



Arizona Spinal Cord  
Injury Association

# AZSCIA E-NEWS

June 2008

*"A monthly update on the happenings and upcoming events in the association."*

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We're on the Web!  
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## Sun Artisans Introduces it's newest product

Paul Mortensen and Ken Coleman have been busy collaborating on a new product for the Sun Artisans line. They have created gel candles with Ordonone. Ordonone is the main chemical used for the odor neutralizer, which is the main ingredient in Febreze.

The first batch of candles is called "Hawaiian Breeze". The candle burns between 80 – 100 hours. The retail price is \$25.00 plus shipping and handling. We are also doing a "Candle of the month Club," where each month a different scented candle will be sent. The cost of the "Candle of the month Club" is \$25.00 plus shipping and handling. We will be running a special deal for the "Candle of the month Club". If you commit to purchasing 12 candles, you will get 2 free with the 12th shipment.

## I & R Database

We would like to start collecting information for our database. We would like to begin gathering a list of doctor's numbers throughout the state who are familiar with SCI. The compiled list will be very vital to the rehab centers throughout the State. PMR docs, Urologists, Internists, Pain doctors, etc. Specialists who accepts AHCCCS is one of the main questions of incoming calls to the Association.

Please help by gathering information on your doctors. Call the Association at 602-239-5929 to receive a copy of the "Docs on a Roll" document via email or mail. Please forward the document via email to your specialist or print out a copy and hand deliver to your next doctor's appointment.

## It's A Wrap - 2007-2008 Banner Wheelchair Suns/Mercury

### **BANNER WHEELCHAIR SUNS JUNIORS**

The 2007-2008 wheelchair basketball season came to a conclusion with the Junior Suns playing at the National Tournament in Omaha, NE in March. The Junior Suns traveled to Omaha to participate in their first National Tournament and came away with 11<sup>th</sup> out of a 26-team field. The juniors also traveled to Berkeley, CA and West Coast Conference Championships in Denver, CO as well as hosting a tournament and educational symposium in Mesa in their first full year of competition. Joe Underwood was named to the All Academic Team West Coast Conference. Congratulation Junior Suns on a great season. We look forward to great things from these kids.

### **BANNER WHEELCHAIR MERCURY**

February 27-March 1 the Mercury played in the Women's National

Tournament at the University of IL in Champaign. Twelve teams were represented at Nationals this year and our Mercury finished the season ranked 5<sup>th</sup> Nationally after a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish last year. Jennifer Ruddell was named to the All-Tournament team. The Mercury also traveled to Tucson, AZ, Birmingham, AL, Las Vegas, NV, and Denver, CO for tournaments. In December the Mercury were host for the first annual Mercury Invitational. Tiffany Wilkinson has been offered a basketball scholarship to play for the University of IL.

### **BANNER WHEELCHAIR SUNS DII**

February was also the final seasonal competition for co-ed adult team. The DII did not participate at Nationals this year as with all cost increasing resources ran short. Though the team did finish in the top 20 again this year. The team traveled to Tucson twice for tournaments and was host for two tournaments in November and February in Mesa. The team also traveled to Las Vegas twice, Las Angeles, and San Jose, CA. Again the team is providing opportunities for the athletes with Tommy Hambicki offer of a basketball scholarship at the University of Arizona. Miguel Raygoza is weighing options from Southwest State, Marshall, MN and the University of IL.

### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

The Banner Wheelchair Suns/Mercury program continues to do community outreach. In partnership with the Governors Council on Spinal Cord and Brain Injuries, the Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Assoc., And Banner Good Samaritan Rehabilitation eight sessions of wheelchair skills classes were presented to the public for free. Team members presented at the SCI curriculum at St. Joseph's Hospital. Also numerous school presentations of "It's OK to be Different" and the "Drive Safe" were conducted.

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## **Arizona Loan\$ for Assistive Technology**

Arizona Loan\$ for Assistive Technology (AzLAT) is an affordable, alternative financing program designed to assist individuals with disabilities and/or their family members to borrow money for the purchase of assistive technology devices, services and adaptive equipment. Qualified applicants may be able to borrow funds in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$10,000. Our borrowers have used their loans to buy hearing aids, personal mobility equipment, vehicle adaptations/modifications, low vision/blindness aids and adapted computer equipment. Loans can also be used for home modifications/ adaptations and insurance copay's for AT/Durable Medical Equipment (DME) items.

