**LIVE THE LIFE YOU WANT!**

Announcing

**The 44th Anual Convention of the**

**National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska**

**October 29th through November 1st 2015**

Divots Norfolk Lodge and Suites 4200 West Norfolk Avenue Norfolk, NE 68701

“All our dreams can come true – if we have the courage to pursue them.” – Walt Disney

Join us for the 44th annual state convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska. Come see how, with love, hope and determination, we can turn your dreams in to reality. Come be a part of the fun and fellowship, stay for the education and empowerment. You won't want to miss the most influential gathering of Nebraska's blind this year!

"We care. We share. We grow. We make a difference!” – Joe Ruffalo

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Joe Ruffalo, President of the National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey and member of the national board of directors as our national representative.

Bring your friends and family to Thursday evening’s welcome reception. There you can mix and mingle, enjoy some light refreshments and rub elbows with fellow Federationists and other invited guests.

With something for everyone, Friday’s agenda begins with registration at 8:00 AM. Beginning at 9:00 AM, highlights include seminars on SSI and other benefits, 1Touch™ Self**-**Defense, looking good without looking, tactile 3-d printing, self-employment and Randolph-Sheppard vending, diabetic concerns and so much more. Try your hand at beeping disc golf. Venders from various companies with products of interest to the blind will be demonstrating their wears all day Friday. Later on, show off your mental agility and win some cash at trivia night. Continuing throughout the weekend, we have special events for blind youth, parents and teachers of blind children and blind seniors. A complete list of Friday’s sessions can be found on our website at [www.ne.nfb.org](http://www.ne.nfb.org).

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Phone (402) 379-3833

Mention NFBN for reduced rate of $83.00 per night + 14.3% tax.

**CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION**

Register by October 23rd and save yourself a little cash.

Prices listed below will increase by $5.00 per item after October 23rd.

Advance Registration Prices per Person

Convention Registration: $20

Banquet: $45

Senior Division Luncheon: $20

Student Division Luncheon: $20

BELL and Beyond Luncheon: $20.

**REGISTRATION**

Register and make a secure on-line payment by visiting: [http://www.ne.nfb.org/conv\_reg](http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ne.nfb.org%2Fconv_reg&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNGImjCLhynaTWZUpukoLdK6WbNMaw)

If you prefer to pay by check or money order with a paper registration, print out the form from our website or contact Cheryl Livingston, NFBN Treasurer, at (402)488-2509.

**TRANSPORTATION**

The National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska has again arranged for a bus to this year’s State Convention in Norfolk. The bus will depart Omaha on Thursday, October 29, 2015, at approximately1:45 PM. The first pick-up point will be in Omaha, at the college of St. Mary, and the second one will be in Lincoln, at approximately 2:45 PM, at the Commission for the Blind offices. There will be another stop in York, which will be at approximately 4:00 PM at the Super 8 Motel. The final pick up will be in Columbus at approximately 5:15 PM, the location for this pick-up is yet to be determined. The bus should arrive at the Divots Convention Center, in Norfolk at approximately 6:00 PM that same evening. The trip, including the passenger pick up points in Lincoln, York, and Columbus should be approximately four and a half hours. Following the convention, the bus will depart at approximately 1:00 PM, following the conclusion of the Sunday morning business meeting on November 1, 2015. The bus should arrive in Omaha by early evening.

The price for the round trip will be $85.00 per person. In keeping with the company policies of Fontenelle Tours, any reservations cancelled before October 16, 2015, are fully refundable: however, there will be a $30.00 fee for any reservations cancelled after this date. The bus is being arranged by your state affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska, and the excellent rates for travel are made possible through the generosity of Fontenelle Tours.

Reservations for a seat on the bus can be made on-line with convention registration or through Fontenelle Tours, and the dead line for making your reservation is October 16th, 2015. Reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis, and it is critical that we have a minimum of 30 passenger reservations by this date, otherwise, the bus will have to be cancelled. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your payment, and payment may only be through check, money order, or payment order authorization from the state of Nebraska. Fontenelle Tours does not accept credit cards. When making your reservations, please indicate the type of payment. Clients of the Commission should discuss these details with their counselors prior to the making of reservations, since these reservations will likely be made directly by NCBVI. Commission staff members should also have their own personal reservations made directly through Fontenelle Tours. Payment Order Authorizations must be for the full amount of $85.00.

To insure that possible problems at any of the pick up points along the route on or before the day of departure can be managed effectively, all passengers are asked to provide their home address; a cell or home telephone number, where they can be reached; and their personal or work e-mail address if available. Should an individual be late arriving to the scheduled pick up point, and we do not have a means by which to contact the person directly, it will not be possible to delay the bus for more than a few minutes. Please help us to assure that you will have every opportunity to successfully meet the bus.

Please remember that seating is limited, and therefore, to insure yourself a seat, please make your reservations early. Some seats may still be available after the deadline, due to cancellations, so you are certainly encouraged to check if you are running late in making your reservations, but remember that the bus tends to fill up very quickly.

Please contact Fontenelle Tours at the address and phone number below.

Fontenelle Tours

2008 West Broadway - #329

Council Bluffs, IA 51501

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We have a packed agenda full of innovation, empowerment, tech savvy and more for the blind of all ages and their families, teachers and professionals. Make plans now to join us in Norfolk!

If you have questions, please contact:

President Amy Buresh at president@ne.nfb.org or (402)477-7711.

