



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544,
St. Marys, OH 45885.
www.stmarysrotary.org
February 27, 2013

Call to Order

President Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Allen Baskett delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Kraig Noble led in singing "Wait 'I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover." Our guests today were Becky Macwhinney, guest of Kathy Sampson, and Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim Heinrich. We all sang Happy Birthday today to Rotarian Dan Burke.

Happy Dollars

Happy Rotarians today included Robbie Burke, John Wale, Kathy Sampson, and Karl Dammeyer.

Fines

Sandy Gerdeman was our finer today. Her victims included Dan Burke, Kraig Noble, Mark Ashman, John Wale, Gary Newton, Jim Heinrich, Joe Burke, Ed Pierce, and anyone who has not filed a lawsuit against Hustler Magazine...you had to be there to understand that one.

Announcement

Robbie reminded everyone about the following events and meetings coming up.

- The Rotary Club's "T" and Rich Dueling Piano Show scheduled for April 27th.
- The District Assembly on Saturday, April 13th in Maumee, Ohio.
- District Conference May 17th – 19th at Out-In-Bay.
- St Marys Rotary Board Meeting Wednesday, March 6th prior to our club meeting.

Program

Dan Burke introduced Susan Stevens from the Findlay Rotary Club, who was a member of the 6 person adult team from Rotary District 6600 Group Study Exchange trip to Disretto (District) 2090, Italy.

The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers.

The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

In a typical four-week tour, applicants participate in five full days of vocational visits, 15 to 20 club presentations, 10 to 15 formal visits and social events, two to three days at the district conference, three to four hours per day of cultural and site tours, and three to four hours per day of free time with host families.

For each team member, the Foundation provides the most economical round-trip airline ticket between the home and host countries. Rotarians in the host area provide for meals, lodging, and group travel within their district.



Susan and her fellow team members visited 4 provinces from May 15th through June 13th, 2012. Some of the cities and villages the team visited included Todi, Castiglione, Gubbio (*according to Susan, this community is known for having a large population of "Crazy People" living there.*), Fabriano (*A community famous for producing the paper used for currency*), Macerata, Tolentino (*The home of St Nicholas, known as "The Gate Keeper of Purgatory"*), and finishing their journey in Rome.

Susan had high praises for the Mediterranean diet. Although it took some getting used to. Their meals were very heavy and at times late in the evening, but when combined with all the walking the team did during their travels, were exactly what was needed.

Susan found the people of Italy to be extremely friendly, and the host families to be very accommodating. She thanked Rotary District 6600 for the opportunity to represent our district, and encouraged her fellow Rotarians to take advantage of the opportunity.

Queen of Hearts

Karl Dammeyer (AGAIN) had the winning ticket for a shot at "The Queen", but alas... the Queen said No again to Karl.

Upcoming Programs

- 3-6 Buzz Howard – Life and Time at MHS
- 3-13 Kevin Harlan with Michelle Wasmund Exec. Dir. Physician Practices
- 3/20 Dane Newlove – Director of Bands-St. Marys School System w/SMABB's Trip to the Citrus Bowl Parade and Disney World
- 3/27 Sean Stroh – Update on the Neil Armstrong Airport
- 4/3 Vince Koza w/Columbus Blue Jackets radio announcer (PENDING)
- 4/10 Mel Honig-Member of the Sylvania Rotary Club and their club project in Central America
- 4/17 Shawn Brown- Superintendent of St Marys School District talking about the proposed levy

Upcoming Greeters

- 3-6 Mick Teman
- 3-13 Jeff Vossler
- 3-20 Jon Hall
- 3-27 Randy Elsass
- 4-3 Bill Maki
- 4-10 Rick Gerdeman
- 4-17 Dick Hudson
- 4-24 Beth Noneman

**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: Allen Baskett