

## Paintball for Parkinson's

**C**ar chases, sword fights, high falls. Hollywood's stunt men and women perform these spine-tingling feats everyday. Last November, the International Stunt Association (ISA) pulled off another challenge without a hitch. They held a paintball tournament to raise money and awareness for Parkinson's disease.

"We wanted to support something that is near and dear to our heart," said Thom Williams, president of the organization. The event was an opportunity to rally around fellow stuntman John Cade, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Cade, who's in his 50's, has been dangling from the edge of skyscrapers and jumping out of burning cars for over 25 years.

Other members of ISA also have been touched by the disease.

---

*"I hope one day we can figure out how to beat it," said stuntman Adam Hart, whose father was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease last year.*

*"Sometimes the best way to get a serious message out is to have some fun, because that's when people are most open and receptive."*

---

With that in mind, the Second Annual Stunt Tournament was held at the Hollywood Sports Park in Bellflower, California on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The competition attracted some 200 folks to the field. The rule of the game was that each team attempted to capture the flag without being shot with paintballs. "It's a long day, with bruises and scrapes, but a really good time," Williams said.

*Hollywood Sports Park in California*



When trophies were handed out at the end of the tournament, Team Awesome took first place. "It's a real close-knit, caring community, and this event meant a lot to John," Williams said. "It jump-started his efforts to get more information, and connected him with people at the National Parkinson Foundation." In addition, area companies donated prizes for a silent auction. Overall, the event raised \$3,200 for the National Parkinson Foundation.



*Thom Williams (third from right) with the winning team.*

"We are very grateful to Thom Williams and all the stunt men and women who participated in the International Stunt Association's Second Annual Stunt Tournament to support the National Parkinson Foundation! It was a day of fierce competition in Los Angeles to support a great cause: ending Parkinson's disease," said Shannon Sullivan, NPF's VP of Strategic Initiatives.

***For more information about starting your own community fundraiser, visit [www.parkinson.org/teamhope](http://www.parkinson.org/teamhope).***