# **CORNBELT BUC-ETIN**



Creating Mobility and Independence For People With Disabilities

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**APRIL 2016** 

## THE PREZ SEZ...



March was another quiet month for Cornbelt AMBUCS™, but clearly that won't be the case for April. As the weather heats up, so does our AMBUCS™ activity. The month of April starts with our annual Pancake breakfast and ends with our Central Region Spring Conference. In between I know we'll build a couple ramps and probably give away an AmTryke® or two. It's also scholarship season. Pete Hettinger and J. Balmer will be identifying candidates and making recommendations for both local and national scholarship awards. There will be plenty of AMBUCS™ things to do in April. Read about all our Cornbelt activities, past and future, in the

articles that follow, and come out and join us in April. As always, you can reach me anytime at 309-287-3898 or <a href="mailto:lgturil@yahoo.com">lgturil@yahoo.com</a> with any questions, needs, desires, suggestions, etc. Shoulders Together!!!

LT

#### **Home Sweet Home Supper Night**

On Monday, March 14, Marcia Hammerstrand led a group of AMBUCS™ volunteers at Home Sweet Home Mission in Bloomington. This was the first of our quarterly community service projects. The group helped prepare the Monday night meal for the mission. Their evening was cut a little short when some of the regular mission volunteers arrived, not having been told that Cornbelt AMBUCS™ was prepared to serve that night. Thanks to all the AMBUCS™ that came out to help. In spite of the mix-up, everyone was glad to have helped, and is looking forward to more projects like this one in the future.

#### AMBUCS™ Central Region Spring Conference

The rest of the Central Region will be coming to Bloomington to learn more about AMBUCS™, meet old friends and make new ones. Joe Copelend will be leading an AmTryke® Road Show on Saturday morning. We've invited therapists from around the region to join us for the Road Show so they can learn about our AmTrykes® and how AmTrykes® can help the patients they see. Come out and join the rest of the Central Region on April 29 and 30 at the Parke Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Bloomington.

And don't forget, Cornbelt AMBUCS™ will also reimburse the \$99 Early Bird registration fee for any member that signs up and attends the conference. Here's a copy of the conference registration form in case you've lost the last one I sent you.



Let's have a strong delegation of Cornbelt AMBUCS™ at this conference which is right in our back yard. See you at the conference!!

#### Save the dates....

- AMBUCS™ Central Region Spring Conference April 29 & 30
- Senior EXPO May 3
- Pekin AMBUCS™ Auction Night May 5
- Midwest Food Bank Service Project June 20

#### **Next Saturday Event**

When: Saturday, April 16, 2016

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

#### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Time: Noon

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



# Bill BucHie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

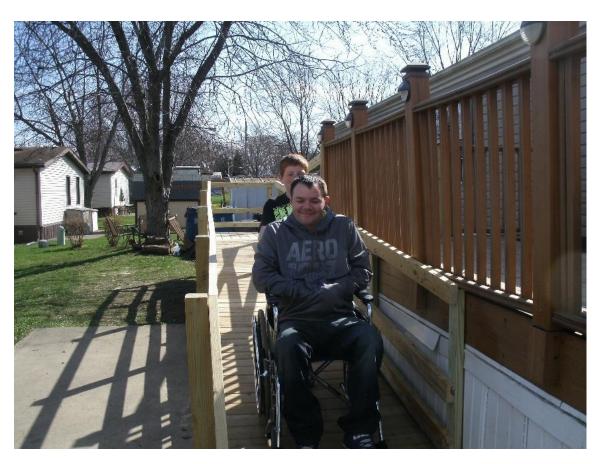
I hope you are all enjoying this spring weather we're having. It's nice to be able to get out and go places, enjoy the weather and come and go as we please. It's also nice when we can help someone else enjoy those same privileges, too!

We built two ramps in March. At the beginning of the month, we traveled down to Shirley, Illinois to help the Niepagan family with a ramp at their home. We had to pick a day when it was not raining or snowing, but we got it done and Mr. Niepagan was very happy with the results. Another nice looking ramp! Thanks, AMBUCS™!





The second ramp was built for Mr. Wilson in Bloomington. It's amazing what we can do on a Saturday morning. Over 40 ft. of ramp, plenty of volunteers, and we built a very nice wheelchair ramp for him and his family to use. I'm not sure who is happier his son with his skateboard?.. or Mr. Wilson! Everyone wins!.. and we've made life a little easier for another family in our community.





I continue to get requests for ramps and I'll keep you posted on ramp projects. Feel free to stop by any ramp-building project anytime.. you're always welcome.

The last "project" is our trailer. We've been building ramps for the past 26 years and we've had the benefit of using a cargo trailer for our tools and materials for the past 6 years. We've added tools, equipment, and have increased the average number of ramps we have built over the years and it seemed like our trailer was getting smaller and smaller. Well, we purchased a new trailer. Since we ALWAYS utilize any outside donations to our club towards ramp materials, Amtrykes®, and scholarships for therapists, we are using our "own money" to buy the trailer. So, if you would like to make a donation to our club, specifically to be used towards our trailer, it would help. We have a great group of volunteers and an excellent reputation in our community for our ramp-building and we will continue to build on that legacy.. with a larger trailer this year. Thanks to everyone who has participated in our ramp-building. Whether it's been carrying lumber, screwing those deck boards down, digging in the dirt, or just shaking the hand of the person who just got a new ramp, you've contributed to our legacy of making life accessible for individuals in our community. Keep coming to our ramp-building projects and I'll guarantee you'll smile at every event!



See ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

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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®**

Amtryke® activity has been a little slow this spring for Cornbelt. We do have two Amtrykes® to present to the board for their approval this month. Both are JT 2300 recumbent bikes.

One is for a disabled veteran who lives in LeRoy and the other is for a young man who has outgrown his 1420 Pro Series bike. If the veteran is available we would like to present his bike at the Central Regional Conference on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Have you ever wondered what happens at an Amtryke® Road Show? You have an excellent chance to see Joe Copeland, AMBUCS™' Executive Director, put on an Amtryke® Road Show for therapist and all the AMBUCS™ members on Saturday morning at the Central Regional Conference. I hope to see many of you there.

As usual, keep sending me the contact information for anyone who might benefit from one of our therapeutic bikes.

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: <a href="http://www.pekinAMBUCS.org/newsletter.html">http://www.pekinAMBUCS.org/newsletter.html</a>