



## THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

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

April 12, 2017

### Call to Order

President Ellen Hunter opened the meeting and Rita Hilty gave the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Guests / Song / Birthdays

Visiting Rotarians, Dwight Bowers (Past District Governor) and Dave Perkins (Lima) joined along with guests, Jim Dieringer, Ann Hudson (guest of Dick), Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), and Dr. Steven Boehmfeldt (prospective member).

Rita Hilty led the singing of “All Hail to Rotary”. Kraig Noble and Kim Ray celebrated birthdays but could not join today.

### Happy Dollars / Fines

Kevin Lawler was happy for visit to Golden Acres (Wapak) and sister-in-law’s recovery from back surgery,

but did not have dollars for the pot (still smiling though).



Bev Wilker kicked in a dollar for becoming a grandmother next October, Abby Balster for Leadercast program (5/5/17), and Kathy Sampson for daughter’s four-year anniversary with heart transplant. Dick Hudson was happy for ‘losing’ his sling, Rita Hilty for mother-in-law’s recovery from fall and for Administrative Professionals Day program, and Bob Leugers for 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

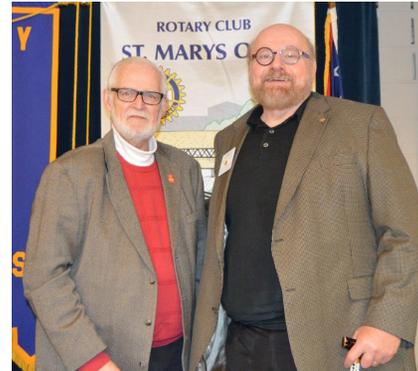
Randy Elsass fined President Ellen, Zach Ferrall, and Mike Burkholder for Carp Derby sign placement, Kevin Lawler for having no money, and those who could not answer Ohio trivia questions.

### Announcements / Presentations

- Jim Dieringer accepted Rotary check for Buckeye Boys State
- Administrative Professionals Day is 4/26/17; bring your support staff and inform us of number joining—even if you have no guest
- Travis Elsass reminded us to register for District Conference--5/19-5/21/17 at Sawmill Creek Resort
- Those with Facebook encouraged to ‘share’ upcoming Carp Derby
- Gears & Cheers still enjoyed by many; join when you can

### Program

Today’s Polio Plus program was presented by Dwight Bowers (joined by Dave Perkins). For Dwight, Polio Plus is not just a project, but a personal passion. At a young age, Dwight was diagnosed with polio. At first, the doctors expected him to be paralyzed, but he was fortunate to have had a milder case. Even so, his parents were challenged to provide the proper care that he needed.



Dwight related memories of his disease that shaped his life. He saw those who had to rely on crutches and braces to walk and those relying upon iron lungs to breathe. Although he recovered, he still worries about the possibility of ‘post-polio syndrome’ that can result in muscle atrophy, breathing disorders, and other problems.

Dwight’s experiences also helped lead him into the ministry, serving as a pastor for the United Methodist Church and he was also led to join Rotary—a club dedicated to eradicating the disease that he contracted as a child.

With the help of Rotarians and others, we’re ‘this close’ to seeing a world that is polio-free. In fact, there were only nine new cases of polio in 2016. However, without

our continued efforts for the next ten years, it’s estimated that 100,000 new cases would occur. Without Polio Plus, we would return to about 350,000 new cases (1950’s levels) within 20 years.

The polio virus can thrive in soil, water, and sewage—especially in those countries without access to clean water and sanitation. We might not be able to change these kinds of conditions around the world, but we can still prevent the spread of polio through a vaccine that is relatively inexpensive—only 61 cents per two drop dose.

In conclusion our work is not done. Dwight encouraged each of us to a) donate at least \$25/year; b) Volunteer for immunization missions; c) Learn more about polio; d) network with others to combat this disease; and e) pray.

### Queen of Hearts

With the luck of the Irish, Pat Cogan got to draw for the Queen, but could not find her.

### Upcoming Programs

- 4/19/17 Ned Lawler--classic cars and photography hobbies
- 4/26/17 Denny Long--roller coaster buff; also Admin. Professional’s Day

### Upcoming Greeters

- 4/19/17 Rob Spees
- 4/26/17 Jeff Squire
- 5/3/17 Ken Strickland
- 5/10/17 Jeff Vossler

The meeting was adjourned after recitation of the “Four Way Test”.

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

