

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**November 1-3, 2019**

**The Radisson Hotel and Conference Center**

**1150 Camp Hill Bypass**

**Camp Hill PA 17011**

**717 763 7117**

**Lynn Heitz, President**

**Joseph Drenth, Convention Chair**

**National Federation of the Blind of Pennsylvania, Inc.**

**1500 Walnut Street, Suite 200**

**Philadelphia PA 19102**

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**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF PENNSYLVANIA**

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**This hotel is unique in that where the sleeping rooms are and where most of this year’s Convention activities will take place are two different buildings. Let’s begin with the building where the sleeping rooms and restaurant are located. When you enter the front door of the Hotel, the Front Desk is approximately twenty feet in front of you. If you are standing facing the Front Desk, the restaurant and bar are to your left and down a short flight of stairs. There is a small electric lift available for any guest unable to use the stairs. To the right of the Front Desk are the sleeping rooms. There is no elevator at this hotel. The sleeping rooms stretch to the right down a long corridor. You can get to other sleeping rooms by turning right at the Front Desk and making an immediate left turn. This hallway will lead you to a short set of stairs and more sleeping rooms. The Hospitality Suite is located on the right side of this hallway just past the top of these stairs. On the 1st Floor are guest rooms 1101-1519**

**Main Floor are guest rooms 2100-2537**

**3rd Floor are guest rooms 3100-3537. The Hotel Convention Center is across from the hotel main entrance. If you stand with your back to the Front Desk and walk out the door of the hotel, keep walking straight and you will come to the Convention Center. There will be a door on your left to enter and some steps inside that go up. If you do not want to use the stairs, there is an external ramp that is just to the left if you are facing the door of the Convention Center. When you have entered the Convention Center you will find yourself in a long hallway. There are meeting rooms on the right and bathrooms on the left. We will not be using any of these meeting rooms. When you get to the end of this hallway, you will find yourself in a large lobby area. This is where Registration will be. This is also where the box lunches will be available on Friday. Turn right here and you will head toward where this year’s Convention activities will be held.** North Ballroom will be on your right, Keystone A, B, and C are on your left, and Keystone D and E are straight ahead.

## Free Aira Site Access at National Federation of the Blind State Conventions

**The National Federation of the Blind has partnered with Aira to provide free Aira Site Access to NFB members during our 2019 state convention. Aira subscribers who are National Federation of the Blind members can use the service at our convention for free without having minutes deducted from their plans. In addition, those interested in Aira have the unique opportunity to try out the service for free while at our convention. This convention-wide, free site access is available only at NFB state conventions, giving NFB members an exclusive opportunity to test-drive Aira in a convention setting.**

**Aira allows blind individuals to connect via live video to a trained agent through a mobile app or wearable glasses to get real-time visual information or assistance. Learn more about Aira and special pricing available for NFB members at** [**aira.io/NFB**](https://aira.io/NFB)**.**

## How it Works

**Before you head to convention or as soon as you get there, download the free Aira app from the App Store, and create a guest account if you are not already an Aira subscriber. Also, make sure your phone’s GPS feature is enabled. When you enter the convention Site Access location, your phone will receive a notification letting you know that the space you are in is part of the Aira Network. When you connect with an agent, he or she will also confirm that you are now covered by the network, and no minutes will be deducted from your account.**

**When you leave or enter convention areas that are covered by the Site Access network, you will be informed by the Aira agent.**

**To learn more about Aira and the special plan available exclusively to NFB members, visit**[**aira.io/NFB**](https://aira.io/NFB)**.**

## We Welcome Our Sponsors:

**Silver Sponsors:**

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**We Welcome Our Exhibitors**

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**Registration will be held Friday from 10:00 A.M. until 3:30 P.M. and on Saturday from 7:30 A.M. until 8:15 A.M. In the Lobby of the Convention Center.**

**A table featuring materials of the National Federation of the Blind will be available in the registration area.**

**Remember to turn your auction items into Denice Brown or Connie Scheu, and your door prizes into Harriet Go.**

**There is a dog relief area available outside of the hotel. For further information, contact Joseph or Marsha Drenth.**

**There will be an Exhibit Hall on Friday, November 1, 2019 ,from 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. located in Keystone A, B, and C, Convention Center.**

