

AMBUNK

GREAT PLAINS AMBUCS NEWSLETTER

Week of:
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A publication of
Great Plains AMBUCS
Lawton, OK
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LAST MEETING

The June 27, 2022 club meeting was called to order by Jenny Clement-Shaw. Jeff Sadler led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was highlighted by an AmTryke presentation, months in the making. Dr. Jimmy Roggenbuck received the request for Zachary last September. Due to the backlog in AmTryke manufacturing and delivery caused by the pandemic, many clubs, including ours, have struggled to receive new AmTrykes. In the meantime, Great Plains AMBUCS has been able to piece together AmTrykes for a few recipients. President Jenny Clement-Shaw said Zachary was the club's first to receive a new AmTryke through the national office since the beginning of the pandemic.

Zachary was originally fitted for a different model, but after the new tryke came in, Dr. Jimmy and Kathleen Martin got to work on new measurements and locating a few customizable parts. Zachary received his AmTryke in front of an adoring audience of Great Plains AMBUCS members, guests and his parents. His smile lit up the room as he pedaled out into the hotel, and a few times through the hallway.

GUEST SPEAKER

Jason Poudrier, Arts and Humanities Administrator for the City of Lawton was the meeting's guest speaker. He provided some valuable information ahead of the club's successful beverage sales at the Lawton-Fort Sill Freedom Festival. A full report on the funds raised is expected at the July 11 meeting.

Poudrier joined the City in June 2021, just prior to that year's Freedom Fest. This year, he helped oversee the event's expansion to two days. As promised, the new entertainment options appeared to be a hit with the crowds. They included a parade, a bounce house park and street performers. That was in addition to the traditional host of delicious food truck vendors, talented musicians and a spectacular fireworks display.

Poudrier says following a great concert by the Bellamy Brothers in March, the Arts and Humanities department and the McMahon Auditorium Authority are now working on booking future shows. He says they



Zachary rides his new AmTryke as his father, John, guides him. 2022-2023 Great Plains AMBUCS President Jenny Clement-Shaw said it was the club's first new AmTryke presentation since the beginning of the pandemic. Photo by Bobby Henderson.

they learned a lot through the process of booking the Bellamy Brothers and have now taken the approach of recruiting acts instead of waiting on them to reach out. Poudrier said a contract worker is looking into cost and availability for artists in the hopes of putting on at least three performances a year. Acts could range from comedians and magicians to amazing musicians.



Jason Poudrier, Arts and Humanities Administrator, City of Lawton

FLAGS

Many thanks to volunteers who placed flags for the Independence Day holiday. We look forward to recognizing your efforts at the next meeting!

COMMITTEES

Now that there are committee assignments and an updated phone roster, Jenny is pushing for committee meetings. She said AmTryke Committee will be the first up, with others to follow. She stressed that just because you are on one committee, you're more than welcome to serve on others. She again called on members to share ideas for community service projects.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Registration for the 100th AMBUCS National Conference is underway and a deadline for saving on the fee is rapidly approaching. Through July 15, the cost is \$100. It rises to \$249 afterward. The conference is August 23 - 27 in Birmingham, Alabama.

GUESTS

Makenzie Ridenhour
Welcomed by Monte Brown

Josh Boothe
Welcomed by Jenny Clement-Shaw

50/50

Jenny Clement-Shaw drew the Queen of Spades. The pot stood at \$191.

NEWSLETTER

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