**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND**

**OF MISSOURI**

**60th ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION**

**March 31 to April 3, 2022**

**Double Tree Hotel by Hilton**

**2431 N. Glenstone Avenue**

**Springfield, MO**

**(417) 831-3131**

**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.**

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

**PLEDGE OF THE**

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND**

**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.**

**A Message from Our Host Chapter**

??be displayed.   [Download the original](https://mail-attachment.googleusercontent.com/attachment/u/0/?view=att&th=14ed52631b356e44&attid=0.1&disp=attd&zw)

Welcome to Springfield, the birthplace of Route 66, Bass Pro shops, Cashew Chicken, and the NFB Springfield Chapter. At our 2022 convention, the NFB Of Missouri Affiliate is celebrating our 60th Anniversary. In honor of our Affiliates Diamond Anniversary, there will be special guests and a few surprises. We hope you come and make new friends but also reminisce with old buddies. We want to let everyone sparkle and shine during this Diamond Anniversary. The old saying goes, “Diamonds last forever,” and so does the NFB of Missouri Affiliate.

Members of the Springfield Chapter are proud to host this year’s National Federation of the Blind of Missouri’s State Convention and hope this convention will be one of the finest you have ever attended. We extend a warm welcome to each of you.

The Springfield Chapter invites you to join them for Hospitality in Rathdangan I on Friday evening. Hospitality will run from 5:00 to 10:00 PM.

**Convention Announcements**

We are pleased to have Kevan Worley as our National Representative. Kevan is no stranger to Missouri as he once lived in Missouri and participated actively in the NFB of Missouri. He has lived and worked in Colorado for many years. Kevan looks forward to meeting each of you during the convention. If you would like to talk with Kevan about our national organization, please feel free to reach out to him. It is great to have a former Missourian back with us as our National Representative.

Registration and packet pick up will take place in Glendalough Lobby Friday morning from 9:00 to 9:25 and Friday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. If you have pre-registered, please come to this area to pick up your packet as soon as possible. Final registration will be open Saturday morning from 8:00 to 8:25.

Registration at the convention will cost $20.00 per person and $40.00 for a banquet ticket. Please register so you will be eligible for door prizes and other convention activities. The hotel is not obligated to honor convention rates if proof of registration for the convention is not available when you check-out.

There will be a planned lunch on Friday, lunch on Saturday and a nondenominational prayer breakfast on Sunday. If you did not purchase your tickets during preregistration and you still would like to obtain one, please check at registration to see if they are still available. These are the first counts the hotel will need, so if you do not obtain them when you first arrive, sales may be closed.

Exhibits will be in the Glendalough Lobby, Friday from 1:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Please visit each of our exhibitors and learn about their services and/or products.

Room rates are $102.00 a night plus 14.1 % tax for up to four in a room. Check-out time for the hotel is 11:00 AM on Sunday. Please check out before the Sunday morning session begins.

The hotel has a guide dog relief area. Please check with the desk to be directed to it, and be prepared to pick up to keep the area clean for other guide dogs that follow you.

Please remember that all of our events are smoke-free, and the hotel reserves the right to fine anyone who leaves a room that has been used for smoking. Smokers are asked to go out the front door. Springfield City ordinance requires smokers to be twenty feet away from the door when smoking.

Door prizes will be given throughout the convention, and each chapter is encouraged to bring their donations to the registration table in the exhibit area. You must be in the room or must be working on convention business to win. Please see that prizes get to Mary Yearwood, our door prize chair.

The National Federation of the Blind of Missouri is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment to every participant during Federation meetings and events. Therefore, we want to remind everyone sharing our space about our Code of Conduct. All individuals within the organization, including all attendees at NFB-sponsored events, are expected to refrain from the unwelcome and harmful misconduct outlined in the Code of Conduct, including but not limited to discrimination, abuse, misuse of power, sexual misconduct, conflict of interest, fraud, and other forms of misconduct. Please refer to the entire Code of Conduct on our affiliate webpage at [WWW.NFBMO.ORG](http://WWW.NFBMO.ORG).

**NFB MO Wellness Seminar**

As we emerge from our houses and make our way out into the world again, we hope you will attend our Wellness Seminar at this year’s NFB MO state convention on Thursday night from 7pm to 10pm in Rathdangan I. This event is sponsored by the Sports and Recreation Committee which is Chaired by Amy Wilson.

**Our First Hour**

In the first hour of the seminar, we will be introducing a new national program called SEED (Safety Education Empowering Defense). We will discuss the different elements of the program and the way it can benefit your everyday life.

Activities include light cardio / yoga, stance, foot work, balancing, and more. These activities build a great foundation for learning self-defense techniques. You will also learn how communicating can benefit your safety. You need NO experience in self-defense to do this. The SEED program is designed for the beginner learner of safety education and self-defense.

