

Fall 2017



Ohio Connection

American Council of the Blind of Ohio
3805 N. High St., Ste. 305
Columbus, OH 43214
1-800-835-2226

CONVENTION'S COMING—ARE YOU?

By Katie Frederick

For a second year, the American Council of the Blind of Ohio and the ACB of Indiana are partnering for the conference and convention. The conference takes place Friday, October 20 through Sunday, October 22 at Kalahari Resort in Sandusky, Ohio. To reserve your room, call the hotel at (877) 525-2427 and mention the American Council of the Blind of Ohio. Room rates are \$109 plus tax for those checking in on Thursday, October 19 and \$139 plus tax for Friday through Sunday stays. Remember, rooms sleep up to four people, so gather up your friends or make some new ones and join us for a fun-filled weekend! The deadline for hotel reservations is September 30, but the earlier you reserve your room, the closer you will be to the convention activities.

Registration is up and running on www.acbohio.org; the cost is \$80 again this year. This covers three days of workshops, guest speaker presentations, and four meals. We encourage online registration; however, we do accept checks. If you prefer to pay via phone, call the ACB-Ohio office at (614) 221-6688. To ensure accurate meal counts, please have your registration submitted online or postmarked

by October 13. A draft agenda of the weekend's activities follows and you can always find more information on our website or by calling the office.

FRIDAY, October 20

- 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Registration
- 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Visit the many vendors in the exhibit area
- 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Using Uber/Lyft, Katie Frederick and Lynn Powers
- 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Self-Driving Cars, Nico Lindsey
- 5:00 - 7:15 p.m. Dinner on your own
- 7:20 - p.m. Opening Session
Welcome by ACBO and ACBI Presidents
- 7:30 – 8:15 p.m. Keynote Speaker, Sarah Larose
- 8:20 – 8:45 p.m. ACB Indiana Business Meeting
- 9:00 – 11:00 p.m. Water Shenanigans in the indoor water park
(Hospitality Room available)

SATURDAY, October 21

- 7:15 - 8:15 a.m. Registration
- 7:15 - 8:15 a.m. Breakfast

7:30 a.m. What's New at TSA?, John DiPaola

8:15 - 8:20 a.m. Break

8:20 - 10:00 a.m. ACB Indiana and ACB-Ohio Business Meetings

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Visit the Exhibit Area, open from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and again from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Session One: Two Concurrent Workshops:

A. What's New at HIMS? Andy Leach

B. Women at Risk, Linda Leudeman

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

Presentation of 2017 ACB-Ohio Scholarships: Vicky Prahin

1:35 - 2:00 P.M. Special Session for scholarship winners

(visit exhibits)

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. Session Two: Two Concurrent Workshops:

A. Advanced Apple Users, Shawn Thiel

B. BARD Express, Ken Redd

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Session Three: Two Concurrent Workshops:

A. Advocacy panel, Barbara Salisbury, Irwin Hott

B. Apple for Beginners, Mike Moats

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Auction Preview

6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Banquet

Speaker: Talking Book Narrator
Laura Giannarelli

Presentation of 2017 ACB-Ohio Awards, Lori Woodall

9:00 - 11:30 p.m. Auction

Auctioneers: Deanna Austin, ACBI;
Terry Olandese and Theresa Carroll,
ACBO

SUNDAY, October 22

7:30 - 8:00 a.m. Nondenominational Service, Lori Woodall

8:15 - 9:15 a.m. Breakfast

Remembering members who have passed away in the last year & honoring veterans who are present, Lori Woodall and Gerry Koors

9:15 - 9:30 a.m. Break

9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Roundtable Discussion, Sarah Larose

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. ACBO Post-convention Board Meeting

The water park's lazy river offers a break from conference hustle and bustle.



PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACBO CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

By Robert Rogers, Constitution & Bylaws Committee Chair

The following amendments are important to tone up our constitution and bylaws. At any time, one can read the current constitution and bylaws in their entirety at www.acbohio.org/constitution and www.acbohio.org/bylaws. For each proposed amendment, the current form of the article comes first and is followed by the amended form.

