



Home of the AmTryke



We meet
Each Thursday at Noon
in the Heritage Room of
1st United Methodist
Church
400 N. Fredonia St.
Longview, Texas 75601

THE BOCCANEER

LONGVIEW AMBUCS

P. O. Box 3092 - Longview, Texas 75606-3092

June 9, 2016

www.longviewambucs.com

EDITOR: Don Esch, 903-291-0888

Presiding: Chapin Miller
Prayer: Al Bingham
Pledge: Tyler Bingham

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**Members: 29**

**Guests:** Tyler Bingham,  
grandson of Al Bingham  
John King, guest of Joe Knox.

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Attendance: \$886 Doug
McKinney

Next week, drawing will be
worth \$912

50/50: \$28 Charles McGregor

Ramps

Be at Butcher Shop at 7, and
HQ 7:45. Two Longview
ramps are scheduled – a
3-box and 4-box.

A week from this Saturday,
Billy H. and Steve Rogers are
going to the Lufkin club to
display some AmTrykes.

There will be a board meeting
next Wednesday evening.
Forest said he is working on
scholarships.

There will be a July 4 cookout

at HQ for everyone and their
families.

Tom Brown thanked those
that helped with the T-Bone
Walker Blues fest last
weekend, especially those
who worked double shifts.
Tom said attendance was
down, but we received a \$5K
check plus \$609 in tips.



Speaker Leah Rosson of Judson Middle School

Leah has been a teacher 30
years, and works with the
Judson Middle School student
council.

In November, Leah attended a
charity event called Snowball
Express, sponsored by
American Airlines in Dallas.
This charity is for kids and
spouses of fallen military
heroes. American Airlines
pays for airfare, 4 days 5
nights lodging, feeds and
works with moms and
children of fallen dads killed
in the line of military service.
Unfortunately, when this
happens, families have to
leave the military community,
their primary support group.
This occurs because the
primary wage owner is no
longer employed.

Snowball Express started
with a letter written by a man
being deployed, who
apologized in advance to his
wife that if he died, he
requested his wife still take
the kids to Disneyland, as
planned before he was
deployed.

The letter became public in
California, and a businessman
started the charity specifically

for that family and now it has expanded to other families, being headquartered in Dallas Ft. Worth. This organization served 2,000 people last year.

They provide lots of fun activity especially for the kids, including , karaoke, a NASCAR race car simulator, and other fun events. While there, Ms. Rosson met a little boy who told her about the struggles young kids go through when losing their dads in the military. Specifically, how the family and older siblings often talk and memorialize Dad, but that for he (a 5-year old boy), he was not a part of any of it. He didn't want to reveal his feelings, for fear of upsetting his mother and brother. He found a friend who would listen, and the boy told Leah how much it meant to him to have a friend who would just listen.

Snowball express seeks to heal these kids and give them an emotional outlet to grieve in their own way.

She was so moved that she went back to the student council, and told of her experiences there. They decided to adopt 3 goals:

1. Awareness at local civic and charitable groups. To that end, they even spoke to high schools students in Arlington about Snowball Express and their experiences

in helping this worthy cause.

2. Host a local outside event to honor these heroes and their children (a 2-year goal).

3. Fundraising – they quickly raised \$1,000 and donated it to the organization, then raised \$3,700 more, then \$6,000.

Getting back to goal 2, they have organized an outside event in which their Dad's might have taken them. Kids and their surviving parent will be flown to Gregg County Airport and given transportation to Sam Satterwhites's ranch. There will be game wardens teaching fishing clinics, teaching the kids how to tie rigs, kayak, and at Thomas Falls, there will be a zip line, mud run, and a fish fry.

Then, at Hallsville Triple Creek Ranch, there will be horseback riding, a BBQ, snow cones, more fishing, and lots of outdoor activities that these kids are missing because of their dads' missing presence.

Later, they will plant a tree at the Satterwhite's ranch, in a ceremony in honor of their dads. Panera Bread, Chic-Fil-A and others have donated food at discounted rates or free. Our club offered to donate water and soft drinks and financial assistance. There are 5 families now

enrolled for the event this year, being held July 15th thru 17th. They are in need of more RV accommodations for the families at Sam's place. Their goal is 10 families for next year.

John Diamond talked of the car that will be given away this year – a 2008 Nissan 350Z black convertible.

Bob Graham was not here today with B7. Perhaps next week, they will be here.

Dave Dean mentioned that there will be 10 4-wheelers auctioned off at the Joy Global plant tomorrow. Show up if you are interested.



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State Farm Insurance - Charlene Ingram

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Raymond James - Joe Knox

Steve and Diane Rogers

Please attach this to the weekly newsletter:

June 11th & 25th - Ramp Build

July 4th - Burgers, Fun, & Fireworks (7-10)

July 9th & 23rd - Ramp Build

August 6th, 13th, & 20th - Mudd Run work days

August 27th - Mudd Run

September 3rd - Bash Work Day (7:45 - 12:00)

September 9th - Bash set-up day (8-5)

September 10th - Bash (9-2 set-up) (6-12 Bash)

September 24th - Power Sport's Fest

All ramp & work days start @ 7:00 at Butcher Shop, 7:45 at World Headquarters

Tighten your belt, mark your calendars!

Let's do this Longview Ambucs, Kicking Butt!

Thanks much,

Billy Hagenbucher

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