

Ms. Wheelchair America 2006

July 19 - 24, 2005
Albany, NY

Albany Marriott



Women

Making

History





July 19-24, 2005, Albany, NY



July 19, 2005

Greetings and Welcome to beautiful, historic Albany, NY from all of us involved with Ms. Wheelchair New York! We are thrilled to have you as our guests this week for Ms. Wheelchair America 2006, Women Making History.

Contestants, you have worked hard to be here. All of you are amazing women and you should be very proud of your accomplishments. I am honored to have met you and I have enjoyed getting to know you and learning of your achievements. You inspire us to continue to strive for our goals, no matter what barriers we may encounter on the way.

When I first became a part of the "Ms. Wheelchair Family" as Ms. Wheelchair New York 2001, I had no idea that just four years later I would be coordinating the national pageant. I did know my week in Colorado for that year's national pageant would be a moment I would forever look back on as a "life changing event." My hope is that all of you will experience the same feeling after your week with us. It is hard to explain the atmosphere of the national pageant to those who have not been a part of it. Now that you have had a taste of it, I urge you to stay involved with your state programs when you return home. Your knowledge, experience and insight will help us become a truly national presence.

Thank you to all of the members of the Ms. Wheelchair America Executive Board. I will miss our late night phone calls when I cried out to you for help ("Put the lime in the coconut and make a mudslide!"). Thank you also to my fellow state coordinators. You are the backbone of this organization and your dedication is reflected in the women your programs have selected for this year's pageant.

Thank you to all of the sponsors and donors who supported this year's national pageant. Your belief in the Ms. Wheelchair mission allows us to continue to work towards our goal of full social participation for all people with disabilities.

Thank you to the staff and management of the Albany Marriott, especially Mark, Steve and Debra. Hosting a national event centered on women who use wheelchairs for mobility can be a daunting task. Your "can-do" attitudes and continual optimism have helped us all feel comfortable as we made your facility our "home" this week.

To all of the volunteers who have given time and talents so generously the past four years, and especially this week, we appreciate you more than you know. Your generosity has made this week a tremendous success!

Finally, a HUGE thank you to the members of the Ms. Wheelchair New York Committee, both past and present, who have worked so tirelessly to make this state program and national pageant a reality. It is said that in order to get things done, one should go after those who are already very busy and ask them to help. The women on the MWNY Board are examples of that adage being true. Between us, in the past 12 months, we have had 2 inter-state moves, 3 new jobs, 2 surgeries, 1 new house, children graduating from high school, mobility loss and relationship ups and downs. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to Sandy, who went with me on that Colorado trip and 'got it' from day one; Stephanie, who has been there FOREVER and who said "yes" before I even asked; Beth, who called in as the very first MWNY volunteer after I made her cry; Cindy, Jerina and Eva, who were the best title holders a fledgling state coordinator could ask for; Janet, who seems to have connections to EVERYONE; and Susan, who was happy to have an outlet for her "Martha" personality. I love you all.

Enjoy your stay in Albany, as one of the many "Women Making History!"

Denise DiNoto
Ms. Wheelchair New York State Coordinator

SCHWARTZ

ZWEBEN

Alabama • Florida • Maryland • Pennsylvania • Virginia • Tennessee • Washington, D.C.

YOUR LAWYER. YOUR ADVISOR. YOUR VOICE.

Schwartz Zweben is a national law firm focused on enforcing and defending the civil rights of individuals with disabilities. We represent every client with knowledge, commitment and passion. Our attorneys specialize in all aspects of disability law including Titles I, II, & III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Rehabilitation Act. We also consult for businesses and municipalities who wish to draft a work plan to remove barriers and engage in voluntary ADA compliance. Please contact us regarding issues affecting your civil rights in any state to determine whether we can be of assistance.

**DEDICATED TO DEFENDING THE RIGHTS
OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Schwartz Zweben & Slingbaum LLP 51 Monroe St., Suite 812, Rockville, Maryland 20850
Phone 301.294.6868 | Toll Free 877.232.5297 | Fax 301.294.6480 | E-mail mail@adalawyers.com



STATE OF NEW YORK

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

July 19 – July 24, 2005

Dear Friends:

It is a distinct pleasure to send greetings and a warm welcome to all who have gathered here in New York's beautiful Capital District for the exciting 33rd *Annual Ms. Wheelchair America National Pageant*.

The Empire State embraces this opportunity to host a worthwhile event that invites women with disabilities from all across our Nation to be part of a special celebration of their achievements and talents. Our State's role of leadership in sponsoring initiatives, programs and policies that help ensure a high quality of life for all individuals with disabilities is second to none, and we are proud to provide a venue for such an important occasion in our historic City of Albany.

Not a traditional beauty contest, by any means, this competition will choose the most confident, poised and articulate spokesperson for millions of disabled Americans. By raising awareness of the unique, unlimited potential of all humans, Ms. Wheelchair America will be helping to empower society to see beyond boundaries, eliminating architectural and attitudinal barriers.

Summer in New York is a vibrant and exhilarating time of year, and I hope that participants, sponsors and guests will be able to spend some memorable time experiencing some great New York adventures.

Congratulations and good luck to each of this year's charming, eloquent, and accomplished contestants, and best wishes to the new Ms. Wheelchair as she begins an exciting year of travel and advocacy, as a wonderful, positive and inspirational role model.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "G. E. Pataki".

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER STATE CAPITOL ALBANY 12224
<http://www.state.ny.us>





MICHAEL G. BRESLIN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY OF ALBANY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE
112 STATE STREET, ROOM 200
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207-2021
(518) 447-7040 - FAX (518) 447-5589

JOSEPH F. PENNISI
DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 2005

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Albany County for the 33rd Annual Ms. Wheelchair America National Pageant. We are delighted you have chosen New York State's historic Capital Region as the site for the Pageant.

The Ms. Wheelchair America Program is a wonderful opportunity for all the participants to raise awareness of the needs and accomplishments of the disabled. This year's theme, "Women Making History," truly embodies the significance of the role of Ms. Wheelchair America. As a spokesperson and advocate for the millions of disabled Americans, Ms. Wheelchair America raises public awareness, eliminates architectural and attitudinal barriers, promotes positive programs and services and provides inspiration for the disabled. I salute all the board members, officers, contestants and past winners for their work on behalf of disabled individuals in our communities.

Thank you for all of your tireless efforts to make our community a better place to live for the disabled. Enjoy your stay in Albany and best of luck to all the contestants.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Breslin



GERALD D. JENNINGS
MAYOR

CITY OF ALBANY
STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
12207

June 17, 2004

Ms. Denise DiNoto
State Coordinator
Ms. Wheelchair N.Y.
202 Fairfax Road
Waterford, NY 12188

Dear Ms. DiNoto:

As Mayor of the Capital City of the Empire State, it is my pleasure to extend a warm invitation to the Miss Wheelchair America National Pageant slated for July 17-22, 2005.

Albany is considered to be the economic and cultural center of the Capital Region of New York State. We are at the crossroads of other urban areas, such as New York City, Boston and Montreal. Albany enjoys a vibrant downtown, a rich mixture of historical neighborhoods, and an exciting variety of arts, cultural and entertainment opportunities. In 2003, we enhanced our arts and entertainment district with a multi-million dollar restoration of our historic Palace Theatre. The Theatre is now host to world-class entertainers that complements the Pepsi Arena, Upstate New York's premier sports and entertainment facility.

Albany is also located in the center of New York State's Tech Valley and is home to many of the finest institutions and medical facilities in the country. A new semiconductor research center, Albany Nano Tech, will be located on the campus of the State University of New York at Albany and will involve leading industry consortia.

We are very proud of our Capital City and we look forward to the pleasure of being your hosts. You have my best wishes for success in planning your 2005 National Pageant.

Sincerely,



Gerald D. Jennings

AUM offers you a powerful education for today's world, one that will give you the edge in whatever endeavor you choose. At AUM you will gain new skills while learning to think critically and creatively. You deserve the best education. You deserve AUM.

Enhancing
The **Power**
of **You**
AUM
www.**AUM**.edu
Auburn University Montgomery
1.800.227.2649 • 334.244.3611 • TDD: 334.244.3801



Schools of Business, Education, Nursing, Sciences, Liberal Arts & Continuing Education • Fully accredited Bachelor's, Master's, Specialist & Doctoral programs • Day, night & weekend classes • Excellent full-time faculty • Small classes • Affordable tuition • Evening & weekend degree programs • Tuition Scholarships • NAIA sports • Fast-Track Summer college courses for high school seniors • Campus activities: Intramurals, AUMFest & Spring Fest

MOBILITYWORKS®
ADAPTIVE VEHICLES
MAKING THE WORLD ACCESSIBLE

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL MS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA CONTESTANTS

from MobilityWorks... America's No. 1 provider
of wheelchair vans and accessories!



