Ms. Wheelchair America 2000 **Summit County Arena** Tallmadge, Ohio August 6-7, 1999 7:30 p.m. Price: \$5.00 Ms. Wheelchair America 1999, Christina Gilmore



Greetings, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the 27th annual Ms. Wheelchair America Program. This year's program, "Peace, Love and Understanding" will give the women competing for the title, Ms. Wheelchair America 2000, the experience of a lifetime! Many new friendships will be formed, and the accomplishments of 16 talented women will inspire and amaze all of us.

Throughout my reign as Ms. Wheelchair America 1999, I have traveled the country from California to Florida and many states in between, spreading my message about the importance of education and positive mentoring. This experience, has allowed me to gain a true sense of what it means to be a strong, confident woman with a disability. I am excited at the opportunities in store for my successor as she too will inspire and be inspired!

It is my hope that all of you enjoy your time here in Akron while you help me celebrate the achievements of the wonderful women competing for the title Ms. Wheelchair America 2000!

Sincerely,

Christina Silmou

Christina Gilmore

Ms. Wheelchair America 1999



First autograph after winning



Back Stage At Ms. Wheelchair Ohio Live Remote Broadcast!



Speaking with the Press



At the crowning of Ms. WC Ohio Lena Smith with Jim O'Brien, WQMX



Autographs for the Project Understanding kids!



After MWA with Ohio Representatives Carole Bright, Lowery Lockard, and Marlene Shepard



Ms. Wheelchair America Skiing



Ski for Light



Christine at Ms. Wheelchair Colorado



Ms. Colorado



Presentation of Project Understanding to high school students



Miss New York State 1999 Deana Herrera



Working at Weaver Music Fair



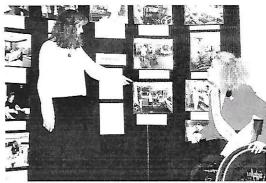
First Ability House owner Chris Wright



Meeting with hospital volunteers



Working with WQMX to raise funds for people with disabilities



At Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital



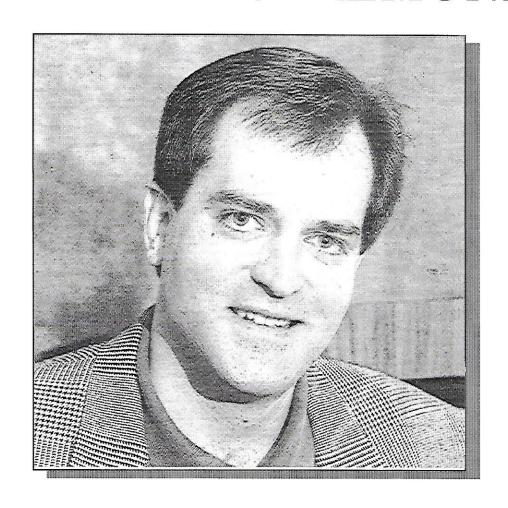
Miami Commissioner
Joe Sanchez and
Miss Miami Kelly Gaudet



Texas Govenor George W. Bush

Ms. Wheelchair America 2000

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Mr. Jim O'Brien Morning Drive Host, WQMX, FM 94.9

Thank you, Jim, for your continued support of the Ms. Wheelchair Program and for your continued support, advocacy and voice for people with disabilities in Summit County.

Ms. Wheelchair America 2000 Panel of Judges



Mark A. Davis, M.A., is no stranger to pageant judging having judged over 70 Miss America Local preliminaries including Miss Ohio 2000 this past June. He is a former director/producer of 4 preliminaries and has served as the Miss Ohio Field Director and Associate Producer. As a person living with two disabilities, he has been a consumer of services and long-term survivor. Mark's struggle to maintain independence and to empower himself were the motivating factors that have led him to be the Founding President of the

Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association, Founding Director of the Involved Consumer Action Network (I CAN) in Penn. He is also a grassroots advocate for people with disabilities. Currently, Mark is the Health Systems Coordinator for the AIDS Activities Coordinating Office of the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health.



Sandra Kidd has eighteen years of professional experience in service delivery to people with disabilities, twelve of which have been in management or administrative positions in human service organizations. She received her Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut. Currently, she is the Assistant to the Executive Director of Evant, an organization which provides 22 homes in the Summit County area for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. She and husband Patrick are

the proud parents of 4 year old daughter, Madison.



Barry Alan McGhee comes to us from San Diego, California where he is currently pursuing a career in acting. He has appeared in "The Last Shot", "The Basics", "Butterfingers" and "Fear of Discovery" for film and television. He has also appeared at the St. James Theatre in "My Children, My Africa", and "Death of a Salesman". Barry is also the owner of Visual Concepts Advertising, and enjoys all type of sports, excelling in basketball, football and

swimming. He is the proud father of 3 year old Nicholas.

Bradley Morgan comes to us from South Dakota. A very busy man, he is currently a Board Member of the South Dakota Coalition of Citizens With Disabilities, a participant and Board Member of the Black Hills Regional Ski for Light, and has also participated in the Burnt Toast Toastmasters. He owns a business in manufacturing fertilizer with his family and partner Christopher. It was during a car crash that he was paralyzed, however, never during his rehab did he lose his lifelong conviction that anything was possible. He credits Craig

Hospital in Englewood, Colorado with providing him the tools and knowledge he needed to keep his attitude realistic.



Carrie Padgett is a kindergarten teacher from Old Hickory, Tennessee. She volunteers with the Easter Seal Spinal Cord Support Network as a peer counselor and has taught a G.E.D. class for adults with disabilities. She also enjoys working with the FRIST sports camp for children with disabilities, the Girl Scouts, the Ronald McDonald House and serves on the Tennessee Occupational Therapy Association Executive Board. Carrie has received the

Nashville Mayor's Award for enhancing the environment for people with disabilities and was recognized as an Outstanding Woman by the Otahki Girl Scout Council. She was Ms. Wheelchair Tennessee in 1997. She enjoys singing, water skiing, playing tennis, and scuba diving. Carrie uses a wheelchair as a result of an automobile accident in 1990.



Dick Sheppard recently retired from the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities where he served as Program Manager in the Office of Plans, Projects and Services. For the last few years, Dick has had program development responsibility for High School/HIGH TECH, a national program that has encouraged thousands of high school students with disabilities to pursue higher education and careers in science, engineering and high technology fields. Prior to joining the Committee, Dick served as a Division Chief for

Vocational Support Services in the D.C. Bureau of Rehabilitation, and as a school-to-work transition coordinator. He is an advisor to the American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities, as well as a member on many different Boards that deal with different disabilities.

MWA 2000 CONTESTANTS



ame: Angela Cook

itle: Ms. Wheelchair California latform: "Access with Dignity"



Angela Cook joins in the competition by representing sunny California. She is a licensed hairdresser and a espected journalist. She has written articles in local newspapers regarding wheelchair related issues, and also publishes a ewsletter for her 4WD club. Angela believes that people need to be educated about disabilities so that discrimination does not occur, and she also speaks at functions on how to improve wheelchair accessibility.

Angela maintains a very active life. Along with water sports and off-roading, she is working on building her own ack-crawling jeep, and she also got married less than three months ago.



Name: Tracy Charlton
Title: Ms. Wheelchair South Dakota
Platform: "Use Your Mind to Protect Your Body"

Tracy Charlton is the coordinator and only presenter for the "Think First" program; is involved in Friends of Rehab, and counsels patients with spinal cord injuries. She is also involved in Big Brother/Big Sister and speaks to young people about courage and other related topics. Tracy has spoken to over 8,000 people in the last four years on the prevention of spinal cord injuries, and just keeps on going. The Girl Scouts of America voted her "Woman of Distinction of the Year". Tracy hopes to someday write a book about her experiences and also open a ranch for handicapped kids.

Tracy enjoys snow skiing, water skiing, fishing and riding horses. She is also employed at the Rapid City Regional Hospital, and builds spec homes on the side.

Name: Jennifer Gasner

Title: Ms. Wheelchair Wisconsin

Platform: "Volunteerism is something individuals with disabilities can involve themselves in. It does not need to involve a lot of energy

or time, and can benefit every person involved.



