



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
March 6, 2019

Call to Order

President Zach Ferrall called the meeting to order, and Rev. Bill Maki offered the invocation.

Guests included MHS Seniors, about-to-be-inducted Mary Kay Musyt (guest of Rita), Jan Heinrick (guest of Jim), Sydney Albert of the Daily Standard, and Teresa Dowling of the Evening Leader.

Ellen Hunter led the club in singing "The More We Get Together". Rick Kogge's birthday was noted, but he was not at the meeting.

Happy Dollars

Bill Maki was happy for the upcoming fish fry at Zion Lutheran Church. Kraig Noble was happy for

the state championships of both MHS bowling teams and for his son's eighth deployment (if one can be happy about a deployment.) Laia Mortimer is happy and proud of her husband passing the exam to be a certified welding instructor and is also happy about fainting goat season (did I hear that correctly)? Rita Hilty is happy for new member Mary Kay and for vacation. Linda Haines is happy for upcoming hospice gala; car raffle tickets are still available. Ellen Hunter is happy for all who helped with the Talent Show, which yielded \$2,400. Mike Lee is happy for Chief Sutton's self defense class. Brian Botti was happy for help with upcoming Scouts event.



Fines

Finemaster Brian Botti levied fines based on responses to trivia related to the season of Lent.

Presidential Announcements

- Thanks to Gears and Cheers cmte and presenter for great meeting.
- Karl Dammeyer has resigned

- March 20 is Ag day. Let Zach or Bev know if you are bringing guests (which are encouraged)
- May 10-12: District Conference

New Member Induction

Dan Burke inducted new member Mary Kay Musyt, who was sponsored by Rita Hilty. Mary Kay is the Director of Development for Otterbein St. Marys. Welcome, Mary Kay! Sign up for the COG committee; it is barrels of fun!!



Program

Today's speaker was our own Mike Lee, who gave an overview of the wholesale nursery industry. In the USA, wholesale horticulture is a \$10 billion industry, with horticulture being in the top 5 of agricultural commodities in 27 states. There are 600,000 works in the industry in peak season, and the average hourly wage is \$11.88. With the exception of the harvesting of fruit, the horticulture industry has become largely mechanized. The greatest challenges the horticulture industry faces are a shortage of

labor, increased shipping costs, the green movement, invasive plants, with 77% of nursery owners reporting that having enough laborers to run their business is their leading issue.



Queen of Hearts

Lucky-as-a Burke Dick Hudson had the winning ticket this week, but he drew the Joker and had to split with Mike Makley. The Queen lives.

Upcoming Programs

- 3/13 Brian Botti, Boy Scouts
- 3/20 Ag Day, FFA students
- 3/27 Crisis Center of Aug. Co.
- 4/3 Doug Reed, Cargill

Upcoming Greeters

- 3/13 Phil Schumann
- 3/20 Lori Martensen
- 3/27 Jeff Squire
- 4/3 Jeff Vossler

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 am**

