

National Federation of the Blind of Arkansas

**Welcome to the 69th Annual Arkansas State
Convention**

March 31 and April 1, 2023

**Held at the Four Points Marriott in Little Rock,
Arkansas**

Success for You and Me with the NFB #2023

Introducing the Arkansas Affiliate Board

President: Nena Chadwick, Arkansas Affiliate

1st Vice President: Brent Philpot, Central Chapter

2nd Vice President: Donavon Cavender, At Large

Treasurer: David Henry, NWA Chapter

Secretary: Kyle Kiper, Central Chapter

Board Member 1: Tanya Vanhouten, At Large

Board Member 2: Mollie Hernandez, Central Chapter

Board Member 3: Bettye Johnson, Central Chapter

Board Member 4: Vacant

ARKABS Liaison: Bryson Jones,

River Valley Liaison: Freddie Wilkey

Introducing Chapter/Division Presidents:

At Large Chapter: Tanya Vanhouten

Central Arkansas Chapter: Cindy Scott-Huisman

Northwest Arkansas Chapter (NWA): David Henry

River Valley Chapter: Gary Hall

ARKABS: Bryson Jones

Committee Chairs:

Host Committee: Central Arkansas Chapter

Legislation Director: Larry Wayland

Resolution Chair: Brent Philpot

Nomination Chair: Larry Wayland

Pac Plan Chair: Donna Walker

Everette Bacon, National Representative

**Secretary for the National Federation of the Blind Board
of Directors**

Affiliate President of Utah

The National Federation of the Blind, the oldest and largest organization of and for the blind in the US, is made up of blind/visually impaired people of all ages and their families and friends. As noted above, the National Federation of the Blind of

Arkansas Affiliate is made up of an affiliate Board, which meets monthly, and various chapters, which also hold monthly meetings and have their own Board members. We also have a student (division) and various working committees.

The One-Minute Message:

The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. You can live the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back. Together with love, hope, and determination, we transform dreams into reality.

The National Federation of the Blind Pledge:

I pledge to participate actively in the efforts 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.

Integrity and Respect:

To allow all attendees the chance to benefit from all aspects of the convention, we are committed to providing a harassment-free environment for everyone.

We appreciate your assistance in cultivating an atmosphere in which participants from diverse backgrounds can learn, network and share with each other in an environment of mutual respect. Thank you for doing your part to contribute to our community and the high expectations we strive to maintain. Door Prizes will be drawn throughout the meeting. You must be present to win. In order to move things along, if your name is called, please call out so someone can bring your prize to you. As we warmly welcome each of our wonderful speakers and listen to what they have to share, please note that there will be time for questions at the end of each speaker's presentation. If we can keep our questions and comments brief, that will allow each person to have a turn.

Registration

All convention attendees are required to register. Registration with the convention entitles you to the convention room rate and qualifies you to win door prizes. If you have pre-registered for the convention, please go to the registration area to pick up your registration packet. If

you did not pre-register, you may do so in the registration area. The onsite registration fee is \$75. We will adhere to the registration times strictly so that our registration workers can participate in all convention activities. See the agenda for a list of times and locations of the registration area.

The registration table located outside of the Arkansas Suite opens at 8:30-9:45 am Friday, 31, 8-8:45 am on Saturday, April 1, for packet pickup.

All Exhibitors will be in the hall area next to the Arkansas Suite. Friday 31st, 10 am-5 pm, Saturday 1st, 9 am-5 pm.

GENERAL SESSION I Arkansas Suite

Friday 31 Morning

10 am- Call to order-Announcements – Nena Chadwick

Opening Prayer – Pastor Trinnette Barnes

10:15 am welcome Mayor-Frank Scott Jr, Little Rock

**10:30 am Affiliate President Report, Nena Chadwick
Door prize Door Knockers**

**11 am World Services of the Blind
Eric Yarberry, President/CEO**

1130-12 pm AIRS, Theresa Bertram

12-2 Lunch (on your own)

SESSION II Arkansas Suite

2 pm Crystal Bridges

Kim Crowell, Access & Inclusive Programs Manager

2:30 pm National Report. Everett Bacon, Utah

3 pm Break Door Prizes Door Knockers

3:15 pm Business Meeting /Elections

**Roll Call, Meeting Minutes, Treasurers Report,
Constitution, Resolutions, Elections Board 1 and
Board 2**

5 pm Adjourn

(Dinner on your own)

7 pm Auction- Live with Auctioneer Brad Wooley, Jr
Come join us for a fun-filled time with a cash bar
and hors-d'oeuvres while we bid on fantastic items.

