

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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## JULY 2013

### THE PREZ SEZ...



#### President's Challenge

In our last newsletter, I offered to buy any AMBUC™ a shake of their choice at Steak-n-Shake if they would send me a brief bio of themselves so I could get to know them better. The winner of that challenge is Bill Hamann, one of our newest members. Bill is an ISU grad (2000) with a degree in Applied Computer Science. He has worked in the IT Department in Student Affairs at ISU since 1998. He and his wife Mohini have been married for 20 years and have two

daughters, Jade and Zoe. Jade can be seen working alongside her dad at ramp builds. Bill enjoys tinkering with technology and spending time with his family. He also was eager to become an active AMBUC™ and volunteered to work with Dennis Strauss on the AMBUC™ website. Welcome aboard, Bill. Glad to have you as a fellow AMBUC™.



My offer of a milkshake still stands for the rest of the AMBUC™ members. Will you send me a brief bio introducing yourself to me and your fellow AMBUCS™?

Out of Sight but not Out of Mind

Here are a few more bio notes about me. In June, my wife Kay and I went to Atlanta, Georgia to welcome our newest grandchild, John (grandchild number seven). While Kay helped out with (and played with) baby John (born June 5), I went to Guatemala with the International School Project to participate in a conference with 400+ public school teachers and administrators. My

role was to be a small group facilitator to acquaint them with ethics curriculum. The following is a picture of me with the interpreter who assisted me.



In addition to ramps and AmTrykes®, AMBUCS™ were active in community activities in June.

### Relay for Life

When Don Barnard, one of our newer AMBUC™ members, asked for help setting up for the Relay for Life event, his fellow AMBUCS™ stepped forward to help. When I first looked at the picture of the guys hard at work, I wondered if they were asked to help set up a knitting contest. But once Bob, Al, and Denny got things straightened out, they pitched in with Don Barnard and Don Stogsdill to lay out tent sites for Relay participants. Another story of AMBUCS™ helping those in need.



### Getting the Word Out

Don Stogsdill and Bob Stadsholt returned on the start-day of the Relay for Life and manned an AMBUCS™ tent to share the mission of AMBUCS™ with participants and friends. It was another great day to be an AMBUC™!



Dick Lang



### **Mark your calendars!!!**

#### **Next Saturday Event**

When: Saturday, July 20, 2013  
 Time: 7:00 a.m.  
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

#### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, August 7, 2013  
 Time: Noon  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



## Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We built three ramps in June! I also goofed up on my ramp-building dates... so many of you didn't get a chance to get your hands dirty this month... I'm sorry. I'll make sure I check my calendar for the July building dates and you'll all get a chance to help on the next ones.

We built a ramp for the Kennedy family in Cooksville. Mr. Kennedy had just arrived home from the hospital after having a leg amputated. He needed a way to get in and out of his home, safely, and we solved that. Mr. Kennedy has a beautiful front porch to sit on and to enjoy this summer.. along with his nice looking ramp.



The second ramp we built was for Mrs. Beverly and her two children. Mrs. Beverly's children use wheelchairs full time and did not have easy access to their own home. Now, they have a great looking ramp... just in time for the children to start summer school this next week.. and can safely get in and out of their home.



The third ramp was built by Brian Burcham and the i-GATE group at State Farm for Mrs. Nichols in Bloomington. Mrs. Nichols had a lift installed inside her home and needed a way to get to her front door. Between the raindrops on a Saturday morning, they finished the ramp for Mrs. Nichols and she, too, has access to her own home, again.



Thanks to all the volunteers who give their time and talents to help us improve the lives of people with disabilities on our community. Working together, we can do amazing things.

I'll keep everyone posted on the upcoming ramps... so watch your e-mails for ramps in July. Enjoy your summer.. and we'll keep building ramps together.

See ya' at the next one!

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®**

June was a very busy AmTryke® month for Cornbelt AMBUCS™. We began the month with a visit from Joe Copeland, our National Executive Director. Joe was here to help us with therapist AmTryke® training and to help perform AmTryke® evaluations.

The week began with picking Joe up at the Indy airport at midnight due to weather delays in Atlanta. At 8:30 that morning we had our first bike evaluation. It was for Braxton and according to Joe it was the first time he has ever taken the AmTryke™ trailer to a person's home for an evaluation. Braxton did great and we were able to find the right 1416 ProSeries bike for Braxton. To see pictures of Braxton you will need to refer to the July 5<sup>th</sup> edition of The Pantagraph.

That evening, which was June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Joe conducted a therapist training session for 60 minutes at the Holiday Inn and Suites for 5 local therapist. They were from District 87 and SPICE. The therapist helped Joe perform bike evaluations for three children that evening. One family was there to find out more about the adjustments on the 1420 ProSeries bike their son received last month. Also, Grace was there to be evaluated for a future bike. We just put the foot platform on her AM-9 and now we need to adjust the hand cranks to help reduce her hip movements. In about a year we will need to order the AM-12 small with the snappy seat for Grace.

Also, at the Holiday Inn and Suites we evaluated Ethan for his bike. Ethan's bike was delivered the last week of June at Rosa Park. Ethan is working with his therapist from Easter Seals at several different playgrounds in the area. We made a few adjustments to an older style AM-9 for Ethan and as you can see from the picture below the bike is working great. When he grows we will need to order him a new bike in probably two years.





On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> we performed therapist training in Ottawa, Channahon Park (near Joliet) and with the Pekin Chapter of AMBUCS™ in Peoria at Easter Seals. The picture below is Joe conducting the training at Ottawa. This was an exciting evening as a 22 year old girl, with Autism, rode a bike for the first time in her life. We are meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> with several people from LaSalle County to get a new chapter started there and help fund the bikes for the 6 people we completed evaluations on after the training. There is still hope to get a chapter started in the Joliet area also. The picture below is from the training session in Ottawa. Also, need to thank District 4A for the use of their AmTryke® trailer.



Also in Peoria a 28 year old young lady from Pekin was able to ride a bike for the first time in her life. We had a difficult time getting her off the bike. Fox News was there and got a great quote from her, “. . . now I can ride with my friends . . .”. Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of the newscast to share.

Cornbelt also working with the Mason in Marseilles have another bike to deliver soon to a young girl and were able to repair an AM-12 which had a broken part. The bikes will be taken back to Marseilles on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

As usual keep sending any potential AmTryke® rider to our attention.

Thanks.

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