

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN

April 2025

Upcoming Events

April 12, 2025 – Adopt-A-Highway clean up date - Rescheduled

May 6, 2025 – Senior Expo at the Parke Hotel

May 7, 2025 – Next monthly Cornbelt AMBUCS Lunch Meeting at Noon at Monical's Pizza next to Best Buy on Veterans Parkway. Bring a friend!

July 23-26, 2025 – SAVE THE DATES –National Conference Des Moines IA



From Your President

Hello Cornbelt AMBUCS, family, and friends,

A huge thank you to Al, Marcia, and Vicky, who helped make the **AMBUCS Central Region Conference** a success! They planned and executed the conference on short notice. I'm incredibly proud of our chapter.

As we roll into April, we're heading into ramp-building season and gearing up for more hands-on service opportunities. I encourage you to stay plugged in—whether you're building a ramp, helping with Amtrykes, or just spreading the word about our mission, your involvement matters.


Looking forward to another great summer working *Shoulders Together*.

Best wishes and kind regards,

Bill Hamann

President, Cornbelt AMBUCS

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 <https://www.cornbeltambucs.org>

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup – April 12, 2025 (Rescheduled)

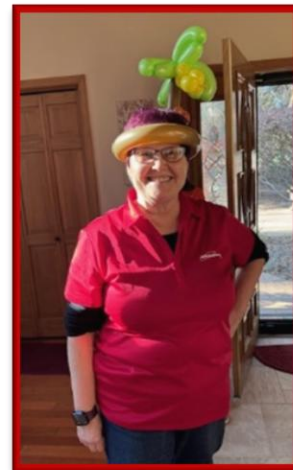
Spring is coming and we will be starting our Adopt-a-Highway cleanups again. Our first clean up date will be on, Saturday April 12, 2025. (**NOTE:** This is a rescheduled date).

We will meet outside Joe's Station House at the Shoppes at College Hills at 9 am to carpool to the site. Please contact Marcia Hammerstrand (mshammer@a5.com) if you will be able to join us. It only takes about 1.5 hours and it is a good time for exercise and talking to other AMBUCS and we also find interesting things along the way.

March 28-29, 2025 – Central Region Conference – Recap

Cornbelt AMBUCS sponsored and organized this year's Central Region Conference held here in Bloomington at Eastland Suites and Conference Center. It was a great event. Our theme was "Come Join the Circus".

Our Circus began with our very own balloon guy, Aaron. He produced the most wonderful and fun balloon creations as you can see.



We were visited by our AMBUCS National President - Donna Carlton-Vish, our National President - Elect – Gordon Shaw, 5 Past National Presidents, our AMBUCS CEO – Jessica Wall and our Big Hat National President – Fina Nett.





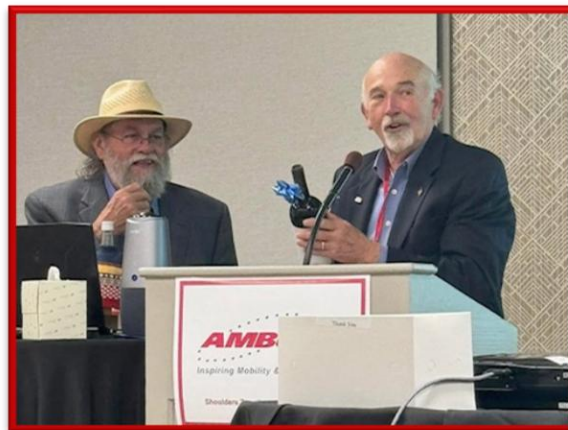
Two of our own; Larry Turilli and Deanna Frautschi were speakers at the conference.



Here is the conference committee along with the speaker from ISU Milner Library. She spoke about the history of the circus that started right here in Bloomington Illinois. It was fascinating.



Jan Klee and Marcia Hammerstrand sold 50/50 tickets for the Big Hat Club. Our own Larry Turilli won the raffle.



Al Bedell presented a gift to J Balmer for his service as Central Regional Director. Ask about the aged Boones Farm Wine. 😊

We were entertained by the Penguin Project, a local creative group, whose mission is to empower children with special needs through theater. They were amazing and so much fun.

