National Federation of the Blind of Idaho

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**2016 NFBI State Convention Agenda**

**April 22-24, 2016 Lewiston, ID**

**“Living the Life we want.”**

**Red Lion Hotel 621 21st Street, Lewiston, Idaho**

**Phone numbers (800) 232-6730 or (208) 799-1000**

Our National Representative is Pam Allen, NFB Treasurer and Director of the Louisiana Center for the Blind. Rolland Allen is offering orientation to the hotel beginning Friday. Please contact him in the hotel.

**Registration hours will be:** Thursday night from 7:30 to 8:30, Friday morning from 8:00 to 10:00 and Saturday morning from 8:00 to 8:30.

Hospitality will be in Room 119 and Daycare will be in the Junior Suite Room 120.

**Hospitality Room hours will be:** Friday morning from 8:00 to 9:30, 11:30 to 7:00 Saturday morning from 7:00 to 8:15, 12:00 to 2:00.

Convention Committee: Delaine Waradell, Russell Smith, Joe Thompson, Mike Gibson, Susan Bradley, Chris Jones, Sandy Streeter.

Auction Committee: Vickie Bateman, Larry Bateman, Ramona Walhof.

Hospitality Committee: Sharon Henderson Chair, Alorah Neibaur, Gayle Worthington, Russell Smith Stacey Smith, Lynn Kneip.

Resolutions Committee: Mike Gibson Chair, Earl Hoover, Chris Jones, Noel Newhouse, Ramona Walhof.

Fundraising Committee: Ramona Walhof Chair, Vickie Bateman, Chris Jones, Shane Hyde, Pat Mittan, Joe Thomson, Larry Sebranek.

Doorprize Committee: Judy Jones Chair, Kevin Pirnie, Katie Pirnie.

Nominating Committee: Susan Bradley Chair, Russell Smith, Kevin Pirnie.

Hotel Matters: Larry and Sue Sebranek, Open Mike Host: Chris Jones, Shane Hyde, Convention Streaming: David Jolley.

Scholarship Committee: Mike Gibson, Russell Smith Co-chair, Sandy Streeter, Susan Ford, Chris Jones.

**Friday April 22, 2016**

**8:00-10:0** Registration Open

**8:30-9:30** The Victor Reader Stream— By Karl Smith, Axis Tech **Potlatch Room**

The Victor Reader Stream is a portable reader for the blind that reads talking books.

**10:00-4:00** Blindness Products and Services Expo **Warrior Ballroom**

**11:00** Deaf/blind Equipment Program **Potlatch Room**

By Kathy Griffin, Idaho Assistive Technology Program

If you have both a vision and hearing problems, this program may be for you.

(Check out this presentation for more information)

**12:00-2:45** Senior Seminar: Learn tips and tricks from other seniors **Warrior Ballroom**

**1:00** Using BARD with your iPhone **Potlatch Room**

Sue Walker, Library Consultant, Idaho Commission for Libraries

**2:00** Make Print Yours with the KNFB Reader Mobile App, **Potlatch Room**

By Russell Smith, President Panhandle Chapter

**3:00** Student meeting: **Potlatch Room**

A time for all students both traditional and nontraditional to meet with Mike Ausbun, President Nevada Association of Blind Students, and NABS board member

**5:00-6:30** NFBI Board Meeting and Dinner **Warrior Ballroom**

This is an open meeting and all can attend. In order to have the dinner, you will have needed to purchase a ticket when you registered.

**6:30** Resolutions Committee **Potlatch Room**

Learn how policies of the NFB of Idaho are created.