Constitution Article 6.3

Any member in good standing with ACBO may vote at the annual meeting, may make and second motions, may serve on committees, and is eligible to serve on the board of directors.

Proposed:

Any individual at least 18 years of age and a member in good standing with ACBO, dues are current, may serve on committees and is eligible to serve on the board of directors.

Constitution Article 7.1

Any organized group of ten or more individuals, a 60% majority of whom are blind, may apply for affiliation as a chapter of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio.

Proposed:

Any organized group of ten or more

individuals, a 60% majority of whom are **legally** blind, may apply for affiliation as a chapter of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio.

Constitution Article 8.0

All chapter members or members at-large (at least 18 years of age) whose dues are current are eligible to vote at the ACBO annual meeting. At least 60 percent of all voting members must be legally blind or visually impaired.

Proposed:

All chapter members or members at-large (at least 18 years of age) whose dues are current are entitled to one vote as a member. At least 60 percent of all of the ACBO voting members must be blind or visually impaired.

Constitution Article 8.1

Each registered and properly identified voting member shall be entitled to one vote at ACBO's annual meeting.

Proposed:

Each registered and properly identified voting member satisfying the specifications of article 6.3 of this constitution shall be entitled to vote at ACBO's annual meetings.

Constitution Article 10

The board of directors consists of five officers and eleven directors elected at large by the membership assembled in convention. To be assured of representation on the board, a chapter may elect or appoint and send one of its members to board meetings unless one of its members is already elected to the board. Each has one vote at board meetings. The immediate past president serves in an advisory capacity on the board. To be elected to and hold a position on the board, one must be a member in good standing. To be elected to the position of officer, one must be a member in good standing at least six months prior to the election.

Proposed:

The board of directors consists of five officers and eleven directors elected at large by the membership assembled in convention. If a chapter has no representation on the board of directors through an elected member, that chapter may elect or appoint one of its own members to serve on the board with the same rights and restrictions of an elected board member. Each member has one vote at board meetings. The immediate past president serves in an advisory capacity on the board. To be elected to and hold a position on the board, one must be a member in good standing as specified in Article 6.3 of this constitution. To be elected to the position of officer, one must be a member in good standing at least six months prior to the election.

Constitution Article 11.3

All voting members who are in good standing and who are not employed by the American Council of the Blind of Ohio shall be eligible to be elected to board positions.

Proposed:

Individuals satisfying the specifications of article 6.3 of this constitution and not employed by ACBO may be eligible for election to or interim appointment to board positions.

Bylaws Article 1.0

ACBO members are also members of the national ACB through an annual dues subscription of \$5.00 per member paid by ACBO to the national organization. Members' dues may be received by the ACBO executive director at any time in the year and may not be prorated. Dues paid by an individual during an annual ACBO convention give membership to that individual through December 31 of the following year.

Proposed:

ACBO members are also members of the national ACB through an annual dues subscription of \$5.00 per member paid by ACBO to the national organization. Member's dues may be received by the ACBO executive director at any time in the year and may not be prorated. Dues paid by an individual during an annual ACBO convention entitles that individual to membership through December 31 of the following year. However, for one to have voting privileges at an annual meeting,

one must be at least 18 years of age and member of record on the ACBO roster at least 30 days prior to a given annual meeting.

PROPOSED SLATE OF 2018 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

Vice president 1: Terry Olandese
Secretary: Ann P. Pimley

DIRECTORS

Brent Adams
Kenneth Woodall
Melody Banks
Theresa Carroll, term 1, 2017
Karen Spry
Robert Rogers
Deborah Lori Woodall, Term 2, 2017



The ACBO 2016 Board of Directors: (left to right) Lita Wesley, Leah Noble, Irwin Hott, Secretary Karen Weaver Spry, President Vicky Prahin, Mary Ann Donelan, 1st Vice President Robert Rogers, Executive Director Katie Frederick, Sue Wesley, Terry Olandese, Ann Pimley, Theresa Carroll. Treasurer, Chris Schumacher, Tom Dimmit, (Lori) Debra Woodall, Jenna McCartney, 2nd Vice President Jill Noble, Also pictured, Guide dogs, Kenzo Frederick, Nicole Prahin, and Bilko McCartney.

