

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: Don Stogsdill  
Vice President: Dick Lang  
Secretary: Vicky Strauss  
Treasurer: David DeHaan  
Sergeant At Arms: Larry Turilli  
Website: [www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org](http://www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org)

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



## MARCH 2013

**THE PREZ SEZ...**



Welcome to winter in Illinois. Now that winter is almost over, we get snow. I bought a snowblower two years ago and it is working because we have had little snow since I got it.

Cornbelt Ambucs™ had a very busy February. In this newsletter you can read Bill's update on ramps for the month and Al's AmTryke® info. For more, just keep reading.

## February was National AMBUCS™ Visibility Month

During February, Cornbelt Ambucs™ were busy getting the word out and making our club visible throughout the community:

- We had the trailer and signs on a highway and major intersection in downtown Bloomington;
- three club members had magnetic signs on their vehicles;
- there was a message on an electronic billboard on a highway and busy street in Bloomington;
- the construction sign was clearly visible on yet another highway while we built a ramp in that area;
- Rick Milner, our most recent new member, gave a presentation at Toastmasters about Ambucs™, inviting attendees to volunteer and join our club.



## Annual Dues

Thank yous go to all who have been so prompt at submitting their dues payments. This is an important part of helping our club serve others with ramps, AmTrykes®, and scholarships. If you have not yet paid, please don't forget to put your check in the mail.

Also, several club members who are **State Farm** employees or retirees, have submitted the **State Farm Good Neighbor Grant** form. Cornbelt Ambucs™ chapter will be awarded \$500 for each employee/retiree who applies. This can mean several thousand dollars of additional income for the club.

The form can be submitted in paper form to our treasurer, Dave DeHaan. Or you can do it online using the State Farm website. But it will only happen if **YOU** submit the form. Contact me via phone or email if you have any questions.

## **National AMBUCS™ Spring Round-Up**

National AMBUCS™ Spring Round-Up is March and April. Sign up a new member for Cornbelt Ambucs™ and you will get a free lunch at our monthly lunch meeting. So bring someone in and get them to join our crew. Sign up three new members within any 12-month period, and become a Big Hat.

## **Pancake and Sausage Breakfast**

Cornbelt Ambucs™ annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast is Saturday, April 20, 8am to 11am at Second Presbyterian Church. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. See any club member for tickets. This is our major fundraiser for the year so all club members will be actively selling tickets. Additional tickets are available from Larry Turilli. Let's give him a lot of work to do printing more tickets.

## **Annual Installation/Awards Banquet**

Our annual banquet will be Thursday, May 9. At this banquet, we install the new slate of officers and Board members effective with the National AMBUCS™ new year beginning June 1. We also present awards to club members and scholarships to students.

More information will be forthcoming so keep the date open.

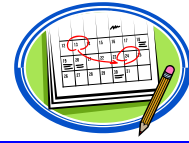
## **Other Upcoming Events**

The April lunch meeting is Wednesday, April 3 at Monical's near Best Buy. And bring a friend for the good food.

Keep March 16 open for a Big Hat meeting and ramp building somewhere in McLean County.

It's a great day to be an Ambuc™!!

Don



## Mark your calendars!!!

### Next Saturday Meeting

When: Saturday, March 16, 2013  
 Time: 7:15 a.m.  
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

### Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, April 3, 2013  
 Time: Noon  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



## Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

Snow!... Cold weather!... Sleet!... Ramps!... Yep, we can still make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities during our Midwest winters. I appreciate the extra help we had during the month... to continue our ramp-building efforts. Your dedication to our goals of accessible homes for people in our community was obvious when we had so many volunteers show up at our ramp projects this month.

For our first project, we were able to build a ramp for Mr. Pace in Danvers in February. We had plenty of help and were able to get his ramp done in a couple of hours on a Saturday morning. The family was very grateful and I'm sure their new ramp will come in handy when all this snow melts this spring!





Our second project was a little more complicated. We showed up at the Meadows Mobile Home park on a Saturday morning... to a small pile of lumber... and a big ramp "just down the street", as Jeff Schwartz confirmed. We were able to recycle a ramp that we had built for another family this past year. We disassembled a 30 ft. ramp, moved it down the street, and built a new platform for the Resendez family... to make their home accessible for their daughter, who uses a wheelchair. No snow that morning... but the cold and the wind certainly gave us a challenge. The ramp looks great and an extra "thank you" to all of our volunteers who helped us that day!



I will continue to keep you posted on our ramp projects and with the spring coming, we should have better conditions for our ramp-building projects.

If you know of anyone who needs a ramp... or wants to know more about our ramp-building projects, please feel free to have them contact me. Thanks, again, to all our winter volunteers... we couldn't do it without you!

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](http://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](mailto:JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com).



## Notes From Al...



### **AmTrykes®**

Cornbelt AMBUCS™ provided a very nice young man an AmTryke® on National AMBUC™ Visibility Day, February 23, 2013.

Max received his new bike, a 1420 Pro Series, and was ready to go. He did not let a little snow keep him off the bike and sidewalks in his neighborhood. Max is legally blind but is able to recognize objects and did well keeping the bike on the sidewalk. He only got stuck a couple times in the snow and found out quickly the tires only spin on ice.

Mom was a little concerned when he figures out there are two additional speeds on this bike. Max was going pretty fast in first gear so Mom might get a lot of exercise when he learns how to shift into second and third gear.

Max was very inquisitive about how everything worked. As you can see from the pictures below Max really liked his new red bike. However, he wants a set of regular pedals without straps as he does not feel the foot pedal worked very well for him. He was quite able to ride the bike and I am sure he will be riding around their cul-de-sac.









This was the first bike with the new designed bucket seat. National AMBUCS™ has really improved the bucket seat. It is very stable and the belts are very easy to attach and adjust.

Please let me know if you become aware of anyone who could benefit from an AmTryke®.

Thanks

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