

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: J Balmer
Vice President: Marcia Hammerstrand
Secretary: Vicky Strauss
Treasurer: Dennis Strauss
Sergeant At Arms: Don Stogsdill
Website: www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org

Bill McHie, At-Large Board Member
Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member
Jerry Wyrick, At-Large Board Member
William Hamann, Past President
Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member



JULY 2017

THE PREZ SEZ...



I'd like to start my year as President by saying that I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to this position.

There have been a number of conversations recently about moving the Cornbelt Chapter forward. We are extremely fortunate to have Al Bedell heading up our Amtryke® program, Bill McHie heading up our ramp building efforts & Pete Hettinger handling our scholarships. All of these efforts take a lot of time. We also have several members of our board of directors who handle operational duties, keep our newsletter going out & our Facebook page & website up & running.

At some point these fine people may wish to devote that time to other things and as much as we'd like to expand the Amtryke and ramp building aspects of our chapter, that will require more people with the time and training to coordinate them. We'd also like to get members who don't participate in those programs more involved and generally expand our membership.

There are several ways to do that. We've already adopted one & we'd like to adopt the following two:

Marcia Hammerstrand has been coordinating our community engagement by involving the chapter in local quarterly volunteerism. We will continue to do that. We also recognize that attending our monthly meetings can be problematic for some people because they are being held at noon. As a result, the Board is considering alternating the meeting times so that every other month they are held in the evening. We'd like your input as to whether that would increase your participation in those meetings as well as potential times and locations for those meetings. I am organizing what I hope will become an annual event, a hog roast this fall, that has two goals; a gathering for all our current members to enjoy and potential new members to learn about who we are & what we do and raise funds for the Chapter that will allow us to contribute even more to our community. I hope to have more information about location and the date for that event in the next couple of weeks, it will be an adult event most likely in September & will include live entertainment and auctions.

Thanks for being a member of the Cornbelt Ambucs™ and I look forward to another great year for our Chapter.

J

J Balmer
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Upcoming Events

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, July 15, 2017
Time: 7:00 a.m.

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, August 2, 2017
Time: Noon

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We got one ramp done in June with help from a group of State Farm managers and friends. Brian Burcham led the efforts and the crew built a 35 ft ramp for a family in Bloomington. The father was not able to stay at his home until he had access to his home and the State Farm volunteers solved that for the family on a sunny afternoon in June. Thanks Brian and your crew from State Farm.. good neighbors indeed!





We will be building more ramps in July and August and I'll keep you posted on the dates and locations.

Enjoy your summer and I'll see ya' at the next ramp!

Bill McHie

Ph: (309) 824-9844 (cell)

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®

June was another very active month for Cornbelt Ambucs and Amtrykes. During June, you presented 4 lovely children with bikes they are able to ride and play with their friends and families. Thank you for allowing these events to happen.

William received his bike at Easter Seals on June 6th. The Amtryke will really help William strengthen his lower extremities and improve his coordination. He really wants to be able to ride a bike with his sisters. As you can see from the picture below, William and his mom, sister and therapist (on the right) are very pleased with his new red AM-10 Amtryke.



We also presented Tyler with his new 1412 Pro Series bike at Easter Seals. Tyler was fitted a few months ago when I was involved with the Pekin Ambucs at the Peoria Easter Seals bike fitting day. Since Tyler and his family live in McLean County we felt this bike should be from Cornbelt and not the Pekin Ambucs. Tyler and his family loved the new shiny red bike. His therapist, Becky, in the center of the picture below had a difficult time keeping up with Tyler in the Easter Seals parking lot.



Keeping the activity going, we presented Grayson with her new AM-10 Amtryke. She is 20 months old and is a ball of fire. They are so happy to have her new bike. Cornbelt became aware of Grayson at a bike fitting day in Naperville where her grandmother lives. Again, Cornbelt felt it only proper for us to fund and handle this request. Unfortunately we are still waiting for the rear steering kit to arrive for her bike. Once received we will make sure it is installed on the bike.



We ending the month with presenting Ethan with his third Amtryke. Yes, he started out with a very small bike and has grown much in the last few years. His previous two bikes have been returned to us and are being used by other Amtryke recipients. Ethan was so excited and loved his new 1412 Pro Series bike. His mother sent the following picture after a one mile, yes ONE MILE, ride and later informed me they went out again that evening for another ride. I think we just might have to replace his tires someday. They live very close to the trail so I am sure the family will be getting much exercise and have tons of fun with the new bike.



Thanks for all your help and continue to forward me the contact information for individuals who could benefit from one of our fabulous Amtrykes.

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

Relay For Life

The last full week-end of June proved to be a great week-end for the local Relay for Life. There were several groups, made up of all ages, participating in the event, including camping overnight on the grounds of NCHS. Don Barnard organized the drivers that assist campers and others to get to-and-from the grounds. This year, Bill Hamann, Jeff Thompson, and Marcia Hammerstrand also volunteered some of their time to help with this great cause. It was a fun event, and those that were helped were very grateful. Bill, Jeff. And Marcia are looking forward to helping again next year!



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>