



January 16, 2002

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: Tracy Songer-Wright
Prayer: Dee Douglas
Guests: Kim Hanson, Tom Jones

Barstool Golf Outing Fundraiser

Our local Michelob Light beer distributor has asked that our club be the benefactor of a new fund-raising effort.

There will be 9 taverns involved in the event, which will be held on Feb. 23, 2002, from 12:30-6:30 p.m. Each tavern will be responsible for creating a miniature golf hole in the establishment, and then each foursome will play the hole and move on to the another participating bar for the next hole.

We supply 18 volunteers to act as judges at each bar (that's 2 per bar) for the duration of the fund-raiser. Our club will receive \$60 of each \$80 foursome entry fee. They hope to have 50 teams playing.

Homeshow

Carol Wade has asked if you know anyone with leftover signs from last year's Home Show to please bring them to her at the radio station, D-102, at 1501 N. Washington, to have them altered for use this year. This will help save the club a bundle of cash.

The homeshow dates are March 8-10. Contact Tonya Johnson, Carol Wade or Phyllis Busey for information on the AMBUCS Home Show.

First Citizen Award

Haven't received many, if any, nominations for the First Citizen Award, according to Pat Kuchefski. Nominations are due Jan. 22.

Tom Jones

Challenger Baseball League

He made a pledge: "No child will ever be turned away in this (baseball) league," said Tom Jones, a former Channel 3 sports news anchor who also works at the University of Illinois.

Jones, as our luncheon speaker, wowed the assembled AMBUCS at our on-the-road try-out of The Deluxe. He was promoting the 'Tom Jones Challenger Baseball League.'

Recounting the exploits of three league members, Robert, Katie and June, he painted a picture of young handicapped children who never thought they would see the a baseball diamond from anywhere else but the stands. Thanks to his and other Kiwanians efforts, that is no longer true.

About 35-40 kids, from 5-18-years-old, participate in the league that is played on a real baseball diamond, at the AMBUCS Park in Urbana. The kids can either be pitched to or hit the ball from a tee. There are no outs and everyone gets a chance to bat in each inning. Every game ends in a tie and every child plays.

Jones also brought along a video produced by CNN of a similar league in Atlanta.

He encouraged us to send over handicapped children from Vermilion County to the league or form our own team and bring it over to join the competition.

The league is funded as a 'sponsor-only', which means no fund raising to support the teams.

We commend Mr. Jones for his efforts in creating a truly novel, unique approach to bridging youthful dreams and helping them come true.

Future Program

1/23 Liya Hussman - Juvenile States Attorney
1/30 BIG HAT DAY
2/6 Awards Program
2/13 Craig DeArmond - Special Olympics
2/20 Brenda Krause - Vermilion Area Community Health Center
2/27 Hank Norris - Renaissance Initiative

Board Meeting

February 11 at noon at Clifton-Gunderson. Feel free to join us, let Donna know so she can make sure there's enough lunch for all.

National News

National Service Day

In conjunction with Visiblity Month, February 16 is National AMBUCS Service Day.

Nomenclature

Sparkplug

Voted by a new club building team to be its key member. Though we're not a new club, who do you think our sparkplug is?

Membership Corner

Lynn Childs 2000
Mike Cannon 1988
Kimberlee Chapman 2000

If you would like more of your information listed in the newsletter or on our web site, let us know: info@danvilleambucs.com.



Meetings - Wednesdays at Noon - Days Inn

Creating Independence for Persons with Disabilities

Newsletter Author

Chuck Cannady (ccannady@soltec.net)