

The Buc Shot

October 2016

Calendar

November 14, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 8:30am-1:00pm
November 19, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 9:00am-1:00pm
November 21, 2016 – Float Decorating, Griest Man Shed, TBD
November 22, 2016 – Float Decorating, Griest Man Shed, TBD
November 26, 2016 – Parade Downtown Champaign, 6:00pm
November 27, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 1:00pm-5:00pm
December 3, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 9:00am-2:00pm
December 4, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 1:00pm-5:00pm
December 9, 2016 – Decorating AMBUCS Park, 1:00pm-5:00pm
December 10, 2016 – Lights On, AMBUCS Park, Dusk

2017

January 28, 2017 – Barstool Golf
April 21-22, 2017 – Spring Conference, Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL
October 21-23, 2017 – AMBUCS National Convention



Disability Expo



October 15th was the Disability Expo at the Fluid Events Center in Champaign. AMBUCS has participated in the Expo for several years and this year was a good one. The layout of the booths and the look of the hall have been

improving each year, looking more professional each time. Each booth had white and purple curtains to delineate space and white cloths over the tables. Our booth had an extra black table cloth to help us stand out a little more and, of course, the great display board to help get people's attention. Initially we were not going to give away an AmTryke but things changed and at the last minute, AmTryke leader, Scott Price, got a trike put together and arranged for the recipient to be there that morning. She was a member of a family of really tall people as evidenced by the pictures and she loved her new AmTryke! She rode it around the center for about thirty minutes after the presentation. Radio personality, Diane Ducy whose son was also a recipient of an AmTryke a couple of years ago, was the emcee for the day and gave a few facts about our recipient.



We had one of our newest members manning, or womaning, the booth and she did a great job. Kathy Harvey volunteered for the morning shift and stayed with the booth while the rest of the crew helped with the presentation. Other volunteers were: Larry and Elaine Windingland, Scott Price, Andrea Betzler, and Frank Thomas. We appreciate all who came to help!

We talked with a special family during the day. Their son received an AmTryke from us last year and they stopped by to say thanks. Mom reported that their son would go sit on his AmTryke in the house waiting for them to come take him for a ride. Mom also said she sees her son getting stronger and more capable with every ride! That's what we love to hear and why we do what we do!

Spring Conference

The Spring Conference for Region 4 will be held in Springfield, IL, at the Northfield Inn on April 21st and 22nd. Details are not yet complete but here's a preview: you can expect great staff at the hotel and a fish boil one night. Rooms will cost either \$94 or \$109 for a suite and registration will be open soon. Mark your calendars now!

Branding Time Contest

October 1st through November 30th is Branding Time for AMBUCS, a time when members' fancy turns to recruiting new members, earning their Big Hats or adding pins to them, or winning some prizes for bringing in the most members, potential members, or speakers. After some discussion with the Board the awards will be tweaked a little. Leader, Andrea Betzler, will announce the new award structure at the next meeting.

Speaker: Janice Vidovic, Real Estate Agent, Homeowner, and Landlord

Janice Vidovic is a real estate agent for Keller Williams and came by to offer us some advice when selling or buying a home. She also has her own rental business and gave us some tips on that. Before investing in rental property or a home go online and do research. A home or rental property is the biggest investment 99% of Americans make, besides sending a child to college. Three things apply to both buying a home as a primary residence or buying rental property: location, condition, and price. You can't move a house and it's very hard to change the price much, so focus on the condition of the home. She likes to buy "shabby", renovate, then rent and eventually sell. The income from rentals is called passive income and allows people to retire early and enjoy retirement more. Other things that are important when assessing a home are: the kitchen, the number of bathrooms, flooring throughout, landscaping, the front door,



and the general curb appeal. To help with curb appeal you could add some shutters matched to the roof color, upgrade the front porch light, and power wash the outside of the house. Another big thing when selling or finding renters is the Internet. Have professional pictures taken of the outside and inside of the home and post those online. Janice passed around a folder showing the difference in pictures taken by the home owner or another non-professional and a professional photographer. Spend the money on the pro. If you are selling or buying there are two times to negotiate the price: at the time of the sale and after the home inspection. Always insist that any offer to buy depends on the outcome of the home inspection. Janice also mentioned some things to think about when showing a home for rent or sale. Expectations have gone up. Install quartz instead of vinyl in the kitchen and baths. Odor is a big issue for potential buyers or renters. Bad odors can be caused by smoking, pets, or water in the crawlspace. Janice recommends a product called Nature's Miracle for cleaning pet odors and other odors from carpets and upholstery. If a home is clean and uncluttered inside it is more likely to be rented or sold for a good price. Keep her in mind when you are ready to buy or sell a home!

Speaker: Cliff Hastings, Parkland Volleyball Coach

On October 11, Cliff Hastings visited our lunch meeting to talk about the Parkland College Volleyball program. While this reporter could not attend the meeting, member Larry Windingland stated that it was an excellent talk. The Division Two team has had fantastic success this year with a 33-2 record and their only two losses were against Division One teams. We thank Cliff for stopping by.

