



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
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www.stmarysrotary.org
October 10, 2012

Call to Order

President Elect Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Kathy Sampson offered the invocation. Jeff Squire led us in singing “You’re a Grand Old Flag.” Our guests today were Megan Burke, Gayle Masonbrink, Aaron Hunter, Mike Burkholder, Patrick McGowan, and 10 members of St Marys Memorial High School Senior Class. There were no birthdays.

Happy Dollars

Dan Burke, Marty Dodrill, Tami Sanford, Jeff Vossler, and Ken Strickland were happy today.

Fines

Ellen Hunter was the finer today, but before she started the fining she put in a happy dollar for a special announcement, she’s pregnant!

She then quizzed us on our government, causing Tami Sanford, Tim Dicke, Jason Little, Kelly Kill, Frank Platt, Kathy Sampson, and Scott Ross to pay up. Dan Hosek and Dick Hudson were able to escape a fine by correctly answering a question. Amazingly, Karl Dammeyer also avoided a fine by answering correctly that \$6.00 per day was the wage paid to Congress

members in 1789. Ellen finished by fining anyone who was not pregnant.

Announcements

- The Halloween Parade is October 23. Be in the parking lot at 5:00 for 5:30 judging and 6:00 step off.
- November 3 is a Rotary Leadership Institute in Findlay.
- October 20 we will be mulching the Historic Walking trail.

Program

Today’s program featured a debate between the two candidates for state representative in the newly created Ohio House’s 82nd District. Facing off in the debate were Republican candidate Tony Burkley and Nonpartisan candidate Pete Schlegel. Each candidate was asked questions that were supplied in advance and gave opening and closing comments.

Pete Schlegel is currently a farm owner/operator and business entrepreneur who has built many businesses from the ground up. He also has a background in law enforcement. He stated that he refuses to accept any special interest money.



Tony Burkley has been Paulding County Commissioner for 16 years. He is the owner of a Napa Auto Parts/TrueValue Hardware. He has had a balanced budget every year as Commissioner.



Here are two of the questions the candidates were asked.....

Question: Several years ago, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that the funding for Ohio schools over reliance on property taxes was unconstitutional. What reforms do you support in changing the way Ohio supports local schools?

TB: “This is an incredibly complex issue that we have to deal with ... It seems that many times it’s not something that is easily accomplished. When the Supreme Court ruled, they identified that it wasn’t fair, but they didn’t say what needs to be done to correct it. It left it up to the legislation to correct it.”

PS: “If you turn your turn signal on to turn on a city block and it doesn’t click off, you don’t continue to drive around the block until it does. And that appears to me, at least from the outside, that is what we have been doing. We need to look hard at unfunded state mandates and the extra expenses that are putting on local schools. I don’t believe we need to reinvent the wheel, but we need to look at other states to see what is working.”

Question: With the state of Ohio estate tax disappearing on Jan. 1, how are the local townships supposed to come up with funds to maintain their roads, ditches and drainage systems?

TB: “How townships and local governments function is becoming

much more difficult as time goes on. One of the things that has impacted their finances will be the estate tax. The good side is there were farms being lost left and right. Those farms were being lost because they couldn’t pass them on from one generation to the next without a big tax burden to go along with that ... One thing about estate tax was if you budgeted it into the township budget on a regular basis, you were opening yourself up to a lot of problems. It was more of a if it came, it was a blessing that you got it and could use it to the best of the townships.”
PS: “This issue to me is very clear, we seem to be trimming from the bottom to the top and we need to be trimming from the top to the bottom. So what we need to do is have less money in Columbus and more money coming back out to our local areas.”

Queen of Hearts

Jeff Vossler won, but drew a Joker and had to share his winnings with Keith Flederjohann.

Upcoming Programs

- 10/17 Galen Cisco Award Program
- 10/24 Rep. Jim Jordan

Upcoming Greeters

- 10/17 Paige Canfield
- 10/24 Kraig Noble
- * 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?