



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P.O. Box 544

St. Marys, OH 45885

www.stmarysrotary.org

November 10, 2010

Call to Order

President Kimberli Rompilla called the meeting to order. Allen Baskett offered the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ellen Hunter led the club in singing "God Bless America" and Happy Birthday to Rotarians Linda Haines and Karl Dammeyer. Guests included Mike Burkholder of the Evening Leader and Ivan Knapp of Knapp News.

Happy Dollars

Happy Dollars were shared by Kraig Noble who announced Mark Ashman's pending induction to the University of Dayton's Athletic Hall of Fame on Jan. 22 and as a thanks to all who serve; Dan Burke whose son was able to lay the wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown soldier during his 8th grade trip to Washington DC; John Wale for his shot at the Queen; Mike Makley for

his guest and new member Ralph Wiley and for a week in Tennessee; Ali Khokhar for the successful passage of the library levy; Tami Sanford for a great turnout at the tailgate for cancer event and Linda Vogel's help to count the money, and for all who serve; Sue Pittman who spent the morning spending money; Charles Richtmyer for veterans and for being able to use his water; Kevin Lawler for veterans and his son serving in Singapore; and Rick Gerdeman for being able to shower at Ellen's during last weekend's water crisis.

Fines

Finer Randy Elsass was the finer and while he didn't get a number of Rotarians who answered his current events questions correctly, he did fine Kelly Kill, Jim Heinrich, Kathy Sampson, Ali Khokhar, Linda Haines, John Wale and anyone not wearing pink.

Announcements

Sandy Matthews encouraged new members to get their photos and information to her to update the directory. The auction is next week; contact John Wale with any last minute big ticket items.



New Member Induction

Ralph Wiley was inducted as a new member and was sponsored by Mike Makley. Ralph is on the St. Marys

Board of Education and is the plant manager at MTO.



Program

Linda Vogel introduced Sgt. Ted Copeland, an 18-year member of the St. Marys Police Department who has spent 26 years in active and reserve military service to our country.

Copeland said he mobilized four times: Desert Storm, Desert Shield, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. His battalion was responsible for transporting detainees to Cuba's Guantanamo Bay.

Veterans and servicemen are near and dear to his heart, Copeland said. He reminded listeners that Veterans Day honors living veterans while Memorial Day is mainly to honor deceased veterans. He said a nation that honors its veterans is a nation that wants peace.

Eight percent of Americans today have served their country in the military, Copeland said, which is an impressive number considering military service has been voluntary since the end of the Vietnam War. He encouraged all to cherish those who have answered the call of duty.

During the question and answer period, Copeland spoke more specifically

about his service, noting some of the time detainees spent in the POW camps was dedicated to educating them, and teaching Iraqis to read so they could read the Koran and note, it really doesn't call for believers to kill Americans. He believes Gitmo should stay open as it is in the middle of nowhere and many of the detainees need to stay detained. When asked to define a victory in Iraq, Copeland said while that concept is hard to quantify, a better quality of life, power and water available 24/7 and a chance for democracy probably comes close but even those items are not going to be realized for at least two generations.

Queen of Hearts:

Tami Sanford's ticket was selected in the drawing but the Queen lives.

Upcoming Programs

- 11-17 ANNUAL AUCTION
- 11-25 Thanksgiving message from Ed Bray
- 12-1 MHS Basketball coaches
- 12-8 Omni Manufacturing

Upcoming Greeters

- 11-17 Dick Hudson
- 11-25 Bob Burke
- 12-1 Karl Dammeyer
- 12-8 Chris Wibbenmeyer

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

The meeting was adjourned following the recitation of the Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Say or Do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FREINDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?