

AMBUNK

Week of:
June 13, 2022

GREAT PLAINS AMBUCS NEWSLETTER

A publication of
Great Plains AMBUCS
Lawton, OK
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THIS WEEK

The June 13, 2022 club meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Alan Jolly. Jeff Sadler led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Greg Bynum, Captain of the Trade Practice Unit of the Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement (ABLE) Commission, was the guest speaker. He's an Altus native who has worked for the State of Oklahoma for 36 years, including 27 years with ABLE. His presentation focused on the different type of licenses available to non-profit organizations to sell alcohol for fundraising purposes and the regulations that are attached. This includes the club's upcoming beer sales at Freedom Fest.

Bynum told the group that purchasing alcohol in Oklahoma is not a right, but rather a privilege. He wants volunteers to know that it is okay to deny service to potential customers, especially if their age is in doubt. At Freedom Fest, wrist bands will be given to those 21-years-old and over, but Bynum says to be on the lookout for people swapping bands. It is not a requirement to request an ID to verify a customer is of legal age, but it is illegal to sell to anyone under 21. Unless volunteers have direct knowledge that a customer is over 21, an ID check is strongly encouraged. State or Federal government IDs, along with passports, are the most trusted. If there are concerns that an ID may be fake, Bynum advised volunteers to ask for additional forms of identification or speak with a Lawton Police officer for verification. When in doubt, volunteers should say "no" and deny the sale.

According to state statute, there is a two-drink limit per customer, per purchase. It is okay for someone to pay for more than two drinks if they're buying for more than one person, but each person can only carry two beverages at a time. Bynum said it's also a good idea to watch to see if drinks are given to somebody who may be underage.

It is illegal for volunteers to drink alcohol while serving alcohol. It's also against the law to "over serve" customers. However, Bynum said it is hard to determine a person's level of impairment without a breathalyzer or blood test. He suggested that volunteers look for physical signs of impairment, including staggered walking and slurred speech. Bynum recommended having one volunteer focused on watching customer behavior at the beer stand and beyond.



Captain Greg Bynum with the State of Oklahoma ABLE Commission provides a briefing on alcohol sales ahead of the club's upcoming fundraiser at the Lawton-Fort Sill Freedom Festival

FREEDOM FEST VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are still needed for the Freedom Fest beer tent on Saturday, July 2. There is no longer a morning shift. The hours are now 3 p.m. - 10 p.m., or when the fireworks and cleanup are complete. Ten members or more are needed to volunteer for a four-hour shift, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. or 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. There will be another opportunity to sign-up at Monday's meeting, or you can reach out to Project Chair Jeff Dunning at (580) 483-6931.

RAMPS

Members completed another successful ramp installation on Saturday. Volunteers met on Wednesday for the pre-build. This ramp will provide home access for Maybel Jones. She uses a wheelchair and family members were previously having to carry her up and down stairs to her home. Maybel was referred to Dr. Jimmy by Catholic Charities. This was a large ramp due to the steep incline to the home. Volunteers battled intense heat from Mother Nature during the installation. Follow-up work will be needed to complete the railing.

TRIVIA SOCIAL

The next trivia social is Thursday, June 23 at Red Dirt ReLoaded. Let Hannah Muirhead or the Social Committee know if you plan to attend. Potential members are also welcome at this pay as you go type event.

SPARK OF THE WEEK

Bobby Henderson was named Spark of the Week. He's a Life Member who joined the club in 1995. He served as newsletter editor for 26 years. Bobby is also a member of the Big Hat club and a past club president.

GUESTS

Charlotte Brown
Sponsored by Mark Glenn

50/50

David Denham drew the 4 of Spades. The pot stood at \$160.

NEWSLETTER

Paul Warmuskerken had the winning ticket and his copy of AMBUNK.