

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

## Amtryke Fun!

**May 20th was the Amtryke Road Rally** at the C-U Elks Lodge in Savoy. Twelve past recipients and their families came to the event to ride their Amtrykes around a track with essential fun stations such as a Bike Wash, a Gas Pump, and a Rumble Station made of bubble wrap taped to the floor. And who among us hasn't wanted to knock down a bunch of cardboard bricks! AMBUCS volunteers stacked the bricks at the Brick Break station again and again only to watch them slide across the track after the riders.

## Calendar

June 1—Installation and Awards Banquet  
August 2-5—National Conf., Louisville, KY  
September 18—GCC Charity Golf Fundraiser  
October 21—Scarecrow Festival

2024

March 16—Cash Bash

April 5-6—Regional Conference, Champaign



Our theme again this year was Super Heroes and we had a visit by Captain America! One of our newest members, Colin Lamkin, found him wandering around the Lodge and sent him to the banquet room. (Thanks Colin!)

Along with the Amtryke riders we had some family members bring other types of bikes to ride, scooters, and we had one young lady who circled the track on inline skates that glowed with light! Another young man just went to the Rumble Station and popped the wrap with his feet. When he got tired of that, he sat down and popped them with his thumbs. We were afraid that he might get run over, or get his fingers smashed, so we distracted him with

helping to stack the bricks.

We had ace therapist, Earl Martin there to help adjust Amtrykes where needed and he also fitted and started the paperwork for ordering larger trikes for some of the attendees. The event serves the dual purpose of doing any needed updates along with the fun.

One of our favorite riders from a past event, Caleb who has the most infectious laugh, returned this year with his Amtryke! He's gained so much physically from riding that his grandparents can't believe it! He thoroughly enjoyed coming out again and we gave him a balloon to take home. (Right, photo by Renae' Strawbridge)



We thank all the volunteers who gave up part of their Saturday to decorate the room, create the stations, man the stations, and help clean up afterwards! A big thank you to co-leaders Renae' Strawbridge and Larry Windingland, and Elaine Windingland who make this event happen! It's a fun event and we hope to host it again next year!

## And More Amtryke Fun...



*We continue to gift Amtrykies* at our lunch meetings. We started the month with little Alaya, (far left in the pics). Right now she walks on her toes and her parents hope that the Amtryke will strengthen her feet, her legs and her core so she is able to walk on her full feet.

Our second recipient, Macey, loves pink, loves country music and her mom says, "She is the happiest little girl ever!" She was a little tired that day so smiles were hard to find. The license plate with her name on it brought tears to her mother's eyes.

It was time for more tears from parents and AMBUCS alike when we gifted LaMondra his Amtryke, (third from left). You can see his mother in the background as LaMondra takes his first ride. He had been doing his therapy in Chicago but transferred to Carle here in Urbana. He had a big growth spurt between the time his therapist ordered his Amtryke and when we got it to him this month. The minute he came in we knew that the Amtryke waiting for him was not the right one. Luckily, Amtryke Ambassador, Scott Price, knew where he could get his hands on the correct sized trike and gave up his own lunch to go get the trike and bring it back. (Thank you Scott!!!) His first ride brought the big smile in the picture and happy tears from Mom and several of our members. Happy riding, LaMondra!

Our fourth recipient, Jack, came to lunch with his dad, John, and loved exploring our lunch room, including the gaming area on the side. We distracted him from the flashing lights with lunch and checking out his new Amtryke. He was ready to go for a ride but was looking for his mom who couldn't be with us. His dad assured us Jack will take off riding as soon as he can get outside!

We thank all of the recipients that make the time to come to lunch! It means a lot to the members who work so hard on the fundraising events in order to make the giveaways happen.

