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

From: Marty R. McKenzie, President

Positive Note 1913

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Dear Federation Family,

Sometimes, organizations move along doing what they do, and everyone is not aware of all of the good things that just happen because loyal Federationist make it so. In this issue of the Positive Note, we will take a look at some of these items in the South Carolina Affiliate. All great things may not be covered, but we can highlight these items in future issues as well.

We begin with the podcast put on by Steve Cook, President of the Computer Science and Technology division (CSTD) These podcasts take a great deal of work and cover a variety of topics. On April 8, 2023, The CSTD put on a presentation all about podcasts, and this event was attended by several individuals including participants from outside of the NFB of SC affiliate. Previous podcasts included an interview with the new president of the NFB of SC, interview with Sonia Timmons who is working diligently to build the SC Parents of Blind Children division and many other topics. If you have a smart speaker, just say, "Alexa, play the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina's podcast." There are other ways to access this podcast as well. Thanks to Steve and the CSTD for this great project!

Another opportunity is the SC Tech Talk, which takes place from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. most Saturdays. Hosted by Andrew Adams and Gregory Jones, this opportunity addresses technology questions from simple to complex, independent living questions and almost any other topic one can think of related to living as a blind person. These events are well attended and Federationist of all ages benefit from this program.

The work of the committees appointed each year by the affiliate president is also very important. The Fundraising committee co-chaired by Debra Canty and Andrew Adams is always hard at work on a fundraiser that benefits the state organization. Currently, it is the Houston hotel room drawing. It is important that we support these events both inside and outside of the Federation.

No matter what role you hold within the NFB of SC, all roles are equally important. The role of member is the greatest of them all! Without members, the organization would not need a state board, a convention, committee chairs, etc. It is important that we all work together in this program of serving the blind. These are words that Donald Capps spoke many times and we can benefit from internalizing the message in them.

The Embassy Suites is now accepting reservations for the NFB of SC state convention, which will take place August 18-20, 2023. Rooms can be booked at \$112 plus tax and any applicable fees for singles, doubles, triples and quads for August 17- 20, 2023. You may book online at our special hotel link,, or, you may call the Embassy Suites at 803-252-8700. Rates are the same for singles, doubles, triples and quads. Currently members are not being charged the first night's room; instead, a hold is placed on your card until check-in

Important Things to Remember:

- SCPOBC on April 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM
- NFB of SC Board Meeting on April 15 at the Federation Center at 10:00 AM
- Lions Vision Services Fishing trip on April 21-22, 2023
- Houston ticket sales drawing on May 30, 2023
- Advocacy Day for Access and Independence at the SC State House on April 25, 2023.

To learn more visit <https://unlockingbarriers-sc.org>.

If you need additional information about any of the items above, please contact David Houck at the Federation Center at 803-254-3777. You can also contact me as shown above.

Here is David Houck's Federation Fun Fact for this week! Let's continue to read and learn together about our rich history in South Carolina.

"The Palmetto Blind" is the NFB of SC's flagship publication, dating back to 1957. As with the NFB's Braille Monitor, the Palmetto Blind reveals the growth and development of the organized blind movement in South Carolina. Chapter and Division development, legislative issues and successes dating back as far as 1958, the dedication and growth of the Federation Center of the Blind in Columbia, Rocky Bottom Retreat and Conference Center of the Blind in northern Pickens County and the Bell Federation center of the Blind in Laurens are all covered. How we developed Statewide Seminars, Leadership Seminars, Washington Seminars, national and state conventions are all discussed. Even local chapter events published in the Palmetto Blind are important so that all chapters and divisions can learn from each other's activities. In more recent years with the development of technology and training, updates are important to be included in Palmetto Blind articles. The NFB of SC invites submissions to be considered for publication. Like with the Braille Monitor, the Palmetto Blind is a great resource for study about the organized blind movement in South Carolina.