ACB-OHIO'S BACKBONE

By Vicky Prahin

I recently discovered that some members of ACBO do not know that we have a constitution and bylaws, the documents that guide us in our work. To a lot of people, the word “constitution” means the mysterious historical document that Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Thomas Payne, and others forged to give the United States a solid foundation of governance. Merriam-Webster defines the word as “the system of beliefs and laws by which a country, state, or organization is governed.” Like many organizations, the American Council of the Blind has a constitution, the basis for Ohio’s charter.

The governing documents for ACBO are dynamic, i.e., they are designed to change as necessary to remain effective. You read about some needed changes in a previous article. We publish recommendations for change so that the membership can vote on them at our annual state convention.

Our constitution states our name and our mission and explains in detail how ACBO is set up—how one becomes a member, how a chapter comes into existence, and how and when the organization should be dissolved. It also gives explicit details for the establishment and continuity of officers and our board of directors.

This is your document. I urge you to take the time to read it, although much of it is a bit dry—typical of legal papers. If you have questions, ask one of the officers or our executive director, Katie Frederick. If you have suggestions for change, contact me or Katie to find out who is in charge of that committee.

You can find the ACBO constitution at www.acbohio.org/constitution.

Michelle Spillan, Editor, Newsletter Committee: Katie Frederick, Irwin Hott, Jenna McCartney, Vicky Prahin

As always, thanks to the contributors: **Katie Frederick, Jill Noble, Terry Olandese, Vicky Prahin, Robert Rogers, Elizabeth Sammons, and Kate Sniderman.**

The *Ohio Connection* is a quarterly publication of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio. Please submit your material in print or through e-mail, and include your name, address and phone number. Please send items for the next issue to acbo.newsletter@gmail.com by **November 15.**

SPECIAL AWARD FOR OLBPD'S HEAD LIBRARIAN

Will Reed, the head librarian at Ohio's Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled in Cleveland, received the 2017 Cathleen Bourdon Service Award, administered by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA).



Will Reed

He is known for his advocacy on behalf of individuals with print disabilities and his role as a working team member to revise the Standards and Guidelines of Service for the Library of Congress Network of Libraries for the Blind and the Physically Handicapped.

Colleagues specifically highlight his expertise, approachability, and influence with the use of adaptive technology. He

developed a model of service delivery for libraries serving people with print disabilities, now used successfully at the D.C. Public Library where it helped them to build their JAWS curriculum into a powerful force for adaptive technology training, employment and entrepreneurship.

Will was honored at the ASCLA Achievement Awards Ceremony on June 24 during the ALA Annual Conference.

Any patrons who have called the Regional Library and spoken to Will have learned how helpful and friendly he is.

Congratulations, Will!

**Losing Vision?
Hard to Cope?
We can help!**

NEWSREEL

Contact Newsreel Magazine by and for the blind for your free 3-month trial subscription to our audio magazine. Listen to people who have gone through or are going through the same vision-related issues you may be experiencing. Contact Newsreel at [614-469-0700](tel:614-469-0700) or e-mail us at info@newsreelmag.org.

RECREATION ROUNDUP: LOOKING BACK & FORWARD

By Jill Noble

Prior to 1989 a state board member of ACB-Ohio, Elmer Fischer, formerly of Cincinnati, attended the "Ski for Light International Program," a week-long event where an adult who is blind or visually impaired is matched with a trained, sighted cross-country ski guide. Elmer, Executive Director Ken Morlock, Board Member Nola Webb-McKinney, and Past President Dawn Christensen decided to organize a spinoff of the international program. They called it "Ski for Light Ohio." This is now known as the Winter Sports Retreat.

Come help us celebrate! The 30th Annual Winter Sports Retreat, sponsored by ACB-Ohio, will take place January 12 through January 15, 2018, at Punderson State Park in Newbury, Ohio. We may not have snow; however, we still know how to have fun.

