "The 13th Gift".

Joanne had worked for many years as a reporter for the Dayton Daily News, so it was natural and therapeutic for her to begin writing a journal of experiences that provided much of the content for her book.

It's clear that Joanne's book was written 'from the heart' and was meant to serve as an inspiration to others. Her readers appear to agree since the book has been on the New York Times and Amazon 'best-seller' lists. She has even started discussion with agents who might decide to produce a movie from her book.

Queen of Hearts

Jim Heinrich got to draw for the Queen, but got the 10 of hearts.

Upcoming Programs

5/18/16 Dr. Chuck Moul, Professor
5/25/16 Deb Andrews
6/1/16 Randy Haberkamp

Upcoming Greeters

5/18/16 Linda Vogel
5/25/16 Tami Sanford
6/1/16 Randy Elsass

The meeting was adjourned after recitation of the "Four Way Test".

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

