

**TUCSON SOCIETY OF THE BLIND (TSB)**

**P.O. Box 57655. Tucson, AZ 85732**

**FEBRUARY- MARCH 2019 NEWSY NOTES**

**TSB meets every Tuesday - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Christ Presbyterian Church, 6565 E. Broadway**

**Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring a sack lunch.**

**For more information call Barbara, 298-2427 or Tom, 721-1029**

**[www.tucsonsoftheblind.org](http://www.tucsonsoftheblind.org)**

**CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY**

- 5 John McCan, 2nd Vice President and State President of the American Council of the Blind, "Learn about the ACB advocacy work for the blind," Sign up with Barb for next week's potluck**
  - 8 TSB Board Meeting 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Biscuit Country Cafe 7026 E. Broadway**
  - 12 Ray Funk, "Mr. Ray," fun entertainer, potluck, stay until 12:30 p.m.**
  - 19 Van Fower, "Learn about Tom Jeffers, Blood Brother of Chief Cochise," Hear the real story not the story told in the Western movies**
  - 22 Field trip to Ft Lowell Museum & picnic, Cost \$10, 9:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 2900 N. Craycroft Road; See details below**
  - 26 Tips and Tricks for the Visually Impaired: Bring tips or equipment to share with other members; sign up with Barb for field trips**
- No meeting at church March 5 & March 12 due to church rummage sale; field trips instead.**

**MARCH**

- 5 Saguaro Park East, Visitor Center & picnic, 9:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. out of Burger King, Cost \$5, Meet at Burger King, 10 N. Wilmot; Signup with Barb by February 26; See details below**
- 8 TSB Board Meeting 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Biscuit Country Cafe 7026 E. Broadway**
- 12 Tucson Botanical Garden & Butterfly Exhibit, 2150 N. Alvernon Way, 9:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Lunch at Gullin Chinese Restaurant, 4445 E. Broadway; Get Sun Van 1:30 p.m. out restaurant, Cost \$6 plus lunch See details below**
- 19 Eric Bergstrom, University of Arizona Pharmacy Instructor, "All about Prescriptions," Eric will bring interns who will go over prescriptions individually; bring a list and stay until 12 p.m., if interested**
- 22 TSB Spring Concert, Christine Vivona, Harpist, 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Square, 8111 E. Broadway**
- 23 TSB Spring Concert, Old Arizona Brass Band, 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Square, 8111 E. Broadway**
- 26 Suzi Gunn, Orientation and Mobility Instructor from AZ Independent Skills**

**April 2, Marge Barnhart, author of "Stories of the Visually Challenged," Many TSB members are in the book and will briefly share their stories. Bring cash to purchase book on thumb drive which you can plug into the AZ Braille and Talking Book Player.**

**Friday, Feb 22, Field trip to Fort Lowell Museum & Picnic, 9:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 2900 N. Craycroft, Cost \$10; Our docent, Elyssa, will tell interesting stories about the soldiers & their families. She will have many "hands on" exhibits. The second half of the tour will be on the Hohokam Native Americans and we will get to see a pit house. A picnic will be provided with submarine sandwiches, chips & cookies. Get a 1 p.m. out on Sun Van. This will be a fun trip to enjoy history and our beautiful weather. Let Barb know by Feb. 12 if you are coming on the field trip.**

**Tuesday, March 5, Trip to Saguaro Park & Visitor Center & Picnic; Cost \$5, Meet at Burger King, 10 N. Wilmot; Be ready to leave by 9:15 a.m. We will hear a ranger talk about desert animals and plants with many "hands on" exhibits. After exploring the visitor's Center, we will have a submarine sandwich, chips & cookies picnic. Enjoy this trip with our beautiful surroundings and learn about our desert habitat. Get a 1:30 p.m. out on Sun Van; Sign up with Barb by Feb. 26.**

**Tuesday, March 12, Field trip to Tucson Botanical Gardens & Butterfly Exhibit. Cost \$6 plus lunch. Lunch at Gullin Chinese Restaurant, 4445 E. Broadway; we will make sure to provide transportation so all can have a Chinese lunch - about \$8.50 a plate. Meet at the Gardens at 9:45 a.m., 2150 N. Alvernon Way. Our docent will have many stories and "hands on" exhibits for us; wear red as the butterflies like that color and will land on your head. Get a 1:30 PM Sun Van out of Gullin Chinese Restaurant**

**Notice: on field trips, deposits are non-refundable and guarantees your space on these trips. If unable to come at the last minute, please let Vicki know, 465-6197, so we are not waiting for you**

**Your yearly TSB Dues of \$15 needs to be paid now. These dues pay for the printing of the newsletter, luncheons, & entertainment. This is the best deal you will ever find! If you can include a little extra, TSB would appreciate the donation**