GENERAL SESSION III Arkansas Suite

Saturday, March 1, 2023

9 am- Announcements - Nena Chadwick

**9:05 am Hilton – Dave Wilkinson, Senior
Accessibility Analyst (zoom)**

9:35 am Attorney at Law – Doug Armstrong (zoom)

10:05 Door Prizes Door Knockers

**10:10 am Division of Services for the Blind
Cassandra Williams Stokes, Director**

**10:45 am Preparing for Future Adversity
Larry Wayland**

**11:15 am Helen Keller National Center
Natasha Aymami, Ashley Beaty**

11:30 am Disability Rights Arkansas/

Student Rights /Accommodations

Molly Hernandez

12 pm -2 pm Lunch (on your own)

SESSION IV Arkansas Suite

2 pm Break out Announcements Nena Chadwick
1. Success for You and Me with the NFB #2023

Job Fair Event

2. Meet & Greet National Representative
Everette Bacon

3. Voting Machine Demo/Rights of Voters

4. Demo and set up for Newsline/Donna Walker

7 pm Banquet

Prayer Bettye Johnson

Dinner

Banquet Address Everette Bacon, National
Representative

door prizes, awards, and drawing for the grand
prize.

Special Thank you to all our members, volunteers, sponsors, exhibitors, friends, and most importantly, our families for all the support that you have given throughout the year so that we can “Build the National Federation of the Blind!

Meet Our National Representative:

Everette Bacon

Secretary for the National Federation of the Blind Board of Directors. President of the NFB of Utah since 2012. Other highlights: FCC Disability Advisory Committee, Chair, Utah Legislative Coalition for persons with Disabilities, Chair, SLC Accessibility and Disability Commission, SLC Human Rights Commission, and more.

Currently employed as Field Services Coordinator for Utah Services for the Blind since 2005.

Blindness is hereditary due to cone/rod dystrophy.

Master's Degree from Western Michigan University

Married, wife Angela is a Neurologist at the University of Utah.

Dream Makers Circle

You can help build a future of opportunity for the blind by becoming a member of our Dream Makers Circle. It is easier than you think. You can visit your bank and convert an account to a P.O.D. (payable on death) bank account, which is payable after your passing to the National Federation of the blind or one of our affiliates. Your legacy gift to the National Federation of the Blind or the National Federation of the Blind of {insert state} can be made in the form of a will or living trust, an income-generating gift, or by naming us as the beneficiary of a retirement plan, IRA, pension, or a life insurance policy. You can designate a specific amount, a percentage or list NFB as one of several beneficiaries. For additional information, please contact Patti Chang at (410) 659-9314, extension 2422, or at pchang@nfb.org.

Vehicle Donations

The National Federation of the Blind uses car donations to improve the education of blind children, distribute free white canes, help veterans, and so much more. We have partnered with Vehicles for Charity to process donated vehicles. Please call toll-free (855) 659-9314, and a representative can make arrangements, or you can donate online by visiting www.nfb.org/vehicledonations.

Next

To all our great sponsors:

Gold Level: Disability Rights Arkansas

501-296-1775

www.disabilityrightsar.org

Silver Level: The Pharmacy at Wellington

501-708-4320

www.thepharmacyatwellington.com

Bronze Level: Hatcher Capital Investments

501-375-3737

stacy@hatcheragency.com

Bronze Level: The Hatcher Agency

501-375-3737.

stacy@hatcheragency.com

Bronze Level: NanoPac, Inc

918-665-0329.

www.nanopac.com

Donation: Nayla Hatley, General Dentistry

\$100.00

Thank you to all our Exhibitors:

Disability Rights Arkansas

Lani Jennings-Hall, Marketing Communications Manager

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

Kim Crowell, Access & Inclusive Programs Manager

Division of Services for the Blind

Contrena Bowie, Rehab Program Manager

NanoPac, Inc

Calvin Churchwell, Vision Rehabilitation Specialist

JW.org

Nick Wall

FAIRS Friends Arkansas Information Reading Services

Larry Wayland

Scentsy

Donna Walker, Independent Consultant

Dream Vacations

JoAnn Crossley



**Disability
Rights
Arkansas**



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[*Watch Greg Hatcher explain the necessity of HSA's!*](#)