

Greater Champaign County AMBUCS Newsletter

Scarecrow Festival

What a wonderful day in AMBUCS Park! On Sept. 14th, the weather cooperated for a change; it was dry and warm but with just enough breeze that no one was too hot. Our treasurer reports that we sold more ride/game tickets than ever and more food than we ever have as well. This has to be one of our most wellattended events in our 27 years of hosting it!

The rides were very popular, with a lot of kids riding the barrel train on back-to-back trips. We did have a small problem with a tire on the "engine". The train is pulled by an ATV but the first car is built like a train engine but is a big box with a ramp door so it is accessible by kids in wheel chairs. Parents could also ride in the engine car so that

Calendar

Oct 2-5—National Conference, Pittsburgh, PA

September 2019

2020 Jan. 25—Barstool Golf

Feb. 29—Cash Bash

May 2—Road Rally

very little ones could ride and scared ones could ride with parents for comfort. Unfortunately, one of the tires on the engine had a slow leak and driver, Riley Myren, had to make some pit stops at our storage shed to fill the tire. About mid-way through the event, we had two heroes save the day. Scott Price found a spare tire and event leader, Keith Jamieson, changed the tire in about 2 minutes. Keith also made a quick repair of a board on the hay rack which gave way. AMBUCS are prepared for everything!

As is tradition, we had a great car and motorcycle show on the West side of the park. Leader, Scott Price, reported that they had the most cars and motorcycles attending than ever before. Thanks to members Dick Adams and Jeanie Gothard who worked with Scott to make this all come together with awards and door prizes for the owners.

We also had a great bake sale, a wonderful flea market, music, and excellent pulled pork sandwiches on sale. Pair the sandwich with chips and a drink, buy a brownie or cookies from the bake sale, and you've got a perfect lunch in the park. People sat, ate, enjoyed the breeze, and listened to music. Kids played the games, rode the rides, and bugged mom and dad for more tickets. What great memories were being made!

Thanks, AMBUCS and friends for making this a great day in the Park!



Story from the Festival...

A little boy loved playing the game Witch Door, so much so that he found a perfect way to get the prize he wanted. He would run around the back side of the games and check out the prizes hidden behind each door and made note of the door which held that prize. He would then run around to the front of the game, hand in his ticket, and pick the door he wanted. It worked all except one time. A kid in front of him picked the door he wanted and walked away with the prize. (At right: games leader, Mary Lou Younger, helps a little girl play golf)



Amtrykes



Amtryke requests continue to come in to our Chapter. Earl Martin, therapist at Carle, came to our Scarecrow Festival to evaluate several children for new Amtrykes. The paperwork is all done and more Amtrykes should be arriving soon. Leader Scott Price will arrange for another build night and we'll move these out as well. He delivered one to Lara, pictured, so that she will have a great time riding her Amtryke through these wonderful Fall days! Enjoy, Lara! (Photos by Scott Price)



We also continue to refurbish returned Amtrykes and give

them to a new child or adult. We appreciate everyone who contacts us when they no longer need the trike. It makes us able to help more people.

Speaker: Donna Carlton-Vish

On September 10th, we had a visit from Central Region Director Donna Carlton-Vish. She came by to update us on National issues, sell tickets to the Danville Cash Bash, (her Chapter), and announce that she will be running for National AMBUCS President in 2020.

Donna has been working with Ray Griest and others on a project to have certain Chapters across the U.S. own Amtryke trailers that they use and maintain but are supported monetarily by National. The trailers are used in Road Shows where therapists and potential new chapter members can see our line of Amtrykes and how they can benefit people. This hands-on look at Amtrykes is one of the best things we



have for building new chapters. Our Chapter is the prototype for this project. Other Chapters, like the St. Louis Chapter, use our trailer for a small fee to provide support, like new tires, etc. This will be the model for the other Chapter agreements across the country.

Another big National project is to have all Amtrykes made in the U.S. National officers have been working with a new U.S. corporation to make all our models. They are starting with the smallest Amtryke model and creating a prototype which they expect will be ready in about 6 months. They hope to have that one in production in about a year. Stay tuned for more updates coming from the National Conference.

Thanks for stopping by, Donna! Best of luck in the 2020 election!

Splinters From the Board

Our Board met at Urbana Gardens at the regular lunch meeting on September 24. The

- action items were:
- ⇒ Elaine Windingland reported that National will only allow Chapters to sponsor one Amtryke at the National Conference. We planned on purchasing two. It was decided we would purchase a child's Amtryke only.
- $\Rightarrow\,$ voted to raise our insurance on the contents of the Amtryke trailer and sheds from \$10K to \$20K
- \Rightarrow Bob Lacey volunteered to take minutes at the next meeting as Secretary Sally Denhart will be attending the National Conference.
- \Rightarrow voted to upgrade the Chapter accounting software at a cost of \$180.
- ⇒ Deb Griest and Renae' Strawbridge will assemble a basket for a Big Hat auction item at the National Conference.

Getting to Know Your Officers

On the hotseat this month — Treasurer, Elaine Windingland.

Q: What is something that is really popular now, but in 5 years everyone will look back on the be embarrassed by?

A: Selfies

- **Q: What is the weirdest thing you have seen in someone else's home?** A: It was at my sister-in-law's house. The master bedroom had 5 doors, two to the outdoors, one to the basement, and two to other rooms in the house, the living room and a kitchen.
- **Q: What is the most embarrassing thing you have every worn?** A: Trends and style change through out the years and many styles could be embarrassing in the future but not at the time.

Winning Chances

9/03/19—50/50: \$8 to Keith Jamieson; Attendance: \$29 could have been won by Sandy Jachino but she was not present.

9/10/19—50/50: \$10 to Keith Jamieson; Attendance: \$46 could have been won by Alan Edwards but he was not present.

9/17/19-50/50: \$8 to Deb Griest; Attendance: \$53 went to Kyle Moe.

9/24/19—50/50: \$8 to Arlie Saldeen; Attendance: \$17 to Don Dunlap.



