

GREAT PLAINS
AMBUCS
NEWSLETTER

AMBUNK

AMBUNK is a publication of
Great Plains AMBUCS, Lawton, OK
Edited by Bobby Henderson
greatplainsambucs@gmail.com
[facebook.com/greatplainsambucs](https://www.facebook.com/greatplainsambucs)

THIS WEEK

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

GUEST SPEAKER

Russell Anderson visited this week. He's the Animal Welfare Superintendent for the Animal Welfare Division of the City of Lawton. In the years he has been in charge the shelter has seen a very big, positive, turn-around.

Russell intended to be a game warden on Fort Sill after retiring from the military. Thanks to a hiring freeze he took a job with the city & moved up to run the Animal Welfare Division. He could have went to Fort Sill; the job offer was open when the freeze ended. But the city agreed to conditions and suggestions Russell wanted to run the animal shelter.

One of the first things he did was cut the price of adoptions. Once a month the fee is dropped to \$20. They were charging \$85 at the time. And then Russell recruited local businesses to sponsor adoption events to help people adopt pets for less or even for free.

When Russell took over he did not want the shelter to be known as a so-called *no-kill shelter*. A shelter that is



high kill puts down 59% or more of its animals. A low kill shelter spares 60% to 89% of its animals and a no-kill shelter spares 90% or more of its animals. But that's not really *no kill*. Also, pre-natal kittens, puppies, any animals that are sick or show aggression don't count on those numbers. Russell threw out that spin zone nonsense to make his shelter a true transparency shelter. They post figures every month of success rates and make the rates of previous years to the public via places like Facebook.

The Two Hearts Adoption Drive takes place the first Saturday of each month from 10am to 2pm at 2104 SW 6th St downtown.

Previously the animal rescues in our region refused to work with the city. Now the shelter has partnerships with rescues on many fronts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sean Garibay has been a member of our club for some time, but he was officially sworn-in during the meeting Monday. Welcome to the club, *officially*, Sean!

Phil Kennedy told us the slate of officers for the 2021-22 club year:

President: Kelly Harris
1st VP: Chuck Morgan
2nd VP: Alan Jolly
Secretary: Larry Kindt

Treasurer: Jenny Clement-Shaw
Sgt At Arms: Kent Jester
Hanna Muirhead, Board Member
Zeldon Rice, Board Member

During the April 5 meeting we'll hold an election. Any challengers who want to compete for an office can do so.

Jenny Clement-Shaw still has Big Hat Raffle tickets for \$20 each. 1st prize is \$5000, 2nd \$3000, 3rd \$2000. Winning tickets will be drawn at the National Conference.

We're at the halfway point of Spring Round-Up. Anyone in our club who recruits 2 or more members by April 30 will be eligible to win a \$100 gift card from Outback Steakhouse. 2nd place is a \$50 card for Texas Road House. 3rd is a \$50 card from Mark's Convenience Stores. Anyone recruiting 3 members will get 3 tickets in the National Big Hat Raffle.

Don't forget registration is open for Spring Regional Conference. Go to [greatplainsregionambucs.com](https://www.greatplainsregionambucs.com) to register online.

Vic Menendez need volunteers to help hand out programs and collect donations at the Easter Pageant next Saturday from 4pm to about 9pm at the Holy City of the Wichitas.

NEXT MEETING

Glen Boyer will tell us about the Great Plains Technology Center Foundation.

50/50

Jenny Clement-Shaw picked the Jack of Clubs from the new deck. The pot was left standing at \$18.

NEWSLETTER

Mark Glenn had the winning ticket and her copy of *AMBUNK*.

GUESTS

Dan Kite (app. submitted)
sponsored by Aimee Carter
Russell Anderson
Guest Speaker