



## THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)

November 20, 2019

### Call to Order

President Travis Elsass called the meeting to order and Tim Benjamin offered the invocation.

Kraig Noble led the club in singing "All Hail to Rotary".

Guests included Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), Mike Wilker, (guest of Bev), John Kraner, (guest of Julie), Jake Dowling (The Evening Leader), Sidney Albert (Daily Standard), and Katie, Aaron, and Adrienne from WLIO

### Happy Dollars

Tami Sanford, for finding out her new grandchild is a boy; Linda Haines for the new MHS Girl's Basketball Hall of Fame and for

wreath silent auction at the hospital; Alisher for John Coe's chance at the queen last week; Mike Lee for reunion with fraternity brothers; Kim Ray for husband's recovery from back surgery and change of date for Rotary Family Christmas Party; Tim Benjamin for Offer of Gratitude event this evening; and Bob Leugers for NB still in football playoffs.



### Fines

Mike Lee did a very efficient job of doing out all fines for Christmas décor out, but a credit for those with Thanksgiving decor; fine for those with Christmas lights out, but a credit if you have not turned them on, if fine for anyone who has not helped with a MESA pickup.

### Announcements

- 11/21/19--MESA pickup at Eric Schall's office
- 11/27/19--Regular Club meeting to be held at Vancrest Living Center's new facility
- 11/23 Peace and Leadership
- 12/12/19--Kids' Christmas Party
- 12/16/19--Christmas caroling
- 12/18/19--Adult Christmas party and gift exchange
- 1/4/2020 One Rotary Summit

- Can now register for district conference to be held on May 1.



### Program

Donna Grube from the Greater Grand Lake Visitors Region was today's speaker. In 2018 a new record for lodging tax collected was set. Room sales topped \$8 million, and 2019 looks like it will be higher than 2018. Boaters Beach Concerts started in 2019 and were a big success. In 2019, there were a total of 14, 932 campground spaces rented. The Mission to the Moon celebration was a huge boon for the entire region.

Looking ahead: the Solar Eclipse in 2024 (April 8), the Villa Nova West Beach (Second Beach to the SM natives) project will be heavily marketed once toxin signs are removed. Is looking at having a beach party on Second Beach each Saturday next July, with various civic associations serving as sponsors. The Ohio History Connection has plans to purchase the boyhood home of Neil Armstrong and open it to the public, as well as expanding the gallery at the Neil Armstrong museum. The Canal Mill Project has great potential. The Grand Lake Brews and Vines Trail will be

a digital passport for 15 individually owned coffeeshops, vineyards, and breweries in the area. Hope this passport will help draw visitors to the area during shoulder season (spring and fall). Wish List: rentals (bike, kayaks, paddleboats, etc), boat tours, and fishing guides.



### Queen of Hearts

Tim Benjamin's ticket was drawn, but the Queen eluded him.

### Upcoming Programs

- 11/27 Jami Goecke, Meeting/Tour at Vancrest Living Center
- 12/4 Dr. Stephen Jacquemin, Grand Lake St. Marys Update
- 12/11 Gary Newton, Rotary Foundation Update
- 12/18 Holiday Party

### Upcoming Greeters

- 11/27 Ellen Hunter
- 12/4 Alisher Khudaykulov
- 12/11 Julie Kraner
- 12/18 Kevin Lawler

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

**\* Please note: Rotarian who is serving as 'Greeter' should be in place by 11:30 AM**