# **CORNBELT BUC-ETIN**



Creating Mobility and Independence For People With Disabilities

President: Larry Turilli
Vice President: Don Stogsdill
Secretary: Dan Bedell
Treasurer: David DeHaan

Sergeant At Arms: Jeff Thompson Website: 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 Dennis Strauss, Past President



**MARCH 2012** 

THE PREZ SEZ...



#### Game On!!!

It's **AMBUCS**<sup>TM</sup> **Spring Roundup** time, and we're in the early innings of the first Baseball Game between Cornbelt AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup> and Pekin AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup>.

That's right, in case you didn't know it, I've penciled each of you into the starting lineup. March and April are Spring Roundup months for AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup>, and this year we've challenged the Pekin AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup> club to a little baseball game where the rules are simple: clubs score a run for each new

member added. When it's all over, we'll hold a joint social with Pekin club at a minor league baseball game where the losing club buys the tickets.

So, here's a chance for us to grow our club and have a little fun in the process. Look around and find a friend, coworker or neighbor that is 'on base' and waiting for you to 'drive them in'. If you need a little help moving someone 'into scoring position', invite him/her to one of our meetings. Let's turn a few 'potential members' into 'new members'!! How many RBIs can you get?

#### Annual Pancake Breakfast

Can you smell the sausage and maple syrup? I can, and I can hardly wait. We'll be at Second Presbyterian Church again this year between 8AM and 11AM on April 21 serving the best breakfast in town. Naturally, this is an important fundraiser for Cornbelt AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup>, but it's also an outstanding opportunity to raise awareness of the great work we do in the community. Ticket sales are important for this event, but bringing the community out to see our ramp and AmTryke® displays, and to see the fun we have working together, is equally important. I encourage you to do more than sell tickets, sell them to hungry people who will show up and eat pancakes!!

Ticket packages with all the information you need have been mailed. If you have any questions or need more tickets, give me a call at 287-3898, or drop me a note at <a href="lgturil@yahoo.com">lgturil@yahoo.com</a>. I'll make sure there's plenty of butter and syrup for the pancakes, it's up to you to make sure we have plenty of guests. Lets work together and make this breakfast a great success.

#### Scholarship Applicants Needed

Don't forget that the application period for Therapist Scholarships is open. If you know a Therapist-in-Training, make sure they know about AMBUCS<sup>TM</sup> and our Scholarship Program. Direct them to our website, <a href="www.cornbeltambucs.org">www.cornbeltambucs.org</a>, where they can get the application info they need.

## Larry Turilli



#### Mark your calendars!!!

#### **Next Saturday Meeting**

When: Saturday, March 17, 2012

Time: 7:15 a.m.

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

#### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Time: Noon

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



# Bill BucHie's Babbles...



Hey, All you ramp builders -

This is starting to sound very repetitious... but so very true... We could not have done it without you! Yes, we built another ramp in February for Mrs. Harvey, who has been planning for her husband to come home for over a year. This ramp will enable him to come in and out of his home, and was one of the major requirements on their list of things they needed at their home. Thanks to our volunteers, and the Diversity Scholars, we know Mr. Harvey will be coming home soon! Mrs. Harvey was quite pleased with our work... thanked us all, gave us a donation to our club, and provided some lunch along with a giant cookie! I still think the smile on her face at the end of the project said it all... Thanks!









If you have had the experience of working with us on a ramp project this year, we thank you. If you want to come and see, understand, and experience the meaning of independence for individuals with disabilities in our community, just show up to one of our many ramp projects. Be sure to hang around for the "maiden voyage" and get in the picture at the end... it's a blast!

We've enjoyed a nice, mild winter... so we'll keep building ramps as the weather allows. Thanks for your support and I'll see ya' at the next one!

Thanks, again, and I'll see ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

Ph: (309) 662-1347 (work) (309) 829-9844 (home) (309) 824-9844 (cell)

e-mail: b.bmchie@frontier.com

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

We now post all our monthly newsletters on our website at www.cornbeltambucs.org. When the newsletter is posted I send a link to everyone's email address so they can click on the link to take them directly to the newsletter. So to get your link sent to you, please email Jerry your email address at JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com.



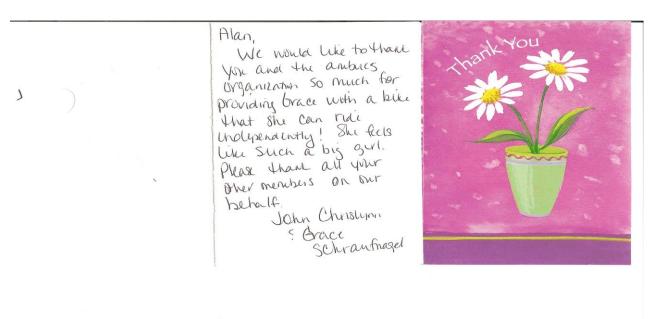
### **Notes from Al...**



#### **AmTrykes®**

In February Cornbelt Ambucs<sup>TM</sup> provided an AM9 XS to Grace at the Central Region meeting at the Ozark House.

Grace is almost 4 and unfortunately has very very limited use of her legs. However, she is one of the brightest charming young girls I have met. She lives in LeRoy with her brother, sister and parents. The family was very pleased and sent the following Thank You card and asked that it be shared with all members of Cornbelt Ambucs<sup>TM</sup>



We were a little concerned how Grace would do with the pedals and her very limited movement in her legs. However, as you can tell from the pictures she did just fine on the bike. We will follow up with the parents to make sure the bike is working well as we might need to remove the pedals and add a foot platform to allow her to use the bike. However, her mother really wanted to see if the bike would help provide a little more flexibility and movement in the legs. Let's hope it works great for her.





Last November Cornbelt provided Cassie a bike and shortly after that we built her a wheelchair ramp at the family home at Lake Bloomington. I saw her recently at the Easter Seals telethon and she wanted to show me something. She is now able to take about 15 to 20 steps without her walker or any other form of assistance. Also, her mother indicated both the ramp and bike have really increased her independence.

I only have one bike in the development process at this time. Please continue to let me know if you become aware of any potential riders.

Thanks,

Al Bedell 2802 Hendrix Rd Bloomington, IL 61704 (309) 826-0405