

**GREAT PLAINS  
AMBUCS  
NEWSLETTER**

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**AMBUNK**

AMBUNK is a publication of  
Great Plains AMBUCS, Lawton, OK  
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Great Plains AMBUCS, chartered July 1981. 2020-2021 Officers: President, Kent Jester; 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Kelly Harris; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Chuck Morgan; Secretary, Gordon Shaw; Treasurer, Jenny Clement-Shaw; 1-year Director, Larry Kindt; 2-year Director, Zeldon Rice; Sergeant At Arms, Kristina Keller. Big Hat Club President, Open; BHC Secretary-Treasurer, Open; Board Members: Jenny Clement-Shaw, Kelly Harris, Kristina Keller, Larry Kindt, Chuck Morgan, Zeldon Rice, Gordon Shaw.

I have said it before & I will say it again! Never a dull moment with this group! We have a guest and a new member here today! Gordon stood up and introduced Aimee Carter by saying that she was the jack of all trades and master of all of them! And she was here with her awesome husband Westley Carter who is a new member! Of course, he had been to Mountain Metros meetings like 3-4 times between joining our chapter & Getting to show up for a Great Plains meeting!, but we are happy to have you as a member of our awesome chapter Westley! Kent then had Aimee come up and get his member pin & we swore him in!



**THIS WEEK**

The 30 November 2020 chapter meeting was called to order by Kent Jester. Dr. Jimmy R. led the group in prayer & the Pledge of Allegiance.

**THIS WEEKS GUEST SPEAKER-** Zoom meetings will start this week!

**NEWSLETTER-** Zeldon R. had the winning number for this week's newsletter & he did have his copy.

**50/50-** Mark G. had the winning ticket for this week and he pulled the Jack of Diamonds! The pot of \$15 will carry over till our next meeting!

After Westley finished, Kent had him do a little profile of himself, Westley proceeded to tell us that he is originally from south Indiana, joined the military at 17, he went to basic training here @ Ft. Sill, got some schooling, he then went on to reapply to the Army's Physicians Asst. program, got in, started in 1998 and completed in 2000, he then went to get commissioned, Westley then came back to Ft. Sill to complete his training as a PA @ Reynolds Army Community Hospital. And his first job after that was @ Southwestern, he worked with a Urologist Dr. that has since retired, and he drove down Lee Blvd everyday to the hospital to work, and he would see this beautiful lady, Aimee, on one of the billboards there along the road, and he couldn't get her off his mind, but figured, she was a model that had been hired for the photo shoot, then one day while walking the halls of Southwestern Medical Center, he saw her walking down the hall, and he was like I gotta meet her! & he was determined to get a date with her, & things worked out in his favor He also worked @ CCMH for 6 years as a PA, @ Reynolds for 7 years in family medicine, about a year and half in orthopedics, then for two years, Westley worked with Dr. Gail Lewis, who is a ears, nose and throat Dr. in town. Then Westley got a crazy idea, and decided to go to medical school about 3½-4 years ago, so he applied and got accepted to Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pennsylvania. He has about 7 more months left. Westley is hoping to do his work in Dermatology. It is currently interview season for residency, and he has an interview @ OU in Oklahoma City and we want him to get on there so they can stay local!

Kent then introduced Jenny (who is stepping in for Sean Garibay, Social Chair, who could not be here with us right now) so that she could start our New Member Orientation. She started off with talking about her Battalion Commander @ the time was LTC Scott Patton, and he had invited Jenny out to a social progressive dinner with AMBUCS, they went to like 4 different food stops before they headed out to the Party Barn (Al Frazers place) where she saw some sergeant at arms stuff and a swearing-in. So, when the planning for this all started, Jenny was hoping to do the progressive dinner, but, of course, stupid covid. Jenny then introduced out current Chapter President, Kent Jester, and he got up and talked about the history of AMBUCS.

The National AMBUCS was formed by Mr. William L. White on May 18, 1922 in Birmingham Alabama. The original name of The organization was the American Business Club.

\*William L. White had a dream of starting a national service organization for young business and professional men, but he lacked the funding.