**Our Second Hour**

We are calling this hour “What is Stress and How to Manage It”. Our very own Robin House will talk about how stress affects us. How can we help ourselves and others. We will also discuss websites, apps, and other technology that can benefit your wellness.

**Our Last Hour**

In the last hour we have, you will get to learn some self-defense techniques from the program SEED. This program has over 20 techniques to teach in its 101 program and will share some of their top ones with you. SEED is a program that was created by the blind for the blind and disabled community.

If you’re interested in learning more about the SEED Program, you can check out their website at [www.strive4you.org](http://www.strive4you.org)

NFB MO’s very own Amy Wilson is the program director of SEED, so you can also connect with her to learn more.

**Successfully Dealing with Blindness:**

**Tips, Tricks, and the All-Important Mindset**

Are you new to blindness or do you know someone who is? As you age, are you experiencing vision loss and wonder how to cope? Most people have lots of questions about how to do things they once took for granted, and we have many of those answers. On Friday, April 1 at the Double Tree Inn, The National Federation of the Blind will hold a seminar from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 to give out information and take questions. Can blind people travel independently? Yes. Can blind people live alone with the cooking, cleaning, and handling bills and other postal mail that is required? Yes. Can blind people label and administer their medications safely? Indeed, we can.

**2022 Convention Sponsors**

We want to say a special thank you to our 2022 convention sponsors for being with us this year in Springfield and for your support of the National Federation of the Blind of Missouri.

**Gold Sponsor**

NON-24/VANDA

Vanda is a company that continues to research Non-24 and offers resources such as nurse educators to work in the community to raise awareness. Many of you have attended a presentation in the past and learned Non-24 can cause sleep struggles, but did you know that you do not have to be totally blind to have Non-24? If you would like to learn more about Non-24 or have a presentation for your group or event, please reach out to Jennifer Lyman at 202-875-4714 or jennifer.lyman@vandapharma.com. The education sessions are free and offer additional support for personalized information if desired.

**Silver Sponsor**

"NanoPac thanks our friends at the NFB of Missouri for your business and support over the years! NanoPac continues to provide assistive technologies for individuals with vision impairment at competitive prices, and our support and service are always included. For magnification, speech or Braille solutions, service and support, please contact us at 918-665-0329” [www.nanopac.com](http://www.nanopac.com) | [info@nanopac.com](mailto:info@nanopac.com)

**THURSDAY, March 31**

**7:00 PM NFB of Missouri Wellness Seminar sponsored by the Sports and Recreation Committee –** Rathdangan I

**FRIDAY, April 1**

**9:00 AM - 9:25 AM Registration and Packet Pickup -** Glendalough Lobby

**9:30 AM National Federation of the Blind of Missouri Board of Directors Meeting –** Glendalough I (B)

**12:00 PM Luncheon -** Gracies

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

**1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Successfully Dealing with Blindness: Tips,** **Tricks, and the All-Important Mindset** – Glendalough I (B)

**1:00 PM – 9:00 PM 2022 Convention Exhibits –** GlendaloughLobby

**3:30 PM Missouri Association of Guide Dog Users** –Stephanie McDowell, Vice President – Glendalough I (A)

**4:30 PM First Timer’s Welcome -** sponsored by theMembership Committee - Glendalough I (C)

**5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Registration and Packet Pick-Up–**Glendalough Lobby

**5:00 PM - 10:00 PM Hospitality Hosted by the Springfield Chapter –** Rathdangan I

**FRIDAY EVENING**

**6:00 PM Review and Expansion of self-defense techniques** **from the program SEED.** This program has over 20 techniques to teach in its 101 program and will share some of their top ones with you. – Amy Wilson, Director of the SEED Program – Glendalough I (C)

**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Missouri Parents of Blind Children Group,** Linda Coccovizzo, Chair – Glendalough I (B)

**8:00 PM Student Led IEPs –** Dakota Ragsdale and Carrie RagsdaleRegional Coordinator Missouri Parents Act –Glendalough I (B)

**8:00 PM Resolutions Committee,** Gary Wunder, Chair – Glendalough (C)

**9:00 PM Missouri Association of Blind Students Seminar** —Seyoon Choi, President – Glendalough I (A)

**10:00 PM Nominating Committee** – Jenny Carmack, - Location to Be Announced

**SATURDAY, April 2**

**7:00 AM Scholarship Breakfast** (Scholarship Finalists and committee members), Robin House, Chair – Charles H. O’Reilly Jr. Board Room

