

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: J Balmer
Vice President: Marcia Hammerstrand
Secretary: Vicky Strauss
Treasurer: Dennis Strauss
Sergeant At Arms: William Hamann
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



JUNE 2018

THE PREZ SEZ...



It's been an honor serving as President of the Cornbelt Chapter of Ambucs™, and while I didn't accomplish some of what I intended to do as President, I'm continually amazed by what this group accomplishes every year. We averaged more than two ramps built a month, Al (& sometimes Larry) puts huge mileage numbers on Amtryke® trips and we continue to generate scholarships, give away Amtrykes, help new chapters get started and remain one of the most active chapters regardless of size. I will continue to work on growing our chapter, establishing fund raisers so we can better serve our community and promote everything we do under the leadership of Marcia Hammerstrand and our awesome Board of Directors.

For those of you who were unable to attend our Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony, we gave away three scholarships and changed our annual awards a bit. The Project Manager of the Year has been dropped, since we only have two project managers, but feel free to thank Bill McHie for his continued work organizing our ramp builds and Marcie for coordinating our quarterly community service events. The Don Huber Memorial Spirit Award remains and this year, it was a joint award to Denny & Vicky Strauss. The other major change is to the Ambuc of the Year Award. We are ALL Ambucs of the year, but the essence of who we are is epitomized by our newest award , given to it's namesake Duane "Bwana" Wells. This will also be a traveling award, with the current owner required to choose next year's recipient.

It's a great day to be an Ambuc.

J

J Balmer
 Betadigm, Inc.
jbalmmer@betadigm.com
 309-287-9421

Upcoming Events

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, June 16, 2018
 Time: 7:00 a.m.
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, July 11, 2018
 Time: Noon
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We built three ramps in May and had a great time building all three of them! The first ramp was for a family in Bloomington. The mother was having a hard time using her steps and wanted to have a small ramp inside her garage. We built the ramp in "an hour or so" and left them with a few smiles and easy access to their home.



The second ramp was a combination of 2 ramps that were "re-purposed" and moved to a new location in Normal. The family was very pleased that we were able to utilize the materials to give them a new ramp made specifically for their home. We spent quite a few more hours on this one but the results and the smiles were all worth it!





The third ramp was built in Bloomington for a gentleman that was literally coming home the day we were building his ramp! We had a little more shade that day as we were building the ramp inside his garage. He was pretty happy that he was able to get into his home that afternoon.. with the help of our AMBUCS volunteers!



We've got plenty more ramps to build this summer and I'll keep you posted on the details so you have an opportunity to join us. Thanks to all our volunteers and I'll see you at the next one, I', sure!

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®

Last month Cornbelt Ambucs gave two 1420 Pro Series Amtrykes away.

One was through District 87 school to Esteban. Esteban's mother was not present when the bike was presented to him therefore I did not get a verbal permission for a picture. Esteban is 10 years old and weighs over 225 pounds. We are hoping the bike will enable him to get more exercise and help him lose weight.

The second bike was to Alex through Easter Seals. Alex was riding a 1412 Amtryke which was provided several years ago by the Springfield Ambucs, better known as the ABC chapter. As you can see from the pictures below Alex was quite excited to receive his new, red, 1420 Amtryke with rear steering. Mom really liked the rear steering and rear brake.







Also, here is an email I received from Alex's mother. This is why we do what we do.

"Thank you so very much for Alex's AmTryke!!! Thank you for volunteering so much of your time and resources to make sure Alex had just the right AmTryke for him! You and all the members of the Cornbelt chapter AMBUCS are a blessing to us! Alex absolutely LOVES his new AmTryke and he's so proud of it! It brings him so much joy and his joy is our joy, too!!"

As usual please continue to send me the contact information for anyone, child or adult, who could benefit from one of our outstanding therapeutic bikes.

Thanks.

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

Cornbelt AMBUCS Service Activities

On May 1, Cornbelt AMBUCS participated in the Be Content Senior Expo. This is an event we have taken part in for a few years now, and it gives our chapter a chance for exposure. This event has various booths for products, businesses, and organizations that would be of interest to seniors. It is nice to hear comments from people that stop by the booth, who tell us they have been helped by AMBUCS in the past or know someone who has. We also get an opportunity to explain fundraising programs such as the Kroger donation program. Thanks to all the members of Cornbelt AMBUCS who manned the booth throughout the event. This picture is of our booth at the event.



On May 5, a group from Cornbelt AMBUCS assisted the American Red Cross with their 'Sound the Alarm' event. This signature event is a nationwide initiative to reduce the number of home fires deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years. Teams of volunteers installed free smoke alarms and shared home fire preparedness information with residents. This was the second year Cornbelt AMBUCS participated in this event. Each team was assigned a particular area in McLean County, and was designated to visit specific addresses. We checked current smoke alarms to see if they were still in operation, replaced batteries, and installed new alarms, as needed.

As that work was being completed, another member of the team provided smoke alarm education to the residents, and a third team member documented the work that was done. This was a worthwhile activity to participate in, and hopefully we will join in again next year.

Thanks to all that helped with this event! The picture was taken afterwards, and unfortunately, some of the Cornbelt AMBUCs that participated, had already left. Maybe next time we will take it before we head out to the job!



Submitted by Marcia Hammerstrand

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>