

ENGINEERS CLUB *express*

JULY 2017

(MARRIED? SHARE THIS WITH YOUR SPOUSE:) LEARN AND ENJOY THE REVIVING GAME OF MAH JONGG

Gina Papa is introducing the game of Mah Jongg at the Engineers Club on Wednesdays, starting at 11 a.m. Popular in the 1920s until the 1980s, this challenging game is reviving with gusto. Instruction is provided.

So stimulate your brain and enjoy the company and the Club's delicious lunch buffet (at your own charge.) There is no charge for the Mah Jongg lessons, but you will need to purchase an official National Mah Jongg League playing card that costs \$8 for a small card or \$9 for a larger, easier-to-read text. These cards will be available for purchase.

CHECK OUT THE NEW LUNCH MENU. . .

Our Dining Room is open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come check out the great new menu, which includes gourmet sandwiches, fresh salads, seafood, and more. Along with an extensive salad bar and homemade soups that are available Monday through Friday, we offer a double entrée buffet on Wednesday and Thursday.

. . . AND DON'T FORGET THE LUNCH PUNCH CARDS

Who said there was no free lunch? Each time you dine at the Engineers Club for lunch, we punch your card. Once you have accumulated nine punches, you will receive, yes, an actual free lunch.

Punch cards are available at the front desk, or feel free to ask your server for one while you are dining.

HAPPY HOUR: END YOUR THURSDAYS CHEERFULLY

We are open on Thursdays for Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. Stop in and have a drink with fellow members, or bring a group of co-workers. We are still offering icy cold draft beer on tap, a large selection of bottled beer, top shelf spirits, and a variety of wines.

EXCITING ENERGY FOR SCIENCE SATURDAY, JULY 8

Bring your young person -- and enjoy learning a few things yourself. YouTube sensation Mister C is presenting his program, "Exciting Energy," at the Engineers Club on Saturday, July 8.

Admission is free. Doors open at 9 a.m., and the show runs from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Presented by the Dayton Regional STEM Center.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE MEMBERS...

Sandra Brasington, Reece Carey, Robert Cochoy, Curt Dalton, Virginia Denison, David Erickson, Eric Estill, Billy Friar, Libby Glade, John Johnson, Wendell Kraus, Joseph Martino, Scott Miller, Richard Palmer, Anthony Sculimbrene, Prashant Shah, & Robert Siebenthaler.

. . . AND WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER

Scott Ruberl from Riverside, Integrated Master Scheduler at Azlmuth, sponsored by **Sam Carbaugh**.

UPCOMING TUESDAY LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

Lunch: 11:15 a.m. - noon

Program: noon - 1 p.m.

July 11 — *'National V.A. History Center and Archive'*

Glenn Costie, V.A. Medical Center Director, Past-President of the Engineers Club of Dayton

July 18— *'Show and Tell'*

Dig through the basement, your shop, the barn, etc. to find an interesting object. The Barn Gang will investigate, brainstorm, and see if they can identify your 'find'

July 25— *'The Lafayette Escadrille in World War I'*

Paul Cooper

August 1—*'Pro-approved' Wooden Baseball Bats*

Scott Hinsch, Phoenix Baseball Bat Company

All members and their guests are invited to the programs

TUESDAY LUNCHEON PROGRAM REPORT

Sponsored by the Barn Gang

By Neil Webster

June 6

'Factory Tour of the Airstream Factory in Jackson Center, Ohio'

This company has a terrific product and a loyal fan base. Airstream is part of a conglomerate that owns over half of the recreational vehicle market. Current wait time for delivery is six months.

We got an in-depth history of the company. Walking through the primary plant we got to see how the body is assembled and lifted onto the frame. That line runs west to east, and installation of primary systems occurs prior to the water-leak testing chambers.

Then units are transferred to final assembly, which runs east to west, where interiors are finished and all the optional equipment and electronics are added. All makes and models tend to run down the assembly lines in a seemingly random mix, and this may be the reason our group noted considerable waste of labor. It may also have been due to the shift change due near the end of our tour.