\*Turpentine played a major role in White achieving his goal. During the early 1920's, turpentine was a booming industry. White sold two million turpentine cups. He put \$1,000 (that was a LOT of money back then!!) into a revolving expansion fund and by 1922, he had enough money to form the first American Business Club in Birmingham, Alabama.

\*The first club had 50 members. They adopted a constitution and the motto that is still used today—

### **“Shoulders Together”.**

\*The name AMBUCS was approved for official use by the organization in 1961.

\*We Now have around 5,000 AMBUCS members, in over 160 chapters, serving in more than 35 states. Nearly every chapter chooses to carry out the mission, at least in part, by providing Amtryke adaptive tricycles to people in their community.

\* Information is from the AMBUCS website:

<https://ambucs.org/who-are-we/history/>

Jenny then got back up & stated that AMBUCS is the only 501c3 that has our own signature product, the Amtryke! & that was the lead in to our very own Vic Menendez!

The AMBUC year is from June 1- May 31 of the following year. @ the end of the year, the chapter president and the treasurer sit down and look @ how much funding they had

left at the end of the AMBUC year at the last board meeting of the year in May. At that point, they give away all their money that they made that year, we were a civic club, it was what we do. Later, we turned into a 501c3 charity. Now, on that same note, Our current National President, Sue Haywood, she was sitting @ a restaurant eating one evening, and she knows the owner, who came over to see her, and was upset because the guest speaker that he had lined up for his AMBUC meeting the next day couldn't make it, well, Sue asked what AMBUCS was, and the guy explained it, and she said 'Well, I am a pediatric therapist, I'll come talk.' This was a all male chapter in the great state of Texas, and Sue got up and told them about what she does. She had an adaptive tryke that she would put into the child's home for a week and let them do home therapy on it at home, then she would come get it and take it to another child's home for them to do therapy on. It was a heavy, welded piece of machinery, and she made a comment about how she hates how it was working, the kids didn't want to give up the tryke @ the end of the week, and Sue dang sure didn't want to take the tryke either! So, one guy in the back of the room raised his hand and said, 'I think we could build that for you!' So, when Sue showed up to the first time that the guys were getting together to work on the tryke, Sue was worried, there were beer bottles all over the place, but they sat down, and over time, they came up with an adaptive tryke, so, their chapter started making these adaptive trykes! And they had come up with 15 different models! They got to the point that they were working 8-5, then come home and from 5-12 making these trykes. So, Sue took their little tryke and went to a National conference, and National AMBUCS loved the tryke idea and so they took it over. The trykes have been manufactured over in Taiwan, and we are now in a second venture, we are now working on getting the trykes made right here in the USA by the Bicycle Corporation of America. Hopefully, we will be getting a prototype that we can take a couple of models. BCofA is already looking at doing more than what the company in Taiwan was able to do. To date we have given over 30,000 Amtrykes away. We do sell them to individuals for a higher price, but more organizations turn around and put it on Facebook, that they were a part of getting someone a tryke, and will show the presentation on their page. The Amtryke is strictly an AMBUCS product.

Jenny is back up! Jenny did say there is more than one chapter in Lawton. She next brought up her hubby, Gordon Shaw!

\*There are four active AMBUCS clubs in Lawton.

Lawton Chapter was men only, est 1953  
Great Plains Chapter, a co-ed club; est 18 July 1981  
Mountain Metro all-female club; est 1989  
Lawton Jr AMBUCS consist of high school students. Aimee Carter is the Advisor for them and they are rocking it! est 2011

\*The Great Plains Chapter sponsored the Mountain Metro chapter.

\*Most recently, a couple women have joined The Lawton Club.

There is also a chapter in Duncan, they have 6 members. We have 173 members in the combined Lawton chapters.

There are 161 chapters in the nation, and all of the chapters in Lawton, including the Jr AMBUCS, were all in the top 28. All three of the adult chapters were honor or superior chapter. The Jr. AMBUCS is the #1 youth auxiliary in the nation.

Great Plains AMBUCS is a non-profit charitable civic club based in Lawton, OK. The club is a chapter of the national AMBUCS organization.