Activities may include, but are not limited to, hiking, swimming, square dancing, shopping, cards and board games, snow tubing and/or tobogganing at oth-

er locations, or just cozying up with a good book and relaxing for the weekend.

We encourage everyone to mark their calendars and start praying to the snow gods now, because, if you want to ski or snowshoe, we need a lot of that white stuff.

The weekend package includes three nights' lodging and six meals. For single occupancy the cost is \$530, double is \$350, and triple is \$290. If the snow gods respond properly, skis and snowshoes can be rented from Glenn Beachy, a long-time volunteer, for \$8 a day or \$15 for the weekend. Partial stipends are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact the ACBO office at (800) 835-2226 if you have any questions.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who have contributed to making this event possible for the last 29 years! Hope to see you in January.



Join us at the cozy Punderson Manor in January!

OOD/BSVI CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF SPONSORING NFB NEWSLINE

By Elizabeth Sammons

Here's writing to share two great news items for all Ohioans who enjoy reading NFB-Newsline! First, Ohio is celebrating 10 years of NFB-Newsline sponsorship through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD.) You may know OOD better through contact with BSVI, Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired. OOD is proud of sponsoring NFB-Newsline in Ohio, and the agency wishes to maintain its current level of coverage, including 22 newspapers around the state, plus all other NFB Newsline offerings.

This leads to the second update. NFB Newsline, which formerly had only five local dial-in numbers around the state, has now added an additional 7 local numbers for listeners in Dayton, Lima, Mansfield, Portsmouth, Springfield, Toledo, and Youngstown.

It is important for Newsline listeners to use local numbers whenever possible and to share these new local dial-in opportunities with both old and new Newsline listeners. Nearly one third of sponsor costs, paid through tax dollars, consists of per-minute charges incurred on the national toll-free number. While users who do not have local numbers are always entitled to make use of this number, we hope to greatly diminish costs by offering the local alternative numbers, and you will help us by using

these every time you can. There is absolutely no difference in service or access to news, work, weather, TV-guide and other resources from Newsline, regardless of what dial-in number is used. Likewise, if a user is calling from a cell phone that incurs per-minute charges to the user, there is usually no difference on that charge between using a toll-free number and a local one.

Newsline local numbers:

Akron: (330) 247-1241

Canton: (330) 409-1900

Cincinnati: (513) 297-1521

Cleveland: (216) 453-2090

Columbus: (614) 448-1673

NEW! Dayton: (937) 963-1000

NEW! Lima: (567) 242-5112

NEW! Mansfield: (567) 333-9990

NEW! Portsmouth: (740) 370-6828

NEW! Springfield: (937) 717-3900

NEW! Toledo: (567) 806-1100

NEW! Youngstown: (330) 259-9570

If you do not subscribe to NFB Newsline, here are contacts to consider and resources to encourage you. For a full list of participating publications, visit: <https://nfb.org/participating-newspapers>. Call (866) 504-7300 or visit <http://www.nfbnewslineonline.org/signup.htm> to sign up. If you are a National Library Services user, you can enroll nearly automatically.

BITS & BYTES



By Elizabeth Sammons

► **KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS FOR WINDOWS**

For those desiring keyboard shortcuts for Windows, stop by Sharon's Shortcuts. Based in Ireland, Sharon has collected an impressive repository of keyboard shortcuts or "IT Training without the mouse," as she describes it. This is a noncommercial site free of sales pitch. <http://sharons-shortcuts.ie/>

► **AMAZON VIDEO NOW HAS AUDIO DESCRIPTION**

The feature is available on Fire TV, Fire Tablets, iOS devices, and Android devices. View titles with audio descriptions by going to <http://www.amazon.com/video/audiodescription>. The selection of titles will be updated continuously. To play a title with audio descriptions, customers can select the "English- audio description" audio option from the "Subtitles and Audio" menu during playback. Additional details here: <http://www.adasoutheast.org/news/articles.php?id=8490>

► **FREE ONLINE BRAILLE LIBRARY FROM "UNITY"**

This features several hundred Christian and other spiritual titles available for download and embossing for any interested Braille reader. <http://www.unity.org/resources/message-hope/document-library#main-content>

