

Ramp Building

We are well into our ramp building season and the weather has been cooperating. When we arrived on this site the rain was just ending and it didn't start up again until we were packed up and on the way home. Ten AMBUCS and friends converged on this street in Champaign for a rare Thursday night build. This was a small ramp, only 18 feet in length with one flat.



Even when it's small there are unique challenges to every build

and for this one it was a couple of things. One, the door was recessed behind a section of the house so we had to build the flat out from the house and wedge in a post for support. You can see the corner in the "before" photo at the left. Two, we had to trim back a bush at the bottom of the ramp before we could build. The owner has two bushes and really wanted the one by the ramp to stay so we just trimmed it back and it may fill in next spring. Three, leader, Ray Griest, had to do something we almost never do; he added a small wedge ramp inside the owner's screened in porch. The outside door lead into the porch and the porch was an add-on with a step up into the house. Ray put the ramp over this one step. This small ramp will also allow the owner to more easily access her screened in porch and be able to enjoy the summer evenings.



We finished up the ramp in about three and a half hours. Member, Jean Gothard, swept up the mud and sawdust at the bottom of the ramp.

And, finally, the happy crew on the ramp. The owner did not want her picture taken so it was

just us. To prove how sturdy our builds are, member Keith Jamieson, stood on the handrail to get in the picture.

Thanks to everyone who came out to help with this build!



September 23—Scarecrow Festival
 October 21-23—National Conference



Bike Event

Meadowbrook Park in South Urbana was the site for the August Bike Club Event. There was music and vendors and dogs who came along with the bike riders. GCC AMBUCS was there with one of our AmTrykes to let people see our potential to help. At right, (l-r) Scott Price, Kathy Harvey, and Frank Thomas check out the settings on the trike. We also raffled some gift cards that brought in \$104. Thanks for arranging this, Frank!



Potbelly Fundraiser



Our Potbelly Sandwich Shop fundraiser was on August 28, from 5-8pm. There was some strong, much-needed rain that kept the customers away but we talked with a couple of people just the same. Thanks to Scott Price for stepping in for Andrea Betzler while she recovered from surgery.

Splinters from the Board

The Board of Directors met on August 30th at Za's on North Neil Street in Champaign. Action items were:

The board voted to purchase a new tent to replace the one that was wind-damaged at the Golf Outing.

The Big Hat Club funds will be used to purchase and create a basket of items for the Big Hat Auction at National.

Bob Lacey will temporarily step back into the role of Sargent-At-Arms until Mary Jane Jenkins can rejoin us.

We will continue our donation of \$500 to the DSC Tree of Hope in two payments of \$250 each, one before December 1 and one after.

Improvements at AMBUCS Park

GCC AMBUCS Charter member, Keith Jamieson, and his siblings, lost their parents, Bob and Vi, a few years ago. Instead of sending flowers, Keith asked for donations to a memorial in AMBUCS Park. Donations were also requested in February of 2016 when long-time member Joe Dart passed away. Chapter members worked with the park district to choose memorials that would also help improve the park. They settled on benches, one placed by the new handicap-accessible playground and one by the ball field where the Challenger League plays. The bench by the playground is dedicated to Bob and Vi and will be much appreciated by parents and grandparents while they watch their children play. Joe's favorite project for AMBUCS was the Challenger League games so it is fitting to place the bench near the ballfield so that parents and friends can relax while they enjoy the games. The donations were used and the chapter chipped in the rest to pay for the benches, concrete pads, and the plaques. Please stop by and rest on these great new additions to the park.



Speaker: Pam Scott, Carle Physical Therapist



Pam Scott and her husband, Jeff, came to visit us on August 8th. Pam has worked with AmTrykes at Carle but most importantly she was an AMBUCS Scholarship recipient! Pam has been a therapist for a while and now has her PhD but she got the scholarship while working on her early degrees. Jeff is also a therapist and her nephew is currently studying to be a therapist. It is costing him about \$18,000 per semester, plus \$12,000 for clinicals, so scholarship, grants, part-time jobs are essential things to have if you want to keep your debt down. Pam loves her job and came to visit us because she is the physical therapist for new member Dave Fones. Thanks for stopping by, Pam!

Scarecrow Festival

On September 23rd, AMBUCS Park will be full of chapter members getting ready for our 25th Annual Scarecrow Festival! We'll have some of the same fun things: a car and motorcycle show, a flea market, games for kids, hayrack rides, barrel train rides, music, and good food. New this year: a Cake Walk.

Chapter members and friends can sign up to work starting at 8am for setup. The festival runs from 10am to 3pm with cleanup after that. The signup sheet will be at the Sept. 12th meeting or you can give Mary Lou Younger a call and let her know you are willing to help.

