

## Special Meeting of the... Cincy Mid Week Pinball Group

by: Phoebe Smith

We have a group of pinheads here in the Cincinnati Ohio area. We try to get together 1 or 2 times a month at one of our houses to play some pinball and enjoy good times with friends. Our group consists of a bunch of local pinheads, (and some not so local) with varying collections. We like to get together and talk smack about pinball and we all seem to be pretty like minded when it comes to the love of the game! We usually get together on Wednesday night (hence the name Mid-week pinball) to break up the work week for everyone, and make the weekend get here a little quicker!



Scott with wife Rae and son Anthony

One of our group had been deployed to Iraq last August for a year of duty. It came to mine and Rob's (another one in our group) attention (via e-mail) that Scott was getting two weeks leave, and he wanted to play as much pinball as could be played in that two weeks time! How could you possibly deny that!! ;-) Scott kept us posted as to his arrival time, and Rob and I began to plan a Mid-week get together at Rob's in his honor during the time he would be home. Scott also wanted to stop by my house and play some pinball, so we made arrangements that when he got home on the 30th of March, that following



Sat. he and his wife and son would come by for a visit and to play some pinball. We have a couple games that Scott is interested in picking up, and he wanted to play them to make sure he wanted to keep them on his want list... I invited a few others from our group over for an afternoon of pinball and good times. We ordered some pizzas and played pinball and had a great time catching up. At the end of the afternoon, we all said our goodbyes and agreed that we were looking forward to the Mid-week get together on Wed. at Rob's.

Wed. April 7 rolls around and promises to be a beautiful day for pinball! ;-) The gang gets to Rob's house around 6ish after everyone gets off work. This meeting was kind of a "special" meeting in honor of Scott being home, so we had a very big turn out...we normally have around 15 or 20 at any given meeting, but this night we had 26. Rob has a great collection of 13 pins and 2 slot machines, and a big ball bowler that is always a hit with our group. There was LOTS of food, a couple of cakes welcoming Scott home and drinks for everyone from frosty adult beverages to kid friendly Pepsi products. We all had a great time with Scott, his wife Rae and their son Anthony playin' pinball and enjoying the camaraderie of the like minded folks that we are. As the evening ended Larry and I were invited to Scott's that Friday. Of course we agreed; who would pass up an evening of pinball with friends?

We arrived at Scott and Rae's to find Scott just getting home himself...as he pulled into the drive way he told us that he had just picked up a new toy, and that Charley (another one of our group) was

on his way with it in his truck... It was a MM and when Charley arrived with it, Larry, Charley, and Scott unloaded it and took it down to Scott's gameroom... We all lamented the fact that we need bigger walkout gamerooms, cause the steps are gonna be the death of us yet! The guys got the new addition up and running, and we all started challenging each other and talkin' smack about who was going to kick some troll butt! We really had a great time with Scott breaking in his new toy, and he was really excited about getting it, but not so happy that he had to leave to go back to Iraq in just 4 days, and wouldn't be able to play it again till September when he gets back... We made several offers to keep it warm for him till he is able to play again, but he politely refused, and laughingly told us that Anthony would be in charge of guarding it till he gets back!

All to soon Scott had to head back to Iraq, but we are looking forward to September when he gets to come home for good, we are going to have a Mid-Week Pinball Gathering to beat all Mid-Week pinball gatherings then! I would say you might even hear us in Farmington Hills! PG!

*(I'll be listening, Phoebe. Welcome home Scott and thanks--ed.)*



Rob Hoffman (our host) and Doug Bollinger (r)

