



A Chapter of Christopher &  
Dana Reeve Foundation



**May 2009**

We're on the Web!  
[www.azspinal.org](http://www.azspinal.org)

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*"A monthly update on the  
happenings and upcoming events  
in the Association and  
Community Partners."*

# Member E-Newsletter

## Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association

### Peer Mentor Picnic

The Peer Mentor Picnic will be rescheduled at a later date. Once the date is set, it will be posted on both the electronic newsletter and our website calendar.

If you have any questions, please contact Ashleigh Turner at 602-507-4209.

### Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

We are pleased to announce that the Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association is now a Chapter of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. We have several pieces of information that is posted on the Spotlight section of our website. Please visit [www.azspinal.org](http://www.azspinal.org), then link on "Click here for more info".

### Support Groups

Listed below are Support Groups that the Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association sponsors.

Flagstaff Support Group - Every 1st Tuesday  
2:00PM - 3:30PM  
Contact: Al White, 928-779-4147

VOICE Support Group - Every 2nd Tuesday  
West Valley Support Group  
2:00PM - 4:00PM  
Foothills Branch Public Library  
Contact: Janene Werner, 602-814-9717

COMPASS Support Group - Every 3rd Friday  
East Valley Support Group  
1:00PM - 3:00PM  
Granite Reef Senior Center in Scottsdale  
Contact: Pauline Staples, 602-241-1006

SCI Women Support Group - Every 2nd Tuesday  
6:30PM - 8:00PM  
Banner Good Samaritan Hospital  
Sandstone Conference Room  
Contact: Jill Greenlee Scleuse, CTRS, 480-363-5880

Men's Disability Discussion Group - Every 3rd Thursday  
5:30PM - 7:00PM  
Disability Empowerment Center in Phoenix  
Contact: Don Price, 602-980-3232

Northern Arizona SCI Support Group - Every 2nd Thursday  
 5:00PM  
 Mountain Valley Regional Rehabilitation in Prescott  
 Contact: Jo Crawford, 928-759-8800

Grupo del apoyo en Español!!

Cual:

El grupo de apoyo en Español para personas que tienen trauma cerebral y lesión a la columna. Este grupo hace actividades de diversión y actividades educacionales.

Cuando:

Cada segundo sábado del mes!

Adonde:

Gentiva Rehab Without Walls®

7227 N 16th St #107

Phoenix, AZ 85020

602-943-1012

Por favor de llamarme si usted quiere atender

Gracias

Diane

Fechas del grupo: Usted y su familia están invitados. (es posible que estas fechas y actividades van a cambiar, entonces de hablar con Diana por cada actividad)

29 de mayo - Día de lago con el Hospital de San Jose (\$20.00 por persona y traer su almuerzo)

20 de junio – Museo de Bomberos

11 de julio – Alberca y Carne Asada

15 de agosto – Peter Piper Pizza!

12 de septiembre – Sedona

17 de octubre – Zoological!

noviembre – Rodeo y Pow Wow.

12 de diciembre – Pastorela o una Posada

Meetings are subject to change.

If you have any questions about the Support Groups, please feel free to contact the facilitators or call the Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association at 602-507-4209.

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## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Day on the Lake

Date: Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Location: Bartlett Lake Marina

Time: 8:30AM – 2:30PM

Contact: Barrow Rehab Recreation Therapy Department at 602-406-3606

Please join us for a fun filled day of water skiing, fishing, kayaking, boat rides and jet skiing. The Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association will be providing transportation as part of our donation for the event. Please contact us at 602-507-4209 to be placed on the transportation list.

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## America's Most Wanted 2009 All-Star Award

There are eight dedicated first responder finalists for the 2009 All-Star Award. One of the finalists is from Arizona.

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William (Bill) Weigt began in law enforcement in 1996 as a correctional officer with the Arizona Department of Corrections. During the following eight years, his assignments included main intake coordinator, squad leader of the tactical support unit, firearms instructor, armorer, testing coordinator and gang intelligence officer. In July, 2004, he graduated from the police academy and began working for the Peoria Police Department. In his second month of service, he received a Life Saving Award for helping to rescue an elderly man from drowning after driving his vehicle into a pond. In the following two years, he also received four unit citations and a commendation.

