

The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503 P. O. Box 544, St. Marys, OH 45885. www.stmarysrotary.org May 18, 2016

Call to Order

President Kathy Sampson opened the meeting and Sue Pittman offered the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests / Song / Birthdays

Visiting Rotarians Kenny Teague (Hagerstown, IN) and Cathery Sarno (Lima) joined along with guests, Kim Ray (guest of Tami Sanford and prospective new member) and Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim).

Kraig Noble led the Club in the singing of "Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie". There were no members present that were celebrating birthdays.

Happy Dollars / Fines

Kathy Sampson and Ellen Hunter were happy for the successful Circus & Carp Derby. Kraig Noble was happy for today's speaker, Carp Derby, and for joining Kevin Lawler's installation at his new church. Dan Burke added a dollar since Robbie picked up a carp (and he didn't), Tami Sanford for visiting daughter, Robbie Burke for last Saturday's District Assembly, and Kevin Lawler for a good time at his installation. Zach Ferrall kicked in \$5 for the 5th annual Carp Derby (first year under Rotary) and Trisha Barnes added money for the Circus--both thanked those who helped with these programs. Jim Heinrich spoke re: Rotary magazine and the 2017 R.I. Convention in Atlanta. Jon Hall talked about the St. Marys Hardware auction & announced his departure from the Club when he moves to Michigan.

For what might be his final time, Fine-Master Jon Hall made it simple, fining those that have and those that have not been fined by Jon in the past ...that was pretty much everyone!!

Announcements / Presentations

- Kathy read letters from scholarship winner, Kailyn Fledderjohann, and from Noble family for contribution by Rotary in memory of Kay Noble.
- Kathy gave special thanks Zach F. and Trisha B. for heading up the Carp Derby and Circus, respectively ...and for all who assisted before or during these events. Weather not the best, but we made ~\$1,000 from Circus & ~\$5,800 from Carp Derby.
- P-E Ellen is asking for members' choices of committee assignments

Program

P-E Ellen Hunter introduced Dr. Chuck Moul, son of John and Margie Moul, and a 1990 MHS graduate. Dr. Moul received a Bachelor degree from Miami University and his Economics PhD from Northwestern University. He now serves as Associate Professor of Economics for Miami University.

Dr. Moul has written 15 journal publications and four book chapters. He was recognized as a top Arts and Sciences professor at Washington University in 2007 and named by Miami University student government as top junior faculty member in 2015.



His presentation--"What's Wrong with Higher Education?"--centered on two current issues. The first was the rising cost of higher education. For example, Miami's tuition is three times higher than Dr. Moul paid in 1990-94. One could ask why the cost has not declined as it has with computers and many other goods and services. He listed several theories for this trend, including the high cost of facilities and programs to compete for students and the fact that the number of professors and administrators has increased disproportionately since the 1990's.

More important, to keep up with the rising cost, most students incur significant debt—total college debt exceeded \$1 trillion in 2012. So, does attending college make sense for everyone? Some say there are human capital benefits of attending collegegaining knowledge of a field of study or gaining general understanding of the world, social networks, etc. Others say attending college 'signals' to employers that you have the intelligence and ability to survive in the working world. If the 'signaling' theory is accurate, we should find a less expensive way to achieve this since graduates' salaries haven't risen enough to justify the debt incurred.

The second issue discussed by Dr. Moul was the prevalence of campus protests. Colleges want to accept everyone--even those students with marginal capability. This can create a mismatch between less-capable students and their college degree requirements. These students work hard, but struggle to succeed. In addition, they're often pulled to less-lucrative fields by grade-inflation. The theory holds that these students tend to get discouraged and are more inclined to show this by 'protesting'.

Queen of Hearts

Dan Burke's number was called, but the Queen still lives.

Upcoming Programs

5/25/16 Deb Andrews 6/1/16 Randy Haberkamp 6/8/16 TBD

Upcoming Greeters

5/25/16 Tami Sanford 6/1/16 Randy Elsass 6/8/16 Frank Klatt

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

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

