



## The Cog

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

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

May 22, 2013

### Call to Order

President Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Allen Baskett offered the prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Our guests today were Travis Elsass, guest of Randy Elsass, and our guest speaker Milt Miller, guest of Dan Burke.

### Happy Dollars

Robbie Burke, Linda Vogel, Kraig Noble and Don Hinkley all had Happy Dollars today.

### Fines

Randy Elsass was the finer and Rick Gerdeman the runner. Randy had a hard time stumping Rotarians today with his questions about Grand lake St Marys but he was able to nab Pat Cogan and Mick Teman on a couple of questions. However... anyone who did not attend the District Conference or did not have a hangover on Sunday, or

did not plant potatoes at their Mom's house this weekend had to cough up the bucks.

### Announcements

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 NOW**. Our theme: "The More the Merrier".

Rotary dues are now past due if you have not made your payment yet.

### Program

President-elect Dan Burke introduced Milt Miller, Executive Director of the Grand Lake St Marys Restoration Commission to give us an update on the status of efforts to restore the water quality of Grand Lake St Marys.

The purpose of the Lake Improvement Association is to promote closer fellowship and cooperation among farmers, landing owners and park operators; to advance the general improvement of the lake, its shores, channels, creeks, landings, parks and land in order to promote good health, soil stability, and clean, recreation for the public and private use of the area adjacent to the shores of the Lake.

The issues faced by Grand Lake St. Marys are historical; when the lake was created as a reservoir for the Miami-Erie Canal no one could have predicted the future affect certain activities would have.

Grand Lake St. Marys can be saved through a combined effort to restore water quality and prevent further degradation.

The Lake will not clean up itself without our help. Blue-green algae must be removed or it will continue to proliferate. Preventive measures must be taken to ensure additional phosphorous is not released into the watershed.

The third annual "Get Out The Carp" tournament aimed at reducing the number of rough fish in Grand Lake St. Marys was a big success. In 2011 the participants took out 8,142 pounds of carp during the 48 hour tournament. Last year the take was 12,831 pounds, this year the total carp taken from Grand Lake St. Marys in 44 hours was 15,541 pounds. That is a very impressive number for such a short period of time.

The tournament would not be possible without the support of the tournament sponsors and the dozens of volunteers.



Milt spoke about the "Solar Bees" solar powered aerators designed to introduce oxygen into the water now in place at selected locations. He also shared information about the new Prairie Creek Wetlands Treatment Train project designed to re-establish wetlands that have been lost to development around the lake. Milt also

spoke about the failure of the sediment collectors and the lessons learned from that project.

Although there will be no Alum treatments this year, Milt said that the Alum already in the lake will continue to have a positive impact on the lake this summer and probably longer.

Residents, businesses, producers, and families in the Greater Grand Lake St. Marys Region benefit from a clean lake. Recreational and business opportunities account for more than 750,000 visitors annually, who collectively bring more than \$150 Million to the area's economy.

### Queen of Hearts

Lorraine Fischio had the winning ticket today for a chance at the Queen, but could not find her today...so "The Queen Lives"!

### Upcoming Programs

5/29 Mayor Pat McGowan  
6/5 Cynthia Vogel-the Annie Oakley story  
6/12 No Meeting

### Upcoming Greeters

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: Allen Baskett