**ALL ABOARD THE KCB HOLIDAY EXPRESS**

**KENTUCKY COUNCIL OF THE BLIND**

**51ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION**

**NOVEMBER 21 - 23, 2024**

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Louisville Downtown Lions Club

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KY Council of Citizens with Low Vision

Support Alliance of the Visually Impaired

Tri-state Library Users

Welcome to the 2024 Kentucky Council of the Blind Holiday Express Conference and Convention. You have just joined our weekend journey filled with programs, information, resources, food and friends. It's in-person at the Best Western Louisville East Inn and Suites, 9802 Bunsen Way in Louisville. It's also virtual on Zoom webinar and streamed on ACB Media 8 and TheRadioStorm.

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

Sleeping rooms are on all five floors. Soda, snack and ice machines on the first floor, and an ice machine is on the third floor.

The hotel has a strict no-smoking policy; smoke only outdoors in designated areas.

Room rates are $94/night plus tax for up to 4 people in a room. Check-in time is 3:00 PM; check-out is 11:00 AM. For hotel-related questions, contact Patti Cox at 502-905-0869 or KCB at 502-895-4598.

Guest rooms have microwaves, small refrigerators, coffee makers and free coffee for your convenience. Free breakfast and use of the heated indoor swimming pool and fitness center are included with your night's stay.

**BREAKFAST INFO** - Menu choices for breakfast include hot and cold cereals, fruit, bagels, toast, yogurt, biscuits and gravy, bacon or sausage, omelets, waffles, and breakfast potatoes. The breakfast room is across from the elevator on the first floor. Breakfast is self-serve, and is available from 6:30 to 9:30 AM each morning. Hotel staff are generally NOT available to assist with serving. Beginning at about 8:00 AM each morning, KCB will have a limited number of volunteers available to help with breakfast. Further details will be provided at the convention.

**SWIMMING POOL** - The heated pool and fitness center are on the first floor, and are accessible using your room key. Pool hours are normally 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM, but will be extended until 11:00 PM each evening as a courtesy to our convention. SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK; no lifeguard on duty.

Guide dogs are NOT permitted in the pool. Please do not wear swimwear in the hotel lobby or other public meeting areas.

**FOR GUIDE DOG USERS**

Please groom and pick up after your guide dog. Do not leave your dog unattended or bring your dog into public areas without its harness.

To find the designated relief area, exit the hotel near the door close to the breakfast area; walk straight across the parking lot to the grassy area. A trash receptacle is located to the right of the door as you re-enter the hotel.

**REGISTRATION**

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION - The KCB Holiday Express ticket counter (registration desk) is located across from the Stanstead Room on the first floor of the hotel. This is where you pick up your Holiday Express ticket (convention badge) and schedule (program), become a sponsor, turn in door prizes, or join KCB or chapters. Registration is required, whether you attend one event or the entire conference. Wear your badge at all times; it admits you to program sessions, exhibits, and meals. A special ribbon is added to your badge if you have purchased one of our meal packages, and you must be wearing it to be served meals and snacks.

Here are registration options available at the hotel:

\* Best Value In-person Package - includes Friday All Aboard Lunch and Season's Greetings dinner, Saturday Let It Snow Lunch and James F. Shaw Holiday Feast PLUS all programs, exhibits, and meetings - $75

\* One-day In-person Package (Friday OR Saturday) - includes the day's events and meals - $50

\* Conference In-person Registration - includes programs and exhibits but no meals - $25

**FROM THE CHEF**

Don't miss a single meal on The KCB Holiday Express.

\* **Thursday Boxcar Pizza Party** - Open to those who pre-register and who check in the hotel by 7:00 PM that evening; sponsored by Greater Louisville Council of the Blind

\* **Friday All Aboard Lunch** - Build-your-own sandwich, potato salad, fruit cup; sponsored by Selvas BLV

\* **Friday Season's Greetings Dinner** - roasted chicken, honey ham, hash brown casserole, green bean casserole, broccoli and cheese, salad, roll, banana pudding, cookies; sponsored by Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation

\* **Saturday Let It Snow Lunch** - chili, hotdogs, cake; sponsored by Radio Eye

\* **Saturday James F. Shaw Holiday Feast** - filet mignon, turkey, baked potato, green beans, glazed carrots, salad, roll, cherry cobbler, brownies; sponsored by Lutheran Braille Workers

**VIRTUAL REGISTRATION**

Ride our convention Holiday Express from anywhere in the country when you attend our convention on Zoom webinar using your computer, cell phone or landline phone. You'll be able to ask questions and participate in discussions, vote in elections if you are a KCB member, and be eligible to win door prizes. Virtual registration is just $25. Register on-line by visiting www.kentucky-acb.org or by calling KCB at 502-895-4598. You will receive the Zoom webinar link and dial-in number by email. For help with Zoom on Friday or Saturday, call Natalie Couch at 217-369-5139.

