



September 26, 2001

Welcome to AMBUCS where we are dedicated to creating opportunities for independence for people with disabilities, especially children.

news@ambucs-dnv.com

P.O. Box 266 Danville, IL 61832

Pledge: Tom Wagner  
Prayer: Gary Tucker  
Guests: Alan Hall

### AMBUCS Fall Raffle

Pat Kuchefski reports that all but 7 of the 300 tickets for the AMBUCS Raffle are sold and all that remains is for the money to be turned in. Ms. Kuchefski also reminds us that there will be volunteer sign-up lists to help out on raffle night, Oct. 4 at The Beef House. 37 volunteers are needed to help with the festivities.

Also, Steve Funk and Joe Glick, both former members, have sold 43 raffle tickets. Thanks a bunch guys.

This years AMBUCS Children with Disabilities Benefit Banquet will be held Oct. 4th at The Beef House. Last year we raised over \$17,000 to fund a variety of efforts most especially our two week Summer Camp for Children with Disabilities.

Again this year we will sell only 300 tickets at \$130 each for a chance to win \$15,000 in cash. The ticket price includes a sumptuous meal at The Beef House complete with door prizes and a TON of fun. 'Meal only' tickets for the banquet will be available and can be purchased for \$25.

If you would like a ticket, come to any meeting, contact Pat Kuchefski or Curt Ellis or email info@ambucs-dnv.com. For more information, or to download a ticket order form, check out the Fall Raffle section on our web site.



### Tom Mellen

#### Discussing Africa

Tom Mellen, a Danville attorney, recounted his trip to Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) for the assembled AMBUCS. Ten years ago he and his wife, Nanette, hosted an exchange student, Tasha Edwards, from there and promised at the time that they would travel to Africa when she got married.

A decade later she did and off they went into the strange world of southern Africa. Mellen laid out many statistics on the state of the country, which borders South Africa: 25% of the population is HIV/AIDS infected, the per capita income hovers around \$53 a year and most, if not all, white-owned farms have taken over by the government and many farmers have been killed.

The Mellen's left for the wedding on Good Friday and arrived on Easter Sunday on an airline he described rickety and later learned not very safe. They had a chance to sightsee, visit a castle, Victoria Falls (which is 5 to 6 times the size of Niagara Falls) and went on a safari.

The wedding was a beautiful affair, with the bride's mother commenting, "Glad you came, Tasha's brothers were afraid to come," noting that they live nearby in South Africa.

### Playground

The Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation has donated another \$3,500.00 to the playground, which helps to extinguish the club's debt from the construction phase and adds dollars to the maintenance fund.

Mr. Hegeler had previously donated \$25,000 for the construction.

### Future Program

Sept 26 Euan Fernsler on the Internet.

We will be having Roast Beef on September 26. If you would like to suggest a menu, or comment on one, please contact Euan Fernsler (efernsler@korora.com).

### National News

#### 80th National Convention

July 17-20th, 2002 in Niagra Falls. For those who haven't been there, it's a great place to take a look at the wonders of nature...and AMBUCS!

### Regional News

#### Our Fall Convention

AMBUCS Fall Convention will be held Nov. 9-11 in Bloomington, IL at the Jumer's Lodge. Also, there will be a ramp-building project. Lt. Bob Richard has suggested that a group from our club be formed to go on a road trip to help with the project and to act as a club social. Contact Bob if you would like to go on that Saturday and feel the energy.

This years Central Region fall convention has it's own web site for information and registration. While it's not quite done, you may still register there now. Go to [www.heroesconvention.com](http://www.heroesconvention.com).

### Nomenclature

#### Branding Time

National membership drive held October 1 through November 30.

### Membership Slice

Welcome to our three new members! *Betty Carlton, Phil Ferguson and Kevin Kegley*

The membership list is on the web. Check out our web site at [www.danvilleambucs.com](http://www.danvilleambucs.com) If you would like more of your information listed, let us know: [info@danvilleambucs.com](mailto:info@danvilleambucs.com)

Meetings - Wednesdays at Noon - Days Inn

Creating Independence for Persons with Disabilities

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