Jennifer Gasner is a graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville with a Bachelor of Arts in English and also has a Master of Science degree in Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration from Western Illinois University. She has been involved in Habitat for Humanity and also participated in the Midwest Special Recreation Society ADA workshop as a panel member. In college, Jennifer participated in several committees including The Student Activities Board, The National Association for Campus Activities and also the campus radio station. In 1994, Jennifer won the UWP Foundation Award and in 1996 was nominated for the Class Valedictory Speech.

Jennifer is an avid music enthusiast, and has seen over sixty concerts. She has also had the privilege of meeting some of her favorite artists, which includes 10,000 Maniacs, The Bodeans, The Freddy Jones Band, and is a friend of Dave Matthews.



Name: Robbin Wagner-Head Title: Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky

Platform: "Courage of self in mettle, spirit, resolution and tenacity."

Robbin Wagner-Head is a student at the University of Louisville studying towards a degree in sociology, and will end up graduating the same year as her daughter. She is a peer mentor for people with disabilities, and also a member of the Derby City chapter of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association. Robbin has achieved eligibility to participate in the National Student Exchange due to her academic accomplishments.

Robbin enjoys handmade ceramic pottery and also collects porcelain dolls. She is currently learning American Sign Language as a second language, and is also learning how to modify swimming strokes in order to enable her to swim.

Name: Katie Phemister Kirkham Title: Ms. Wheelchair Colorado

Platform: "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

-Theodore Roosevelt



Katie Phemister Kirkham is a licensed child psychologist, and uses one of her pet cockatoo birds as a therapy tool. She is involved in several community services and committees, some of which include being the President of The Front Range Avian Society, a member of the Multiple Sclerosis Advisory Board, Front Range Avian Society Junior Division Sponsor, United Day Care Center Board of Directors and a Parent Educator with a variety of programs. Katie also announces high school basketball games, advertises regional fund raising events on KPAW radio station and calls bingo for the Eyestone Parent Teacher Organization. She has spoken to many school children and community leaders about disabilities, including the Governor of Colorado.

Tennis, water skiing and snow skiing are only some of the activities Katie enjoys. She would someday like to try using a racing wheelchair or a hand-cycle, and would like to be able to add a cruise onto the long list of places she has traveled.



Name: Christina Martin Title: Ms. Wheelchair Florida

Platform: "Fighting Underage Drinking"

Christina Martin is the National Spokesperson for Alcohol Free Kids, Inc. She warns kids about how dangerous underage drinking is, and she has a good reason to. Christina was paralyzed in a car accident, which was caused by her drinking and driving. She speaks very strongly on the subject to young people in schools across the country. Christina, along with her mother, formed the Alibi's Racing Team and has been competing in NASCAR races for the last five years. She is the Goodwill Ambassador for Jazzy Power Chairs, who is also one of the major sponsors for her racing company. She participates in the Florida Disabled Outdoor Association, and also in the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology, Inc. (FAAST).

Christina hopes to continue touring and speaking to young people, and would also like to continue her modeling career. She enjoys being outdoors, going to the beach, scuba diving, and playing pool, golf, and target shooting. She also enjoys being a marketing representative for the magazine, "Disabled Dealer".

Name: Carol McClure Title: Ms. Wheelchair Iowa

Platform: "There is a shining star within us all, disabled or not, if we only believe."



Carol McClure is a student at Kirkwood Community College working on an Associates degree in Computer Programming. She has worked with the March for Dimes, and also at Camp Courageous in Iowa. She strives to motivate people to realize their potential, disabled or not.

This former poster child was not supposed to live past two days of birth, and when she did, her parents were told she would never speak, hear or see. Carol pulled through all the doctors' predictions, and joins our competition as an optimistic a oman who claims, she always smiles.



Name: Andreena Patton Title: Ms. Wheelchair Georgia

Platform: "Educate people without disabilities about people with disabilities stressing the importance of independence."

Andreena Patton is a senior this year at Mercer University, studying for a degree in Early Childhood Development. She is the President of Alpha Gamma Delta at her school, and was awarded the Outstanding Organizational Member and Model Sister for the sorority. She is currently involved in a special project to make Mercer University more accessible for students and faculty with disabilities. Andreena is also involved in several organizations, which include Student Government Association and also Order of Omega, a Greek Honor Society.

Andreena claims that her greatest achievement was learning to live with a disability, and says she wouldn't be at the point she is in her life today without each member of her unusually large, intermediate family (three sets of parents, two biological brothers, three brothers, two sisters, three sister-in-laws, one brother-in-law and several nephews and nieces!!!!)

Name: Lena Christine Smith Title: Ms. Wheelchair Ohio

Platform: "The Power of a Smile"



Lena Christine Smith is a member of the Canton/ Dover/ Wooster Local Consumer Advisory Council of the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission's Southeast Area Advisory Council, and also a member of her church's Taskforce on Building Accessibility. She is a licensed social worker and hopes to someday become a licensed independent social worker.

Lena believes that being disabled does not mean that a person cannot be successful or live a fulfilling life, and she definitely lives up to that. She enjoys playing sports, reading, traveling and going to the movies. Lena also claims she will try anything at least once just for the experience and challenge.



Name: Diana Stewart Title: Ms. Wheelchair Maryland

Platform: "Make people aware of the lost potential to employers when adequate nursing and personal care services are not available to those able and willing to work outside the home."

This Dallas Cowboys fan and professed "Wizard of Oz" fanatic, joins the competition in high spirits. Diana Stewart has a BA degree in Mass Communications from the University of Maryland, and is working on a Masters degree from Bowie State University in Organizational Communications. She has had several articles related to disability issues published, along with some of her own poetry.

Diane had a tracheotomy in 1998, which made it very hard for her to talk, and she said ironically, that was when she acquired her passion for public speaking. She has spoken at functions for parents of children with disabilities, and also to the Food and Drug Administration regarding the role of folic acid in the prevention of neural tube defects.

Becoming an executive member of the Ms. Wheelchair Maryland organization, and writing for radio and television to improve perceptions of people with disabilities in the media, are only some of the plans Diane has for the future.

Nume Jill Street

Ms. Wheelchair Missouri

"Specializing in disability travel and speaking for the 'Think First' program on safety and prevention for kids and adults."



Jill Street is a volunteer for the Steve Palermo chapter helping raise money for SCI; she is also a volunteer for the bowling association along with the Deron Cherry's golf tournament. As a certified travel agent, Jill helps people association along with the world, and has also traveled several places herself.

As of December of 1998, Jill is the only one in Kentucky to be a wheelchair fencer, and after training for only one she captured third place in the national competition. She believes a disability is only in the eyes of that person and they will accomplish what they set out to do.

Jill gives all the credit to God for getting her through a coma after the accident that left her paralyzed, and keeps for more faith in Him. She has several goals for the future, but her ultimate goal is to someday walk again.



Name: Jaci Sweet Title: Ms. Wheelchair Washington Platform: "Service Dogs: the role they play in their disabled partner's life."

Jaci Sweet is a registered nurse, and pursuing a career in oncology. She is a volunteer at the local food bank as a secretary, and is also a triage nurse at the Community Health Care Center. Along with being the NW Coordinator for the New Life Mobility Assistance Dog School, Jaci speaks to businesses and public functions about assistance dogs and partners. She is also a participant in the Society for Creative Anachronism, which is a historical re-creational group.

Jaci's motto is "God puts us in different places, times and situations to learn, grow and help others through our own growth and achievements." She believes that a disabled person has a greater inner strength that comes from attitudinal barriers and public opinion, not only outward physical obstacles. In the future, Jaci would like to help disabled people accomplish their dreams and goals, such as having a family or finishing their education, and pursuing a career.

Name: Dawn Teresa Parkot

Title: Ms. Wheelchair New Jersey

Platform: "To demand a solid education, not a watered down facsimile, to equip the

disabled to be fully integrated in the workforce."



Dawn Parkot is a student at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana working on a Masters degree in Computer Science and Engineering. She is a volunteer at the Juvenile Diabetes Association, works on developing wheelchair access information for Broadway shows and is also a tester and developer of computer equipment for the disabled.

Dawn was the first student with multiple disabilities in the history of the university. After she graduated, she was invited into the graduate program, and became the first disabled student in that program as well. Her fellow students founded an award in her name to be given to future students who succeed in life despite unthinkable odds. "Work hard, play hard and don't let life pass you by!" is Dawn's motto. She says that disabled people have to be better than the best to make it in this world.