NOTE: Cornbelt Members - Reimbursement is available for your conference registration fee. If you wish to be reimbursed, please send email to vmstrauss5@gmail.com.

April 2, 2025 – Lunch Meeting

Elections were held during our lunch meeting and those currently serving as officers agreed to serve another term and were unanimously elected. We thank them for being willing to serve.

Your officers for the upcoming year are:

- **President**- Bill Hamann
- **Secretary** – Marcia Hammerstrand
- **Treasurer** – Dennis Strauss

We are still looking for a Vice President if anyone is interested.

We also had two visitors at our April lunch meeting. They were invited by Connie Oltman and they may be potential members. Please remember visitors are always welcome.

Please consider joining us at a future lunch meeting.

Be Content Senior Expo – May 6, 2025

We have again been invited to have an information table at the *Be Content Senior Expo* at the Parke Hotel. This event will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 from 9 am to 1 pm.

We always have a great time telling others about who we are and what we do.

2025 National Big Hat Raffle

There are still tickets available.

The National AMBUCS Big Hat Club is having an amazing raffle this year. The winner wins a trip for two to one of three fabulous locations:

- 1) **Alaska Scenic Rail + Denali with a Cruise Tour**
\$6,000 towards room/excursion options & \$1,000 towards flights
- 2) **AMTRAK Fall Foliage Boston & Cape Cod**
\$6,000 towards rail travel & \$1,000 travel funds (excursions, meals, hotel, etc.)
- 3) **Choose Your Own Adventure**
\$7,000 towards travel or activities booked with Cruise Addictions LLC

Tickets are 1 for \$20 or 6 for \$100. You can contact Dennis Strauss for tickets, or you can buy the tickets online at <https://bit.ly/bighataffle2025> or you can use this QR Code.



The winner will be drawn at the National AMBUCS Conference July 23 – 26, 2025 in Des Moines, Iowa. You do not need to present to win.

The trip will be good for one year from the date of the drawing, is transferable, and must be booked in advance through Cruise Addictions LLC. You do not have to be a member to buy tickets, so sell them to your friends, or strangers.

2025 AMBUCS Scholarship season is closed – February 1 to April 1, 2025

Scholarship applications season is now closed. Cornbelt will be evaluating those who submitted applications over the next few weeks. Our local scholarships will be awarded during our End of Year celebration. National scholarships are awarded at a later date and will be posted on the National website.

SAVE THE DATES – July 23-26, 2025 – National Conference

Please consider attending the 2025 AMBUCS National Conference in July of 2025. It will be within driving distance in Des Moines, Iowa.

It is a time when you can meet other AMBUCS, be inspired by what is going in our organization and how our we are helping people in communities all around the country. It is also a time of fun and visiting the local attractions.



Ramp News from Bill



Hey, all you ramp-builders -

We didn't get a chance to build any ramps during the month of March but we've got several referrals for ramps to build this spring. We'll get started not that it is April and warmer. I'm looking forward to building some ramps in the near future.

Come out if you're available to help us with our ramp-building program, I will keep you posted on dates and times for ramp-building projects. If you know of anyone who would like to join us this year, feel free to forward their information to me and I'll be sure to add their information to our e-mail list.

Hope you're enjoying this spring weather and I look forward to working with you this spring.

Thanks and I'll see ya' at the next ramp!

Bill McHie

Amtryke® News from Al



Cornbelt Ambucs did not give an Amtryke away last month but we did have the opportunity to see the new Pro Series Amtryke at the Central Regional Conference.

Even though we did not present an Amtryke, we have received two Amtryke requests and understand a third one is on the way. These are for the new Paceline 16. This new Amtryke replaces the 1412 and 1416 Pro Series Amtryke. Unfortunately, the new Paceline bikes are on back order so we are not sure when we will receive the new bikes.

I will be seeking board approval for the new request soon.

As usual, please continue to send me the contact information for anyone of any age, that could benefit from one of our therapeutic bikes.

Thanks.

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

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.