

# Love Notes

The Newsletter of the Rock River Valley AMBUCS™



Creating Mobility & Independence  
for People with Disabilities

December 2009/ January 2010

[www.lpambucs.com](http://www.lpambucs.com)

815/282-2628

## Mission Statement

AMBUCS™ is dedicated to creating mobility and independence for people with disabilities by:

... Performing community service

... Providing AmTryke® therapeutic tricycles to people with disabilities

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BRITANY MILLER  
AGE 4  
OGLESBY, IL



We started 2010 off right! January 2<sup>nd</sup>, Karen Hansen, her son Joe, and I delivered an AMTRYKE to Britany. Britany was very laid back, but also very interested in her new tryke. She got right on and showed no resistance to being strapped in. Once the weather breaks and she is able to get it outside, she is going to love her new freedom that we provided!

More pictures are in the Photo Gallery section of the newsletter. Normally, and we tried many times, we want to give her the tryke at a meeting so that we can enjoy the fruits of our labor. This was not possible this time due to lack of transportation. Let me tell you first hand that it was very rewarding to be a part of.

A big Thank You to Karen Hansen, she has been working on this one for a long time, and this is the 1<sup>st</sup> one we've accomplished under her leadership as AMTRYKE Chair. She did a great job!

I want to tell each and every one of you Congratulations & Thank You because without out clubs effort, events like this don't happen. Let's keep it up and give out many more this year.

Brad Shields  
President-Rock River Valley Ambucs



### *A Message From Our President:*

Hello Ambucs. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. With all of the hustle and bustle of the season, it's easy to get caught up in it all. A sentiment that I focused on this season is remembering the true reason why we celebrate. And that makes everything else meaningless.

I want to give a huge thanks to the social committee who planned and ran the Christmas Party. It was awesome. Magic Mike was great and funnier than I expected. The food was tasty. And the raffle was fun as usual. If you enjoyed the evening, please let those who worked on it know how much you appreciated their efforts.

Looking back on 2009, I am excited about what we accomplished this year and the direction we are headed. I hope you feel the same. With that said, I am realistic to know that I haven't done as much as I planned and I hope you're not satisfied either. Satisfaction drains our motivation to do more or be better.

I have many goals for 2010 and I hope you'll join me in accomplishing them. Without the chapter working as a whole, none of these will be accomplished. We are going to have a new fundraiser this year that is going to take an all out effort. It will be vital to us reaching the fundraising goals we have in order to meet the needs of the people we serve.

If you've taken a break for a few months or a few years, I encourage you to remember the feelings that you had when you first joined and why you've continued to be a member. Jump back in with both feet because we need your help!

A couple of things that I'd like for everyone to consider as a member of our chapter:

- 1) What function of the chapter are you in charge?
- 2) What committees do you play an active role?
- 3) Do you actively participate in the chapter fundraisers as much as you could?
- 4) Have you talked to anyone about our organization or invited anyone to come to our meetings or consider joining our club?

If the answer to these questions isn't obvious, please ask what you can do.

Our focus right now should be on calendar sales. If you haven't started, now is the time. We have 400 calendars to sell and not all of them are in members hands. Get your allotment sold right away and ask Tracy Shields how you can get a few more. We need your help. At this point, this is our chapters big fundraiser. We need to get it done!

Thanks for all you do.

Brad Shields



*February Calendars*

The deadline is quickly approaching for the AMBUCS calendar fundraiser.... **Have You Sold All Of Your Calendars????** Please bring any money you've collected along with the ticket to Tracy or Brad. The deadline is January 24<sup>th</sup>! This a large fundraiser for our organization and this will fund our efforts for 2010! The drawing will be held at Terry Brown's home on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

*Mark Your Calendars*

Spring Conference ~ Champaign, IL  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>

National Conference ~ Naples, FL  
July 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>

More details to come

*Ambucs Christmas Party*

Magic Mike was our entertainment at this year's Christmas Party at Olive in Machesney Park. There was good food, good entertainment, and lots of fun. Our auction was a success. Our goal was to cover the cost of an Amtryke. We did it!!! We took in a total of \$402 from the white elephant aution and received a donation from Carlyle Auto Sales for \$100. Total for the event \$502.



**Great job social committee!**

*More AMTRYKE Photos*





*Upcoming Events:*

- January 14 Chapter Meeting
- January 24 Calendar Deadline
- January 28 Calendar Drawing
- February Visibility Month
- February 4 Board Meeting
- February 11 Chapter Meeting
- February 14 Valentines Day

*Birthdays:*

- January
  - 14 Dave Jahn
  - 18 Paul DeBruyne
  - 22 Richard Lierman
  - 30 Heidi Butz

February  
No Birthdays

*Club Anniversaries:*

- January
  - 1983 Gary Kuhls
  - 1986 Marco Anderson
  - 1989 Darlene Estabrook
  - 1997 Dan Schrand

February  
No Anniversaries

*Member Updates:*

**Congratulations** to Pat Hubly and Dave Cutting on their engagement. They have been friends of 40 plus years!!!!



JANUARY 2010						
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31						

FEBRUARY 2010						
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28						

MARCH 2010						
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**Special Thanks** goes out to our Salvation Army Bell Ringers who volunteered their time at the Sears Essentials Store on Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.

Terry Brown & Robb Hauser  
 Patty Terpstra & Drew  
 Dave Jahn & granddaughter Stephanie Molander  
 Dick's grandchildren, Lucas & Kayla Larson  
 Bob & Pam Shields