

CORNBELT BUC-ETIN



President: Larry Turilli
Vice President: Don Stogsdill
Secretary: Dan Bedell
Treasurer: David DeHaan
Sergeant At Arms: Jeff Thompson
Website: 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
Dennis Strauss, Past President



SEPTEMBER 2011

THE PREZ SEZ...

(President Larry Turilli)



Last month I wrote to you about all the things we accomplished as a club in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. In case you don't remember, we made donations in the form of ramps, AmTrykes® and scholarships to individuals that totaled \$60,000. This month I want to let you know about only one thing: a ramp I built for my father.

My father has reached the point where he can't get in and out of his house easily on his own any longer. For a year or so, we've been watching struggle to navigate the two steps

at his garage door, and he finally reached the stage where it wasn't just difficult, it was dangerous for him. As you might guess, he took fewer trips out, and there were stretches of many days at a time that he didn't leave the house.

I'm an AMBUC™. For me, the solution was simple. Build a ramp. Surely I could do that. So, on a weekend trip to the Quad Cities last month, I loaded the car up with all the tools I could get my hands on, made a trip to Menard's for some lumber, and built a ramp. It was a nice Saturday afternoon project.

That I built a ramp is no big deal. The difference it's made for my family, especially my father, however, is a big deal. I've seen people take that 'maiden voyage' down a new ramp. I've got to tell you, it's a completely different experience watching your own father do the same thing. Sure, it makes the trips to church or the doctor easier, but it also reopens a portion of the world to him, and lets him do other 'normal' things that you and I take for granted. Last week he went to the mail box and got his own mail. A simple daily task, but something he hadn't done in years!!

I'm getting to see what we do as a club from a completely different point of view. In case you had any doubts, or needed a little reminding, the things we do as a club really do make a big difference in the lives of the people we help. If you haven't been out to a ramp build in the last couple months, make a point to get out there soon with the rest of our Cornbelt team. The builds are fun, the 'maiden voyages' are unforgettable.

Don't forget!! - Fall Conference this year is in Springfield on Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1.

Larry Turilli



Mark your calendars!!!

Next Saturday Meeting

When: Saturday, September 20, 2011
 Time: 7:15 a.m.
 Place: Shannon's Restaurant

Next Noon Meeting

When: Wednesday, October 5, 2011
 Time: Noon
 Place: Monical's Pizza (by Best Buy)



Bill Buchie's Babbles...



Hey, All you ramp-builders -

Hey, All you ramp-builders -

Our ramp building activities continue in August... and the "smile count" has increased, again! We were able to build a ramp for Ms. Brenda Phillips this month and recycle more building materials in the process, as well. We built a 30 ft. ramp for her at her home in Southgate Estates and had local help as well as help from New York, too! Brenda and her husband were very pleased and this will certainly help Brenda to get in and out of her home safely from now on. We have more ramps to build and with the nice weather returning, we will keep you posted on this next ramp projects. Mark your calendars for the third Saturday in September and watch your e-mail for details.



Thanks, again for all who have helped with our ramp-building activities and we look forward to seeing you at the next one!

Bill McHie

Ph: (309) 662-1347 (work)

(309) 829-9844 (home)

(309) 824-9844 (cell)

e-mail: b.bmchie@frontier.com

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.



Notes from Al...



AmTrykes®

Cornbelt started off running with AmTryke® activity in August. On August 3rd during our noon meeting we provided Alex with his first bike. Alex is a very happy child with Fragile X Syndrome. Alex's parents worked very hard to get his dad's military insurance to cover the bike but after several months of trying unsuccessfully, Cornbelt provided Alex with his new 1412 Pro Series AmTryke®.

As you can see from the pictures Alex was very excited. His therapist, Karen Klein, had a hard time getting the final adjustments completed before Alex was off riding his new AmTryke® around and around and around the table at Monicals. I am sure his mother will be getting lots of exercise keeping up with Alex and his new bike.



Then later that afternoon Cornbelt AMBUCS™ presented a Oceana AmTryke® to Lauren at Easter Seals. Lauren was referred to us by her therapist, Stephanie Polka. Lauren is almost 2 years old and is close to walking. She did very well on the Oceana and had previously been riding the AM-9 during her therapy sessions at Easter Seals. Unfortunately the pictures do not really demonstrate how sweet this wonderful special little girl is and how much she enjoyed her new bike which we was able to take home with her.



We have a few other children interested in getting bikes but still waiting for their completed applications and therapist evaluations. Please let me know if you are aware of anyone else who could benefit from the physical and emotional benefits of having their own bike to ride.

Al Bedell
2802 Hendrix Rd
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 826-0405

Don't miss out of the fun—Springfield ABC is hosting the 2011 Fall Conference – and we all know that Springfield knows how to have fun! Saturday night entertainment is provided by our one and only Comedian Brandon Rebbe!

Among the AMBUCS VIPS: National President Elect Kent Clingenpeel, Executive Director Joe Copeland, National Big Hat President Duane Nietling, Big Hat Secretary/Treasurer Candidate John Davis.

The information for registering is below.

Have Fun and Keep Smiling!

AMBUCS Central Region 2011 Fall Conference Celebrate **Caddyshack** Style in Springfield

September 30 & October 1st

Send Registrations to Susie Jackson ~ 264 N Koke Mill, Springfield, IL 62711
Make Checks Payable to "Springfield ABC"

Name
Chapter
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone
Email

Hotel – Northfield Center ~ 3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL
217-523-7900
Double Room \$79.00 / Jacuzzi Room \$89.00 / King Suite \$89.00

Saturday Afternoon
Miniature Golf
Tournament
or FREE TIME
Saturday Night Dinner
Awards Recognition
Entertainment