► **KEEP YOUR MEDICAID WHILE WORKING**

Many people have questions about keeping Medicaid coverage when returning to work, so Social Security is sharing how Section 1619(b) of the Social Security Act could help you keep your healthcare coverage as you transition to the workplace. The blog post specifically discusses: What is Medicaid while working; Threshold amounts; Ways to keep Medicaid coverage; and 1619(b) and other Work Incentives. <https://www.choosework.net/blog/2017-06-28-wiw-medicaid-while-working>

► **STUDENT EARNED INCOME EXCLUSION**

Let's talk about the Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE). This Work Incentive is for students through age 21 who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and want to earn money while in classes or job training. This blog explains how it works and how much you can earn. <https://www.choosework.net/blog/2017-05-24-wiw-making-the-grade-at-school-and-work>

► **ACCOMMODATION FOR JOB INTERVIEWS**

This blog offers some practical advice, reasoning and resources on requesting reasonable accommodations during the job interview process. <https://www.choosework.net/blog/2017-07-13-making-interviews-accessible-for-you>

► **TALKING BOOKS: THE UNTOLD STORY**

In this new release, "Giving a Listen to The Untold Story of the Talking Book," the author traces both disability and

mainstream currents behind recording literature. Some grandiose dreams certain people had included hats containing audio encyclopedias, stores stocked with "Books in bottles," and public books with tubes leading in through the windows of nearby houses so the great works of literature could be played to all. The book is available in multiple formats: hardcover, Kindle, iBook, audiobook edition, and audio CD. Read a review here: <http://www.afb.org/afbpress/pubnew.asp?DocID=aw180406>

► **PBS NEWSHOUR ON DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT**

A recent PBS NewsHour segment explored the issue of disability employment, taking a deep look at why the employment rate of Americans with disabilities continues to lag behind that of those without disabilities. The feature explored not only the various reasons for the inequity, but also how many smart employers are discovering that tapping into this talent pool offers their business a competitive edge. Among those interviewed for the segment were representatives from companies such as EY, which has in recent years been recognized for its commitment to and success in recruiting, hiring, advancing and retaining employees with disabilities. Watch the segment or read the transcript here: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/job-opportunity-still-lagging-people-disabilities/>

► **DIABETES EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND RESOURCES**

According to the American Diabetes Association, 9 out of 10 Americans most at risk for diabetes may not know it. Diabetes is one of the leading causes of chronic kidney disease. Educa-

tional resources, toolkits, and technology can help people with disabilities understand and manage risks. We shared a selection of these resources, as well as research in this area here: <https://naricspotlight.wordpress.com/2017/03/20/what-is-diabetes/>

► **OHIO MEANS JOBS**

This accessible site offers listings of Ohio job fairs & workshops; basic computer skills; resume writing; money management and much more. <https://ohiomeansjobs.com/omj/workshoplist.do?selectId=0>



ACBO Community Shares Campaign Codes

State of Ohio 19003
City of Columbus 60240
Franklin County 60240
Ohio State University 60240
Columbus State 1061





American Council of the Blind of Ohio
3805 N. High St., Suite 305
Columbus, Ohio 43214

FREE MATTER
FOR THE BLIND



ACB-OHIO DATEBOOK

SEPTEMBER 29

CINCINNATI ASSN. FOR THE BLIND
REHABILITATION & TECHNOLOGY EXPO
10 A.M.—2:30 P.M.
RSVP BY 9/22 (513) 221-2192

OCTOBER 6

DEADLINE FOR CONVENTION
AUCTION ITEMS

OCTOBER 12

VISION FAIR
GOODWILL EASTER SEALS MIAMI VALLEY
DAYTON, OHIO

OCTOBER 15

WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

OCTOBER 20-22

ACB-INDIANA/OHIO JOINT CONFERENCE
KALAHARI RESORT, SANDUSKY, OHIO

NOVEMBER 15

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

JANUARY 12-15

WINTER SPORTS RETREAT
PUNDERSON STATE PARK
NEWBURY, OHIO