We also discussed the seemingly high level of waste in materials use. Partly, this has to be due to the shape of the unit and the fact that everything is curved and each unit is different in dimension.

The second half of the tour was the Mercedes/Airstream coach plant. Interesting tour, pointed towards improvements for future outings. Suggestions welcome.

June 13

'Status of the Spirit of Flight Monument'

Walt Hoy and Executive Director Kurt Nelson

Kurt started this special meeting with a video of the proposed Spirit of Flight Monument. From there, he made the case for the economic justification based on

increased tax revenues from the vast numbers of tourists that would be drawn to the monument.

The plan includes housing the Ohio Aviation Hall of Fame as well as numerous pieces of art and sculpture that would contribute to making the monument 'a destination.'

After all the questions were answered, Walt Hoy took the microphone and raced through half a dozen topics that needed to be updated. After comments about Airstream, he updated everyone on K-12 projects involving the painting of murals and other projects pending at K-12.

He discussed the Ideas Committee, which has been in action for several years, but needs some 'fresh blood' and new perspectives. He pleaded for people to help at the Air Force museum in the Education Division. He then reviewed the 'First Friday movie' program. Voting was not definitive. We are encouraged to make suggestions to Walt.

Lastly, Walt is putting together a big tour of military museums and facilities tentatively scheduled for the last week of September. Stay tuned; these trips are terrific.

June 20

'Free Libraries', Ryan Ireland PhD, Librarian, published writer, Co-founder of Third Story Literacy Project, the Free Library Project in Greene County and beyond

Third Story Literacy Project is leading the way toward installation of 100 Little Free Libraries in Greene County. Nationally, the goal was to install 2,510 little free libraries (one more than Andrew Carnegie). Already, there are over 50,000 nationwide. Negotiations with Montgomery County have just begun with the hope of placing 100+ around the county.

The goals include improving literacy, getting books to under-supported areas, and reducing 'summer slide' by which school children start falling behind in what they have been taught. Those that read – succeed. The best predictor of success is the ownership of books.

Little Free Libraries function on the 'take a book – leave a book' model. Really, only 20% of books get returned. Third Story is developing analytics to predict what books are needed in each location so that they can keep the libraries stocked. Donations of books always welcome.

They work with community governments to get zoning waivers in place for the libraries. They work with community partners to sponsor and support libraries. Third Story raises money (as a non-profit) to stock and purchase libraries. They build some libraries, get them registered, and do 'catastrophic' repairs. They also do publicity for community partners that advertise the little library and the sponsor. Sponsors often see increased business traffic due to their little library.

June 27

Ohio's Only National Forest (and how it came to be.) Thanks, Gavin

We are on a record setting pace regarding speaker cancellations. The pumpkin trebuchet people haven't rescheduled yet, but I'll keep you posted so that you don't miss this critically important dissertation.

Picture SE Ohio during the Great Depression. Blinding poverty, high unemployment, land worn out and not worth farming, individuals and communities going broke.

The land had been deforested for lumber, heating, making charcoal and coke for iron furnaces and the potteries. Erosion of topsoil is rampant. Coal mining is poisoning the land and water. Pretty grim. And no answers in sight.

The 'big idea' was to purchase 1.2 million acres of land for a National Forest. No farming within the borders of the forest. Just let the trees grow.

The Civilian Conservation Corps established camps to provide the manual labor. They built dams, cleared ditches and creeks, reversed erosion, built roads, and they planted millions of trees. The total amount of land purchased did not reach the 1.2 million-acre goal, but the land that was purchased grew into a new hardwood forest.

After World War II, attitudes about living in the country changed. People didn't want to farm, but they did want to live in the country. Better roads, better vehicles, and cheap fuel meant that a short commute was practical. Reforestation has extended beyond the original boundaries of the National Forest.