



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

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www.stmarysrotary.org

May 16, 2018

Call to Order

President Jeff Squire opened the meeting and Sue Pittman offered the invocation.

Guests included Jami Goecke (guest of Renee Homan and prospective new member), Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), and Jake Dowling & Jenna Gilbert (Evening Leader).

Kraig Noble led singing of “In the Good Old Summertime” and “Happy Birthday” to Renee Homan.

Happy Dollars/Fines

President Jeff was happy for good time at recent “Paint for Polio” event; Tami Sanford for family gathering; Robbie Burke for today’s speaker and for chance at Queen; Brian Botti for 10-mile hike with

scouts; Renee Homan for her guest, Jami Goecke (prospective new member); and Bev Wilker for expecting another grandchild. Laia Mortimer also happy for “Paint for Polio”; Rita Hilty for son graduating as nurse practitioner; Randy Elsass for past program that spurred him to get skin cancer exam; Kraig Noble for encounter with Greek citizens with local connections in Ohio; and Ellen Hunter for Alex Pittman & committee raising \$800 through “Paint for Polio” event.



Finemaster, Travis Elsass, declared Ellen Hunter’s and Laia Mortimer’s “Polio” paintings to be the best, while fining Wes Protsman and President Jeff Squire for quality of their paintings (even so, Kevin Lawler offered to buy Jeff’s painting). Group fines levied for those not registered for District Conference, those without tickets to Buckland Chicken Dinner; those missing from last Gears & Cheers night and/or “Paint for Polio”.

Announcements

- Next Gears & Cheers features Pres. Jeff with rundown on new craft beer breweries in Ohio (6:00 PM, 5/24/18 at J.T.’s)
- Carp Derby set for 6/1 – 6/3/18 at Grand Lake St. Marys; see Zach to volunteer on those days
- Members encouraged to contact Zach Ferrall with preferences for 2018-19 committee assignments

- Due to conflicts, Annual Banquet re-scheduled for Thur., 7/12/18 (no meeting on Wed., 7/11/18)
- President Jeff presented \$1,000 check—first of five installments contributing to Roughrider Philanthropic Association



Program

We welcomed Tom Knapke, a Coldwater native and no stranger to most of us since he has served in several roles with Wright State University Lake Campus over the past 40 years. Also serving as Chairman of the Lake Restoration Committee (LRC), Tom joined today to provide an update on past achievements and future plans to help restore Grand Lake St. Marys.



Since its founding in 2011, the LRC has worked with the Ohio EPA, Ohio DNR, federal, State, and local government, and local stakeholders to develop a strategic plan. LRC’s critical actions have included chemical alum treatment, dredging of sediment, and

treatment trains in the Prairie, Coldwater, and Beaver Creeks. The latter measures alone have succeeded in removing about 31% of the nitrogen and 71% of the phosphorus flowing into the lake. In addition, linear aeration and circulation systems were installed in several channels and the Ohio DNR has authorized removal of ‘rough’ fish, giving rise to efforts like our club’s Carp Derby.

The success of past actions has been significant and has contributed to the growth of the local economy, many new business developments, and a resurgence of recreation and tourism. In fact, plans are underway for developing St. Marys Second Beach area for safe swimming by Labor Day 2018.

Building on this success, future priorities will include continued monitoring of scientific data, management of watershed inputs, and sustaining those actions that have been the most effective.

Queen of Hearts

Wes Protsman’s ticket picked, but he came up empty on the draw.

Upcoming Programs

- 5/23 Jack Waite-Tailspin Brewery
- 5/30 Bob Warren-Auglaize County Council on Aging
- 6/6 Gretchen Rentz-WSLC Alumni Connections

Upcoming Greeters

- 5/23 Dick Hudson
- 5/30 Alisher Khudaykulov
- 6/6 Brad Seitz

