

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: Dennis Strauss  
Vice President: Larry Turilli  
Secretary: Dan Bedell  
Treasurer: David DeHaan  
Sergeant At Arms: Jerry Wyrick  
Website: [www.cornbeltambucs.org](http://www.cornbeltambucs.org)

Bill McHie, At-Large Board Member  
Greg Beneze, At-Large Board Member  
Jerry Wyrick, At-Large Board Member  
Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member  
Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member



## NOVEMBER 2010

### THE PREZ SEZ...

(President Denny Strauss)

November is here and things are happening! We continue to build ramps at a 3 per month pace, headed towards a new yearly record? See "Bill Buchie's Babbles..." for more information on our October ramp building. October is AmTryke® Month and we gave away three AmTrykes® in October. See Al's "AmTrykes®" article for more details.

**Hockey Social** – It is not too late to join us for the Prairie Thunder Hockey game on Wednesday, November 17, 2010. They will be playing the Arizona Sundogs at the Coliseum. We have a suite reserved – only \$20. Join other AMBUCS™ and bring a recruit with you.



**Parenting and Disabilities Expo** - On October 5, we were a participating sponsor in the Parenting and Disabilities Expo at the Bloomington High School, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. It was organized by “Access Allies of Bloomington-Normal (AABN)” and “The McLean County Transition Planning Committee (TPC)”, and brought together over 30 groups that work with people with disabilities. Greg Beneze, Vicky Strauss, and Denny Strauss manned our table. We had lots of traffic by our table, numerous people talked to, and many brochures handed out. We displayed our new brochures, charts, magnets. A fruitful effort by all involved.



**Greg and Vicky  
at  
Our Expo Table Display**

### **Greg Working the Expo Table as the President Watches**



**Fall Branding** - October/November is Fall Branding time when all AMBUCS™ everywhere gear-up to find new members. The goal is five new members. And if you recruit three new members during a 12-month period, you can become a Big Hatter, or re-Big Hat if you already are. Our club has six Big Hatters. We have promotional materials that you can use for recruiting. Plan now to get your spurs!

We have had a good start to the 2010/2011-year – let’s keep up the good work of “providing mobility and independence for people with disabilities”.

Denny



## Mark your calendars!!!

### Next Saturday Meeting

When: Saturday, November 20, 2010  
 Time: 7:15 a.m.  
 Place: EAA Hanger, Old Airport

### Next Noon Meeting - \*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*

When: Wednesday, December 1, 2010  
 Time: Noon  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



## Bill Buchie's Babbles...

Hey, All you ramp-builders -

We had some great weather and dedicated volunteers and built 3 ramps during the month of October. On October 16th, we had plenty of volunteers available to build two ramps... just down the street from one another... and we finished at the same time! Our new Diversity Project volunteers stepped up and really helped us out! (I'm really glad they have chosen to learn about our program and helping folks with disabilities... we've got some talented students working with us this year!) Mr. Hickman had received a motorized wheelchair and is now able to get out of his home on a regular basis... on his own... and he was quite surprised we were able to get the ramp done in one day.

### Hickman Ramp Photos





Down the street, the Anderson's were glad we were able to help them with a ramp... as they have a sister and a father that both use wheelchairs. They recently moved into their new home so that they care for their family members and now they have easy access to their new home, too. You should have seen the smiles on their faces!

#### Anderson Ramp Photos



The State Farm folks decided they need a little more "team building" so they decided to take on a ramp project in Bloomington, again, during the month of October. Brian guided them through the process and we were able to provide a new ramp to Mr. Behrens in Southgate Estates. Even though there are program cuts at local agencies and funding dwindling in many communities, our AMBUCS™ club is still able to provide materials... and team up with the State Farm folks... to provide a much needed ramp for Mr. Behrens... and that's called teamwork at its finest! Thanks to all the volunteers from the State Farm group! We sure appreciate your willingness to help... and we would love to see you at any of our future ramps!

## Behrens Ramp Photos



Although the weather is starting to change, we still have several ramps to build this season... so keep your calendars clear for the third Saturday of the month. We will e-mail information about ramp projects, locations, and details so let me know if you want to be added to our e-mail list! And for those of you who are still considering your commitment to building a ramp with us... consider this... imagine the smiles on the faces of Mr. Hickman, the Anderson family, and Mr. Behrens... after they had the opportunity to go down their new ramp for the first time! Now, ask one of us who was there to actually see it! Worth it?... you bet!... just ask any one of us!...

See ya' at the next ramp!

Bill McHie

e-mail: [b.bmchie@frontier.com](mailto:b.bmchie@frontier.com)

Ph: (309) 829-9844 (home)

(309) 662-1347 (work)

(309) 824-9844 (cell)

### **Cornbelt Buc-etin Delivery**

Did you know you can now receive your monthly copy of the Cornbelt Buc-etin via email? *Save a tree*, and save *Cornbelt AMBUCS™* the first-class postage...and get your monthly copy online! Just send Jerry an email at [JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com](mailto:JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com).

## Notes from Al...

### AmTrykes®

October was AmTryke® month and Cornbelt was able to give two bikes away to very special kids and we also donated a bike for our demo site at Easter Seals.

Cornbelt AMBUJCS™ gave an AM-12 to Timothy at Easter Seals on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Timothy could not wait to get on his bike and I wish you could have been there to see the smile on his face. He was able to ride the bike quite well for the first time and loved to go forward and backward. His mother was sure the bike was going to see lots of activity and very glad to see how easily the bike can be adjusted as Timothy grows. Please take a look at the smile in the pictures below.



Cornbelt also provided AM-9XS to Justin on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Justin was very excited and did very well on the bike. He did not want to get off in order for Jamie to provide his physical therapy at Easter Seals. Justin just wanted to ride his new bike. Take a look at this very special young man on his first bike. Is he proud or what?



Below is a picture of the new 1416 Pro-Series Bike Cornbelt donated to Easter Seals. Kory and the outstanding therapists at Easter Seals have been instrumental in helping us put several kids on bikes.



Our AmTryke® activities are only just beginning. Vicky Strauss and I did an AmTryke® demonstration for a few of the Unit 5 therapists about a month ago. As a result of this presentation we have 5 or 6 children being evaluated for AmTrykes® and Jamie mentioned there may be a couple more special kids being treated at Easter Seals who could benefit from an AmTryke®. Therefore, we could have close to 10 kids with new AmTrykes® by Christmas. Is that great? Oh, does anyone have any good ideas on how we can raise the money for these bikes? If so, please let me know.

As always please continue to pass along the name and contact information of any child or adult who could benefit from an AmTrykes®. Remember every child deserves his own bike.

Thanks again,  
Al Bedell