



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544  
St. Marys, OH 45885  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
January 22, 2014

### Call to Order

President Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Allen Baskett offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Our guest today included Greg Foxhoven and Mark Ernst, guests of Randy Elsass, Candice Dicke, guest of Tim Dicke, Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim Heinrich, and representatives of the Memorial High School Senior Class who joined us today in fellowship. Kraig Noble led us in singing "God Bless Our Rotary".

We also sang "Happy Birthday" to fellow Rotary members Keith Fledderjohann, Dennis Vogel, Beth Noneman, Alex Pittman, Doris Lawler, Sandy Gerdeman, and Kevin Harlan.

### Happy Dollars

Happy Rotarians today included Dan Burke, Marty Dodrill, Linda Haines, Kevin Harlan, Tim Dicke,

Kraig Noble, Rick Gerdeman, and Jeff Squire..

### Fines

Ron Gorby was our "Fine Master" today. His victims included Sandy Gerdeman, Joe Burke, Sue Pittman, Jon Hall, Don Hinkley, Mark Ashman, Jeff Squire, Kraig Noble, and additional fines were levied on anyone who hasn't ridden an elephant or gotten a speeding ticket in the last year. Not quite sure where the "Elephant" thing came from.

### Announcements

- The club will be getting together tonight for our annual pizza before the WSU-Lake Campus basketball game coached by our own fellow Rotarian Mark Ashman. The party begins at the YMCA by Lake Campus at 6:30 pm. The game starts at 7:30 pm.
- Dues are due! Please pay the amount on your invoice.
- We will gather Tuesday night January 28<sup>th</sup> at JT's Place for dinner and fellowship at 6:00pm.
- Please keep Kathy and Liz Sampson in your thoughts and prayers. Liz is having more tests. We will continue to send good thoughts her way.
- The Rotary Leadership Conference is coming up in February.

### Program

President Elect Randy Elsass introduced our speaker, St Marys Mayor Pat McGowan. Pat opened his presentation by thanking the Rotary

Club for inviting him to speak today. He said after 3 years as Mayor, he said he finally feels like he is "getting his arms around things here in St Marys". The Mayor stated that organizationally and financially the city is strong. To continue on a positive course however, costs and spending needs to continue to be managed effectively.

Mayor McGowan shared the plan for the coming year to address issues facing the St Marys community.



The dependability of the city's electrical power delivery system needs to be addressed. The city hired an engineering firm to study the system. The study resulted in a list of 27 different items that the city could do to improve the city's electrical grid. To date, the Mayor reported that the city has already implemented seven of those 27 items.

Plans are also underway for improvements to the High Street Bridge and several intersections throughout the community.

Canal Restoration and Mill Renovation are also on the list but funding is questionable at this time. Downtown revitalization is also on everyone's mind and needs to be addressed. This will take the cooperation of downtown businesses,

community leaders, and property owners.

Mayor McGowan also spoke about the leadership the City of St Marys enjoys and credits their efforts on behalf of our community for the successes over the last three years. Economic Development, Industrial and Community Development, Parks System, Waste Management, Personnel, Police, and Fire & Rescue all work together to insure a better quality of life for the residents, businesses, and organizations of St Marys.

### Queen of Hearts

Rick Gerdeman won the drawing today but alas...The Queen eluded his grasp.

### Upcoming Programs

- 1-29 Tim Eiting – Antique Toys
- 2-5 Auglaize Co. Commissioners
- 2-12 Lana Hinders - Telestroke
- 2-19 Jim Jordan – US House

### Upcoming Greeters

- 1-29 Jeff Squire

*\*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 and 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?