



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

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www.stmarysrotary.org

January 25, 2012

Call to Order

Incoming President Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Bill Maki offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Kraig Noble led us in singing "Home on the Range." We sang "Happy Birthday" to Kevin Harlan. Our guests today included Beth Kueneke, guest of Sue Pittman, Jennifer Conley, guest of Dan Burke, and Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim Heinrich.

Happy Dollars

Fred Wiswell, Tim Dicke, Marty Dodrill, Rick Gerdeman, Kevin Lawler, Don Hinckley, Robbie Burke and Jim Heinrich were all happy today.

Fines

Randy Elsass was the finer today. Randy fined Kevin for sucking up to Kraig Noble, Kathy Sampson for not knowing anything about football, Jerry Skiver for no happy dollars because of the lack of snow days, and then he did a

geography quiz to basically brag about his Caribbean trip.

Announcements

Robbie sent around a few get well cards for to sign for some Rotarians.

The club will have its annual outing to the Wright State University Lake Campus basketball game this February 8th at the North Branch of the Y. Get your reservation in and support fellow Rotarian Mark Ashman and his team.

Program

PE Robbie introduced our three speakers for today. Allen Basket and Fred Wiswell belong to our club and Hedge Drake is a Rotarian from the Celina club. They came today to update the club on the Otterbein Life Enrichment Center that is being built on the Otterbein St. Marys campus.

Hodge is the Charitable Gift Planner/Grant Writer CFRE for Otterbein. Otterbein is a Continuous Care Retirement Community that offers independent living to nursing care for the residents of the facility. They have raised \$1,600,000.00 for the Life Enrichment Center. The Center is a collaboration between Otterbein and the Auglaize Mercer Family YMCA, and may be the first collaboration of this kind in the country. The Y is the most respected name in wellness, and the collaboration benefits both organizations. The Center will be a senior centric fitness center.

Fred is the Executive Director at Otterbein St. Marys and he talked about the planning and execution of the Center. In October of 2007 planning began and a formal operating agreement was created. H.A. Dorsten was selected as the general contractor and the campaign committee was formed. The Center is designed to

have a four lane warm water pool that will provide therapy opportunities to the residents and other qualifying seniors.



Raising the money during the economic downturn was not easy. The current residents pledged over \$1,000,000.00. With a lot of work from the committee, including our own Randy Elsass, the Center will be dedicated on April 21, 2012. The original goals have all been moved ahead because of the speed of the fund raising effort, and everyone is looking forward to the April dedication.

Allen Basket is the Executive Director of our Y and talked about the Y's involvement with the project. Allen knew Drake from the past as a Y fundraiser. The warm water pool will be a great therapy asset to the area. Most pools are kept cooler, but this pool will be close to 90 degrees. Programs will include water fitness, arthritic therapy, and other programs focused on the needs of seniors.

The Y will manage the pool and will staff it. The Center will be open to all Y members sixty years of age and older. The Y hopes to use the pool as an opportunity to gain more, older members, while allowing the residents of Otterbein St. Marys access to this great asset. The arrangement with Otterbein is unique in the Y world and there was no

template to follow. It has since been used as a template for others facilities.

In addition to the warm water pool, the Life Enrichment Center construction will allow Otterbein to increase the size of the existing library by four times, and the new library will have computers and wi-fi for the residents. There will be a snack bar and other amenities along with the pool.

Proposed new members

Molly Schleucher and Jenny Conley have been proposed as new members. If you have any questions contact a board member.

Queen of Hearts

Someone won the daily drawing for his birthday, but not the Queen.

Upcoming Programs

- 2-1 Red Cross
- 2-8 Mayor Pat McGowan
- 2-15 Capabilities
- 2-22 St. Marys Fire Dept.
- 2-29 Arts Place

Upcoming Greeters

- 2-1 Kraig Noble
- 2-8 Ellen Hunter Adams
- 2-15 Dick Hudson
- 2-22 Rick Gerdeman
- 2-29 Gary Newton

**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?