Wow!!! We busted the records and almost the seams of the Holiday Inn at this meeting. Over 300 "tool nuts" were on hand for the festivities. This Inn is quite unique. A covered swimming pool surrounded by a playground, putting green, shuffleboard, game room, restaurant, and our display room and meeting room were all centered in a large open atrium. It really kept the whole family, members, spouses and kids all together.

A very important point worth noting. When we have a meeting out near our borders, we make it possible for many of our more distant members to attend. Of those attending their first meeting, 1 came from N. Mex., 1 from Colorado, 1 from Okla., 1 from Nebraska, 1 from Arkansas, 1 from Minnesota, 5 from Iowa, 3 from Wisconsin, 5 from Kansas, and 8 from Missouri. I'm sure we will see a similar turnout at our next meeting in Ohio. It is very important that we do not lose sight of this fact. We want to give our members from the fringe states every possible opportunity to be active members and attend as many meetings as possible.

We had some very strong competition for the member travelling the furthest to attend the meeting. As usual our ever-faithful members from California, Rog and Eleanore Phillips took top honors, but there was a very competitive race for the runners-up position among Bill McDougall and George Hayhew from N. Mexico, Burke Prevratil from Florida and John Moody from Maryland. Hats off to all of you and to all of the other members who made long trips in order to attend.

Special guests on hand for this meeting were Elva and Harvey Hannenburg from Lamesa, California. Harvey is President of EAA-West. Needless to say we were honored to have them make the trip and hope that we can reciprocate at one of their future meetings.

We were all very disturbed to hear the Catherine and Ray Wilson were not able to attend, as Catherine was undergoing some tests at the hospital. All the reports I get are very favorable, so I'm sure they won't let us down again. We need them as they are anchor members of the group.

However, on the bright side, we were very pleased to see some old, well I guess they shouldn't be called old, but some familiar faces who couldn't stay away any longer; namely Marge and Ray Smith, Hildegard & Bill Adsit, Helen & Roger Daniels, Jan & Wally Marner, and Marea Campbell. I hope they got "bitten by the bug" again and won't stay away so long again!

The displays were set up on Friday and as usual they were outstanding. It is super when as many members pitch in and contribute to such a magnificent display. It takes this kind of cooperation and thank God we can always count on our members to come through. Thanks again, but let's outdo it at Perrysburg!!

Ivan Risley conducted his usual outstanding tool auction on Friday night. The total of the auction was a resounding $4,984 with the top individual tool sold at $215.00. However, we had one small oversight. Someone purchased a "ramshead" birdseye tool for $55 and our clerks have no record of payment. An incorrect buyer's number was entered on the sales ticket. Ivan would like the person who bought the tool to contact him and clear up the matter.

A huge vote of thanks has to given to the volunteers who so ably assisted Ivan. Unfortunately, I don't have a list of their names, but they know who they are and would you all please stand and take a bow!
The gals put together an Xmas program that was so jam-packed with activities that it started on Friday and wound up on Saturday. They displayed fantastic handmade Xmas decorations and exchanged some tasty holiday cooking recipes. Knowing that bunch of gals and their recipes, I'm sure there was very little emphasis on low-cal goodies. We had so many gals show up for this meeting, almost twice the number that we had anticipated, that Ivan was running around at the last minute arranging for larger space. It looks like the fellowship of MWTC is contagious to the gals as well as the men. Super!!

The Saturday program was highlighted by a presentation by Dorothy & Al Heinze on the history and significance of "tiff" mining in Missouri. They had a well-organized program consisting of slides, books, specimens of the ore, and the tools used in the mining. There wasn't a detail or question on the subject which they weren't prepared to answer and discuss. I'm sure Dorothy could field any question on the history of the State of Missouri. (It is rumored that Kerry McCalla changed his name to McCalla-T since the program).

Bill Rigler followed their program with one of his own entitled "How to plan and give a presentation". (I guess the Heinze's had heard his pitch in advance). Bill makes it all sound easy if you follow his fine suggestions.

Ivan then came back on stage for the "Whatsit" program. As usual this attracted a large attentive audience. I didn't get a chance to sit in, but my guess is that the group wasn't stumped by too many whatsits.

Saturday night at the banquet we had a surprise guest speaker. Mr. Timothy Hays, the Mayor of Whoopup, Missouri enlightened the crowd with his commentary on our society. Mayor Hays, otherwise known as Jack Taylor, a professional humorist, brought the house down and really wound up a super meeting on a high note.