**7:30** Open Mike Talent Show and much more **Warrior Ballroom**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016**

**General Session in the Warrior Ballroom**

**7:15** Student Breakfast at Meriwethers

**8:00-8:30** Registration Open

**8:30** Invocation and Opening Ceremonies

**8:45-9:25** National Report by our National Representative, Pam Allen, NFB Treasurer and Director of the Louisiana Center for the Blind

**9:25-9:35** Funding our National Movement through the Preauthorized Contribution Plan, Jan Gawith, PAC State Chair

**9:35-9:55** Communicating with our Legislature, in and out of Session

Senator Dan Johnson District 06 Area I Lewiston

**9:55-10:10:10** Books: Keys to Information

Sue Walker, Library Consultant, Idaho Commission for Libraries

**10:10-10:30** Educating our Blind Children toward a Successful Future

Brian Darcy, Superintendent, Idaho Educational Services for Deaf and Blind

**10:30-10:45** Building a Student Division in Idaho Mike Ausbun, Vice President NFB of Nevada, and NABS board member

**10:45-11:05** Got to Get Our ZZZ’s, Non-24 Sleep Disorder

Richard Rabito, Vanda Pharmaceuticals

**11:05-11:15** Building a Quality Transportation System in a Small Community Darlene Burke, Operations Supervisor, Lewiston Transit System

**11:25-11:35** Advocating for Better Transportation

Eric K Peterson, Palouse Empire Chapter

**11:25-11:45** The Future of Public Transportation in Idaho

Jenny Ford, Executive Director of Sustainable Moscow Area Regional Transportation and on the Community Transportation Association of Idaho Board

**11:45-12:00** The KNFB Reader makes Print Yours

Jennie Facer, KNFB State Liaison

**12:00-2:00 Lunch**

**12:00-2:00** Senior Division Meeting **Warrior Ballroom**

**12:00-** Non24 Sleep Disorder **Les Schwab Room**

Further information and discussion

**12:00-2:00** Students Meeting **Potlatch Room**

**12:00** Parent’s Meeting **Childcare Area**

**2:00-2:20** State President’s Report

Dana Ard, President NFB of Idaho

**2:20-2:40** Building Strong Volunteer Communities

Ray Rosch, Past Director Interlink

**2:40-3:00** Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services, Keys to Employment

Mike Walsh, Rehabilitation Services Chief, Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

**3:00-3:40** Building and Maintaining Intergenerational Chapters, discussion

Pam Allen, Mike Ausbun and Dana Ard Facilitators

**3:40-4:00** Adopting and Raising My Blind Child

Erin Jepson, Treasurer, Palouse Empire Chapter and Parent

**4:00-4:10** My Employment Experience

Patrick Mittan, member, Palouse Empire Chapter

**4:10-4:20** Interning at a Radio Station

Drew Tomason, Palouse Empire Chapter, Student

**4:20-4:30** Traveling to China

Alana Leonhardy, Secretary, Palouse Empire Chapter

4**:30-4:45** Mentoring Blind Children in Science

Sierra Schmidt, Mentor for STEM to YOU?

**4:45-5:00** Resolutions and Reports

**Saturday Evening April 23, 2016**

**Banquet 6:45 PM**

Invocation: Wanda Jolley

Introduction of Head Table: Sandy Streeter, President, Snake River Chapter, Joe Thompson, President Palouse Empire Chapter, Dana Ard, President, National Federation of the Blind of Idaho, Mike Ard, Pam Allen, National Representative, Rolland Allen, Judy Jones, Door prize Chair, Chris Jones President, Central Idaho Chapter

Banquet meal

Auction and door prizes will occur throughout the banquet.

Banquet Address: Pam Allen, National Representative

Scholarship Class: Mike Gibson and Russell Smith Co chairs

Presentation of New Chapter Charters Dana Ard

Special Award: Presented by Ramona Walhof

Frank Smith Award: Presented by Dana Ard

Pledge Challenge: Larry Sebranek and Ramona Walhof

Grand Door Prize

**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 have the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back.

**Sunday, April 24, 2016**

**Business Meeting in the Warrior Ballroom**

8:45 Call to order and invocation

Treasurers Report

Nominating Committee Report

Election of Board Members

Financial Assistance for National Convention

Constitutional Amendment and Delegate to National Convention

Resolutions

Chapter and Division Reports

Snake River Valley Chapter

Treasure Valley Chapter

Palouse Empire Chapter

Canyon County Chapter

Idaho Gems Chapter

Central Idaho Chapter

Panhandle Chapter

Senior Division

**NFB Pledge**

I pledge to participate actively in the efforts of the National Federation of the Blind to achieve equality, opportunity, and security for the blind; to support the policies and programs of the Federation and to abide by its Constitution.