



We meet
Each Thursday at Noon
You are welcome
to join us.

Home of the AmTryke

THE BOCCANEER LONGVIEW AMBUCS

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

June 14, 2018

www.longviewambucs.com

EDITOR: Don Esch, 903-291-0888

Presiding: James White
Prayer: Tom Davis
Pledge: John Durst

Members: 34
Guests: 0
Speakers: 2

Attendance: \$625 Toby Pilgrim
50/50 \$50 Tom Brown

June 21 Business Meeting
June 28 John Grubbs

National Conference

It will be Oct. 3rd-6th at the Peppermint Hotel Resort in Reno NV. Number is 866-821-9996.

Ramps

Billy said last Saturday's ramp build was appreciated so much by the family that the recipient's brother-in-law in Ft. Worth (upon hearing what we had done), sent a check for \$1,000! The supervisor on that job (Dennis Rand) also bought and installed a new doorknob and lock at his expense after the job was complete. Nice going, Dennis! Next ramp build is the 23rd starting at HQ 7:30. It will be built for another charity - East Texas Lightening at 6th Street and Highway 80.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

June 15th, Don Esch 34 years, Dick Allen 45 years on June 16, Chad

Hinton 9 years on the 27th, Jeff Thorpe is 73 on the 24th.

Prayers

Let's all keep in mind the John Dimond family as they grieve over their son Jack's passing into glory.



See Al Bingham to order your T-Shirt. Last call today!

HQ Board Meetings

Next Wednesday (20th) at 5:30. Also, there is a meeting on Tuesday (19th) of the Mobility Bash Planning Committee at 5:30. All welcome.

Card From Linda Fullman

Linda sent us a card of thanks for allowing her to speak on the Red Cross and their role here in east Texas. She particularly complimented the newsletter author. Thanks, Linda!

AmTrykes Update

Steve Rogers reported that a 3 1/2 year old boy from the Ferguson family who was waiting for a Tryke had passed away. His mother hopes that the next Tryke given away be in memory of her son.

Al Bingham reported that he is negotiating with a 100-year old American bicycle manufacturing company 3 hours from Nashville to possibly take over production of our Trykes. The grandson of the founder of the company has a charitable heart, and we hope he will both build & ship the AmTrykes to us at cost.



Peggy Vaughn - East Texas Advanced Manufacturing Academy

Mrs. Vaughn spoke to us about upcoming training opportunities for 25% of high school students who are not college bound and who would like to learn a trade. These courses are dual credit, which means should they choose to attend a junior college or a university after high school, they already have dual-credit college hours accrued.

Peggy said they have entered into a 4-year lease at the old Brew Honda dealership location. When the Academy is fully operational, it will be called the East Texas Regional Training Center. They plan to have 160 students, i.e., 80 Juniors and 80 Seniors. Peggy and her assistant Jody Sanders have met with local ISD Superintendents to plan this program. Mr. Sanders has an extensive background as a teacher, coach, and Principal for various ISD's in east Texas. The program has a successful track record in the Carolinas, Dallas, and Waco.

Because we will have a trained blue collar workforce, it is estimated that the positive economic impact to our community will be > \$4M from this initiative. Lebus Industries and other local manufacturing facilities and contractors have long needed qualified skilled workers, and the Academy's goal is to fill that demand.

Until the leased space is fully outfitted with equipment, students will learn instrumentation and electrical skills at Kilgore College and machining/manufacturing skills at Texas State Technical College (TSTC) in Marshall. These schools have mills, lathes, and instrumentation equipment already in place for the students. The Academy will begin this August, serving local high school Juniors.

LEDCO is assisting with paying the rent and remodel expenses at the Brew site, as well as paying tuition for the students. Peggy and Jody are working with Richard Manley to apply and for and receive grants from foundations to sustain operating expenses.

ISD's have student insurance already in place for students during the school year and also during the summer for students who work as interns at the Academy. Interested students can self-nominate online, and non-students can nominate students whom they feel would be good candidates for the program.

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**Meeting Place Next Week**  
Next Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>), we will be at Winterfield Methodist Church at 2615 Tryon Rd. Look for the building with an anchor out front. We will try out this facility a couple of times.

Note: After we have tried all the various venues, we will make a decision as to our permanent meeting location.