

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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FEBRUARY 2016

THE PREZ SEZ...



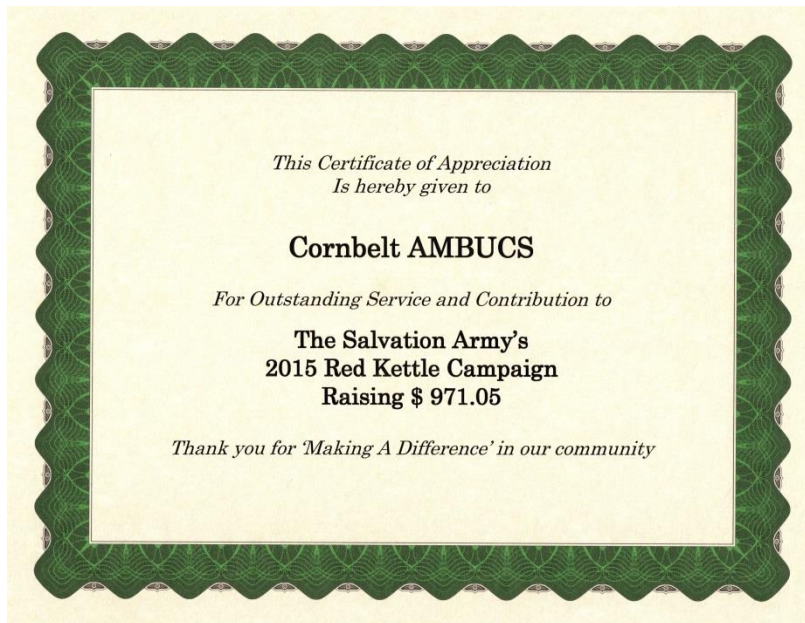
The Cornbelt New Year got off to a good start. January is sometimes a slow month for us, but this year we managed to build ramps and give away Amtrykes®. And there's more good stuff to come. We've got our hockey social with the Pekin AMBUCS™ this month. And if Mother Nature continues to cooperate, we'll probably get an early start on the spring ramp build season. Read about that and other Cornbelt activities in the articles that follow.

Shoulders Together!!!

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Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Last month I talked about getting a little outside our comfort zone and helping the with the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign. Well, apparently it's not as uncomfortable out there as I thought. I was invited to attend the Salvation Army Red Kettle Volunteer Celebration where they celebrate the campaign and announce the campaign results. There were awards presented in several categories to groups and individuals who helped raise the most money. Cornbelt AMBUCS™ helped the Salvation Army raise \$971.05 and was recognized as the top Service Club in the campaign. Not bad for a few hours of work. You continue to amaze me with the generosity you display with your time and money. You've found another way to make a difference and improve life for others in our community. Thanks to everyone who signed up and rang bells.



AMBUCS™ Regifting Party & 2 New Big Hats

It's fun to get together with AMBUCS™ when we serve, but it's also fun to get together with AMBUCS™ just for fun. We held our annual Regifting Party last month, and cleaned out some closets while filling others. The party wasn't all about gifts; however, there was some good food and a few beverages too.

Al Bedell also brought two special gifts, Big Hats for Vicki Strauss and Larry Turilli. They were the result of a very successful branding time last fall that added 5 new members to Cornbelt AMBUCS™ and started a brand new club in Morris, IL.



Hockey Social

Speaking of fun.... Pekin AMBUCS™ will join the Cornbelt AMBUCS™ for a hockey game as our next joint group social. Come share an evening with your fellow Central Illinois AMBUCS™ and watch the Bloomington Thunder take on the Chicago Steel at 7PM on Friday, February 19th. We've got an ice-level suite reserved so we'll be close to the action. And it's a suite, so some food will be provided.

Tickets cost \$22. Make checks payable to Bill Hamann as he'll be picking up the tickets for us. If you'll be joining us, **please RSVP to Bill Hamann. His email address is william.hamann@gmail.com.**

Save the dates!!

- Hockey Game Social with Pekin AMBUCS™ – U.S. Cellular Coliseum – Bloomington, IL – February 19
- AMBUCS™ Central Region Spring Conference - Parke Hotel – Bloomington, IL - April 29/30
- Midwest Food Bank Service Project – June 20

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Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, February 20, 2016
Time: 7:00 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, March 2, 2016
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

Upcoming Events

Bloomington Thunder Hockey Game

When: Friday, February 19, 2016

Time: 7 PM

Place: US Cellular Coliseum

RSVP: william.hamann@gmail.com by Monday, January 18th



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

It's been cold.. it's been windy.. not alot of snow, but we're still busy. We built 2 ramps in January, both inside a garage, and both ramps certainly needed by the family for access to their homes.

Our first ramp was for one of our very own, Sonny Wilner and his wife, Peg. Sonny has been a member of our local AMBUCS™ club for many, many years and Peg worked at Alexander Lumber Company many years, as well, so they both have a strong connection to our local organization. We were able to build them a ramp which will make life much easier for both of them. (Yes, Sonny has heard our "guarantee" and still thought we did a pretty nice job!) It was a pleasure to help one of our own. Enjoy your new ramp Sonny and Peg!





Our second ramp was built for a family in Normal. The daughter has a disability and the family had moved into a new home but needed a ramp to make their home accessible. We started our ramp-building on one night and came back the second night to finish the railing. Both parents are nurses and were "on duty" when we finished the ramp on that second night, so we did what we do best.. finished the ramp for the family, took a picture, shook hands, turned out the lights, and left.. feeling confident that we just made life a little easier for this family. It's not about the accolades, it's about doing something for someone else.. knowing that you've made a difference!



Enjoy the winter months and remember what we have done over the past year.. making life a little easier for families by making their homes accessible. Thanks for your help and support and I'll keep you posted on future ramp-building opportunities.

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.



The therapeutic tricycle for children with disabilities

Notes From Al...



AmTrykes®

In January Cornbelt AMBUCS™ provided a lovely young energetic girl in LeRoy with an Amtryke®. She is 3 years old, loves to play outdoors with friends and family. She is able to walk alone but riding a conventional bike was out of the questions due to her cerebral palsy.

As you can see from the pictures below Ailynn adapted rather quickly and was riding her AM-9 small within minutes after we finished the final adjustments. She was referred to Cornbelt AMBUCS™ by Dorene Solava through Spice.



After fitting and presenting the bike to Ailynn, Dorene and I visited Tri-Valley High School and it looks like they have two young teenage kids who could benefit from an Amtryke®. The school therapist is going to work with the parents and Dorene to complete the evaluation and required forms. Thus it appears we will have a couple Amtryke® to assemble and provide next month.

Thanks again for your referrals. Please send me the contact information for anyone who might benefit from an Amtryke®.

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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>