Keeping TABS

A Publication of the Texas Association of Blind Students

Gabriel Cazares, President

Maria Monica Villarreal, Editor

Websites:

[www.nfbtx.org/tabs](http://www.nfbtx.org/tabs)

[www.twitter.com/txtabsters](http://www.twitter.com/txtabsters)

[www.facebook.com/tabs.members](http://www.facebook.com/tabs.members)

Taking 2013 by Storm

By Gabe Cazares

Howdi TABSters, let me be the first to welcome you to the revamp version of our student division newsletter, Keeping TABS! We are bringing back our world class newsletter to do a better job of keeping you, our members up to date with the latest and greatest happenings in our student division. This month, I want to take a few minutes to talk about some of the awesome projects that are currently under way, and that you should totally know about.

The first among this list is our redesigned TABS Board of Directors page. If you haven’t gotten a chance to take a look, I would like to encourage you to drop everything right this instant and head over to our home page: <http://www.nfbtx.org/tabs> and check it out! Our Webmaster, Thomas Stivers, has done a fantastic job of making our board of directors page a stellar one. In addition to making it look spiffy, our Webmaster has added our Email addresses and our Twitter accounts to all our board bios, so now it is even easier to get a hold of any one of us. But don’t let me tell you all about it, go ahead and check it out yourselves!

The second exciting development in TABS is the re-launching of this newsletter. Keeping TABS has been a work in progress for many years, but this go around we think we may have finally gotten it right. Our rock star treasurer, Monica Villarreal, is the head editor of our newsletter. And as opposed to printing a compilation of articles every three months, we have decided to highlight an interesting topic every month. So keep your eyes peeled at the end of every month to see what Keeping TABS will be covering next. Also, if you have a brilliant idea or a cool event that you have been a part of that you’d like to write about, please feel free to contact Monica so you can be featured in our newsletter.

Our third, and probably the most exciting event that we are currently working on is our annual TABS and TPOBC joint parent and student seminar. This year the eclectic city of Austin Texas will be our host. We are slated to have this event the weekend of Friday April 5 through Sunday April 7, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Midtown. For those of us that were at the 2011 State Convention of the NFB of Texas this hotel is no stranger. This year the room rates are $85.00 per night plus a 15% state and local tax, and reservations can be made now! Listen up students between the ages of 14 to 24, NFB of Texas Youth Programs may be able to give you some financial assistance to our student seminar this year. If you want more information about this assistance, and to find out how to apply for it contact Nicole Gurgel, Assistant Youth Services Coordinator at our main office. That telephone number is 512-323-5444, or if you’d like to send her an Email her Email address is [ngurgel@nfbtx.org](mailto:ngurgel@nfbtx.org). You won’t want to miss this exciting weekend of fun, information, and encouragement.

Finally, TABS thanks to the fantastic work of our board member Corina Salinas, is selling some very nifty wristbands. The wristbands feature different phrases in print and Braille, the TABS logo on the side, and are of different colors. Here is a brief description of them all:

White wristband with red letters. Sight is overrated

Green wristband with black letters, skulls are visible in the ink of the black lettering. Braille is beast

Black wristband with big white droopy letters. Tap that

You can purchase two for five dollars, or one for three dollars. You can order yours by emailing any one of us on the TABS board, and we’ll be more than happy to ship some out to you.

As you can see, your board is working hard to insure we can better serve you. But always remember, this is as much your student division as it is ours. We need your creativity, your passion, your ideas, and your willingness to work to make this student division the best in the country. I hope it will be your article that is featured on our next addition of Keeping TABS. I also hope that I will get to see all of you at our upcoming student seminar in April. Remember, if we can ever be of any assistance, please feel free to reach out to any of us. This is all for now from Team TABS, but stay tuned to our mailing list, our website, our Facebook, our Twitter, or our Youtube Channel.

“We are changing what it means to be blind!”