

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



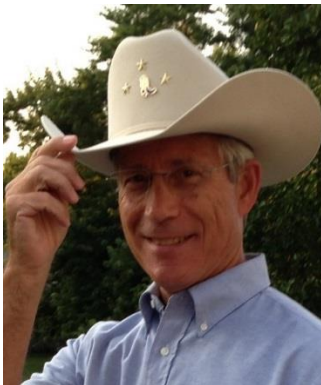
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Website: www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org

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JUNE 2014

THE PREZ SEZ...



AMBUCS™ Needed for Relay for Life

Don Barnard has requested some assistance from AMBUCS™ for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event being held this June. Last year we helped lay out camp sites for

participants and set up our own site to promote the AMBUC™ name. This year, they would like us to provide 4 or more AMBUCS™ on Tuesday, June 24 at 4:00 p.m. for a few hours to lay out boundaries for camp sites. On Saturday, June 28, they would like 4 or more AMBUCS™ to volunteer to drive golf carts from 11:30 to about 2:00 to help participants take their equipment to their cars after the event is over. This is a great opportunity for AMBUCS™ to get their shoulders together to help another organization serve the community. It is also a great opportunity for State Farm employees/retirees toward earning their 40 hours of service for Good Neighbor grants.

Please **RSVP** to Don Barnard at tacoguava@hotmail.com or call him at 309-662-4673 if you can help on one or more of these days.

Our annual Installation Banquet was held on Thursday, May 8. It was an enjoyable evening with good food, good friends and good natured fun. I opened the festivities and even offered a joke. Being the accomplished comedian that I am, I first announced that I was about to tell a joke. I did that so the audience could be sure that their seat belts were snugly fastened. I didn't want anyone falling out of their chairs from laughter. In the next picture, Pete Hettinger is either explaining my joke, telling the audience that the seat belts were actually to keep them from running out when I began telling jokes, or to announce the names of our three scholarship winners. I prefer thinking that he was talking about scholarships. Our winners were unable to be in attendance . . . something about taking finals. The winners were:

Mary Lohberg, St. Ambrose, \$2,000 Huber Memorial Scholarship
 Rebecca Gillen, St. Ambrose, \$1,000 Cornbelt Scholarship
 Amy Malinowski, \$1,000 Washington University, \$1,000 Cornbelt Scholarship



Pete is seen in this next picture greeting our special guests from the Huber family (from the left, Larry and Sandy Huber, Marilyn Seacrist)



As always, the food at the Ozark House was great.



What would an Installation Banquet be without an installation? Our regional director, Eric Oschwald (behind the podium) is issuing the oath of office to Al Bedell, treasurer, Vicky Strauss, Secretary, and Dick Lang, president.



This year's AMBUC™ of the Year is Al Bedell. I am sure that Al was thrilled with the award, but his laughter is most likely because he saw me present his plaque upside down. We quickly corrected the situation and took another picture. The second picture definitely shows his pleasure in getting this award. Congratulations Al, this honor is well deserved!



This year's Don Huber Memorial Spirit Award went to Don Stogsdill. Throughout the year, he displayed the cheerful helpful attitude that does so much to promote the helpful spirit of AMBUCS™.



The Project Manager of the Year Award went to Larry Turilli. Larry put his creative juices into action and created two tools to enhance the quality of our ramps. Besides that, these inventions will make ramp building go more quickly. Larry explained to the audience what the tools were for and how they are used. The baluster alignment tool is on the left and the post-trimming template is on the right. Great innovations Larry.



Dick Lang

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, June 21, 2014
Time: 7:00 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, July 2, 2014
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

**Bill Buchie's Babbles...**



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We got a ramp built in Bloomington in the month of May and Mrs. Barns is very happy with the results! We built a 30 ft. ramp to her existing porch and she is now able to get in and out of her home on her own. Mrs. Barns recently had hip surgery and arrived home on a Friday afternoon and we were at her home the very next day and finished her ramp before noon.. pretty amazing! We had plenty of volunteers to help that day along with a new "volunteer" all the way from Iowa, Mary Lohberg, who drove all the way from Iowa that morning to help us build the ramp for Mrs. Barns. Thanks, Mary! You may recognize Mary as one of our scholarship recipients for 2014. Thanks again to all who helped with our ramp-building project that day.







If you look closely, you'll notice one last picture in the newsletter of a stack of boxes with DeWalt labels all over these new boxes. As they just arrived on my doorstep this past week. Yep, you're right, NEW DRILLS! 8 new drills that we received from a grant request that we submitted to the Stanley Black & Decker charitable giving program. You're all welcome to try them out at our next ramp-building project and I'll be sure to get some pictures to send back to the company, so they can see the smiles of our ramp recipients AND our ramp-builders with our new drills!



We continue to get requests for ramps and I am working on the details for the next several ramps to build this season and I'll be posting more information on the next ramp project times and locations. Feel free to come and help us on the third Saturday of the month for our ramp-building projects.

If you want to be added to the e-mail list or want to know more about our ramp-building program, just give me a call or an e-mail.

See ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

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(309) 829-9844 (home)

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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 Cornbelt Ambucs™ did not provide any bikes last month we have been active.

We have two children with evaluation forms in the works. One has outgrown his AM-9 small and looking for a little larger bike and the second is a child at Easter Seals who will be getting his first bike. Hopefully we will have pictures of both kids next month. I realize it may seem like we are not as involved as in the past but it always slows down at the end of the school year and during the summer months.

Joe Copeland, Ambucs™ Executive Director, and I borrowed the District 4A AmTryke® trailer and did a little road work in May. We visited the Peoria Easter Seals and Joe did a bike training session with the therapist and then with the assistance of the Pekin Ambucs™ we help fit 9 kids on bikes that afternoon.

On Tuesday morning we traveled to Madison, Wisconsin for a bike day at a pediatric therapy clinic and helped fit about ten kids on bikes. Unfortunately there is not an Ambucs™ chapter in their area so these little guys will be going on the wish list soon.

Wednesday we travel to Tomah, Wisconsin for another bike presentation. Tomah is a beautiful little city with a great military presence with an Army base, a National Guard Unit and a large VA Hospital in the town. Joe did another training session with the therapist and then we helped find the right bike for 10 wonderful kids. However, the best news about Tomah is they signed a new

club building permit that night and are ready to start a chapter in Tomah, WI soon. They were already working on finding funding for the bikes and one of the therapist who signed up works at the VA Hospital so they will have a great connection with helping some disabled veterans get bikes to ride.

Thursday evening we were in Peru, Illinois with the I80 chapter. This is the chapter Cornbelt helped start last year. They are doing great and found about 8 more kids that need an AmTryke®. With the ten for ten program for new chapters they already have most of the funds for these new bikes.

Yes, this was a great trip and it was very exciting to see so many young kids get the opportunity to ride a bike for the first time in their life. I hope we can have another bike rodeo next year in Bloomington and Joe can help train the therapist in our area.

As usual, please continue to send me the name and contact information for any child who might benefit from an AmTryke®.

Thanks.

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>