

SPINAL CORD INJURY
ASSOCIATION OF
IOWA, INC

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Page 2

Assistive
Technology
Library

10th Annual
Whitetail
Challenge

Page 3

5th Annual
Adapted Sports
Clinic and
Paralympic
Experience

Page 4

UsersFirst
Webinar

Wheelchair
Track and Field
Experience

Page 5

Bowling Event
Pictures

Siebert Mobility:
National Mobility
Awareness
Month

Page 6

Board Member
Spotlight:
Jennifer Wolff

SCILife of Iowa

APRIL 2012

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Assistive Technology Lending Library

Easter Seals has an Assistive Technology Center with a Resource Lending Library available for free to any Iowan. Located at the Camp Sunnyside location in Des Moines, a person can check out up to five items for up to 30 days at a time. Some examples of assistive technology in the Lending Library are computer typing aids, non-slip kitchen aids, and dressing aids. Assistive technology can be expensive and it might not be the right device for you, so borrowing from the Lending Library is a great way to make sure before purchasing an item.

The Assistive Technology Center also contains a Durable Medical Equipment Loan Program for people who are unable to purchase brand new equipment. Some equipment available is manual and electric wheelchairs, shower chairs, canes, walkers, hospital beds, and hoist lifts. With a prescription from a medical professional and a onetime equipment fee a person can keep these items for as long as they are needed. Our Durable Medical Equipment Loan Program is based entirely on donations. If you would like to donate a piece of equipment, you can bring it to our Camp Sunnyside location to be refurbished and loaned to someone who can benefit from it.

Be sure to look for our article in the next SCIA of Iowa Newsletter for more information on specific pieces of equipment available in our Lending Library. If you would like to learn more, please visit our website at www.eastersealsia.org or if you would like to set up an appointment to tour the Lending Library or to check out equipment, please contact us for an appointment (515) 309-2395 or email info@eastersealsia.org.



SAVE THE DATE

10th Annual Whitetail Challenge

The North Branch Wildlife Foundation, the founder of the Whitetail Challenge would like to invite all SCIA of Iowa members and their families to be their guests at dinner on Friday, September 28 at 6:00 PM at the Earlham Community Center in Earlham, Iowa. The Whitetail Challenge allows disabled persons to have an extraordinary deer hunting experience in Central Iowa. You do not have to be a seasoned hunter to enjoy this event. More information on the event and how you can participate will appear in the next newsletter or you can call Ron Mason at 515-834-9111.



5th Annual Adapted Sports Clinic and Paralympic Experience

written by Jordan Vos, Jeff Darling, and Marcie Becker



On Saturday, March 31st from 10am-3pm at the Kirkwood Community College Michael J. Gould Recreation Center, St. Lukes Hospital, Kirkwood PTA Program, Sportability of Iowa, and Spinal Cord Injury Association of Iowa hosted the 5th Annual Adapted Sports Clinic and Paralympic Experience. New to the event this year is the sponsor, Sportability of Iowa. Sports represented at the clinic were archery, volleyball, wheelchair basketball, bowling, golf, air rifle and hand-cycling. New to the event was guest athlete, Paralympic volleyball player and Silver Medalist, Heather Erickson. She instructed all attendees on how to play adapted volleyball including technique and rules. Teams were made of attendees, family, friends, and volunteers and an hour long game occurred.

Forty people living with a disability (approximately 20 living with SCI) in addition to their family and friends enjoyed trialing the adapted recreational equipment and speaking with individuals that use the equipment to maintain an active lifestyle after suffering a disability. SCIA of Iowa happily met several new faces and welcomed back previous attendees. In addition to using the equipment and participating in sports, visitors enjoyed exhibits from The Standing Company, Orthotic and Prosthetic Assistance Fund, ActionTrak and Sportability of Iowa. JVA Mobility and St. Lukes Hospital provided free pizzas to all of the participants and their families. Many participants left the event with a \$25 gift card to either Dick's Sporting Goods, Target or a Visa gift card to use at a store of their choosing. Gift cards were donated by Hanger Orthotics and Prosthetics, St. Lukes Hospital and Spinal Cord Injury Association of Iowa

A special thank you to all of the attendees, volunteers from Kirkwood PTA Program, volunteers from St. Luke's Hospital, Sportability of Iowa, and Megan Andresen for ensuring that this event serves people in Eastern Iowa on an annual basis!



UsersFirst Webinar: Finding the Right Wheelchair

Ann Eubank, a licensed social worker, occupational therapist with ATP certification presents, "Finding the Right Wheelchair" a National Spinal Cord Injury Association UsersFirst Webinar at the following website:
<http://www.spinalcord.org/video-finding-the-right-wheelchair/>

The 54 minute webinar, originally aired in February of 2012, provides resources and guidance on how to efficiently go through the process of obtaining wheelchairs and seating systems that accurately fit wheelchair users. Information is also provided on talking with your doctors and protecting your rights as a consumer.