Hats off to Ivan Risley and his committee. Ivan did everything but wash the dishes and I'm not too sure he didn't do that. His talents and endless efforts made this another super meeting. Meetings like these just whet our appetites for the next one, and I'm sure Cliff Brown and Ron Mossing won't disappoint us at the Spring meeting in Perrysburg, Ohio.

*ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS*

At the fall meeting an election was held and the following officers were duly elected:

**PRESIDENT:** Bill Rigler  **VICE PRESIDENT:** Ken Runkle
**SECRETARY:** Marion Henley  **TREASURER:** Keith Mansfield

The Executive Committee as appointed by President Rigler is as follows:

The Above mentioned officers
Fred Malott..... Special Publications Committee
Ivan Risley..... Whatsit & Auction Committee
Bill Holden..... Grist Mill Committee
Bill Rigler..... Program Chairman
LOCAL MEETINGS

The tool collectors from the "Gopher" state continue with their newly found local spirit. Louise and Bruce Sandberg hosted the Minnesota clan back on November 6th in Willmar. On hand were Louise and Bruce, Frances and John Lervoog (there's that name that I feel sounds like the kind it takes to survive the Minnesota winters), Denise and Roland Pogatchnik, Orlan Skare, Mark Minzel and friend Lynn from Minnesota, and Alice and Marvin Wullweber snuck over from So. Dakota. Louise advises me that they had a good number of prospective members on hand also, and that things went so beautifully they are already planning their next meeting.

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Those Colorado members haven't slacked off at all. I think I could fill two pages of this blurb with news of their meetings. They seem to have one every month. On November 5-6 they got together at the Holiday Inn in Denver. They even included an auction and I understand Al Aspenwall (there's another great name; he even had a ski resort named after him) is ready to move in as an auctioneer if Ivan ever gets a sore throat. Not to be out done by the Colorado members that attended an earlier meeting out in N. Mewico, Joan and Bill McDougall and Mary and Ernie Blumenthal came back to Colorado for this meeting. These guys move around in leaps of hundreds of miles like we go to the super market!

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AND THAT MY FRIENDS SUMS UP OUR RECENT ACTIVITY, SLIM AS IT IS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Here is a list of the total activity in the area of local meetings that were reported to me in 1977.

    INDIANA - August '77    SO. OHIO - July '77    NO. ILL. - June '77 Aug '77
    CENTRAL & SO. ILL - Mar '77    NEBRASKA AREA - June '77    MISSOURI - Apr '77
    MINNESOTA - Feb '77 Nov '77    COLORADO & WEST - Apr '77 Sep '77 (2)

I know we have directors in Michigan, Wisconsin, No. Ohio, Pennsylvania & East, & Kentucky-Tennessee. The reason that I know is that I see their names on the printed list of the directors. If it weren't for this list I would begin to wonder. Also, I am sure that they have been bugged by Bill Rigler to get some activity planned and advise him and myself so we can publicise it. He told me personally that he has had not one word from any director about planned meetings.

Apparently some of our directors accepted the position as an honor and didn't realize that there were some responsibilities that went with the honor -- or else they have chosen to ignore them.

Michigan used to set the pace for local activities. The directors there are really dragging their behinds - not one meeting in 1977. There are 65 members in that state dying for some activity, primarily because most of them couldn't make it down to Hannibal. You directors up there get the lead out!!!

According to the directory we still some living members in Wisconsin and Tennessee but you can't prove it from the activity, or lack of it!!!!
Hannibal will be personally remembered for many reasons and if I elaborate too much I would be encroaching on our number one reporter of facts and fiction, Bill Holden. So I'll just hit some of the highlights.

Ivan Risley and his committees almost became a one-man show. Ivan organized the meeting and his committees, the whatnots and auction, provided a significant part of our activities. The results are (1) largest meeting attendance, (2) most first time members in attendance, (3) all members housed in the same location, (EDITOR's NOTE: I can hear the cheers on that one), (4) most wives in attendance, and (5) and on and on, etc.

The personal honor bestowed by the membership in the annual election of officers is greatly appreciated. Our past presidents have established a track record that makes it a tough act to follow, but with everyone's help we will add our mark to the accomplishments of the organization.

