



## The Cog

Rotary Club No. 3503  
P. O. Box 544,  
St. Marys, OH 45885.  
[www.stmarysrotary.org](http://www.stmarysrotary.org)  
October 14, 2015

### Call to Order

President Kathy Sampson opened the meeting and Bill Maki offered the invocation. The Club then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Guests/Song/Birthdays

New Bremen/New Knoxville Rotarian, Tim Eiting, joined the meeting. We also welcomed Mike Burkholter (Evening Leader), Jared Mauch (Daily Standard), and Jan Heinrich (guest of Jim).

Kevin Lawler led a rousing chorus of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", as well as "Happy Birthday" to Don Hinckley, Robbie Burke, Jim Heinrich, Rick Green, and Tami Sanford.

### Happy Dollars/Fines

President Kathy was happy to work with Tami Sanford's for the "Tailgate for Cancer". Tami S. thanked all who supported and attended the event. Ellen H. was happy to find her son after he set off the home alarm, Don H. for the Buckeye win, Alisher K. for his anniversary, Dick Hudson for seeing Marv Buehler at today's meeting, and Kevin Lawler that his grandson finally ran out of verses to "The Wheels on the Bus". Jim Heinrich was very happy for daughter Sharon's upcoming Rotary trip to Nigeria.

### Announcements

- Dan Burke announced the New Member Orientation--6:00 PM, 11/5/15, at J.T.'s Back Room--spouses and other members welcome to join (beverages and appetizers to be provided)
- Jim Heinrich announced that 10/23/15 is "World Polio Day" (Jonas Salk's birthday)
- Tim Eiting thanked Club for donation to FFA/4H building project--2016 ground breaking
- Kathy Sampson read thank-you note from Boy Scouts
- Kathy also reminded members regarding:
  - + Halloween Parade (10/27); Rotarians asked to assemble at Library parking lot no later than 5:00 PM--Duty Roster distributed this week
  - + Foundation Giving program being planned--please think about this year's donation

### Program

We were pleased to have Auglaize County Commissioner, John Bergman and Administrator, Erica Preston joined today's meeting. John has served as County Commissioner for the past 19 years. Erica returned to Wapakoneta after practicing law in Columbus to join the county as Administrator in July 2014.



Today's presentation focused primarily on the sales tax renewal that is slated for the November 3, 2015 ballot. The sales tax is collected by merchants on all qualifying sales that are made within Auglaize County. Groceries are exempt from the both state and county sales taxes.

Essentially, the issue before the voters is the renewal of the 0.5% permissive tax portion of the total 7.25% sales tax now in place within Auglaize County. This permissive sales tax was first enacted in 1996 and was renewed in 2006. Now, it is up for renewal again--to prevent it from expiring in April 2016.

This renewal should translate into approximately \$2.7 million of

revenue that is critical for projects that are a part of the 'permanent improvement fund'. These projects include upgrades for information technology and document imaging/record retention systems, as well as repairs and improvements in facilities, such as the county airport terminal and the law enforcement center.

Response to the renewal has been positive, but John and Erica said that, if the issue somehow does not pass, then it would be necessary to reduce funding for several items in the county budget.

### Queen of Hearts

Renee Homan won \$12 and got to draw, but no Queen was not to be found.

### Upcoming Programs

10/21 Galen Cisco

### Upcoming Greeters

10/21 Linda Haines

10/28 Jon Hall

11/4 Kevin Harlan

11/11 Jim Heinrich

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

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

