

**GREAT PLAINS
AMBUCS
NEWSLETTER**

AMBUNK

AMBUNK is a publication of
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THIS WEEK

The February 22, 2021 club meeting was called to order by Kent Jester. Jeff Dunning led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUEST SPEAKER

Due to a schedule conflict we did not have a guest speaker this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kent started the meeting by welcoming Chuck Morgan to his first in-person club meeting in almost a year. Hilton Garden Inn GM Christi Chambers let us know it was our last week there. She's staying in Lawton, but taking over as Executive Director of the Lawton & Wichita Falls branches of Oklahoma Blood Institute.

The Bags for Cash Cornhole Tournament will be held in September. The club needs to start selling sponsorships now. A detailed PDF form has been created. Let Kent Jester (or the Editor) know if you need a PDF emailed to you.

We're entering the last quarter of the club year. Phil Kennedy is putting together a nomination committee for the 2021-22 slate of club officers. Kent said an awards committee needs to be created. Anyone who wants to chair the committee should contact Kent.

On Friday, March 5 up in Fort Cobb AmTryke training classes will be held. It is also a PTA program. Word is the instructor may be the same one who has come up from Texas to teach the class in the past.

Jenny Clement-Shaw told the club about the National Big Hat Club's raffle and fund-raiser this year. The cost is \$20 per ticket. Buy as many as you want. This time the prizes are not some type of gift, but rather cash. First prize is \$5000, 2nd prize is \$3000 and 3rd is worth \$2000. The deadline to turn in all tickets is April 1. Some members bought tickets during the meeting Monday.

Spring Round-Up runs from March 1 thru April 30. David Denham is gathering the membership committee to develop a contest to encourage the club to recruit new members. What ever it turns out to be anyone recruiting new members as of March 1 will be entered into the contest.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

District Governor Gordon Shaw spoke to the club about the AMBUCS Great Plains Region Conference. The event will be held April 29, April 30 and May 1 here in Lawton. The Hilton Garden Inn is the host hotel. Gordon worked with Christi Chambers on this project. Hopefully the interim GM for the hotel will go with the flow for all the details that were set.

A lot has been planned for this year's regional conference. On Thursday evening 4/29 we'll have an informal dinner & gathering at the Silver Spoon.

Gordon said our region was one of very few that convinced the National AMBUCS office we could hold an event and observe COVID-19 protocols. We'll have limited seating in the banquets. Masks will be required unless you are eating or drinking. The hospitality suite will be the Bison Room, fully opened up to its full length.

Friday morning a tour will be held aboard Fort Sill. Members will visit the Field Artillery Museum. The Buffalo Soldiers museum has been closed to the public, but will open for this tour. Later in the afternoon there will be a short tour of Cosmetic Speciality Labs. After that visitors from out of town will be able to visit attractions such as the Museum of the Great Plains. The idea is to let out of towners know Lawton is a lot better than its "Shady 580" rep.

The banquet Friday night will feature singer Ciera MacKenzie, a native of our area who now lives in Nashville. The general session Saturday will have a have a big salute to the military.

Registration is \$95 per person. That includes banquet meals. Dinner on Saturday night will be a two meat plate, pork and roast beef. Hotel rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn are \$102 per night. There is a group rate online link on the conference registration form. The golf tournament will be held at the Lawton Country Club. Cost is \$57 per person. That includes the green fee and lunch. Online registration opens March 1 at [greatplainsregionambucs.com](https://www.greatplainsregionambucs.com).

NEXT MEETING

Frank Walker, CEO of the Lawton Family YMCA will talk about sprint events at the Y, including the new pickleball tournaments on Saturdays. On March 8 Lisa Carson from the Lawton Public School Foundation will talk about their upcoming Golf Tournament.

50/50

Larry Kindt drew the 5 of Hearts. The pot was left standing at \$14.

NEWSLETTER

Jeff Dunning had the winning ticket and his copy of AMBUNK.

<p>GUESTS None this week</p>