**There will be a Hospitality Suite located in the Main Hotel, 2nd Floor. The Hospitality Suite will be open Thursday evening and all day Friday. Hosted by the Capital Chapter.**

**FRIDAY, November 1, 2019**

**9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Technology Seminar; Joseph Drenth, Moderator, North Ball Room, Convention Center**

**Session 1:**

**9:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. Topic: Aira Visual Assistance**

**Description: When you need visual assistance, call Aira to speak with a trained professional. They now offer free 5-minute calls.**

 **Presenter: Christopher Westbrook**

**Session 2:**

**9:50 A.M. to 10:20 A.M. Topic: Braille Technology Advancements**

**Description: Hear about the latest braille technology, with special guest Joel Zimba, a Blindness Product Specialist from Humanware.**

 **Presenter: Joseph Drenth**

**Session 3:**

**10:40 A.M. to 11:10 A.M. Topic: Accessible Home Automation**

**Description: You can now control your lights, thermostat, security system, garage door, and more through your smart phone., as well as interact with someone through an audio/video doorbell.**

 **Presenter: Marsha Drenth**

**Session 4:**

**11:30 A.M. to Noon Topic: Streaming Entertainment, News,**

 **and Information**

**Description: Learn how to access the latest in streaming media for entertainment and other activities.**

 **Presenter: Denice Brown**

**9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Exhibit Hall; Keystone A, B, and C, Convention Center**

**10:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Registration; Convention Center Lobby**

**10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Pennsylvania Organization of**

 **Parents of Blind Children**

**10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Meet and Greet; Hospitality Suite,**

**Main Hotel.**

**10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. Becoming an Entrepreneur;**

**Erin Willman, Founder of White Cane Coffee, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**11:45 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. Patti Chang, National Representative, Director of Outreach, National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD., Keystone D, Convention Center**

**12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. What are my Rights as a Parent?;**

**Joseph E. Sulpizio, Esq., Cuddy Law Firm and Carlton Walker, ESQ., President, National Organization of Parents of Blind Children, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**1:00 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. What’s New at Humanware;**

**Joel Zimba, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. Center based training;**

**Keystone D, Convention Center**

**11:00 A.M. To 12:15 P.M. Meeting of Blind Merchants;**

 **Kirk Hunger, President, Greater Lehigh Valley Chapter, Moderator, Keystone E, Convention Center**

**12:30 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. How Can We Make the Agency Do**

 **Its Job?; Stephen S. Pennington, Esq.; Executive Director, Pennsylvania Client Assistance Program, Keystone E, Convention Center**

**12:30 P.M. to 1:45 P.M. Pennsylvania Association of Guide Dog Users Division Meeting; Marsha Drenth, Vice President, North Ballroom, Convention Center**

**2:00 P.M. to 3:15 P.M. NFB of Pennsylvania DeafBlind Division Meeting; Marsha Drenth, President, North Ballroom, Convention Center**

**2:15 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Blind Parents Connections**

**Workshop; David J. DeNotaris, Skys the Limit Communication, LLC, Keystone E, Convention Center**

**2:45 P.M. to 3:55 P.M. Some Facts and Fictions for the Senior Blind; Connie Schue, moderator, President Erie County Chapter, and Board Member NFB of Pennsylvania, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. NFB of Pennsylvania Board**

**Meeting; North Ballroom, Convention Center**

**5:00 P.M. Nominating Committee; Keystone E,**

 **Convention Center, Nominating Committee Members Only**

**5:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Resolutions Committee;**

**Michelle McManus, Chair, North Ballroom, Convention Center**

**6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. How Can I Help With BELL?;**

 **Harriet Go, President Keystone Chapter, Board Member, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**7:15 P.M. Student Seminar Registration; Keystone D, Convention Center**