**Saturday Morning Session – Glendalough I**

**8:30 AM Call to order**

**8:35 AM Opening Ceremonies**

Presentation of the Colors by the Springfield Police Department Color Guard

Singing of the National Anthem by Jan McAveen

Welcome from Our Host Chapter – Janice Grisham, President, Springfield Chapter

Welcome from the City of Springfield Mayor’s Office

**8:55 AM Meet the 2022 Scholarship Finalists –** Robin House

**9:10 AM Report of the Nominating Committee -** JennyCarmack, Chair

**9:20 AM A Message from Our National President -** KevanWorley, National Representative

**10:00 AM Fit Break —** Missouri Cane Drivers

**10:05 AM Update on Rehabilitation Services for the Blind -** KeithRoderick, Deputy Director, and Jeff La Montia, Job Development Specialist, Missouri Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

**10:35 AM**  **Who Bends the Twig** – Jane Lansaw

**10:55 AM Take Charge -** Svetlana Ehlers

**11:15 AM NFB of Missouri Presidential Report –**

Shelia Wright

**11:50 AM Morning Wrap-Up**

**12:00 PM Adjourn for Lunch**

12:00 PM **Planned Lunch** (tickets required) – Rathdangan I

**Saturday Afternoon Session**

**1:30 PM The Challenge for the Crown:** Presentations fromthe Royal Court Sponsored by ourWays & Means Committee, Jeff Giffen, Chair

**1:40 PM A Look at Your Library Today – Lori** Brown, Public Service Director, Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

**2:00 PM Sharing Our Convention with Our New Family –** EugeneCoulter, Chairman, Rittgers Committee

**2:10 PM What is MPACT** **-** Autumn Clark, OperationsCoordinator and Carrie Ragsdale Regional Coordinator, Missouri Parents Act

**2:35 PM Challenge Creates Strength and Success –**

Hana Bekele

**2:55 PM My Journey to Success -** Kevan Worley, WorleyEnterprises

**3:10 PM Fit Break -** Missouri Association of Blind Students

**3:15 PM BELL Academy Coming Live to St. Louis and**

**Kansas City -** Debbie Wunder and Jenny Carmack, NFB of Missouri BELL Coordinators

**3:30 PM Students in Action in the Federation -** SeyoonChoi, President, Missouri Association of Blind Students

**3:40 PM Our Continued Development of the Mission BEAM Program –** Jenny Carmack, Program **Coordinator**

**4:00 PM Building A Business One Step at A Time -** Markand Vicki Hedrick

**4:15 PM Springfield Chapter Reflections on Forty-Six Years -** Gary Horchem, Moderator

**4:35 PM Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments** – Gary Wunder, Chairman, Resolutions Committee

**4:45 PM - Adjourn**

**Saturday Evening**

**6:30 PM Banquet of the National Federation of the Blind of Missouri –** Rathdangan Ballroom

Dick Morris, Master of Ceremonies

* Invocation
* Crowning of the King and Queen
* Introduction of Guests
* Presentation of Awards – Zuvers Traveling Trophy, Jacobus tenBroek Award, and/or Jernigan Award
* 2022 Scholarships
* Banquet Address: Kevan Worley, National Representative
* State Affiliate Auction– Ways & Means Committee, Jeff Giffen, Chair
* The Springfield Chapter invites you to join them for music, dance, and a time to enjoy the entertainment they have planned for everyone.

**SUNDAY, April 3**

**7:00 AM Prayer Breakfast -** Led by Pastor Ken Gaines,Charity Baptist Church – Rathdangan I

**General Session — Glendalough I**

**8:30 AM Call to Order**

**8:35 AM Sport and Recreation Is Not Just for Athletes -** Amy Wilson

**8:45 AM Report of the Audit Committee** — Gene Fleeman, Chairman

**8:55 AM Treasurer's Report** — Carol Coulter, Treasurer

**9:15 AM Building A Strong NFB Community –** Gary Wunder,Robin House, and Daniel Garcia

**9:45 AM Governmental Affairs Report -** RogerCrome, Chair

**10:05 AM A Report On Our Ways & Means Projects -** JeffGiffen, Chair

**10:20 AM Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments continued** — Gary Wunder, Chairman

**10:50 AM Elections**

**11:30 AM Old Business**

**11:45 AM New Business**: Appropriation of Funds to tenBroek, the National Treasury, National Convention Stipend,

2022 Scholarship Program

Matters presented from the Floor

**12:00 PM Adjourn**

**Special Note:**

**The NFB of Missouri State Convention will be streamed. This will include the NFB of Missouri Board Meeting, The Friday Afternoon Seminar, The Parents of Blind Children Meeting, Saturday and Sunday General Sessions, and the Saturday Evening Banquet. This will allow those that are unable to be with us in person to listen to most of our 2022 Annual State Convention. To tune in, you will be able to click on the link on our affiliate webpage (** [**www.nfbmo.org**](http://www.nfbmo.org)**), or Connect via the affiliate Zoom Room using the password you all should have.**