CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



Creating Mobility and Independence For People With Disabilities

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



MARCH 2014

THE PREZ SEZ...



When the weather outside is frightful and staying inside is more delightful, how do you get the public to notice you? ANSWER: You celebrate AMBUCS™ Visibility Month.

Don Stogsdill, Suja Karuppaswamy, Rick Milner, and Dennis Strauss were busy getting the word out about Cornbelt AMBUCS™ last month. They received proclamations from Bloomington, Normal, and the State of Illinois. They also put our name in lights on an electronic billboard. We were even featured in a front page article in the Normalite with a picture of Al Bedell, Rick Milner, and Don Stogsdill with Normal's mayor Chris Koos. Now that the weather is warming up, I can safely say "Hat's off" to you for your efforts. They worked hard to get our chapter noticed. Thanks for getting the word out about Cornbelt AMBUCS.

Here are some pictures documenting these events.

Picture with Normal Mayor



Normalite Article



Billboard



Bloomington and Normal Proclamations

PROCLAMATION

Declaring February, 2014 to be **AMBUCS Month**

WHEREAS, AMBUCS, the National Association of American Business Clubs, was established in 1922 and is an organization of business men and women joined together through local chapters to build better communities and to create opportunities for independence for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, every year thousands of people with disabilities lead more normal, productive, and happier lives because of AMBUCS volunteers assistance in making dwellings accessible and granting scholarships for future therapists; and

WHEREAS, during the past year, Cornbelt AMBUCS has donated approximately 1,200 volunteer man-hours to build 20 wheelchair accessible ramps for low income, disabled people in the area, and

WHEREAS, in the past 12 months, Cornbelt AMBUCS purchased 11 Amtrykes (therapeutic tricycles) for local disabled children and provided approximately \$4,000 for scholarships for therapists.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tari Renner, Mayor of the City of Bloomington do hereby proclaim February, 2014 to be

AMBUCS Month

and urge all citizens to commend AMBUCS for its contribution to the quality of life in the community.

Tari Renner Mayor Tracey Covert City Clerk

Proclamation

Town of Normal, Illinois

WHEREAS,

AMBUCS, the National Association of American Business Clubs, was established in 1922 and is an organization of business men and women joined together through local chapters to build better communities and to create opportunities for independence for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS.

every year thousands of people with disabilities lead more normal, more productive, and happier lives because of the assistance of AMBUCS volunteers in making dwellings accessible; in providing AmTrykes, therapeutic tricycles for people with disabilities; and in granting scholarships for future therapists; and

WHEREAS,

in the past 12 months, Cornbelt AMBUCS, established in 1982, donated approximately 1,200 volunteer hours to build 24 wheelchair-accessible ramps for low-income people with disabilities in McLean County; and

WHEREAS,

in 2013, Cornbelt AMBUCS purchased more than a dozen AmTrykes for children with disabilities and awarded \$4,000 in scholarships for future therapists;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher Koos, as Mayor of the Town of Normal do hereby proclaim:

The Month of February 2014 AMBUCS Appreciation Month

and urge all citizens to commend ABMUCS for its contribution to the quality of life in Normal and McLean County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the Town of Normal, Illinois, to be affixed this 3rd day of February, 2014.

CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

Christopher Koos, Mayor Incorporated Town of Normal

State Proclamation



Dick Lang

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, March 15, 2014

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Time: Noon

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill BucHie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

Yep, you guessed it no ramps in February. I was hoping for a little break in the weather to build a small ramp somewhere in town but I think the only break we're gonna get will come sometime in March!

I hope you enjoy the weather! As always, we'll keep you posted on future projects so keep those tools belts handy this snow won't last forever.

If you have questions about ramp projects, want to donate any tools or supplies to our cause, or you just want to tell me how much snow you got in your yard, feel free to give me a call.

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

Be sure to check us out on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com/cornbeltambucs

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®

Even though the weather was not conducive to bike riding we did receive four request for bikes in February. Two request are for children being seen at Easter Seals and two from District 87 school district. The request will be reviewed and hopefully approved by the board in March and another bike build somewhere warm.

I will also be doing bike shows with Joe Copeland in St. Louis in March in preparation for our National Conference in St. Louis the last week of October. If we are really lucky we might even be able to start a new chapter in St. Louis. Included in the trip will be visits at the Shriner's Hospital and the VA Medical Center. Please let me know if you are aware of any therapist or interested parties in the St. Louis area we should contact in reference to the bike shows or forming a new chapter.

Thanks again for all your help.

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

Check out what our neighboring AMBUCS™ club is doing. Here is the link to the Pekin club's newsletter: http://www.pekinambucs.org/newsletter.html