



# The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544,  
St. Marys, OH 45885.  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
April 2, 2014

## Call to Order

President Dan Burke called the meeting to order. Randy Elsass offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jeff Squire led in the singing of "All Hail to Rotary". There were no birthdays. Our guests included Principal Bill Ruane and Zack Wilker, Marissa Hile, Lauren Klopfenstein, Ali Overley, Autumn Armstrong, courtney Christman, and Luke Lammerman, all seniors from Memorial.

## Happy Dollars

Dan Burke was happy for the Riders baseball team at 2-0, Randy Elsass for a great trip to the Amazon and for getting over the cold he caught on the plane ride back, Kraig Noble for a quick trip to Indy to

watch MI Basketball, John Wale for being back to a meeting and for today's program, Lorraine Fischio for a chance at the queen, Rita Hilty for all the high school guests today who happen to work at Otterbein and for her upcoming cruise, and Marty Dodrill for the program today.

## Fines

Marty Dodrill did the fining today as a quick pinch-finer. He just did a few group fines for anyone not being on a Heritage Trail in the past three weeks or anyone who did not watch ALL the NCAA games.

## Announcements

Lorraine announced that April 23 was Administrative Professionals Day. A sign-up sheet is being passed around so we can get an accurate count for lunch. The Great Skilldini will be the entertainment.

Rita also announced that the Circus will be in town and she has posters for you to please advertise the event.

Pres. Dan announced some district dates, including April 12 for District Assembly, and May 17 for the start of District Conference.

## Program

Before he introduced our speaker, PE Randy gave a plug for the upcoming levy for the Heritage Trails Park District. On May 6, there is a 0.6 Mill levy for park funding. Randy talked about the good work the District has done to create wooded parks and to

preserve natural lands to allow the citizens of the county who don't have their own woods an opportunity to experience them. A passage of the levy will allow the District to maintain and develop parks, programs and natural areas in Auglaize County.

Randy then introduced Allison Brady, the executive director of the Heritage Trails Park District here in Auglaize County. Allison thanked us for our past support and recognized some of our members for individual support, both as board members and volunteers.



The District is a government agency created in Auglaize County. Allison talked about the importance of having local opportunities for education and experience in natural places. The District has expanded with the dedication of the Dr. Elizabeth Yahl Kuffner Nature Preserve on 66A. Passage of the levy will allow more areas to be designated as part of the park district.

The District currently sponsors a series of Cabin Fever hikes that try to get people out on various parts of the

tow path during the winter. The hikes qualify for "Road to Fitness" points. The District is also eligible for ODOT and Clean Ohio Funds and has used ODOT funding to get the parking lot at the Kuffner Preserve installed. There is also a unified signage theme for the District, the most noticeable of which is the new sign marking Bloody Bridge.

## Queen of Hearts

Mark Ashman won the daily drawing but the Queen lives.

## Upcoming Programs

- 4-9 Social Security
- 4-16 WSU President
- 4-23 Admin. Professionals Day

## Upcoming Greeters

- 4-9 Kevin Harlan
- 4-16 Jon Hall
- 4-23 Frank Klatt
- 4-30 Shawn Brown

*\*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?