



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
February 20, 2013

Call to Order

President-elect Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Susan Pittman prayed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Squire led in singing "Wait 'Till the Sun Shines, Nellie." A visiting Rotarian, Randy Fisher of the Wapakoneta club was with us as well as Meredith Enkoff correspondent of the Evening Leader. There were no birthdays.

Happy Dollars

Jon Hall, Linda Vogel, Keith Fledderjohann, Bob Leugers, Kraig Noble, Lorraine Fischio, Susan Crotty, Ellen Hunter, Jim Harris.

Fines

Marty Dodrill was today's finer. He began by fining anyone who did not attend the Eagles' chicken/fish fry the previous Friday. He then began a round of Reds baseball trivia. His victims included Susan Pittman, Ellen Hunter, Linda Haines, Dan Burke. A final group fine was 50 cents to anyone who has not proposed a new member in the last six months.

Announcement

- Dan Burke announced that Ron Gorby wanted to thank all who attended the Eagles' fish/chicken fry. It was a good turnout.

Program

Dan Burke introduced Troy Anderson, the head of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Auglaize County. In his spare time, Troy is also a 4-H director and his hobbies include beekeeping and remote-controlled airplanes.



Homeland Security (auglaizeco.org/ema) handles every kind of potential disaster from chemical spills, weather-related emergencies and terrorist attacks. Troy personally conducts facility inspections and helps each agency write a security plan if they have not done so and also a follow-up continuity plan to mitigate the disaster event and plan for the future. He often visits hospitals and soon will be visiting nursing homes, which must plan to protect their clients in case of an event or evacuation. Auglaize Co. also has

devised a plan to which every village and township contributes. The federal government is hesitant to release disaster aid to a locality that does not have a written plan in place.

Mr. Anderson also helps with grant writing and serves as a pass-through agency to provide necessary emergency equipment/materials, e.g. warning sirens, and generators to be used in buildings designated as emergency shelters.

Another aspect of his multi-faceted responsibilities is documentation and cleanup of 40-60 spill responses per year. Even a one-day event, e.g. a recent crude oil spill, cost \$96,000. He tries to eliminate price gouging. Probably his worst spill issues are those of diesel fuel. A Hazmat team of 35 members has been available since the year 2000. Much hazardous waste does travel through Auglaize County. Real-life drills are also conducted at least once per year with police, fire chief, sheriff and other pertinent agencies. A Community Emergency Response Team is responsible for helping victims until Homeland Security can take over. An Emergency Operations Center, now housed in the St. Marys Council on Aging facility, has a goal of always being prepared, and rewriting guidelines as necessary.

Certainly stormy weather is a constant danger, like the 2005 ice storm and the flooding a few years later – each cost local businesses over one million dollars. Anderson's office also owns a mobile unit, allowing for quick deployment of a command structure in case of a weather event like a tornado.

Troy Anderson is also proud that he could help with the Silver Bridge collapse in West Virginia, directing the command structure in this event, for which he won a national award.

Truly his work is never done and he deserves our thanks!

Queen of Hearts

Beth Noneman reported that our drawing today was worth \$8.00. Lucky John Wale won the drawing, but the Queen still lives.

Upcoming Programs

- 2-27 Susan Stevens – Group Study Exchange sponsored by Findlay Rotary
- 3-6 Buzz Howard – Life and Time at MHS
- 3-13 Kevin Harlan with Michelle Wasmund Exec. Dir. Physician Practices

Upcoming Greeters

- 2-27 Mike Makley
- 3-6 Mick Teman
- 3-13 Jeff Vossler

**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