Our mission is **Inspire Mobility and Independence.**

We meet every Monday at Noon.

Meetings are currently held at Hilton Garden & Convention Center, with the exception of December.

135 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Lawton, OK 73501

\*Each member is expected to join a committee and/or chair a committee that doesn't have a chairperson. Your chapter can have as few or as many committees as they see fit.

**Committees include:**

- Membership** David Denham
- Programs** Chuck Morgan
- Socials** Sean Gariby
- Projects** Kelly Harris
- Publicity** Zeldon Rice
- Amtrykes / Ambility** Jimmy Roggenbuck
- Ramps** Kelly Harris

If there is a committee that you would like to serve on, please get with Kent!

Jenny got back up and spoke on one of the hardest jobs is the treasurer. Our dues amount may change in the future but right now we are ok.

**\*Memberships / Dues structure:**

- National Quarterly dues-\$6.25
- Regional Quarterly dues-\$2.25
- District Quarterly dues -\$4.50
- National Quarterly Insurance- \$26.00
- Hilton Lunches weekly 11.50
- Full Members- \$150 quarterly, includes meals
- Life-Time Members- \$125 quarterly, includes meals
- Associate Members-\$60 quarterly, includes one lunch a month
- Everyone can participate in all activities except where noted
- A person can have dual membership (membership in our club and another).
- **Life Membership**— is a one-time payment of \$600 to National AMBUCS; arrangement can be made for payments over a year. The member does not pay national dues; still must pay other dues. Life Memberships are selected by drawing at the National Conference. Those that want a chance to have a Life Membership put your name in the drawing. If your name is drawn, you must pay the \$600 within the year. Life Members who are on the rolls of more than one chapter have their membership contributions waived for the chapter first joined only.

**\*Big Hat Club**

• The Big Hat Club is an honor group within AMBUCS. In order to qualify, a member must recruit three new members in a 12-month period. And then you will be awarded the coveted Stetson Hat.

The club exists to take membership, fundraising and bring fun to a whole new level.

\*Big Hat dues are \$10 yearly.

Jenny then asked David Denham to come up and talk about our permanent missions.

**Scholarships for Therapist Permanent Fund  
William L. White Member**

• This donor recognition is achieved by a member or chapter who has donated \$1,000 or more (in increments of \$1,000) to the Scholarships for Therapist Permanent Fund. William L White certificate will be presented to the donor during the National Conference

**Named Scholarship Award**

• This recognition is achieved by a member or chapter who has donated at least \$10,000 to the Scholarships for Therapist Permanent Fund.

### **Amtryke Big Heart Fund    Ambility Ambassador**

•This donor recognition is achieved by a member or chapter who has donated \$1,000 or more (in increments of \$1,000) to the Amtryke Big Heart Fund.

Amtryke Ambassador certificate will be presented to the donor during the National Conference

**Cornerstone Fund** provides for the growth and development of the AMBUCS organization. Giving to Cornerstone, by any method, funds two main AMBUCS-building efforts:

**Amtryke Road Show** AMBUCS representative takes a trailer full of Amtrykes and adaptations to people or organizations who have expressed interest in providing Amtrykes to people challenged with mobility and independence.

**New Chapter Incentives** Any new AMBUCS chapters receive several incentives funded by Cornerstone

Jenny got back up, and explained a program that the chapter used to have that Phil started. It's called the Century club and all a member does is pays an extra \$25 a quarter on top of their regular dues, and it goes towards the three biggies. For every tryke that we donate, that's more than \$600, that come off of the ambility account.

For every William L White, that is done from our chapter, that's another \$1,000 towards the points.

So if we give to all three funds, it is called the ALL-IN.

\*Great Plains AMBUCS Giving Programs ;

On March 15th the Chapter will receive a 100% Giving Letter where we pledge to contribute \$40 per member, to any or all three of the National Programs

Scholars, Amtryke, and Cornerstone.

### **Resignation process**

\*If you ever want to resign, it must be in writing; mailed, emailed or by text message to treasurer or President of club. Person is still billed unless resignation is received in written form; the club is billed by national.

