

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: Dean Carlton

Prayer: Lon Henderson

Guests: Chad Hays, Mike Irvin and Gordon Thoennes

### Homeshow

"The letters are out, money is coming in," according to Carol Wade.

Note that the homeshow dates have changed to March 8-10. Apparently we were trying to go at the same time as the Champaign Homeshow..and we blinked first.

Preliminary plans for the AMBUCS Home Show are underway with letters stuffed, being readied to be sent out to last year's vendors. Here's another chance for our club members to help out—volunteers (a bunch) will be needed at the show. More info will be offered in the coming months.

Contact Tonya Johnson or Carol Wade for information on the AMBUCS Home Show—you'll be glad you did.

### Christmas Parties

The annual AMBUCS Christmas parties have been set for Dec. 8: The children's party will be from 9-11 a.m. at the Day's Inn, while the adult party will be in the afternoon at the Palmer Arena. Oh, by the way, committee co-chair, Cathy High is a new grandmother, as is Dee Douglas.

### Meeting Notes

Dean Carlton needed a 'volunteer' to help fax about 20 weekly AMBUCS newsletters to members, and no sooner had he uttered his plea for help that in steps Richard Woodard (computer guru, Esq.) who offered to take on the important duty of helping disseminate AMBUCS information.

In an unrelated matter, it must be noted that Vermilion County Circuit Judge Mike Cleary has fixed the AMBUCS meeting bell. The bell had recently rung with a thud, but thanks to the Judges' apt mechanical ability, it now rings loud and clear.

### Festival of Trees

The Festival of Trees was our subject of the day, and to see our own Kathy Reardon dressed as a Christmas tree was a real treat. She may have been too large (in her tree costume, that is) to fit around the podium; the message she presented about the festival was clear—it's great fun and benefits the community in many ways.

The Festival is put on by Provena United Samaritans Medical Center Foundation and is their main fund-raising effort. It has about a \$250,000 annual budget and raises funds to help support number of programs.

Chad Hays, a development specialist with Provena, said about \$117,000 in festival proceeds were re-invested into the community last year and helped to support programs like the Halo Project, Faith in Action, Comm Link, Women Aware and a new program, Icing the Body Electric.

Festival chairman Gordon Thoennes said the festival had grown from 73 fully decorated trees to 83 trees and the number of wreaths sponsored had grown as well. The main stage will be on the south side of the Palmer Arena on top of the penalty box and the north side will feature the Holiday Cafe, with Arena director Pete Blackmon doing the cooking. There will also be a holiday wreath row, and a Holiday Sweet Shop featuring chocolates from an Attica, Ind. Confection shop.

One more thing: The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours will be held at the Festival site in the Palmer Arena on Tuesday, Nov. 13.

### Board Meeting

Nov. 12, at noon probably at Clifton-Gunderson. If you would like to attend, meetings are open to members. Please let Donna know so lunch can be arranged (everybody pays their own).



### Future Program

Oct. 31--Big Hat & Halloween. It will also be (according to Big Hat President Jeff Saylor) Big Hat Trivia and Treat Day. Come one, come all and bring a friend. Show up in costume if you are brave enough!

### National News

#### *Branding Time!*

Branding time runs throughout October. Members stand to win prizes for helping to recruit new members (possibly free admission to the next AMBUCS convention to be held at Niagara Falls). Hey, you even get a branding iron pin for your large cowboy hat. Yee-haaaaaa, ride'm cowboy.

### 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.

Go to [www.heroesconvention.com](http://www.heroesconvention.com).

### Nomenclature

#### *Merit Awards (part I)*

Merit awards based on membership include: Top Spread Club, Trail Boss President, #1 Cowpoke President, Blue Chip Club & District, Top Ten Blue Chip, Double Up, Fifty Percent Growth, Golden 50, Diamond 75, Century 100 and Member Retention.

### Membership Corner

Betty Carlton, 2001.

Dale Carlton, 1997, Big Hat in 1991.

Dean Carlton, 1993, Big Hat in 1995.

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

### 50/50

Chad Hays won \$10 and donated it to the Playground.

**Meetings - Wednesdays at Noon - Days Inn**

**Creating Independence for Persons with Disabilities**

**Newsletter Author**

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