Albany/Schenectady area location
165 Freeman's Bridge Rd., Scotia NY
Phone 518.346.9059 Toll-free 800.841.3150
www.mobilityworks.com



July 19-24, 2005, Albany, NY

July 23, 2005

To: Delegates, State Coordinators, Judges, Companions, Sponsors, Donors, Volunteers,
Family Members, and Friends

From: Gail McKoon, President

As we gather here in beautiful, historic Albany, New York to celebrate the achievements of women who use wheelchairs for mobility, we remember that in 1972, Dr. Philip K. Wood, an Ohio Physiatrist, founded the Ms. Wheelchair America Program. Dr. Wood established this organization to provide a forum for the promotion of persons with disabilities, and as an educational process for an unaware and discriminating public. Thirty-three years later, the MWA Executive Board is proud of the progress we have made toward Dr. Wood's goals.

During the last ten years, we have increased the number of states producing delegates from a maximum of fifteen to a record number of twenty-nine this year. We are experiencing some exciting times and feel that within the next few years we will have all fifty states involved. With your help, we know we can reach that goal!

Denise DiNoto and her merry band of volunteers have worked tirelessly for the past year to organize and coordinate this wonderful week of activities for all of us. Being the host state is a huge undertaking...but Denise and her Committee have done a tremendous job in making us all feel welcome and comfortable. We want to thank them for their wonderful hospitality.

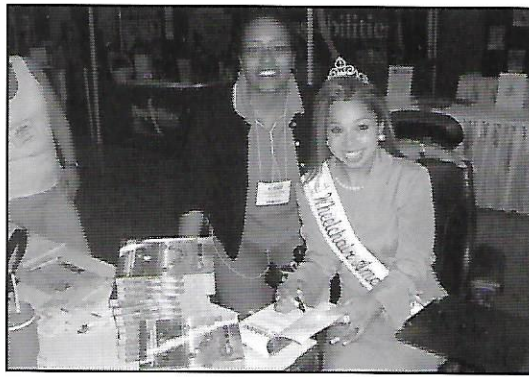
I would like to thank the reigning Ms. Wheelchair America, Juliette Rizzo, for being one of the most positive and active titleholders we have ever had. She has done so much...and always with that wonderful smile. Juliette, we love you and appreciate everything you have done to advance the mission of the Ms. Wheelchair America Program.

Very special thanks to all our State Coordinators. Without you, there would be no Ms. Wheelchair America Program. We appreciate your energy, your sacrifice of time and talents...and often your personal funds...as you work all year to "grow" your state programs by seeking to improve and increase your resources.

Our Delegates and Independent Delegates this year are some of the finest I have ever met. You are each very special to us. We realize that you worked very hard to get here. Your achievements are comparable to those of anyone, anywhere. Thank you for sharing this week of your life with us. We look forward to hearing about your personal and professional accomplishments.

I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the Executive Board of Ms. Wheelchair America. These ladies and gentleman deserve your respect, admiration and thanks: Pat O'Bryant, Executive Director; Robert Watson, Vice-President; Judy Hoit, Treasurer; and Denise DiNoto, Secretary. I cannot think of a Board anywhere that works harder than these folks. They work for MWA because they genuinely love this program and believe in its mission. Thank you so much, Pat, Robert, Judy, and Denise. We all love you and appreciate your loyalty and dedication to Ms. Wheelchair America, Inc.

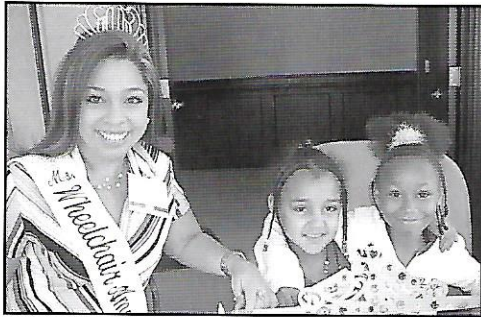
Thanks to all of you for being here! We are grateful for your presence and your support. Now, please join us as we celebrate these twenty-nine outstanding "WOMEN MAKING HISTORY".



Knowledge is power, and the Ms. Wheelchair America program represents a collective source of some of the most powerful women with disabilities in the nation. We come together to ignite passion in the people who look to us for leadership, in the hope that they will soon become leaders themselves.

away from those of us who are different from them – but those are the people who most need to see a woman in a wheelchair taking pride in who she is, all that she is.

I am honored to have been Ms. Wheelchair America 2005. But I will never forget this competition is much bigger than me. Ms. Wheelchair America is every woman who has worn this crown, and arguably she is also every woman who has competed on behalf of her state, or who has even thought about competing. For that matter, she is also every woman who uses a wheelchair and sees herself as an emissary to others. Ms. Wheelchair America is the personification of an ideal of tolerance, understanding, ambition and justice.



People with disabilities, even in this era of medical advances and technological progress that make so very much possible, still are challenged to live fully integrated lives. In all realms, examples of people with disabilities living rich, full lives and filling valued roles in society play an important role in motivating others.

We all need champions, and if we get very lucky, sometimes we have the chance to play an uplifting role for others, as well. I chose to compete to become Ms. Wheelchair Maryland, and then Ms. Wheelchair America, to share resources I have gained on my adventures with disability and a bit of hope with other Americans. The message of Ms. Wheelchair America is that stereotypes can be broken. Nothing can stop a person from being beautiful, glamorous, useful, knowledgeable and effective. Sure, there are some people who turn their glance

This year I have deepened my understanding of disability issues, and my dedication to help level the field for the one-fifth of all Americans who have disabilities. As I've traveled the country, I have been reminded that accessibility is not yet universal, and will not be ensured by law if we do not stay actively involved in demanding it. I have had to demand accessibility to public transportation in nearly every state I have visited, articulating that accessible transportation is critical to full participation in society for all people. I have seen firsthand that even our most basic needs, for housing and mobility, are not guaranteed. I have had the chance to meet with powerful people and



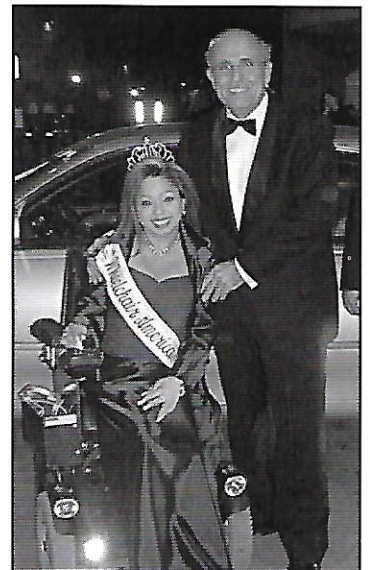
Ms. Wheelchair America 2005



gazing at Van Gogh's art, hearing Ray Charles's passionate music, watching Max Cleland serve in the U.S. Senate, have all reminded me of the limitless potential of my existence, and to refuse to accept the limits that society's perceptions of my disability might create. If I was even a modest inspiration to other people by sharing my knowledge – as a successful professional, a pageant winner, an advocate, a woman with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma and fibromyalgia, a spokesperson, a power chair user, a supportive presence – then wearing the sash and the tiara as Ms. Wheelchair America 2005 was not only a great honor, but my best chance to make a difference and illuminate opportunities for others.

With the words of the great disability advocate Justin Dart, "Lead On" ladies.

Juliette Rizzo
Ms. Wheelchair America 2005



celebrities this year, but I have been most touched by those who are unfairly made powerless in our society because they do not have the finances or supports to obtain the tools that would maximize their productivity. Our country strives for freedom throughout the world, but I have seen clearly that not everyone is free in America. I hope that the Ms. Wheelchair America program, and the entrée it gives to spokeswomen including myself to events like the Presidential Inauguration, helps to keep important issues for millions of Americans in the mind of the public and of opinion leaders and legislators.

I spread the message of empowerment this year because I passionately believe it. It has been the case in my life. Seeing Marlee Matlin in the cast of *The West Wing*, Robert David Hall on *CSI*,

Judges Bios



Smokey Spencer - Head Judge

Smokey Spencer is originally from Denver, Colorado presently living in Los Angeles, California. Smokey received his B.A. from Colorado State University with a major in journalism, and a minor in science. He was Editor-in-Chief and co-founder of The Weekly News Chronicle newspaper in Parker, Colorado and founding member of the Rotary Club in Parker. Smokey was a lobbyist for home-health care industry (Aurora Home Health Care agencies) in the state of Colorado and was listed in the Who's Who of Business Leaders in America registry in 1995. He has also served as Direct Marketing manager for Phil Long Auto Group and CEO of Smokus Glydus & Associates, an advertising, marketing, and public relations firm. Smokey is currently the Mighty Max National Sales Manager with Maxon Lift Corp. and CEO of Dreams, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to educate the public about disability issues, and to promote awareness. Smokey spends his free time watching baseball.

