**NFB of Delaware 53RD Annual State Convention.**

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 - Saturday, October 30, 2021

**Location:** Anywhere - Everywhere.

**Theme**: Self Advocacy: Your Ticket to a Better Life

**NFB of Delaware Board of Directors**

Kat Bottner, President, Newark, DE

Sylvia Reid, 1ST Vice- President, Wilmington, DE

Darryl Garner, 2ND Vice President, New Castle, DE

Eric Kennedy. Secretary, Wilmington, DE

Jim Steele, Treasurer, New Castle, DE

**NFB of Delaware Board Members**

Art Cohen, Wilmington, DE

Vaughn Dashiell, Newark, DE

Robert Paddy, Dover, DE

Verita Turner, Dover, DE

**NFB Pledge**

I pledge to participate actively in the effort 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.

**NFB 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.

Please note, the NFB’s code of conduct will be in effect during this event. Have questions? See any member of the board.

**Agenda**

**Friday, October 29, 2021**

**Morning:**

9:00 - 9:15 Introductions, housekeeping rules, NFB Pledge, Pledge of Allegiance,

Invocation

Verita Turner

Affiliate board member, Southern New Castle County Chapter Secretary

9:15 - 9:45 National Report, National Representative, Amy Buresh, NFB national board member, Nebraska Affiliate President.

9:45 - 9:55 Fitbit and refreshment break

10:00 - 10:30 Come learn about the many programs and services offered by the Helen Keller National Center (HKNC). Cynthia Ingraham, East Central Regional Representative.

This presentation will cover the scope of the HKNC in-person programs as well as newly created virtual programs. HKNC has revamped it's in-person program to create a more robust and accessible virtual program for consumers unable to travel to New York for training. These services were developed as a result of COVID-19 but have now become permanent offerings within the program.

10:30 - 11:00 Have you ever wanted to know more about the programs of the National Federation of the Blind, as well as the National Federation of the Blind of Delaware? Come join us for this Q and A session. Kat Bottner, Moderator, NFB of Delaware Affiliate President

11:00 - 11:30 Amazing Advances in Accessible Pedestrian Systems (APS) Technology & Current

APS Standards. Chris Holloway, Eastern Regional Sales Manager.

11:30 - 12:00 What’s new at the National Library Service. Learn about the exciting updates at the National Library Service. Marybeth Wise, Network Consultant.

**Afternoon:**

1:00 - 1:30 Better Business Bureau. Learn about scams, telemarketers, and what the Better Business Bureau can do for you. John Bell.

1:30 - 2:00 What’s new with Accessible Pharmacy? Alexandra Luzier.

2:00 - 2:45 Suzanne Erb, Advisor for Networks for Training and Development Inc.

Discussion on medical self-advocacy with audience participation in role playing and discussion.

3:00 - 3:30 What’s new at Hadley? Marc Arneson, Director of Outreach.

3:30 - 4:00 What is Aira and how does it work? Come learn about the exciting features Aira has to offer. Jenine Stanley, Director of Customer Communications.

4:00 - 4:30 Guide Dogs of America. Come learn about what exciting programs/ offerings Guide Dogs of America has to offer. Greg Steinmetz, Manager of Admissions & Graduate Services

4:30 - 5:00 What’s new at Blindsight Delaware? Come see what exciting things are happening at Blindsight Delaware. Loretta Harper- Brown, Executive Director, Blindsight Delaware

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5:00 - 5:30 Resolutions Committee. Come learn about the 2021 resolutions. Carol King-Ries.

6:30 - 8:00 Banquet. Invocation

Sylvia Reid

Affiliate 1ST Vice- President, Northern Delaware Chapter Secretary

MC, Wayne Marsh

Introduce the virtual head table.

Banquet speech, Amy Buresh

Jokes and costumes

Basket Raffle, Verita Turner

**Saturday, October 30, 2021**

9:00 - 9:45 Invocation Robbert Paddy, Affiliate board member, Southern New Castle County Chapter President, reports, resolutions, and roll call.

9:45 - 10:00 Fitbit Break.

10:00 - 10:30 Secretary’s Report, Treasurer’s Report, Budget Report. Sylvia Reid, Jim Steele.

10:30 - 11:00 Game.

11:00 - 11:30 Elections, voting for delegate, alternate delegate.

11:30 - 12:00 Closing remarks, Kat Bottner, NFB of Delaware Affiliate President.

Amy Buresh, NFB national board member, NFB of Nebraska Affiliate President