



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)

August 11, 2010

### Call to Order

President Kimberli Rompilla called the meeting to order. Charles Richtmyer offered the prayer and we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Kraig Noble led us in singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" because of the Reds' winning streak. There were no birthdays.

### Guests and Visiting Rotarians

Greeter Rick Gerdeman introduced Rotarians Kurt Meier (Sidney club) and Steve Smith (NBINK club), as well as guests of Dan Burke: Al Soloman, Auglaize Co. Sheriff, Ryan Burke, son of Dan, and Sam Blank, Auglaize Co. Sheriff's deputy and today's speaker. In addition, Jan Heinrich attended as a guest of Jim Heinrich, Janie Southard of the Celina Daily Standard, and Tom Nartkes of TV 35-WLIO.

### Happy Dollars

Kim Rompilla, Dan Burke, Mike Makley, Derek Vogel, Susan Pittman, Ken Strickland, Jeff Squire, Charles Richtmyer, Steve Smith (visitor), and Frank C. Murray.

### Fines:

Our finer did not show up, so Kimberli R. showed her versatile fining talents. She fined Joe Burke, Dan Burke, and Dick Hudson, but gave a credit to Jim Harris. Group fines (maximum @ \$1.00) were levied on Rotarians who 1) did not visit the Auglaize Co. Fair; 2) have yet to attend a Reds' game this season; 3) have not yet signed up for a slot in the Summerfest booth; and 4) have not played volleyball in the last week.

### Announcements

-Dan Burke announced the next new Rotarian orientation would take place on Wed., Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10 a.m. at the Eagles (before our noon meeting). Rotarians who are not new to our club are welcome to attend as well to learn more about the club.

-Robbie Burke reminded the club that there are still six tickets left for the Rotary trip to the Cincinnati Reds game on Tues., Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. If interested, please see Robbie.

-Rotary shirts are still available-please see Sandy Matthews

-John Wale passed out the Summerfest signup sheet one last time and distributed some energy drinks to folks needing a "pick-me-up."

-Frank C. Murray will collect hog raffle tickets. If you would still like to purchase these tickets, the club can bill you for the total. The drawing is next Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>!

-Several "thank yous" were received from the Mercer Co. Civic Foundation and also from our new district governor who received a special gift from St. Marys Rotary.

-Frank C. Murray also passed out an Ice Delivery Schedule for the Rotary

Summerfest booth this coming weekend.

### Program

Linda Vogel introduced Sam Blank, Auglaize Co., deputy and current DARE officer, who spoke about the street drugs impacting our counties and region. A drug is any substance which affects how the mind and body work, and legal substances come to mind: caffeine in coffee and Mt. Dew, other energy drinks, advil and prescription drugs.



While prescription drugs were not even considered dangerous three years ago and not mentioned in the DARE program then, today there is a separate manual for over-the-counter prescription drugs whose abuse is skyrocketing due to easy availability and reasonable prices. Categories of these drugs include opiates (oxycontin), depressants (valium, xanax), and stimulants (Ritalin, aderol). Another growing concern is the proliferation of methamphetamine labs, as there is an easy "one pot" or "shake and bake" method of making the drug. While necessary chemicals can be derived from instant "ice packs" used in school lunches or from alkaline batteries, these labs often explode, making such an operation very dangerous. "Meth" is even more dangerous for users, as those that become hooked stop eating and drinking but their bodies release adrenaline, causing them to literally wither away. Heroin use is also on the rise as prices have gone down

compared to oxycontin, and now heroin can be smoked or snorted making needles unnecessary. Marijuana is legalized in many places for medicinal purposes, but it is still psychologically addictive, and easier for young people to obtain than alcohol.

Officer Blank works with 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the DARE program but has also spoken to preschool groups. While drugs may appear in our area from Detroit through Lima or originate in Southern Ohio, the deputy and Sheriff Soloman both agreed that the best way to prevent abuse is developing a rapport with elementary and middle school students. By gaining the trust of each student, the door is also open to talk about the dangers of Internet use and the so-called high that some young people experience from the "choking game", which can lead to seizures. As trust increases, the abuses will decrease.

### Queen of Hearts:

A total of \$50.00 was taken in for today's drawing. Lucky John Wale won the drawing, but not the Queen.

### Proposed New Members

Prospective new members for the club are Brad Seitz, Paige Canfield, and Bonnie Mathies. Please contact Don Hinckley with Questions or comments before August 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Programs:

- 08-18 Usula Rotary Club from San Pedro Sula, Honduras
- 08-25 Auglaize County Alternative School

### Upcoming Greeters:

- 08-18 Alex Pittman

❖ Please note: All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 am

Cog Editor: Alex Pittman