Elaine Stefanowicz

A former Ms. Wheelchair America 1997, Elaine Stefanowicz has been using a wheelchair for the past 23 years due to a car accident when she was in high school. During her reign as MWA 1997, she visited President and Mrs. Clinton in the White House and met actor Christopher Reeve. She also (amazingly because she's not athletic!) won a women's downhill skiing competition that year. Elaine went on to win a full-ride scholarship to earn her bachelor's degree. In 2003, she was chosen as a Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts Pacific Peaks Council.

Elaine is a single parent of her six-year-old son, Michael. In May of this year, she graduated with a Master of Science degree in human resources at Chapman University with a 4.00 grade point average. Elaine is employed as a recruitment assistant at Tacoma Community College and will become a part-time faculty member in the fall. She is planning to pursue a doctorate degree in education next year.

Vicki Nisich

Vicki Nisich is a Benefits Specialist with Black Hills Special Services Cooperative and has worked in the disability field for 13 years. She received a B.A. degree in religion and psychology at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Vicki is married and has two stepchildren. She was Ms. Wheelchair South Dakota in 1998-1999, served on the Ms. Wheelchair America Board of Directors for two years, and has judged two other Ms. Wheelchair America Pageants. Vicki was born with the disease Osteogenesis Imperfecta, otherwise known as brittle bone disease. Her hobbies include swimming, skiing, traveling, and playing flute.

Peggy Kirkwood

Peggy Kirkwood resides in Dallas, TX. She has been employed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for 34 years. She is currently the Charge Receipt Technical Information Unit (CRTIU) Supervisor in the Dallas District Office.

Peggy served as the Federal Women's Program Manager for the Dallas-Fort Worth Federal Women's Program Council for many years, including serving as a past President. She has also been actively involved with the Federally Employed Women helping to develop training seminars, especially for Women's Equality Day.

Peggy has been involved with the Ms. Wheelchair Programs for several years. She has served as a judge for both state and national programs. In addition, she is currently Second Vice President for the Texas State Association - Daughters of Elks of the Improved Benevolent Protective Orders of Elks of the World. Peggy is the mother of two adult children, Damien Kirkwood and Megan Terry.

Gloria Murray

Gloria was born in the Bronx and moved to Dutchess County in 1974. She currently lives in Pleasant Valley, NY with her husband. She is the mother of 2 boys and a girl, all of whom are grown, and live close by. Gloria and her husband are blessed with a very precious 4 year old granddaughter.

Gloria has worked in healthcare for many years, which have included a nursing career, many years with a physician practice and then with her husband running his Home Medical Equipment company specializing in providing specialty wheelchairs. She has just completed two years as President of the New York State Medical Equipment Providers Association, an organization she has served as a Board Member since 1999.

Linda Jones - Judging Coordinator

Linda's real introduction to people with disabilities and their need for appropriate recreation began at age 15 as a summer day camp counselor for children with disabilities sponsored by the Lions Club in El Paso, Texas. After receiving her Bachelor's Degree, she worked as Director of Therapeutic Recreation for Columbus Georgia Parks and Recreation for 18 years. Linda and her husband, Bill, have been married for 40 years. They have two children and two grandchildren with another due in September. One of Linda's passions is quilting and after a year and a half of retirement, Linda began working part time at a new quilt shop in Columbus. She has served as Judging Coordinator for several Ms. Wheelchair America Pageants and is also active with the Ms. Wheelchair Georgia program.



**The Virginia Board of Directors
Proudly Congratulates**

Angie Wilkerson
Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2005-2006

"Celebrate Life"

**Proudly
sponsored by**  **Health First**
HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT



www.mswheelchairva.com

800-247-7636

Best Wishes
to
Florence Lewis Rainey

*We Are So Proud
of How You Live Your Life So
Courageously.*

Your Family



*proud sponsor of
Ms. Wheelchair America*

MAYS MISSION
for the HANDICAPPED, INC

**604 Colonial Drive
Heber Springs, Arkansas 72543
501-362-7526 ~ 888-503-7955
www.maysmission.org**

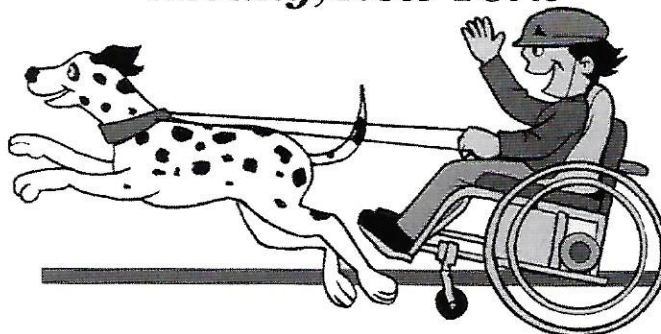
“It’s Ability, not Disability that Counts!”

coined by our founder, Ewing W. Mays, in 1967

This is an Equal Opportunity Program.

Wheels of Dreams Mobility Tradeshow

***July 20, 2005
Albany, New York***



ONE-DAY MOBILITY TRADESHOW IN ALBANY

Albany Marriott Hotel

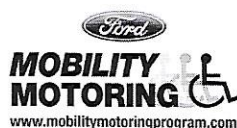
Wednesday, July 20th from 9am to 5pm

- Opportunity to meet contestants for Ms. Wheelchair America from all parts of the U.S.A.
- Vendors will exhibit various disability products
- Wheelchairs and other medical equipment products
- Transportation companies showing and demonstrating products
- See "The Everybody Bus"
- Speaker: Brian Niddery, Publisher of *Bus Exchange* magazine
- Speaker: Halsey King, Transit Resource Center
- Henry Holden, renowned actor and comedian talking about life on crutches
- An exclusive "Silent Auction" with the Albany Chamber of Commerce

Come and join the excitement!
See new products and meet industry leaders
dedicated to people with disabilities

Dreams, Inc.
Call (800) 351-8375
Website: www.dreamsforever.info

*Ford Mobility Motoring
Congratulates
All of the
2005 Ms. Wheelchair America
Contestants*



Setting the Trend in Accessible Motoring

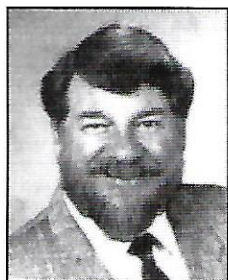


Braun lowered-floor vehicles prove that accessibility does not have to come at the expense of style. With sleek ground effects complementing the original vehicle design, they are truly like no other minivan on the road. Call or visit us online for the dealer nearest you.

Available on Chrysler
GM & Toyota Chassis

1-800-THE LIFT
www.braunmobility.com

Speakers



Halsey King & Associates, Inc.

*Bus Fleet Maintenance
Consulting,
Management,
Technical Training,
Educational Seminars*

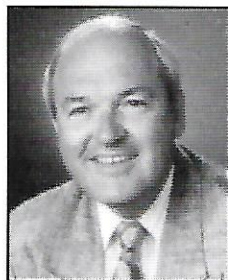
"Tomorrows Bus Technology Training Today"

2541 State Street, Suite 108

Carlsbad, CA 92008

Phone: 760-434-2400 • Fax: 760-434-2424

Email: halseyking.trc@sbcglobal.net



Brian Niddery

*Brian Niddery, publisher of
American Bus
Exchange Magazine –
a national trade journal dedicated
to serving the bus industry.*

American Bus Exchange Magazine

P.O. Box 239

Jupiter, FL 33468

Phone: 772-621-4805

Email: media@busexchange.com

**Para-transit specialists we stock them,
Call Scott for a demo 800-500-6181
Fenton Mobiltiy Products, Inc.**

Wheel Chair Getaways Franchisee Serving NY and Conn.

ACCESSIBLE

MOBILITY
Mobility = Freedom + Independence

**Van Conversion
Sales & Rentals**



1-866-725-1803 www.GetMeMoving.com

Your Complete Mobility Stop

MOBILITYWORKS®
ADAPTIVE VEHICLES
MAKING THE WORLD ACCESSIBLE

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL
MS. WHEELCHAIR AMERICA
CONTESTANTS



from MobilityWorks... America's No. 1 provider
of wheelchair vans and accessories!

Albany/Schenectady area location
165 Freeman's Bridge Rd., Scotia NY
Phone 518.346.9059 Toll-free 800.841.3150
www.mobilityworks.com

Congratulations!

