# **CORNBELT BUC-ETIN**



Creating Mobility and Independence For People With Disabilities

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



**NOVEMBER 2017** 

# THE PREZ SEZ...



Cornbelt Ambucs™ were well represented at this year's annual conference, and Tan-Kara-A was an excellent location. We helped build 49 Trykes and we gave away three; two were part of the build and rodeo and had been planned on previously, and one was a spur of the moment scenario. Kevin Sheehan, our new National President, had been out to dinner the evening of the Tryke build and met a family that had a child who fit our demographics for a Tryke but hadn't been on one for eight years. Kevin explained what we do to his parents and offered to see what could be done about getting him on a Tryke. After he told the conference about that experience, Al Bedell stated that the Cornbelt Chapter would be willing to provide that Tryke & after discussion we agreed to replace one on the trailer he drove down with. That child was fitted for and received his Tryke the following day.

Your Chapter won numerous awards this year and your previous President, Will Hamann, was also recognized for his outstanding leadership last year. One of the awards we received was for exceeding \$100,000 in charitable giving. For the rest of the many awards won by Cornbelt Ambucs, you'll have to attend our annual banquet in May to see the new banner, as we've run out of room on the current one (3)

We had participants in the Trek for Trykes event as well, raising money for that worthy cause and we all attended some of the many excellent work sessions, the results of which we will be talking about in future meetings and to you through this newsletter. None of this, including the many awards, could have been accomplished without you.

In other news, one of the things the board has discussed is a return to having speakers at our monthly meetings, and we will be announcing those speakers as we move forward.

It's a great day to be an Ambuc,

J

J Balmer Betadigm, Inc. <u>jbalmer@betadigm.com</u> 309-287-9421

# **Upcoming Events**

### **Next Saturday Event**

When: Saturday, November 18, 2017

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Time: Noon

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

# Bill BucHie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We did not get a chance to build any ramps in October.. sorry. We've got a few ramps "on the books" for November so stay tuned and I'll be sending out an e-mail for future ramp-building opportunities.

Thanks for all you have done for supporting our ramp-building efforts this year. Although the weather will be turning a little colder, we're still planning to warm some hearts and continue our ramp-building efforts into the winter months, if we can.

I'll see ya' at the next one!

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 <a href="mailto:jwyrick300@ctechinternet.com">jwyrick300@ctechinternet.com</a>.



## **Amtrykes®**

We focused our Amtryke efforts last month on the Ambucs National Conference at the Lake of the Woods in Missouri.

Cornbelt had previously agreed to sponsor two of the 49 recipients at the Amtryke rodeo. This year in order to allow all the family to travel to the Tan-Tar-A Resort in daylight the Amtryke Rodeo for children and Veterans were held at the same day at noon.

Our first rider is shown in the two pictures below on the 1420 XL. In the picture he is riding with the therapist from the St. Louis chapter that Cornbelt started after the Ambucs National Conference in St. Louis. In the family picture along with the child on his new bike are the Cornbelt Ambucs who were attending this year's annual conference. Also, in the picture is Sue Haywood who is often referred to the Amtryke Mama. She was instrumental in getting Ambucs started in the Amtryke program. Sue is from Longview Ambucs and is now the Southwest Regional Director.





Unfortunately, our Veteran rider was not able to attend the Amtryke giveaway. He has not able to leave Denver, Colorado but was to arrive home later in the week. One of the Springfield Ambucs was willing to take the bike to Springfield and Erin our Veteran's Amtryke Coordinator was going to pick up the bike and deliver it early the next week

The night before the rodeo our newly elected AMBUCS National President, Kevin Sheean, was having dinner in one of the Tan-Tar-A restaurants when he noticed a family setting close by with a special needs son. Kevin started a conversation with the family and found out their 20-year-old son had not ridden a bike in 15 years. They were not staying close to the resort but were very pleased when Kevin asked them to stop by early Saturday morning to be evaluated for an Amtryke. The family was thrilled and yes there was a bike in the District 4A trailer that fit him perfectly and he received his bike at the Rodeo. That is how Ambucs put their shoulders together to get a job done. I am very proud to say Cornbelt Ambucs stepped right up and offered to fund this bike.



The family was from the Kansas City area and the father runs a car dealership. He was already looking for ways he could pay us back. While at the conference we connected him with the new Veteran's chapter, K C Riders, in Kansas City. I think they may have a new member in the near future.

As usual please continue to send me the contact information for anyone who could benefit from an Amtryke.

Al Bedell 2802 Hendrix Rd Bloomington, IL 61704 (309) 826-0405

# **Community Service**

While at the recent AMBUCS National Conference, we had an opportunity to learn about some of the service activities that other chapters across the nation participate in. Cornbelt has served/assisted several local non-profits, but maybe we have not reached the one that holds a special spot in your heart. So, it got me to wondering whether there are other non-profit organizations that you support, that would be a good fit for a group service activity? If there is a particular organization that you would like me to contact, to see if we can set up a group activity, please email me and let me know.

Coming up: We did some good with this last year (and had a good time doing it), so we will do it again. On December 4, Cornbelt AMBUCS will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army, then we will meet for dinner at Shannon's Restaurant, in Bloomington. If interested in either/both of these activities, please let me know.

Marcie Hammerstrand

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>