

**GREAT PLAINS
AMBUCS
NEWSLETTER**

AMBUNK

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

The August 9, 2021 club meeting was called to order by Kelly Harris. Jeff Sadler led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUEST SPEAKER

Sue Haywood visited the club this week. She is the AMBUCS National President and the original AmTryke Mama. Due to some health issues with her leg Sue recently moved to Lawton. She put her house in Texas on the market & joined the Mountain Metro chapter. For now she is staying with Aimee Carter.

Sue said it has been interesting to be President during a pandemic; she gave a nod to Vic Menendez, who shared in that experience. AMBUCS has been making the best of it, holding virtual meetings and improvising to keep the organization running. If not for some PPP loans the National office could have closed for good. She told us about the Mission in Motion fund-raising effort to keep AMBUCS from getting into the same danger again.

It has been a challenge to give AmTrykes lately. New units are hard to come by due to supply chain issues. So AMBUCS clubs have been refurbishing old AmTrykes like never before. Sue said we need to keep working on that effort



because there are still more AmTrykes out there sitting idle waiting to be put to use again.

Sue told us how she first got involved with AMBUCS and how it led to the first AmTryke being built. She was at a 6th grade basketball game watching her friend's son play. A man sitting on her other side realized out loud that he didn't have a guest speaker for his next AMBUCS meeting. She asked the man, "what's AMBUCS?" The guy explained and she was blown away by it since she had been a PT for 15 years by then. She agreed to speak at the next meeting. Sue told a group of about 100 men the equipment needs for her patients. That included therapeutic tricycles; units at that time cost over \$1000. A guy stood up, saying he was an Aggie engineer & could make one for a lot less. Sue told him, "I'll see you after the meeting." The man was Gene Allen. From that meeting the first custom AmTryke was built. 3 years and many AmTrykes later the national office took on the effort. Today AmTryke production is in the process of shifting from Taiwan back to the United States.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Big Hat raffle tickets are still available. \$20 each. The drawing happens at the

National Conference. You don't have to be present to win. 1st prize is \$5K, 2nd is \$3K and 3rd is \$2K. Contact Gordon Shaw to buy tickets.

The Bags for Cash tournament is less than a month from now. All court sponsor slots are sold. The event could end up being a very good fund-raiser for the club. Hopefully circumstances from the outside won't interfere with that.

The next District 5 meeting & social will be held September 9 at VFW post 5263, 103 NE 20th Street. A steak (or chicken) dinner will be served. Cost is \$20 per person. Please RSVP no later than September 1.

Alan Jolly was the Super Hero of the Day. He owns a home exteriors company and construction company. He joined the club in the early 1980's and was District Governor when Mountain Metro was chartered. Alan left the club in the late 1990's and later re-joined. He noted how the ladies have helped grow our chapter. Alan admires the mission of AMBUCS and said he met some of his best, life-long friends via AMBUCS.

NEXT MEETING

Scott Meadors, one of our new members, will speak to the club about current events issues involving the courts.

50/50

Alan Jolly drew the 7 of Clubs. The pot was left standing at \$241.

NEWSLETTER

Lynn Jackson had the winning ticket and her copy of AMBUNK.

GUESTS

Sarah Kline (app. submitted)
sponsored by Gordon Shaw,
Paul Warmuskerken (app. in)
sponsored by Gordon Shaw,
Priscilla Sacks
Mountain Metro AMBUCS,
Sue Haywood
Guest Speaker