Name: Theresa Crockett
Title: Ms. Wheelchair Tennessee

Platform: "To educate doctors as well as insurance companies on the necessities

that the disabled are in need of."

Theresa Crockett is a student at MTSU pursuing a degree in Occupational Therapy. She travels throughout her community promoting disability awareness, and has also attended several schools and churches to speak on the same topic.

Theresa credits herself with being a very positive person, and says that when you talk to an individual using a positive attitude, it can make a world of difference in how that person will handle situations in the future. A positive attitude is contagious!

Name: Angela Nix

Title: Ms. Wheelchair South Carolina

Platform: "The importance of education in society about persons with disabilities"



Angela Nix is a Board Member for the Meyers Center for Special Children, a Participant in the Local Chapter of Alzheimer's Association, a Member of the National Association of Social Work, and involved in various outreache programs through her church.

Through out her childhood and teen years, Angela received several recognitions including, Queen of Shrine Bowl Races, 1989 Greenville County Student of the Year, 1989 South Carolina Student of the Year, and earned various full scholarships to different colleges. In recent years, Angela was the first wheelchair bound person to go to the top of the Statue of Liberty, and is also playing on South Carolina's first wheelchair softball team.



Name: Lisa Ann Kirk Title: Ms. Wheelchair Michigan Platform: "I'm In With the Kids"

This Michigan State Spartan is an aspiring author and also a big fan of public speaking. Lisa Ann Kirk is working on a book right now and hopes to be published some day. She has also had the opportunity to speak to high school students across the state about the dangers of drunk driving. Lisa has also been interviewed on two different local stations and was featured in an article in YM Magazine.

Currently, Lisa is working at Freedom Driving Aras, a company that specializes in conversion vans with adaptive equipment for the disabled, and is also putting together a group of her peers to do speaking engagements at elementary and middle schools. They will be speaking on disability awareness to students across Michigan.

MWA ITINERARY 2000

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1999

8:30 am

WELCOME BREAKFAST @ RADISSON

Citi View North - Contestant & Companion Briefing Only

10:00am

NATIONAL PRESS DAY / SEA WORLD OF CLEVELAND

Additional guests are **encouraged** to join us for Press Day at Sea World! Additional guests can purchase tickets at the park. Guests must provide their own transportation.

7:30-9:30pm

CASUAL GET ACQUAINTED PARTY @ RADISSON

Citi View North - Guests Welcome - No Charge/Cash Bar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1999

8:00am

BREAKFAST AND BRIEFING @ RADISSON

Citi View North - Contestants, Companion & Staff Only

8:30am

PRIVATE INTERVIEW SESSION ONE

Citi View South - Private No Guests

9:00-10:30am

CONTESTANT LEARNING WORKSHOPS I

Citi View East – Contestants, Companions Only Lois' Something Special will present fashion tips for today's woman

10:30-12noon

CONTESTANT LEARNING WORKSHOP II

Citi View East - Contestants, Companions Only

Dr. Collin Myers will present "Dynamics of Impression"

12 NOON

MWA 2000 LUNCHEON

Citi View North - Guests Welcome - \$15 each

Featuring Jim O'Brien from WQMX, MWA Christina Gilmore, and Tim Harrington.

2:00pm

PRIVATE INTERVIEW SESSION TWO

Citi View South - Private No Guests

2:30-3:30pm

CONTESTANT LEARNING WORKSHOP III

Citi View East - Contestants, Companions Only Patti Noussias will present presentation tips for women with disabilities

7:15pm

OHIO RACERS -vs- GEORGIA PRIDE

Contestants will go to Firestone Stadium as special guests of the Racers, fast pitch professional women's softball game. Contestants will be introduced during the game, Ms. Wheelchair California, Angela Cook will perform the national anthem and MWA Christina Gilmore will throw out the first pitch. Additional guests can purchase tickets for the game at the gate.

MWA ITINERARY 2000

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1999

8:30am

PRIVATE INTERVIEW SESSION III

Citi View South - Private No Guests

10:00am

NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

Citi View East - National Board Members & State Coordinators/Staff

2:30PM

FRIDAY COMPETITION REHEASAL

Contestants will learn the production numbers & rehearse platform speeches. **Contestants WILL NOT RETURN TO THE RADISSON prior to show time.**

7:30pm

PRELIMINARY ON-STAGE COMPETITION

Summit County Fairgrounds Arena - \$5 each (all ages) and available at the door.

9:30-10:00pm

CONTESTANT MEET & GREET

Contestants will sign autographs and mingle with the public & press.

SATURDAY, AUGUST, 7, 1999

8:30am

PRIVATE INTERVIEW SESSION IV

Citi View South - Private No Guests

1:00pm

FINAL SHOW REHEARSAL — CLOSED REHEARSAL
contestants, one companion, & staff only — NO GUESTS

Contestants **WILL NOT** RETURN TO THE RADISSON prior to show time.

7:30pm

FINAL NIGHT ON-STAGE COMPETITION

Summit County Fairgrounds Arena - \$15 each (all ages) and available at the door.

Announcement of Top 8 finalists, competition & Crowning of MWA 2000

9:30-11:00pm

CORONATIONAL BALL

Immediately following the crowning - no charge with Saturday show ticket

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 1999

10:30am

CONTESTANT FAREWELL WITH NEW MWA 2000

Board Room – to left of main lobby

11:00am

PLANNING MEETING WITH NEW MWA 2000 & MWA BOARD

For Information during MWA week... PAGEANT CENTRAL located in the main lobby & on the 19th floor

INS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA 2000 ENTERTAINERS



Mo' Shambo (named after two hippie friends of the band) is a good time, hippie jam band in the tradition of the Grateful Dead. This seven piece group rocks out a wide range of the kind of tunes that make you want to get up and move. With the help of a drummer and two percussionists that ignite the band's infectious rhythms. Mo' Shambo is rounded out by three more rhythm instruments, guitar, keyboard, bass and the passion provoking flute of Josh Markle.

We are pleased to have Mo' Shambo here to bring us the sounds of the late 60"s, early 70's as they set the mood for "Peace, Love and Understanding!" Members of Mo' Shambo are: Josh Markle – flute & vocals; Ruth Markle – percussion & vocals; Bob Hosnik bass guitar; Bill Roth – percussion, congas and vocals; Will Roth – guitar and vocals; Denise Brown – drums and vocals; and Scott "Tippy" Myers – keyboards.

Lowery Lockard and Alan Irvin have been singing together for the past 4 years. Initially, they spent time singing with Troupe Du Jour, and now they are part of the country music band LOWERY & Suede, which have been prime performers in the Northeast Ohio area for the past three years. Lowery has been singing country music her whole life and enjoys live performing. Alan has been singing in church choirs, community choirs and local



theater productions since his 20's. Together, these two have a beautiful mix and are well known in the area for their harmonies. Currently, Lowery is recording her first cd in Nashville under the watchful eye of producer Randy Boudreaux. Alan made the trip to Nashville to add his talents to some of the songs on the CD. The cd release

is set for early 2000. We are pleased to have these two fine performers provide a special treat for this years Ms. Wheelchair America Contestants!

Many thanks to the seventeen Women who have volunteered to Chaperone this year's Ms. Wheelchair America Contestants!



