

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN

April 2023

Upcoming Events

April 21-22, 2023 – Central Region Conference in Springfield, IL

April 29, 2023 – Adopt a Highway Clean-up

May 2, 2023 – Be Content at Home -Senior Expo – Parke Hotel 9am - 2 pm

May 3, 2023 - Next monthly Cornbelt AMBUCS Lunch Meeting at Noon at Monicals Pizza next to Best Buy on Veterans Parkway.

May 24, 2023 – Year End Celebration at the Knights of Columbus

June 12, 2023 – Midwest Foodbank Volunteering from 6 pm – 8 pm

August 2-5 – AMBUCS National Conference in Louisville KY

From Your President



Cornbelt AMBUCS – Spring is here along with the rain, cold, maybe a little snow and sometimes tornados. Hopefully, this will all settle down soon and everything will be green, the flowers will be blooming and we won't have to wear winter coats any more. Despite all of this crazy weather, we continue to serve our community. I am grateful to all of you who show up and work hard, no matter what we are doing.

It is so true that Shoulders Together – we work better.

April Lunch Meeting

We were honored to have our own Deanna Frautschi bring her love and knowledge of wildlife and nature to our April meeting. Dee brought us stories and pictures of the wildlife from her own 5 acre “homestead” as well as a few extras. We learned a bit about squirrels and their inability to cross the road and what groundhogs do after February 2 – Groundhog’s Day. 😊 We also enjoyed her beautiful pictures and stories. Thanks, Dee, for sharing with us.

Fox squirrel picking flowers



Deer Kiss



3-month-old - Barred owl



Midwest Food Bank – March 27, 2023

Cornbelt AMBUCS volunteered at the Midwest Foodbank on March 27, 2023. We had a great time together. We scooped, bagged and sealed candy into bags to be distributed in the near future. The hardest part of our job was not eating the chocolate peanut clusters that we were packing. They sure looked and smelled good.

Reminder - our next volunteer activity at the Midwest Foodbank is on **June 12, 2023 from 6 pm - 8 pm**. Please sign up online at this link. This link is specifically for our group: <https://x.qldn.io/e/OvdoVqQQ3xb>



Adopt A Highway cleanup 4/29/2023

Please join us to clean up our adopted part of the highway. We will meet on Saturday morning, **April 29, 2023**, at **9 am**, outside Joe's Station House in College Hills. Bill Hamann and Vicky Strauss are coordinating the event, so be sure to let them know if you plan to participate.

Most of you have already signed your waiver, but if you haven't, and plan to help, you need to have a waiver turned in before you can participate. If you have your vest already, please bring it, as well as gloves. Otherwise, we will have a vest for you. And it helps if you wear boots, in case the ground is damp. It goes quickly when we do it together. There will even be a prize for the weirdest garbage find.

Senior Expo

We have been invited to have a booth at the **Be Content Senior Expo** at the Parke Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Bloomington, IL on **May 2, 2023 from 9 am to 2 pm**. This venue allows us to get the word out to those in our community who might have a need for our services. We have filled all of our volunteer spots but if you are a "Senior" – please come by the event to visit our table as well as the other goodies available.

Here is the link to their website - <http://www.becontentseniorexpo.com/home.html>
(Note: You may need to paste this address into your browser)

(Note: Oops -the previous newsletter indicated a May 1 date for the event – that was incorrect.)

Scholarships are Open

It is scholarship time for AMBUCS. Scholarship applications are now being accepted at a National and local level for students in a graduate-level program that is accredited by the appropriate therapy profession authority in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, or hearing audiology.

Please pass this information along to those students you may know who could use a little extra help. Be sure to tell the student to also contact our local chapter at www.cornbeltambucs.org/scholarship-information/, once they submit an application to be considered for a local scholarship as well as sponsorship at the National level. Deadline for scholarship applications is May 1, 2023.

Here is the website address to apply for a National scholarship-- <https://ambucs.org/therapists/scholarship-program/> (Note: You may need to paste this address into your browser)

Wine Tasting

We held a Wine Tasting event on March 22, 2022 at Binny's Beverage Depot in Bloomington where we raised \$920.00. There was food and talking and laughter and wine. Everyone was in good spirits. 😊



Elections Results

Officers for the 2023-2024 AMBUCS year were elected by acclamation at our April Monthly Lunch meeting.

