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Memo To: Executive Officers, Board Members, Chapter & Division Presidents & Others
From: Marty R. McKenzie, President
Positive Note 1979
843-939-8091 president@nfbofsc.org

Dear Federation Family,

The National Convention is still fresh in attendees' minds and South Carolina was blessed to have several Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship winners. Michelle Scott, President of the Charleston Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina and District 1 board member was one of the Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship winners. Here is what she had to say about attending the National Convention.

I had the amazing experience of attending my first NFB National Convention this year, which exceeded my expectations. It was astonishing to see so many visually impaired persons navigating their way quickly through the extremely large crowds independently with confidence, utilizing only their White Canes and Guide Dogs. Entering the Exhibition Hall and Independence Market was initially overwhelming, but once I started testing out the demos, learning about the new updated devices and playing the accessible games, it became an educational and fun filled experience. I attended seminars where I met national board members of divisions I participate in and learned valuable information about increasing membership, effective leadership skills, about accessible applications as well as self-defense moves and techniques. As one of the many recipients of the 2024 Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship, the highlight and unforgettable moment of the convention for me was the unexpected interaction with Mary Ellen Jernigan. This led to an educational, uplifting and very encouraging conversation about her husband, the Jernigan Institute and the importance of using my White Cane. I will forever be grateful for that significant conversation. Overall, I have to say attending my first NFB National Convention was Absolutely Fabulous.

Preparation is underway for the 68th Annual Convention of the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina. I am currently working diligently on the agenda and many others are taking care of a myriad of details. There is a huge amount of work that goes into preparation for a state convention, so please assist if you are asked to handle any convention items.

Rooms are still available at the Embassy Suites for the NFB of SC Convention being held August 15-18, 2024. We extended the room block this week, so you should have no difficulty booking a room. Rooms can be booked at \$112 plus tax and any applicable fees for singles, doubles, triples and quads. You may call the Embassy Suites at 803-252-8700. Reference the NFB of SC State Convention to obtain the special rate. Members are not being charged the first night's room; instead, a hold is placed on your card until check-in. The cut-off for room reservations is July 25, 2024.

Registration for the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina State Convention is underway! The cost is \$85 for adults, \$55 for students and \$25 for children under eighteen. These prices all adjust upward after July 25, 2024. Please visit <https://nfbofsc.org/node/178> to register online. If you need assistance to register online, please contact me and someone will assist you.

Lenora Robertson will once again serve as the Door Prize Chair for the NFB of SC State Convention. Cash and gift cards are always favorite items. You can purchase gift cards from the At Large chapter in the amount of \$25 or greater. Please bring your door prize contributions to the convention or you can mail them to Lenora Robertson, 1258 Roundtree Circle, Rock Hill, SC 29732. Let's have an abundance of door prizes to share at the state convention.

From Lenora Robertson

Rock Hill Chapter member, Roy Ives, lost his home due to a fire on July 5, 2024 in the morning hours. Mr. Ives is a veteran and is currently staying in a local motel. His home cannot be repaired and is a total loss. Any assistance that any chapters or members want to provide is greatly appreciated. Please send any contributions to Lenora Robertson made payable to the Rock Hill Chapter with Roy Ives in the memo blank. Lenora's address is 1258 Roundtree Circle, Rock Hill, SC 29732. Thank you for your assistance.

From Lori Anne Coley, President, Sports and Recreation Division

Our Sports and Rec fundraiser is extended to August, coinciding with the state convention. All purchased tickets remain valid. Purchase \$20 tickets for a chance to win big, including a \$750 and a \$250 giveaway. Contributions support our Sports Camp Week for the Blind at Rocky Bottom Retreat and Conference Center of the Blind in Upstate South Carolina. Led by the NFBSC Sports and Rec Division, our mission is inclusive sports. Purchase tickets via PayPal at <https://www.paypal.me/sportrecnfbsc> or Zelle at

srnfbsc21@yahoo.com. Goal: sell 100+ tickets by August 17, 2024, with the drawing at the state convention. Spread the word! For more information, contact Lori Anne Coley at 803-316-9838.

From the SC Association of Black Leaders

The SC Association of Black Leaders is thrilled to announce that we are extending our coffee basket fundraiser to the State Convention in August! The basket includes 1 tin of hot chocolate, three flavors of Starbucks coffee, two NFB tumblers, and a \$25 gift card. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10, every \$20 spent earns you an entry to win a Keurig! Purchase tickets at the NFB of SC PayPal or by sending a check or money order to the Federation Center at 119 S. Kilbourne Rd., Columbia, SC 29205, noting "coffee basket" in the memo field.

Things to Remember

NFB of SC State Convention Registration and Room Reservations are due by July 25, 2024.