Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio

December 2016 Newsletter

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MEETING MINUTES:

Call to Order: The November meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on November 10, 2016 at the MCL Cafeteria by President Roger Hamm.

Attendees: Roger & Lisa Hamm, Scott McGaha, Peg & Brett Andrews, Nancy & Julie Blake, Jan & Guy Gifford, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, Jackie & Mark Allen, and Darrel York.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The October 2016 meeting minutes, as written in the November newsletter, were opened for comment and approval. Except for the incorrect spelling of Julie's name, there were no other concerns and the minutes were approved as published. Sorry Julie. That darn spell checker gets me every now and then.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES: There were no new members added over the last month nor any updates to member contact information.

THUNDERBIRD UPDATES:

Mark mentioned that he had a radiator fan problem. While driving the fan would run faster and faster. The problem was eventually diagnosed as a clogged radiator. The issue was corrected and all is well. We also "Congratulated" Mark and Jackie on the recent birth of their grandson Julian.

Guy mentioned that he had sold the 1967 thunderbird he had previously purchased from Carl Geiger. He also gave the new buyer a membership application for VTCI and for TSWO.

Roger recently completed the arduous job of removing, refurbishing and replacing the shackle on his 1966 bird. He's glad that job is done. It was a toughie.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Lisa Hamm, gave us her end of the month financial balance report. The club's financial balance remains the same as reported last month. She did mention she was now accepting annual club dues payment from the membership. Club dues are due by our club meeting in January 2017.

Events Planning Report:

First Scott mentioned how much we all enjoyed the Pennsylvania House in Springfield during our tour on October 29th. Equally impressive was the quality of the food and the exceptional service we received during our meal at the Buckeye Sports Lodge in Springfield prior to our tour of the Pennsylvania House.

Next Scott reminded folks about our up coming return trip to the Valley Vineyards in Morrow, Ohio on October 29 where we'll grill some steaks or salmon, drink a little wine, and have an enjoyable meal together. After some discussion it was decided that participating members would drive themselves to the restaurant and arrange car pooling as appropriate. Our reservation is set for 5:30 p.m. under Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio.

Finally Scott addressed our annual Christmas Dinner gathering. Nancy, Julie and Beverly will be our decorating committee; Lisa will bring the numbers for the gift exchange "White Elephant"; and Brett will provide the holiday music. Gifts for the white elephant should not exceed $20 per person. The type of gift is open and does not need to be car related. Members are asked to plan to be at MCL by 6:00 p.m. so we can get our food and all eat together. There was discussion of the rules of play for the white elephant. (**Note:** See the last page of this newsletter for Scott's description of how we'll play the game. We'll discuss the rules prior to play)

OLD BUSINESS; There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business to discuss.

OPEN FLOOR:

Beverly mentioned she noticed in the recent Scoop magazine that a new member, Tyler Keller from Ohio, had joined VTCI. She suggested that he be contacted to see if he would be interested in affiliating with our chapter. Roger indicated he would obtain the necessary information from VTCI and contact Mr. Keller.

It was mentioned that the final Swap meet in Springfield was this weekend (Nov 12-13th) and that the annual All Ford Swap meet was the weekend after Thanksgiving in Columbus at the fairgrounds.

ADJOURN: At 8:00 p.m. Roger asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Jan and seconded by Mark.

Next Meeting: December 8th, 6:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave Kettering

President's Message:

I would like to start my president's message by hoping that the families affected by the wildfires in the Gatlinburg & Sevier County areas will find a way to pick themselves up and start fresh. My prayers are with them and I am sure all of our members will also be praying for them. I am sure many of them are being comforted by all the outpouring of support and assistance being raised so they might find some way to rebuild their homes and their city.

It is now the Christmas holiday season. We are all starting to decide what gifts to get for our families and friends and also what we might like to receive from them. Also many of us are contemplating our travel plans to be with our families for the holidays or plans for them to be visiting us here in Ohio. Lisa and I are planning on travelling to Virginia to spend a couple of weeks with my family and I am getting excited about being able to enjoy a nice couple of weeks with them.

We must also remember the real reason for this holiday, which is to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He is the reason we are able to enjoy this joyous time with friends and family and we must never forget that.

I wish each and every member of Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. I look forward to our holiday white elephant gift exchange at our next meeting on December 8th, at the MCL Cafeteria. Remember, we will meet a bit earlier this month, so we would like everyone to arrive at 6 pm so we can all go get our food at the same time and start our holiday gift exchange after we have enjoyed our nice meal together. See you there.

