



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

July 29, 2020

Call to Order

President Wes Protsman called the meeting to order and Zach Ferrall offered the invocation as written by Sue Pittman.

Birthday for Dan Hosek was recognized today.

No visiting Rotarian present. Guests included our speakers, Sherriff Al Solomon & Investigator Todd Keller (Auglaize County Sherriff's Office), Robert Luckey (prospective member, guest of Dan Burke), Katie Honigford (WLIO), Aaron Miller (WLIO), Sydney Albert (Daily Standard), and Jake & Teresa Dowling (Evening Leader).

Happy Dollars

President Wes was happy for the recent rain which discouraged

muscrats from interfering with his garden along with the fact his neighbor has successfully trapped 22 racoons this year alone; Kraig Noble was happy that Pastor Tim's recent procedure went well along with the fact he no longer has to attend City Council Meetings; lastly, Dan Burke was happy for attending the D.A.R.E. golf outing and the fact that his son's wedding is still on for this weekend despite COVID-19!

Fines

Randy Elsass levied fines on an individual and group basis. Travis Elsass (along with his Rotary Board) was fined for inferring with Randy's "fines" agenda. Mike Burkholder was fined for an untimely arrival to today's meeting. Dick Hudson, Pat Cogan and Zach Farrell were fined based on their answers to questions ranging from gardening to COVID-19 mortality rates. Group fines were administered based on activities none of us have done and therefore we all owed \$2.00.

Announcements

- The 2020-21 District Governor Meeting will be hosted virtually; Wes will give further detail as available.
- It is still being considered how to go about a bid on a Jr. Fair swine; Bev Wilker reported via Zoom that she has it under control – you go Bev!!
- Board Meeting will be held next week prior to club meeting.
- Annual R.O.C. fundraiser is on 08/13/20. Cost is \$15/person, \$100/table of 8; Wes is purchasing a table and would love 7 guests. Let him know if available!

- Dick Oman, a previous member of our Club, passed away on July 26, 2020; our thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones.

Program

Sherriff Al Solomon and Investigator Todd Keller presented today's program. Sherriff Solomon has been in law enforcement for 40+ years and has served as the Auglaize County Sherriff since 2005. Investigator Keller has been with the Auglaize County Sherriff's Department since 2010 and has served as field commander since 2017.

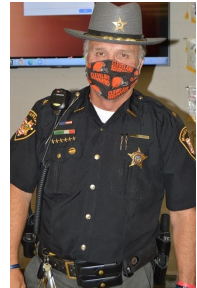
Sherriff Solomon discussed the numerous services the Auglaize County Sherriff's department offers to the community including:

- Drug Take Back Program
- D.A.R.E. program
- Public Seminars for community education

Investigator Keller offered insight into the current illicit drugs that are most commonly found in our communities. These drugs include pharmaceuticals, Heroin, Fentanyl, Meth, Cocaine, and Crack Cocaine. The Grand Lake Task Force (a partnership between Auglaize and Mercer counties) works diligently with the help of confidential informants to find the individuals distributing these drugs into our communities.

Both Sheriff Solomon and Investigator Keller were clear about the importance of finding and charging individuals who use and distribute drugs within our community; however, both also were adamant about the importance of treating and rehabilitating individuals that struggle with addiction.

How can we help? Sherriff Solomon recommended that we all take the time to educate ourselves on the drug related difficulties our community faces. A great start would be to ATTEND one of the public education seminars offered by the Sherriff's Department. In addition, we need to support causes, such as the R.O.C., that work to support and rehabilitate individuals struggling with drug addiction.



Queen of Hearts

Dan Burke's ticket was drawn – but the queen lives!

Upcoming Programs

- 8/5 Randy Shellenbarger, Photography of Grand Lake St. Marys
- 8/12 Bill Ruane, SM City Schools COVID-19 compliance
- 8/19 Riley Robey, Memorial High School Band Director

Upcoming Greeters

- 8/5 Dan Burke
- 8/12 Rick Green
- 8/19 Robbie Burke

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

** Please note: 'Greeter' should be in place by 11:30 AM*

