



# The Leader In Accessible Van Rentals

## Quarterly Customer Newsletter



October 2001



### Soap Box Derby

The soap box derby has been a Cleveland, Ohio, event for many years. This year, however, was the first year that MC Mobility and Wheelchair Getaways were involved in the races. The Ohio franchise of Wheelchair Getaways sponsored a soap box car that raced in the special division of the derby.

Steven Kyman, a fourteen year-old boy from Cleveland, was asked by Wheelchair Getaways to drive the soap box car. The race was the inaugural race at the new Ohio track. Each child was accompanied by an experienced race car driver. The team would run laps around the track against another car. Each car would continue the laps two at a time until eliminated. The champions of the soap box derby continued on to the Akron race.

Steven placed fourth in the Special Needs Division of the soap box derby race. His mother, Robyn Kyman, has been using Wheelchair Getaways and MC Mobility for ten years as a choice of accessible transportation for her son. She attended the race and said Steven "loved every minute of it."

Congratulations to Steven Kyman and Wheelchair Getaways Ohio for being involved and successful in the Soap Box Derby!!!



## Remember the Alamo???

Plan a trip to south Texas and you may be overwhelmed with the multitude of activities that are available. Obviously, any trip to south Texas should include a visit to San Antonio and the Alamo. Although you have to deal with street parking, the Alamo facility is very accessible. The attraction is made up of three buildings - the Shrine, Long Barrack Museum, and Gift Museum - that house exhibits on the Texas Revolution and Texas history. Visitors are welcome to stroll through the beautiful Alamo Gardens. Just a short walk from the Alamo is the scenic River Walk. The San Antonio River, which runs through San Antonio, has a long rich history and the renowned River Walk is a great way to enjoy this treasure. Most of the paths are accessible. Even though some end in steps, it is worth the trip. If you are in the mood for shopping, try the El Mercado, Market Square outdoor Mexican market. Whether you're searching for the perfect gift for that special person in your life, something for yourself, or just looking, you'll find shopping at Market Square is always an adventure. In addition to these more traditional attractions, Sea World has recently opened a new location in San Antonio and the Six Flags Fiesta Theme Park can excite and thrill both young and adult travelers.

Just a short drive from San Antonio, you can be in Austin, the State Capital. If you take the trip to Austin, make sure you visit the LBJ library and state capital. Austin is also known nationwide for an incredible music scene. Many visitors may be familiar with Austin City Limits, a contemporary

music show that is televised around the country on PBS. Get out and enjoy the nightlife in Austin.

If you decide to plan a trip to the Houston area, you will not be disappointed. The Johnson Space Center is a definite "must see." Everything you see in the facility is realistic. Space Center Houston's creators kept in close contact with NASA to ensure the most accurate experience. Each attraction is self-guided so you can spend as much time, or as little time, in each of the areas as desired. Most guests spend four to six hours in the Center. Galveston is just a short drive from the Houston city limits and has an abundance of wonderful attractions. One of the most accessible is Moody Gardens, a 12-story pyramid with several marine habitats, including the King Penguin exhibit and an IMAX Theater. While you are in Galveston, visit the Galveston beach and seawall including the Kemah Boardwalk. Wheelchair users can travel along the seawall for miles and everyone will enjoy the carnival and restaurants on the Boardwalk.

For more information about a trip to south Texas, visit [www.sachamber.org](http://www.sachamber.org), [www.texas.worldweb.com](http://www.texas.worldweb.com), and [www.access-able.com](http://www.access-able.com). Also call Wheelchair Getaways of South Texas: 866-616-8267

## Wheelchair Getaways Opens New Location in Texas

Wheelchair Getaways is proud to announce the opening of a new franchise in southern Texas. Officially opening November 1, 2001, Wheelchair Getaways' newest location is currently taking reservations. As with all locations, the new Texas location is dedicated to providing the best quality product and customer oriented service. The new franchise owners have a unique perspective on disability products and services because James Wallgren, president of the franchise, has been a wheelchair user for 21 years due to a spinal cord injury. He understands the transportation needs of the wheelchair user. Jim's business partners in running the franchise also know the challenges of accessible transportation because they are also members of his family. Jim, Joy, Rob and Mendy are ready to meet your accessible transportation needs.

The initial service area will include all of southern Texas with a physical office outside of Houston in Spring, TX. Future expansion plans also include a location in the San Antonio or Austin area. Delivery is available anywhere in southern Texas.

Wheelchair Getaways of South Texas has vehicles available for short term or long-term rentals and can deliver to all major airports.

When asked for a comment about starting operations, Jim said, "We are anxious to get started. The phones are already ringing for reservations." He even recommends making early reservations for the holidays and can be contacted at 1-866-616-8267.

**Good luck and welcome aboard!**

## A Special Note to Our Customers

We are reminded daily of the tragic events of September 11. Many experienced the devastation on a very personal level, having lost a loved one, a friend, a relative, a colleague. We all watched the events over and over again as news media gave updates and kept us informed. Our nation was and still is in a state of extreme shock, sadness and disbelief. The citizens of the United States are pulling together during this tragedy. Donations are still pouring in to organizations such as Red Cross and Salvation Army to help assist victims, survivors and rescue workers. Our nation has expressed great sympathy for those who were personally involved. Citizens are showing sincere patriotism and support of the nation and its leaders. American flags are being flown and displayed in places where they have never been shown before. Some businesses, especially those in transportation, responded to the crisis by providing additional service to their customers.

Wheelchair Getaways franchises responded to the emergency the best that we could by extending rentals to customers who were stranded during the crisis. Some franchisees even personally paid for customer extensions.

At Wheelchair Getaways, we understand that security measures will make airport travel more complex.

We look forward to serving you in the future.