In late 2005, Detective Weigt was shot while conducting a high-risk stop, following a drug related shooting; he awoke three days later to find that he was paralyzed from the chest down. He received a Distinguish Cross and a Police Star for his work as a first responder that day and continues to work for the Peoria Police Department as detective investigator in the robbery unit. Detective Weigt's will to make a difference in the face of tragedy, is a demonstration of strength and inspiration in his community. He has coordinated numerous fundraising events for local officers who have died in the line of duty and has been a motivational speaker at about 20 different organizations and schools. He has also been coaching youth football for the last eight years and took his team to the National Championships in 2007.

William Weigt was a Home and Community patient of Tina Fisk.

If you would like to vote for William Weigt, please visit <http://www.amw.com/allstar/2009>. You can vote once a day until Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please spread the word – anyone can vote!

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## Phoenix Mayor's Commission on Disability Issues, Employment Education & Training Grant

The City of Phoenix and the Phoenix Mayor's Commission on Disability Issues is offering grant awards, from \$500 up to \$3,000 each, to eligible Phoenix residents with disabilities who require financial assistance in overcoming barriers in education, training, or employment related needs. There is a life time maximum of two grant awards per applicant, not to exceed \$6,000. Grant applicants must be at least a senior in high school and eighteen years of age. The program will reopen for new applications once per quarter until available funding is exhausted. Applications will be turned into the City of Phoenix, Equal Opportunity Department, and reviewed by a committee comprised of commissioners, City staff, and community representatives.

Citizens with disabilities must apply within the specified timeframes set for each award period. Applicants must submit an application and one page explanation of the grant need in detail. Proof of reasonable costs, including bids, invoices, etc., must be included in the application. Successful applicants will receive vouchers that they provide to vendors, who in turn will bill the grant fund. All funds will be provided directly to the vendor organization providing the good or services.

For further information, please call Diane Nydick, Equal Opportunity Specialist, City of Phoenix, Equal Opportunity Department, at 602-495-3737 or TTY 602-534-1557.

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## CSI: Crime Scene Investigation

Thursday night, April 30th on CBS at 9 pm (8 pm CT) - check local listings. CSI: Crime Scene Investigation will feature a full storyline about coroner Dr. Robbins, portrayed by actor and disability rights advocate Robert David Hall. This is the first full storyline for Dr. Robbins since he started on the show nine years ago that shows more dimensions to his character. CBS has taken the lead in hiring of actors with disabilities in TV programming, going back to the 1980s.

With recent focus on the power of negative media images, we hope you will tune in AND if you want more actors with disabilities in the media, and increased disability story lines, you might consider writing to thank CBS in their continuing action of broadcasting accurate portrayals and increasing employment of people with disabilities – in front of the camera and behind the scenes.

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## Women with Disabilities: Generational Perspectives on Disability and Healthcare

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009

Location: Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 E Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85034, Nina Mason Pulliam Conference Center

Time: 8:00AM – 4:00PM

Contact: Donna Powers, Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council at 602-577-0517 or [donna@azsilc.org](mailto:donna@azsilc.org). There is NO registration fee! Online Registration on [www.azdisabilitypost.org](http://www.azdisabilitypost.org).

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## That All May Worship – Families: Where are they?

Presented by Joni and Friends Arizona

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2009

Location: Apollo Baptist Church, 11611 N 51<sup>st</sup> Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304

Time: 8:30AM – 3:30PM

Cost: \$35 (includes lunch and materials)

For information and reservations, call 602-275-2568 or [phoenix.joniandfriends.org](http://phoenix.joniandfriends.org).

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## MS 2009: Maximizing Care Strategies

Presented by Banner Health and National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Arizona Chapter

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2009

Location: InterContinental Montelucia Resort & Spa, 4949 E Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Time: 7:00AM – 4:00PM

Cost: Allied Health - \$95; Physician - \$150

For more information, please contact Philip Carll at 480-968-2488m ext. 22 or email [pcarll@nmss.org](mailto:pcarll@nmss.org).

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## Fair Housing/Disability Awareness Conference

Date: Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

Location: Mesa Marriott, 200 N Centennial Way in Mesa

Time: 8:30AM – 4:00PM

Cost: NAHRO Members - \$60; Non-Members - \$75

Registration will be taken by going to: <http://www.aznahro.org/training.htm> Registration is due by Friday, May 1, 2009. Seating is limited so register early.

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## Upcoming e-news information.....

If there is anything that you would like to share with your fellow members, please contact Vangie Mortenson. She will ensure that the information will be posted on the e-news.

**THANK YOU!**