



Arizona Spinal Cord
Injury Association

AZSCIA E-NEWS

February 6, 2006

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

Arizona Spinal Cord
Injury Association
901 E Willetta St #2306
Phoenix, AZ 85006
Phone: 602-239-5929
Fax: 602-239-6268
E-mail:
info@azspinal.org

We're on the Web!
www.azspinal.org

Movement For Living

If you or someone you care for has tight, stiff muscles related to spinal cord injury, you know that this condition (called severe spasticity) can make movement difficult or uncontrollable. It can make doing even the smallest things exhausting or impossible.

Did you know that there is a therapy available that may help provide better movement and control?

Come learn about it at a seminar where a doctor will talk about severe spasticity and explain how the therapy works. You'll also hear from a *Movement for Living* Ambassador who will share personal experiences with this therapy. Best of all, you'll be able to ask questions and meet others exploring their options for reaching their full potential. Don't miss this important event!

The seminar will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at HEALTHSOUTH Scottsdale, 9630 E Shea Blvd. Dr. Stanley Fisher, Co-Director, Movement Disorders and Neuro Rehabilitation Center at the Methodist Neurological Institute and the Medical Director, Neuro Rehabilitation at HEALTHSOUTH Houston will be the speaker.

There is no cost to attend. To register, please visit www.movementforliving.com or all toll free 1-888-743-8348. Family and friends are welcome.

Meet the AutoAmbulatorTM!

Watch a demonstration/trial our new AutoAmbulator following "Movement for Living" presentation on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at 12:00PM at the HEALTHSOUTH Scottsdale Gym.

After a serious accident or illness, many people experience problems with balance, coordination and posture – resulting in difficulty or the inability to walk. HealthSouth's innovative AutoAmbulatorTM may provide just the assistance they need.

The AutoAmbulatorTM is a sophisticated device unparalleled in its ability to help people replicate normal walking patterns. Developed by HealthSouth, the synchronized robotic legs enable patients to walk safely, utilizing normal gait patterns. The unique design of the AutoAmbulatorTM allows a therapist to create an individualized treatment program for each patient. Whether an individual has been recently injured or has been unable to

walk for years, the AutoAmbulator may be used to get people back on their feet. For more information, call 480 551-5400 or www.autoambulator.com.

1st Annual Spinal Cord Injury Retreat

Let's have some fun in the pines of Payson! We will have our retreat on May 18-21, 2006 at the Whispering Hope Ranch, near Payson. Three nights and two days of fun-filled activities. A great retreat in the beautiful mountains of Arizona. Meet new friends, enjoy the games and activities and just get away for awhile.

The cost is \$75.00 per person and fee includes accessible rooms and showers, meals, entertainment, recreation and transportation!

For more information please call our office.

Phoenix Banner Wheelchair Suns' Teams

Women's Team

The kickoff to the 2005-2006 season started in Tucson October 22-23 with Women playing their first games. Growing pains were expected but they played well. Losing to the Lady Texans in a close game and later that day to University of Illinois and the U of A. Women.

The ladies next competition came at the 7th Annual Arizona PVA Basketball Blowout in Mesa November 4- 6, 2005. They played a great game with the women from Tucson. The lead went back and forth before the women from Tucson winning a close game by two. They next played the Cleveland Cavaliers and Tucson Lobos men's teams and losing both of these games. Sunday the women play the Tucson women again in another close game winning this time by four.

The women are back in Tucson on December 19-20, 2005. Again playing a hard fought game with the Tucson women. This time the Tucson Women would prevail. The Women's Wheelchair Suns would also lose the Albuquerque NM and Tucson men's team.

Banner Wheelchair Suns Juniors

The Junior Wheelchair Suns is a partnership of our program and the Mesa Association of Sports for the Disabled. The Banner Wheelchair Suns Juniors saw their first competition when they traveled to Tucson December 10, 2005 to play the Tucson Junior Wheelchair team. The Suns won 17 to 6. The Jr. team will be traveling to Las Vegas and will be hosting the Tucson team in 2006. Look for more action from these young ones in the future.

Division III

The Adult Division III team was also busy in 2005. The DIII went 3-1 at the 7th Annual Arizona PVA Basketball Blowout. The DIII team beat the Cleveland Cavaliers, Tucson Lobos and the U of A Women's team. The only lose came at the hands of the U of A men's team.

On November 19-20, 2005 the DIII team was in Tucson for the U of I Wildcats Tournament. The team went 1-2. Losing to the Albuquerque NM team and the U of A men and beating the Tucson Lobos.

Division I

The Division I team first saw action in November 2005 at the University of

Illinois Tournament. The teams first action and first time together did not produce good results. The team went 1-2 for the weekend. They beat the host team and lost to Denver Nuggets and the University of Whitewater at Wisconsin.

Next action for the DI team would be in Mesa at the Arizona PVA 7th Annual Basketball Roundup. This time they played much better and beat the Toronto Raptors and losing to the Dallas Mavericks, Milwaukee Bucks and Denver Nuggets.

Optimism in SCI Research: Progress Toward New Treatments

Hollister proudly presents "*Optimism in SCI Research: Progress Toward New Treatments*". The speaker, Marc Bouniconti, Ambassador, The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, was injured at the age of 19 playing football. A quadriplegic for nearly 20 years, Marc has focused his energy to raising money for awareness for SCI and research.

The event will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2006, 5:30PM at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant, 16405 N Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale, 480-333-4100. To RSVP, please go to www.cvent.com by February 14th – space is limited! Event Code: **7VNAARLBCE6**. If you have any questions, please contact Deanne Starr at 800-624-5369 X 3811.

The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis is making revolutionary advancements in the area of SCI research.

Approved by the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) for 1.0 contact hours. ARN is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses' Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation

Maxine Martin, Marc Buoniconti and Hollister look forward to welcoming you at this event.

Dating4Disabled.com

This site is aimed at helping disabled individuals develop their social, personal and romantic life in a supportive and understanding environment. We offer forums, private chats, a dating service and blogs, among other features, to facilitate personal expression and connection via an on-line community. We feel it is important for persons with disabilities to have more opportunities for social and romantic interaction. Our site is totally free and non-committal. Our goal is to create a community which offers great resources for persons with disabilities and we are looking for persons with disabilities who are internet users. If you would like more information, please visit our web site at www.dating4disabled.com or contact Erin Shamberg at 201-984-5912.

A New Clear Path Partner

Southwest Institute (SWI) and Goodwill Youth Services have partnered with Clear Path to provide a TERRIFIC opportunity available for young adults with disabilities (age 14 - 21) who want to go back to school, get a GED, go to college, get hands-on training, get a job or register for Vocational Rehabilitation (over age 18) or who need other services to prepare for eventual employment.

SWI/Goodwill will pay for college classes, fees, accommodations, transportation, etc. to get youth with disabilities back in school or to work. They have funds to serve 60 young adults with disabilities WHO ARE NOT CURRENTLY IN SCHOOL. If you would like to refer any young adults with disabilities who are not already in school and who would like supports, accommodations and education (FREE TUITION), please contact Romeo Rabusa (602- 262-5065 or romeo.rabusa@phoenix.gov) who is the Clear Path co-enrollment contact staff for this partnership - he will screen and provide appropriate referrals!

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!