



## THE COG

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

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

September 19, 2018

### Call to Order

President Zach Ferrall called the meeting to order, and Sue Pittman offered the invocation.

Guests included our speaker, District Governor, Maris Brenner, Denny Vogel (guest of Craig Noble), Tim Benjamin (guest of Ellen Hunter) Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim), and Jake Dowling from The Evening Leader.

Song Leader Jeff Squire led a singing of "Rotary, My Rotary" followed by a singing "Happy Birthday" to Randy Elsass, Emily Post, and Bill Ruane.

### Happy Dollars

Zach was happy to have a visit from our District Governor and thanked

Kathy Sampson for the set up including blue and gold table cloths. Jim Harris noted his daughter's acceptance to nursing school with a scholarship. Abby Balster was happy for being thanked for her leadership of Summerfest. Ellen Hunter was happy for Tim Benjamin (prospective member) and for being inducted into the Wooster Hall of fame. Denny Vogel was happy to be where it's cool. Mike Lee was happy for a new rescue pup, and Randy Elsass was happy for his 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion, noting also that questions for upcoming candidate debates must be to him by 9/25.



### Fines

Finemaster Phil Schumann fined folks who were not wearing their badge, those who hadn't bought raffle tickets for Tailgate for Cancer, and those who haven't walked on the towpath this season.



### Announcements

- Dues are due for the quarter beginning October 1.

- The Halloween Parade will be Tuesday, October 23.
- Pizza for Polio will follow the parade at the VFW.



### Program

Our new District Governor, Maris Brenner, has over four decades of experience in sales at resorts, with the last 11 years at Kalahari Resort and Water Park in Sandusky.

She related how when new to Sandusky, she asked community leaders the best way to get involved and meet people, and they repeatedly told her to join Rotary. And she related that when dealing with her husband's illness and traveling back from the hospital in Toledo to a Sandusky Rotary meeting, she felt that Rotary had indeed become her family.

To help us understand the international scope of Rotary and the "Heartbeat of Rotary", Maris related her journey from DG Elect to installation. At each step from Area to Zone to Country to International, the numbers grew, the enthusiasm grew as the geographic scope grew. It was also important to understand that even when the Rotary International President Elect, Sam Alawi, passed away in the year before he was to

take office, Barry Russin was ready to step in to carry on.

Particularly inspiring was the story of the international convocation of District Governors Elect in San Diego, with each of over 5,000 participants supplied a drum and all building and reflecting the "Heartbeat of Rotary". An inspiring quote from this conference was "we need to spread the energy, to instill the love of the sea before providing the tools to build a boat".

She closed with a story of meeting a participant at the international conference from Nigeria who sought her out to express heartfelt gratitude for District 6600. This was because of a MESA shipment of 17 kidney dialysis machines to his country, each machine responsible for extending the lives of many of his countrymen.

### Queen of Hearts

The Queen lives.

### Upcoming Programs

9/26 Paul Enneking, Oct Fest

10/3 Candidate Debate

10/10 Sara Chongson, Lima

Rotary efforts on homelessness

10/17 Greg Kuck, Mission Projects

### Upcoming Greeters

9/26 Rick Green

10/3 Alex Pittman

10/10 Tami Sanford

10/17 Gary Newton

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

**\* Please note: All Rotarians scheduled to greet, please be in place by 11:30 am**