Norma and I attended our first E.A.I.A. meeting at Mystic, Conn. at the end of September. We enjoyed the educational experience provided by the professionals who are conducting restorations at Mystic Seaport. Historically, most E.A.I.A. meetings are held at museums and restorations and are worthy of your consideration. It did, however, cause me to reflect on the differences between our organizations. MWTC's educational effort is through membership displays, talks, demonstrations, auctions, and one-on-one discussions. These activities are liberally interspersed with socializing, and engaging in the activities of swapping and selling of tools and are definitely a vital part of our organization.

Our 1978 theme is "Be Involved", so get involved through hosting area meetings attending semi-annual and area meetings, volunteering to provide demonstrations, discussions, etc. Let your directors, committee chairmen, and officers know how you can help.

Cliff Brown and Ron Mossing will be hosting the Perrysburg meeting on May 4, 5, & 6th, 1978 and help will be needed in the areas of registration, security, tool and craft demonstrations. Get involved and volunteer your services. Cliff and Ron will really appreciate your help.

See you in Perrysburg or at your area meeting.

Bill Rigler

HOW MANY DIFFERENT WAYS CAN WE GET INVOLVED? TRY THIS LIST ON FOR SIZE.

1. Attend semi-annual meetings
2. Bring a display to same
3. Attend area meetings
4. Host an area meeting
5. Volunteer to give a demo
6. Volunteer to give a program
7. Volunteer to assist at a meeting (regis., security, auctions, etc.)
8. Submit material to the Grist Mill
9. Submit material to the Chronicle
10. make constructive suggestions to the executive committee
11. Locate and scout out good locations for future meetings.
12. Recommend outside talent who might give an interesting program at a meeting. (try to ascertain any fees $$)
13. Return all dues and meeting regis. promptly
14. Assist your regional director in recruiting new prospective members.
15. Thank the Editor of Grist Mill for his efforts by sending to him carved and dated 16th Century tools.
(1) Wanted: Shelf regulating plow plane; 4" blade; Sandusky H8R (old TM); Stratton rosewood levels; J. A. Moody, 5005 Jasmine Dr., Rockville, Md, 20853

(2) Wanted: Stanley wood bottom planes with standing eagle trademark, No's 21, 22, 25, 31, 33, 34, 37, 122, 1st or 2nd adj knob and Miller 44; pay market price Bill Rigler

(3) Wanted: Assorted bits for Stanley 45 planes. Specify number available and price. Also brass plumb bobs- describe and price. M.C. Sauer, 2933 Cummings Dr., Oklahoma City, Ok 73107; phone 1-405-942-8317


(5) Wanted: Upson Nut Co, Standard Rule Co, Chaplin's patent, etc. uncommon, patented or unusual adjustment mechanism bench planes. For Sale: Stanley #33 very good $25 ppd. For Trade: Topp's Framing Tool, 5' Blacksmith's cone, large swage block, for outstanding woodworking tools. Bill Eriston

(6) Stanley Trades Wanted: I have Stanley Planes to trade for Stanley Planes Send list to: Ivan Bixler, 6943 Conaddle Rd., Goshen, Ohio, 45122, 513-625-7406

(7) Wanted: John Green planes, plows and wooden tools - pay market price. Advise type condition and price. Bill Rigler

(8) FOR SALE: Wrench assortment - monkey, implement, auto and railroad. Write for list. E. A. "Ole" Olson

(9) Wanted: unusual fence stretcher and other fencing tools. Ervin Deines, RR #1, Hope, Na 67451

(10) Wanted: Dengelschtock, without eye, straight sides, Ivan Risley, 4406 E. 107 Terrace, Kansas City, Mo 64137

EDITOR'S NOTE: You might consider spending your money on more complete descriptions of the items rather than on names and addresses. If you are a member of MWTC we have all of this information in our directory.

Please do not ask Marilyn Hoffman and myself to run a particular ad more than one time. The bookkeeping would become a disaster. Send it in separately for each ad.

FLAILINGS

A reminder from Ray Wilson. For those members that were disappointed and did not get your lapel pins at Hannibal, we do have a few left over for immediate shipment from Indianapolis, and we will have a new supply in shortly. Ladies, they make fine presents for the special men in your lives. Send your orders, together with your check for $14.00 to Ray E. Wilson, 414 N. Dorman St., Indianapolis, 46202
FLAILINGS (CONT.)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE EDITOR: Stop for a moment and reflect on how we must appear to other guests staying in the same motels where we are having one of our meetings. Put yourself in the shoes of the weary traveller strolling to his or her window at dawn, anticipating a view of the roofs of a variety of automobiles, or possibly, the sight of a few birds looking for their breakfast in the early morning sunshine.

