

## Greater Birmingham Friends Chapter



### A Letter From Our Chairman...

Dear Friends of AMBUCS,

The Greater Birmingham Chapter has responded affirmatively to each and every request for an Amtryke since we started in September 2007.

However, with two new chapters, Mobile and Montgomery, it has made us realize that in order to reach every special child in Alabama there must be other chapters formed. We are working with a number of people in Huntsville to help form a chapter in Madison County. Mayor Tommy Battle has been encouraging to us. Trent Willis, in his office, is helping plan this endeavor. We are planning an informal BBQ Banquet (Gibson's) at Southwood Presbyterian Church. The date is April 21, 2009 at 6:30pm.



A few local churches have been contacted and the response is encouraging to help serve families of special needs children. We want to furnish therapeutic Amtrykes or wheelchair ramps as well as spiritual support.

The following churches have a program for special ones or are interested in incorporating one in their church:

- ★ Briarwood Presbyterian Church
- ★ Hunter Street Baptist
- ★ Dawson Memorial Baptist
- ★ Church of the Highlands

We are pleased to know that the Montgomery Chapter has placed 30 Amtrykes since October 2008 and they now have 20 on their wish list. This encourages us to promote other chapters to be formed in Alabama.

Thank you,

Dave Upton  
Chairman

To date the **Greater Birmingham Friends Chapter** of **AMBUCS™** has donated 239 **AmTrykes®** and built 26 wheelchair ramps to help meet community needs.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### 100 Plus for Huntsville 2009

The Greater Birmingham Friends Chapter has adopted a "Do the Right Thing", initiative. The goal is to develop **AMBUCS™** chapters and Demo sites in strategic geographical locations. Our next target is Huntsville. Mayor Tommy Battle will be the honored guest at our banquet on April 21, 2009 at 6:00pm. The event will be held at Southwood Presbyterian Church in Huntsville. Please join us and invite your friends to participate in one of Huntsville's greatest accomplishments. For more information call our office or email Dave (wdupton@gmail.com).



1000 Carl T. Jones Drive S.E. Huntsville, Alabama 35802

### Gone Fishin'



We are now offering families of children with special needs the opportunity to go to a private lake in Shelby County for fishing. Every other Thursday 3-10 families will be chosen.

A typical day will consist of 4 hours of fishing and a 1 hour lunch break @ noon. Would you like to be involved? Call our office to sign up.

### 1st Quarter Amtryke Fair



On Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> we held a Tryke Fair at Lakeshore Foundation in Homewood. This event was held from 8:30am - 1:00pm. It was attended by several AMBUCS members, UAB physical therapy students, and a few members from

Full Life Ahead Foundation. Fourteen children received *AmTrykes®* at this event.

### AMBUCS: Therapeutic for the Body and the Spirit

Chairman Dave Upton, has a strong desire to be sure that we are ministering to the whole person in addition to addressing the physical disability of our children. With that said, we want to offer spiritual assistance. A special breakfast was held on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> @ 10:00a.m. in the Vestavia Hills Country Club.

A training session was conducted on sharing the Gospel with the families. Attendees were informed of local churches that have 2 hour classes on Sunday morning for children with special needs. Our goal is to have some of our members present at all of our Tryke Fairs that will be able to address spiritual issues with the families as opportunities arise. If you are interested in being a spiritual resource, please contact Dave.

### Our Contact Information

**Office Address:** 1900 27th Avenue South  
Homewood, Alabama 35209

**Call Us:** Birmingham Office (205) 834-8580  
Dave Upton, *Chairman* (205) 979-8582  
Cara Adams, *Member* (205) 919-0394

**Fax Us:** (205) 834-8581

**Visit Us:** <http://www.ambucs.org>

**Join Us:** We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 5:30pm in our Homewood office.

## NATIONAL AMBUCS™ NEWS

### AMBUCS™ National Conference 2009

As always, when you attend an **AMBUCS™** National Conference you can expect plenty of exciting workshops, education sessions and programs. We'll also be continuing our annual *AmTryke®* Rodeo and Trek for Trykes Walk-a-thon events.

For more info visit  
[www.ambucs.com/2009-ambucsnational-conference/](http://www.ambucs.com/2009-ambucsnational-conference/)



### Get Ramped Up

The AMBUCS National Board of Directors is pleased to announce a new promotion for AMBUCS chapters. The month of May will now be officially recognized as AMBUCS Ramp Building Month.



Start planning to showcase your chapter's community service efforts by building a ramp for local people with disabilities.

### Out With the Old & In With the New

We regret to announce that AmTryke, LLC will no longer offer the AM-9L model tricycle, effective immediately. This is due to our manufacturer discontinuing production of the AM-9L's signature seat style. Riders, however, will still be able to select our popular AM-9S model, which features the same frame design and steering control. Please note that we have developed a new, larger style seat to replace the discontinued seat. The new seat will accommodate larger riders and offer increased back and head support. This new seat style will be made available in June of 2009.



### Therapist of the Year

It's not too early to start thinking about nominating a therapist in your area for the **Therapist of the Year Award**. Nominations are due in by no later than April 30th. Submission forms and guidelines can be found at the **member resources** section of the [www.ambucs.org](http://www.ambucs.org) website.



### Scratch & Dent Sale

*AmTryke®* customers now have a chance to save up to \$100 on selected models and equipment that may have slight imperfections. Limit one per chapter. Please contact Jeff Roig or Roxanne Nichols at **1-888-AMTRYKE** for more information.



AmTryke, LLC would like to inform AMBUCS members that, starting April 1, 2009, there will be a price increase on selected therapeutic tricycle models. This price increase was originally slated to go into effect last October. For more information please contact Roxanne Nichols at **1-888-AMTRYKE** or [roxannen@ambucs.org](mailto:roxannen@ambucs.org).

