



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

April 26, 2017

Call to Order

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

Guests / Song / Birthdays

We have a long and distinguished list of guests today joining us to celebrate "Administrative Professionals Day". They included Donna Burris (guest of Keith Fledderjohann), Kris Vondenhuevel and Peg Schweitzer (guests of Dan Burke), Brittany Santire (guest of Scott Matte), Jenna Kanool (guest of John Ficorilli), Pat Behr, Katie Manbeck, Kim Ray and Peggy Drees (guests of Tami Sanford), Jeannine Goodwin, Becky Christopher, Katelynn Halloway, and Cindy Snider (guests of Noble, Montague, and Moul),

Doris Wale, Emily Knapke, Charlie Eberle, Sandy Melkstroth, and Patti Hamilton (guests of Mary Ernst), Marge Cook and Sandra Boesche (guests of Travis Elsass), Jill Dickman (guest of Linda Haines), Marie Meyer (guest of Ellen Hunter), Ann Hudson (guest of Dick Hudson), and Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim Heinrich).

Kevin Lawler led us all in the singing of "When the Saints go Marching In".

Happy Dollars / Fines

Lots of Happy Rotarians today. The list included Jeff Squire, Travis Elsass, Dan Hosek, Linda Haines, Tammy Sanford, Alex Pittman, Frank Klatt, Dick Hudson, Dan Burke, Rita Hilty, Allen Baskett, Keith Fledderjohann, Ellen Hunter, and Jim Heinrich with his Rotary Minute.

Finemaster, Randy Elsass levied today's fines. Individual fines were assessed to Tammi Sanford, Mike Burkholder, Steve Boehmfeldt, Dick Hudson, and Alex & Sue Pittman. Group fines were too numerous to mention. Lets just say no one was spared.

Announcements / Presentations

- Ellen thanked Rita Hilty and her committee for their efforts for today's program.



- The Carp Derby is coming up.
- Ellen recognized Marie from Spring Flowers for the table arrangements.



- Keith Fledderjohann was also recognized for his many hours of service to our club and was presented with a token of appreciation from Ellen.
- Gears and Cheers at JT's tomorrow night.
- The directory is done. Ellen thanked Rebecca Oeltjenbruns for putting it all together.
- Ellen urged everyone to keep Rev Bill Maki in your prayers as he recovers from a bout with pneumonia.

Program

Our program for today was from Denny Long, a rollercoaster enthusiast and historian. Denny shared stories about and a model of the Gordon State Park Amusement Park in St Marys. Gordon State Park, a 13-acre amusement park, compete with a boardwalk, dance pavilion and wooden roller coaster called the Devil's Backbone.



Built in 1924 on what is now the Villa Nova housing subdivision near St. Marys, it was a main tourist attraction for 7 years.

Rides included a 60-foot ferris wheel, a merry-go-round, a miniature railroad, the Old Mill Coaster and the Sea Plane. The

Devil's Backbone roller coaster was 90 feet high, 2,500 feet long and was the second largest roller coaster in Ohio at that time.



In 1931, a fire destroyed the dance hall, the Devil's Backbone and some concessions. The Depression, the fire, and a tornado that hit the park in about the same timeframe were too much to bare, and the Gordon State Park ceased operations in 1933.

Queen of Hearts

Brittany Santire had the winning ticket for a chance at the Queen today, but alas...no Queen today.

Upcoming Programs

- 5/3/17 Lake Improvement Assoc.
- 5/17/17 Lora Abernathy, Editor of "Salt"-a digital magazine about western Ohio

Upcoming Greeters

- 5/3/17 Ken Strickland
- 5/10/17 Jeff Vossler
- 5/17/17 Linda Vogel

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

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