**Ms. Wheelchair America Contestants.
You're The Best.**

**One Step:
To Challenge Perceptions**

**One Voice:
To Arouse Awareness**

One Slogan Says it all.



Attitudes Are The Real Disability

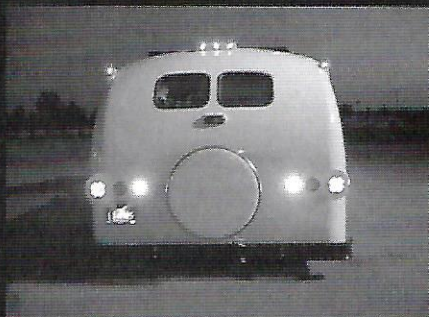
Henry Holden: Motivator

**Actor, Comedian, Sports Enthusiast,
Keynote Speaker on Disability Awareness
And MWA 2006 Pageant, Master of Ceremony**

Web: henryholden.com

Tel: (800) 260 - 5589

Heart "EVERYBODY" Bus is A+++++



**Heart Mobility
by TMC Ameritrans**



**Contact Dick Rief at:
734-634-2239 or
drief@heartinternational.com**

- **Accessible -**

Low Floor Entry for

"EVERYBODY"

- **Air Suspension -**

Full Kneeling

- **Attractive -**

Retro Styling

- **Altoona Tested -**

10yr/350,000 miles

- **Assurance -**

International Warranty

- **ADA Compliant -**

Meets US & Local Regs

- **Affordable -**

Cost Effective Low Floor

Register your wedding party and receive
great savings for all the men in your life.

NEW YORK

pany

ossgates Mall

(near Dick's Sporting Goods)

8-456-2316

ddletown

alleria

Crystal Run

5-692-4322

ughkeepsie

alleria Mall

5-296-1249

racuse

arbury Centre

5-422-2267

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

erty Place Mall

5-751-1155

ontgomery Mall

5-412-0660

FREE
1/2 OFF

Tuxedo for the Groom

Ringbearer's Tuxedo

\$69⁰⁰
-\$89⁰⁰

including a **FREE** vest
for everyone else

Hurry...offer ends soon. Choose styles and colors later!

CHRISTOPHER'S
THE STYLE LEADER FOR MEN

WWW.CHRISTOPHERSCLOTHING.COM

Accessible Vehicles For An Independent Lifestyle.

**Ride-Away, America's premier vehicle modifier, is your one stop shop
for all your accessible vehicle and adaptive equipment needs.**



- Over 250 new and pre-owned vehicles currently in stock.
- All trade-ins, including modified and unmodified vehicles, accepted.
- Up to 10 year financing on all vehicles.
- Rental vehicles available on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.
- 24 hour emergency roadside assistance. You're never stranded!

• Longest warranties in the industry.

- 5 year/50,000 mile warranty on Braun lowered floor minivan conversions.
- 3 year/36,000 mile warranty on all Braun lifts and additional products.



 **RIDE-AWAY**

1-888-743-3292 • www.ride-away.com

Maxi-Aids

PRODUCTS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

phone **1-800-522-6294**

fax **1-631-752-0689**
42 Executive Blvd., Farmingdale, NY 11735

www.MaxiAids.com

Thousands of Products Specially Designed for the
Blind, Low Vision, Visually Impaired, Deaf, Deaf-
Blind, Hard of Hearing, Physically Challenged,
Arthritic, Diabetic, and Your Special Needs.

Maxi-Aids is Your Special Needs Super Store !

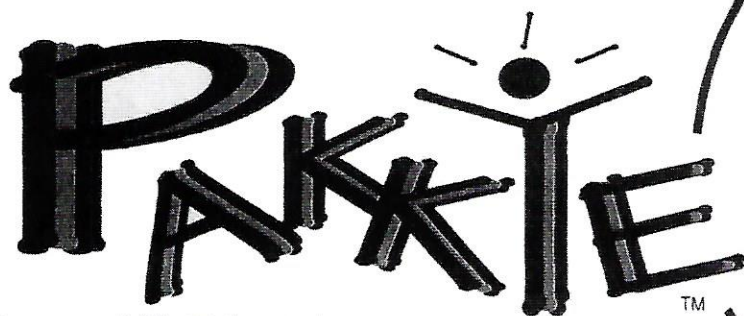
Maximum Selection • Maximum Service
Maximum Savings • Maximum Convenience

Choose From Thousands of Products Including:

Talking Products	Home/Personal Needs	Lighting/Mirrors
Low Vision Products	Medical Products	Magnifiers
Braille Products	Home Healthcare	CCTV's
TTY/TDD	Support Products	Sunshields
Alerting Devices	Bath Needs	Adaptive Technology
Mobility Items	Games/Toys	Computer Systems
Kitchen/Cooking Aids	Educational	Software/Hardware
Scales	Large Print	& much, much more

ACCESS NOW LLC

1-800-351-8375



Personal Mobility Sling

MADE IN THE USA

Patent # 6,276,006

**A device to transfer people
with a disability**

www.myaccnow.info

Contestant Bios



Ms. Wheelchair Alabama



Trisston Wright is an artist and writer living in Prattville, Alabama. Her paintings have been shown in public and private galleries, and she has been published in several newspapers in her home state. Trisston utilizes a wheeled scooter for mobility due to an injury at birth, which resulted in the diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy. Throughout her life Trisston has been passionate about serving as a role model to show what people with disabilities can accomplish, and incorporates her passion for the arts to serve as a vehicle to increase awareness about the abilities of those with disabilities. Trisston describes herself as ambitious, artistic, scholarly, organized, and compassionate.

Ms. Wheelchair Arizona



Heather Urick currently works for Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) in Phoenix, Arizona. She has used a wheelchair for 12 years due to a form of Muscular Dystrophy. She seeks to empower people with disabilities, sharing a life built on self advocacy and an independent living philosophy. She is a college graduate and has pursued many different avenues leading to her own self empowerment. Close to her heart is the Muscular Dystrophy Association. She is passionate about helping others.

Ms. Wheelchair Arkansas



Mare Simonar-Dykes is a wife, mother, and home-based business owner dealing in Native American wares, as well as chairman of the Indian Inter-Tribal Association of Arkansas. She lives in Beebe, AR. Mare uses a manual wheelchair due to an RH Factor blood transfusion just after birth. Mare's passions are horses, bluegrass and Native American music, art/crafting/sewing, the outdoors, and much more. Her most recent goal is to fit herself and her new Appaloosa gelding Sundance Double Six for endurance riding, get a renewed start on her business, and find solutions to accessibly modify the family's home. Mare describes herself as intelligent, vivacious, articulate, optimistic and inspirational.

Ms. Wheelchair California



Kristina Shepard works for a medical supply store in Sacramento, California and currently lives in Rocklin, California with her boyfriend and two childhood best friends. Kristina uses a manual wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury sustained in a car accident at 10 months of age. Her passions include cars, music, spending time with loved ones, being active and outside in the summer, and trying new things. One of Kristina's goals is to work with children with disabilities and teach them how to live their life to the fullest. Another goal is to help erase the stereotypes and barriers faced by people with disabilities. The five words she feels best describe her are effervescent, genuine, confident, invincible and inspirational.

Ms. Wheelchair Colorado



Chanda Hinton and her service dog "Flint" are recent University of Denver graduates who live in Denver, Colorado. Chanda uses an electric wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury she received at age nine from a gun shot wound. She is passionate about many things, but her main passion is created from what she calls the gift of experience living life with a disability. Her passion is to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and she has dedicated her life towards this endeavor. Chanda's goal is to inform current legislation about the need for health-care and income coverage changes for people with disabilities. She also plans to fulfill her Ms. Wheelchair Colorado title in the best way by taking the 2005 calendar year off from school and will apply for law school in the fall of 2006. Chanda describes herself in these 5 words: light, passionate, determined, peaceful and confident.

Ms. Wheelchair District of Columbia



Florence Rainey is a retired commander of the United States Public Health Service who lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and children. She uses a motorized scooter due to Multiple Sclerosis. Florence uses her experiences to help her as a "Scooter Tutor" who assists consumers transitioning to complementary modes of transportation. She is passionate about helping parents advocate for children with disabilities. Florence describes herself as giving, understanding, open, compassionate and intelligent.

Ms. Wheelchair Florida



Rebecca Blitch lives in Largo, Florida and is a public speaker and volunteer. She uses a power wheelchair because of Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a form of muscular dystrophy she has had since infancy. Rebecca's passions include writing, reading, yoga and meditation breath work, spending time with friends, and playing with her service dog, Sydney. Rebecca plans to attend graduate school to become a social worker and would like to work with children in hospice care, a calling she discovered while serving as Ms. Wheelchair Florida. She describes herself as authentic, intelligent, fearless, loyal, and insightful.

