



# The Cog

**Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544,  
St. Marys, OH 45885.**

[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
**May 15, 2013**

### Call to Order

President Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Randy Elsass offered the prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Our Visiting Rotarian was Randy Fisher of the Wapakoneta Club. Other guests were our speaker, Owen Whittington, guest of Dan Burke; Travis Elsass, guest of Randy Elsass; Lisa Inskeep, guest of Lorraine Fischio. Also, seniors from MHS were Emily Platt, Caroline Castillo, Chloe Mitchell, Tyler Rose, Garet Fledderjohann, and Richard Stanley. Jeff Squire led in the singing of "All Hail to Rotary." As John Wale, Mick Teman, and Gail Masonbrink all had birthdays, we sang "Happy Birthday."

### Happy Dollars

Robbie Burke, Marty Dodrill, Linda Haines, Ken Strickland, Dan Hosek, Keith Fledderjohann.

### Fines

Randy Elsass was the finer and Marty Dodrill the runner. Questions about college tuition caused difficulties for some. Victims included Robbie Burke, Gail Masonbrink, Susan Crotty, Jim Heinrich, Lorraine Fischio, Linda Haines, Mark

Ashman, Rick Green, Frank Klatt, Dan Hosek, Tim Dicke. Also, anyone who did not bring a guest, anyone not going to district conference this coming weekend, or anyone who has not been mushroom hunting.

### Announcements

This coming weekend, May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, the District Conference 2013 will be held at Put-in-Bay.

The Annual Banquet on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, will also mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Marys Rotary Club. Please RSVP. Our theme: "The more the merrier".

On Saturday, August 24, there will be a special benefit to help Elizabeth Sampson. Ron Gorby announced that the dinner, drinks and entertainment will take place at the Lima Howard Johnsons that he owns. There will be a raffle as well and Ron asked that those with items to donate for the raffle should please see him as soon as possible so the tickets can get printed.

### Program

President-elect Dan Burke introduced Owen Whittington, plant manager of Setex, St. Marys, who holds an MBA from Tiffin University and also serves as an adjunct at Wright State University-Lake Campus.

Owen announced that Setex is celebrating 25 years in St. Marys and a celebration is planned for September, 2013. The parent company – Tachi-S Engineering USA – holds 60% ownership and Johnson Controls, Inc. is the 40% holder of the joint venture.

There are currently two plants in St. Marys and a number of employees. The

Western location consists of 110,000 sq. ft., the Eastern location a total of 112,000 sq. ft. with additional expansion planned. A total of 85-90 new employees will be added in the near future, 75% of which will be full-time. Currently 350 employees, 60 temps, and 70-80 staff people are employees.



Honda Marysville is a major customer; a seat set comes off the line every minute, and 26 different models are created. The entire production operation has moved to North America due to the exchange rate of the Yen. Last Fall the 5 millionth seat was created and seats are shipped to Canada, Mexico, Latin America, South Korea, Philippines, China and Russia.

Both customers and employees have kind words for Setex. Approximately 25 employees have 33-34 years of service at Setex and are beginning to retire. There has never been a lay off at Setex, as a Japanese company does not believe in layoffs. Honda Marysville values Setex so much that Honda bestowed the 2011 Corporate Citizenship awards on the company. They typically get a top award for service. The Johnson Control side of the joint venture has received awards for quality, safety, and being environmentally-friendly. Honda's emphasis on quality makes the award even more outstanding. Seats will be made for the 2013 Accord – a 5-year

program - as well as the 2014 Acura - also a 5-year program.

Certainly Setex Inc. support for military veterans and Lake Campus engineering interns demonstrates once more how invested they are in our community.

### Queen of Hearts

President Robbie Burke won today's drawing but could not find the Queen.

### Upcoming Programs

- 5/22 Milt Miller-GLSM update
- 5/29 Mayor Pat McGowan
- 6/5 Cynthia Vogel-the Annie Oakley story
- 6/12 No Meeting

### Upcoming Greeters

- 5/22 Linda Vogel
- 5/29 Tim Dicke
- 6/5 Randy Elsass

*\*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?

Cog Editor: Alex Pittma