

THE BUCSHOT

Greater Champaign County AMBUCS Newsletter

May 2019

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Long-time Member Ron Meyer



Sadly, GCC AMBUCS lost another of our long-time members this month, Ron Meyer. Ron had been failing in health for a while and we had provided him with a loaner wheelchair ramp so that he could easily get out of his house and into the world.

As noted in a previous newsletter, Ron was the driving factor of our involvement in AMBUCS Park. He

also built wheelchair ramps and participated in all of our projects. He served as an officer and was a valued member of our Chapter.

God speed, Ron, and say hi to Bud Mesker and Joe Dart for us!

Calendar

Jun. 17—Charity Golf Outing

Sept. 14—Scarecrow Festival

2020

Jan. 25—Barstool Golf

Feb. 29—Cash Bash

Amtryke Build Night

On May 13th, six AMBUCS and one volunteer from the Urbana Park District, descended on the C-U Woodshop Supply school building to assemble four Amtrykes. Elise from the Park District came along to take pictures of Amtrykes and post them on social media promoting the upcoming Bike Nite at Weaver Park in Urbana. GCC AMBUCS almost always participates in the Bike Nite. Instead of letting her take pictures, we put her to work assembling a small Amtryke. Since it was a small build it didn't take the group long to put them together. Thanks to all who came out and to Elise for diving in with both feet. (That's Elise with GCC member Deb Griest in the first two pictures. Next picture, Roger Adams. Second row, Bob Lacey, Scott Price, and part of the group of builders)













Bike Nite in Weaver Park

A couple of times each year the Urbana Park District hosts a Bike Nite in one of their parks to help people find out about the park and learn about this fun place to hang out. There is live music, bike groups, and bike vendors to help people with any bike troubles.

The temperature was just right and it wasn't raining but there was a lot of wind, so much wind that we had to lay our tri-fold display board flat on the table. Harvey, pictured at right with Bob Lacey, was on hand to demonstrate how to ride an Amtryke.



Thanks to Scott Price and Bob, we were able to give away an Amtryke to a wonderful young man. Rowen and his family brought back his previous Amtryke and we gave him a bigger one. As with all Amtrykes, we had to

make some final adjustments, like moving the seat so he could reach the pedals, but we soon had him riding.

Thanks to the Urbana Park District for allowing us to have the microphone for a couple of minutes so that attendees could see first hand one of our major projects as we presented the larger Amtryke to Rowen. Enjoy!









Amtryke Luncheon Give Away

On May 28th Canon stopped by our lunch meeting to get his new Amtryke. Canon has some challenges that don't allow him to use his feet to pedal a bike so we gave him a special Amtryke that just has a platform for his feet. He is a friendly little boy who put up with our lunch silliness and lots of picture taking. Here's one taken by Larry Windingland after Canon realized this was his very own! Enjoy your new freedom, Canon!

Charity Golf Fundraiser

Our next big fundraiser will be **June 17th** at Stone Creek Golf Course. We can always use more hole sponsors and we have a couple of empty volunteer slots to make this all happen. Please check your schedules to see if you can help.

Splinters from the Board

The Board of Directors met on May 28th and again on June 4 right after a lunch meeting. Highlights:

- => voted to rent a storage unit next to Flex-N-Gate for Amtryke storage
- => voted to purchase some shelves for the storage unit up to \$300



Officers and Board for 2019-2020

Since all officers were running unopposed, the vote was done by a show of hands and the entire slate was accepted as presented. The officers for 2019-2020 are:

President: Renae' Strawbridge
President-Elect: Scott Price
Chairman of the Board: Ray Griest
Treasurer: Elaine Windingland
Secretary: Sally Denhart
Sergeant-At-Arms: Kyle Moe
Big Hat President: Keith Jamieson

Board Directors: Bob Lacey, Larry Windingland, Steve Gibbs, Don Dunlap

Thanks to all the previous officers for their service! Please be willing to give your 100% support to this Board to continue our mission of helping those with life challenges.