Ms. Wheelchair Georgia



Diana Lynn Garms is a retired Federal employee and grandmother living in Midland. Diana uses a motorized wheelchair due to a 1977 car accident. Besides her family and pets, her passions are engaging others to help her promote her goal of "Universal Accessibility." To Diana, Universal Accessibility is like having insurance against flood or fire; we hope we will never have to use it, but are glad we have it. Diana's goals are to speak with as many people as possible. She believes that she can inspire others to reach for the highest goals in their own lives, whether or not they have a disability. Diana describes herself as tenacious, educated, creative, fun-loving, and caring.

Ms. Wheelchair Illinois



Tammy Hall lives in Springfield Illinois. She works as an Administrative Assistant for the State of Illinois, where she has been employed for 17 years. Tammy uses a power wheelchair due to both Cerebral Palsy and Myasthenia Gravis. Her passions are advocacy for all persons with "differing abilities" and making people laugh. She enjoys working with young children and believes, "If you can dream it, you can achieve it." Tammy's goals include working with political parties and those in authority to make healthcare more accessible for all; especially those with disabilities. Tammy describes herself as compassionate, optimistic, happy, influential, and filled with character.

Ms. Wheelchair Iowa



Shonnae Lundy lives in Des Moines, Iowa and is a mother of two and a grandmother of four. Shonnae has a business, Living with Choices, and teaches others to live healthier lives with a disability and to have disability pride. Shonnae uses a manual wheelchair due to a 1998 car accident that left her a paraplegic. Shonnae's passions are to enjoy life. She also hopes to do some wheelchair modeling. Shonnae enjoys traveling, boxing, horse racing, concerts, country music and oldies, and spending time with family, friends, and her dog, Bailey. She feels a day without a smile is a day wasted. She hopes to stop the abuse of accessible parking permits, and to increase choices for safe and accessible housing. Shonnae describes herself as sociable, passionate, adventurous, veracious, and spiritual.

Ms. Wheelchair Kansas



JoAnne Fluke lives in Ottawa, Kansas, and works as a customer service representative at a Christian Book and Gift store. She recently became a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant. JoAnne, who has had Caudal Regression since birth, has found her purpose in life by speaking to schools and churches throughout Kansas. She has a dream to encourage others to go and find their purpose in life. She shares this dream with others through her platform and ministry of "Reaching Up, Reaching Out," which will motivate and help equip people to reach their fullest potential through spiritual growth and higher self-esteem. JoAnne enjoys singing and dancing. She describes herself as caring, optimistic, compassionate, energetic, and ambitious.

Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky



Michelle Bazeley resides in Louisville, Kentucky and is an Employment Counselor. She has used a wheelchair since birth due to Spina Bifida. Her passions are working with children with disabilities. She runs the Louisville chapter of Winners On Wheels, an organization that teaches independence and self-esteem skills. Michelle believes that through independence, positive self-esteem and adapting to their environment, children with disabilities can grow up as functioning and contributing members of their communities. Michelle's goals are as varied as her life. She is a mom, has founded an organization serving youths with disabilities and enjoys traveling abroad. Michelle describes herself as outgoing, open-minded, caring, patient, and funny.

Ms. Wheelchair Louisiana



Dawn Peterson is a mother, student and works as a paralegal. She has lived in New Orleans, LA all her life. Dawn uses a manual wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury she sustained from a gunshot wound during an attempted car jacking on November 2, 1991. Dawn's passions are spending time with family and friends. She enjoys traveling, meeting new people and encountering new cultures. Dawn's goals are to continue with her education and finish a law degree. She would like to specialize in victim's rights and disability law. Dawn describes herself in these 5 words: independent, intelligent, beautiful, outgoing and confident.

Ms. Wheelchair Maryland



Joy Limo, a mother of two daughters, is an Administrative Assistant at the Maryland Disability Law Center. She lives in Cockeysville, Maryland. Joy uses a motorized wheelchair for mobility due to polio contracted at 21 months old. Joy's passions include educating children about disability, using music to relax and ease pain and stress. Joy aspires to educate people with disabilities on what services are available to them. Also high on her agenda, she plans to become a motivational and disability life counselor. She describes herself as pleasant, compassionate, helpful, generous and tenacious.

Ms. Wheelchair Massachusetts



Laurel Labdon is a disability issues specialist and has founded and runs her own advocacy and consulting business. She lives with her family in Brewster, on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Laurel uses a standing power wheelchair due to quadriplegia from a spinal cord injury sustained in a 1990 automobile accident. Laurel's passions are sailing, traveling, reading, football, baseball, knitting and politics. Laurel's goals are to establish a career in public policy and consulting. One day she hopes to run for public office. Laurel is empowered by her disability and is committed to using her experiences to help others. She describes herself as tenacious, intelligent, articulate, confident and generous.

Ms. Wheelchair Michigan



Jocelyn Dettloff works as the Development Director for Disability Advocates of Kent County in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jocelyn has used a manual wheelchair to get around since acquiring a complete T-5 spinal cord injury in 1997 sledding down a sand dune in Namibia (southwestern Africa). Having a zest for life, some of Jocelyn's passions include social justice, equality, playing tennis and traveling. Some goals that Jocelyn has set for herself include: changing the way people think about disability, continuing to expand her horizons both personally and professionally, getting married and having a family, and improving her language skills in Spanish and French. She describes herself as independent, adventurous, vivacious, compassionate and motivated.

Ms. Wheelchair Minnesota



Katie Wornson is a full time student and single mother living in Crystal, Minnesota. Katie uses an electric wheelchair due to Cerebral Palsy from lack of oxygen during birth. Katie's passions are her daughter, Harley motorcycles, music and reading. Katie's goals are to be the best mother she can be, to become an advocate for children who have disabilities and to marry and have more children. She describes herself as outgoing, determined, motivated, goal-oriented and positive.

Ms. Wheelchair Missouri



Aimee Wehmeier is an auto underwriter and student who lives in Columbia, Missouri. Aimee uses a power wheelchair due to Spinal Muscular Atrophy Muscular Dystrophy. Aimee's passions are social justice and promoting diversity and inclusion. Her immediate goal is to complete her Master's Degree in Business Administration. She would someday like to work as a diversity consultant. Amy describes herself in these 5 words: compassionate, advocate, educator, communicator, and leader.

Ms. Wheelchair New York



Melissa Ortiz is an aspiring voice artist and a full-time wife who lives in Queens, New York. Melissa uses a wheelchair due to Congenital Neurological Malformation and hydrocephalus. Melissa's passions are music performance, exploring, reading, conquering crossword puzzles in ink, and volunteering in her church office. Her greatest joy is spending each day with her husband Tony, and their dachshund, Lucy, who is also Melissa's service dog. Melissa's goals are to visit every state in the Union and to help realize the full integration of people with disabilities into society by lobbying for fully accessible public transportation and affordable excellent health care. She describes herself as approachable, articulate, compassionate, tenacious, and flexible.

Ms. Wheelchair North Carolina



Debbie Myers is a project manager who lives in Mebane, North Carolina. Debbie uses a manual wheelchair due to spinal cord injury resulting from a fall at her home. Her passions are projects, gardening, fitness and her family. Debbie's goals, both personal and professional, include increasing awareness, services and resource opportunities for the people with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI). Her focus is to continue to build and strengthen the North Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Association (NCSCIA) and the services it provides, including a published resource guide and a structured peer mentoring program. She strongly supports the efforts of SCI research and is an advocate of maintaining personal health and fitness. She describes herself as proactive, articulate, dedicated, compassionate and full of integrity.

Ms. Wheelchair Ohio



Melissa Milinovich is a senior analyst for Hewlett-Packard who lives in Amelia, Ohio. Melissa uses an electric wheelchair due to Spinal Muscular Atrophy Muscular Dystrophy. Melissa's passions include her faith in Jesus Christ, spending quality time with friends and family, advocating for and mentoring younger girls with disabilities, and always keeping a sense of humor. Melissa's goals include becoming an upper level manager at Hewlett-Packard, working with legislators on changing the Medicaid program, and one day becoming a mother. As a strong Christian, Melissa believes that God will put her wherever He needs her to be and believes that His hand is on every goal she sets for herself. She describes herself as a creative, trail-blazing, visionary, and dedicated leader.

Ms. Wheelchair Pennsylvania



Debra Charles lives in Kutztown, PA with her service dog Ozzie. Debra uses a power wheelchair due to a stroke she suffered from high blood pressure and also due to Multiple Sclerosis, a diagnosis she received three years after her stroke. Debra's passions include teaching crafts to people with disabilities and seniors, and volunteering at her church's food bank. Her goals include improving the accessibility of her community. She would like to own her own craft store, and live her life to the fullest. She describes herself as determined, enthusiastic, positive, outgoing, and independent.

