

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member



JANUARY 2011

THE PREZ SEZ...

(President Denny Strauss)

Happy New Year! Where did 2010 go? Kind of a slow month for AMBUCS™ except for AmTrykes®. Al has been busy in that area. See his column for details. No ramps built in December due to the accumulation of snow and the cold weather. We have ramps scheduled, just waiting on better weather.

Our next lunch meeting is January 5 at Monical's Pizza (near Best Buy). We will be voting on to proposals from the Board: dues reduction, and Saturday morning meeting location. You should have received an email with the details. Hope to see you there.

Socials - The "re-gifting" Social is scheduled for January 7, 2011. You should have received an email with the details, but here they are again:

Time: 6 pm; Where - Al Bedell's home; Address: 802 Hendrix Rd.,



Bloomington. If you get lost the phone number is 828-5584. Directions to Al's house: Take Main St. South to Woodrig and turn left and go .7 mile and turn right on Hendrix and we are the second driveway on the left. What to bring: A Christmas gift that you may have received that was not quite your style or to your liking, and a dessert to share. Menu: Lasagna, Bread, Salad.

We will be swearing in any of the new members that are attending. And handing out several awards. It's not too late to RSVP.

National Conference – The AMBUCS™ National Conference for 2011 is July 20-23 in Memphis, TN. This is within driving distance. If you have never attended the National Conference before, consider this opportunity to attend. It is a good chance to meet AMBUCS™ from all over the country, attend some great training sessions, and have fun in Memphis.



We have had a good start to the 2010/2011-year – let's keep up the good work of "providing mobility and independence for people with disabilities".

Denny



Mark your calendars!!!

Next Saturday Meeting

When: Saturday, January 15, 2011
Time: 7:15 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting - **NEW LOCATION**

When: Wednesday, January 5, 2011
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, All you ramp-builders -

We got "snowed out" for December!... and Mother Nature won the first round... but we've still got a list of ramps to build. We are still getting a few ramp requests... and our ramp committee is still at work planning some ramps that could be done on a concrete surface... or inside a garage, if possible... so we'll go another round with Mother Nature in January and see what happens. We certainly appreciate the help that we received over the past year.

We depend on our volunteers for the "hands-on" help along with financial support and help in getting the word out about our ramp-building program... so keep up the good work! If you had a chance to look at our "wish list"... Great!... If not, please check it out (on the website) and see if you can help. It's never too late to take an item off the list... and donate it to our club.

Thanks, again for spreading so many smiles throughout our community. Hope you enjoyed your holidays with family and friends... and just think of the folks who were able to do the same... because of the ramps you built in our community!

Watch the newsletter for future announcements on ramp projects... and let me know if you want to be added to the e-mail list for future projects, as well.

Happy New Year!... and see ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

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Cornbelt Buc-etin Delivery

Did you know you can now receive your monthly copy of the Cornbelt Buc-etin via email? *Save a tree*, and save *Cornbelt AMBUCS™* the first-class postage...and get your monthly copy online! Just send Jerry an email at JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com.



The therapeutic tricycle for children with disabilities

Notes from Al...

AmTrykes®

Our AmTryke® activity seems to slow down a little in December but we still gave away two wonderful AmTrykes®.

An AM-12 therapeutic AmTryke® was presented to Raymond School in early December. This bike was purchased from funds collected in remembrance of Sue Preston. We need to thank Karen Klien, Cornbelt's 2010 Therapist of the Year, for her help in arranging this purchase. Karen was fortunate to have worked and knew Sue Preston. Karen indicated Sue spent 35 plus years with District 87 and working with the youngest children at Raymond School. Prior to passing away last July at age 60, Sue enriched the lives of countless families over more than one generation and would have been very proud to have played a part in seeing those special kids benefiting from an AmTryke® at Raymond School.

Our second bike was purchased with donated funds from Denny, Dennis, Sonny, Dewayne and myself. Jamie Fifarek, Therapist at Easter Seals, wanted Joey to have a bike so bad she was going to ask her brother and sister to not purchase any Christmas presents for each other but put the money toward a bike for Joey. However, after hearing about this the above AMBUCS® came to the rescue and purchased the bike for Joey. Joey had received an AM-12 several years ago and the bike was definitely used a lot. He

was one of the first kids I was able to help evaluate and place on an AmTryke® after taking over as AmTyrke® coordinator after Connie Oltman.

Jamie wanted to go with us when we presented the bike to Joey and also asked her husband to accompany us. Jamie indicated this would be an excellent Christmas present for Joey. I wish I could have captured his eyes when we wheeled the bike into the living room that evening and helped make this a merry Christmas for the family. We also took a couple presents for his younger sister that evening and you can see from the pictures below she wanted to ride the bike too. Below is the note Jamie wanted me to share with Cornbelt AMBUCS™. This is what the holidays are all about.



Dear Ambucs Crew -
 I just wanted to
 let you know how much
 I appreciate your generosity
 towards my patient, Joey.
 Kinder. Because of your
 kindness, he will now be
 able to ride around his
 neighborhood like his friends!
 What an amazing gift
 to give a child with
 limited mobility. I know

that he will get much use
 out of his new AmTryke.
 I also appreciate the fact
 that you all went above
 & beyond in order to make
 this happen in such a short
 amount of time! I'm sure
 it will always be one of
 Joey's (& his mother's!) favorite
 Christmas! I thank you
 for all that you do for
 those with physical limit-
 ations. May God bless you
 in this new year!
 Gratefully yours, Jamie Ffarek

Thanks again for all your help and please continue to send me the names for any person who could benefit from having their own AmTryke®.

Al Bedell
 (309) 826-0405



Spina Bifida Association of Illinois

Central Illinois Candlelight Bowl 2011

When: **Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011**
7:00-9:30 pm
(Registration at 6:30 PM)

Where: Circle Lanes
1225 Holiday Dr., Bloomington (Frontage Road-enter off Empire
to Mt. Vernon across from Toys R Us, and make quick left
onto Holiday Dr.)

Cost: \$15/person. Reservations requested

Cost includes 3 games of Candlelight Bowling, shoes, popcorn and pizza. Please also plan to purchase tickets for the many great raffle prizes at \$2 a piece or 6/\$10 Available at event.

Special Spina Bifida Association quilt raffle \$5 chances for \$20. Need not be present to win quilt raffle. Purchase quilt raffle tickets and/or register to bowl at

Lynn.bradtke@comcast.net or call Lynn at (309)452-9937



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