Amy Balazowich Andrea Jacobson Angela Koehler Betty Skeans Bonnie Long, Coord. Diana Thomas Jean Fish Jennie Scott Maggie Albright, Coord. Patty Clemetson Pearl Johnson Phyllis Gauer Robin Greene Robin Perkins Sarah Waren Shirley Boldin Tena Bauer Tessa Krismer



Many thanks to these following gentlemen acting as:



CONTESTANT ESCORTS

Alan Irvin
Brett Berger
Christopher Long
D.J. Diebold
Jake Digman
Kevin Gilmore
Leonard Smith
Luther Hustson
Paul Auls
Robert Gooden
Tom Bilcze

CONTESTANT LITTLE BROTHERS

Andrew Walch
Brian Dowling
Cameron McAdory
Cedrick McAdory
Jacob Dowling
James Wallace White
Justin Delaney
Kane Fashbaugh
Morgan Ross Frye
Trent Gaither



WHO MAKES IT GRA

LOWERY D. LOCKARD,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

MWA COMMITTEE

PHYLLISS STEINER - FACILITY PREP

ANGELA ALLEN - PRESS AND SPONSORSHIP

BETSY MCGHEE - ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR

BLANE WHITE - FOOD/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

BOB CRAVEN - CONTESTANT GIFTS

CATRINA STEINER - RACERS COORDINATOR/PRINTING

CHRIS LACY - VOLUNTEERS/LUNCHEON

KATHY LACY - PUBLICITY MATERIALS/MERCHANDISING

MARLENE MARTIN - ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR

MATT PETRICK - HOTEL

SIBYL LOCKARD - BASKETS/C ORONATION BALL

WAYNE CALDWELL - PHOTOGRAPHY

JACKIE EBNER - CONTESTANT GIFTS

JOYCE SERDINAK - COMPETITIONS/AWARDS
LARRY CASSIDY - CORONATION BALL/FOOD
MAGGIE ALBRIGHT - CONTESTANT COORDINATOR
MARY MENDOZA - WORKSHOP COORDINATOR/HOTE

ROCKY STEINER - ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR

SHERRIE HOPKINS - LITTLE BROTHERS

TOM MORAN - TRANSPORTATION

AMEESHA KHOLSA - WORKSHOP ASSISTANT

BONNIE LONG - CONTESTANT COORDINATOR

CYNTHIA FOSTER - WELCOME DESK

DORIS LEE - HOSPITALITY/WGF BOARD

CINDY COURIE - TRANSPORTATION

BETH LOEFFLER - ACCOMMODATIONS

STEFAN WELCH - VIDEO PRODUCTION

RICH MAKRUSKI - VIDEC

MIKE CAMPBELL - VIDEC

RON MARTIN - VIDEC

BACK STAGE PRODUCTION

JOE HAYDEN - SECURITY/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

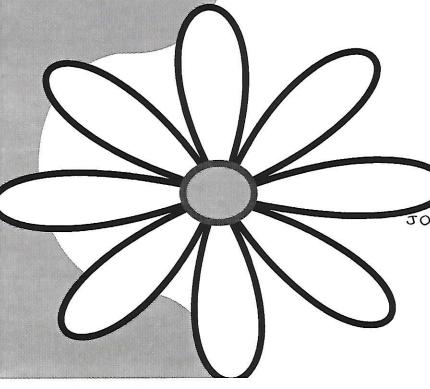
WILL ROTH - PRODUCTION MANAGER

PAUL REEVES - LIGHTING

TOM SEIBERT - SOUND ENGINEERING

BRAD HALM - SPOT OPERATOR

BECKY DUNLAP - SPOT OPERATOR





Ms. Wheelchair America Merchandise

T-Shirt	\$15
Back Pack	\$15
Tote Bag	\$10
Water Bottle	\$3
Rainbow Slinky	\$3
Bubbles	\$1
Key Chain	\$3
Goblet	\$5
Program Book	\$5
MWA 2000 Video	\$30
MWA Photo Package	\$40

Buy your MWA 2000 Commemorative Merchandise! Available at MWA 2000 & through MWA Merchandising (330) 634-8881

MS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA 2000 LEARNING WORKSHOP PRESENTERS



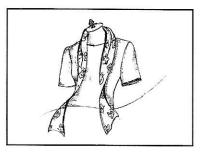
Patti Noussias is the President of Creative Training Concepts, a company devoted to developing and improving human resource skills through training programs and speaking engagements. Her programs, such as Success Through Service, Critical Thinking Skills, Presentation Skills and Team Building are specifically designed to enhance a company's customer service and communication needs. She

has over eleven years' speaking and training experience, working with many, many businesses in the Ohio area. Patti completed her terms as District Ten Governor for Toastmasters International, and has received the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) designation. Patti is a member of the ARDB, Women's Network and is graduating in November of 1999 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from Malone College. She will be presenting for the contestants the components that are needed for a quality presentation and being prepared for speaking engagements, appearances and the importance of impression.



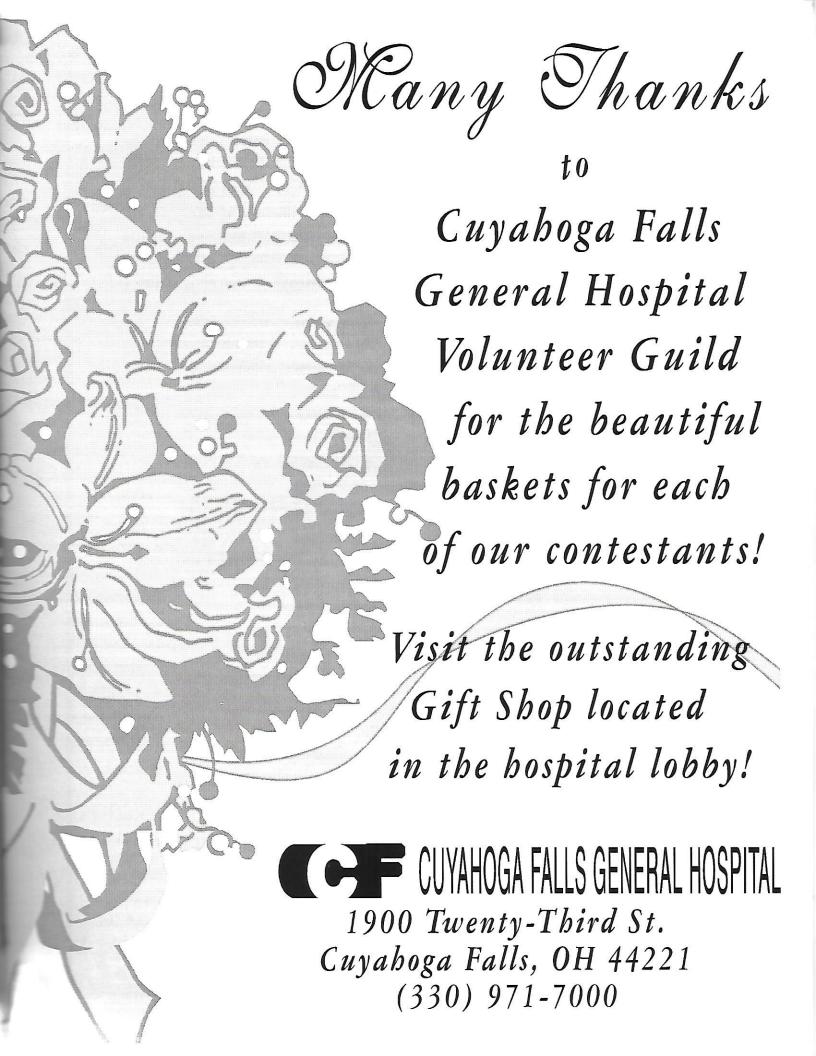
Dr. Collin A. Myers is a professional clinical counselor and owner of Fairhaven Counseling in Cuyahoga Falls and in Massillon, Ohio. His areas of expertise include abuse recovery, marriage and family counseling, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, spiritual development, career and life planning, co-dependency and treatment of mental and emotional disorders. Dr. Myers has presented at the

local, state, and national level and is well known not only for his expertise in his field, but also for his presentation style. Using humor and his own unique outlook, he is an audience favorite. Dr. Myers' workshop entitled "The Dynamics of Impression" discuses tips on public speaking, thinking "on the run", and how to make others "comfortable" with their and your disability.



Lois' Somethin' Special has been one of the premiere ladies clothing stores in the North Canton area for over twenty years. Owner Lois Crallie has been providing clothing to ladies across Northeast Ohio in a way that makes each and every one of her patrons feel special. She and her staff always take the extra time every one of us may need when selecting just that "perfect outfit"!!! Lois will share fashion

tips, coordination of styles for various occasions to assure that you always look professional, along with ideas on fabrics (what wrinkles, what doesn't), good styles to wear in a chair and tips on straightening clothing while in a chair.



The Akron Racers proudly congratulate all of the 1999 Ms. Wheelchair America contestants

AKRON



Good Luck, Ladies!



AT&T Wireless Services







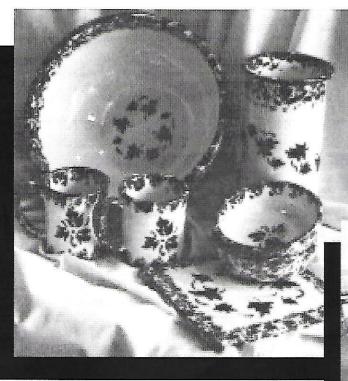
Many, Many Thanks Go to

CAMPUS CAMERA
V. Demshar & Sons, Inc.
1645 East Main Street
Kent, OH 44240
(330) 678-1297

For providing the winner of Ms. Wheelchair America 2000 With a beautiful Ricon R-1 Camera Along With A Tripod and Remote Switch



Clay Charles Handcrafted Ceramic Dinnerware



Visit our studios to see our large selection of ceramic dinnerware and cookware made by people with disabilities. Choose from an assortment of products, colors, and stencils to suit your style.



Providing training and employment for adults with developmental disabilities

Welcome Ms. Wheelchair America Contestants!



All Clay Crafters products are:

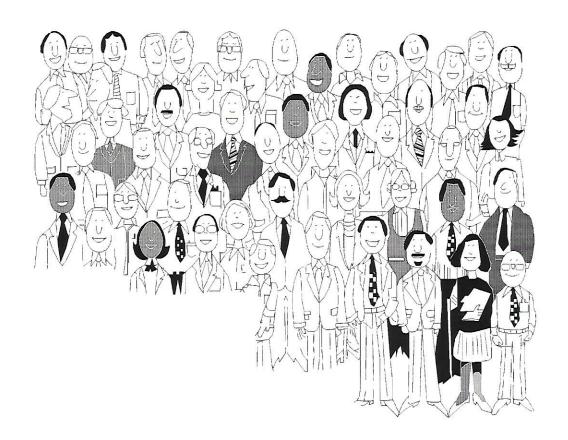
- food-safe
- ovenproof
- microwave safe
- freezer safe
- dishwasher safe

Canal Place 530 S. Main St., Suite 1714 Akron, OH 44311

Phone: (330) 379-366 • Fax: (330) 379-3665

Hours: Mon. through Fri. 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

We Are All Proud To Sponsor



Ms. Wheelchair Michigan, Lisa Kirk



Grand Lake Party Store
Dr. Richard Somerlott
Diana and Ola Wright,
Freedom Driving Aids
Bennys Bar & Grill
Jenette & Charles Kirk
Tom Stewart



To Our Ms. Wheelchair Ohio, Lena!









You're Our Star!!!!



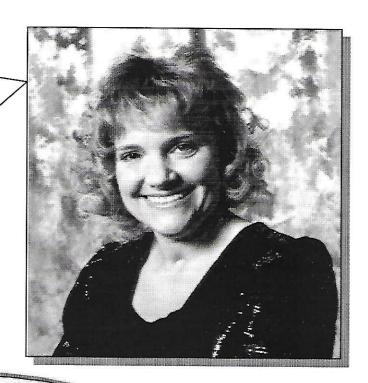
Love from all, Mom, Dad, Abby, Kelly, Audrey, Rick, Joann, Steve, Grandpa Smith and Grandma & Grandpa Hare

Thanks!

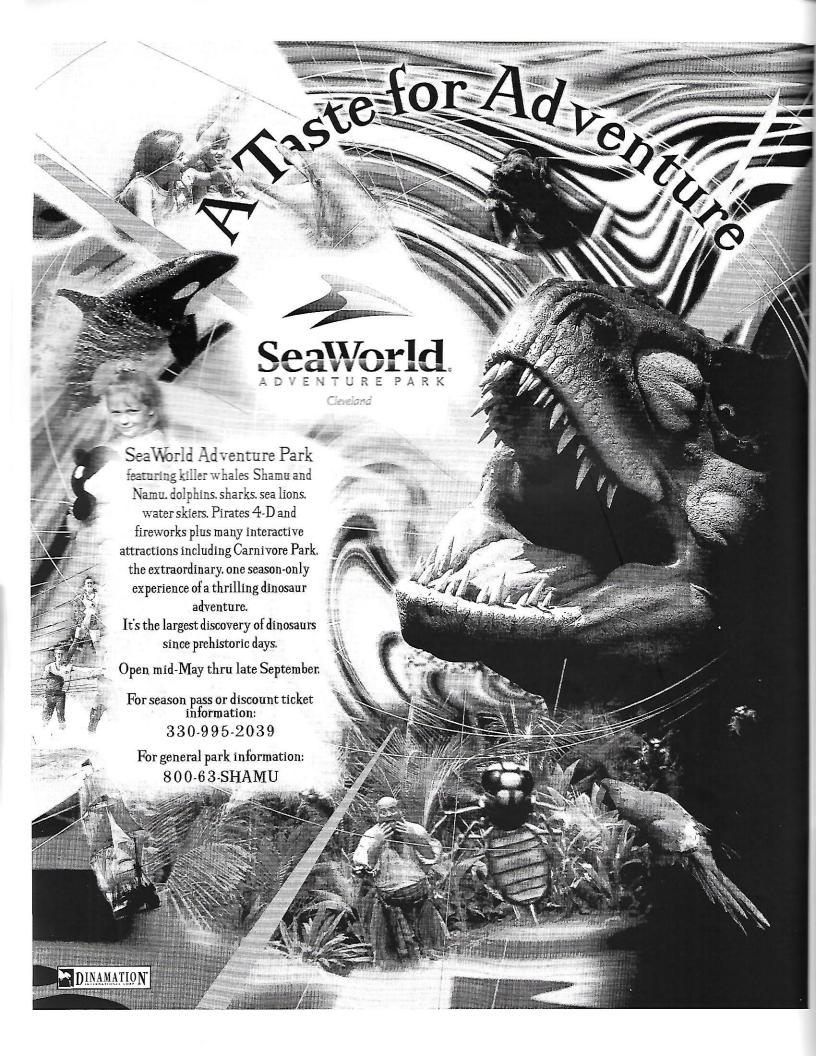
CHARLOTTE'S WEST

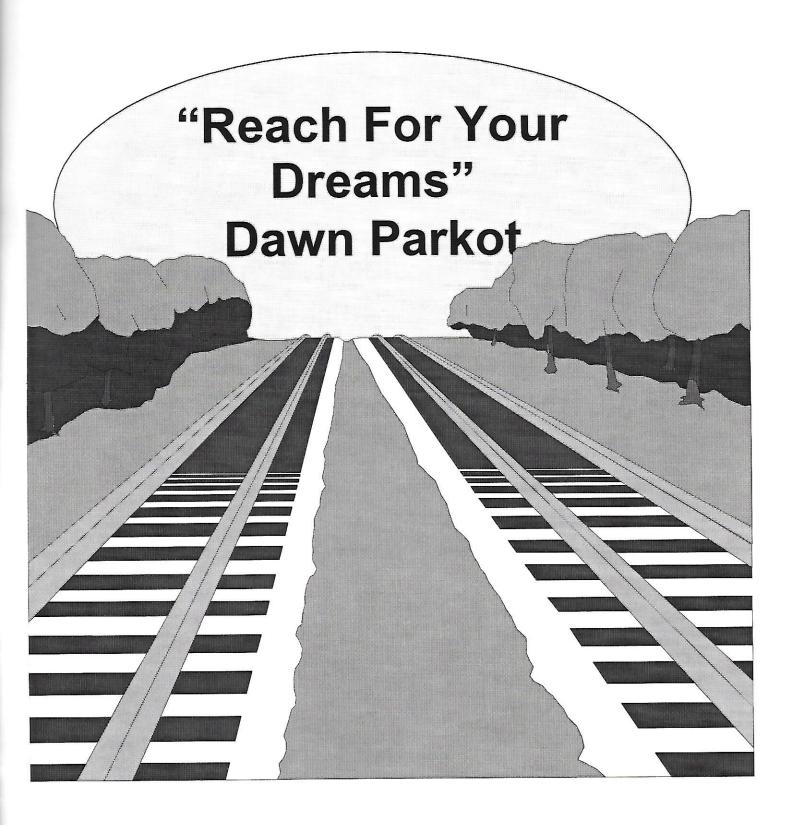
3265 West Market Street, Summit Mall • Akron, Obio 44333

Akron: (330) 867-4121 Bridal: (330) 867-0000 Cleveland: (Local)526-2880 "As Ms. Wheelchair Missouri, I would like to thank the following people for their support and sponsorship....."



My husband, Greg My parents, Dean and Martha Wilson Attorney John Bortnick Dr. Jonathan Chilton My co-worker Joy Christen Pat Glodus Cliff Harkness Dr. Lanny Harris Dr. Rebecca Johnson Jim Leath Jimmy Lopar Palermo Foundation Attorney John Michael Quinn Kathy Sartin My employers Tamarack Travel Doyle Sherman BGI





With All Our Love, Grandma and Grandpa Parkot



1999 Board of Directors

Tom O'Bryant, President, Kentucky
Lowery D. Lockard, Vice-President, Ohio
Barb Cramer, Executive Director, Colorado
Dabney Weatherford, Secretary, Tennessee
P. Kaye Barrier, Treasurer, South Carolina

"Congratulations to all of the 1999 winners and good luck to the new Ms. Wheelchair America 2000"



We're looking for volunteers and State Coordinators!!!

Interested?

Contact the MWA hotline at 1-877-679-4335!!!

Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky Robbin-Head-Waggner, 1999

The Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky Board of Directors

Congratulates you and Wishes you Good Luck!

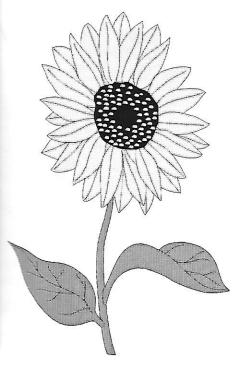


CONGRATULATIONS KATIE!!!



The Ms. Wheelchair Colorado Board of Directors

Joanne...Sue...Bev...Bill...Judy...Fred...Barb We Are So Proud Of You!

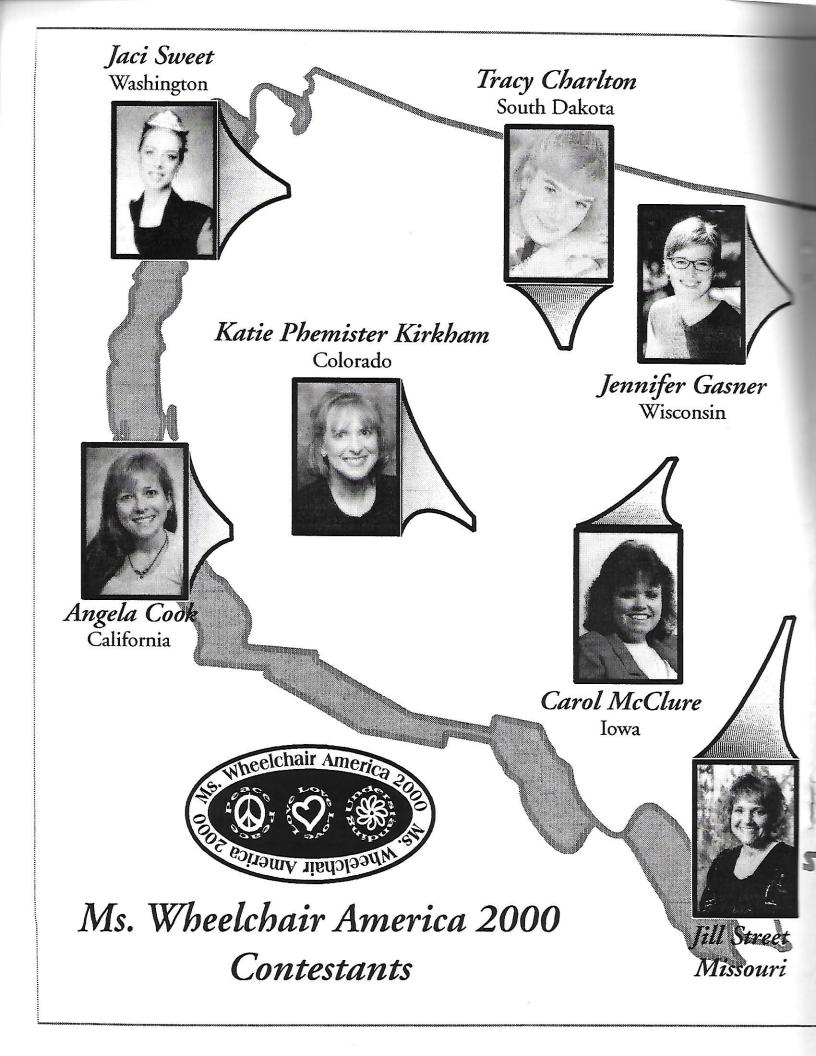


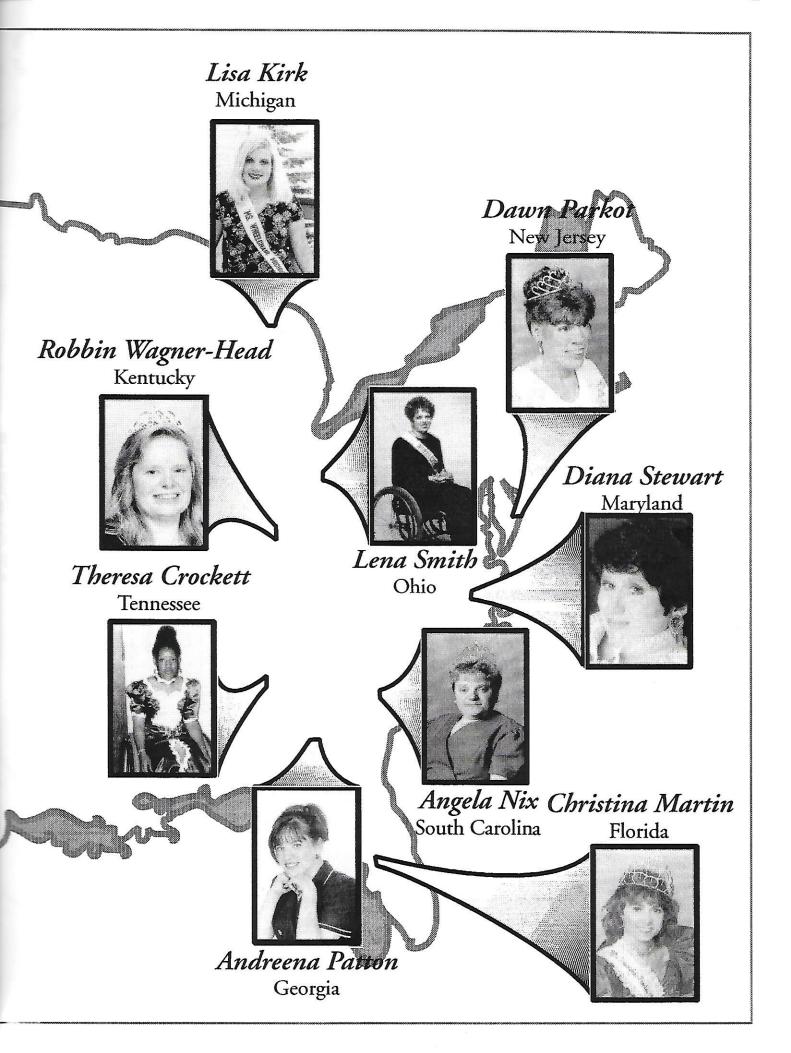
Best of Luck

To Dawn Parkot

From

The Brady's



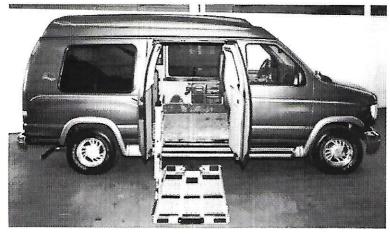


AA SOUND AND LIGHTING, INC.



3681 Manchester Rd. · Suite 101, Akron, OH 44319 · 330-644-3884

Turning Obstacles into O



Opportunities

FREEdom: The power or condition of acting without restriction

THE

FREEDOM TO (41005E

We are proud to offer more than JUST A LOOK,

a mobility dealership so unique, it provides transportation **Solutions** to people with differing **abilities**

physically compromised

Sabled



--- anatomically unique

www.freedomdrivingaids.com

901 Salzburg Road • Bay City, Michigan 48706 • 800.321.7736

101 Appian Way, Suite 101 • Brighton, Michigan 48116 • 888.494.3520

23855 West Andrew Road • Plainfield, Illinois 60544 • 800.843.0511



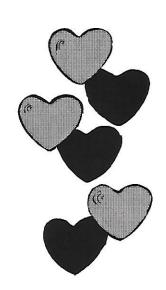
Congratulations!!! Jaci Sweet on your latest victory at becoming Ms. Wheelchair 1999 for Washington State. All of the girls at Wanderlust want to wish you much luck at your next victory during the Ms. Wheelchair America Program. You go girl!!!!!!!!!!

