



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

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www.stmarysrotary.org

April 6, 2011

Call to Order

President Kimberli Rompilla called the meeting to order. Kevin Lawler offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Bob Leugers led us in a singing, "Wait 'til the Sun Shines Nellie." Our guests included Steve Hartwig from the New Bremen-New Knoxville Club, Jan Heinrich, wife of Jim and Aruba Khokhar, wife of Ali.

Happy Dollars

Kimberli Rompilla, Kraig Noble, Ali Khokhar, Jim Heinrich, Bill Maki, Kevin Lawler and Sue Pittman were all happy today.

Fines

Rick Gerdeman did the fining again this week. He fined Ken Strickland, Ed Bray, Gary Newton, Ali, Karl Dammeyer, Mary Riepenhoff, Deb

Zwez, Kevin Harlan, Rick Green, Robbie Burke, Mike Makley, Mick Temen, and Steve Koenig each for missing his or her respective question.

Announcements

The 2011 District Conference will be in Columbus on April 29, 30, and May 1, 2011. District Governor Dayne encourages everyone to "Lasso your partner for the big Rotary Roundup."

Administrative Professionals Day will be April 27. Our speaker will be Bob Lammers giving a program entitled "Chocolate, Chocolate, Chocolate." Please let us know how many guests you will be bringing.

John Wale announced the winners of our NCAA pool. Paid were Rick Green, Doris Lawler, Kevin Lawler, and the big winner Bill Maki.

Kimberli asked all mentors to follow up with Robbie Burke to ensure progress with our newest members.

Program

PE Linda introduced today's speaker, our own Jeff Squire. Jeff traveled to Lahore Pakistan last November as a guest to Ali and Aruba Khokhar's wedding. Jeff showed slides of his trip and the various ceremonies.

Due to weather delays, Jeff and Ali missed the connecting flight to Abu Dhabi in Chicago. They lost a day waiting to get the next flight, and Ali got the last ticket into Lahore. Jeff became an unaccompanied minor now flying into the airport in Islamabad. The Islamabad airport reminded Jeff of the bus terminal in Columbus. The flight he had planned to take to Lahore

kept getting delayed, so he hopped on a mini-bus with a nice family that they had met in Chicago who also got bumped from the Lahore flight.

Jeff opened his presentation with a brief talk about the tourist things he did. Ali and his family made sure Jeff was safe, so they lent him a cell phone, an English speaking cousin, and a non-English speaking driver. Jeff went to the Indian border and saw the Wagah Border Closing ceremonies where the Indian and Pakistani guards try to out do each other with marching drills. He visited the Lahore Fort and the Badashi Mosque, both built in the 1600's during the Mughul reign over Lahore. He visited the Shalamar Gardens, one of UNESCO's world heritage sites.



The purpose of the trip was for Ali's wedding. Friday night was the Mehndi ceremony, which is the more informal event. The bride comes in and the people give small gifts and rub oil and pigments on the couple.

The next night was the Baraat. That is the night that the bride leaves her family and becomes a member of the groom's family. The couple sat on a small dais and family and friends came up to get their pictures taken with the new couple. At the end of the night Aruba was taken back to Ali's house as his wife.

The final night was the Walima, which is the reception thrown by the married couple. Each night came with a big buffet of food. Jeff learned the hard way that women went to one line and men to another when he followed a boy he was talking with to the wrong line.

Jeff said that he was welcomed everywhere he went and that with the precautions taken he always felt safe. Lahore is a busy, dirty city but has a great history. The food was good, if sometimes a little hard to identify. He found the hotel bar, but the beer wasn't that good.

Queen of Hearts

Rick Green won the drawing, but not the Queen.

Upcoming Programs

4/13 Otterbein Life Enrichment
4/20 Krogers
4/27 Admin. Prof. Day

Upcoming Greeters

4/13 Darwin Zeigler
4/20 Susan Heitkamp
4/27 Sandy Matthews

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

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 FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?