

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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MAY 2014

THE PREZ SEZ...



It didn't take long for AMBUCS™ to warm up to activities this spring. Thanks to all of you who cheerfully donate your time and talents to bring mobility and independence to our McLean County neighbors. You are doing a remarkable job.

Be Content at Home Senior Expo

On May 5, several members represented AMBUCS™ at the Be Content at Home Senior Expo at the Parke Hotel in Bloomington. It was a lot of fun and provided valuable exposure to agencies we work with locally and with people who may need our services.



Annual Installation Banquet

Thursday, May 8 is scheduled for our annual installation banquet. This year we are awarding three scholarships to students pursuing degrees in therapy. They are:

Mary Lohberg. . . . St Ambrose University
 Rebecca Gillen. . . St. Ambrose University
 Amy Malinowski . . . Washington University School of Medicine

Tryke Build

On April 8, five guys built four trykes. Three of them were presented at the Pancake Breakfast. Here we can see Bill Hamann and Dennis Wentworth working on one of the trykes.



Ramp Help

We have been blessed with a talented team of kids from the Diversity Team. On a recent build they posed for this picture. In the months ahead, we will need all hands on deck for ramp builds since the Diversity kids will be on Summer break.



National Conference in St Louis - sign up today

Don't forget to make your plans to join fellow AMBUCS for the National Conference October 29 - November 1 that is being held in our own back yard

Dick Lang

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, May 17, 2014
 Time: 7:00 a.m.
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, June 4, 2014
 Time: Noon
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

Well, it's about time we got some pictures of ramps in this newsletter. I was beginning to wonder if we were ever going to get back to building ramps this spring! Well, we're back! And we've got plenty of ramps to build. Here's a look at a couple of ramps we built in April.

First, we built a ramp inside a garage for the Dehority family in Bloomington. She was not able to get inside her home without the use of a ramp and their large two-car garage (with one vehicle) was just big enough to accommodate a ramp. We got busy on a weekday evening and finished the ramp in one evening and the family is enjoying their ability to get out and enjoy these nice spring days.





The second ramp we built was on a Saturday morning in Normal, Illinois. The Rhoads family has a son with a disability and they had called us this past fall about the possibility of a ramp. Well, winter came with a vengeance and we finally were able to build the ramp this spring. The family has been very patient but their son was pretty anxious and watched from the front window all morning as we built a great looking ramp complete with ballisters! Hopefully you all got to see that "maiden voyage" that morning and got in the picture, as well. We had a great time getting back "in the groove" of building our ramps... but tell me again, how long are the boards supposed to be on that 5' by 8' platform? (ya' had to be there..)





Thanks to everyone who has been at our ramp projects this spring and watch your e-mail for future ramps. I'm sure we'll have plenty to build.

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®

April was a very busy AmTryke® month for Cornbelt Ambucs™. We assembled four bikes at Mid West Food Bank with several members helping and finding out more information about the bikes. The members were quite involved when they found out they would be the ones fitting the kids on the bikes at the pancake breakfast. We even realized the instructions do not cover all the accessories.

We gave a bike away at Easter Seals the next week. Suhn received her new red AM-12 and was off and ready to ride her new bike in the parking lot. This was Suhn's second Amtryke® as she previously was riding an AM-9 which you can see from the picture below she has outgrown. (Suhn's father was one of the first therapist I worked with at Easter Seals shortly after becoming the Cornbelt AmTryke® Coordinator.)



At the pancake breakfast Cornbelt Ambucs™ presented three more bikes to three wonder kids, Marie, A'leeya and Dakota. Unfortunately I was not able to attend as I was in Texas that weekend. However, the other Ambucs™, who also helped assemble the bikes, did an outstanding job getting the bikes adjusted for the new riders. Pictures of the wonderful kids are shown below:







It is really nice to see more members getting involved with the AmTrykes®. We will let you know when we have more bikes to assemble or deliver.

As usual, please continue to send us the name and contact information when you become aware of a person who could benefit from an AmTryke®.

Thanks.

Al Bedell
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Pancake Breakfast a Huge Success!!!

What a morning!! We had a steady flow of guests coming in the door that kept our kitchen and serving teams busier than ever before, serving a great breakfast to 247 hungry folks. That's a new record turnout for us. Thanks to everyone who sold tickets and got the word out.

Speaking of getting the word out, there were display cards on every table to tell folks what we're all about and our full table display got a lot of attention. But just in case anyone was still wondering what AMBUCS™ is all about, the THREE AmTrykes® we gave away showed everyone. It's always great to see a child get on a bike for the first time, and in the big room at Second Presbyterian Church there was plenty of room for the 'first rides' for our three AmTryke® recipients. Sometimes it was hard to tell who smiling more, the riders or their families.





If feeding nearly 250 people and giving away three AmTrykes® wasn't enough, we also raised \$2,684 through ticket sales and donations. Just think of all the good things we'll be able to do with that.

Thanks to everyone who sold tickets, told a friend, setup, served or cleaned up. This was another great example of AMBUCS™ with their Shoulders Together, having fun while working to make a difference for individuals in our community.

Here are a few more pictures from the pancake breakfast:





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>