Unique features of this consumer oriented financial loan program include:

- Below market interest rates
- Flexible repayment terms (1- 5 years) that fit within the borrower's budget.
- No prepayment penalties for early loan payoff
- Assistance identifying and locating appropriate technology
- Assistance with completion of loan application as needed
- Applications are review by a committee that includes persons with disabilities

For more information, please contact Pam Alcala at 602.776.4670 / 1.800.477.9921 x1 or by email at [Pam.Alcala@nau.edu](mailto:Pam.Alcala@nau.edu). Additional information, loan eligibility criteria and to download an AzLAT loan application, go to at [www.azlat.org](http://www.azlat.org).

## Sedona Magical Mystery Tour

The Sedona Magical Mystery Tour was a wonderful success. The tour was held on Sunday, May 4, 2008. The weather was wonderful and it was just a beautiful day to have a tour of Sedona and the surrounding area. The day ended with a wine tasting.

It was suggested to have another tour planned in September when the weather gets cooler. Once the date is set, we will promote in advance of the tour. One of the tour participants, Bob Tener, lives in Sedona and volunteers with the National Forest Service. He has offered to provide an accessible location and a camp style dinner prepared in Dutch Ovens that would be in keeping with the theme of the event.



## ABIL's Position Description

1. POSITION TITLE: Independent Living Advocate I: Community Integration Unit
2. REPORTS TO: Director of Community Integration
3. POSITION SUMMARY: Works directly with people with disabilities to support their efforts to adapt or maintain an independent lifestyle. Complete assigned responsibilities in the Community Integration Unit with emphasis on assessing consumer needs, developing goals, and providing independent living skills instruction.
4. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's Degree in social sciences or related fields, or combination of 3 years of education and experience. Experience must be in the provision of direct services, preferably with people with disabilities.

## 5. MAJOR ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- A. Responds to initial contacts by consumers, contract service providers, family members, social service agencies, and community at large.
- B. Assess and document consumer needs and goals, with emphasis on independent living skills training.
- C. Provides skills training, peer counseling/support, social and recreational assistance and outreach.
- D. Maintains current consumer information, utilizing computer database.
- E. Documents consumer progress and program activity and submits billing information and monthly activity reports as required.
- F. Makes referrals to other ABIL programs or services in the community as appropriate.
- G. Performs other duties as assigned.

## 6. COMPETENCIES:

### Adaptability/Flexibility:

- Responds to changes in methodology and accountability.

### Creativity/Innovation:

- Develops new methods of service provision.

### Technical/Functional:

- High degree of skill in written and oral communication.
- Understands casework principles.
- Considerable knowledge of the causes and effects of various disabilities.
- Computer skills in word processing and databases; knowledge of Office 2000 preferred.

### Planning:

- Sets priorities and develops course of action to achieve goals/objectives.

### Philosophy:

- Demonstrates through actions and language an understanding of Independent Living philosophy.

7. Salary: \$30,000 - \$35,000/yr.

Date Revised: 8/05

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## Not In Polite Company

At Herberger Theater Center's Lunch Time Theater

June 17-19, 24-26. Tickets are \$6. Call 602-254-7399 X104 for information and tickets. Third Street and Van Buren underneath the canopy

Doors open at 11:40AM

With Carolan Quenneville, Char Summerfield, Erik Jensen, Krystyna Czerwinski, Laurie Ball and Robert Malone.

Join the Improbable Theatre Company's irreverent look at their lives in and out of the doctor's office. Talk about white coat anxiety, this show will prove that sometimes laughter is the only medicine. Not for those who claim, "It only hurts when I laugh. Or cry."

ASL and Audio Description on June 24<sup>th</sup>. No fragrances please. To accommodate those with Multiple Chemical Sensitivities, please do not smoke or wear scented products when attending ITC events.

Improbable Theatre Company is partially funded by: Arizona Bridge To Independent Living, Arizona Commission On The Arts, and City of Phoenix, Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.

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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 at 602-239-5929 or [vangie@azspinal.org](mailto:vangie@azspinal.org). She will ensure that the information will be posted on the e-news.

**THANK YOU!**