Ms. Wheelchair Rhode Island



Kristen Connors lives in Cranston, Rhode Island and works as a Congressional Constituent Caseworker for Congressman James Langevin. She uses an electronic wheelchair due to Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a form of Muscular Dystrophy. Kristen's passions are politics and working hard to improve the personal and professional lives of people with disabilities. Kristen's goals include running for public office in the future and marrying and raising a family. She describes herself as determined, assertive, persuasive, engaging and supportive.

Ms. Wheelchair South Dakota



Sandie Jungers is a school district special education coordinator, a wife and mother of three living in Watertown, South Dakota. Sandie uses a manual wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury sustained in a 2002 ATV accident. Her passions include faith, family, friends, education, reading, mono skiing, and riding ATVs. Sandie's goals include representing women of all disabilities in a positive manner, educating the public about the unique needs of people with disabilities, and providing equal educational opportunities for children with disabilities. She would like to finish her doctoral degree and become a special education director. A life long goal is to advocate for people with disabilities and to be a role model for her children. She describes herself as independent, dedicated, intelligent, motivated, and fun-loving.

Ms. Wheelchair Texas



Sarah Whitlock lives in Alvin, Texas. She is a founding member and upcoming mental health specialist for the CEDAR Center of greater Houston, a facility that will provide educational and counseling resources for people with disabilities. Sarah uses a power wheelchair due to Cerebral Palsy that resulted from birth. Sarah's passions are empowering women to embrace true beauty through the process of managing their healthcare needs. She also enjoys singing and teaching bible study classes. Sarah plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology for the purpose of examining adjustment issues associated with disability onset. Likewise, she aspires to promote and conduct clinical research exploring disability and sexuality. Sarah describes herself as articulate, ambitious, revolutionary, innovative, and empathetic.

Ms. Wheelchair Utah



Meg Hendleman is a college student majoring in public relations who lives in Salt Lake City, Utah. She uses a manual wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury sustained in a hiking accident in 2004. Meg is passionate about playing rugby and is on Utah's wheelchair rugby team. Meg enjoys painting, drawing, and playing Scrabble. She is most excited about becoming involved in organizing the first Ms. Wheelchair Utah pageant, and her goal is to have at least five contestants. Meg is also working with LDS Hospital to develop a program for patients with a newly sustained disability to serve in their communities; she says that when you can give back is when you feel beautiful again. She describes herself as innovative, genuine, enthusiastic, charismatic, and welcoming.

Ms. Wheelchair Virginia



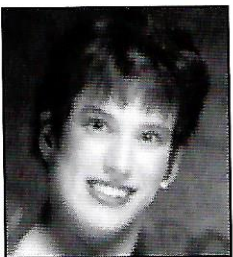
Angie Wilkerson is a wife of nine years who lives in Keysville, Virginia. She is a career coach for Southside Virginia Community College, as well as a Sensitivity Trainer for Compliance Alliance, a Title III ADA consultant firm. Angie uses a power wheelchair due to a type of Muscular Dystrophy called Friedreich's ataxia. Angie's passions are being active at church, giving inspirational and motivational speeches, advocating and helping persons dealing with life obstacles, working with children, and writing. Angie's goals are to educate people about the ADA, to complete a writing program and write an inspirational book, to show the potential of people with disabilities by example, and to make a difference. She describes herself in these five words: Christian, charismatic, compassionate, optimistic, and determined.

Ms. Wheelchair Washington



Michelle Beardshear lives in Vancouver, Washington and works as a customer service representative for Clark Public Utilities, a power company. Michelle uses a wheelchair due to a T-6 spinal cord injury from a 1996 car accident. Michelle's passions include stem cell therapies and research; education, specifically completing high school and higher education; youth athletics, mainly softball, and the value of life. Michelle's goals are to help educate the public about disabilities, and she hopes to earn an MBA. She hopes to reach out to young people by speaking about her accident, the choices she made at that time, and the outcome of her careless actions. Through her outreach, she hopes to help others make positive life choices. She describes herself as independent, outgoing, determined strong, and inspirational.

Ms. Wheelchair Wisconsin



Kimberly Jerman is a full-time Lead Secretary at Catholic Charities who lives in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Kimberly uses an electric wheelchair due to Cerebral Palsy at birth. Kimberly is passionate about following one's dreams and having the perseverance to take risks and make life choices - no matter how big or small, easy or hard. She believes that sometimes, encouragement is all it takes to make a remarkable difference in someone's life. If a person inspires or encourages just one other person, then tomorrow will be a brighter place for that person and the lives s/he touches. Kimberly's goals are to obtain her Master's degree, get married and have children, become an entrepreneur and author. She describes herself in these 5 words: independent, personable, determined, adventurous, and resourceful.

Sponsors



Ms. Wheelchair Alabama, Trisston Wright- Alabama Governor Bob Riley; Prattville Mayor Jim Byard; The City of Prattville & Prattville City Council; The Governor's Office on Disability; Barbara & Donald Crozier; Central Alabama Electric Cooperative; Rolling Across America; Aramark; One Source Legal Printing; Prattville-Millbrook Sunrise Rotary Club; Prattville Citivan Club; Mr. & Mrs. Al Booth; Anthony Cleveland; Mr. & Mrs. Henry Foster; Mr. & Mrs. Gene Hall; Marianne Jackson; Mr. & Mrs. Gary Meinsler; Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Miller; Sandra Nesbitt; Drs. Rod & Debi Nowakowski; Scott Renner; T.C. & Helen Thorn; George Walthall, Jr; Robert & Clara Wright

Ms. Wheelchair Arizona, Heather Urick- Paralyzed Veterans of America, Arizona Chapter; Azteca Wedding and Bridal Plaza of Arizona; Governor Janet Napolitano- State of Arizona; Mayor Phil Gordon- Phoenix, Arizona; IMP Printing/RenPrint, Inc. of Arizona; Rolf's Hair Salon; Divine Light Productions; Payne and Morrison Florist; Abbondonza Basket Creations of Arizona; Desert Springs Marketing Service; Mary Kay Cosmetics

Ms. Wheelchair Arkansas, Mare Simonar-Dykes- Mays Mission for the Handicapped, Inc.; Sunrise Riders Therapeutic Riding Center; Mike & Malinda Smith; Petals & Lace The Wedding Place; Oscar & Marisue Jones; El Paso Orchard; Indian Inter-Tribal Association of Arkansas; Ms. Wheelchair Arkansas Board and Judges

Ms. Wheelchair California, Kristina Shephard- Tom Lambert, Owner, Maximum Comfort, Inc.; Rob Brumbaugh, Omnibus Advertising; City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation; Access Leisure; Spynergy W/C Wheels; KSFM 102.5, Sacramento Radio; Pride Mobility

Ms. Wheelchair Colorado, Chanda Hinton- Craig Hospital; Adaptive Automotive; Accessible Systems, Inc.; AMAC Construction; Arconaut Wine and Liquor; Auto Zone; Breckenridge Brewery; Bill and Barb Cramer; Car Quest; Checker Auto Parts; Denver Police Cadets; Direct Impressions; Farmer's Insurance; Federal Fruit and Produce; Fred Paswaters; Guardian Angels; Harold Brewer; Izze Beverage Co.; Jeff Butler Photography.com; KEZW 1430 AM; KOOL 105; Loretta Higgins; Napa; Pep Boys; Pepsi Bottling Group; PVA- Mountain States Chapter; Reddy Ice; Sharon Weaver; Swift Meat Packing; The Elvis Connection Fan Club; Tommyknocker Brewery; Wheelchair Getaways; Wynkoop Brewing Co.; Kelly Graves; Bob Alexander; Mike and Susie Roberts; Yoga Energi; University of Denver; The Walnut Room; Something Underground; Storytyme; Boulder Beer; Blanc; What Are Records?; Colorado Car Clubs; RMFHA; Fred Criswell; Barron Criswell; Sonny deGuzman

Ms. Wheelchair District of Columbia, Florence Rainey- Ida Powell, Independent Beauty Consultant; Carol Tyson; Carol Joy Smith; Andreas's Fine Hats & Accessories, LLC; NRH National Rehabilitation Hospital; Dateable, Inc.; DC Rehabilitation Services Administration; Ocean Meetings; Health Services for Children; Terrace Valet; Francis & David Goodlow; James E. Lewis Family; Robert Rainey; Erich L. Goodlow family; Cassandra Burton; Esperanza Anderson;

