



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

October 9, 2019

Call to Order

President Travis Elsass opened the meeting and Sue Pittman offered the invocation.

Guests included Aaron Powell, guest of Zach Ferrall, Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim, and the Dowlings.

Rita Hilty led the club in singing "All Hail to Rotary" and "Happy Birthday" to Bev Wilker.

Happy Dollars

Pres. Travis was happy for his 64,000 steps over Octoberfest weekend, Brian Botti for scouting event at Bella's, Pat Cogan for his 50th wedding anniversary, Dan Burke for Joe's successful bypass surgery, Wes Protsman for a successful Arts Place event and the upcoming opening this Sunday, Rita Hilty for JTDMH taking good care of her and from Otterbein's Fall

Festival this Saturday, Jamie Goeke for VanCrest passing all inspections, Linda Haines for our our Onesies project and Keith Fledderjohann for coin club raffle tickets for sale.

Fines

Ellen Hunter did the fines. She exempted Mike Lee as the first one to RSVP for pancake breakfast. She got a surprising number of people for not having their badges. She group fined anyone not living near Stan Davis, not inviting a potential Rotarian to a meeting, not giving Mike Burkholder an umbrella or not going on vacation.

Announcements

- There will be a quick board meeting after today's regular meeting.
- October 20 is Walk With Nature.
- October 29 is the Rotary Halloween Parade.
- After the parade we are doing Pizza for Polio again. A sign-up sheet was circulated.
- November 2 is Family of Rotary Pancake Breakfast at Ellen Hunter's house.
- We received a thank you from the hospital for the onesies and a thank you from the City for the field liner donation.

Program

PE Wes introduced Stan Davis as our speaker today. Stan is well known to our club. He worked for the City for many years but is better known for his volunteer efforts for the city. He has been

active on many boards and in many groups and has received many recognitions including the Builder of Bridges and our own Service above Self. Today Stan came to talk to us about the Walk with Nature.



The Walk with Nature is in its 50th year this year. The walk has always been to highlight the 1830's vintage tow path on the Miami-Erie canal. In 1970 Eldon Montague and a few others started the walk from High Street up to 40 acre pond. There were 289 people listed as doing the first walk. It was started as a family event and still is. Stan showed us some early canal pictures and some pictures from the coverage of the first Walk with Nature.

In 1989 the walk was taken over by the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis. Originally there was both a Fall walk and a Spring walk, but they stopped the Spring walk in 1989 as the weather was too unpredictable. Many of them were rained out.

In 2009 they added the "Fall Festival" aspect to the Walk. It

added music, children's activities, a car show, some food and craft vendors and civil war reenactor's.

Participation in the walk has always been weather dependent. The most people ever recorded for a walk was in 2013 when more than 1,400 people signed up. They try to keep track of the numbers by having people sign in and identify where participants are from. There are walkers from all over the area.

This year there are buses that will run to both 40 acre pond and to Lock 14. You can either ride out and walk back into town or have the buses pick you up and return you. The walk to Lock 14 is about 5 miles.

Queen of Hearts

Mike Makley won the daily drawing but failed to pull the queen.

Upcoming Programs

10/16 Rep. Riedel

Upcoming Greeters

10/16 Brian Botti

10/23 John Wale

10/30 Jim Harris

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 am**

