



Home of the AmTryke



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

## THE BOCCANEER

# LONGVIEW AMBUCS

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

August 25, 2016

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

EDITOR: Don Esch, 903-291-0888

**Presiding & Speaker:** Chapin Miller  
**Prayer:** John Durst  
**Pledge:** Thomas Meyers

**Members: 46**

**Attendance:** \$305 Rob Springer  
+ \$37 carryover = \$342 next week.

**50/50:** \$59 Mike Tomanio  
Michael Tubb bid \$150 and won 4  
tickets at Friday night's Ranger game.

### Wine, Wine, Wine

Please bring more bottles of wine to our meeting on Sept. 1st. We do this to defray the cost of wine given away at the Mobility Bash.

### Run It Like It's Hot

August 27<sup>th</sup> is our mud run. All volunteers need to report at 6am for their assignment. Michael Garza and Billy H. pleaded for more volunteers at HQ Friday at 3pm to set up tents and make any final adjustments to the obstacles. We will move them back to HQ beginning at 8am on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup>. We have 680 participants enrolled and are hoping for 700 to 750 this year.

Mr. Lizza said that we will net apx. \$15K from this event. He also said that we are nearing our financial goal for the Miracle League ball park, and that our Mud Run and

other fundraising activities likely will insure complete funding.

### Mobility Bash

September 10<sup>th</sup> is the date! When you sell tickets, make SURE that you write their cell phone on the stub, and also write your name as the salesman. There are 300 tickets out that need to be sold. If you have some surplus tickets, turn them in to Paul, so they can be sold. Please DO NOT give them to other members to sell. Give them to Paul, and he will resassign them. Dick Allen won the drawing for tickets sold. All sellers had an equal chance.

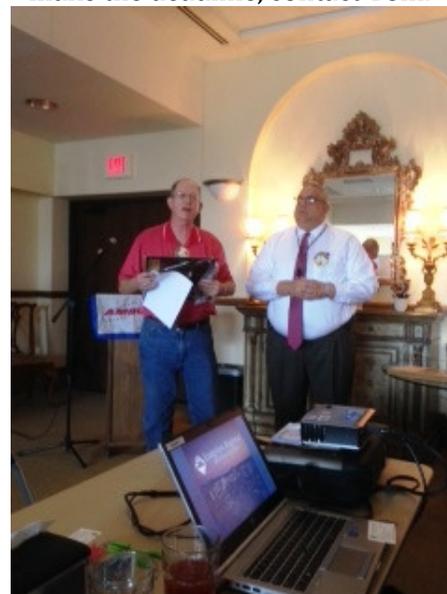
We have some great silent auction items and need more. Bring more to HQ, said Tim. Remember, ticket sales not tax deductible, but silent auction items and monetary donations are.

Billy H. reported that tri-fold flyers are available as well as posters to advertise the Mobility Bash. He also has the 501c3 letter to use for those donors who need proof for their tax deductible auction items. He also said we have "ticket style" flyers for generating interest about the Bash.

### Club News

Tom Brown is selling ads for the Bash program at \$300, & deadline is next Wednesday. If you can't

make the deadline, contact Tom.



**Lifetime Member Mike Bishop!**



**Speaker Casey Robertson from Longview Regional Medical Ctr.**

Casey was assisted with his slide presentation by Libby Bryson.

He said that they have 130 beds, and 1,000 employees. Last year, they performed 15,000 surgeries, and had 8500 admissions. In March of 2012, they merged with Diagnostic Clinic.

He stated that the financial impact of the Longview Regional Medical Center is \$180-\$190M annually, and that they have about 700 employees in the clinic.

He said there are 34,000 ER visits yearly, and that the 3 new stand-alone ER's in Longview have definitely impacted their operations, compelling them to be even more competitive. If a stand-alone ER cannot handle a particular patient's problem, then the Longview Regional ER will accept any transfers.

He mentioned that the 30 minutes or less ER admission campaign has been a huge success. This means that when one enters the ER, it takes an average of 27 minutes for a patient to see a provider physician or a mid-level. Of course, some patient's issues are more pressing than others, and they are seen sooner.

Casey said there are 3 doctors in the ER currently. He emphasized that the ER Department is accredited as a Level III Trauma, a Chest Pain Center, and also accredited for stroke patients.

Mr. Robertson spoke about the Heart & Vascular Institute which has 2 CVT Surgeons, 8 Cardiologists, 1 Electrophysiologist, 1 Nurse Practitioner, and 23 beds, which is directly below the cardiology offices. Casey spoke of Regional as a world class heart care facility. They were the first in Longview to perform minimally

invasive Beating Heart Surgery, the first in east Texas to perform Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR), and that they had performed 50 procedures to date. He also mentioned that they were the first in Longview to perform CardioMEMS.

He spoke proudly of the Level III Neonatal ICU (NICU), which opened in 2014, having admitted 112 patients to date. There are 21 beds, with 14 private rooms and 7 in the open area. He said there are 2 Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Physicians on staff, and that there is 24/7 in-house Neonatal Nurse Practitioner coverage.

Casey also spoke about the Center For Joint Restoration for hip & knee replacement surgery. He said that there is now less recovery time which decreases the length of stay. He said that on the day of surgery, patients will take 100 - 150 steps, and that at discharge, 74% of patients will be walking greater than 300 ft.

Mr. Robertson fielded several questions about negotiated payment schedules between Regional and the insurance carriers. He did emphasize that the stand-alone ER's recently opened in Longview do NOT accept Medicare and Medicaid insurance, but that Regional certainly does.

A few Ambucs members had concerns about billing issues at Regional, and he stated that he would collect their information and follow-up on their case.

He said that the billing department is part of a larger billing group at their corporate offices in Nashville.

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## **Please attach this to the weekly newsletter:**

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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