



## THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

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

September 2, 2020

### Call to Order

President Wes Protsman called the meeting to order and Pat Cogan offered the invocation.

No visiting Rotarians present today. Guests include Jake Dowling (Evening Leader), Sydney Albert (Daily Standard) and Memorial High School Seniors: Austin Frank, Zach Steven, Xander Spees, Samantha Taylor, and Lucy Spencer.

### Happy Dollars

Jim Heinrich virtually gave \$10 for the continent of Africa being Polio free! Bill Ruane was happy for the monetary donation to Memorial High School, for the start of school and for the seniors present today. Craig Noble for the present seniors

and his family joining in on Roughriders football from across the U.S. Trisha Barnes was happy that Waynesfield is back to school, her facemask covers facial piosion ivy and to encourage us all to purchase Chamber Chicken Dinners (09/17, \$10/ticket). Zach Ferrall was happy for our speaker and his weekend wedding tour. Lastly, Randy Elsass was happy to not have COVID-19 despite exposure.

### Fines

Randy Elsass gave individual fines based on trivia questions while group fines were also given for a plethora of reasons – we all owe \$2.00.



### Announcements

- Due to club members' generosity, additional donations were able to be made to St. Marys Schools for the supply drive. A \$500 check was presented to Bill Raune for use at Memorial High School.
- Thank you to all those who aided in trash pickup!
- Wes discussed upcoming Rotary meetings via Zoom on 09/15 and 10/10; look for more information to come via e-mail.
- Happy Birthday to Dick Hudson!

### Program

PE Mike Lee introduced our speaker, Judge Mark Spees. Judge Spees attended Youngstown State University for his undergraduate studies and attended Ohio Northern University for law school. He has served as Auglaize County Court Judge for 26 years. He is currently running unopposed for his last term as Judge. Judge Spees has been married for 45 years and enjoys golf, backpacking the Appalachian Trail, and bee keeping (3 hives!).

Judge Spees educated our club on the varying divisions of county courts and mores specifically in his domains of Probate Court, Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court.

Judge Spees commitment to our youth was evident throughout his presentation. In his work with juveniles he encourages education for all children who enter his courtroom. He helped to establish alternative schooling so that no education time was lost as children went through the court system. In addition, during his time as judge, he has ensured unruly kids are seen in his court within one week of violations. Our own Bill Raune was able to attest to Judge Spees commitment to our youth and their education.

Judge Spees spent time answering questions with our club members. Questions regarding domestic violence and child abuse issues during the COVID 19 pandemic were addressed.

We thank Judge Spees for taking time out of his busy schedule to educate our club!



### Queen of Hearts

Bill Raune's ticket was pulled and the Queen lives.

### Upcoming Programs

- 9/9
- 9/16 Heidi Lisi, DECA Program + Senior Students @ Memorial HS
- 9/23 Mark Schimmel ODNR

### Upcoming Greeters

- 9/9 Pat Cogan
- 9/16 Randy Elsass
- 9/23 Zach Ferrall

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

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

