

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



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Pete Hettinger, At-Large Board Member  
Al Bedell, At-Large Board Member  
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## OCTOBER 2011

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

(President Larry Turilli)



There's been a lot going on in AMBUCS™-land!!!! Like most months, we've given away an AmTryke® and built a couple ramps, but there's so much more.

The AMBUCS™ Fall Conference ended September and started October for us. Four of our club members spent the weekend in Springfield, renewing old friendships, and making new ones with AMBUCS™ from all over the state. At the closing banquet, our Cornbelt

chapter was recognized with awards for Community Service, Public Relations, Visibility and Chapter Newsletter.

Tuesday, October 18, is going to be a busy day for our club. In the morning we'll have a display booth at State Farm's Community Day, an information fair sponsored by State Farm to encourage employee volunteerism. We'll have the chance to reach new volunteers, and spread the word about the services we offer. In the evening, we'll do it all over again. We'll have a booth at the Access Allies for Bloomington-Normal 2011 Parenting and Disabilities Expo at Bloomington High School from 6PM to 8PM. The Expo introduces individuals with disabilities to organization like ours that specialize in providing accessibility services. The Expo should be very informative. And we can always use another AMBUCS™ at the table to meet community members. If you've got a little free time, come out to the Expo and join us for a few minutes, or for the entire night. You could learn something and have a little fun at the same time.

Here are more things to look forward to.....

We're organizing a combined outing with the Pekin AMBUCS™ club at the Mackinaw Valley Winery. This unique venue is a great place for a group outing, and going there with our Pekin colleagues should be a lot of fun. Keep watching your email inbox. As soon as we pick a date and finalize the details, we'll get the word out.

Don't forget!! – Our next monthly lunch is Wednesday, November 2, at Monical's Pizza near Best Buy. Come join us. It's always fun.

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### AMBUCS™ Fall Branding Time

I've written several times in past newsletters about the work we do as a club, and how rewarding that can be. It's time to share that feeling and 'round up' some new members. We all know caring, generous people that are willing to help others, in fact, most people we know fall into that category. The biggest reason that most people don't do more is simply because they haven't been asked. So let's ask a few people if they would like to join Cornbelt AMBUCS™. Think of someone you know that would love to make a difference in their community and ASK him or her to become a member of our club. Not everyone will join, we know that, and that's OK. However, we also know that there are folks out there that want to help, but aren't helping simply because no one has asked them to.

We tend to think of ourselves as an organization that builds ramps, and gives away AmTrykes® and scholarship money, but there's much more to Cornbelt AMBUCS™ than that. There are so many things we do as a club. From club socials to our annual pancake

breakfast, there are plenty of other ways to get involved in the club that go beyond ramps, AmTrykes® and scholarships. It takes all kinds of skills and talents to make a club like ours work, which means all kinds of people can participate in the good things we do. You should be proud to be a member of this club, I know I am. Give someone else the opportunity to feel the same way and invite them to join us.

That should be incentive enough to go out and ask one or two or ten people to join us, but just in case it's not, here's a little something that might help. For each new member brought into the club before the end of November 2011, we're giving the sponsoring member \$30 in credit at Land's End towards any Cornbelt AMBUCS™ logo'ed piece of clothing. That's right, Land's End can put our club logo on anything they sell, and you can use it to show how proud you are to be a member of this club. In addition to that, the current club member that sponsors the most new members will get a \$50 credit at Land End. And don't wait until the end of November to start asking people to join. In case of a tie, the \$50 goes to the first member to sponsor that winning number of new members. So, not only should you be asking people to join Cornbelt AMBUCS™, you should start asking them right away.

Larry Turilli

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

#### **Next Saturday Meeting**

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

#### **Next Noon Meeting**

When: Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
 Time: Noon  
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



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



Hey, All you ramp-builders -

You all get credit for TWO ramps in September... with big smiles to match! We had a great month and were able to "rehabilitate" a ramp for Amy Wheeler's mother in Southgate Estates on our regular Saturday ramp build. We had to completely rebuild her ramp (see the before and after picture below)... and with the help of many volunteers, we got it done in style. Amy's mother was not too sure she wanted to come out and see it but we did manage to get a picture with Amy and her mother at the end of the project. Amy was thrilled with our work!



On Saturday, September 24th, a big group of volunteers from State Farm showed up at Ms. Bessie Kiper's home. They normally work on computers... and work on the State Farm website... but on Saturday, they traded their laptops for DeWalt drills... and gave her a gift of independence! Many in this group have worked with us in the past... on another ramp in Normal... and they still decided to come back, again! Well, they did a fine job and Ms. Kiper was in tears as she came out on to her new front porch and rolled down her new ramp for the first time. (I'm pretty sure there were a few tears in the audience, as well) Ms. Kiper was amazed that she was the recipient of such a gift... and we were glad to confirm her belief that we do great work in this community when we all work together. Thanks to the State Farm volunteers!.... and you can come back and join us any time!



Remember, it's a team effort... and you can witness that maiden voyage at any ramp... just give me a call... you're in!

Thanks to all our volunteers... and I'll see ya' at the next one!

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...

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### AmTrykes®

One wonderful girl was evaluated and fitted for her second AmTryke® in September. Cassidy has moved from the hand and foot cycle to the 2700 adult series bike. The bike should be received soon and presented to Cassidy during October, AmTryke® Month. Watch for pictures of Cassidy on her new bike next month.

I also helped Joe Copeland, AMBUCS™ National Director, with two AmTryke® In Services and evaluations. One in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and the second one was in Peoria. It was at the Peoria site where Cassidy was evaluated for her bike. Cassidy and her therapist at Easter Seals were unsure if she would do better on the Pro Series, 1420, or the adult 2700 bike. She really liked the 2700 and especially the seven speed.

As usual, please let me know of any person who could benefit from one of our bikes.

**Al Bedell**  
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