

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: Dennis Strauss  
Vice President: Larry Turilli  
Secretary: Dan Bedell  
Treasurer: David DeHaan  
Sergeant At Arms: Jerry Wyrick  
Website: [www.cornbeltambucs.org](http://www.cornbeltambucs.org)

Bill McHie, At-Large Board Member  
Greg Beneze, At-Large Board Member  
Jerry Wyrick, At-Large Board Member  
Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member  
Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member



**APRIL 2011**

## **THE PREZ SEZ...**

**(President Denny Strauss)**

It's April already (no foolin')! The year is moving fast as always. Ramp and AmTryke® activity is starting to pick up again. Check out Bill's and Al's columns in this newsletter.

**Pancake Breakfast** – The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held on April 9, 2011, at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church. This is our chapters' only fundraiser, so we need to sell lots of tickets this year. Spread the word to your friends and neighbors – the food is always great, and we will have info displayed about our chapter.



**Spring Round Up** – March and April are Spring Round Up months. There will be a membership "Event" on Thursday, April 21, 2011, from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at Monical's Pizza. More information will be coming soon.

**Spring Conference** – Spring Conference is Saturday, April 30, 2011. You should have received the information on the conference from Al or me. This will be at the Ozark house in Bloomington from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, and includes lunch. There is no cost to you to attend.

**Installation Banquet** – The 2011 installation Banquet will be Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the Ozark House in Bloomington. The cost is \$20, and includes a buffet dinner. More information will be sent out soon.

**Scholarships** – Students now can apply for scholarships for the coming year. If you know someone who might qualify, contact Pete Hettinger if you need more info. Or go to our website to find more info.

**Social** – Greg Beneze and the Social Committee have organized an outing at the Cornbelter's baseball game this spring. It will be Thursday, June 16, 2011. It is \$1 Beer Night. Tickets are \$8. Last year we had lots of fund and this year we will have a suite in which to enjoy the game and socialize with fellow AMBUCS™. More information will be coming soon.



**National Conference** – The AMBUCS™ National Conference for 2011 is July 20-23 in Memphis, TN. This is within driving distance. If you have never attended the National Conference before, consider this opportunity to attend. It is a good chance to meet AMBUCS™ from all over the country, attend some great training sessions, and have fun in Memphis. The national website has all the exciting details: [2011 National Conference](#)

**Website** – Our chapter website is [www.cornbeltambucs.org](http://www.cornbeltambucs.org) - we try to keep it up-to-date with meeting and event dates. We publish articles about our ramp building and AmTryke® presentations. You can refer people to it to find out more about our chapter. And there are links to the National AMBUCS™ website. Contact me if you would like to see changes to the website in the future.

**Chapter Dues** – Our chapter dues for the 2011 year are due. If you have not already paid, please do ASAP. We lowered our dues this year. There may be further reductions in the future depending on National further reducing our chapter dues.

Let's have a good ending to the 2010/2011 year – there are only two months left – let's keep up the good work of "providing mobility and independence for people with disabilities".

Denny



### **Mark your calendars!!!**

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#### **Next Saturday Meeting**

When: Saturday, April 16, 2011  
 Time: 7:15 a.m.  
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

#### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, April 6, 2011  
 Time: Noon  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)

#### **Membership Event**

When: Thursday, April 21, 2011  
 Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



## *Bill Buchie's Babbles...*

Hey, All you ramp-builders -

We got one ramp built during the month of March... for Mr. Eddie Perkins and his parents who are living with him. Mr. Perkins welcomed his parents into his home to be able to care for them.. and realized he had no safe way for them to get in and out of his home. Our AMBUCS™ volunteers, along with Diversity Project volunteers and others, were able to build a short ramp off the back porch in record time... and were able to pack up and be home well before noon that Saturday morning! Mr. Perkins called me and told me how thrilled he was to pull into his driveway and see a beautiful ramp... along with the feeling of relief that he has with knowing that his parents can safely get in and out of his home.





We are off to a great start on our ramp-building projects this year... after experiencing a very cold and snowy winter. We've got several requests from this past fall along with several new requests that we will be considering for the months ahead. We are still planning to build ramps on the third Saturday of each month... with additional ramp-building during the evenings and additional days during the summer months. If you have participated in one of our ramp-building projects in the past, you can appreciate that feeling of accomplishment when we gather for the picture and witness the "maiden voyage" down the new ramp for the first time. If you are thinking this is the year to "be more active"... or to "get involved"... then consider this your formal invitation! We would love to have you join us! Give us a call... e-mail one of us... or just show up at one of our ramp projects... so you can experience the pride and satisfaction of empowering someone with a disability to experience the freedom of accessibility to their own home!... it's an experience that will stay with you for a long time!

Thanks for all your help and support and I will keep in touch with details about upcoming ramp projects. If anyone has any questions about our program, how to get involved, how to make a request for a ramp... or just needs some extra encouragement to show up at the next ramp project, give me a call!

See ya' at the ramps!

Bill McHie

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### **Cornbelt Buc-etin Delivery**

We now post all our monthly newsletters on our website at [www.cornbeltambucs.org](http://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](mailto:JWyrick300@ctechinternet.com).



### **Notes from Al...**

#### **AmTrykes®**

Cornbelt AMBUCS™ had quite a bit of AmTryke® activity last month. We presented an AmTryke® to Kory Kaeb's daughter and he brought her and the new Oceana to out breakfast at Shannons.



Kory is the Executive Vice President of Operations for Easter Seals, Bloomington and Peoria, and has been extremely helpful to AMBUCS™ for several years. They adopted this beautiful young girl last summer and Kory indicated she is having a lot of fun riding her new bike.

We also presented and fitted Kayleigh with a 1412 Pro Series bike. Kayleigh lives in Pontiac and this bike was funded in full by the Pontiac Masons. We did not tell Kayleigh the bike was her bike as the Pontiac Masons will be doing a presentation in the school gym in the near future. You can see from the picture below Kayleigh loved the bike and did not want to get off the bike.



We also have a 1420 Pro Series on order for a beautiful girl in the Olympia School District. Unfortunately the bike is out of stock and the next order will not be ready for shipment to the chapters until the end of April. We will get the bike to her as soon as possible so she can ride it on those wonderful spring days. I just hope spring gets here before the end of April.

As usual, please continue to let us know when you become aware of a person who could benefit from an AmTryke®. Thanks for all your help

Al Bedell  
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