



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND
WEST VIRGINIA

Live the life you want.

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF
WEST VIRGINIA**

2023 CONVENTION AGENDA

OCTOBER 13 - 14, 2023

Greetings from the President

At long last, the moment has finally come when we can meet and have fellowship with one another after such a long lapse. We have all desired and anticipated this moment so much, that we should really use this moment as not only a reunion but a rebirth. Let us be energized and filled with hope and sense of purpose to make our organization even stronger than before, so we can continue to look forward to moments like this for us and others.

– Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV

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.”

ZOOM Connection Information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7266493027>

Join by Skype for Business

<https://zoom.us/skype/7266493027>

Meeting ID: 726 649 3027

Phone Number: +1 301 715 8592

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,7266493027# US

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023

7:30AM – Continental Breakfast, Dining Hall C

8:30AM – **BLIND COMMUNITY UNITY DAY** – West Virginia Science and Cultural Center Conference Room. Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV; Ed McDonald, Agency Partnership Committee Chair and Event Organizer; Donna Brown, President, Mountain State Council of the Blind; Ryan Strunk, NFB of Minnesota

5:00PM – RECESS

6:30PM – **CONVENTION OPENING AND BANQUET** – Casual and cordial evening meal and gathering to kick off our first time in person in three years. Dining Hall A.

Banquet agenda:

- Opening and Invocation – Marcus Soulsby, President
- Serving of meal
- Brief Recess
- Welcoming/Why I'm a Federationist – Sheri Koch, Convention Committee Chair
- Keynote Address – Ryan Strunk, National Representative

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

7:30AM – Continental Breakfast, Dining Hall C

9:00AM **Opening Session** – Dining Hall A

- **Welcome** – Marcus Soulsby, President
- **Invocation** – TBA
- **NFB Pledge Recital** – Everyone
- **Treasurer's Report** – Marcus Soulsby, Acting Treasurer

9:15AM - **Presidential Report** – A look back on what we have been doing and what we as an organization have accomplished. Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV

9:45AM – **Chapter Reports**

- Ed McDonald, President, Members At Large
- Jack Yahnke, President, Sightless Workers Guild

10:15AM – **Adoption of the Report of Recommended Actions from ther Committee of the Whole on Membership Growth** – Ed McDonald, Committee Chair

11:30AM – **Election of Officers**

- Office of President (1 year unexpired term)
- Office of Treasurer (1 year unexpired term)

ADJOURN MORNING SESSION

12:00PM-1:30PM Lunch, Dining Hall C

AFTERNOON SESSION – Dining Hall A

2:00PM - National Developments of Our Movement – Truly become a part of our National Movement as our National Representative gives us the latest exciting developments from across the country and around the globe. Ryan Strunk, NFB of Minnesota

2:30PM – Panel Discussion: Unity Day Revisited – Assessment from all in attendance of what was accomplished and what we can build on to go forward as a unified voice of blind West Virginians - Ed McDonald, First Vice President

3:30PM - Committee Reports

- Legislative – Sheri Koch, Legislative Director
- Agency Partnership – Ed McDonald, Chair
- Resolutions – Ed McDonald, Chair

4:00PM - In Memoriam – As we spend this convention looking forward, let us also take a look back at those who left us this year that made us who and where we are today. Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV

4:30PM – Closing Thoughts – Ryan Strunk, NFB of Minnesota

5:00PM – Adjournment of Session

6:00PM – Post-Convention Dinner and Mixer, Dining Hall C