**PRESIDENT’S UPDATE June 2018**

**I must apologize for not sending out an Update in May. May was a rather hectic month for me and my family. We were all caught up in my Granddaughter, and Nickie Pearl’s daughter, Haley Priddy’s high school graduation from Presentation Academy here in Louisville. We were involved with all of the pomp and circumstance leading up to the main event and the graduation party that followed. Somehow, the month just seemed to get away from me before I knew it.**

**Speaking of graduation…Shane Low a graduating senior from the Kentucky School for the Blind is a NFB Scholarship finalist this year. This means Shane will be traveling to the convention in Orlando where he will meet up with the other 29 finalists in the NFB scholarship class of 2018 to compete for the top scholarship of twelve thousand dollars. Shane will earn at least three thousand dollars in scholarship money, not to mention, a week with nearly 3,000 members of the Federation, and a week that he won’t soon forget. Shane, we are so proud of you! I know you will do a fine job representing yourself and Kentucky!**

**While we are on the subject of scholarships, I want to remind you of our NFB of Kentucky Scholarship which is now on line at** [**www.nfbofky.org**](http://www.nfbofky.org)**. The deadline to apply is July 15. Read the instructions carefully before completing and submitting your application. If you have any questions, you should contact our scholarship chair, Lora Felty Stephens at lorafelty@windstream.net. Lora has chaired this committee for more years than I can remember. Hey, if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it!**

**In just four short weeks several of us will be in Orlando to attend our annual National Federation of the Blind Convention. The dates for this year’s convention are July 3rd through the 8th. There are still hotel rooms available, but you need to hurry up and make your reservation, if you haven’t already done so. Call the hotel direct at 866-996-6338 and let them know you want to make a reservation for the NFB convention. A $100 deposit is required in order to hold your room. Preregistration is closed, so this means you will need to register and purchase your banquet ticket once you arrive. The cost is $70 for the banquet and $30 for registration.**

**I hope that by now you have blocked out the weekend of October 12th through the 14th for our NFB of Kentucky State Convention. The contract for our hotel has been signed, and preparations for our 2018 state convention are in full swing. As I mentioned before, we are being housed at the Hilton Garden Inn Northeast here in Louisville. If you choose, you can go ahead and make a room reservation by calling 502-423-0018. Room rates are $135 per room, per night, plus tax. Have no fear; I am quite sure the NFBK Board of Directors will do whatever possible to help ease the pain of convention costs. The banquet menu has not been chosen yet, so therefore I can’t say what the cost might be. I can assure you we do what we can to keep your wallet in mind. I will be appointing the various committee chairpersons in the very near future. These individuals will be reaching out to each and every one of you to help, in some small way, with convention details. As we move through July and August, there will be much more NFBK State Convention news coming your way. I welcome your comments and suggestions.**

**Our major fundraiser for this Affiliate is our Reverse Raffle. For those of you who don’t know what a reverse raffle is, well it is exactly what the name implies. It’s not the first name drawn that is the winner, it’s the last name drawn that enjoys the title of grand prize winner. Beginning on Friday evening at the convention social, we will begin drawing from all the entries. We keep drawing periodically throughout the convention until the last name is pulled Saturday evening during the banquet. The cost of a ticket is $10. The grand prize winner takes home $500. The second place winner receives $250. But that’s not all, the first name drawn will win $25 and every 25th name thereafter will receive $25. This means that the first, 25th, 50th, 75th, 100th names and so on are all winners. Once we start the drawing, no more tickets can be sold. On any given year, we sell between 275 and 325 tickets. So, the odds that you will be a winner are pretty darn good. Tickets will be available soon for distribution. If you are interested in buying and/or selling tickets please get in touch with me at** **cathyj1949@gmail.com** **or by phone at, 502-366-2317.**

**The mission of the National Federation of the Blind is to achieve widespread emotional acceptance and intellectual understanding that the real problem of blindness is not the loss of eyesight but the misconceptions and lack of information which exists. We do this by bringing blind people together to share successes, to support each other in times of failure, and to create imaginative solutions.**

**Cathy Jackson, President**

**National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky**