

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



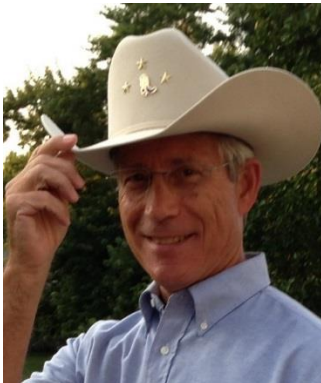
President: Dick Lang
Vice President:
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Treasurer: Al Bedell
Sergeant At Arms: Denny Strauss
Website: www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org

Bill McHie, At-Large Board Member
Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member
Jerry Wyrick, At-Large Board Member
Don Stogsdill, Past President



OCTOBER 2013

THE PREZ SEZ...



New Member Orientation and Social

The Big Hatters of the Cornbelt Chapter of AMBUCS™ hosted an orientation and social for new members. Be on the lookout in the November Newsletter for pictures and details.

Rick Milner – New Member and Sharp Shooter

Meet Rick Milner. He joined Cornbelt AMBUCS™ in the last year and has already been active in ramp building, AmTryke® assembly, monthly luncheons, and Regional Conference attendance. Rick and his wife of 32 years, Melodee, live in Bloomington. Their daughter, Allison, is a junior at Bradley University majoring in graphics design, minoring in Interactive Media. Melodee works at Coldwater Creek and Rick is a systems analyst project coordinator at State Farm. Rick has a bachelor of business degree from Western Illinois University, Associates of Applied Sciences in Data Processing from Illinois Central College, and an MBA from ISU. He also has earned the professional designations of CPCU (Property and Casualty Underwriter) and CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter). Rick has been a Toastmaster for 32 years was on the ground floor as a charter member of State Farm's Speakeasy Toastmasters club.

Rick is interested in Genealogy/Family History, Fishing, Camping, and other outdoor activities. He is also a volunteer with the Humane Society. To top it all off he, along with Don Stogsdill, sing in the choir at Calvary United Methodist.

Rick, glad to have you aboard as a Cornbelt AMBUC™.



PS: I need to tell you that Rick has a gun and knows how to use it . . . on clay pigeons. He was quite accurate with it at the Regional Conference.

AmTryke® Building at Al's

A dozen AMBUCS™ and friends put their shoulders together and assembled four AmTrykes® at Al Bedell's on September 3rd. The AmTrykes® went to kids at the Easter Seals Organization. Four of the assemblers were new AMBUCS™ (plus Bill's daughter Jade). Wonderful to see new member enthusiasm. A great time was had by all!



AMBUCS™ REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2013 – “The Last Rodeo”

Big Hat Auction

Cornbelt Chapter’s entry into the Big Hat auction was an assortment of cake pops created especially for the Final Round-Up by Stephanie of “Let Them Eat Cake Pops”. Lisa, the top bidder, said they were delicious.



Regional Awards

Our Cornbelt Chapter received three awards and a recognition at the Regional Conference; Community Service, Visibility, Local Charities, and recognition from the National President. Good work gang, keep up the good work.



Saturday Afternoon Activities

Saturday afternoon featured a bags and skeet shooting tournament. It should be noted that Rick Milner and Dick Lang showed no fear as the handily ousted National President Jack Bellware and Executive Director Joe to advance to the consolation finals only to yield to two terrific tossers from Pekin and Urbana.

Prez had increased AMBUCS™ membership in his sights as he tried his hand at skeet shooting. The Cornbelt's Kay Lang, also known as Annie O'Kay, picked up a gun for the first time and sent some clay pigeons to skeet heaven. She's gunning for new members too. How about you?



On the Campaign Trail

"Ride With Al" is the theme of Al's pursuit of the position of President-Elect of AMBUCS™ National. Al's campaign poster was prominently displayed in the hospitality suite at the Champaign/Urbana Regional Conference. Go Al Go !!!



Dick Lang

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, October 19, 2013
 Time: 7:00 a.m.
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, November 6, 2013
 Time: Noon
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We've been busy!.. and finished three ramps in August! The weather has been beautiful and the volunteers have been coming out of the woodwork.. literally! We've got three families that are very grateful for what we do as an organization and more families waiting, as well.

