



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

*Pledge: Matt Groppi Prayer: Patty Clutter*

*Guests: Former Mayor Bob Jones, driving force behind today's program about the 33rd Degree Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexia.*

## Announcements:

Cindy Marks and Larry Pasquale are getting married the last weekend in July.

A thank you was passed around from a student and his family for the Learn the Training Wheels Camp. The youngster is keeping up with his friends now on a two-wheel bike.

Judy Lewis was back on her feet and attended the meeting – looking good, Judy!

Don Vish had an angiogram Tuesday after suffering several pain attacks over the few days preceding the test. It was clear, so further tests will look for other causes.

District 118 will sponsor its first Danville Rib Fest July 5 and 6 at Ellsworth Park. Lots of rib cooking and various school groups will have food and other items to sell. Several bands are scheduled to entertain.

## Calendar Items:

Board meeting: Noon Monday at Vermilion Place, 14 N. Hazel St.

July 11: Summer Sounds: Mike Ingram and Kayla Brown, 6 p.m. Temple Plaza.

July 14: Board meeting, noon, Vermilion Place, 14 N. Hazel St.

July 16: Several members are off to National Convention in Arkansas.

July 16: Meeting, noon, Days Inn, 77 N. Gilbert St. Speaker: Gordon Thoennes, chairman of the Vermilion County Conservation District Foundation: What's new, what's happening.

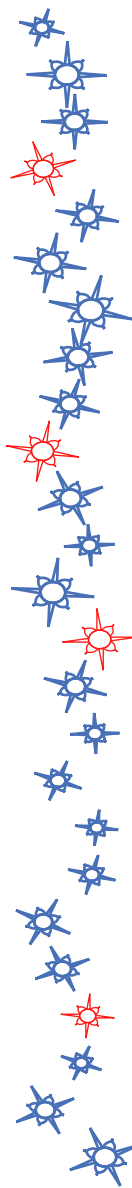
July 23: Meeting, noon, Days Inn. Speaker: State Sen. Mike Frerichs.

July 25: Summer Sounds: Dikki Du & The Zydeco Krewe, 6 to 8 p.m. Temple Plaza.

## Committee Reports:

### **Bill Fulton, Sprayground:**

Work continues on plumbing; rain continues to delay pouring concrete.



**Pat Phillips, Summer Sounds:**

Help is still needed on the 7 to 9 p.m. shift – work included cashiering, bar tending and clean up.

**Richard Woodard, Challenger League All Star Game:**

Plans are being made to hopefully hold one last game of the year this fall, possibly at Danville Stadium. Mention was made of honoring Tom Jones who started the Urbana League and where our program got its start.

**Program:**

**Program: Allison Enslein,  
Masonic Learning Center in the Masonic Temple, Danville.**

The learning center has been configured on the first floor of the Masonic Temple thanks to the fundraising and construction efforts of the Masonic groups in the Danville Valley region at a cost of around \$230,000. It is the 59th center sponsored by the Masons aimed directly at helping children with a learning disability called dyslexia. These are children who have difficulty with language and usage, reading, writing, spelling and math due to a mix up between what they see and what the brain computes. The center will have an operating budget of \$125,000 year when fully staffed and working with the proposed 25 to 30 students.

Students must the results from and IQ test and their standard achievement scores in reading, writing and math for evaluation. Classes are taught by certified instruction who complete 45 lecture hours and 100 practicum hours. Tutors must have a bachelors degree in any subject to begin the certification training hours. The program is \$5,000 but is paid for by the Masons. Tutors generally meet with two to three students for two hour two times a week. The tutoring is free.

The public perception is that dyslexic students see words backwards or letters backwards. It's more than that. It is hereditary. The earlier it is caught, the more chance there is to successfully acquire a system of learning that helps the child cope and learn. The currently has students from Danville, Hoopeston and Champaign. The program also hopes to educate parents and teachers on the signs to look for with their children and to seek assistance. A new program is now testing teaching the same Orton-Gillingham learning system to teachers who can use it would students in groups. The center deals with student on a one-on-one basis with no distractions. Dealing with dyslexia in not currently in the teacher's learning curriculum, but those working with these students would like to see that implemented. The program's students are between the ages of 6 and 18. It costs roughly \$5,000 per year to educate a student. The Masons cover this cost but do accept donations to help. The center has room for more students.

**50/50 Raffle:** \$7 went to Larry Owen.

**Board of Directors**

Kathy High, Larry Owen, Melissa Rome, Richard Woodard, Melody Maxwell, Jeff Saylor

**Our Officers**

President - Euan Fernsler  
Past President - Carol Wade  
President-Elect - Bill E. Fulton  
Secretary - Pat Phillips  
Treasurer - Jason Rome  
Sgt at Arms - Patty Clutter  
Big Hat Chair - Gary Dyer

**Information Changes?**

Please contact Pat Phillips at [tanquary320@comcast.net](mailto:tanquary320@comcast.net).