Below are the flyers for the festival and the car show. We would appreciate members handing out or posting flyers at various places in and around the Champaign-Urbana area. They can be picked up at meetings or at Ecowater during regular business hours. Please also share the flyers on social media. It's going to be a great time!

AMBUCS 25th Annual Scarecrow Festival

Saturday, Sept. 23rd, 2017, 10am to 3pm
AMBUCS Park, 1200 E. University, Urbana



Come join the Greater Champaign County AMBUCS in celebrating their 25th year of hosting the Scarecrow Festival!

All proceeds benefit our projects:
AmTrykes, Wheelchair Ramp Building, Scholarships to Parkland College, Improvements to AMBUCS Park.

Activities Include:

- Hayrack Rides
- Barrel Train Rides
- Food
- Flea Market
- Kids Games
- Cake Walk
- Car Show
- Fun Galore!



25th Annual Scarecrow Festival Vendor Agreement
Saturday, September 23, 2017, AMBUCS Park, 1200 E. University Ave, Urbana, IL

Vendor Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Phone number (xxx-xxx-xxxx) _____

Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail this form to: **GCC AMBUCS, PO 592, Urbana, IL 61803-0592.**

Reserve Your FREE Booth Space!

Number of Spaces 1 2 3 4 5
(space size: 15' x 10')

Set up is 8am to 9:30am. Flea Market hours are 10am to 3pm. Bathrooms are available on the East side of the park. Concessions will be available throughout the day. There is no rain date for this event. For more information contact **Keith Jamieson (867-7112) keith@ecowater-urbana.com**

25th Annual Scarecrow Festival Car & Motorcycle Show





September 23, 2017, 10am-3pm

Show registration: 9:00-11:00

Awards at 2:30

Entry fee: \$10 per vehicle

AMBUCS Park

1200 E. University Ave, Urbana

To register: Scott Price
scott.price@flex-n-gate.com



Show Awards: Cars: Top Ten—Best of Show—Kids' Choice
Motorcycles: Top Three—Best of Show
Dash Plaques to the first 25 to register
Door prizes raffled off before the awards

Fun Fun Fun Fun!

Bring the family out to AMBUCS Park to enjoy Music, Kids Games, Food, Hayrack Rides, Barrel Train Rides, Flea Market, Cake walk, and this wonderful park!

All proceeds benefit our many community projects: providing therapeutic tricycles, called AmTrykes, to people with disabilities, building wheelchair ramps for low income families in Champaign County, providing scholarships to Parkland College students in the therapy area, supporting other charities in the Champaign-Urbana area, and of course, helping the Urbana Park District maintain AMBUCS Park!

AmTrykes

Our requests for AmTrykes will pick up in September when kids go back to school. In the mean time, Coordinator, Scott Price, puts together and delivers any that are requested. Here's a picture of one of our recipients. The late summer weather should allow lots of time for riding and exercising. (Shh! Don't tell the kids they are exercising!)



National Conference

Don't forget to register for the National AMBUCS Conference! This years meeting will be at the beautiful Tan-Tar-A Resort in the Ozarks. The block of rooms will be released Sept. 17th and you must register for a room separately from the conference. Hope to see you there!



Member News

We still need to send good wished to **Mary Jane Jenkins** as she continues to deal with health issues. She is now at Barnes Medical Center while they figure things out. Bob Lacey's brother has regained some of his health so Bob has graciously agreed to step back into the role of Sargent-At-Arms until Mary Jane can come back to us. Make that soon, Mary!

Andrea Betzler is at home recovering from surgery. We hope to have her back with us soon, too.

Member, **Mike Foley**, had an accident and broke his elbow. Be careful out there!

August was the month for health problems. (Enough of that!) **Wayne Younger** found an additional spot of cancer and also had his knee replaced. Sitting still is not his thing and he is not the happiest of patients, so our good thoughts go out to his wife, **Mary Lou Younger**.

This month we inducted a new member, Dave Fones into our chapter. Dave used to be a member of the Galesburg chapter which disbanded a couple of years ago. Dave has since recovered from several strokes and wants to start helping with AMBUCS again. That's Dave on the right with chapter President, Roger Adams during Dave's induction into the chapter. Welcome, Dave!

Winning Chances

8/1/17—**50/50**: \$9 to Sally Denhart; **Attendance**: \$58 went to Jean Gothard.

8/8/17—**50/50**: \$12 to Scott Price; **Attendance**: \$24 went to Mary Lou Younger.

8/15/17—**50/50**: \$14 to Steve Gibbs; **Attendance**: \$22 went to Pat Webb.

8/22/17—**50/50**: \$8 to Larry Windingland; **Attendance**: \$16 to Pat Webb (Again!)

8/29/17—**50/50**: \$10 to Andy VanEngelenburg; **Attendance**: \$20 could have been won by Darcy Dunlap but she was not present.

