

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: Don Stogsdill
Vice President:
Secretary: Carolyn Thompson
Treasurer: David DeHaan
Sergeant At Arms: Larry Turilli
Website: www.cornbeltambucs.org

Bill McHie, At-Large Board Member
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Jerry Wyrick, At-Large Board Member
Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member
Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member
Larry Turilli, Past President



JUNE 2012

THE PREZ SEZ...

Do you ever ask yourself why you enjoy AMBUCS™ and why someone else might be interested as well? I joined AMBUCS™ because it is a “hands-on” charitable club.

We actually build the ramps for people who have disabilities so they and their families can have a more normal life. We also help make it possible for some people to come home after a medical procedure requiring physical rehabilitation.

I joined AMBUCS™ because of the teamwork at the ramp building. Everyone pitches in and no one looks for the credit. But we all look forward to the pleasure of seeing the recipient make their first journey onto the completed ramp.

Then I discovered we provide Amtrykes® to people who cannot operate or even sit on an ordinary bicycle. These Amtrykes®, under recommendation of a therapist, can be very beneficial to the recipient. Other family members benefit as well by encouraging new activities.

We also provide scholarships to therapists-in-training to improve the lives of future clients of these therapists.

Cornbelt AMBUCS™ has been blessed by outstanding leadership over many years. Again this is the teamwork that has made Cornbelt AMBUCS™ so successful. This year I stepped up as president to be a part of this leadership team. Together, we can make a difference in many lives, including our own.

We have much to do this year: more ramps to build; more Amtrykes® to provide; more scholarship winners to meet and award. We also have Cornbelters baseball games to attend, pancakes to eat and the 30th anniversary of Cornbelt AMBUCS™ to celebrate.

Several members of our club will attend the AMBUCS™ National Conference, July 11 – 14, in Oklahoma City.

And mark your calendars for September 28 – 29. Cornbelt Ambucs is hosting the Ambucs Regional Conference in Bloomington that Friday night and Saturday. There will be great fun, food, information sharing about Ambucs, other activities and we may get to show other clubs how to build a ramp the Cornbelt way!

I am looking forward to all this because it will definitely be a great year.

Don



Mark your calendars!!!

Next Saturday Meeting

When: Saturday, July 21, 2012
Time: 7:15 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, August 1, 2012
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, All you ramp-builders -

Well, we get credit for four ramps in the month of May! Brian Burcham helped someone build a ramp inside their home.. and my son and I helped build another ramp in a garage in Bloomington one evening.. and we built a beautiful ramp for Ms. Kathy Hartrich on Saturday, May 19th in Bloomington. We had some new volunteers helping along with our "old timers" and got the ramp built in record time. Ms. Hartrich was still in the hospital that day we finished the ramp but came home... to a new ramp soon after. The family was very pleased with their new ramp... and Mrs. Hartrich is able to get in and out of her home, now... nice work folks!





The fourth ramp was built by Brian Burcham, Duane Wells and myself in Normal... for Mark and Susan Warren on an evening and a Saturday morning, as well. Mark is in a wheelchair full time and Susan had a hard time getting him in and out of their home. We solved that problem for them with two small ramps and an additional concrete platform. I think it's one of our nicer looking ramps and the Warrens were pretty happy with the results, too!



We will get a break on our ramp-building in the month of June as Brian will be working with a group from State Farm and I will be out of town... so no ramps are planned for our regular "third Saturday" in June. Enjoy the weather and we will be in touch for our regular scheduled ramps in July, again.

Thanks to everyone who has help so far.. and to our new volunteers, we sure enjoy working with you.

Watch your e-mail and I'll be in touch for the July ramps we have planned.

See ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

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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

I think the volume of bikes and activity in May made up for the quiet preceding months.

Early in May, I assisted the AMBUCS™ National Office in assembling, delivering and fitting a 45 year old man with significant back disorder on a JT-2000. We first tried Ray on a 2700 bike last January but it was not the right fit. The JT-2000 is a recumbent bike with 21 gears and it fit Ray perfectly. Ray has been riding the bike almost daily with his children. Sorry I forgot the camera but he was delighted to find the right bike and be able to ride again.

Cornbelt AMBUCS™ provided a bike to Charles at Stevenson School. Charles is autistic and had been riding one of our bikes at school. As you can see from the pictures he did quite well on the bike. Don and his wife also attended the bike presentation along with Karen Klein the school therapist. This is the child I talked about at the installation banquet.



Later with the help of the Mason Lodge in Marseilles we provided a 1416 three speed Pro-Series bike to a wonderful 11 year old boy. Nick was quite excited and rode the bike up and down the sidewalk and almost into the Buick dealership. Nick was a little disappointed but understood that he was not able to take the bike home that evening. The Mason Lodge in Marseilles was planning to present the bike to him at their pancake breakfast Memorial Day weekend. Here is a picture of Sara, Nick's therapist, and Nick on the bike. (You can see his walker in the background.) He did very well for his first time on the bike. Nick even figured out how to work the three speed shifter.



The last week of May I delivered a bike to Dupou, Illinois. Dupou is a small town just off I255 just east of St. Louis. This was another bike funded by a Mason Lodge there, of which the school principal is a very active member. Gerald just graduated from Dupou High School a few days before we delivered the bike. However, several people from the school and about 8 lodge members were present for the bike presentation. As you can see Gerald received a 2700 single speed. We have the 1400 series handle bars coming along with a single handle dual brake lever. Gerald is not able to use his left arm and must steer the bike and work both the front and rear brake with one hand. Gerald's mother and therapist are also in the picture below. When I saw the tears in his mother's eyes, I knew the long trip to get Gerald a bike was well worth it.



We are working with the therapist in Dupo about the possibility of starting a chapter in her area. It would be great if we can get a chapter started in the St. Louis area. There are several kids on the AmTryke® Wish List from the St. Louis area. Also, interest has been expressed in the Marseilles area to get a chapter started there. The Marseilles Mason Lodge is already working on funding another bike.

We also have 2 bike request for children in Streator and waiting on the funding from the Masonic Lodge in Pontiac. Once the funding is available we will be getting the bikes to the kids.

Cornbelt AMBUCS™ has another bike to provide to a young girl in Bloomington. It is taking a little longer to get the bike as we had to hunt to find the bucket seat and seat post as these are currently out of stock and the next shipment is not expected until late July. However, we found the right seat and the bike should be presented in early June. This bike is being funded by the money collected at Dennis Wentworth's wife birthday celebration.

As usual, thanks for all your help and continue to let me know if you become aware of anyone who can benefit from one of our AmTrykes®.

Al Bedell
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The AMBUCS™ Installation and Awards Banquet was held on Thursday, May 17 at the Ozarks house in Bloomington. All the new officers were installed by Regional Director Larry Windingland. Following are the pictures taken at the banquet and at our June meeting.

Speaker Addriene West - Transitional Planning Committee



AMBUC Of Year Al Bedell



Don Huber Spirit Award Jeff Schwartz



Project Manager of the Year Bill McHie



Scholarship Winner Beth Prostko



Scholarship Winner Jennifer Shultz



Scholarship Winner Amy Malinowski



Our new President Don Stogsdill being installed



Our new Treasurer Carolyn Thompson being installed