Ms. Wheelchair Florida, Rebecca Blich- Laura Weller; Michelle Jockers; Barbara Taylor; Becky Parhalo; Robyn Dalton; David, Nancy & Kyle Blich; Mary Dimtrow; All Family and Friends

Ms. Wheelchair Georgia, Diana Garms- Georgia Rehabilitation Association; Fairview Baptist Church; Columbus Convention and Visitor's Bureau; J & J Pharmacy; River Road Animal Clinic; Roger Garms

Ms. Wheelchair Illinois, Tammy Hall- No sponsors listed

Ms. Wheelchair Iowa, Shonnae Lundy- PVA and all Vets; John Schneider; Joni St. Pierre; Cecil Brewton, Jr.; Van G. Miller & Associates; Central Iowa Center for Independent Living; Hammers Medical Supply; Adel Family Practice; Target; Dillards; Serenity Salon; Express Print; Lucia Design; JVA Waterloo; The Greater Des Moines Partnership; Senator Tom Harkins; All Family and Friends

Ms. Wheelchair Kansas, JoAnne Fluke- Christian Book and Gift of Olathe, KS; Messiah's Messengers Bible Church of Ottawa, KS; Wal-Mart of Ottawa, KS; VFW Post 5901; Kramer Drugstore; Java Juice, Kansas Commission of Disability Concern

Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky, Michelle Bazeley- Community Employment; Winners on Wheels; Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky; Spinal Cord Injury Association of Kentucky

Ms. Wheelchair Louisiana, Dawn Peterson- Daniel Peterson; Mike McNeil; RTC Providers; D&G Automotive; St. Bernard ADA Board; Gulf States Rehab; Gulf Coast Bank; Hibernia National Bank; Patsy Forsyth; Tom & Kim Beaver; L&M Amusement; Mike Anderson Seafood Restaurant; New Orleans ADA Coordinator's Office; LA Secretary of State; New Orleans Mayor's Office; LA Governor's Office

Ms. Wheelchair Maryland, Joy Limo- Maryland Transit Administration; Choice Marketing & Sales Mobility Dist.; Lexington Lady Boutique; Ed & Mary Ann Edman; A Can Can Make A Difference Ministry; Ride-Away; MITS Corporation

Ms. Wheelchair Massachusetts, Laurel Labdon- Nancy & Bill Abbott; Amanda Allen; Gloria & Larry Asquith; Aelish & Khalid Baig; Dr. Art & Mary Baker; Barb & Jim Baker; Michele & Christopher Bernard; Paul Blackmore; Deborah Claymon & Dough Boeschun; Brigham & Women's Hospital, Tower 9A Research Staff; Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition; Cape Cod Organization for Rights of the Disabled; Kim Carney; Laura Cooper; Carol & Steve Demler; Cathy & Alex Detrick; LeMoine & Bill Dowd; Annette Golian & Martin Eagan; Debra & Eric Ehnstrom; Ann & Rod Elrod; Hilary & Bob Fitzgerald; Stephanie Fields; Barb & Jim Fletcher; Carol & Al Fortune; Rebecca & Jamie Gannon; Courtney & Andrew Giovinazzi; Nancy Goldberg; Phyllis & Bob Greenberger; Caroline Hanks; Donna & Bill Harney; Dr. Jerry & Anne Hazard; Brenda & Jim Hegarty; Sue & Kevin Heinz; Dr. Bill & Carol Henry; Felicia Penn & Joe Hoffman; Amy & Brian Horne; Dr. Steve & Mary Huber; Joy & Tom Hunter; Victoria & Tom

Hunter; Bill Hutchinson; Dr. Bill Kaser; Steve Kaser; Dr. John Kelley; Ann-Marie Kelly; Dr. Ed Kemp & Carol O'Loughlin; Trish & George Kennedy; Sue & Philip Keohan; Leah & Matt Killion; Jeanine Krek; Gayle & Ray Krek; Dr. Robert & Jane Labdon; Jill & Justin Labdon; Laurie & Alex Labdon; Land Ho! Restaurant; Marylou & Willard Luecker; Linda & Peter Mazzei; Stephanie Meads; Lisa McNeill; Dr. Jay & Shelley Merriam; Dr. Peter & Susan Milsky; Net Bride.com; Paulette & Neal Nevin; Dr. Rich & Linda Rodger; Karen & Denny Schillings; Sandy & Gary Selley; Courtney & Jay Sherwin; Kate & Steve Sidwell; Kim & Jon Smith; Dr. Les & JoAnn Stone; Priscilla & Neil Thomkinson; Anne & Jon Sweeney; Brenda & Mike Trowato; United Way of Greater New Bedford; Betty & Bergan Van Doren; Dr. Richard Weiler; Dr. Ken Weissman; Karen & Mac Wells; Myka & Bill Wibel; Atlantic Public Media; Cape Cod Baseball League; Cape Cod Times; Governor Mitt Romney; Lt. Governor Kerry Healey; Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; New England Medical Equipment Dealers Association; New England Patriots; Carol & Russell Wilkins; Caroline & Thomas Williams; Elizabeth & John Williams; Representative Bruce Ayers; Representative Shirley Gomes; Representative Cleon Turner; Senator Rob O'Leary; Senator Steven Tolman; Senate President Robert Travaglini; U.S. Congressman Bill Delahunt

Ms. Wheelchair Michigan, Jocelyn Dettloff- No sponsors listed

Ms. Wheelchair Minnesota, Katie Wornson- Jeff and Katie Wilburn

Ms. Wheelchair Missouri, Aimee Wehmeier- Paulette Anderson; Kellie Hazelrigg; Dale Zank, State Farm Agency; Brad & Khons Volmert; Silver Graham Hemmel; Phyllis Nichols; Chuck Spencer State Farm Agency; Virgil & Julie Parsons; Val Bloess State Farm Agency; Best Buy Home Care; Thomas Fisher; Mark & Brenda Grindstaff; state Farm Insurance; Janine Sanders, Mary Kay Consultant; Gloria Glover, Family Affair Salon; D. Lynn Creations; C.Withers Tasty Catering; Jennifer Wyatt

Ms. Wheelchair New York, Melissa Ortiz- James & Betty Lamberth; John & Mary Crabtree; Dr. & Mrs. Billy Hobbs; Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Brinkley; Carmen Fiscella; George & Sally Lauderdale; Dean Hall; Charles & Patti Crabtree; Curt Ketzner; Shirley Crabtree; Sue & Edward Bailey; Mr. & Mrs. Joe Durham; Dr. & Mrs. Bill Higgs and Family; Dick Ellis; Mr. & Mrs. Reed Arvin; Liz Curtis Higgs; Wes & Bernadine Cantrell; Mrs. Laura Carson; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Butler; Mrs. Betty Durham; Dr. Susan Mackey; Jeff Hammonds; Doug Crabtree- Solvine Industries; Sandra Murphy, White House Mini Storage; Fred Shotz, ADA Group; Such a Voice Inc.; Mr. & Mrs. Lars Gren; Stephanie Canfield; Beth Mattfeld; Sandy DiNoto; Cindy Hill, Janet Griffin; Eva Galvin; Jerina Porterfield; Phyllis Buckley

Ms. Wheelchair North Carolina, Debra Myers- Stell's Medical, Inc.; North Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Association; House of Commons; North Carolina Department of Commerce; North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources; North Carolina Museum of History; North Carolina Department of Tourism and Development; Moore Wallace Publishing; Sprint National Operator Services Staff

Ms. Wheelchair Ohio, Melissa Milinovich- R & L Carriers; Hewlett Packard; Dick Matthews, Sign-A-Rama; Rick Barge, Barge Photography; Ms. Wheelchair Ohio Committee; Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Ms. Wheelchair Pennsylvania, Debra Charles- Microtel Inns & Suites; Amazing Tails Service Dogs; Saucony Meadow's Tents; Mainline Medical; Weiss Markets, Kutztown; Wal-Mart; Superpetz, Reading; B.J.'s Wholesale Club; Reading Phillies Baseball Club

Ms. Wheelchair Rhode Island, Kristen Connors- Richard & Lorilyn Hall; Gerald & Patricia Connors; Randall Realtors, GMAC; J.B.L. Realty

Ms. Wheelchair South Dakota, Sandie Jungers- Watertown Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities; Terex Utilities; Cashway Lumber; Franklin Hotel; Midwest Medical Supply; Northern Star Subway, Inc.; County Fair Foods; Codington County Equipment; Coca-Cola Bottling; HyVee Food Store; Wal-Mart; Great Western Bank; James & Deborah Siemans; Dugan's Appliance; Plains Commercial Bank; Professional Hearing Services; ReMax; Team Electronics; Hurkes Implement; Wight, Comes & Sogn Funeral Chapel; Tom Burns, P.C.; Roby Property Management; Dr. Robert Arnold

