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**2020 49th Annual State Convention
October 31, and November 1, 2020
Location: Here, There, and Everywhere!**

**For the first time our convention will be virtual like many affiliates across the country. We will be using Zoom for our sessions and board meeting. Elections will be held by texting or calling in your vote.**

 **National Representative: Amy Ruell, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind**

**President: Maryanne Melley
National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut**

[**www.nfbct.org**](http://www.nfbCT.org)

**Facebook: National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut**

**Door Prizes: Door prizes will be awarded throughout the convention. To be eligible, you must be registered and be on the Zoom meeting when your name is drawn.**

**We would like to thank our generous sponsors:**

**Platinum Sponsor:**

****[**www.oakhillct.org**](http://www.oakhillct.org)

**Silver:**

**Retina Consultants, PC**

**Saturday, October 31st, 2020**

**9:00a.m. Call to order, Dr. Claudette Mayes; Invocation**

**9:05a.m. - Pledge of Allegiance, NFB Pledge**

**9:10a.m. Announcements: Principals of Engagement, change to our State Constitution, thank you to our donation mailers, remembering members we have lost.**

**1:15p.m.- 2:15p.m. Connecticut Association of Guide Dog Users**

**2:00p.m.- 5:00p.m. Connecticut Association of Blind Students**

**Recommended change to State Constitution**

**Article IV: LOCAL CHAPTERS**

**Chapter presidents shall assist new members in filling out the new member form online and submit such form to the national office.**

**Changed to: Chapters shall assist potential members with the Onboarding Process. Those that decide to join will be helped with filling out the New Member form online and submit such form to the national office.**

**9:15a.m. - Noreen Grice; Nominating Committee Report**

**9:20a.m. - Amy Ruell; National Report, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind**

**10:00a.m. - Robert Parsons; National Association of Blind Students (NABS) Representative-Update from the National Student Division**

**10:20a.m. - Michael Hingson; Author, Physicist, and Computer Scientist**

**10:50a.m. – Maryanne Melley; Presidents Report**

**11:00a.m. - Brian Sigman; Services on Aging and Disabilities**

**11:15a.m. – Lizzy Cappelli; Hear from our Scholarship Winner**

**11:30a.m.-12:15p.m. Sports Panel:**

**Frank Roberts; Hartford Braillers**

**Liz Bottner; Achilles, CT**

**Paul Weiland; Adaptive Sports Program Coordinator, Oak Hill**

**12:15p.m.-1:15p.m. Break for lunch**

**1:15p.m.- Carlton Anne Cook Walker;**

**President, National Organization of Parents of Blind Children**

**1:45p.m. – Chelsea White; Seeing Eye**

**2:00p.m.- Jennifer Wenzel; Resource Development Coordinator, BLIND, Inc.**

**2:20p.m.- Ricky Enger; Hadley School for the Blind**

**2:40p.m.- MaryEllen Mateleska; Director of Education and Conservation, Mystic Aquarium**

**2:50p.m.- Ollie Cantos; The NFB Philosophy and Civil Rights.**

**3:00- Steven Famiglietti; Blind Services Vocational Manager, Oak Hill**

**3:15p.m.- Tony Cappelli; TVI**

**3:30p.m. – Scott White; NFB Newsline**

 **One Minute Message**

**The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people, because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. You can live the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back**

**4:00p.m.- 6:00p.m. Break**

**6:00 p.m. Banquet Dinner**

**Invocation: Louis Alston**

**Master of Ceremonies; Deb Reed**

**Keynote Address: Amy Ruell, Board Member; National Federation of the Blind**

**Judging of Pumpkins

Presentation of 2020 NFB of CT Scholarship**

**Mary Silverberg:**

**Rodney Demarest Memorial Scholarship**

**Conclusion of banquet.**

**Don’t forget to set your clocks back 1 hour!**

**Sunday, November 1, 2020**

**9:00a.m. Call to order**

**9:05a.m. Board Meeting**

**Roll Call**

**NFB Pledge**

**Any member nominated from the floor should have already agreed to serve prior to this convention.**

**Nominees from the committee and from the floor will have one minute to state why they feel the affiliate should vote for them. The one minute time will be strictly enforced.**

