

Pledge: Bill Fulton
Prayer: Pat Phillips (from the President's Handbook - easy! You can do it too!)
Guests: None.

Announcements

CHANGE FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION: Due to Hurricane Katrina the event has been moved to Kansas City, KS, July 5-9, 2006. The rooms will still be \$99.00 per night.

Please remember to record your Community Service Hours; this includes volunteer time for AMBUCS and other volunteer groups. Either list them on the sign up sheets at the meetings or let Pat Phillips know.

Gary Dyar announced that the DHS Honor Society chapter will be hosting a Winter Special Olympics for our campers. There will be six events. This will take place in the DHS fieldhouse on Feb. 11.

Andrew Phillips shared that Habitat for Humanity of Danville will hold a "Soup" Bowl luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 3 at the First Presbyterian Church, 100 N. Franklin St. The lunch is a choice of three "hearty" soups plus dessert and a beverage.

Tickets are \$5 each with books of 5 available in advance or \$6 the day of the event. Habitat plans to build three houses next year and is attempting to raise money to match grants. Donations are also welcome. 32 oz carryout containers of soup will also be available at the luncheon for people who want soup for their real Super Bowl parties. Andrew can be reached at 497-4235.

Future Events

Jan 25 - Ricky Williams, Boys/Girls Club
Feb 1 - Adam Aull, Public Works
Feb 8 - Colby Riggle, County Health Dept.



Program: Lori Burnett Special Education

Lori explained how students are taught daily living skills and job skills through the classroom and on-the-job. Students have developmental disabilities; are moderately mentally impaired; have emotional disorders; physical, visual or hearing impairments; or learning disabilities.

The program attempts to match these students with available jobs and adapt the tasks to students' abilities and employers' needs. Burnett said students with disabilities that can be seen are easier to place because it is easier for employers to understand.

Once students have a job, the program works on the skills that help them keep it. It also covers career exploration and specialty skills. The students like the program because it gives them spending money and a sense of making a contribution and being successful, sometimes for the first time. The students must keep their grades up in order to continue in the job, so the job serves as an incentive to get good or better grades.

Students qualify by being 16 to 21 years old and in their Junior or Senior year. A few of the employers using the program include County Market, Steak N Shake, McDonalds, Hoopston Hospital, Hawthorne Inn, ThyssenKrupp Gerlach, Vermilion Manor, Shutes Alignment, Henning Machine and Norton Machine.

AMBUC of the Day: Lanette Cannady

Lanette is currently working as a sales representative for Insight Media. She helps clients create and air commercials on cable channels.

Her degree is in marketing and sales and she used those skills for many years in the healthcare field. Lanette shared the "tightwad" story from a journal written by one of Chuck's grandfathers.

Bar Stool Golf

This great fundraiser will be held February 25, 2006 10:30am to 2pm. Budweiser holds this event, we are the workers and for that they give us a large donation from the funds raised. This has been a very successful and fun day in the past so mark your calendars now. Dale Carlton is the chairperson. Give him a call at 442-4572 and volunteer your time.

License Plates

Lincolndland is having their fundraiser and extending it to all of Illinois. Show your AMBUC support by sporting these plates for the months of January and February. Call Pat Phillips for more information.

Home Show

Melody Maxwell is the chairperson this year and the dates are March 3-5. Plan to volunteer a few hours. This is one of our biggest fundraisers and takes everyone's help. Carol Wade has most of the booth space sold. She keeps making more. Sign up sheets will be available soon.

Summer Sounds

Jeff Saylor reported that the Summer Sounds committee would be meeting this weekend and would be considering bands for the upcoming concert series.

National Big Hat Raffle Off to the Races...

National Big Hat is holding a raffle for a NASCAR weekend package for the 2006 season.

For a \$20.00 donation you will be entered to win 2 tickets to each of the following: Sturday's Bush Race, Sunday's Nextel Cup Race, garage and pit passes to visit #01 Army car race team and driver Joe Nemecheck.

Plus the following: \$500.00 travel money and \$500.00 lodging allowance. The drawing will be held July 21, 2006 at the Biloxi, MS National Conference.

Meetings - Wednesdays at Noon - Days Inn

Creating Independence for Persons with Disabilities

Author: Pat Kuchefski
(news@ambucs-dnv.com)