

The

Access Anything

Monthly Newsletter

A Publication for Travelers with Disabilities • Volume 2 • Number 1 • January 2006

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See page 3 for more information on CaféPress



GO ANYWHERE, DO ANYTHING!™

Adventure Travel for People with Disabilities

The
 Access Anything

Monthly

Volume 2 • Number 1 • January 2006

Publication & Design

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Contributors

Access Anything welcomes writers and travelers with disabilities or knowledge in this particular field to submit their articles, comments, and suggestions to info@accessanything.net. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

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The ICDT interview series will continue in February, stay tuned for the list of future interviewees!

Updates from Access Anything

Café Press

Access Anything has expanded its store to Café Press online! In addition to t-shirts of all styles and sizes, there are mugs, aprons, boxers, and more with the Access Anything “Go Anywhere Do Anything” logo. **And until January 4th the clothing items are on post-holiday sale!** Once inside the shopping cart and checking out, you have the option to enter a coupon code; for clothing enter BIG5. We’ll be adding items to this store as they come available, but if you have any special requests, please don’t hesitate to ask!



I Can Do That!

As of January 1, the second book in our series, [Access Anything: I Can Do That!](#), is finished with its initial stage of writing. The book will be out later this year once finished editing, adding photos, indexing and printing, again published by the wonderful team at Fulcrum Publishing.

The book will include Craig’s recent I Can Do That! interview series including selected interviews from this series with Mark Wellman, Matt Feeney, Sarah Will, Grover Evans, Scott Remington, and Eric Weihenmayer. The I Can Do That! guide presents an extensive adaptive sports section with 45 sports and how they’ve become adapted over the years, what equipment is needed, and rules regarding the sport if applicable. There is also an expanded travel section with statistics and information on adaptive travel, including airlines, busses, cars, cruise ships, and trains. The guide will have an enormous resource appendix with several hundred links for adaptive sports and travel.

The complete *I Can Do That!* interview series from the last three months will be available online at Access Anything this month, available for a free download for the first few months, so get them before there is a charge for them! Visit www.AccessAnything.net for more information.

This Interview series will continue on February 8th and will air every two weeks on Wednesdays at 1pm. Future interviewees will be listed on our web site in January.



Access Aloha

Specializing in **Travel** for the disabled

A full service Agency for Everyone

For the past decade, owner Judy Heller has specialized in an accessible Hawaii with her agency Access Aloha Travel. After an eye-opening experience with coordinating travel for the Americans with Disabilities Act Pacific Conference in 1994 and seeing her clients' frustration with ill-equipped airline staff and attitude, broken wheelchairs, and hotel staff ignorance, Heller decided to open her own agency to serve this ever-growing market.

Her agency's first year was spent in research, inspecting sites of hotels and giving disability-sensitivity training. Access Aloha provides inbound as well as outbound services for travelers with disabilities, including groups and conventions, tours, inter-island air/room/car packages, and adventure activities. But Access Aloha goes above and beyond in many aspects, including sign language interpreters, Braille business cards, personal care attendants and accessible transportation. Heller speaks to disability groups and by showing the market that there are options for everyone, she has encouraged many who have lost hope of travel to see the light again.

Heller's efforts have more than paid off, growing from a \$50,000 per year agency to a million-dollar business, and was awarded the American's Business Woman Association's Business Woman of 2005. Access Aloha has done so well in fact that the company donates half of its profits to local non-profit disability organizations and sponsors disabled events such as Ms. Wheelchair America.

Access Anything looks forward to using Access Aloha Travel for an upcoming trip to Hawaii in September, 2006 and hopes to soon begin work on Access Hawaii!

Access Aloha Travel | 414 Kuwili Street, #101 | Honolulu, HI 96817
Local: (808) 545-1143 | Toll Free: (800) 480-1143 | FAX: (808) 545-7657
info@accessalohatravel.com

Society for Accessible Travel and Hospitality's Annual World Congress

January 11-15, 2006, Miami, Florida

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the SATH World Congress and the 30th anniversary of SATH, once titled the Society for Advancement of Travel for the Handicapped upon its commencement in 1976. SATH prides itself on its history with adaptive progress, participating in the writing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Air Carriers Access Act, portions of the International Air Transport Association, and a Code of Conduct toward travelers with disabilities by the World Tourism Organization. SATH has also lobbied for legislative change in the European Community and assisted numerous governments to develop national access guidelines such as the 2004 changes in the United Kingdom.

In 1997 SATH began to sponsor the premier event for education about travelers with disabilities and the mature with the annual World Congress. Travel professionals from all over the world attend this event to learn how to meet the needs of this important market, with a spending potential of over 600 billion dollars!

