

The Foundation's Day at the Races program continues to grow in popularity. SSPPF is very grateful to Andretti Green Racing, who supports the program by providing their hospitality tent and a wonderful lunch for our guests.

IndyCar mascot Firehawk, courtesy of Bridgestone Firestone, is a favorite visitor. Guests have the opportunity to ask Sam any question and to speak openly and frankly about their treatments, life challenges and other topics of importance. Everyone is encouraged to share their life experiences with one another, solving problems along the way.

Thanks to the drivers who stop to chat with the guests, signing autographs and having photos taken.

#### TESTIMONIALS FROM DAY AT THE RACES

"Just wanted to drop you a note to say thank you very much for the opportunity you gave my daughter Mary at Chicagoland. I have not seen her smile so much as I did that day. She did get to meet Marco Andretti and that was the ultimate highlight of her day! As a matter of fact Marco's mom Sandy came over to Mary, took Marco's picture and had him sign it for her... Again, so many thanks for what you did. I don't think I will ever be able to express all of my gratitude." (From Michelle)

"Lunch with Sam Schmidt was another unique and inspirational opportunity that truly emphasized the fact that people with spinal cord injuries can be successful, respected and happy in their lives while pursuing their interests, hobbies and passions. Sam and his foundation should be commended for the efforts taken to address spinal cord injuries, but more than that, they should be commended for setting the bar high as a prime example of the much needed involvement of disabled individuals in furthering education, understanding and advocacy in the community." (From Chris, C-6/C-7 quad, Milwaukee, WI)

"I enjoyed the Day at the Races. Hearing Sam speak about his foundation and the progress it has made is a testament to what can be accomplished when you have a solid organization behind you. The hospitality of the Andretti/Green staff was excellent." (From Joe)

"Excellent event! This was a great opportunity! The hospitality was great! Thank you so much! Sincerely appreciate it!" (From Ramon)

"The foundation is doing a great job.. good to be part of it today!" (From Neill, Louisville KY)

"The Shriners folks can't thank you, Sam, and the folks at Andretti Racing enough for your hospitality. It was an uplifting experience for our patients. One of our patients suffered a C-5/6 spinal injury this past April resulting in many complications, including being in isolation for the past 2 months. Saturday was the first time since his accident that he felt real joy. Thanks again." (From Sahar)

“God be with everybody up and down the road. We are new fans!!! And one thing else... Sam Schmidt is the man!!! Superman!!! We love him!!!” (From the Deuce T. family)

“My name is Todd B and I’m writing to say thank you 4 a wonderful afternoon. I attended your event at IMS and had a blast. I met John and Mario Andretti, Scott Sharp, Milka Duno, Danica Patrick, and yourself to mention but a few. We got to go down by pit row and an opportunity to see the cars up close in the garage area. I feel your foundation is doing great work and I wouldn’t mind helping out in the future. Once again, thank you.” (From Todd)

“Thank you so much for Race Day. Cole had a blast. He loved every minute of it. I never dreamed he would be able to go to the races and actually be able to see them with his visual limitations. This day allowed him to do just that. It was wonderful to see his face light up as the cars went by. Thank you for this day and all you do for people with special needs. God bless.” (From Lisa and Cole)

“Great thing you, Sam and Andretti Green are doing!” (From Lilly)

“Love it and it was very inspiring to see a person come back from such a horrible accident and do good for others with the same injuries.” (From Victor)

“I had a great time with my grandpa in his wheelchair.” (From Trey)

“On the way back to the VA Hospital, the soldiers couldn’t stop talking about what a great day they had. This was the first time Bob agreed to leave the hospital since he was admitted with his spinal cord injury. He just didn’t want to face the world in a wheelchair. Now that he spent a day at the race track he knows he is able to maneuver in crowds and can handle himself. You’ve changed his life! From all of us, thank you.”

“Seeing the cars was my favorite part. Watching those cars race was a lot of fun.” (From Connor, age 6, Shriner’s Hospital)