



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

March 22, 2017

Call to Order

President Ellen Hunter opened the meeting and Kevin Lawler gave the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests / Song / Birthdays

We had a long list of guests today. They included Mike, Chuck, and Mary Wilker (Bev Wilker), Chelsea Kemper (Zack Ferrall), Jan Heinrich (Jim Heinrich), Ed Doenges (Bev Wilker), Ron Wilker (Bev Wilker), Steve Frankenburgh (Bev Wilker), Sara Clark (Renee Homan), Chris Schroer (Ellen Hunter), Mike Frank (Ellen Hunter), Christy Barker (Kathy Sampson), Taylor Cook (Randy Elsass), along with Sydney Albert, Mark Ernst, and the FFA Students from Memorial High School.

Kevin Lawler then led the singing of "Old McDonald Had A

Farm". We then sang "Happy Birthday" to Wes.

Happy Dollars / Fines

Our Happy Rotarians today included Ellen Hunter, Randy Elsass, Kraig Noble, Pat Cogan, Zack Ferrall, Travis Elsass, Bev Wilker, Abby Balster, Bill Maki, Renee Homan, Jeff Squire, and Jim Heinrich.

Bill Maki set a \$2.00 limit on fines today and the entire club was maxed out after just four questions. Mike Burkholder, Pat Cogan, Julie Kraner, and Bev Wilker did the best they could with Bills questions, but their answers determined our group fines today.

Announcements / Presentations

- President Ellen reminded that we have one more week for accepting donations for MESA (see Dan H. or Pres. Ellen)
- Pres. Ellen thanked everyone who contributed to the Baby Shower items for Crisis Center and Robbie Burke for her efforts organizing this program.
- Ellen also thanked Travis & Zack for their support of our Gears & Cheers fellowship at JT's.
- Ellen noted that Bev Wilker made the table decorations at our tables today...Thank You Bev!

Ellen welcomed the FFA Students who joined us today...



Presentation...

The club presented a \$400 check today to the Memorial High School FFA program advisor Lucy Bambauer.



Program

It's National Agriculture Week! So we hosted the Memorial High School FFA students and Krain introduced Dave Albers of Prenger Farming who spoke to us about automated dairy farming.

Dave spoke to the advantages of the automated milking system... Improved quality of life for dairy farmers and increased milk production are the top two reasons producers switch to robots. In addition, the robot's ability to lessen cow stress is invaluable.



When a cow is in a robot barn, she becomes a different cow. She's in her own world. "You don't have to go out there, push her through and run her through the milking area. She's more relaxed and on her own schedule. Any time an animal

is more relaxed and you put less stress on them, she will produce more milk and be a healthier animal.

Here's how it works... When a cow wants to be milked, it steps into a stall, grain is dumped in front of it and brush rollers wash each teat. A laser scans the cow's udder and cups attach to each teat, milking them individually. The machine also remembers the location of each individual cow's teat to precisely place the cups. The technology also collects and stores vital data on each cow - such as how much milk she produces - which farmers can check on their computers. The computer will automatically place a phone call to alert someone if there is a problem with the system. What all this means is an increase in production of 20%!

Queen of Hearts

Rebecca Regnet got to draw for the Queen today alas...but the Queen still lives.

Upcoming Programs

- 3/29/17 Current Lake Issues
- 4/5/17 Jackie Vossler, Board of Smithsonian Libraries
- 4/12/17 Dwight Bowers, District Rotarian/Polio Plus

Upcoming Greeters

- 3/29/17 Kevin Wolfe
- 4/5/17 Phil Schumann
- 4/12/17 Brad Seitz

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

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

