

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN

May 2024

Upcoming Events

May 30, 2024 – End of Year Celebration at the Knights of Columbus Hall

June 1, 2024 – Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up

June 5, 2024 - Next monthly *Cornbelt AMBUCS Lunch Meeting* at Noon at Monicals Pizza next to Best Buy on Veterans Parkway.



From Your President

Hi there! I trust and hope this newsletter finds you and yours doing well. It is hard to believe we are already in May. I look forward to seeing you at our end of year celebration. There will be free food and fun and I am sure we will have a great time.

For our less active members or non-members, I would like you to consider how you would like to get more involved. Many of our ramp building activities and Amtryke giveaways can be difficult to attend, but please think through how you might contribute by serving on a committee, serving as one of our elected officials (VP slot open now), or by serving on the board as an at-large member. Once you have given some thought, please reach out to me. We can chat about it over coffee or a meal sometime soon.

As always, Vicky Strauss and Jerry Wyrick have produced an awesome newsletter! Please read on to find out what has been happening in the life of Cornbelt AMBUCS.

Best wishes,

Bill Hamann
President, Cornbelt AMBUCS
william.hamann@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE: End of Year Celebration May 30, 2024

We will celebrate our accomplishments, induct our officers for the next year and will have some good food and fun on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 1706 RT Dunn Dr in Bloomington.

There is no cost for this event. Please join us for a great evening together with your fellow AMBUCS and guests. RSVPs are needed. A flyer will be emailed out soon with further details.

Next – Adopt-a-Highway cleanup – June 1, 2024

The next clean-up is planned for Saturday, June 1. We will meet outside Joe's Station House at the Shoppes at College Hills to carpool to the site. If the "New" Green Gables is opened by then, we will lunch there afterwards. Further details will be sent out soon. Please consider joining us.

Cornbelt AMBUCS Elections

The following Cornbelt members were re-elected by acclamation to hold office on the AMBUCS Board for one more year at our May 1, 2024, lunch meeting.

President – Bill Hamann

Secretary – Marcia Hammerstrand

Treasurer – Dennis Strauss

If you are interested in getting more involved in our chapter's leadership, we still have a Vice President position open, please let Bill know.

Be Content Senior Expo - May 7, 2024



Several of our members shared information about Cornbelt AMBUCS at a table at the Senior Expo on May 7 at the Parke Regency Hotel.

We had a lot of fun! Many stated that they knew all about AMBUCS, and we received a lot of praise for our ramps and met many past ramp recipients or their family members. We even met members from many years ago.



We had a raffle to give away a beautiful bird basket provided by Deanna Frautschi. Thanks Dee!

Here is our raffle basket winner – Jim Lowe with Vicky Strauss. He loved the basket.

We always have an exciting time telling others about who we are and what we do.

2024 Scholarships Applications Are Now Closed

Review of applicants for our local scholarships is now taking place and will be announced at our End of Year Celebration later this month.

National Conference – July 31- August 3, 2024

2024 AMBUCS National Conference will be held July 31st to August 3rd in Tulsa, OK! As always, it promises to be a great time in a great city. Bring your light clothes as it is going to be hot!

Registration is now open at <https://ambucs.org>. Hope to see you there!

Cornbelt AMBUCS Members – Caring Corner

Dennis Strauss

Denny has been released to begin outpatient physical therapy. He will begin this on May 13. He is working hard on gaining strength and stamina. Please continue to keep Denny in your thoughts and prayers.

Ramp News from Bill



Hey, All you ramp-builders –

Between all the raindrops, we were able to build a couple of small ramps in April. Both families were very happy with the results and we were glad to help them make their homes accessible. We've got several more ramps "on the books" and I will be in touch with future ramp-building opportunities soon. I sure do appreciate our volunteers and their willingness to help with these projects. If you would like to join us on a future ramp-building adventure, let me know. Thanks again and I'll see ya' at the next ramp!

Bill McHie



Amtryke® News from Al



Last month was a very active Amtryke month for Cornbelt Ambucs.

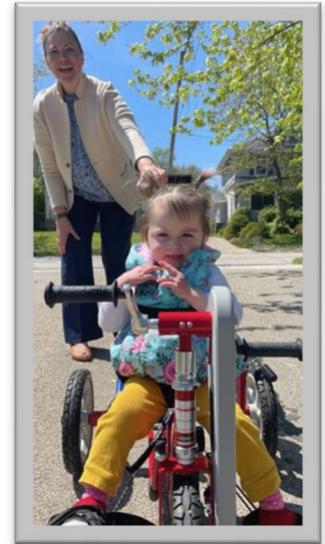
We began by receiving a 1416 Pro Series Amtryke being returned to us from Ethan. He left with a 1420 Pro Series which we had in storage. This is Ethan's sixth Amtryke. I think it will be a while before he outgrows the 1420 Pro Series bike. Ethan is such a wonderful young man, and the picture below was taken after a three-mile ride. Ethan was also the model child when we held the therapist training a few years ago.





On Thursday, April 11th we presented a bike to Ben at Sara Raymond School. Ben was on the bike and riding all around the gym before we had time to check for any final adjustments. This was the first Amtryke for the Elaine, the school therapist. The family was very pleased with the Amtryke and how well the bike was built. I am sure Ben is going to be riding frequently.

On Saturday April 13th Jamie presented a bike to a lovely little girl for us. Jamie is a DPT and works with early intervention children. She has been working with Cornbelt Ambucs for several years and has helped us present over 20 Amtrykes in the past. That is why I did not have any problem with her taking the bike and making the presentation to Dorothy. Dorothy loves to be outdoors and has limited ability to move on her own. Her parents are excited about the Amtryke giving her more independence and movement opportunities. This was an Amtryke that was very recently returned to us. We did need to order the snappy seat, head rest and the H Harness.



On April 22nd we presented a 1416 Pro Series to Naomi at Easter Seals. Unfortunately, it took us several months to get this bike and a few weeks to arrange the delivery at Easter Seals. Naomi is a very active 11-year-old, the youngest of 6 siblings. The Amtryke will help her improve her balance, gain strength and improve her coordination skills.

We finished the month with two Amtrykes being presented at Parkview Elementary School on April 30th. The therapist, Nikki PTA, truly sees the benefits of our therapeutic bikes and wanted these two boys to have bikes to ride this summer. Both bikes were from our supply.

Blake is 7 years old and loved the bike. He was very shy but was happy to have a bike to ride with his family.



Sahil is 8 and jumped right on the bike. He wanted to go and was a little impatient while we made the final adjustments to the bike. The therapist indicated he is almost always happy and loves to go on walks in the neighborhood. He loves being active.

We also have a couple additional children trying our early intervention Amtrykes and one more student at Parkside Elementary School interested in a 1412 or AM-12. This child vision is significantly limited so he will definitely need an Amtryke with the rear steering option. All of the above bikes except one was refurbished with only a little new equipment plus it allows me a little more garage space.

Please continue to send me the contact information for anyone who might benefit from an Amtryke.

Thanks

Al Bedell

Our Cornbelt AMBUCS Board

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: Vicky Strauss
At-Large Board Member: Al Bedell
At-Large Board Member: Rick Milner

Website: www.CornbeltAMBUCS.org

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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.