



The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503
P. O. Box 544
St. Marys, OH 45885
www.stmarysrotary.org
December 18, 2013

Call to Order

President Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Susan Pittman offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We welcomed guests Stephanie Back and Aaron Adams.

Announcements

President Dan announced that members would be voting for 2014 Board Members today and ballots were distributed. Running unopposed for officer positions were: Randy Elsass – President; Kathy Sampson – President Elect; Karl Dammeyer – Vice President; Keith Flederjohann – Treasurer; Don Hinckley – Secretary; and Pat Cogan – Sergeant-at-Arms. Three new trustees will join the board and will be announced after the ballots are counted.

Jeff Squire informed members that changes to the Rotary International constitution have been made. Most of the changes are housekeeping items, but there is also a provision that will allow e-clubs

for members who are not able to attend meetings regularly. Robbie Burke moved to approve the new Rotary International Constitution, Marty Dodrill seconded the motion; all ayes, motion carried.

Kraig Noble explained that many years ago, Richard Neely gave a hat to Ed Noble because Ed was always “passing the hat.” It has now become a tradition to pass that hat for Goodfellows every year at Christmas. The Goodfellows will provide approximately 340 families with food and gifts for Christmas. We continued the tradition and passed the hat for Goodfellows. ***The total donation collected for the day was \$381.00!*** Mike Makley and the Goodfellows would like to sincerely thank the club membership for your very generous donations.

Program

Today was time to PARTY! We enjoyed yet another wonderful Annual Christmas Party organized once again by the creative duo of Sandy and Rick Gerdeman.



Sandy and Rick decided to mix things up a bit this year. We all brought wrapped gifts as usual and put them all on a table. After a wonderful Christmas dinner the fun began.

Everyone went up a picked out a gift when their ticket number was called. Then we all got together in a circle in the middle of the room. Sandy read us “’Twas the Night before Christmas” and we had to pass gifts to the right and left every time she said the words “right” or “left.”



Confusion sat in. Perhaps in a future meeting we should have a speaker who can teach us our right from our left? At some point, Marty had three gifts, and Kraig had none. Eventually Kraig ended up with the present he started with, which was not supposed to happen. Rita sarcastically commented on how smart we were.



Once we got that straightened out, we were hit with Christmas trivia questions. If you got it right, you could steal a gift. Rita’s comment came back to bite her when she missed her question. Kathy, Lorraine, Jim H., Tami, Mick, President Dan, Kraig, Jon, Tim D., Gary N., Mike M., Keith F., Gayle, and Susan C. all got

questions right and could steal gifts if they wanted. Robbie and Susan P. got lots of help but were allowed to steal anyway. And all the while Keith ate his lunch.

After all of that we went round robin singing Christmas carols with each person singing a line of a song, but it eventually devolved into lots of “Fa la la la la, la la la la”s. We need a songbook for our singing!

A big thanks to Sandy and Rick for planning a great party as they always do. There was lots of laughter, and people went home with lots of liquor too!

Queen of Hearts

Travis Elsass won the 50/50 drawing.

Upcoming Programs

- 12-25 Merry Christmas! – NO MEETING
- 1-1 Happy New Year! – NO MEETING
- 1-8 Robert “Buz” Howard – The St. Marys Anthology
- 1-15 Kelly Fulmer & Dan Hegemeier St. Marys HS Basketball Update

Upcoming Greeters

- 1-8 Alex Pittman
- 1-15 Rita Hilty
- 1-22 Bob Leugers
- 1-29 Jeff Squire

**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?