National Federation of the Blind of Idaho

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**2024 NFBI State Convention Agenda**

**March 21 - 23, 2024 Burley Inn Convention Center**

**800 N Overland Ave, Burley ID 83318, 208-678-3501**

**Convention Theme “Living Ambitiously”**

**Our National Representative will be Norma Crosby, NFB Treasurer and Texas Affiliate President.**

**Hospitality will be in Room 130** It will be open **Friday** 12:00—2:00 pm, 5:00—7:00 pm, **Saturday** 12:00—2:00 pm, 5:00—6:00 pm

**Convention Registration will be open**: Thursday, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, Friday,7:45 – 8:15 am Saturday, 7:45 – 8:15 am.

**Orientation to the Hotel**

Welcome to The Burley Inn

The lobby is a rectangle shaped area. Enter the hotel through two automatic sliding doors. Walk straight ahead about 10 steps and you will turn right and walk to the hotel registration desk. When you first stepped into the lobby there is a four-chair sitting area to your left. From the door if you walked straight across the lobby you will come to a coffee table in front of a couch. There is a chair on each end of the couch. Behind the couch is a business center. You can enter that from the left or right side.

I am going to describe how to get to the lodging/sleeping rooms..When you are on the sidewalks going to and from your room you need to know that there are brick pillars up and down those sidewalks. I usually encountered them on the right side of the sidewalk and they are about 10 or 12 feet apart.

To get to rooms 130 and above: Facing the registration desk, go to you left putting the desk to your right side. At the end of the desk veer slightly to the right. As you continue your will pass a self-serve coffee bar to your right. As you continue, on your right you will find an entrance to the Spud Cellar. You will continue straight and go through a door. Now, the breakfast room is on your right. Continue past that and you will go through a door taking you outside. With your back now to that door walk forward a few feet and you will reach a 2-foot high stone wall. Turn slightly to the right and walk to a cross-walk where you will turn left. Walking down this sidewalk you will come to a trash can on your left and continuing on you will find a patio also on your left with a firepit which automatically comes on at 6 pm and goes off at 10 pm.  Continuing about 15 feet you will find a sidewalk going to the right.  Moving onto that sidewalk a few feet you will find a sidewalk going to the left. At this intersection you will turn left and room 130 will be the first door on your right. Rooms 130 and up will all be on the right side.

Going back to that intersection turn left. There will be a trash can and stairs going up on your left. Continue down this sidewalk to the first sidewalk going to the right. Stay on this sidewalk for 20 to 25 feet; the building will appear on your left; and the door into the convention center will quickly show up on your left.

When you are inside with the door to your back, the hallway straight ahead takes you to the meeting rooms. All the rooms are on your right as you are moving down the hall. The first door is the Pomerelle room followed by Cassia, then Minidoka. Continuing down this hallway you will come to tile flooring and the restrooms will be to your right. The restroom doors face each other. Women’s if to the right and men’s to the left.

Getting to rooms 102 to 126:

With your back to the desk walk forward about 15 feet. you may encounter a staircase going up but you want to go to the right. You may see a carpeted hallway off to your left. Pass this. Continuing on the Sales office will be to your left and that business center mentioned earlier will be on your right.  Continue straight about 20 feet and you will come to an outside door.  Once you are out and your back is to the door, turn left and walk about 10 steps, and turn right. Walk down this sidewalk and a building will come up on your left.  The first room is a utility room.  The second door will be room 102. All the rooms are on the left.

To get to convention center from these rooms, reverse and go back to the patio. With the building to your right follow it. It will turn to the right but that door is a permanently  closed door. The building will immediately turn left.  Follow the building a few feet and you will come to the door taking you into the convention center.  This is the same door rooms 130 and up come into.  Meeting rooms are straight ahead. Now, if your turn right you will go into the Gallery hallway. There are pictures on the wall in this hallway.  Toward the other end of this hallway on the right side is an entrance to the Spud Cellar and beyond that is an entrance to the breakfast room.

At the end of the Gallery hallway, you can make a left; following this hallway you will come to a half wall on your left. Perkins is on the other side of this wall. Continue walking and you will come to a tile floor. The entrance to Perkins is to your left. If you turn right you will pass a restroom and continuing you will come in to the hotel lobby at the main entrance.

Note: When I visited with the hotel staff, they were very laxed about the guide dog relief area. So you can let your dog relieve itself anywhere there is grass. But please pick up the poop and find one of the many trash cans. There is lots of grass around.