## Splinters from the Board

*The Board met at Denny's on May 31st* and addressed the following item:

==> Urbana Gardens raised lunch price to \$14; voted to charge members who pay by the week and repeat guests \$14



## BarStool Golf Fundraiser

***Another successful BarStool Golf event*** is in the books! We had fewer teams this year, only about 86 but that made it quicker to play a hole with less wait time. As usual we had great participating bars: ***The Axe Bar, Collective Pour, Esquire, Green Street Café, Hubers, One T's Corner Pocket, Pias, Pipas, and Pour Bros.*** Each bar built a miniature golf hole and had it ready to play. A couple of the bars were able to put their holes outside since the weather was good. This also helped with the congestion in the bars for the teams waiting to play.

We have a lot of teams that attend every year and they love to dress up and have a great time! Five of the teams joined forces and rented a Party Bus to travel from bar-to-bar, (pic 1). The Kentucky Derby was the same day so several of the female players wore Derby hats, (pic 2). The five teams in the party bus took the Derby theme an extra mile and had blow-up horses to ride and miniature Derby hats for all the players! The hole at One T's Corner Pocket seems very simple, one ramp and into the hole, but it presented a challenge to all the players. (pic 3)

None of the fun could happen without our leader, Kyle Moe, (pic 4), who does all the preliminary work with our sponsor, ***Skeff Distributing***, with our bars, and arranging for buses, raffle prizes, and volunteers. He had great help from Treasurer Elaine Windingland, (right of Kyle in the picture). An event like this takes a lot of preparation right before the day, score cards hand printed, change for the raffle ticket sales put in envelopes, and the supplies needed by each bar have to be bagged and ready including beads and leis for use as prizes when a player gets a hole in one.

Picture 5 shows member Cris Vowels giving a string of beads to one of the players who got a hole in one and picture 6 shows how happy our players are when they do get a hole in one. When putting, it's important to make sure your clothes are in the perfect position to enhance the possibility of a hole in one. This player, (pic 7), made sure his shorts were rolled up just the right amount before hitting the ball. If you just want to put on a t-shirt and go, the Putt Buddies can help you get some customized tees printed. (pic 8).

Our players had fun; our volunteers had fun; and we hope the bars enjoyed the day as well! Here's hoping for an even better event next year!



# AMBUCS National Conference, August 2-5, 2023

*All members should have received* the “Save the Dates” cards through the mail inviting us to attend the National Conference in Louisville, KY. It promises to be a great time and some “magic” will happen! Early Registration is \$219 until June 30th. A regular room at the **Gault House Hotel** is \$154; \$174 gets you an executive suite. GCC still has tickets for the Big Hat drawing always held at the conference, where you could win one of five great trips! Get your registrations in now!



## Tidbits

*Outgoing Big Hat President, MaryLou Younger* had a fun year as our leader. At her last meeting she said, “Being an AMBUC is the best thing for me!” Thanks for a fun bunch of meetings, MaryLou!

*Members Elaine and Larry Windingland* were in Chicago to watch their daughter run a 31 mile race. Kerry is an art teacher and runs for fun.

*Andy VanEngelenburg, our in-again, out-again member,* is learning Spanish from his girlfriend, Claudia, who has acted as an interpreter for us.

*Unofficial Honorary Member, Dee, waitress extraordinaire,* is dating a new guy and he is a friendly man who is treating her right!

## Winning Chances

**05/02/23**—50/50: \$9 to Will Wade; Attendance: \$65 won by Pat Webb.

**05/09/23**—50/50: \$11 to Andy D’Orso; Attendance: \$16 could have been won by Bailee Dunlap but she was not present.

**05/16/23**—50/50: \$5 to Elaine Windingland; Attendance: \$27 could have been won by Dave Miller but he was not present.

**05/23/23**—50/50: \$10 to Elaine Windingland; Attendance: \$43 could have been won by MaryLou Younger but she was not present.

**05/30/23**—50/50: \$7 to Jack, Amtryke recipient; Attendance: \$53 could have been won by Thresa Adams but she was not present.