

THE BUCSHOT

Greater Champaign County AMBUCS Newsletter

June 2025

Note: when you finish reading this newsletter, please pass it on to someone who doesn't know about AMBUCS.

Amtrykes

The excessive heat will keep most riders inside but I'm sure our three recipients will find a way to get in some riding time.

First up was Aleira who couldn't attend our lunch meeting because she was running a fever but her parents came and thanked us for the gift. Aleira is 3yo, likes food, and people. It will help her a lot to get her outside more often. Feel better and happy riding, Aleira!

Next up was Zamiani who had the cutest squeal

when we put her on her new Amtryke! She is doing so much more than her mom ever thought she would. Zamiani is walking, talking, starting kindergarden and now riding an Amtryke. She is one of the happiest little girls we've had for lunch. Ride the wheels off, Z!



To finish out the month, we



gave his first Amtryke to Finley. He was born 26 week early and has all the problems associated with such an early birth. He and his dad came to lunch but Finley was very tired and missing his mom so he was not up for a fitting. His therapist arranged to fit him later and here he is awake and ready to ride. Have fun Mr. Finley!

We also had an Amtryke returned the same day as Finley got his new one. This one is well used but that's what we want! The former owner my be able to ride a regular bike, (our greatest

Calendar

2025

July 23-26—AMBUCS National Conference September 15—Charity Golf Outing October 11—Scarecrow Festival

hope), or he may need a larger Amtryke. Stay tuned!

Golf Outing Fundraiser

Our next project is our Charity Golf Outing on September 15th. The site will be Lake of the Woods Golf Course where we will provide breakfast before the start and a meal at the end of the day. We can always use sponsors for the breakfast and dinner and lots of hole sponsors. Hole sponsorship is just \$125 and we would love to have some new sponsors this year! Talk with everyone and every business you know. Get them on board! We'll make a sign for their business and those signs will be seen by all of our 80+ players. Go out, GCC AMBUCS! And talk us up! Questions: contact Don Dunlap.





Splinters from the Board

The 25-26 Board met for the first time at Denny's on June 26th. Unfortunately, we did not have enough members there for a vote but a

couple of things were noted:

-> Elaine Windingland will present the budget for approval at the next meeting

-> the Paceline Amtrykes cost upwards of \$900 each

The Board will meet at Oskee's Sports Pub at Stonecreek Golf Course in Urbana at noon on July 31st.

National Conference

Those members attending the National Conference on July 23-26 in Des Moines, IA, are really looking forward to it! It will be great to

connect with friends made at other conferences latest techniques for fundraising, memberrecruitment ship



and membership retention. Its also a time to renew our commitment to the AMBUCS way! See everyone there!

Speaker: Steve Beckman

June 10th brought a speaker, Steve Beckman from Anything Wild to share his ex-

relocating perience wild life for many years. He has trapped over 46K ani-He uses a mals. bucket truck when he has to get things out of a chimney, usually



birds, bats, and raccoons. He thought he had removed the raccoon from an owner's chimney once, when a second raccoon came running down and into the living room where he and the owner were talking. Oops! There are lots of rules about how Steve can deal with anything he traps, such as releasing beavers at least 10 miles from the trap site. Steve must get a special permit before he does anything with geese so don't bother asking. He is one of the few people allowed to do anything with Canada geese but he's still very limited.

Thanks for coming by, Steve!

Challenger League

The last day of regular games for the Tom Jones Challenger League was June 28th. The league allows children with life challenges



to play baseball. It was also the picnic and awards day so GCC AMBUCS volunteered to be Buddies for each of the players during the 3 games. Buddies help the children bat, run around the bases, and catch the balls in the outfield. It was a pretty hot day so by the time

we got to the 3rd game, it was very hot on the field. The Commissioner decided it was too hot for the children to be fielding so he sent just the buddies out. (Picture seven, 60+ year olds standing in the hot sun waiting for hit balls.) All went well and no one fainted.

The league had two 3 year olds sign up this year and member Sally Denhart was a buddy for Oliver. He didn't quite get the reason we were out there and kept wanting to go to the playground. Also, he liked to run. And run, and run! He took off for left field with Sally running after him and he was fast! Sally says, "Thank God for the left outfield fence or I'd still be chasing him!"



AMBUCS provides awards each year. Some years the players want medallions that they can wear and sometimes they want trophies. This year we had trophies, created by member Larry Windingland.

Our liaison to the league, member Cris Vowels, right with a player, handed out the awards at the end of each game to all the players. They loved them.

Watch the Tom Jones Challenger League Facebook page for times and locations of post-season games. Have fun playing gang!



Winning Chances

06/**03**/**25**—50/50: \$9 won by Pat Webb; Attendance: \$26 won by Renae' Strawbridge.

06/10/25—50/50: \$12 won by Keith Jamieson; Attendance: \$17 could have been won by Nelda Shaw but she was not present.

06/17/25—50/50: \$7 won by Cris Vowels; Attendance: \$30 could have been won by Brooke Chilton but she was not present.

06/26/25—50/50: \$7 won by Renae' Strawbridge; Attendance: \$39 could have been won by Dana Daugherty but she was not present.