Speaker: Zack Barlow, U of I Assistant Golf Coach



Zack Barlow, seen here with chapter president Frank Thomas, has a long history with the U of I golf program. He played on the team until 2002 when a surgery put him in the club house. Zack was born in southern Illinois where he played on a championship team in high school and was recruited by the U of I. During and after his surgery, the U of I coach stuck by Zack and brought him in as an assistant coach three years ago. Zack's job is 99% recruiting. He must keep up with what all the high school teams are doing and find potential players. Recruiting is an intense job as many schools are after the same people and commitment ability from a student has been coming earlier and earlier. Students now commit to a college early in their junior year. The other 1% of his job it to deal with the "girlfriend" and other personal problems of the players so that the head coach is not pestered with this. Zack and the other coaches at the U of I have

been very successful with teaching and have four U of I alums on the PGA tour. Their coaching method is to keep the group small, no more than six players on the team, so that it is more like a family. Also, the head coach keeps the practice times from becoming monotonous by never telling the players his plans until the day of the practice. This keeps them working hard at every drill and practice round. The season is split with regular conference play in the fall and tournament play in the Spring. Zack also reported that there is a girl's team that is doing very well also. They are picked to win the Big Ten in the Spring. Thanks for coming Zack!



AmTrykes

Also at the meeting on October 11 was EJ and his parents. That's him at the right, (picture by Larry Windingland). EJ was there to receive an AmTryke. He is a wonderful young man who loved his AmTryke and started making motorcycle noises as he was trying to ride it around our small meeting room. Enjoy your AmTyke, EJ!

National Awards for our Chapter

At the meeting on October 11, President Frank Thomas presented the awards our chapter received at the National Convention in Tucson. Frank presented the Superior Chapter award to Andrea Betzler for the 15-16 Chapter year. He also presented the Honor Governor award to District Governor Steve Gibbs. Our chapter in general won several awards: 100% Giving to Ambility, 100% Giving to Scholarships, 27th Superior Chapter, and an award for giving away 25-50 AmTrykes. Awesome! Thanks to all for the great work last year!

Pot Belly Sandwich Shop Fundraiser

Member Andrea Betzler arranged for GCC AMBUCS to have a fundraising night at the Campus sandwich shop, Pot Belly. All our chapter had to do was be there for a couple of hours with information on the chapter and our chapter would get 10% of the sandwich sales on that day. Andrea and several others were present at the table, (and ate some sandwiches), and we earned \$273 for the day! More important the volunteers talked with a number of people, students mostly, informing them of what we do. While students have no time to be active members of our chapter, they do help us with various projects such as AMBUCS Park decorations and Bar Stool Golf. This event helps them to remember us when it's time to volunteer for projects and when they have some time free time after graduation, maybe they will join a chapter.



Good job Andrea for setting this up, taking this picture, and staffing the table, and thanks to the others who helped! We will probably do more of these fundraising nights to continue to talk with people about what we do.

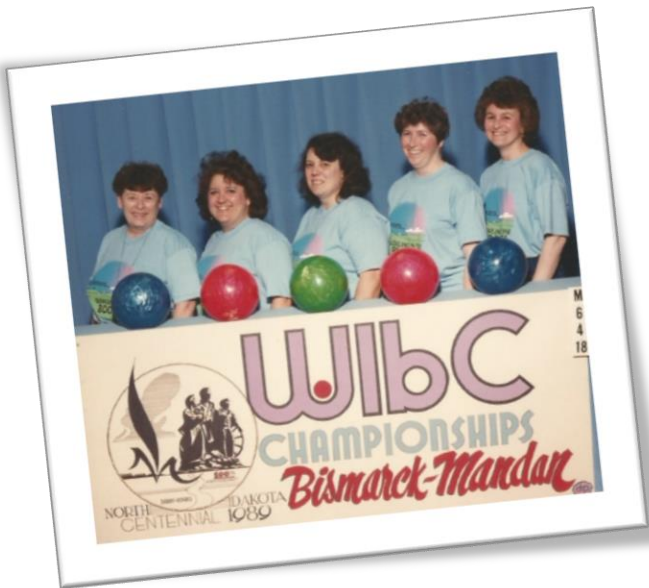
Board Action

The board also discussed hosting a blood drive at the Urbana Gardens. The drive would probably run from 11:00am-2:00pm. All our chapter would have to do is promote the drive and handle the sign up of members and friends. This will probably be in December or January.

Grant person Bob Lacey will sign us up for Giving Day through Good Works Connect. This will be the 29th of November and will allow people across the nation to donate to us.

Member News

Chapter President Frank Thomas' Member Recognition talks are to help newer members appreciate how much the long-time members have done for the chapter. His choice for October is **Sally Denhart**. Sally joined AMBUCS at the invitation of Deb Griest in 2010. She wanted to be part of a group that was active and didn't just write checks and Deb told her that GCC AMBUCS fit the bill. Sally attended the next Spring Conference and was talked into becoming secretary for the club by Mary Lou Younger. With a one-year vacation, Sally has been secretary ever since. Deb had known Sally for a long time as they both worked at the Illinois State Geological Survey for many years. They also bowled together on several teams and often traveled to the National Bowling Conference together. Can you recognize them in the picture at left? Does someone look taller?



Speaking of **Deb** (and **Ray**) **Griest**, they are new grandparents! Their son Jason and his significant other, gave birth to a baby on October 27th. Congratulations to all!

Winning Chances

October 4th – 50/50 drawing of \$8 went to Mike Foley. The \$28 in attendance money could have been won by Pat Webb but she was not present.

October 11th – 50/50 drawing of \$10 went to Steve Gibbs. The \$44 in attendance money could have gone to Mary Jane Jenkins but she was not present.

October 18th – 50/50 drawing of \$9 went to Mike Foley. The \$61 in attendance money could have been won by Pat Webb but she was not present.

October 25th – 50/50 drawing of \$7 went to Sally Denhart. The \$76 in attendance money could have gone to Kyle Moe but he was not present.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN
from Joe Cool and the Gang!