Installation and Awards

Regional Director, Donna Charlton-Vish, joined us on Thursday, May 30th, at the Italian Patio to install officers for 2019-2020. Each officer pledged to work to the best of their ability to grow the mission of AMBUCS to help people with life challenges. Then Donna installed our new Chapter President, Renae' Strawbridge. Thanks for the help, Donna! (First row: Donna, new officers, new President Renae' Strawbridge with Donna.)

Earlier in the evening, outgoing President, Ray Griest, gave out his awards for Project Manager of the Year and GCC AMBUC of the Year. Project Manager of the Year was **Kyle Moe** for his great management of the Barstool Golf fundraiser. Kyle is one of our newer members who has stepped up by being a member of the Board and acting as co-leader of the Barstool event with Larry Windingland and then taking over as primary on this event in 2019. Congratulations, Kyle and thank you for your hard work! (Kyle on the left, first picture, second row, with Ray Griest)

GCC AMBUC of the Year was not present at the dinner so there are no pictures of her but we congratulate **Cris Vowels** on her award! Cris has been tireless in representing AMBUCS at all the Challenger League games and the many meetings needed with the Urbana Park District and the Tom Jones Challenger League. She manages to do all of this and still work a full-time job as Principle at Urbana Early Childhood School. Great job, Cris!

The evening was lots of fun with good food and fellowship. Dick Adams, (center picture, row two), was appalled at how many calories he ate. (It's only once a year, Dick.) And we got to see some friends we don't often see, like Wayne Younger, (with his wife, member MaryLou, in the last picture).

Thanks to Elaine Windingland for arranging the evening in the recently remodeled Italian Patio. (FYI—They had to remodel because a car drove through the banquet area.)













Getting to Know Your Officers

New this month — an article highlighting one of your officers. First up, new President, Renae' Strawbridge. Thanks for taking the time, Renae'!

Q: Will there be a Zombie Apocalypse?

A: ZOMBIES? Heck no! Those are things you terminate in a video game. Well, that's if you're good at video games...

Q: As a non-animal owner, which is better, dogs or cats?

A: Since dogs are a man's best friend, does that make cats a woman's best friend? If I had to be a pet owner, it would be a cat. Dogs require a lot more maintenance, although they are better at welcoming you home.

Q: As a former employee of the State Geological Survey, will California drop into the ocean?

A: My peeps at the ISGS would say no. I just know if California ever does drop into the ocean I do NOT want to be there when it happens!

Tidbits

We send our sympathy to **Nikki Kopmann** and her family on the loss of her brother Jesse. He was a very special person.

• Arlie Saldeen has been in and out of the hospital. Please continue to send him good wishes.

Kim VanEngelenburg has also been in and out of the hospital. Please continue to send her good wishes as well.

Bob Lacey and Sally Denhart attended the Community Foundation's Hearts of Gold Awards banquet. GCC AMBUCS member, **Scott Price**, was given one of their awards last year. Bob, our grant writer, made some personal contacts with Rotary members at the table. We hope to work closely with those groups, (there are several), in the future.

Member and Park District employee, Keith Ewerks has been working on getting a new sign for the main entrance to AMBUCS Park and other improvements. He reports that we have two new pieces of equipment from the Tom Burns memorial money and the colors on the new sign are great!

Scott Price has a new truck. He'll be able to transport more Amtrykes in this one and be more comfortable in the cab while doing it.

Winning Chances

5/07/19—50/50: \$8 to Renae' Strawbridge; Attendance: \$30 could have been won by Linda Ohnstad but she was not present.

5/**14**/**19**—50/50: \$8 to Renae' Strawbridge, (again!). Attendance: \$50 could have been won by Kyle Moe but he was not present.

5/21/19—50/50: \$8 to Sally Denhart; Attendance: \$65 was won by Judy Dramstad.

5/28/19—50/50: \$8 to Scott Price; Attendance: \$16 won by Roger Adams.