



THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

www.stmarysrotary.org

October 10, 2018

Call to Order

Technical difficulties were in no shortage when President Zach Ferrall opened the meeting at 12:22pm, and Rita Hilty offered the invocation.

Visitors included: Sara Chongson (today's program), Teresa Dowling (Evening Leader), and Tim Benjamin (guest of Ellen Hunter).

Song Leader Jeff Squire led a rousing rendition of "All Hail to Rotary." Robbie Burke and Bev Wilker both celebrated birthdays this week.



Happy Dollars/Fines

Dan Burke was happy for something involving space; Jeff Squire was happy for making out like a bandit last week after winning Queen of Hearts; Brian Botti put in a shameless plug for Scouting's Waiter Night at Bella's Italian Grille in Celina; Julie Kraner for our auction 10/31/18; Bill Ruane informed everyone of the St Marys Schools Levy Campaign infographic he left on our tables, also for Celina week; Bev Wilker is beginning the mentoring at the high school, also for WVU being undefeated; Randy Elsass is happy for debates; Ellen Hunter is happy for the Agape Food Drive in memory of Cathy Bayless, and helpfully answered all turkey-related queries associated with said food drive; Tim Benjamin is happy to be inducted as a new member; Rita Hilty is happy for Otterbein's Fall Fest; John Wale is happy for the Bucks, the Riders, and the Browns; Tami Sanford is happy for fishing, for the Buckeyes, and for a hurricane "Good Luck" pie.

Tami Sanford fined anyone in the club who did not buy tickets for the Pontoon boat from the previous week, anyone without a community t-shirt, and anyone who has not yet signed up for Bev's mentoring program.

New Member

Pastor Tim Benjamin of Wayne Street United Methodist is officially welcomed into our Rotary club today!



Announcements

- Our annual Halloween parade will be 10/23/18, followed by Pizza for Polio at the VFW. To participate in the parade, please meet at the library at 5:15.
- Our next debate will be 10/30/18 at the New Bremen American Legion. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30pm, the debate starts at 6:30. Please note: I spelled "hors d'oeuvres" right. Free high five for anyone who read this.
- The next Gears & Cheers will be Thursday 10/12/18 at JT's Brew & Grill, and will be a trivia night.

Program

Travis Elsass began today's program by introducing Sara Chongson of Lima. Sara grew up in the Lima area, graduated from Elida HS and earned a Bachelor's in Music from ONU. She is currently the Marketing & Education Coordinator at the Lima Symphony.



The Lima Symphony is a fully professional, paid orchestra, and 70% of its income comes from donations. The Lima Symphony is excited for their upcoming performances, including ABBA, Star Wars, and Cirque de la Symphonie this Saturday 10/13/18.

The Lima Symphony is more than just a group of people who play music, they engage the community. They recently received a highly-sought-after grant for \$25k which allows them to visit people with illness and addiction in order to help with their recovery.

The Symphony has also begun a kids' program at the Lima Library and other libraries in six surrounding counties, including our own Auglaize County. This program is funded by a matching grant for \$10k.

A city like Lima having its own professional symphony is a very special thing, and is funded through year-round, diverse fundraisers. If one wished to join the symphony, auditions are in the Spring, it's competitive and the conductor has high standards. Tickets for Symphony events can be found online.

Queen of Hearts

Kathy Sampson drew the winning ticket this week, but alas, the Queen lives. Long live the Queen!

Upcoming Programs

10/17 Greg Kuck, Mission Projects
10/24 Mike Doseck, Bees
10/31 Rotary Auction

Upcoming Greeters

10/17 Gary Newton
10/24 Alex Pittman
10/31 Kim Ray

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**

Rotary 