**LISTENING ON THE INTERNET**

The convention will be livestreamed on ACB Media 8 and on the Radio Storm, an Internet station owned by KCB life members Michael and Angie McCarty.

**LISTEN ON ACB MEDIA 8** - Listen on your Alexa device by saying "Ask ACB Media to play 8". To listen on a PC, go to www.acbmedia.org/8 and hit the play button; the stream will begin playing immediately. To listen on ACB Link, download “ACB Link” from your app store. Open the app, find “Radio” along the bottom of the screen, then “Menu” in the top left corner. Select “Streams” and then choose 8. Double tap the play button.

**TO LISTEN ON THE RADIO STORM** - For Alexa or Google Home devices, use the My Tuner Radio skill. First ask your device to "enable My Tuner Radio". When prompted for the name of the station, say "play The Radio Storm" and you'll be connected. The next time you connect, just say "play The Radio Storm from My Tuner Radio".

For help with listening on the Internet, call Michael McCarty at 502-233-1701.

**VOTING AND ELECTIONS**

KCB will elect officers at the business meeting on Saturday, November 23, beginning at 3:00 PM Eastern Time. KCB members who register are eligible to vote. In-person members will have a dot on their badges. Zoom voting instructions will be provided at the meeting.

**DOOR PRIZES - WIN, WIN, WIN!**

We've got lots of door prizes, and you don't have to be present to win. One lucky person will win a computer from Computers for the Blind at our Holiday Feast on Saturday night.

If you are bringing door prizes to the convention, drop them off at the registration desk. Remember that door prizes must be in new or unused condition. Cash prizes are always popular.

All donors will be acknowledged when their prize is awarded, as well as in our newsletter, on our Facebook page and website, and on Sound Prints, our weekly audio magazine. For more information, call us at 502-895-4598.

**CONFERENCE STIPENDS**

KCB is offering a $100 stipend to assist members from outside the Metro Louisville area who need help with travel expenses. The Greater Louisville Council of the Blind is offering a $25 stipend for members who live in the metro Louisville area.

To be eligible for a stipend, you must be a 2024 or life member of KCB or GLCB, and you must attend both days of the convention. Stipend checks will be distributed at the Holiday Feast on Saturday evening. More information about stipends is available at the registration desk or by calling KCB at 502-895-4598.

**CONFERENCE SPONSORS**

Show support for the Kentucky Council of the Blind by being a 2024 convention sponsor. All sponsors will be recognized during the weekend, and in-person sponsors will have a special ribbon on their conference badges. 2024 sponsors as of the printing of this program are:

\* **Passenger ($15.00)** - Kathy Arnold, Susan Card, David Cox, Patti Cox, Debbie Deatherage, Samantha Hubbard, Joseph Kuczwara, Michael McCarty, Ronnie Patrick, Don Perkey, Kendall Perry, Amanda Petrisin, Mary Rickert, Mary Riley, Susan Robertson, Elaine Weisbard

\* **Redcap ($25.00)** - Betty Boggess, Rick Boggess, Edna Campbell, Joey Couch, Roberta McCall, Debbie Persons, Deanna Scoggins, Amanda Selm, Matt Selm, Patty Slaby, Gerry Slusher, Bill Wright, and 1 anonymous hobo

\* **Porter ($50.00)** - Scott Heads, Ristoria Ross-Jackson, Alan Schrebtienko, South Central Kentucky Council of the Blind

\* **Steward ($100.00)** - Eldon Kaiser, Chuck Runyon, Adam Ruschival, Carla Ruschival; Blind Girl Designs, Guide Dog Users of Kentuckiana, KCB Next Generation, Kentucky Council of Citizens with Low Vision, Support Alliance of the Visually Impaired, Tri-state Library Users

\* C**hef ($200.00)** - Computers for the Blind, Greater Louisville Council of the Blind, Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation, Louisville East Lions Club, Lutheran Braille Workers, Radio Eye, Selvas BLV

\* **Station Master ($1,000.00)** - Lula Dotson Legacy

\* **Engineer ($1,500.00)** - Louisville Downtown Lions Club

**2024 EXHIBITORS**

Blind Girl Designs

Deb and Friends

Essentially Braille

GoodMaps (virtual only)

JW.org

Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation (Friday only)

Lutheran Braille Workers

Radio Eye

Selvas BLV

**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

All programs and meals will be in the East Midlands Room. Exhibits and a seating area are located in the Stanstead Room next to the East Midlands Room. The Registration Desk is in the hallway across from the Stanstead Room.

