

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



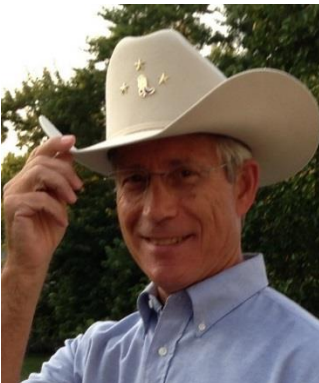
President: Dick Lang
Vice President:
Secretary: Vicky Strauss
Treasurer: Al Bedell
Sergeant At Arms: Denny Strauss
Website: www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org

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



JANUARY 2014

THE PREZ SEZ...



I hope all of you had a blessed Christmas and holiday season. My wish for all AMBUCS™ is for each to have a happy and especially rewarding New Year.

Rumor has it that Frosty the Snowman has been visiting our ramp-build sites. Thankfully, he hasn't bitten anyone ... so far. It is great to see that the cold weather hasn't slowed down

AMBUC™ enthusiasm for helping others.

Re-Gifting Party

Looks like we will be having a good crowd at the Re-Gifting Party on Saturday, January 11, 6:30 p.m. at Al Bedell's house. If you can come but have not yet RSVP'd, give Al or myself a call and we'll set a place at the table for you. Keep your eyes open for pictures in next month's newsletter.

In the National News

The article Bill McHie wrote about the ramp designed and directed by Dhruva as an Eagle Scout project for our November newsletter has made the national news. Check out the article and picture featured in the Winter 2013 AMBUCS™ magazine. Thanks Bill for putting Dhruva and Cornbelt in the spotlight. Recognition well deserved.

Member Profile - Dave Kobus - Contributing time and skills to help others



Dave was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. He moved to the south suburbs of Chicago after freshman year of high school. Dave attended four different high schools in four years. After high school, he worked for a company that owned Burger Kings in Illinois. Dave worked his way up through assistant manager, manager, and regional manager. Dave worked several stores in the south suburbs and then worked several stores in central Illinois (Springfield, Normal). Dave supervised the Champaign/Danville area and then an area on the North side of Chicago. This is when Dave realized after being down state for years he had changed from the Chicagoan. Dave gave up a company car and money and moved back

downstate to manage the Pekin store. Dave then moved to Jacksonville to be a part owner/operator of the Jacksonville/Decatur stores. Dave sold out of that and moved to Peoria and got his degree in computer science. After being in the work community, going to school was a lot easier than work. Dave interned at Caterpillar but decided to work for State Farm when he got out of school.

Dave met his wife Nancy at State Farm and have been married 29 years. They have a daughter (in St. Louis) and son (in Dixon). Dave retired from State Farm June 1, 2012 after 31 years. He has a condo at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. Dave loves to fish, boat, jet ski, or just cove it as well as golf, play darts and pool. He likes to do wood projects. Dave and Nancy love to travel and do some gambling at casinos. Nancy and Dave usually go out to Vegas at least once a year and to take time to visit parks out West. This year he had a trip booked to kayak putting in at the base of Hoover Dam but the government shutdown closed that facility. He will have to put that back on his bucket list.

Dave likes to contribute his time and skills to help others that need help. He gives blood regularly and used to be the logistics chair for the McLean county Relay for Life for many years. Dave now gives a majority of his volunteer time to AMBUCS™.

Dave, thanks for choosing to serve with AMBUCS™.

Dick Lang

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, January 18, 2014
Time: 7:00 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, February 5, 2014
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We've been building ramps for over 25 years.. and we've bragged about building ramps in all kinds of weather.. so we just had to build a ramp in December.. right after a few inches of snow.. just to say we could do it!

Mr. Bob McNeill moved his mother-in law, Ms. Anna, from Miami to Bloomington.. and needed a ramp at their home to care for Ms. Anna.. (who has just turned 99 years old recently). Pretty simple ramp.. with balisters, of course.. and plenty of volunteers.. and we got a ramp built for their family just in time for the holidays. Yes, it was cold and there was plenty of snow on the ground.. but warm hearts prevailed as we left their home that evening. Another family has access to their home.. and we got another ramp built. Nice job, AMBUCS™!

If you have access to our AMBUCS™ national magazine, you should check out the current winter edition. Dhruva Patil, a member of the McLean County Diversity Project, was featured for the ramp that he coordinated with our local Cornbelt club this past October. Dhruva has been coming to our ramp-building parties for years and took on an entire ramp-building project to obtain his Eagle Scout rank in his boy scout troop. It was a pleasure working with Dhruva.. and his expertise and his leadership were quite evident that day.. as you can tell from all the smiles.. including Rose, the ramp recipient, standing on her new ramp that day. Thanks, Dhruva!..





Thanks to all of our volunteers who have helped throughout the year.. in warm weather or cold weather.. as our mission continues. Your efforts have helped us to make homes accessible throughout our community and I thank you for your help. At the writing of this newsletter.. Mother Nature has decided we need a break and has blessed us with snow.. so we'll keep in touch over the next month.. (to see if there are any ramps we can build inside a garage!)

Have a great New Year.. and keep those tool belts handy.. this snow won't last forever!

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®

December was another good month for Cornbelt and Amtrykes®.

I want to thank all the members for all their help in finding the right people for our therapeutic bikes.

In December we provide a bike to Dillon. Dillon is a student at Olympia Junior High School and we have worked with his therapist, Jennifer, on several bikes in the past. The bike Dillon received is not an AmTryke® but a bike that was donated to our chapter last fall. I spoke to Jennifer about the bike and she stopped by and after looking at the bike she said she had the perfect person for the bike. From the look on his face it is pretty clear she was right.

Dillon did excellent on the bike and did not have any problems with the steering. He rode the bike all around the gym and his classmates tried to keep up with him.





Thanks again for all you do to help us place kids and adults on out bikes. Please continue to let me know if you become aware of anyone who could benefit from an AmTryke®.

Thanks.

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