



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

February 22, 2017

Call to Order

President Ellen Hunter opened the meeting and Kevin Lawler gave the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests / Song / Birthdays

Our Guests today included Jan Heinrich guest of Jim, Mark Ernst and Doug Ayers guests of Jake Sutton, Jason Elsass guest of Randy Elsass, Abby Balster guest of Trisha Barnes, Pat McGowan guest of Mike Burkholder, Buz Howard guest of Zack Ferrall, and Ed Gebert from the Daily Standard.

Kevin then led us in song. With the Sports Complex in mind, we all sang "Take Me Out To The Ball Game". That was followed by Happy Birthday for Dan Burke.

Happy Dollars

We had a lot of Happy Rotarians today...they included President Ellen, Travis Elsass, Beth Noneman, Renee Homan, Randy Elsass, Kevin Wolf, Robbie Burke, Kathy Bayless, Kraig Noble, Bob Leugers, Alisher Khudaykulov, Charles Richtmeyer, and Jim Heinrich with his Rotary Minute. He encouraged us to check out the latest issue of The Rotarian. It has an excellent article highlighting our district.

Fines

Zack Ferrall was our finer today...His victims included Kraig Noble, Kevin Lawler, and Robbie Burke. Group fines went out for the following infractions...

- Anyone who did not attend Gears & Cheers.
- Anyone who did not help pass out cookies.
- Anyone not attending the Chamber Banquet.

Announcements / Presentations

- Pres. Ellen asked for a show of hands from anyone willing to donate \$20.00 for Display Cases. Many hands went up and names were recorded.
- Pres. Ellen announced the MESA project and the need for donations of used medical equipment & supplies.
- Gears & Cheers tomorrow night. Our guest speaker is Mark Ashman.
- Pres. Ellen encouraged as many members as possible to attend the Chamber Banquet on March 9th.
- We have a board meeting next week.
- Ellen has membership packets if anyone needs them. Keep up the good work growing our club.

Program

Today's program was presented by fellow Rotarian Dan Burke. Dan is the secretary/treasurer of the Roughriders Philanthropic Assoc. Dan, along with Superintendent Howard Overman, and high school principal Bill Ruane shared their plans with our club today.



Dan noted that our community is at a crossroads with the football stadium here in St. Marys. Skip Baughman Stadium has a lot of issues. Do we spend on repairing and updating the crumbling stadium or build a new state-of-the-art facility at the school's main campus where we have a beautiful new artificial turf and a 10-lane track that can host all kinds of invitationals?



Dan, Howard, and Bill all agreed the best thing for students is to leave behind the Roughriders' traditional home field, and build for the future.

The committee is seeking donations to build the \$6 million-dollar stadium with a seating capacity of 3,800-4,000 - 500 more than the current stadium,

with 700-750 parking spaces and access to an additional 700 existing spaces at the school.



Mayor McGowan also spoke to plans for the existing stadium and the area surrounding it.

The new facility would benefit more than the football program. Dan noted that the band and the Track & Field programs would be positively impacted. The stadium would also enable St Marys to host playoffs and other types of field competitions.

Fundraising success will dictate when we could move into a new home. The hope is that we could be playing the 2018 season at the new facility.

Queen of Hearts

Alex Pittman got to draw for the Queen today, but alas...no Queen for Alex.

Upcoming Programs

- 3/1/17 Jake Meinerding, new City water treatment plant
- 3/8/17 Morgan Paul, St. Marys Community Public Library
- 3/15/17 Don Kemp, Ethanol Plant

Upcoming Greeters

- 3/1/17 Gayle Masonbrink
- 3/8/17 Kraig Noble
- 3/15/17 Alex Pittman

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

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

