

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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NOVEMBER 2015

THE PREZ SEZ...



There were so many things going on last month, it's hard to know where to start. When in doubt, I guess, start at the beginning. That would be our monthly lunch meeting at Monical's. We christened the newly remodeled Monical's 'Back Room' by having our largest lunch meeting in recent memory. In addition to a strong Cornbelt turnout, we had six guests, including our District Governor, Bill Calvert. And here's the best part (no offense Bill), if those same six people show up again next month, we'll only have three guests. That's right; three of those folks have since joined our club!!! So, let me continue by welcoming Jan Klee, Marcia Hammerstrand and J Balmer to Cornbelt AMBUCS™.

Speaking of guests and new members, Doug Michael joined us for breakfast at Shannon's and our monthly ramp build, and has since become a member of Cornbelt. That means we added four new members last month. These four have already made an impact, working on multiple ramps in their first month. Make sure you greet them and introduce yourself when you see them.

Branding Contest Update

The addition of four new members makes this year's Branding Time the most successful that I can remember. It also means that we'll have a strong showing in our Branding Contest with the Pekin AMBUCS™ club. Let me say that adding new members isn't about winning a contest. It's about strengthening our club and having more Shoulders Together when the time comes to make a difference in our community. Having said that, it would be nice to stay home this winter and have the Pekin folks drive here for our joint hockey game social, so... Let's not quit. I know we had a couple other folks visit us in the last month. Let's get them onboard as well, and give them the opportunity to serve alongside the rest of us.

National President 'Visit'

We also had a special guest/member at our monthly lunch. It was the first official club visit for our new National President, Al Bedell. Al did double duty at the meeting. After telling us about the September and October Amtryke® activity, he switched hats and presented his first National President Visitation Patch.



Impromptu Social

We were scheduled to present an Amtryke® on Wednesday the 28th, and afterward head to Buffalo Wild Wings to celebrate. Well, our new rider got sick that afternoon and we had to

postpone the Amtryke® giveaway, but we went ahead with the Buffalo Wild Wings part of the afternoon. It was a small, but spirited gathering. Look for more opportunities like this one in the future. It will be fun to see each other without screw guns in our hands and sawdust in our hair. (No bald jokes please; I can see the picture above too.)

New Club Building

I mentioned new Cornbelt club members earlier, but thanks to Al Bedell, there's a club full of new members in Olney, IL. It's finally official. The Eastern Illinois AMBUCS™ were chartered last month, adding to the list of communities served by AMBUCS™.

Al and I have also been working with two teams of therapists, one in Morris, IL and another in Bettendorf, IA. The team from Morris has already filed a Chapter Building Permit and is in the process of completing their Chapter Charter. Both groups are very excited to bring Amtryke® programs to their community. It's been a lot of fun to see their dedication, and the enthusiasm they have for what Amtrykes® can do for their patients.

These three groups are finding out what we already know; every day is a great day to be an AMBUCS™!!

LT

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, November 21, 2015
Time: 7:00 a.m.
Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, December 2, 2015
Time: Noon
Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill BucHie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

Thanks to your efforts, we were able to build a couple ramps in October and added a few more smiles to people who can now get in and out of their homes.

Our first ramp was more of a "bridge" for Mr. Gibson, who is now able to get from his garage to his home safely. We started the project with plenty of help, including the "mascot" in the trap waiting patiently for someone to get close enough. (I didn't get a picture, didn't want to risk it!..) We finished the ramp in the dark, but the smiles sure brightened up the place as we left that evening. Thanks, again, AMBUCS™!



Our second ramp was built on our "regular Saturday" ramp-building day in Bloomington. Bob had moved to a new home, but could not get in and out of his new home without a ramp, so we solved that for him that day. We had new volunteers helping us that day, great weather, and Bob was all smiles as he came down his ramp for the first time! (I did drive by his home later that day and Bob was out on the sidewalk, talking to the neighbors, enjoying that beautiful fall weather!)





Yep, we do make a difference in our community, one ramp at a time. Thanks to everyone who has helped us with our ramp-building this season, and we've still got a few ramps to go! I'll keep you posted on the upcoming ramp projects.

See ya' at the next one!

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.



Notes From Al...



AmTrykes®

October and the first few days of November we very good Amtryke® days for Cornbelt Ambucs™. We assembled three bikes in October and gave two away the first week of November.

The first bike was given to Raelyn at Easter Seals. We became aware of Raelyn's request for an Amtryke® when checking the Ambucs'™ National Wish List. Raelyn lives in Danvers but was being treated at Shriner's Hospital in the Chicago area. They were not aware of Cornbelt Ambucs™ so Raelyn was placed on the National Wish List.

I contacted the family and luckily we had the exact bike she needed had recently been returned to our chapter. Within a week after finding out about Raelyn's need for an Amtryke®, she was presented and fitted with her bike. As you can see from the pictures below she loved her bike and was ready to go. Her younger brother was following her around the room in Raelyn's wheelchair.



The second bike we gave away was the new AM-10. This bike has replaced the AM-9. We are no longer purchasing the small bikes from Kettler in Germany. Here is a close up of the new bike. You will notice it closely resembles our AM-12 and AM-16 bikes.



The second bike was presented to Kelson at our noon meeting. Kelson has been using an older AM-9 waiting on the shipment of the new AM-10 to get here. Kelson was very happy to have his new bike and I think there is a good chance his father will become a member of our chapter.



We also have a bike to assemble for a disable veteran. This will be the first bike Cornbelt has presented to a disabled veteran in the Bloomington Normal area. I am planning on presenting the bike at our noon meeting the first Wednesday in December. Hope many Ambucs™ can attend.

I just received an Amtryke® request for a 29 year old girl in Atlanta. I am still working with the therapist but hope to have board approval soon to purchase this bike.

As usual, please let me know if you become aware of anyone, child or adult, who could benefit from the mobility and independence our bikes can provide.

Al Bedell
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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>