

# AMBUNK

Week of:  
January 23, 2023

## GREAT PLAINS AMBUCS NEWSLETTER

A publication of  
Great Plains AMBUCS  
Lawton, OK  
Edited by Monte Brown  
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### THIS WEEK

The January 23, 2023 club meeting was called to order by Jenny Clement-Shaw. Larry Kindt led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.



*Rhonda Brantley*

Rhonda Brantley, Comanche County Treasurer, was the guest speaker. She has worked in the office for more than 30 years and has served in the elected position for the last nine years.

Most people recognize the Treasurer's office as the place to pay property taxes. Brantley said her office is responsible for printing, sorting and mailing tax statements each year. Per 2022 statements, Comanche County is due to collect over \$84 million. As of January 15, 2023, close to \$63 million had been collected. Tax collections are distributed to more than 20 county and city government entities each month, with the majority going to school districts. The large number of 100-percent disabled veterans and spouses who live in Comanche County has resulted in a substantial amount of tax exemptions, which Brantley said has an impact on schools and agencies that rely on those funds. She said tax roll corrections are

50/50

David Denham drew the Eight of Diamonds. The pot is at \$286.

### TROPHY PRESENTATION



*Christi Chambers presented Chapter President Jenny Clement-Shaw with a traveling trophy for having the most donors during an AMBUCS District 5A blood drive challenge at the Oklahoma Blood Institute in Lawton.*

handled monthly. If mistakes are found, property owners can file a dispute for up to two prior years.

The Treasurer's office handles distribution of sales tax dollars that have been paid to the Oklahoma Tax Commission. Brantley said they receive a break down of how much each entity receives. She said TIF districts in Lawton and Elgin are set up under their own collection methods, with checks going to school districts, the cities and the TIF Districts. Brantley's office also distributes collections for the Hotel Motel Tax in Lawton.

For those who fail to pay taxes for 2 ½ years, their properties are sold at a tax auction. Bids are set at two-thirds of the assessed value of the property or the amount of taxes dues, whichever is less. Brantley said the number of properties sold at auction continue to grow each year, which could lead to her hiring an auctioneer. Interest in the auctions has grown from about 25 bidders to 160 last year. Liens against the properties are paid at the time of sale. Those not sold become property of the County.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chapter has acquired a new trailer for ramp projects from Dan Kite. Arrangements are underway to have it decaled.
- Breakfast Bandits AMBUCS of Salina, KS have donated two AmTrykes, similar to the one we recently presented. Kathleen and Jimmy will identify potential local recipients.

### NEW BIG HAT MEMBER



*Chapter Big Hat Club President Zeldon Rice presented Monte Brown with his temporary Big Hat.*

NEWSLETTER

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