



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

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

November 23, 2011

### Call to Order

President Elect Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Bill Maki offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken Strickland introduced our visitors today which included Ned Lawler, Guest of Doris and Kevin Lawler, Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim Heinrich, visiting Rotarians Hodge Drake of Celina and Krysten Hough from the New Bremen / New Knoxville Rotary Clubs. Kraig Noble led in singing "Shine On harvest Moon." To be totally honest he tried leading us in the Michigan Fight Song which did not go well.

### Happy Dollars

Dan Burke, Ed Noble, Kevin Lawler, Bill Maki, Fred Wiswell, Marty Dodrill, and Kraig Noble all were "Happy Rotarians" today.

### Fines

Randy Elsass was our "FineMaster" today and his victims included Ed Noble, Kraig Noble, and Kevin Lawler. Randy also issued several group fines today so no one got away clean.

### Announcements

- John and Keith drew today for the football pool.

- The annual **Rotary Christmas Party** is set for **Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**. Rotarians should bring a \$20.00 gift for the exchange.

### Program

Robbie Burke introduced our special speaker today. Our own Kevin Lawler delivered the Thanksgiving message to his fellow Rotarians.

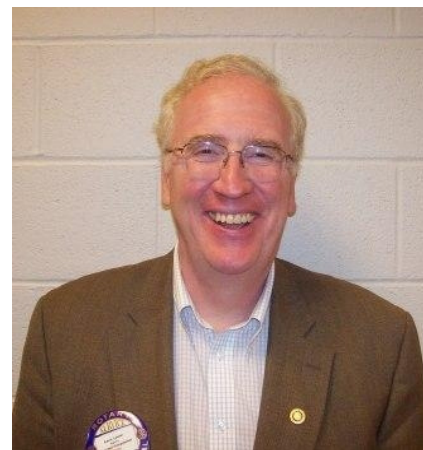
The Pilgrims left Plymouth, England, on September 6, 1620 for the "New World". Although filled with uncertainty and peril, it offered both civil and religious liberty.

For over two months, the 102 passengers braved the harsh elements of a vast storm-tossed sea. Finally, with a reliance on Divine Providence, the cry of "Land!" was heard.

Arriving in Massachusetts in late November, the Pilgrims sought a suitable landing place. On December 11, just before disembarking at Plymouth Rock, they signed the "Mayflower Compact", America's first document of civil government and the first to introduce self-government.

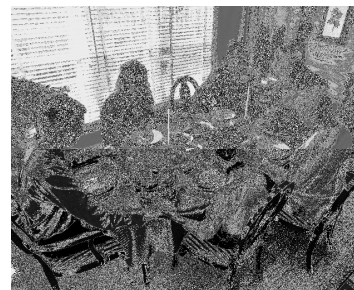
After a prayer service, the Pilgrims began building shelters for the winter months. However, the settlers found themselves unprepared

for the starvation and sickness of a harsh New England winter, nearly half died before spring. Yet, persevering in prayer, and assisted by helpful Native Indians, they reaped a bountiful harvest the following summer.



The Pilgrims declared a three-day feast, starting on December 13, 1621, to thank God and to celebrate with their Indian friends. While this was not the first Thanksgiving in America (thanksgiving services were held in Virginia as early as 1607), it was America's first Thanksgiving Festival.

What will you be thankful for as you sit down with your family tomorrow to celebrate Thanksgiving Day?



### Queen of Hearts

Ken Strickland won the drawing today but he missed the Queen!

### Upcoming Programs

- 11/30 Michelle Evans Council on Aging
- 12/7 MHS Head Basketball Coach Dan Hegemier
- 12/14 Club Christmas Party
- 12/21 Candace Dicke, Family Life Center of Auglaize Co.
- 12/28 Dave Axe Auglaize Co. Special Olympics

### Upcoming Greeters

- 11/30 Chris Wibbenmeyer
- 12/7 Dan Hosek
- 12/14 Don Hinckley
- 12/21 Darwin Ziegler
- 12/28 Marty Dodrill

*\*Please note:*

*All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 a.m.*

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 FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?