

**GREAT PLAINS
AMBUCS
NEWSLETTER**

AMBUNK

AMBUNK is a publication of
Great Plains AMBUCS, Lawton, OK
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THIS WEEK

The April 12, 2021 club meeting was called to order by Kent Jester. Larry Kindt led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUEST SPEAKER

Tiffany Martinez Vrska spoke to us this week. She is the Community Relations Director for the City of Lawton. Tiffany attended Cameron, worked at a paper in Chickasha before spending 7 years at the Lawton Constitution. She was at LPS for a couple years and has been in her current position with the city for almost four years. Tiffany told us about some upcoming events in Lawton.

LETA has its Yard of the Month contest underway from April 1 to Oct 1. Any home owner in a city ward can win the monthly prize: a yard sign to show off bragging rights and a \$100 gift card to Bedrock Nursery.

The Trash-Off is a collaboration between LETA and the City. Last year's event was thrown off by the pandemic. This year it is set for May 8. Various civic clubs, youth groups, church groups, etc have been asked to take part in picking up trash in specific locations in Lawton that day. There will be a primary drop off point where people can take used oil or other chemicals, electronics, bulky



items like old furniture, etc. Goodwill will be set up there to take items that can be reused. McMahon Auditorium's parking lot has been the drop off point in past years events.

The Armed Forces Parade was cancelled in 2020. This year the parade can't be held on Armed Forces Day due to a schedule conflict with Fort Sill: the Trace Adkins concert at the Polo Field on May 15. The parade will be held on June 12.

The Freedom Festival was also affected in 2020 by the pandemic. This year it will be a condensed event just in the evening only, starting at 6pm on June 26. The event will feature one of Oklahoma's biggest fireworks displays. The Army's 77th rock band will play live music. There won't be any food trucks *or a beer tent*. Visitors will have to bring their own coolers *and hopefully clean up after themselves*.

A decision has not been made yet about food and drink vendors at the International Festival. That is a citizen led committee. Get vaccinated to help chances of it being a normal event.

The city is having a career day event April 29 at City Hall from 10am to 3pm. There are 30-40 open positions at the city ranging from entry level up to fairly high up the chain of command.

In the Q&A session Tiffany was credited for her work in social media sites online to fight disinformation about the city.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An AmTryke assembly party is penciled in for April 20 at Mark Glenn's home. We will send out a group email Monday to confirm details. We have 2 AmTrykes to assemble and one to refurbish. Two of the AmTrykes will be presented at the Regional Conference.

Spring Round-Up ends April 30 as does the membership contest. Only 2 club meetings left til then, unless you count the regional conference as a way to recruit. 2 members gets you entered to win a \$100 gift card to Outback, 2nd gets a \$50 card to Texas Roadhouse, 3rd is a \$25 gift card to Mark's Convenience stores. Bring in those guests!

Our Awards and Installation Banquet is set for May 20. The location will probably be Ted's or the Hilton.

The April board meeting will take place Wednesday, 4/21 at noon in the Hilton Garden Inn.

NEXT MEETING

On April 19 Rocky Samek will be our guest speaker. He is a volunteer driver for Cancer Centers of SW OK. He will speak about volunteering as a great way to give back to the community after 31 years serving in the military and working as a defense contractor.

50/50

Jenny Clement Shaw picked the Three of Spades. The pot stood was left at \$67.

NEWSLETTER

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

GUESTS

Dale Keese (app. submitted),
sponsored by Priscilla Sacks
Tiffany Martinez Vrska
Guest Speaker