December Birthdays

9th: Darrel York
10th: Lisa Hamm
15th: Beverly Knauper
19th: Julie Blake
31st: Brett Andrews

December Anniversaries

None

If we didn't announce your birthday or anniversary or announced it incorrectly, please notify our Club Secretary, Brett Andrews (e-mail: misc5500@woh.rr.com)

TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE THUNDERBIRDS OF SOUTHWEST OHIO FAMILY

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Event	Date(s)	Location
Christmas Party	Dec 8th	MCL Cafeteria

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Roger Hamm (937) 835-5992
Vice President: Scott McGaha (937) 439-1138
Treasurer: Lisa Hamm (937) 835-5992
Secretary: Brett Andrews (937) 237-1131

The Pennsylvania House Tour: On October 29th, 2016, thirteen members of TSWO visited the Pennsylvania House in Springfield, Ohio. Built in 1839, the Pennsylvania House was a popular and respected inn along the National Road. The 7000 square foot Federal-style structure originally had 26 rooms and a kitchen separate from the house. Several large barns were built adjacent to the house that sheltered the wagons and livestock of the overnight guests. Today, the barns and kitchen are gone but the remaining fine, brick structure entertains visitors with its three floors of 19th century furniture, paintings, clocks, portraits, china, glass, dolls, and textiles. The Pennsylvania House has been included on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

Prior to the tour we all gathered at the Buckeye Sports Lodge in Springfield for lunch where we enjoyed rousing conversation and a delicious meal accompanied by fantastic service from the staff.

Grilling at Valley Vineyards: On November 12th, 2016 eleven hungry TSWO members invaded the Valley Vineyards Winery in Morrow, Ohio for an evening of fun. We grilled our own steaks and salmon, drank samples of the various wines and beers produced at the vineyard, and enjoyed each others company. For many this was a return trip from last year. Although this reporter has no insight into what our lovely ladies were discussing, I know the men were telling some wild tales from their youth. Naturally many of those tales had something to do with cars. We were so enjoying the conversation and meal, we completely lost track of time. Before you know it, folks needed to head for home. Unfortunately Scott did not get the opportunity to tour the winery and yodel in a wine vat (unless he remained after we left). This may just end up as an annual event like our Christmas party. The below pictures tell some of the story.

White Elephant Gift Exchange Rules of Play

Everyone who wishes to participate in the White Elephant gift exchange is to bring a wrapped gift to the party. The monetary value of the gift should be in the $20 range, give or take, according to the generosity of the giver. The gift should be wrapped in such a manner that it appear desirable to all potential recipients, without the item itself being discernible through the wrapping. Oversized and/or falsely weighted packaging is allowed, and even encouraged to add to the "fun" element of the game. Placing an item in a simple gift bag with a piece of tissue paper on top, is generally discouraged unless done in an especially creative way that adds to the spirit of the game.

At the start of the game, all participants will draw numbers from a pool to determine the order of play. The person drawing number "1" goes first, followed by the person drawing number "2", and so forth, in numerical order, until all participants have had a turn.

The person drawing number "1" has the unique opportunity to choose a single gift from amongst all the gifts available. A "reasonable" amount of examination of all gifts prior to selection is allowed. Other players awaiting their turn can provide immediate (vocal) feedback to the current player as to what is "reasonable" examination. Picking up and perhaps gently shaking gifts to determine their weight and size should generally be allowed (see oversized packaging and false weighting suggestion above). The use of X-ray machines, metal detectors, Ouija boards, and other extreme measures to determine a gift's contents IS NOT allowed!!

Once person "1" has selected a gift from among all gifts available, he/she opens that gift and displays it before all remaining players. Play then moves to the person who drew number "2".

Player "2" has the option of either taking the gift that was opened by player "1", or selecting an unopened gift from the remaining selection of all gifts. If an unopened gift is selected, player 2 must unwrap the gift and display it to all players. Play then moves to the person who drew number "3." However, if player 2 decides to take the gift previously opened by player "1", player "1" must select another gift from the remaining pile of gifts, open it and display it to all remaining players. Play then moves to the person who drew number "3". Play continues in a similar manner for all remaining players until everyone has had a turn.

When it is a player's turn, he/she has the following 2 options:

- select an unopened gift from the remaining available gifts, open it, and display it to all other players. Play then moves to the person who drew the next higher number.

-- OR--

- take a previously opened gift that is in the possession of another player, forcing that player to either take another previously opened gift in the possession of another player, or select an unopened gift from the remaining available gifts.

During a turn, a player cannot take back a gift from the same person that took the gift from them immediately prior - that is, a "tug of war" scenario is not allowed.

Once a gift has exchanged ownership 3 times, that gift is retired from play. The person possessing that gift is also removed from further play in the game.

After all players have taken their turn, If player "1" still possesses the gift they opened during their turn, and it has not changed ownership at any point during the game, then player "1" has the option of:

- keeping the gift they opened during their turn, thereby ending the game

-- OR--

- exchanging that gift for one that has not been retired during the course of the game. The player whose gift player "1" is taking must accept player "1"s gift in return, and the game ends.