



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544,  
St. Marys, OH 45885.  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
February 11, 2015

### Call to Order

President-Elect Kathy Sampson opened the meeting and Jon Kraner offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

### Guests/Song/Birthdays

We welcomed Jim Christman, guest of Dan Burke and Jared Mauch, from the Daily Standard.

Jeff Squire led the Club in singing "America". There was one member with a birthday this week, but he was not in attendance.

### Happy Dollars/Fines

Dan Burke offered happy dollars for a successful orientation and for his guest, Jim Christman. Kraig Noble was also happy to welcome Jim Christman. Linda Haines was happy for her trip to Florida. Jim

Heinrich added to the pot for the chance to 'make-up' in Celina and have lunch with Linda Haines' father.

As Finer-of-the-Day, Ellen Hunter asked a series of trivia questions regarding member, Brad Seitz. Brad attended OSU and graduated in 2002 with a degree in Agri-Business and Economics. He is married to Mindy and has five children. Brad has been a member of Rotary since 2010.

### Announcements

At the February 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, Jim Christman was proposed for membership by Dan Burke. During this meeting, Dan Hosek received a Paul Harris Plus award from Jeff Squire.

### Program

We were happy to have Mike Mullen address our Club this day. Mike is certainly familiar to many in our area, having served as the voice of WIMA radio for over 30 years.

Mike was born in Cincinnati, but grew up near Washington D.C. Mike kept his ties to Ohio, however, by vacationing with his grandparents during summers and later attending Xavier University.

After receiving his Bachelor degree in English, Mike joined the Naval Officer Training School. Interestingly enough, he developed his interest in sports casting while in the Navy. Mike got his start as a fill-in announcer for triple-A baseball games in Honolulu, Hawaii. He also broadcast baseball games using remote audio feeds, supplemented by crowd noise and sound effects that made listeners think they were hearing a live game directly from the ballpark.

While stationed in Ethiopia, Mike was assigned as a communications officer and got the chance to broadcast the southern European Armed Forces Basketball tournament held in Athens.



Through these experiences, Mike decided that he had some talent and that he really loved being in front of the microphone. So, after his military career ended, Mike decided to pursue a civilian career in radio. His first job was actually broadcasting sports for a television station in Zanesville, Ohio. But then in 1974, he was hired by WIMA radio in Lima. And, as they say, the rest is history.

As a small market radio personality, Mike had to wear a lot of hats. In addition to serving as Sports Director and broadcasting local sports events, he performed engineering, set-up, equipment repair, and more.

Mike shared several stories and reminisced about the people he's met and all that he has experienced. When asked, Mike said that his most memorable event was when Lima Senior High School won their State Football championship in 1996 by beating perennial high school powerhouse, Cleveland St. Ignatius.

Since retiring from WIMA in 2005, Mike has kept his hand in broadcasting

by doing play-by-play announcing for University of Northwestern Ohio sports events on internet radio.

During his career, Mike has received many honors and awards. He served twice as President of Ohio Sportscasters Association and was also the recipient of several Coaches' Media Service Awards.

Unfortunately, we got to hear only a few of Mike's stories; however, he has written a book, entitled, "Mullen It Over. 40 Years Behind the Mic". This book is intended as his legacy for his children and grandchildren and is also dedicated to those who have listened to his broadcasts for so many years.

### Queen of Hearts

Sue Pittman had the lucky ticket, but was not lucky enough to find the Queen.

### Upcoming Programs

- 2/18 Kevin Harlan, Grand Lake Health Systems
- 2/25 Fire Chief, Doug Ayers

### Upcoming Greeters

- 2/18 Gayle Masonbrink
- 2/25 Brent Miller
- 3/4 Kent Miller
- 3/11 Gary Newton

*\* Please note: All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 a.m.*

The meeting was adjourned after recitation of the "Four Way Test".