\*Everyone is strongly encouraged to pay dues and in a timely manner. Dues to national, for lunch at Hilton and other expenses still have to be paid whether each member pays their dues or not.

\*If you decide to resign and owe dues, please catch up on them. If you decide to rejoin later, you will have to pay them then. If dues are not paid, you would be considered "resigned in bad standing".

\*Payment plans can be initiated if needed.

Jenny had one more thing to say, Jenny wants to thank Scott Hatch's office especially Kathy, cause if it wasn't for them, our chapter's taxes would be screwed up beyond belief.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

Ramps- The cases of COVID are rapidly increasing, so due to that piece of info, we will be postponing the ramp build this weekend.

Socials- Kent asked Jenny about socials. Our next social is our UNOFFICIAL Christmas party set for 17 December @ 6 and we are partying @ Ted's Café Escondido, THIS IS STILL HAPPENING! IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE GETTING OUT THAT EVENING PLEASE LET JENNY KNOW & PLEASE COME HAVE FUN WITH US!! Also, please remember that the surprise party for Vic that was scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled as well. Will put out more info as we get it when it gets rescheduled.

Trykes- Dr. Jimmy has an application for a young lady that needs a bigger tryke, she outgrew her first one. Dr. Jimmy did check on the price, it was about \$1,200. We may look into a business in town sponsoring this, & when we get it in, we would like to set up a build time with the business that sponsored, & they can help build the tryke, and will hopefully be present when we present the tryke to the young lady! Maybe get a new member?

Fundraising/Projects- Mark has tickets! Come get your tickets! DON'T FORGET THIS AWESOME PIECE OF INFORMATION, for the 5013C that sells the most tickets, gets an additional \$5,000.00! So, let's sell those tickets!! We are currently sitting @ a total of \$7,000.00! This is awesome!! So, get your tickets in by the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, so that Mark can get the monies tallied up and tickets stubs turned in to Legend by the deadline. The first prize is \$25,000.00 towards a new(er) vehicle, second place prize is \$1,000.00 cash, and third place prize is \$500.00! We need to get all of the tickets turned in to Mark by 10 December. The drawing will be on 21 December @ approximately 11:30am.

Membership- Branding time is over! & we made Branding time top Spread. For the member that brings in the most new members by the end of November 2020 (& that is just right around the corner!), will get a \$100 gift card to Outback, 2<sup>nd</sup> place will get a \$50 gift card to Texas Roadhouse, and 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> places will get \$25 gift cards. We have had a couple of new members, but always looking for more! Tomorrow is the deadline!



Here is what the Cornhole Tournament banners are going to look like! A banner just like this one only where the Arrow Sign logo is, will be one of 19 other cornhole sponsors logo. We have Fliers, & sponsorship forms! When you get a sponsor, PLEASE let Kent know so that he can keep track of how many sponsors spaces we have left. We only have room for 19 Court Sponsors & the Main Court & Broadcast Sponsor. We also have Broadcast Partners, Broadcast Buddy, and last but not least T-Shirt Sponsors! The Sponsorship forms are fairly simple, but you need to make sure that the form gets to Kent A.S.A.P., also make sure that you either make a copy of the form, or take a picture of it so that the Sponsor can have it as their 'receipt' and get the actual form to Kent. If you do take cash, make sure that you sign on the form that you took it, that is also the sponsors guarantee that the funds will get to where they are supposed to go. Make sure that you get all the necessary information on the form so we can make sure that we get everything possible correct. Jeff came up with an idea when we are going to sponsors, tell them about AMBUCS, about the Trykes, & scholarships, not everyone knows who we are and what we are all about! Any questions



Call, text or email to order!  
 Paula Bleckley 580-334-5207  
 paula.bleckley@yahoo.com

White Amtryke Mask

Navy Ambucs Mask

\$10 each  
 Please place one order  
 for your chapter.

*Thank you!*

Also, there is a fundraiser going on at the National level! You can get an Ambuc &/or Amtryke face mask! They do request making an order by chapter so that it cuts down on shipping costs. Get with Jenny, she has the masks!