If you are in your first wheelchair or looking at buying your second or third...or tenth, this webinar will provide you with specific information about a new UsersFirst Mobility App, what you need to get a wheelchair that is specific to you and your lifestyle.




PARALYMPIC SPORT CLUB CENTRAL IOWA



WHEELCHAIR TRACK AND FIELD CLINIC FOR ATHLETES & COACHES

Saturday May 26, 2012
Waukee High School Stadium
9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Come experience the Paralympic Movement! US Paralympics will lead a wheelchair track and field clinic to teach and improve racing and field event skills. This clinic is intended for the athlete and coach who want to increase their knowledge of the sport.



Clinic hosted by



COST IS FREE!!!

To register or for more information

888-777-8881 Ext: 115 | mike@iowasportsfoundation.org | www.adaptivesportsiowa.org



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Annual Bowling Event



SCIA of Iowa's Annual Bowling event was a striking good time!...as usual!

Although mother nature sent us a snow blizzard the day of our event, we had 23 brave souls able to attend.

Thank you to those that were able to participate!

And to those that were snowed in, I'm sorry you couldn't attend. You were missed.

Plan to join us next year, on February 2nd 2013, for our 6th Annual Bowling Event!



Photos taken courtesy of Michael Hulsebus.



May is National Mobility Awareness Month

As a fellow industry advocate and professional, you are well aware of the mobility challenges millions of people with disabilities face every single day. Here at Siebert Mobility, Inc., we are participating in a national campaign to call attention to this important issue and bring it front and center to the general public. Our goal is to broaden transportation options for all people who are dealing with a disability that would otherwise prevent them from attaining the freedom and

independence enjoyed by others.

As part of that goal, we are proud to announce the creation of the National Mobility Awareness Month. This event takes place for the whole month of May 2012 and is designed to grow into an internationally celebrated annual program. The awareness month will focus on increasing independence and the quality of life for people living with disabilities. It will serve to communicate that people with disabilities can enjoy a mobile, active lifestyle through safe, reliable wheelchair accessible vehicles.

The central focus of the Mobility Awareness Month promotion will be a contest that gives people with a disability or their caregiver an opportunity to tell their story of overcoming their day-to-day challenges. We are looking for "Local Heroes". Local Heroes can be anyone in the community such as a caregiver, veteran or a person with a disability who is struggling with or overcoming mobility challenges. Their videos will be posted on YouTube,

www.MobilityAwarenessMonth.com, and voted on via Facebook and other social media platforms. The grand prize will be a mobility equipped vehicles customized to match the winners' needs and will be presented on national television.

For the awareness month to be a success, we really need and would appreciate your help spreading the word about National Mobility Awareness Month. Together we can inform our local community about the campaign and make more people aware of life changing automotive mobility solutions.

We would like to thank you in advance for your participation and look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Siebert Mobility, Inc. at 888-986-3010 or 515-986-3010.

www.siebertmobility.com

National Mobility Awareness Month is May 2012

www.MobilityAwarenessMonth.com

Enter to Win a Free Van!



SPINAL CORD INJURY ASSOCIATION



Spinal Cord Injury Association of Iowa, Inc

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Urbandale, IA 50322

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Website: www.spinalcordiowa.org

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A quarterly publication to bring people in Iowa with spinal cord injuries, families and friends together to achieve active and healthy lifestyles!



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Board Member Spotlight: Jennifer Wolf

SCIA of Iowa happily welcomed 2 new board members in March; Jennifer Wolf and Scott Turczynski.

Jennifer is an occupational therapist who specializes in hand therapy and neurologic conditions. She is currently employed with Taylor Therapy at the Waverly Health Center. Jennifer leads two support groups, one focused on stroke, the other Parkinson's disease. Beginning in April, she plans on starting an exercise group as well. She is also the coordinator of Parkinson's Care Team, a new program providing a one day multi-disciplinary approach including assessment with nursing, pharmacy, nutrition, social work,

physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

In addition to work, Jennifer is a huge advocate for UsersFirst, an advocacy group focused on providing greater access to appropriate wheelchairs, mobility systems and scooters for people with disabilities. She also serves as the district co-chair on the Iowa Occupational Therapy Association Board as well as the Iowa Representative Assembly person for AOTA. In addition, she was named Ms. Wheelchair Iowa in 2011.

In her free time, she enjoys reading, keeping up on current news, and

spending time with friends and family, including her godson Finnian who will turn 6 this April.

Jennifer lives in Waverly, Iowa. SCIA of Iowa is hoping to host an event in East-Central Iowa this year with the help of Jennifer. Thank you Jennifer for joining SCIA of Iowa.

