



# The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P.O. Box 544  
St. Marys, OH 45885  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)

January 5, 2011

## Call to Order

President Kimberli Rompilla called the meeting to order. Pastor Ed Bray offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Squire led the club in singing "All Hail to Rotary" followed by "Happy Birthday" to Keith, Alex and Doris. Guests for the day included visiting Rotarian Kendra Butler from the Van Wert club, Amy Kronenberger from the Daily Standard and Todd Cummins from WLIO television.

## Happy Dollars

Happy dollars were shared by Dan Hosek, Don Hinkley for OH-IO, Sue Pittman, adding Friday hours back to the library, Jeff Vossler to remind everyone to start voting again for the lake project in the Pepsi Refresh

program, Heidi, Beth Noneman, Jim Harris to encourage members to get a physical check up, Kevin Lawler, Derek Vogel for the reopening of JB Pastries under his ownership, Kathy Sampson, and Bill Maki. Remember it is all for the kids.

## Fines

Rick Gerdeman was in top form as the finer today, as he picked up more money for the kids from the ladies present because there were a lot of ladies absent, Alex, Frank for his camouflage attire, COG committee for poor program listing, and Alex, Kevin, Bob Leugers, Kathy, and Randy.

## Announcements

Kimberli reminded members that all fees for the annual auction, missed meetings and dues are due. Please pay Keith as soon as possible.

Kimberli announced that \$26,600.00 was raised through the Annual Auction to help finance projects for the 2010-2011 year.

Frank encouraged everyone to sign up for committees they would like to be on during Linda Vogel's year as president. Please return form to Linda or Don Hinckley by Feb. 2, 2011. You can also do sign up on line.

Susan Heitkamp reminded the club about attending the January 12<sup>th</sup> Wright State basketball game at the home court at the Y. A sign up sheet was sent around. If you wish to go, let Susan know so she can order pizza for the pre game party beginning at 6:30.

## Program

VP Robbie Burke then introduced Sgt. Mark Ernst; from the St. Marys Police Department for our program today on the new book put together by Sgt.

Ernst entitled the "History of St. Marys Police Department".

Sgt. Ernst joined the St. Marys Police Department in 1990. His hometown was Spencerville, Ohio and he has been a Sgt. Since 2003.



In the picture above, VP Robbie Burke, stands beside Sgt. Mark Ernst holding a Thompson machine gun purchased by the St. Marys Police Department in 1930 for \$200. The city still owns the gun and it is worth considerably more today. (Robbie looks like she could handle the gun in an emergency.)

In the Foreword of the book, Chief Foxhoven states that Sgt. Ernst spent countless hours sorting, sifting, cataloguing and documenting the history of the St. Marys Police Department.

George Neargardner's role as a local historian was essential to the production of the book as he was able to provide many pictures and related information that has been included. Also included are anecdotal stories and information from many of the former police officers that have served.

According to information in the book, the St. Marys Police Department was organized in 1903 and Chief J. Frank

Seibert was its first chief who served from 1903-1915. Chief Gilbert Gerstner who served the Citizens of St. Marys for 38 years from 1926-1964 with 37 as Chief of Police is an important part of the Police Department history as he brought many innovations to the department during his tenure.

The book is on sale for \$20.00 and can be purchased at the City Building or by contacting Sgt. Ernst.

## Queen of Hearts:

Alex Pittman won the daily drawing but did not find the queen.

## Upcoming Programs

- 1-12 Jody Poff  
Submission Shootbox Academy
- 1-19 Rhonda Moeller  
JTDMH Hospice
- 1-26 Dan Hosek – AAP St. Marys

## Upcoming Greeters

- 1-12 Linda Haines
- 1-19 Mick Temen
- 1-26 Derek Vogel

*\*Please note: All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 am.*

The meeting was adjourned following the recitation of the Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Say or Do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FREINDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?