



# The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544,  
St. Marys, OH 45885.  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
March 5, 2014

## Call to Order

President Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Alex Pittman offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Squire led in the singing of "Old McDonald Had a Farm". There were no birthdays. Our guests included Kathy Bayless, Steve Smith from the NB/NK club, Dan Vogel and Ron Meyer, guests of Kathy Sampson, and Abby Wilker, Courtney Steele, Angie Boley, Dirk Fenwick, Jared Knous, Danielle Patten, Garret Hower and Amanda Dues all seniors from Memorial.

## Happy Dollars

Randy Elsass was happy for a good day in the woods, Kathy Sampson for her guests and for Elizabeth getting a job, Loraine

Fischio for finishing a big presentation, Marty Dodrill for a Fat Tuesday Milano's dinner, Dan Burke for Kathy Bayless with us today, and Ellen Hunter, who told a very bad joke.....

## Fines

Marty Dodrill did the fining today. He did OSU basketball trivia, and fined Gayle Masonbrink, Jim Heinrich, Mick Teman, Shawn Brown, everyone who didn't know who his first neighbor was and anyone who had not seen an OSU basketball game.

## Announcements

Randy Elsass announced that all the food that we collected today would be donated to Agape, and presented Kathy Bayless with a check for the cash donations.



Pres. Dan announced that there are directory update pages available at the front table if you have not already picked them up.

## Program

PE Randy introduced today's Ag Day speaker. Dennis Baker grew up on a farm and graduated from OSU

with a degree in agriculture. He was a 4-H director and worked for the county extension office. He came today to talk to us about Food Production. He used the phrase food production instead of agriculture because today's food production is a much more industrialized process.



Traditional ideals of agriculture evoke images of a cow, some pigs and a few chickens in a barn. While that ideal is still nostalgic, it is insufficient for today's food production. Dennis focused today on animal production.

Food production is very high tech today. New technologies allow for increased productivity and a safer food supply. It also allows for producers to monitor environmental impacts of farming practices and to be better stewards of the environment.

Dennis showed slides comparing traditional farming techniques to pictures of idealized industrial farming facilities. He went over the claimed benefits of high density animal husbandry, including covered buildings, greater access to veterinary care, and more comfortable conditions. He discussed efforts by some animal rights groups to legislate care and

terms of raising animals for food production. He argued that the producers themselves could do better than the government in caring for animals.

## Queen of Hearts

Jeff Squire won the daily drawing but the Queen lives.

## Upcoming Programs

3-12 Harry Hooyeng  
3-19 Polly Raudbusch  
3-26 Russ Bailey  
4-2 Allison Brady

## Upcoming Greeters

3-12 Dick Hudson  
3-19 Don Hinkley  
3-26 Ron Gorby  
4-2 Susan Crotty

*\*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?