**Thursday, November 21**

7:30 PM Boxcar Pizza Party; sponsored by Greater Louisville Council of the Blind

**Friday, November 22**

10:00 AM Holiday Express Ticket Counter (registration) opens

11:00 AM Exhibit area opens for set-up

12:00 Noon All Aboard Lunch (in-person only); sponsored by Selvas BLV

12:45 PM Welcome and Announcements - Matthew Selm, President, Kentucky Council of the Blind, Louisville, KY

1:00 PM Exhibits open

1:00 PM Keep Your Holidays Bright - Avoid Scams and Identity Theft - Clinton Manco, Manager, St. Matthews Branch, PNC Bank, Louisville, KY

1:30 PM A Gift to Kentucky - Lindy Lamkin, Executive Director, Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation, Louisville and Dr. Andrea Smith-Gray, O.D., Low Vision Optometrist, Baltimore, MD

2:00 PM Gifts from the Past - Micheal Hudson, Member, Kentucky Historical Society of the Blind and Former Director, American Printing House Museum, Lexington, KY

2:30 PM Make a Fashion Statement - Tricia Waechder, Blind Girl Designs, Houston, TX

2:45 PM Break

3:00 PM Tech Talk from Selvas BLV - Antonio Guiramares, Sales Account Manager, Selvas BLV, Minneapolis, MN

3:15 PM OVR - A Resource for Services and Training - Cora McNabb, Executive Director, Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Frankfort, KY

3:45 PM There's News on the Air - Lucy Stone, Executive Director, Radio Eye, Lexington, KY

4:00 PM A New Page at KTBL - Evan Hatter, Information Officer, Kentucky Talking Book Library, Frankfort, KY

4:30 PM Get on Board the BARD Express - Deborah Kendrick, NLS BARD Technical Support Specialist, Cincinnati, OH

5:00 PM Break

5:45 PM Exhibits close

6:00 PM Season's Greetings Dinner (in-person only); sponsored by Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation

7:00 PM Welcome - Matthew Selm, President, Kentucky Council of the Blind

"The Star-Spangled Banner" - Bradley Mann, KCB Life Member, Louisville, KY

Pledge of Allegiance - Ristoria Ross-Jackson, Member, KCB Board of Directors; Louisville, KY

Invocation - Debby Green, Member, KCB Board of Directors; Elizabethtown, KY

"We Gather Together" Bradley Mann, KCB Life Member

The Power of Communication - Ed Rademaker, retired Director of Services, Kentucky Department for the Blind, Louisville, KY

Presentation of Rose and Lewis Cain Advocacy Award - Debby Green, Member, KCB Board

KCB Life Member and Sponsor Recognitions - Carla Ruschival, Treasurer, Kentucky Council of the Blind, Louisville, KY

Tracking across the State with KCB Chapters

Eastern Kentucky Council of the Blind - Ronnie Patrick, Lost Creek, KY

Greater Louisville Council of the Blind - Natalie Couch, Louisville, KY

Northern Kentucky Council of the Blind - Gerry Slusher, Covington, KY

South Central Kentucky Council of the Blind - Teresa Escue, Franklin, KY

Support Alliance of the Visually Impaired - Daniel Scott Heads, Owensboro, KY

8:45 PM Happy Anniversary, SAVI and Next Generation

9:00 PM Accessible Games in the Lounge - Debby Green, Member, KCB Board

**Saturday, November 23**

8:00 AM Registration opens

8:30 AM Welcome and Announcements

8:45 AM Morning Glory Memorial Service; facilitated by Deanna Scoggins, Treasurer, Greater Louisville Council of the Blind, Louisville, KY

EKCB - Mina Mae Patrick

GLCB - Barbara Bishop, Daniel Camic, Justin Cox, Ira Grupper, Mary Matthews, Trena Muncy, Peggy Peak, Valarie Rider

KCCLV - Frank Gradisek Sr.

