



Annual Gateway GTO Picnic by Chris Winslow



The annual Gateway GTO picnic was held on October 6th at our usual location at Vago Park in Maryland Heights. After dealing with rain at the GTOAA Regional we were due for a great day for a Gateway event and we got one.

Our official club chefs, Tony Bezzole and Rich Vie, showed up early to get the meat on the grill. This year they were joined by Andrew O'Sullivan and Richie Vie. On the menu were hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, chicken and, of course, pork steaks. I learned a lot watching these masters at work.

Of course, the big event for the Gateway GTO picnic for years has been our washers tournament. Last year, we debuted our new Gateway GTO washer boxes. Despite building them with really plush carpet in the base, we were still having issues with the washers sticking when they landed inside the box. In order to try to address that, Barb had a great idea. She had small bean bags made to take the place of the washers. So for the tournament it was kind of a combination of washers and cornhole. The new bean bags worked great! We did still have a few instances where a bean bag bounced out of the box, but no nearly as much as we had seen with the washers. This will be our game for next year for sure!



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After a lot of competition, the winners emerged. The winners of the winners were Tom Fox and master chef Tony Bezzole. The runners up (aka the winners of the losers) were Frank Chapman and Allen Neal.

Because it was such a nice day we had a great turnout with about 40 people in attendance. This is really an amazing turnout considering that we had a number of our members out of town on the East Coast Cruise.

We all owe our chefs Tony, Rich, Andrew and Richie our thanks. In addition to cooking, Tony makes this event possible every year by being first in line after the new year to reserve our spot with the City of Maryland Heights so thanks again to Tony for always making it happen!