Ms. Wheelchair Texas, Sarah Whitlock- Mr. & Mrs. William Morrow; Joan Glancy; Ret. LSG Bobby Graham; Menchaca's Baybrook; Mr. & Mrs. Archie Cook; Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Samuel; Jan Ward; Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Neiswander; Mr. & Mrs. Myron Preston; Mr. & Mrs. David Reid; Mr. & Mrs. Austin View; Blackburn Abstract Co., Inc.; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Wood; Mr. Dudley Yonge; Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sheehan; Darlene Fruidenberg; Jennifer Boone; Mrs. Cathy Hipps; Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Cheever; Dr. Sandra Donnelly; Dr. Terri Pulstlnik; Audrey & Michael McGuyer; Mrs. Kathryn Phelps; The Wheelchair Shop, Houston; Mr. & Mrs. James Kruse

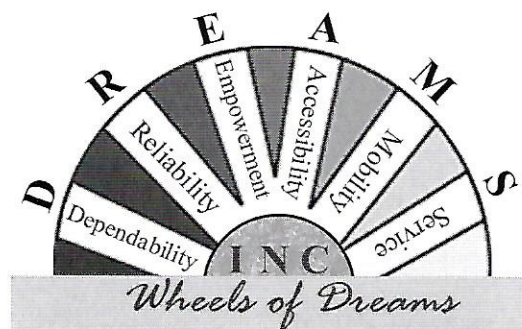
Ms. Wheelchair Utah, Meg Hendleman- Whitfield Johnson; Mickie Johnson; Scott & Janet Steale; Utah NAC; Bowmans Superstore; MTC; Neka F. Roundy; Bonneville International Corporation; Brighton Bank; Kent & Pam Nelson; LDS Hospital; Herbs for Health, Al Garcia

Ms. Wheelchair Virginia, Angie Wilkerson- The Regency JC Penny's; Mike Hardin; Charla Bjostad at Pleides Vintage Bridal; Chip Lankert at LLL Adventures; Barbara Basl at Seize the Moments Scrapbook; Glen Perry at Regional Home Medical; Valerie and Steve Lewis; Anne Yancey; Don Branton; Larry's Auto Parts, Inc.; Charlotte County Lions Club; Satori Medical Center; Ginger Quillen & AMC Medical; Vaughn & Ruth Roberts; Jeff McCreary; Anne & Jimmy Gaulding; Junior Women's Fellowship; Christ United Methodist Church; George & Marilyn Davis; Keysville United Methodist Church Youth; Pam Clark; Debbie, Mike & Jacob Marcus; Rose Noonan; Joe & Michele Wilkerson; Nancy Alder; Mae Marshall; Betty Wilkerson; Debbie Johnson; Joy Bent; Steve & Linda Adams; Tammie's Styling Salon; Sheldon's Restaurant; Lovene Johnson; Pat Simmons; Gayle McIntosh; Esther Baskerville; Alan Huffman; the individual Chamber of Commerces of Virginia; Adult Sunday School class of Keysville United Methodist Church; Ashely Yancey; Students, Staff, and Faculty at Southside Virginia Community College; Catherine's store on Hull Street and Broad Street in Richmond

Ms. Wheelchair Washington, Michelle Beardshear- Columbian Newspaper; Camas-Washougal Rotary Club; Cadet Manufacturing Company; Stephanie Richardson and Gordon Millar; Trish Zufelt; Grace and Clem Politiske; Keith and Asher Beardshear; Pendelton Woolen Mill Employees; CPU Employees; Starbucks Coffee; Clark Public Utilities; Darrel and Judy Beardshear; Nancy and Mike Chappell; Melody Beardshear; Beardshear Family; Krahn Family; Georgia Pacific Employees

Ms. Wheelchair Wisconsin- No sponsors listed

Thanks Sponsors



Schwartz, Zweben and Associates

DateAble

Lane Press of Albany

Albany Marriott

Monograms Plus

Albany County Convention and
Visitor's Bureau

Albany International Airport

Capital District
Transportation Authority

Hoveround

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

D2K Graphics

Westmere Fire Department

Bruegger's Bagel Bakery

Hannaford Supermarkets

Henda and Sam Strasser

Turbo Wheelchair

The Center for the Disabled

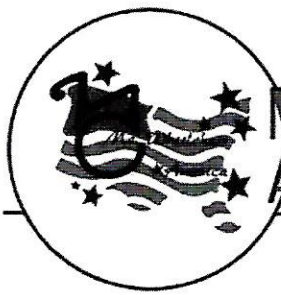
DJ Jay Michaels

American Airlines

Kevin Waldron

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers from the Albany Convention and Visitor's Bureau

Thank you to all of the Ms. Wheelchair New York Volunteers: Shameka Andrews, Joe and Carol Auriemma, Crystal Bergman, Phyllis Buckley, Andy Buman, Stephanie Canfield, Samantha Darling, Sandy DiNoto, Ann Drew, Barb Eames, Eva Galvin, Susan George, Janet Griffin, Nancy Heinzen, Cindy Hill, Beth Mattfeld, Donna and Maria McNeil, Carla Morris, George Villnave, Elissa Zwiebach



Ms. Wheelchair America

A Program of Achievement, Advocacy, and Opportunity

Board of Directors

President
Gail McKoon
Columbus, GA

Vice President
Robert Watson
Chevy Chase, MD

Executive Director
Pat O'Bryant
Louisville, KY

Secretary
Denise DiNoto
Waterford, NY

Treasurer
Judy Hoit
Iowa City, IA

State Coordinators

Alabama
Melisa Zwilling

Iowa
Judy Hoit

North Carolina
Kim Harvey

Arizona
Leciah Laughton

Kansas
Carrie Greenwood

Ohio
Stacey Hubbard

Arkansas
Ida Esh't

Kentucky
Pat O'Bryant

Pennsylvania
Kara Aiella

California
Ruthee Goldkorn

Maryland
Robert Watson

South Dakota
Monica German

Colorado
Fred Criswell

Michigan
Monica Smith

Texas
Angela Wrigglesworth

District of Columbia
Jeri Wasco

Minnesota
Misty Yanish

Virginia
Debra Willis

Georgia
Gail McKoon

Missouri
Elysse Power

Wisconsin
Gina Hackel

Illinois
Michelle McKeever

New York
Denise DiNoto



1974 Douglass Blvd.
Louisville, KY 40205
502.451.5601 • Fax 502.451.8518



Promoting the creative power in people with disabilities

Good Luck Trisston Wright!
We are so proud that you are a VSA artist

For more information, please call the VSA arts of Alabama state office at
(205) 322-4086 or email info@vsartsalabama.org.
Please visit our website at www.vsartsalabama.org.

Ms. Wheelchair

K
Kentucky

MICHELLE,

**ALL of Kentucky
wishes you**

GOOD LUCK!

Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky, Inc.

Patty Dissell, Executive Director
(502) 637-7363
pdissell@sbak.org

Kosair Charities Centre
982 Eastern Pkwy, Box 18
Louisville, Ky 40217



Good Luck Michelle Bazeley
Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky!

www.SBAK.org

Spinal Cord Injury Association of Kentucky

AWARENESS
RESOURCES
EDUCATION
ATHLETICS



Good Luck Michelle Bazeley
Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky!

www.SCIAK.org

1000 E. Thomas
200 Madison Center
Louisville, KY 40202

Telephone: (502) 582-7484
Website: www.SCIAK.org
Email: webmaster@SCIAK.org

Winners On Wheels

www.WOWusa.com



Kristi Thomas, Executive Director
kjthomas@accessology.com

Michelle Bazeley, Circle Leader
bazeleycei@bellsouth.net

Winners On Wheels
302 e. Church Street
Lewisville, TX, 75057

1-800-WOW-TALK

Good Luck Michelle Bazeley Ms. Wheelchair Kentucky!

*Ms. Wheelchair
Colorado*

**Proud Supporter of MWCO 2005,
Chanda Hinton**



Marcy C. Handshaw, CID, IIDA
Partner

2201 w. broad street, ste. 109
richmond, virginia 23220
tel. 804-353-6600 ext. 101
fax 804-353-6916
cell 804-405-9559
mhandshaw@tm-collaborative.com



Our Little Firecracker!!!
Ms. Trisston Wright
Crazy Bill's Fireworks
Serving Alabama for 25 Years





DateAble, Inc.

The Dating Service with Heart

Proud Supporter of the
Ms. Wheelchair America 2006 Pageant

DateAble, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides dating and social opportunities for people with and without disabilities.

DateAble, Inc.

15520 Bald Eagle School Road

Brandywine, Maryland 20613

301-657-DATE (3283) www.dateable.org