Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio

Newsletter

January 2018

(www.thunderbirds-sw-ohio.com)

As has been our custom, in lieu of a December club meeting we held our annual club Christmas Dinner on December 14th at the MCL Cafeteria to celebrate the holiday season. Club members in attendance included Roger & Lisa Hamm, Scott McGaha, Brett & Peg Andrews, Nancy & Julie Blake, Jan & Guy Gifford, Beverly Knauper & Jim Ross, and Jackie and Mark Allen.

Again this year we must begin by thanking the room decorators, Nancy and Julie for doing such a wonderful job in preparing the room and for providing the beautiful Christmas cake we would enjoy for dessert. We also thank Brett for supplying the Christmas music for our listening pleasure. In addition to the white elephant gifts, several members also brought additional small gifts and goodies that they distributed to all in attendance displaying the true Christmas spirit of generosity.

Once everyone had arrived, Roger welcomed all with a hearty Christmas greeting. He extended his heartfelt appreciation to all those who helped plan the event, setup the decorations, and provided the cake, punch, and extra little gifts and treats. Roger verbally rang the call-to-dinner bell and we all made our way through the buffet line. We entertained each other with friendly conversation as we ate while Christmas music played in the background.

The time then came to start the White Elephant gift exchange. Numbers were drawn for the order of gift selection. With the number 1, Brett began the activity by selecting a gift from the table since there were no other gifts yet available for him to take from anyone else. The game then moved on to participant #2. As each person's number was called, they could take a gift from the table or claim one from someone who had previously opened theirs. As the game progressed it seemed that everyone was selecting a gift from the table rather than taking one that had already been opened. That was not to last long. Eventually a few gifts started exchanging hands with one or two changing hands more than once. Many of the photos of the Christmas party on our website under "Recent Events" show the White Elephant in full swing. After completion of the gift exchange we leisurely relaxed while enjoying a slice of that delicious Christmas cake.

As the members finished up their desserts, Brett reminded everyone that although come January 2018 Scott will become our new club President, Roger was still our leader for another 17 days. Brett then presented Roger a parting memento on behalf of the club—a set of stainless steel porthole window retrobird bookends. These particular bookends were original stock made prior to the sale of the 2002 retrobird. They were given to purchasers of the 2002 Thunderbird as a gift, along with other miscellaneous related thunderbird items, to soften the impact of having to wait so long for the delivery of their newly purchased T-bird. Because Roger owns a 2002 retrobird, it was only fitting he had a set of these bookends. They were inscribed to read:

Our Sincere Appreciation
to
Roger Hamm

President
Thunderbirds of Southwest Ohio
Jan 2016 – Dec 2017

As the evening ended we all wished each other a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year until we see one another again next year.

Later in this newsletter are a few pictures from the Christmas Party. A full set of pictures are, or soon will be, on our club website. If you have additional Christmas dinner pictures you'd like to share on our website, please provide them to Brett (electronically preferred) and I'll include them.

Newsletter Correction: In the December 2017 Newsletter we incorrectly reported that Julie's birthday was on December 19th. That was incorrect. She celebrates her birthday on December 17th. Sorry for the error Julie. Hope you had a wonderful birthday.

Scott McGaha
President

Next Meeting: January 11th, 7:00 pm, MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering

January Birthdays

16th: Roger Hamm

January Anniversaries

28th: 61 years
Jan and Guy

Message from the President:

Greetings fellow T-bird enthusiasts, and a Happy 2018 wish to all!!

I hope everyone is taking necessary safeguards to deal with the current, extended spell of extremely low temperatures we've been experiencing here in the region -- for yourselves and your automobiles, both classic and contemporary.

I hope I speak for all when I say how enjoyable our club Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange was last month. Brett has placed some great pictures from the party in this newsletter, and has promised to put more up on the club website soon. Be sure and visit the website to take a look at them. My favorites are the ones with everyone wearing the silly holiday-themed glasses that Bev brought (she was correct -- they did add an extra element of silliness, fun, and good cheer to the party), and the one of Jackie Allen putting what looks like a full body effort into opening her white elephant gift. It looks like the gift had the upper hand at the time this picture was taken, but all who attended the party know that Jackie eventually came out on top.

I hope everyone can make it to our next club meeting on January 11th. It will be my first meeting as President (not counting the one surprise practice run I got in 2017 when Roger was not able to attend and preside over one of our monthly meetings), and I'm really looking forward to it, although I'm also a little bit nervous. I'll be getting the agenda out to you - hopefully - very soon! I've already got a lot of ideas for monthly club events this year that we can begin to discuss on Thursday. I've also got one idea for a special club trip, similar to our trip to the Gilmore Museum in Michigan last year that I'm hoping to get feedback on interest from the club on Thursday. So try to make it to MCL Cafeteria by at least 7 p.m. on January 11th to find out more. As my grandmother, who was a bit of a neighborhood gossip back in her day, used to say, "Be there, or be talked about!!" :-)

Upcoming Club Events

Event	Date(s)	Location
1. To Be Determined		

CLUB OFFICERS

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

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

Happy New Year