However, what do they behold? They must contemplate a conglomeration of pick-ups, vans, campers, & U-hauls and blankets spread out on the blacktop pavement. (could anyone be crazy enough to have a picnic on the busy driveway?). Further scrutiny discloses that the blankets are not covered by the typical ingredients for a picnic, but rather, a mish-mash assortment of some dirty, some rusty, some nicely cleaned pieces of junk.

If this alone isn't enough to make you swear off the "fruit-of-the-grape", and/or make you regret the revelries at the piano bar the night before, what comes next surely will. (I have it from a reliable source that a view such as this has induced many a traveller to take the pledge!).

Closer observation identifies a large number of apparently deranged adult men and women pawing through this junk like a bunch of alley rats.

Also, consider if you will, this same weary traveller, making his or her way to breakfast and meeting some of these same apparently normal adults carrying and bragging about some recent acquisition. Such acquisition appears at a casual glance to the eye of a novice to be either a device used to puncture the womb of a pregnant goat or one used to chip the barnacles from the bottom of an abandoned rowboat, in either case, hardly worth the look of achievement on the face of the "proud" owner.

I guess we must all plead guilty to creating the above impressions, but, alas, ISN'T IT FUN?

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Word has been received from Gene Anderson in New York that his plans to build a new house have changed due to a series of circumstances and as a result he has chosen not to auction off his tools at this time. As we had given several advance notices that we would be holding this auction at the Spring meeting at Perrysburg, we felt imperative to get the word around as quickly as possible of the change in plans. I'm sure Cliff and Ron will fit some other equally as attractive program in its place so plan to be there anyway.

Speaking of Gene Anderson, we was elected an officer of the newly formed Western New York Antique Tool Association. Anyone interested in details about the organization please contact Gene directly. Their next meeting is planned for May.

If you have any pictures or other suitable material to be included in our scrapbook, please forward them directly to Lynn Runkle, 1918 Charles St., Lafayette, Ind, 47904. Many of you are mailing them to me, to Fred Malott, to Bill Rigler or someone else and it's just an extra step for us to forward them. Incidentally, I understand that very few of the hundreds of pictures taken at Hannibal have found their way to Lynn. It is extremely important that we maintain a record in pictures of our activities so we call all look back and laugh at ourselves twenty years later.
FLAILINGS (CONT.)

Fred Bair passed along the sad news to me that he and his wife Margaret missed the Hannibal meeting due to the fact that their son Fred, who had recently joined MWTC himself, succumbed to cancer in September. I'm sure I speak for the whole gang, Margaret and Fred, when I express our deepest sympathy.

Their tragic loss hasn't dampened Fred's tool collecting spirits, however. He currently has an exhibit of 135 planes on display at the Polk Public Museum in Lakeland, Florida. He even printed a 25 page catalog which identifies and describes the use of each plane.

Fred and his daughter-in-law Sherra, who has maintained her late husband's interest in tools, are in the process of cleaning their recent acquisition of 1000 English planes. That should keep them occupied until 1985!!!

Speaking of planes, do you have an interest in planes, plane use, and plane making? Are you interested in a way that "facilitates the exchange of information among those students and collectors for whom planes are a special interest"?

If the above fits your bag, Bill Rigler suggests The British American Rhykenological Society (B-ARS for short), for your consideration. Having met many of the driving forces behind this group, which covers both iron and wooden planes, Bill states that the $5.00 annual dues for the bulletins received is indeed a bargain.

Send dues to: Elliott Sayward, Secretary-Treasurer, 60 Harvest Lane, Levittown, N.Y., 11756.

NUTS TO NAMES!!!

Had I known Kermit Parrish was contemplating joining MWTC I think I would have tried to talk him out of it. Little did he know that we already had an Edward (who goes by Pat), a Russell, another Russell (who goes by Dud), and a George. At least he spells his name differently!

To those who were not at Hannibal, we now have our own law firm. Added to our membership recently were Royce Winge and Dave Wingo. Added to Ken Winge (the "e" is silent) we now have WINGE, WINGE & WINGO. If we get a new member named Wango, I quit!

Excuse the making fun of your names, but with a name like William Holden I've had to take a ribbing for years!