The elected officers are:

Elected Officers	
President	Bill Hamann
Vice President	(Need a volunteer)
Secretary	Marcia Hammerstrand
Treasurer	Dennis Strauss

Other Board Members	
Past President	Vicky Strauss
Amtrykes	Al Bedell
Ramps	Bill McHie
Scholarships	Pete Hettinger
At Large	Rick Milner

Year End Celebration

The AMBUCS year is almost over and it is time to celebrate what we have accomplished and to install our new officers. The Year End Celebration will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Wednesday, **May 24, 2023 at 6 pm**. There will be no cost for this event but an RSVP will be required. Members & Guests are invited. Please mark your calendars. Additional detailed information will be sent out in the near future.

Annual Central Region Spring Conference



Our annual Central Region conference will be held in Springfield, Illinois on **April 21-22, 2023**. The last 3 regional conferences have been held virtually, so it has been a long time since we have been together with AMBUCS from other chapters. Since Springfield is so close, this would be the perfect time to attend. The Spring Conference is for all AMBUCS not just officers. It is always a good time and you might learn something while you are having fun. There is still time to register.

For those who attend the Spring Regional Conference – you can be reimbursed for the \$90.00 registration fee once you have attended the conference.

Our own Marcia Hammerstrand is the Regional Director for our conference and is a big part of the planning, so please join us in Springfield. If you need the registration information, contact either Marcia or Vicky.

AMBUCS National Conference in Louisville – August 2-5, 2023

Registration is now open for the AMBUCS National Conference in Louisville, KY!

Please consider attending this year's conference on August 2-5, 2023. Louisville is so close and the experience of gathering with AMBUCS from all over the country is priceless. We learn so much, we see old friends and make new ones. It is a gathering of folks who want to help others by working Shoulders Together.

You can find more details at this address: <https://ambucs.org/members/ambucs-national-conference/>
(Note: If link does not work – paste this address into your browser)

Big Hat Raffle

This years AMBUCS Big Hat fundraiser is a chance to win a fabulous trip. The winner of this year's raffle is getting the trip of a lifetime! Choose from 5 exceptional adventures for a curated travel experience worth up to \$12,000 – Nashville, Wyoming, Florida, St Martin or Argentina.

The price of a ticket is **\$20.00 or 6 for \$100.00**. All of the money raised goes to support AMBUCS programs – Scholarships, Amtrykes and Cornerstone. You can even buy tickets online if you choose.

Here is the link to National AMBUCS website with more detailed information: <https://ambucs.org/members/big-hat-club/> (Note: If link does not work – paste this address into your browser)

You can contact **Dennis Strauss** if you wish to purchase tickets or you can buy tickets online at: <https://form.123formbuilder.com/6244226/form>

(Note: If link does not work – paste this address into your browser)

I hope to see each of you in the near future at one of our projects or events because we couldn't help our community or have as much fun without you.

Shoulders Together!

Vicky Strauss

President Cornbelt AMBUCS

vmstrauss5@gmail.com



Ramp News from Bill

Hey, All you ramp-builders -

We didn't get to build any ramps in the month of March but we will have some ramps to build in the near future. We've got a few ramps "on the books". Some are waiting for funds and others are waiting for some dry weather! I'll keep you all posted as ramp-building opportunities get scheduled. In the meantime, here's a picture of one of the ramps we did in February in Bloomington. Nice work, AMBUCS! This family was quite pleased and their daughter has easy access to their home, thanks to your efforts.





I'll be in touch.. and I'll see ya' at the next one!

Bill



Amtryke® News from Al

Amtrykes

On March 29th we presented a new 1416 Pro Series Amtryke to Malachi at Easter Seals.

Malachi is an 8 year old boy who has been riding the Amtryke at Easter Seals and did prefect on his new Amtryke. As you can tell from the pictures below he really likes his new red Amtryke. He repeatedly told us how much he liked the new bike and thanked us many times.



In the second picture you can see his therapist, Megan, working with him to get the bike adjusted properly. I am proud that Cornbelt Ambucs does not present an Amtryke to a person without a therapist being present to make sure the Amtryke is adjusted properly for the new rider. Malachi's parents did not have a vehicle able to transport the bike to his home so we took the Amtryke to his home. Malachi wanted to ride the bike into the house but dad convinced him it was not a good idea.



We were scheduled to give a 1020 handcycle at Easter Seals on April 2nd but the child was not feeling well. Please look for the pictures of this presentation in next month's newsletter.

As usual please continue to send me contact information for anyone who could benefit from one of our fabulous therapeutic bikes.

Thanks

Al Bedell

Our Cornbelt AMBUCS Board

President: Vicky Strauss
Vice President: William Hamann
Secretary: Marcia Hammerstrand
Treasurer: Dennis Strauss

At-Large Board Member: Bill McHie
At-Large Board Member: Pete Hettinger
At-Large Board Member: Dennis Wentworth
At-Large Board Member: Al Bedell
At-Large Board Member: Rick Milner

Website: www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org



Facebook: 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.