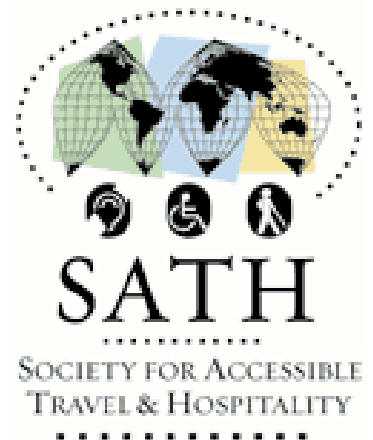
A wealth of information, SATH's website offers travel news and updates, a Need-To-Know facts section, updated information for travel agents as well as updated press releases on adaptive travel, a calendar of events, inspirational stories, and more on domestic and international issues for travelers with disabilities, their companions, and their service animals. Certainly a nexus of information on adaptive travel, SATH has been a leader for the past three decades for the improvement of standards for how adaptive travel is handled

as well as an educator for the awareness of this market and how to maximize the potential income from it.

This year, sponsored by the Colorado Tourism Board, the Steamboat Ski Area, and Fulcrum Publishing, Access Anything will be present to promote Colorado as an accessible and adventure market for all people with disabilities, and will have a full report for the February Newsletter on our findings!



SATH World Congress
1489 West Palmetto Park
Road
Suite 495
Boca Raton, FL 33486
Tel: 800-513-1126 or 561-
361-0017
Fax: 561-361-0224
Email:
sathwrlld@bellsouth.net



Monthly Travel Tip –

Access Challenge

“[Access Challenge](#) is an annual wilderness expedition that provides an opportunity for people with significant physical disabilities to experience the beauty and wonder of British Columbia’s backcountry. That opportunity is made possible through the TrailRider, a multi-terrain vehicle designed specifically for BCMOS, that is powered by two or more able-bodied team-mates, or ‘Sherpas.’

Founded in 1985 by Sam Sullivan, the British Columbia Mobility Opportunities Society (BCMOS) has been working to expand the boundaries of accessibility for people with significant disabilities. The BCMOS vision is that hikers with disabilities will become a common sight on wilderness trails throughout British Columbia and, eventually, all of Canada. To this end, BCMOS has developed a series of unique summer hiking events, including the signature Access Challenge, the year’s most ambitious event.



Previous Access Challenge three-day events have taken as many as eight teams of hikers through parts of Manning Provincial Park (east of Vancouver) and to the peak of Garibaldi Provincial Park near Whistler/Blackcomb.”

If you have any suggestions you’d like to see in our Monthly Travel Tips, please send them to info@accessanything.net.

Recommended Links

Improving the quality of life with a natural environment: www.nobarriersusa.org

Expanding opportunities for veterans and all paralyzed Americans: www.unitedspinal.org

Promoting Full Citizenship for People with Disabilities: www.disabilityfoundation.org

Recommended Reading

For an excellent resource article on companies that are profiting from this growing market, see Fortune Magazine’s May 2005 for cover story, “[No Limit’s](#)” by Elaine Pofeldt. An amazing rundown of several companies and individuals who are paving the way for adaptive business, Pofeldt paints a great picture of why entrepreneurs should focus their sites on this growing million-dollar market. Following this article are several other brief articles on individual companies that follow this trend, so if you can acquire a back issue of this article, we’d highly recommend it!

IF YOU HAVEN’T PURCHASED YOUR COPY OF ACCESS ANYTHING, ORDER IT NOW [ONLINE!](#)

Access Anything's Calendar of Events

JANUARY

1/11-16 – [SATH World Congress](#); Access Anything will be hosting a booth at this annual expo!

FEBRUARY

I Can Do That Interview Series continues February 8

MARCH

3/10-17 – [Paralympics](#) in Torino, Italy

3/10-14 – 1st Annual all-mountain **Steamboat Adaptive Ski Camp**

Look for information in our next newsletter

APRIL

4/8 - [Scott Remington](#) Annual Fundraiser for Spinal Cord Research and The Christopher Reeve Foundation, Brant Lake, NY



Access Anything in the News

“[Book Lists Adaptive Sports Sites](#)” article appeared in **the Indianapolis Star** newspaper, November 20

“[Winter Sports for Disabled](#)” article appeared in the South Florida Sun-Sentinel newspaper, also Nov 20

Access Anything Review: November/December 2005 [Escapes Magazine](#) (summary only)

Access Anything was also been accepted to the [Midwest Book Review](#) in November and will appear on their website through 2007.



Photos from REI Book signing tour in December