**Thursday, March 21**

7:00-9:00 Reception, All members and friends are invited. Come make new friends, meet up with old friends, and get to know our national representative Norma Crosby and her husband Glenn. **Minidoka 1**

8:30 Resolutions Committee, **Room 130**

**Friday, March 22, 2024**

**Pomerelle & Cassia**

7:45 –8:15 am Registration

8:30 Call to order: Invocation: Announcements

8:45 Opening Ceremonies: Proclamation and Welcome, Burley Mayor’s Office: Music by NFB member choir

9:00 Living Ambitiously with Vision Loss, Al Schneider, Treasure Valley Chapter Treasurer

9:20 Students learning and Living Ambitiously, Brian Darcy, Superintendent, IESDB

9:45 Living Ambitiously in Small Business, Programs that can Help, Brian Matsuoka, CSI SBA Regional Director,

10:15 Fit Break, Marcie Chapman

10:20 Living Ambitiously Operating a small Business, Glenn Crosby

10:40 ICBVI Report, Mike Walsh, Rehabilitation Chief

11:10 Enjoying the World of Books LeAnn Gelskey, Talking Book Services Supervisor

11:25 Why attend our NFB National Convention, Frank Skogsberg, Krystal White, Larry Sebranek, Natalie Morgan

11:50 Reports and Resolutions

12:00 Lunch on Your Own

1:00 Vendor exhibits

3:00 Learn about the Texas Affiliate, and National Senior Division and ways to use NFB Newsline ambitiously (optional) Norma & Glenn Crosby

4:00 Experiencing our NFB Philosophy, Alison Steven

5:00-6:00 Break

6:00 NFBI board meeting. All are welcome. Preregistration for the dinner is required.

**Pomerelle & Cassia**

7:30 Evening Social Event **Minidoka 1**

9:30 After social jam session. Bring your voice and instrument and come and join the music.

**Saturday March 23, 2024**

**Pomerelle & Cassia**

7:45 Yoga with Marcie Chapman (optional) Wake up your body and mind.

**Minidoka 1**

7:45 –8:15 Registration

9:00 Invocation And 1 minute Message

**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.

9:05 National Report, National Representative, Norma Crosby, NFB Treasurer; President, Texas Affiliate

9:50 Voting Ambitiously in Idaho: Legislative changes and other Issues, Jean M Hencheid, PhD, Co-President League of Women Voters

10:25 Living Ambitiously with AI to enhance our Lives, Kevin Pirnie

10:40 Fit Break, Marcie Chapman

10:45 Living Ambitiously as a wife mother and author, April Earl

11:05 Adjusting to Vision Loss, How NFB Idaho can help, Krysten Ward, Yiska Hugo, Shane Ostermeier

11:30 An Ambitious Dream Becomes Reality: Welcome to Knotty Twist Alana Leonhardy, Small Business Owner

12:00 Young Adult Luncheon (pre-registration required) **Minidoka 1**

12:00 Lunch on Your Own

2:00 State Report: Dana Ard, NFBI President

2:30 Living Ambitiously: from Student to teacher: Kebbie Young

2:45 Annual Business Meeting and Election

4:30 Living Ambitiously, celebrating my 80th Birthday Experiencing Hawaii, Ramona Walhof

5:00 Adjourn

**6:30 Banquet**

**Pomerelle & Cassia**

Invocation:

Mistress of Ceremonies: Sandy Streeter NFB Idaho First Vice President, President, Snake River Valley Chapter

Banquet Address: Norma Crosby, National Representative

Presentation of Scholarships: Sandy Streeter, Scholarship Committee Chair

Funding our movement through the Preauthorized Contribution Plan: Ramona Walhof: PAC Chair

Our final door prize will be $200.00, given by the Treasure Valley Chapter

**Convention Adjourned**

**NFB 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.

**Convention Committees**

**Convention Planning Committee:** Sandy Streeter, Chair; Megan Geisler; Alison Steven; Frank Skogsberg; Yiska Hugo; and Kevin Pirnie

**Scholarship Committee:** Sandy Streeter, Chair; Vickie Bateman; Shane Ostermeier; Leslie Mora; Mike Gibson

**Registration Committee:** Susan Bradley, Shane Ostermeier, Angie Bradley Emilia Lane

**Nominating Committee**: Lisa Baker, Chair; Larry Sebranek; Megan Geisler

**Hospitality Room:** Sue Brooks

**Auction Committee:** Al Schneider. Chair; Ramona Walhof; Natalie Morgan

**Door Prize Committee:** Krystal White, Chair; Olivia; Angie Bradley

**Resolutions Committee:** Shane Ostermeier, Chair; Ramona Walhof; Cindy Barajas; Krystal White; Joe Thompson