

Ambuc of the Year

Our club is lucky in that we have a number of dedicated members who could be considered for AoY, but the person we are nominating for this award not only helps and contributes to our Ambuc mission within our club and the organization, but she carries this into her daily life as well. In fact, I'm pretty sure she has been working to improve the lives of others, with or without disabilities, for years and maybe even her whole life.

Throughout our community, our nominee has done so much. She helps organize and promote Kara's game, a softball league for individuals with disabilities. She runs the bases, cheers them on, and shares in their joy and love of the game. She is currently helping them raise money to put in a handicap accessible ball field.

She started her own non-profit, Santa's Cause, to help provide Christmas gifts to those less fortunate, so no one feels left out.

She constantly helps fundraise for Kara's Game, Special Olympics, Santa's Cause, Ambucs and more.

These are just a few of the community things she does for those less fortunate and with disabilities. Add in all the ways she helps with Ambucs and the list keeps going.

She attends everything-meetings, fundraisers, events, Amtryke builds, conferences, and everything in between. She has 85% attendance at meetings, and even higher % at other activities.

She is always recruiting. She finds potential members at work, in elevators, the bank, hotel rooms, hallways, and I'm pretty sure even public bathrooms. No one is safe really. Since she joined Ambucs in 2012, she has recruited 23 members and helped start the Owasso chapter. She is so good at recruiting, that once she has shared her passion for Ambucs and its mission, I don't think anyone turns her down.

She plans and hosts therapist trainings to train new therapists about Amtrykes to help further our mission. She hosted one in the Tulsa area, where there is a big need for Amtrykes. At that training, there were 25 therapists trained, 14 Ambucs in attendance and 5 members recruited during the training.

Our Ambuc of the Year nominee also helped co-host our Regional convention in Tulsa this past April. She attended meetings, walk-throughs, and organized activities to help make it a great conference.

She helps and host all of our Amtryke builds at her office and has recently helped with our first ramp by assisting with its build and painting of it.

Not only did she help charter the Owasso club, she has continued to support and help them grow. She attends their meetings and events, even though it is an hour and forty five minutes away. She schedules her work schedule around being there to help out. She spent a year as Owasso president, all the while staying just as active in our club in Ponca City. Immediately after her year as Owasso President, she agreed to help me out by being my Vice President and will go on to be our President this next year.

One of my favorite traits about our nominee is that she doesn't hesitate. She just goes into action when she hears a need. I tend to overthink while our nominee just acts. She gets things done, even if she has to do it alone. She has a servant's heart and we are blessed to have her and her unending dedication to the cause of helping those with disabilities. Our club, this organization, and the lives that she has touched are better because she is in it. Our nominee for 2017-2018 Ambuc of the Year is Wendy Bond.