**Elections: Results will be given to our national Representative Amy Ruell**

**Positions: President**

 **First Vice President**

 **Second Vice President**

 **Treasurer**

 **Secretary**

 **Board Member**

 **Board Member**

***Reports:***

***Advisory Board: Mary Silverberg***

***SRC: Deb Reed***

***BCAC: Barbara Blejewski***

***PAC Plan: Anne West***

***Vehicle Donation: Marilyn Wenzel***

***Federationist: Brianna Rigsbee***

**New Business:**

**Vote on Amendment to Constitution**

**BELL Academy-Thank you Honorata and your volunteers**

***Subsidy Committee: Shonda Rosetta and Deb Reed***

***Washington Seminar Appointments: Mary Silverberg***

**Discuss Washington Seminar being Virtual**

**Donation Mailings: More help needed**

**2021 Convention**

***January Board Meeting date and location***

***Chapter News***

**Meeting adjourned**

**Zoom Links for Saturday and Sunday. Please be polite and mute yourselves when our guests are speaking.**

**NFB Connecticut is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

**Topic: NFB of CT General Session**

**Time: Oct 31, 2020 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

[**https://zoom.us/j/93322045272?pwd=NXJIRWNjbktYVXNMRFU0RGJDZy9EQT09**](https://zoom.us/j/93322045272?pwd=NXJIRWNjbktYVXNMRFU0RGJDZy9EQT09)

**Meeting ID: 933 2204 5272**

**Passcode: 022005**

**One tap mobile**

**+16468769923,,92076523729#,,,,,,0#,,485045# US (New York)**

**Dial by your location**

 **+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/aHScbSzeP**

**Join by Skype for Business**

[**https://zoom.us/skype/93322045272**](https://zoom.us/skype/93322045272)

**Sunday, November 1, 2020**

**NFB Connecticut is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

**Topic: Affiliate Board Meeting**

**Time: Nov 1, 2020 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

[**https://zoom.us/j/92076523729?pwd=bk5nejA4SXVVdGVqcFdLMkJxcTU0dz09**](https://zoom.us/j/92076523729?pwd=bk5nejA4SXVVdGVqcFdLMkJxcTU0dz09)

**Meeting ID: 920 7652 3729**

**Passcode: 485045**

**One tap mobile**

**+16468769923,,92076523729#,,,,,,0#,,485045# US (New York)**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/ab1FaYeoEm**

**Join by Skype for Business**

[**https://zoom.us/skype/92076523729**](https://zoom.us/skype/92076523729)

Beth Rival is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

National Association of Guide Dog Users

Saturday October 31, 2020 1:15pm-215pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99921494704?pwd=UEw5UXg2cWp5bUtkMHRqRForWEp5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 999 2149 4704

Passcode: 097649

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,99921494704# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/agK532GFo>

Join by Skype for Business

<https://zoom.us/skype/99921494704>

**Isabel Rosario is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

**Topic: CTABS2020 virtual advocacy and leadership seminar**

**Time: Oct 31, 2020 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

[**https://zoom.us/j/95143452451**](https://zoom.us/j/95143452451)

**Meeting ID: 951 4345 2451**

**One tap mobile**

**+16468769923,,95143452451# US (New York)**

**+13017158592,,95143452451# US (Germantown)**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

**+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**

**+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

**+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**

**Meeting ID: 951 4345 2451**

**Find your local number:** [**https://zoom.us/u/add4zrViOd**](https://zoom.us/u/add4zrViOd)

**Join by Skype for Business**

[**https://zoom.us/skype/95143452451**](https://zoom.us/skype/95143452451)