**7:30 P.M. Student Seminar; Tom Brown, President, Keystone D, Convention Center**

**7:00 P.M. Jigsaw Chapter Meeting: Piecing**

 **Pennsylvania Together; Brenda Gillis, President, Keystone E, convention Center**

**7:30 P.M. Auction; North Ballroom, Convention Center**

**SATURDAY, November 2, 2019**

**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.**

**General Session, Keystone D and E, Convention Center**

**8:30 A.M. Invocation; Joseph Drenth, 1st Vice President NFB**

 **of Pennsylvania**

**8:35 A.M. Tribute to our Nation and the National Federation**

 **of the Blind**

**8:40 A.M. Welcoming; Anna Walker, President,**

 **Capital Chapter, NFB of Pennsylvania**

**Housekeeping – Joseph Drenth, Convention Chair**

**8:45 A.M. Presidential Report; Lynn Heitz, President,**

 **National Federation of the Blind of Pennsylvania**

**9:15 A.M. NFB National Report; Patti Chang,**

 **National Representative, Director of Outreach, National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD.**

**10:00 A.M. What I Need to Know About Special Education;**

**Joseph E. Sulpizio, Esq., Cuddy Law Firm**

**10:30 A.M. What’s New With NewsLine?;**

 **David Goldstein, NewsLine Coordinator**

**10:50 A.M. Library Services in Pennsylvania; Keri Wilkins, Director, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**11:10 A.M. Report on Rehabilitation Services for the Blind**

 **in Pennsylvania**

**11:40 A.M. Questions?**

**12:00 Noon Lunch; Keystone A, B, and C, Convention Center**

**1:30 P.M. Let’s Hear From our BELL Participants;**

**Harriet Go, moderator**

**2:00 P.M. How Can We Work Together to Preserve**

**Blindness Services; Stephen S. Pennington, Esq., Executive Director, Pennsylvania Client Assistance Program**

**2:30 P.M. Elections**

**3:00 P.M. My National Convention Experience;**

**David Goldstein, 2nd Vice President, Keystone Chapter, Carol Cruz, member Capital Chapter, Lisa Andrews, Secretary Keystone Chapter**

**3:30 P.M. Blind Parents Unite!; David J. DeNotaris, Skys**

 **the Limit Communication, LLC**

**4:00 P.M. Beginning at Louisiana Tech; Tom Brown,**

**President Pennsylvania Association of Blind Students, Student at Louisiana Tech**

**4:15 P.M. My Colorado Experience; Simon Bonenfonte,**

 **Board Member, Keystone Chapter**

**4:30 P.M. Starting a Business: How Does That Work?;**

 **Erin Willman, founder of White Cane Coffee**

**4:35 P.M. Interested in Becoming a Blind Vendor?;**

 **Pamela Baquero, BEP Elected Committee**

**4:50 P.M. Adjournment of General Session**

**6:00 P.M. Cash Bar; Governors Ballroom, Main Hotel**

**7:00 P.M. Banquet; Governors Ballroom, Main Hotel**

**SUNDAY, November 3rd**

**8:00 A.M. Breakfast; Governors Ballroom, Main Hotel**

**8:15 A.M. Chapter Breakfast: A Sharing of Past Projects**

**and Future Plans to Help the NFB Grow in Pennsylvania; Harriet Go, President, Keystone Chapter NFB of Pennsylvania, Governors Ballroom**

 **Business Meeting; Governors Ballroom**

**9:00 A.M. State Financial Report; James Antonacci,**

 **Treasurer, NFB of Pennsylvania**

**9:30 A.M. Funding at the National level; Patti Chang,**

 **National Representative**

**9:50 A.M. Funding at the State level; Lynn Heitz, State President**

**10:10 A.M. Funding at the Local level; Kirk Hunger,**

 **President, Greater Lehigh Valley Chapter**

**10:30 A.M. Legislative Report; Emily Gindlesperger, Legislative Chairperson**

**10:50 A.M. Reports and Resolutions**

**11:30 P.M. Adjournment**

**The National Federation of the Blind is not an organization speaking for the blind to It is the Blind speaking for themselves.**