



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

June 13, 2018

Call to Order

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

Rotarian, Marc Kogan (Findlay) joined the meeting. Guests included Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), Sissy Dell (guest of Gayle Masonbrink), and Jake Dowling (Evening Leader).

Zach Ferrall led the singing of "My Old Kentucky Home". No birthdays today.

Happy Dollars/Fines

President Jeff was happy to have joined Gears & Cheers and to get his 'hoody' for completing his Ohio craft beer tour; Brian Botti for Celina Day Camp; Bill Maki for 3rd annual "Walk for Water"; Kevin

Lawler for chance to sing at Rotary; and Ellen Hunter for Emily Post having a published article. Rick Green added a dollar for his 45th anniversary; Gayle Masonbrink for today's speaker; Abby Balster for vacation and Chamber programs ("Grow Your Business", "Business after Hours"); and Mike Lee gave \$400 for Rotary tree planting (way to go, Mike!!).



Finemaster, Phil Schumann, held a Father's Day trivia quiz. We learned that Dad's Day began in 1908, was finally set as 3rd Sunday in June, and has its roots in Spanish, Portuguese, and European Catholic traditions. Group fines were levied for those who haven't attended a local festival or NASCAR event, and those who've complained about the heat.



Announcements

- Rotary Workday planned for 9:00 AM, on Saturday, 6/23/18 to spread mulch, perform landscaping, and clean up park area near community pool;

Members who can lend a hand are welcome to join--bring your shovel, rake, or wheelbarrow

- **REMINDER:** No meetings on Wed., 7/4/18 or on 7/11/18
- Annual Banquet scheduled for Thur., 7/12/18--please you're your RSVP to Kathy Sampson
- Zach Ferrall sent out proposed list of committee assignments for 2018-2019 Rotary year; Let him know immediately if you have questions

Program

Tina Seewer-Jacob presented today's program. Tina is a 1992 graduate of MHS who now lives in Columbus with her husband and two children. Tina and her husband run a manufacturing business that supplies pipes, valves, fittings, and controls for various applications.



Out of business and personal interests, Tina and her husband have made several trips to Cuba. After a 56-year U.S. economic embargo, Cuba has now opened its doors to tourism and limited cultural exchange, but it's still a socialist country. Only 90 miles from Florida, Cuba is 'frozen in time'--as seen in the prevalence of vintage automobiles, and older architecture and technology. By necessity, Cubans have an uncanny

ability to recycle, repair, and preserve things we'd have discarded long ago for something that we thought was newer and better.

Tina's pictures helped convey what life is like in Cuba today. Although citizens are allowed to run their own small businesses, they can only employ family. And, regardless of occupation, Cuban citizens, even professionals such as doctors, have an income of only \$30 per month. However, some find ways to 'supplement' income.

She related several stories, like her visit to a cigar factory where all family members worked--even the children. In fact, cigars were often named to commemorate stories that adults read to their children during work breaks. She also met Alex Castro--a photographer who uses trash and discarded items as 'subjects' to help teach his students that there can be beauty in even the simplest of things.

Queen of Hearts

Zach Ferrall drew a card, but it was not the Queen, so the pot is still growing.

Upcoming Programs

6/20 Nick Rentz, LIA
6/27 Kraig Noble, Club history
7/4 No meeting

Upcoming Greeters

6/20 Kraig Noble
6/27 Abby Balster

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

