

The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
PO Box 554 * St. Marys, OH 45885

www.stmarysrotary.org

July 28, 2010

President Kimberli Rompilla opened the meeting. Then Kathy Sampson offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ellen Hunter led the club in singing "Viva La Rotary."

Happy Dollars:

Kimberli Rompilla, Karl Dammeyer, Scott Ross, Marty Dodrill, Cathy Sampson, and Ed Noble all have happy dollars today.

Fines:

Randy Elsass was fine master today and his victims included Marty Dodrill, Keith Fledderjohann, Dan Burke, Scott Ross, Chris Wibbenmeyer, Dan Hosek, Derek Vogel, Robbie Burke, Kelli Kill, John Wale, Allen Baskett, The Sergeant-At-Arms Committee, the Attendance Committee, and anyone who has not been to the Columbus Zoo this summer.

Announcements:

President Kimberli announced the next Summer Concert series concert will be this Sunday at 7:00 pm featuring German Music. A sign-up sheet is circulating for the Rotary Booth at this year's Summerfest and shifts need to be filled. We have a new member orientation scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, from 10:00 am – 11:30 am here at the Eagles Lodge. New and current Rotarians are invited to attend. On August 21st the National Guard will be moving materials from the old high school to the new location. The St Marys Rotary Club is hosting dinner for the workers. Frank Murray is coordinating this effort. See him if you would like to help. The Rotary District 6600 is hosting a series of training events for district officer positions. Frank Murray will have additional information at future meetings.

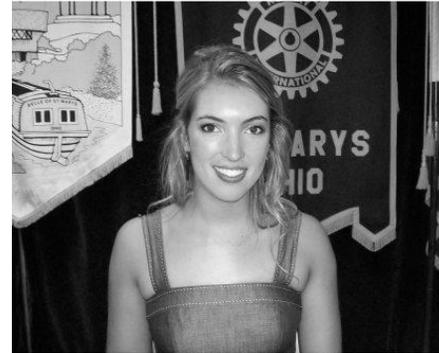
New Member Induction:



Kimberli invited Dan Burke and Charles Richtmyer to the podium to induct Kevin Lawler, as the club's newest member. Kevin was welcomed to the club at the end of the meeting.

Program:

Linda Vogel introduced our guest speaker Ellen Bryan. Ellen is a past Celina Lake Festival Queen and is currently Miss Miami Valley. She was second runner-up at the 2010 Miss Ohio Scholarship Pageant. Ellen was here today to speak about lightning safety.



On June 13, 2000, Ellen's older sister Christina Bryan was winding down her workday at a golf course in Celina, Ohio. After waiting out a thunderstorm in the clubhouse, and as the sun re-emerged, she headed for the driving range to collect golf bag stands, her final task of the day, when a lightning bolt struck her and sent the then-17-year-old into cardiac arrest.

When paramedics arrived on the scene, they performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation and saved Christina's life. But her brain had been deprived of oxygen for more than 10 minutes, resulting in significant physical disabilities. Nine years later, Christina is in a wheelchair, barely able to move her arms and head, and unable to speak. Now Ellen is doing the talking for her.

Ellen now works with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as a spokesperson for their "When thunder roars, go indoors" campaign. According to the National Weather Service, the safest actions are to find an enclosed shelter, either the nearest building or a car.

In any given year, lightning-strike survivors far outnumber lightning-related fatalities. NOAA says an average of 55 to 60 people are killed by lightning each year in the USA, while hundreds of others suffer permanent neurological disabilities.

In Christina's case, she was in and out of hospitals for the first two years and continues to go to therapy five days a week.

"The greatest and the hardest part is that mentally, (Christina) is OK," Ellen says. "She talks through her eyes. When she looks at you, you know what she's thinking."

Before Christina's tragedy, the Bryans believed the chances of having a family member struck by lightning were as remote as winning the lottery. Not anymore. Says Ellen: "Christina's case is just one of many, and it is something that could happen to anyone."

Queen of Hearts:

Tonya Temple had the winning ticket today but alas... the Queen lives in this new deck.

Upcoming Programs:

- 8-4 Lake Water Quality
- 8-11 Street Drugs
- 8-18 Usula Rotary Club in San Pedro Sula, Honduras
- 8- 25 Auglaize County Alternative School

Upcoming Greeters:

- 8-4 Rick Gerdeman
- 8/11 Randy Elsass
- 8/18 Alex Pittman

President Kimberli ended the meeting by leading the club in reciting 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?"