SAVI - Judy Blessinger, Mort Downs, Charlene Greer, Cyndi Heads, Betsy Rozel

SCKCB - Rosa Barnett, Dr. Ron Milliman, Vicki Pennycuff, Jim Thoune

KCB - Fay Autry, Paul Dobson, Sharon Fields, Tom Lutes, Oral Miller, Linda Oaks, Barbara Tracey

9:30 AM Exhibits open

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM Braille and Large Print Resources from LBW - Brooke Pernice, Lutheran Braille Workers, Louisville, KY

10:45 AM Traveling with Your Guide Dog - Terrie Terlau, President, Guide Dog Users of Kentuckiana and newly-elected Director, Guide Dog Users Inc., Louisville, KY

11:00 AM Meet the University of Louisville Department of Ophthalmology - Dr. Joern Soltau, Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

11:30 AM GoodMaps - A New Way to Navigate - Kevin Kline, Community Engagement Representative, GoodMaps, Nashville, TN

12:00 Noon Let it Snow Lunch (in-person only)

12:30 PM ACB in Action - Scott Thornhill, Executive Director, American Council of the Blind, Alexandria, VA

1:00 PM Our Glasses Get Smarter Every Day - Natalie Couch, President, Greater Louisville Council of the Blind and Terrie Terlau, First Vice President, Kentucky Council of the Blind, Louisville, KY

1:30 PM How AI Can Change Your Life - Shannon Reece, Las Vegas, NV

2:00 PM Christmas in July - Janet Dickelman, ACB Convention Co-ordinator, St. Paul, MN

2:30 PM Break

3:00 PM Exhibits Close

3:00 PM KCB Business Meeting and Elections

5:00 PM Break

6:00 PM James F. Shaw Holiday Feast (in-person only)

7:00 PM Welcome - Matthew Selm, KCB President

"God Bless America" - Deanna Scoggins, GLCB Treasurer

Pledge of Allegiance - Eldon Kaiser, South Central Kentucky Council of the Blind Chapter Representative, Cave City, KY

Invocation - Rev. David Wilde, Vice President, Kentucky Council of Citizens with Low Vision, Louisville, KY

"My Old Kentucky Home" - Deanna Scoggins, GLCB Treasurer

Serving Yourself by Serving Others - Scott Thornhill, Executive Director, American Council of the Blind

Presentation of the William A. Routh Award - Rick Boggess, Chair, KCB Awards Committee, Owensboro, KY

James Carl Dotson Award – Patti Cox, Member, KCB Board of Directors, Louisville, KY

Tracking the Chapters - Continuing the Journey

Guide Dog Users of Kentuckiana - Terrie Terlau, Louisville

KY Council of Citizens with Low Vision - Debbie Deatherage, Louisville, KY

KCB Next Generation - Joey Couch, Louisville, KY

Tri-State Library Users - Natalie Couch, Louisville, KY

Life Member and Sponsor Recognitions - Carla Ruschival, KCB Treasurer

Introduction of the New Board

Door Prize Drawings

Thank-you's and Safe Travels - Matthew Selm, KCB President

**2024 KCB BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President - Matthew Selm, Louisville

First Vice President - Terrie Terlau, Louisville

Second Vice President - Bill Wright, Louisville

Secretary - Debbie Persons, Louisville

Treasurer - Carla Ruschival, Louisville

Immediate Past President - Debbie Deatherage, Louisville

Directors: Patti Cox, Louisville; Debby Green, Elizabethtown; Bill Roberts, Owensboro; Ristoria Ross-Jackson, Louisville; Benjamin Wright, Henderson

Chapter Representatives

Ronnie Patrick, Eastern Kentucky, Lost Creek, KY

Kendall Perry, Greater Louisville, Louisville, KY

Terrie Terlau, Guide Dog Users, Louisville, Ky

Ristoria Ross-Jackson, KY Council of Citizens with Low Vision, Louisville, KY

Joey Couch, KCB Next Generation, Louisville, KY

Birchell (Cisco) Slusher, Northern Kentucky Council, Covington, KY

Natalie Couch, Tri-State Library Users, Louisville, KY

Eldon Kaiser, South Central Kentucky Council, Cave City, KY

Scott Heads, Support Alliance of the Visually Impaired, Owensboro, KY

**2024 CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

Carla Ruschival, Chair, Louisville

Patti Cox, Chair, Facilities Subcommittee, Louisville; Natalie Couch, Debbie Deatherage, Debbie Persons, Angela McCarty, Michael McCarty, Amanda Selm, and Matt Selm, Louisville, KY

Debby Green, Chair, Program -Subcommittee, Elizabethtown; Eldon Kaiser, Cave City; Sheryl Lott, Owensboro; Gerry Slusher, Covington; Ristoria Ross-Jackson, Matthew Selm, Terrie Terlau, and Bill Wright, Louisville

Kentucky Council of the Blind

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