



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503

P. O. Box 544,

St. Marys, OH 45885.

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

September 19, 2012

### Call to Order

President Robbie Burke called the meeting to order. Rev. Bill Maki offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Kraig Noble led us in the song, "Viva le Rotary", and he followed with an encore in honor of the District Governor's wife Dinah – i.e. "I've Been Workin' on the Railroad." Our only guest was Jan Heinrich, guest of Jim Heinrich. Randy Elsass had a birthday.

### Happy Dollars

Robbie Burke, Jim Heinrich, Randy Elsass, Dan Burke, Rick Gerdeman, Susan Crotty, Don Hinckley, Shawn Brown, Kathy Sampson, Ellen Hunter, Linda Vogel, Jeff Squire, Kraig Noble, Sandy Gerdeman.

### Fines

Sandy Gerdeman fined Tim Dicke, Dan Burke, Mike Makley, Susan Pittman, Randy Elsass, Don Hinckley, Trisha Barnes, Kelly Kill, Keith Fledderjohann, Kevin Harlan, Jim Heinrich, Kraig Noble – all were asked questions about the life and career of DG Bob Vincent. The group fine was 50 cents for any Rotarian who has never been a district governor.

### Queen of Hearts

Jeff Vossler had the Queen drawing a bit early today and Lorraine Fischio thought she was lucky, but drew a joker and another number was called. Who else but Pres. Robbie won the second drawing, but the Queen escaped.

### Program

Robbie Burke introduced our own Gary Newton, Assistant District Governor, who in turn introduced our speaker, DG Bob Vincent. Bob is well-known for his work in Rotary bringing potable water to places in desperate need. He has been a full professor in the Department of Geology at Bowling Green University since 1993. He became an emeritus professor there on June 30, 2012, and district governor on July 1, 2012. Earlier he was the founder and President of Geo Spectra Corporation and BioImage Corporation in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His Ph. D. is from the University of Michigan and he also holds an M.S. in Physics from the University of Maryland and a bachelor's degree in Physics and Math from Louisiana Tech University. He also has worked to help control algae blooms in bodies of water in the USA and abroad. He has been married to Dinah for 34 years.



Before Bob began his remarks, Dinah mentioned the Rotary District 6600 Conference on May 17-19, 2013, at the

Islander Inn and Niagara Event Center, Put-In-Bay, OH. (<http://www.directory-online.com/websites/rotarydistrict6600/>).

In addition, the Rotary International Convention will take place in June 2013 in Lisbon, Portugal. Registration deadline is June 15 and the charge is \$365.00. Hotels in Lisbon are reasonable, for 75-310 Euros per day.

Bob began his remarks by noting the explosive population growth on the planet. From the beginning until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the earth had reached only one billion people. In 2012, there are seven billion people, straining the planet's resources. However, we are better connected than ever in human history, with global business, television, air travel and the Internet. All of this is bringing about climate change. How does Rotary in a small town fit into the larger national and international picture. Our own Rotary 4-Way Test can be a means to make hedge-fund managers and investment bankers be fairer with fellow Americans. Bob learned this lesson while young, when he won an essay contest about Rotary's Four-Way Test in 1957. He remembers being invited to a small town Louisiana Rotary club and receiving a check for \$100.00. Bob believes that the 4-Way Test can help revive a true sense of business ethics. Even a Small Business Management text shown to him by Rotary's Jim Hunt mentions Rotary's 4-Way Test. This is happening at a crucial time in world history, when third-world fathers worry daily about feeding their families, and mothers in many countries wonder about access to potable water. Families with enough to eat and safe drinking water can think of their children's education, not daily subsistence. This is the reason for RI President Sakuji Tanaka's theme "Peace through Service." More matching grant monies will become

available to permit Rotarians to be more creative givers, focusing on peace/conflict resolution, disease prevention, potable water, children's health, literacy, and child development.

Multiclub projects will help us accomplish more than ever. We can feel proud of a recent example of Rotary success – polio eradication. Rotarians stopped the menace of polio in the Philippines and both North and South America, but hoped to end polio worldwide. In 1985, polio plus began and 27 years later, instead of thousands of cases of polio around the world, in January – June of 2012, only 78 cases of polio were reported across the globe. Thanks to Rotarians working with the UN and WHO! When we work together to implement "service above self" our prospects are endless!

### Upcoming Programs

9/26 Lisa Timmerman,

American Egg Board

10/3 Anne Larger,

Auglaize Co United Way Campaign

10/10 Tony Burkley/ Pete Schlegel Debate

### Upcoming Greeters

9/26 Susan Crotty

10/3 Alex Pittman

10/10 Jason Little

*\*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: Alex Pittman