

# Love Notes

The newsletter of the Loves Park Illinois AMBUCS™



Creating Mobility & Independence  
for People with Disabilities

April 2009

[www.lpambucs.com](http://www.lpambucs.com)

815/282-2628

## Loves Park Chapter

**AMBUCS™**

Chartered 1977

Central Region  
District 4-D  
Club 419

### Officers 2008-09

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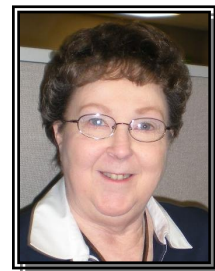
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### *President's Message by Pat Hubly*

Perhaps you're wondering who the lady is with the glasses. Good question. It's moi. And I'm smiling because I am finishing my second term as president of the Loves Park AMBUCS™- the best service club in the area. Of course, if you're one of the 25-30 members who come to our meetings or events, you know how good our club really is. (We earned Superior Chapter ranking nationally last year.) I encourage you to get involved; come to a meeting for information and inspiration, attend an event or volunteer your time—we can always use an extra hand.



Being president of this chapter is a huge responsibility because there are so many people looking to us for help and encouragement. This club belongs to its members and we work together as a team. Our motto "Shoulders Together" tells how we can accomplish so much.

We invest in the future by our donations to the National Living Endowment fund whereby college students pursuing therapy degrees can receive scholarships. We bring inspiration by giving AmTrykes® to children who have never been able to ride a regular tryke; we build handicap accessible ramps for shut-ins; we support Harlem Special Education Department as our local project. Our reward is to see the joy and smiles on the happy faces we have served.

We make a difference in our community.

A positive attitude and uplifting message reflects the spirit of our group. We are in the middle of some exciting changes not seen since the club began. We have welcomed new members who are bringing energy, ideas, commitment and enthusiasm to our club. The core of our membership has faithfully served for 25 to 30 years. Let's embrace and work with our new members and leadership team. I look forward to 2009-2010 and the new faces and ideas and even a new name as we will be known as Rock River Valley AMBUCS™ Chapter.

Brad Shields will become our new president June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you Brad for your willingness to serve in this capacity. You are not alone as we are with you "Shoulders Together."

Thank you for the honor I have had to serve as your president. See you at the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting for the vote on our name change, and the opportunity we will have to present our club to prospective members.

~

## *Big Hat Club*

March 10<sup>th</sup> the Big Hatters enjoyed their first social of 2009 and look forward to many more fun filled evenings. It's understood that some members had more "fun" than others, but that's the way luck goes some times. Thank you Terry and Jim for your part in our party, and to all Big Hatters who attended.

## *March meeting notes*

Sam's Pizzeria and Ristorante on Harlem Road in Machesney Park is the site for our membership meetings the second Thursday of each month. Once again, we had a filled room at our March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting: Angie and Robb Hauser, Joe Geraghty, Jim Nordstrom, Terry Brown, Dave Jahn, Pat Hubly, Brad Shields, Tracy Shields and Bo, Pam Shields, Dick Larson, Nick Shields, Kristina Pando, Rich Lierman, and Bob Shields. We welcomed guest Karen Hanson who works at Ramp. Karen expressed interest in and will be joining our club. Brad, in his position as vice-president, gained experience by presiding over the meeting as the president was under the weather.

Terry Brown, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the slate of officers who were unanimously elected:

President - Brad Shields  
Vice-President - Robb Hauser  
Secretary - Michelle Johnson  
Treasurer - Dick Larson  
Sergeant-at-Arms - Nick Shields.

Congratulations to the new officers. We look forward to working under your leadership.

## *This is your invitation . . .*

Our Spring Roundup membership drive will culminate with a special **Invitation to...** event to be held in conjunction with our April meeting on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6 p.m. at Sam's on Harlem Rd. Invitations have gone out to dozens of prospective members. Come and join us as we introduce our guests to the best service club in the area – AMBUCS™. Your attendance is particularly requested as we will be voting on acceptance of Rock River Valley as the new name for our chapter.

A ballot for name change is included with this newsletter. Bring it with you to the meeting and Cast Your Vote!

## *Green Bear Fair*

Our AMBUCS™ representation at the Green Bear Fair Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> was positive in both comments and interest shown for AmTrykes® and ramp requests. A big thank you for our success at this event goes to Rich Lierman, as chairperson, and Robb Hauser for setting up our booth with trykes, accessories, banners, etc., and to booth workers Darlene Estabrook, Dave Jahn, Kristina Pando and Pam Shields.



Rich, Robb, Dar & Dave



Kristina and Pam (Dad in background)

*May meeting and Installation party* is scheduled for Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at the newly remodeled and very nice Ciao Bella (formerly Basil Café) on Riverside Blvd. New officers and members will be installed and Dan Loch, one of last year's National scholarship recipients, will be our speaker. There will be other surprises, so put the date on your calendar; we encourage you to bring your spouse or significant other. An invitation will be mailed in the near future with the rest of the information.

*Young at Heart* AMBUCS™ will have a "float" of some kind in this year's parade and we look forward to your participation by (1) helping plan the float; (2) helping build the float; or (3) riding on the float. Otherwise, we expect you'll be waving at us along the parade route!



**April Happy Birthday to:**

- 12 Bouchanah Saengchanh
- 14 Tracy Shields
- 26 David Hardy
- 27 Jim Nordstrom

**Club Anniversaries – April**

- 1977 Mike Cavanagh (Charter Member)
- 1977 Bill Dredge (Charter Member)
- 1977 Bob Shields, Jr. (Charter Member)
- 2007 John Stenerson
- 2008 Linda Black
- 2008 Heidi Butz
- 2008 Marc Butz
- 2008 Jesus Calvillo
- 2008 Angela Hauser
- 2008 Robb Hauser
- 2008 Gloria Jahn
- 2008 Jason Lindstrand
- 2008 Natalie McLean
- 2008 Christine Molander
- 2008 Bounchanh Saengchanh
- 2008 Pam Shields
- 2008 Nick Shields

**Upcoming Events**

- Spring Conference, Bloomington, IL April 17-18
- Membership Meeting Friday, April 24
- Spring Roundup Recruitment Event Friday, April 24
- May Board Meeting May 6 or TBA
- May Membership Meeting & Installation May 21
- June Board Meeting TBA
- June Membership Meeting June 11
- National Conference in Reno, NV July 15-18

**Member News and Updates**

**Congratulations** to Christine Molander on receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in human services from Judson University. She is employed as a Para-educator in the Rising Stars program at Parker Early Education Center.

**Bobby Higginson** continues to be homebound and would enjoy receiving cards, visits or phone calls from his AMBUCS friends. Call him at 815/633-6574, or send him a card at 806 Northfield, Loves Park, IL 61111. Better yet, why not go visit him. He'd love to see you. We Miss You, Bobby.

APRIL 2009						
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31						

JUNE 2009						
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28	29	30				

**Spring Conference** Reminder: Friday, April 17-18 at the Parke Hotel and Conference Center in Bloomington, IL. If you haven't already registered please do so today by calling the hotel at 309/662-4300. [www.parkehotel.com](http://www.parkehotel.com) Questions: Call Dan Bedell at 309/663-6810 or Greg Ferris, Central Region Director, at 217/433-8956. It's not too late! Do it today.

**Are your dues paid up to date?**