Barby White

253-535-5200

800-426-2015

All of our best wishes go to you Dawn Parkot!



We Will be cheering for you!







Best Wishes to
Ms. Wheelchair New Jersey 1999,
Dawn Parkot
and to all contestants in the
Ms. Wheelchair America Pageant.

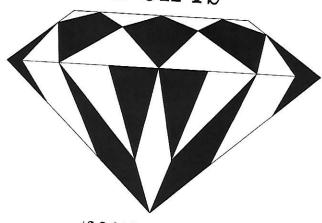
Your Friends at Jaguar Cars of North America



GOOD LUCKU DAWN!

Compliments of Prudential Securities, Inc

TURNER JEWELERS & GIFTS



(330)877-3996

141 South Prospect Avenue Located In Historic Downtown Hartville Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. 9-6; Thurs. 9-8; Sat. 9-3



20 West Mill St. Down Town Akron, OH 44308 (330) 384-1500

Thanks to

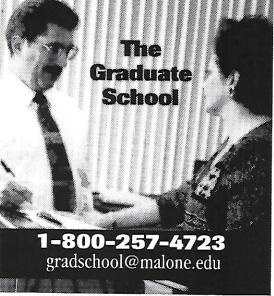


for being "Home" to the Contestants and to the Program!

MALONE COLLEGE

ROCK SOLID FOUNDATIONS







Nursing Program 1-800-521-1146 Ext. 8166

mdavisson@malone.edu



M C M P - Degree Completion 1-800-867-6267 jthompson@malone.edu

MALINE

A Christian College for the Arts, Sciences and Professions

515 25th Street N.W. Canton, Ohio 44709 (330)-471-8100

www.malone.edu



Many thanks to Bierce for providing the plants used in our "Peace Garden"

Special thanks to Pearl Johnson for the loan of her fountain and June Mutersbaugh for pulling all the pieces of the garden together!

Good Luck Katie!! We Are So Proud of You!!



Katie Phemister Kirkham Ms. Wheelchair Colorado

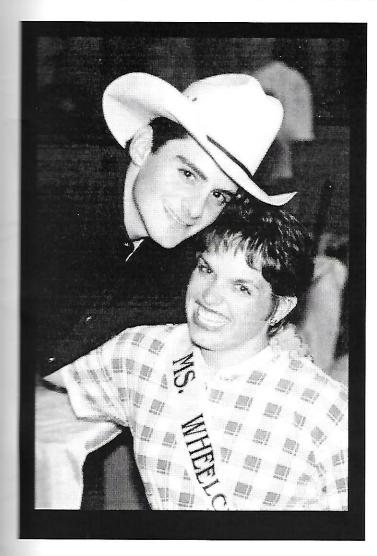
Love, Lee

The Phemisters: Mom & Dad, Dave & Kim The Kirkhams: Howard & Katherine The Jensens: Lana & Ron The Baker-Carrs: Susan \$ Kit

Special Thanks To All My Sponsors:

Biogen
First National Bank
Hewlett-Packard
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Colorado Chapter
Poudre School District
Saturn Distributors of Colorado
Sinnett Builders
Thermal Concepts
Creative Memories Consultants

THE POWER OF A SMILE





Lena Smith Ms. Wheelchair Ohio

We are proud to support Lena Smith in her efforts as Ms. Wheelchair Ohio 2000!



We salute you!





Congratulations

Dawn Parkot

Ms. Wheelchair New Jersey 1999

Bayada Nurses wishes

You Good Luck in the

Ms. Wheelchair America 2000 Pageant



BAYADA NURSES Heroes on the Home Front

1-888-4-BAYADA

Bayada Nurses has offices in AZ, CO, DE, FL, MA, NJ, NC, PA, and RI -- opening soon in NY

www. bayada.com



A division of



Providing training and employment for adults with developmental disabilities

Canal Place 530 S. Main St., Suite 1714 Akron, OH 44311-1012

> (330) 379-3634 Fax: (330) 379-3665

Hours: Mon. through Fri, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Welcome Ms. Wheelchair America Contestants!

Visit our studio to see our large selection of beautiful home accessories:

Christmas Tree Skirts

Tote Bags

Baby Bibs

Towels

Aprons

Basket Liners

Coasters

Placemats

Table Runners

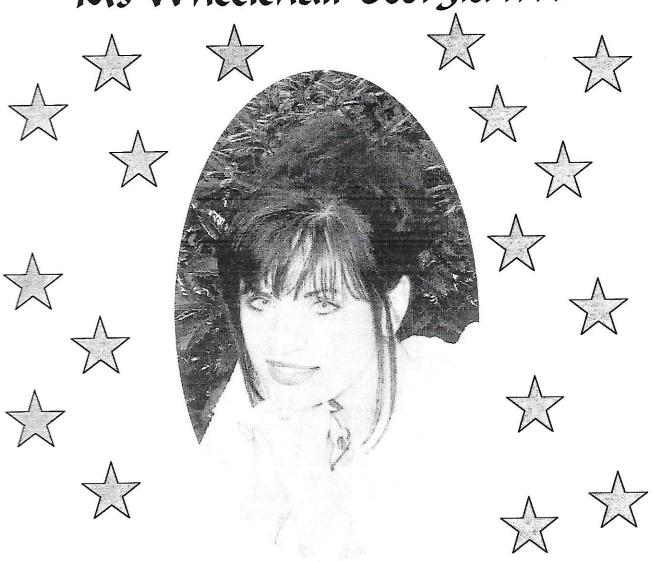
Custom Interiors

Contracted Sewing



Andreena Patton Ms Wheelchair Georgia 1999





Wishing you Luck and Happiness From your WHOLE Family









LOIS' SOMETHIN' SPECIAL BEST WISHES TO MS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA

YOUR BEST SOURCE FOR :

MOTHER OF THE BRIDEIGROOM

PAGEANT GOWNS

COSTUME JEWELRY

DRESS SHOES & BAGS

DRESSEY CASUALS



LOIS' SOMETHIN' SPECIAL

RT * 77 EXIT 109 TARGET PLAZA (NEXT TO DICKS)

5534 DRESSLER ROAD

N. CANTON OHIO 44720 330-499-0047

HOURS: 10.00 AM - 9:00 PM MON- SAT CLOSED SUNDAYS

Lifestyle and quality of life: Ricon mobility products meet the needs of each.

Ricon is considered the world's leading wheelchair lift manufacturer. We have perfected our lift products and minivan conversions to perform faithfully and dependably, with innovative design features.

We are proud sponsors of Ms. Wheelchair California, Angela Cook.

For the dealer nearest you, call: 800-322-2884 or, visit us on the web at www.riconcorp.com.







We wish you all the best Andreena!

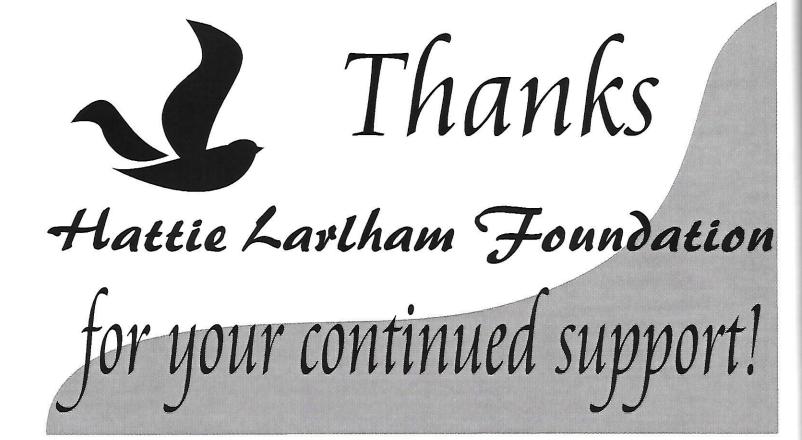
Love The "Whole" Family

Special Thanks to:

Culter Hammer Dallas, TX D & S Medical Supplies Duluth, GA

Handicapped Driver Services Marietta, GA American Allied Byron, GA

Buffalo's Café Jonesboro, Stockbridge, Macon GA





ALCOHOL FREE KIDS, INC.