First, Brian Burcham and all the "good neighbors" at State Farm got together and built a rather large ramp in Bloomington for Mr. Kemp on two consecutive days in August. Mr. Kemp is planning to return home but couldn't get into his home unless there was a ramp in place. Brian and his crews solved that problem for him and the Kemp family is extremely grateful for a beautiful 45 foot ramp at their home. I happened to stop by the job site one day and saw the tables set up with food, lumber moving in all directions, and everyone working together. Nice job!.. and thanks to Brian and the State Farm crews. They really know how to enjoy themselves when they build a ramp!



For the second ramp, we traveled to Stanford, Illinois to help build a ramp for Brenda Horath. Brenda has been going to see her doctors on a regular basis but was not able to get in and out of her home very easily. We built a 35 foot ramp at her home on a Saturday morning and she couldn't even wait until we were done to get out and see it! We had a great crew of volunteers that morning and enjoyed some beautiful weather, as well. The Horath family was very pleased with our efforts and had pictures of her new ramp on Facebook before we left town! Nice job, again!





Our third ramp was for the Shira family in Bloomington. With a little pre-planning work, we were able to build a 15 foot ramp with a rather large platform for Mr. Shira inside his large 2-car garage.. in one evening. Volunteers were plentiful.. and the smiles were plentiful when we all stepped back and watched Dennis take that "maiden voyage" down his new ramp. Personally, there's nothing more satisfying than to shake Mr. Shira's hand and tell him how much WE enjoyed building the ramp FOR HIM! That was a treat! And for those of you who were at the ramp-build that evening, I want to tell you what happened at the end of the evening when we were getting ready to leave. After we told Mr. and Mrs. Shira about our "tail-light guarantee"..(wink, wink) a neighbor, who had been watching us build the ramp from across the street that evening, walked up to me and handed me a donation.. "just because".. yep, "just because" is what she told me. I guess you never know who is watching.. and who may benefit from what we do in our community. That donation, by the way, goes entirely towards materials for someone else in our community that needs a ramp at their home. Thanks, neighbor!.. and thanks to all the volunteers who helped Mr. Shira that evening.. we had a great time! Nice job, again!





And so we continue our ramp-building efforts.. one ramp at a time.. one smile after another.. year after year.. to truly make a difference in our community. If you have not had the opportunity to see any of this happen or be a part of this, there's still time. I've got a few more ramps to build this year.. so watch your e-mails.

As always, let me know if you would like to be added to our e-mail listing for future ramps. And if you know of someone that needs our services, please pass my information along to them. Keep those tool belts handy and I'll 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®

Cornbelt's AmTryke® activity picked up significantly last month. We began with a bike build on September 3rd in my garage and we assembled four 1416 Pro-Series bikes in less than two hours. Yes, it was shoulders together in more than one way. It was a lot of fun and several AMBUCS™ got to receive the pleasure of taking the bikes from the shipping box to completion with minimal assistance. There were not extra parts and all the bikes worked great. Below is a picture of a couple AMBUCS™ working on one of the bikes and the second picture is the group photo after the bikes were assembled.





Just a few days later all four bikes were presented to the lovely children at Easter Seals. Several AMBUCS™ along with Steve DeNault, Executive Vice President from Country Financial, were present to help with the presentation. It was a lot of fun as the four children knew each other from school or therapy at Easter Seals. Since Country Financial donated the funding for these four bikes it was only right to have Steve attend the presentation. I think Steve was having lots of fun and really enjoyed meeting the children and their families. Let's hope this can be an annual event with Country Financial.

As you can see from the pictures below all the kids loved their new red bikes. We really had a hard time getting to stop riding for the group picture. This was the first time we have presented multiple bikes with all the same bikes. Thanks to the Easter Seals staff for helping us with the presentation and final fittings. Please take a look at the pictures below.







We were not done yet. On September 24th I traveled to Peru, Illinois to help the new I-80 chapter of AMBUCS™ to assemble 5 bikes. This is the new chapter Cornbelt is sponsoring and this was their first bikes to assemble and give away as a chapter. It was a lot of fun and now they know a lot more about the bikes. The presentation was great and a member from the Company that sponsored the bikes was there and she was very impressed. I think she may be an AMBUCS™ member soon. Below is the group picture of the bikes, a few of the riders and the new I-80 members who assembled their first AmTrykes®. The I-80 chapter is off to a great start and they already have another child evaluated for a bike and it is fully funded. Way to go I-80 AMBUCS™.



Cornbelt also has another bike ready for a child at Easter Seals and a bike ready for a child in Pontiac. The bike in Pontiac is fully funded by the Masonic Lodge in Pontiac. Pictures of the presentations will be available next month.

As usual please let me know if you know of anyone who could benefit from an AmTryke®.

Thanks.

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