

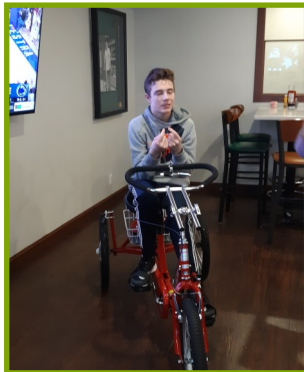
Note: when you finish reading this newsletter, please pass it on to someone who doesn't know about AMBUCS.

Note: Meetings will now be at Bunny's Tavern until the new Maple & Yolk (formerly Urbana Gardens) opens

Amtrykes

What a marvelous invention Amtrykes are! And what joy they bring to everyone who gets one! Our Chapter gave that joy to four children and their families this month!

First up was Jake, right. He is a 15yo freshman at Centennial High School with a teacher from Edison. Jake loves being outside and will enjoy doing things with the family. Jake is very grateful for his Amtryke. Happy riding, Jake!



Landon was our sec-



good. Perfect combo!

Little Nora grabbed the joy when we gave her this Amtryke. Nora has a condition that effects all of her body's systems and had to recover

ond joy recipient this month. He loves riding and playing video games. Landon also has a great sense of humor. He got Scott Price laughing in the background. Landon's got it covered. Video games when the weather is bad and the joy of Amtryke riding when the weather is

Calendar

2025

January 7th—Meetings at Bunny's Tavern

March 8—Cash Bash

March 28-29—Central Region Conference

May 3—BarStool Golf

May 17—Amtryke Road Rally

July 23-26—AMBUCS National Conference

September 15—Charity Golf Outing

from surgery at two days old. She's a fighter, though, and she has already done way more than the doctor's said she would. She can't wait to ride the Amtryke and she doesn't have to. They live on a farm with a big storage building that has a concrete floor. She can ride every day! Joy to your world, Nora!



Our fourth joy recipient for the month was Tokoy. He was born in 2014 and has been a challenge and a blessing for his family. He is a happy camper all the time and is always smiling, spreading his

own kind of Joy. It was past his nap time in the picture. The family originally lived in Chicago but moved downstate to be with family. He will get some much needed exercise on this Amtryke. Go, Tokoy!

(Note: No humans or Amtrykes were harmed in this story.)

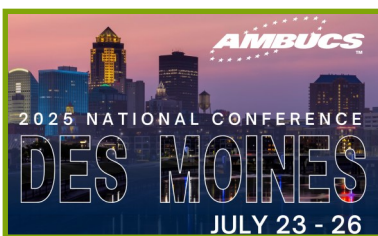
From the Editor: At the end of one of our meetings, I was waiting for my car to warm up in the parking lot across the street from the restaurant, when the Amtryke recipient family came out the



door. Mom came first and was carrying the 2yo on one hip. Dad was next holding the hand of the 6yo and pulling the small Amtryke. As Mom neared the street, she slipped on an icy spot and landed on her backside on the curb. In true good Mom fashion, she held on to the baby and landed on her other side. She started laughing immediately. Dad came to help, letting go of the 6yo and the Amtryke. He tried to help Mom up but slipped himself and almost went down. There was more laughter as he tried again to help Mom up until he noticed that the Amtryke was now picking up speed heading down the hill toward the street. Dad abandoned his attempt to help Mom up and ran down the sidewalk to catch the Amtryke. The 6yo watched the trike and then her Dad, go whizzing by her with a blank stare. He caught it and by the time he got back, Mom was up, still laughing and gingerly stepping around the ice. All was well!

National Conference

It will be a fun summer if all our members can attend the **National AMBUCS Conference** on **July 23-26** in **Des Moines, IA!** There is always lots of great educational sessions, great opportunities to network with other Chapters, and of course, great food! Hope to see everyone there!



Central Region AMBUCS Conference

...But first is the Central Region Conference hosted by the *Cornbelt Chapter* at the **Eastland Hotel and Conference Center** in

Bloomington.

There's lots of fun to be had starting **March 28th and running through the 29th.** The cost is **\$110** before March 10th and **\$125** after. Guests can attend for just **\$75.**

Registration forms were sent out via email and as always, you must register at the hotel separately. Call the hotel at 309-662-0000 or register online (grp code: **AM-BUCS** or **5988**) **before February 28** to get AM-BUCS rates: \$119 (std) / \$169 (suite) plus applicable taxes.

Friday night, we'll meet at member and Past National President, **Al Bidel's** house for cocktails and dinner. Then the Springfield Chapter will host the Hospitality Suite at the hotel.

Saturday morning we'll have a Continental Breakfast and start the "work" part of the event. It promises to be a fun day. Hope to see everyone there!

Come Join the Circus

2025 Central Region Spring Conference
Hosted by Cornbelt AMBUCS
March 28-29, 2025

Eastland Hotel and Conference Center
1801 Eastland Drive, Bloomington, IL 61704

Friday March 28	Saturday March 29
3-4 pm Registration 5-9 pm Cocktails at Al Bidel's Dinner & Fun at Al's Hospitality Suite	Continental Breakfast Big Hat Meeting Welcome / Opening National & Regional News Penguin Project Lunch & Speaker Towards Elks Riding Club Educational Classes x 4 Cocktails Dinner / Big Hat Auction - All are invited Hospitality Suite

Cash Bash

Work is moving forward on our next big fundraiser, **The Cash Bash.** If you don't yet have your tickets to sell, contact **Don Dunlap** right away. We will need lots of volunteers to work the evening, selling 50/50 tickets, selling cards, helping on the stage, decorating the Elks room before the event, cleaning up plates during dinner, and many others. Don has a signup sheet for volunteers so contact him to help. It's a fun

The Greater Champaign County Chapter of

AMBUCS

\$7500.00 CASH BASH
Saturday, March 8th • 6-9pm

\$100 PER TICKET

Drawing to be held at the Elks Lodge in Savoy
Every 15th Ticket wins \$100.00
All you can eat & drink only \$25.00 pp
Keep this coupon. You do not need to be present to win.

night and we always have plenty of food so talk it up with all your friends!

BarStool Golf

*We've set the date, **May 3rd*** for our BarStool Golf Fundraiser. This will be another all-hands-on-deck event with volunteers needed at all nine bars. Tickets will go on sale some-time in April.

Tidbits

In February **Elaine** and **Larry Windingland** will be spending some time in Florida. It's a little vacation before the start of two of our big fundraisers.

Florida seems to be a popular place for AM-BUCS because **Laura** and **Steve Gibbs** are there, too, until April. **Judy** and **Steve Dramstad** are building a home there and **Don** and **Darcy Dunlap** are thinking about Florida as well.

And one more trip in February... **Deb** and **Ray Griest** along with **Renae' Strawbridge** will be in Louisville, Kentucky, for the National Farm Machinery Show and tractor pulls.

Winning Chances

1/07/25—50/50: \$9 won by Don Dunlap; Attendance: \$60 could have been won by Dave Miller but he was not present.

1/14/25—no gambling so the attendance rolled over.

1/21/25—50/50: \$9 won by Dana Daugherty; Attendance: \$85 was won by Renae' Strawbridge. Woo, woo!

1/28/25—50/50: \$9 won by the mom of our Amtryke recipient; Attendance: \$16 could have been won by Bill Gingrich but he was not present.