IS PROUD OF

CHRISTINA LYN MARTIN MS. WHEELCHAIR FLORIDA 1999 & OUR NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON

AT THE

MS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA PROGRAM

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ www.alcoholfreekids.com

Alcohol Free Kids, Inc. is a non-profit organization fighting against underage drinking.

JOIN OUR FIGHT!!!!

The Campaign For Alcohol Free Kids A Life Saving Children's Charity P.O. Box 3625 Clearwater Beach, Florida 33767 Phone: # (727) 581-5489



PLAQUES CLOCKS

5176 Darrow Rd.

Hudson, Ohio 650-2280 TROPHIES RIBBONS

CORPORATE GIFTS
COMPUTERIZED LOGOS

Cricket PhotoTechnic

1166 Tallmadge Road - Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221 - (330) 923-5211

Located just north of Chapel Hill Mall where Howe, Brittain, Bailey, Northwest and Tallmadge Roads intersect.

- □ ONE HOUR PHOTO More choices than anyone in the area!
- □ CUSTOM PHOTO LAB In-house professional enlargements.
- □ DIGITAL IMAGING Complete photo restoration services.
- □ STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY Passport, portrait and commercial.
- □ FREE TWIN PRINTS EVERY FRIDAY* No coupons necessary!
- □ LOCALLY OWNED Friendly and highly experienced staff.

*See Cricket PhotoTechnic for complete details and restrictions.

Don't settle for drug or grocery store inexperience and <u>low</u> quality!

Stop paying <u>high</u> camera store or mall one hour photo prices!

Come to Cricket for <u>low prices</u>, <u>high quality</u> and <u>years of experience!</u>

Cricket PhotoTechnic is proud to sponsor MRDD activities.



Come Along.

A great big world is out there waiting for you, eager to share new experiences and opportunities. When you're ready to go, we're ready to go to the ends of the earth for you. Call your Travel Agent, or American at 1-800-433-7300, or visit us on the web at www.aa.com

American Airlines American Fagle

Europe Latin America Canada Caribbean Mexico Japan United States



Introducing the world's most innovative shopping cart.

Attention shoppers! It's time to put Invacare® power chairs on the top of your list. Because these chairs will take you to all the best sales. Invacare power chairs are maneuverable, comfortable, and designed to look great. Plus, they're affordable. So check out the full line of Invacare power chairs. They give a whole new meaning to the term "power shopping."

DiaMed Supply Inc. 9263 Cleveland Avenue N.W. North Caton, Ohio 44720

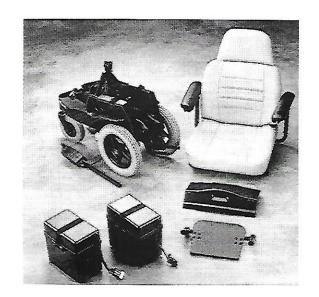
1-888-434-2633

GOOD LUCK MS. OHIO



 The 9000 XT manual prescription chair accommodates a variety of individual needs because of the many seat widths, depths, and frame styles it offers

"We Take Care Of You Because We Care"







Thanks to

Judy's Shear Artistry

2733 Hudson Drive

Cuyahoga Falls, OH

(330) 923-5544

for their assistance with our contestants!



Thanks to.....



and



@1998 BURKHARDT BREWING COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

You Go GIRIS

Charles R. Hohing

Phylliss Steiner
Dr. Cuzbaj

Dr. Beverly A Cinovec

Stefan Welch

Marlene Martin

Beth Loeffler

Jackie Ebner

Rocky Steiner

Catrina Steiner



Joe Tillman

Lowery Lockard

Mary Mendoza

Blane White

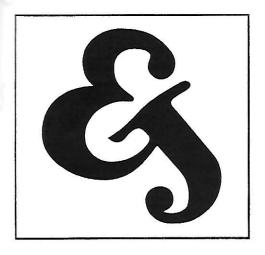
Betsy McGhee

Sue Bechemer

LENA SMITH

Jack & Cynthia Foster Ms. Wheelchair Ohio

Jeff & Carolyn Butler



Everest & Jennings, one

of the world's leading manu-

facturers of power and manual rehabilitation
wheelchairs, is proud to be a sponsor or the 2000
Ms. Wheelchair America pageant. It is an honor to
support an event that showcases the achievements
and motivation of some of the country's most
accomplished and inspirational women.

Congratulations to all of the contestants!



3601 Rider Trail South Earth City, MO 63045 800-235-4661

Many thanks to the following business and organizations for their contributions to Ms. Wheelchair America 2000

Akron Civic Theater

Ann Smith

Art's Place Restaurant & Lounge

Belgrade Gardens

Brubaker's Pub - Chapel Hill

Café Piscatelli

Charlotte's West

Dakota's Grille

Dan-Dee Pretzel Potato Chip Co.

DiFeo and Sons Poultry

Dr. Collin Myer

East Side Mario's

Giant Eagle

Grinders Above and Beyond

Jackie Ebner

June Mutersbaugh

Kent State University

Ledgewood Florists

Malone College

Max & Erma's

Patti Noussias

Rizzi's

Sid Pryor

The Café In Stow

Turner Jewelry

Wal-Mart

Amy Kennedy

Applebee's At Chapel Hill

Baker's Square Restaurant & Pies

Bobby's Bistro

Burkhardt Brewing Company

Charlie's Restaurant

Crocker's Restaurant & Bar

Damon's Restaurant At Chapel Hill

DeVitis Italian Grocery

Dodie's Restaurant

Driftwood Florist Gifts and Crafts

Flowers By Carol

Greenbriar Florist

Hudson Home Consortium

John Boy's Farm Market

Keith Knight, Stylist

Kinko's In Kent

Loui's Bar & Grille

Marie Milano at Salon Support

Panera Bread

Pro Football Hall of Fame

Sibyl Lockard

Tallmadge Apples

The University of Akron

Vincent's Bakery

Zebra T's

From Teresa Crockett: Pogue's Body Shop, Highway Buffet & Grill, Mr. Johnny Wykle, Music City Medical Supply, Green Meadow Church of Christ, Bud's Tire, Johnson Road Church of Christ, Howard Wilson, Dr. Charles Wolohon, and Batey's

Special Thank You to Group One

For providing additional intelligent lighting for the show.

JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

Use this ballot to keep score along with the Judges during the program.

Contestants are scored as follows:

💷 competitions are judged individually, a total is calculated and the contestant with the highest total points is selected Ms. Wheelchair America.

CONTESTANT	PLATFORM SPEECH	ON STAGE QUESTION	T O T A L	T O P 8	TOP 8 QUESTION	T O T A L	T O P	JUDGES CHOICE
Angela Cook - California	В							
Erie Phemister Kirkham - Colorado							100 CT 10	
Tristina Martin - Florida								
Andreena Patton - Georgia								
Carol McClure - Iowa								
Lebin Wagner-Head - Kentucky	561							
Deea Stewart - Maryland								
🔤 Kirk - Michigan								100000000
El Street - Missouri		·						
Parkot - New Jersey								
Lena Smith - Ohio								0.857
Charlton - South Dakota								
Nix - South Carolina								
Crockett - Tennessee								
Teet - Washington								
Gasner - Wisconsin								





Pride designs and manufactures the most stylish and highest performing Scooters, Lift Chairs and Power Chairs in the world. We would like to congratulate Christina Martin in a tremendous year as Ms. Wheelchair Florida and wish her the best of luck in her pursuit of the Ms. Wheelchair America title.

The Ultimate in Style & Performance

1-800-800-8586

www.pridemobility.com

182 Susquehanna Ave Exeter PA 18643-2694

Many thanks to the



For their sponsorship donation and support of MWA 2000!

Our thanks and congratulations to

Christina Gilmore Ms. Wheelchair America 1999



You Definitely Began With Hope & Ended With Achievement!

GOOD LUCK!

The Ms. Wheelchair America Board of Directors
Tom O'Bryant, Lowery D. Lockard, Barb Cramer, Dabney Weatherford, and P. Kaye Barrier

PROUD TO HOST Ms. Wheelchair America 2000



COUNTY OF SUMMIT

BOARD OF
MENTAL RETARDATION
& DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES

"PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST"



89 E. Howe Rd. - Tallmadş , Oh 44278 (330) 634-800)