

November 27, 2023

Memo To: Executive Officers, Board Members, Chapter & Division Presidents & Others

From: Marty R. McKenzie, President

Positive Note 1946

843-939-8091 marty2music@outlook.com

Dear Federation Family,

December 1 begins the last month of 2023 and it is one of the busiest times of the year for many people. It is easy to become overwhelmed with all we think we must do during this special season. It is helpful to step back, sit quietly with soft music playing and let our minds rest in preparation for the busy Christmas holidays. Take care of yourselves during this time so that you are also able to take care of those you love!

Palmetto Connects will take place on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. on the NFB of SC Zoom platform. The dial-in number is 929-205-6099 and the meeting ID is 803 254 3777#. If you are logging in on a computer or tablet, click on Join in the Zoom app, enter the meeting ID of 803 254 3777 and the password of 124578 to be connected. Tell others who may not see this communication before the time for this event.

The Presidential Release will take place on November 30, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. The phone number is 929 205 6099 and the Meeting ID is 915 4307 6239#. You can also enter the meeting ID into the Zoom app on your tablet or computer. There is no password required.

The Friends of Rocky Bottom fundraising campaign is now underway and will conclude on December 31, 2023. There are a variety of prizes available for those who contribute in certain amounts. This will assist Rocky Bottom with the winter months when income is low and rentals are non-existent. Individually and as chapters or divisions, please consider what you can give. For more information about this fundraiser, contact Thom Spittle at 803-331-3344 or via e-mail at nfbsc.lab.4@gmail.com for additional information.

As you are planning your Christmas parties, please reach out to me if you wish a board member to be present. I will attend as I am able but cannot

easily make all of them. However, other board members are available to attend and bring greetings and representation from the state board.

From President Demetrius Williford and the Anderson Chapter -- The Anderson Chapter of the NFB OF SC invites you all to our Christmas event!

When: December 2, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: the Anderson Civic Center located at 3027 Martin Luther King Junior Blvd., Anderson, SC 29625.

Meal options: baked chicken with rice, green beans, squash casserole, macaroni and cheese, a roll and your choice of apple cobbler or cheesecake at \$20 or cube steak with rice and gravy, squash casserole, macaroni and cheese, green beans, a roll and apple cobbler or cheesecake at \$23.

There will be door prizes and a chance to win a TV. Tickets for the TV raffle can be purchased at two for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00. Raffle tickets can be purchased until December 1, 2023. Please contact President Demetrius Williford at 864-685-9005 to purchase event or raffle tickets. Event tickets must be purchased by November 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Our cash app is \$NFBAndersonChapter or you can send a money order or check made out to the NFB Anderson Chapter to 1306 W. And Ave., Anderson, SC 29625. If anyone would like to stay overnight, we also have a block of rooms at the holiday inn, which is located at 3509 Clemson Blvd., Anderson, SC 29621. The cost per night is \$105 plus 11% sales tax per night if you are eating breakfast. Call 864-226-1000. Let them know that you are staying underneath the Anderson Chapter of the blind block. Rooms are available December 1–3, 2023.

The Annual Statewide Seminar will take place on January 6, 2024 at the Federation Center of the Blind beginning at 10:00 a.m. and concluding no later than 4:00 p.m. This is our mid-year NFB of SC meeting and we want as many members as possible to join us. Last year, we had approximately 125 members present and a great time of learning took place. Chapter presidents should contact David Houck via e-mail at nfbsc@sc.rr.com or via telephone at 803-254-3777 and let him know how many plan to come from your chapter to assist with food planning.

Things to Remember

- We Care Birthday Fundraiser
- Friends of Rocky Bottom Fundraiser
- State Dues
- Chapter Elections

- Statewide Seminar on January 6, 2024

Here is David Houck's Federation Facing Fact.

The Blind Who Lead the Blind will provide background information on each board member over the next fifteen Positive Notes. We continue with Derique Simon, At Large Board Member 3 of the NFB of SC Board of Directors this week.

Derique Simon was born in Spartanburg South Carolina. He had the unique experience of growing up with two blind parents, which he greatly credits for shaping his view of what it means to be blind. Simon graduated from Spartanburg High School in 2019, and is currently pursuing a certificate in paralegal studies.

In his time as a member of the NFB of SC, Simon has served three terms on the State Board, both as a district three representative and now in his current role as Board Member at Large. He has also served as the chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee for the past three years and currently serves as the President of the South Carolina Association of Blind Black Leaders as well as the South Carolina Association of Blind Students. Simon is also an active member of the Spartanburg Chapter of the NFB of SC.

When not in school or carrying out his NFB of SC responsibilities, Simon is an avid reader. He is also active on the stand-up comedy circuit and enjoys watching comedy as well.

Marty

Marty R. McKenzie, President
National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina
119 S. Kilbourne Road
Columbia, SC 29205
Phone: 803-254-3777
Mobile: 843-939-8091
Web Site: www.nfbofsc.org