

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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AUGUST 2019

THE PREZ SEZ...



Hello fellow AMBUCS™!

I cannot believe it is August already! Summer is just flying by!

It was good to see some of you at the Midwest Food bank last month. As usual, we had a good time. Our task this time was to bag Teddy Grahams. Take a look at our Facebook page for some pictures from the event.

Al and I attended the picnic put on by the Central Region, in July. Carmela Davis, the Big Hat President, drove up from Texas, just to meet us! That was pretty impressive! There were members from 5 different chapters, I believe. Each chapter received a badge for our banner, to commemorate Carmela's visit. We had a picnic with lots of good food, and we were able to tour a new Therapy Clinic. They will be using therapy animals and Amtrykes® there.

I wanted to let you all know about a sign-up sheet I created, for future ramp builds. We have communicated information about this previously, so it may sound familiar to you. If you are a retiree or employee of State Farm, you should be familiar with the State Farm Good Neighbor Grant. As you know, each of us as an individual is eligible to apply for a \$500 grant, to be applied to a non-profit of our choosing, once we put in 40 hours in a calendar year. Well, State Farm recently made a change to that program, and now each of us can apply 40 hours to an individual grant, and additional hours to a group grant. So, for future ramp builds, there will be a sign-up sheet on a clipboard, that we will keep in the trailer. If you are a State Farm retiree/employee, then after each build, please remember to sign the sheet, and enter the number of hours you worked that day. Once we get 40 hours total, I will apply for the group grant. Please be sure that you don't also count these hours towards your individual grant. The State Farm Guidelines also say that we can apply for more than one group grant, so I will be the leader on this first group grant, but I may ask one of the other State Farmers to apply for a grant, too. We may as well get whatever we can, to enable us to continue to do good in our community!

Registration for the National Conference is in full swing. The event will be held in Pittsburgh, Oct. 2 -5. This is a great place to meet your fellow AMBUCS members from around the country, and see what they are all doing. There will also be a bike build, a ramp build, instructional sessions, dinners, auctions, and fun! Some of the Cornbelt members will also be participating in the Trek 4 Trykes walk-a-thon, and you can show your support by contributing to their fundraising pages. If you are so inclined to do that, there is a link to the fundraising page in the email from National. Once you enter that page, you can enter a name, to go to that person's fundraising effort.

Shoulders together!

Marcia

Marcia Hammerstrand
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Upcoming Events

Next Saturday Event

When: Saturday, August 17, 2019

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Time: Noon

Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

Notes From Bill...



Ramps

Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We built a couple ramps in July! We battled some very hot weather but we had some great volunteers and finished two very important ramps for two families.

Our first ramp was built in Bloomington for a lady who has not been out of her home in quite a long time. As we worked on her ramp, she was quite pleased with our work and even called the Pantagraph to make sure that we got some recognition for our efforts. Thanks to all who persevered that day! Nice work, AMBUCS!





The second ramp was built in Normal for a Veteran who happened to be at a military hospital recovering from major surgery and needed a ramp to be able to come home. We started the ramp in the morning and took a break from the heat and came back and finished the ramp that evening. The family was very pleased with our work and we certainly wish them well as they enjoy their new ramp.



Thanks to all our volunteers over these summer months. It's been hot! We have built several ramps and have quite a few left to build. I'll be in touch and let you know of future opportunities for ramp-building.

See you 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 JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com.



Notes From Al...



Amtrykes®

On July 3rd we provided a lovely young girl with her second Amtryke at Park Side Junior High School. MaKaelyn is 8 years old and has difficulty with motor skills and coordination. Also, her muscle tones are significantly weaker than her peers but showing some improvements. We think the Amtryke will help her gain strength and coordination.

Makaelyn is non-verbal and was a little tired and distracted by a lot of other activity going on in the room. However, I am sure she was ready to ride after we left and things quieted down.





The rest of the month was a little slow. However, we have two potential riders in the near future. I also expect to receive additional request shortly after school starts in a few weeks.

Please let me know if you become aware of anyone who could benefit from one of our wonderful therapeutic bikes. Thanks.

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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>