



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

November 16, 2011

Call to Order

President Linda Vogel called the meeting to order. Susan Pittman offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Keith Fledderjohann introduced visiting Rotarians Scott Frye, Anne Larger, and Steve Smith, all of the NBANK club. Jeff Squire led in singing "All Hail to Rotary." Birthdays were: Linda Haines, Jon Hall, and Mark Ashman.

Happy Dollars

Linda Vogel and Linda Haines.

Fines

Randy Elsass fined Kraig Noble (twice), Jim Heinrich, Jeff Squire, Ellen Hunter, Pat Cogan, Frank Klatt, Alex Pittman, and Susan Pittman. Randy also mentioned various relatives (?) of artist Vincent Van Gogh. Group fines included no Rotary pin, not sponsoring a guest recently, and not contracting poison ivy recently.

Announcements

- Linda Vogel shared that the MESA Bike Tour of Tuesday, June 12, may be coming through St. Marys and the riders will need lodging for a night. She asked for a show of hands and will also seek an email response from club members.

Program

Robbie Burke introduced NBANK club President Kristin Hough, who launched the special needs "Sunshine Project" with her club in April of 2010. Inspired by her niece Camryn Murgatroyd, who suffered from microcephaly and passed away at the age of five in 2009, this effort provides educational support, resources, and thirty



pieces of medical equipment on loan to aid children with special needs. Currently the club is constructing a playground to serve children with special needs from Western Ohio and Eastern Indiana. As we are in a rural setting, the nearest playground facility for these children would be Dublin or Cincinnati. This wonderful facility should open in the summer of 2012 in Bremenfest Park. Any and all

contributions are welcome! In July 2010, \$250,000 was needed to complete the playground; as of October 1, the dollar amount was \$100,000 and as of last week \$45,000-50,000 still needs to be raised. The completed playground will have an adapted balance beam, Olympic rings, braille inscriptions for blind children learning to read, slides and rock-climbing walls, including a wall adapted for children with Down syndrome. The ground surface will be covered with shredded rubber, preventing the possibility of injury. The entire playground is connected with double-wide wheelchair ramps. The playground equipment has already arrived and only the fence and rubber surface need to be purchased. Those considering a donation can purchase a butterfly in various dollar amounts, as butterflies were a favorite of little Camryn Murgatroyd. The "Sunshine Project" website



www.rotarysunshineproject.org

also provides links to a wealth of information about illnesses suffered by young children and each month one child is highlighted on the site. Much additional information discusses support

groups for family members of the children.

Linda Vogel presented Kristin with a check for \$1,000 from our club!

Queen of Hearts

Deb Zwez announced that the whole pot was worth \$37.00 today, with \$13.00 to the winning ticket holder. Jeff Squire won the drawing (sorry Deb!) but he missed the Queen!

Upcoming Programs

11/23 Thanksgiving with Kevin Lawler
11/30 Michelle Evans Council on Aging
12/7 MHS Head Basketball Coach Hegemier

Upcoming Greeters

11/23 Ken Strickland
11/30 Chris Wibbenmeyer
12/7 Dan Hosek

**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?

Cog Editor: Alex Pittman