**TSB Spring Concerts March 22 & March 23**  
**Fellowship Square, 8111 E. Broadway, 6:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Our major fundraiser is approaching quickly. There will be a flyer on the last page of this newsletter. We need members to post these flyers at where they live, churches, or other social places. We need members to ask vendors for donations to the silent auction. Get donation letters from Vicki and let her know where your vendors are so we don't duplicate efforts. TSB members can purchase Spring Concerts tickets \$10 each. Friday, March 22, TSB will hear Christine Vivona, the harpist, play classical, jazz, and Broadway tunes. Saturday, March 23, TSB will hear Old Arizona Brass Band play marches, patriotic music, and folk music.**

**TSB members will also sell raffle tickets, 6 for \$5 and 12 for \$10. Prizes will be: first prize \$100 in cash, second prize 2 theater tickets, and third prize \$25 gift card. This is our major fund raiser and all TSB members are needed to help make the Spring Concerts a success. For any questions, contact Barb 298-2427 or Tom 721-1029.**

**Our New TSB Officers: President, Barbara Macpherson; Vice President, Gina Cline; Secretary, Linda Lueders; Treasurer, Vicki Postula; Board Members, Tom & Bobby Young, Ralph Lueders, Erma Seal, Joe Mora.**

### **President's Message**

**Welcome to the exciting New Year for TSB members. I am honored to be your president. I look forward to gaining new members, working together and enjoying many fun programs, events, and field trips at TSB.**

**TSB members meet potential new members, volunteers, and inform the public about TSB and resources for the visually impaired. This happened at the Tucson Lovin' Life Expo on Jan 15 at the Reid Park Doubletree Hotel. TSB had a wonderful gift basket with donated items from TSB members. The gift basket looked beautiful, professionally wrapped with a big red bow. The basket was so heavy that you had to hold it from the bottom and not by the handle. Dottie Patterson won the gift basket and came over with her son to Vicki's house to get it. She was thrilled with the basket. A special thanks to Erma and Vicki for putting the basket together. A big thanks to Tom and Vicki for setting the display table up. TSB also raffled off two large print calendars in front of the Tucson Expo and told all where we meet. Thanks to the TSB members who came. We had a great time getting goodies from the other vendors.**

**I want to give a big thank you to all our volunteers. You make a big difference in all of our lives. TSB could not run well without you. See you soon on our three field trips. Warmly, Barbara Macpherson, TSB President**

### **News You Can Use by Barbara Macpherson**

- I have a new Reizen Bold writer 20 pen that is darker than the discontinued 20/ pens. These Bold Writer Pens come from Maxi Aids and are \$13.80 for a dozen. See contact numbers below after article. Unfortunately, there is a \$6 shipping charge, so buy other items to make it worthwhile.**
- If you are a Zoom text or JAWS user on the computer, you can get the latest version for \$90 per year subscription from Vispero (formerly Freedom Scientific). This a great deal; I paid \$600 plus \$200 for updates for Magic Screen reading software. You can put your new software on up to three computers.**
- You can now listen to NFB Newslines on Alexa or Echo Dot. Say open National Federation, and have your Id and security code ready. You have to**

enable each Echo Dot individually in the house. In addition to a shopping list, I now have a travel packing list as well. If you have gmail, she will read your email also.

- For Iphone users, you can get cheaper plans on Verizon, T-Mobile, and ATT at Walmart on prepaid plans. My husband's bill on Verizon \$60 to \$32 a month. Also, older model Apple 7 phones are available for \$300 at Walmart.
- Important numbers: AZ Independent Blind Skills 888-282-9857, Maxi Aids 800-522-6294
- Suzanne Morrison, Interfaith, Will come to you to help you fill out advance directives: 526-9296 ext 4270
- [www.maxiaids.com](http://www.maxiaids.com), (800) 522-6294
- US Capital legislators & AZ legislators 844-872-0234, put zip code in, use star to get to next person
- Watch out for Social Security Scams. It is real scary to hear that your Social Security, SS, benefits have been suspended or frozen due to irregularities or criminal activity. Please call XX with your credit card to clear this up on your answering machine. This is a scam; the Social Security Administration does not call your telephone even though the caller ID may display the Social Security number. This is call spoofing. Another scam is where the call says, they can increase your SS benefits if you call back with your SS number and credit card number. Never give your SS number or credit card number out on the phone to unknown callers. Unfortunately, seniors are the number one target of scammers, especially in Arizona. If they ask for personal information or if it sound too good to be true, hang up, and do not respond to scary messages on your voice mail.
- Proposed NFB Legislation & Court Cases Affecting the Blind. At the Washington Seminar on Jan 28-Jan31, 2019, NFB members will present three proposed bills to Congress. The first one is Accessible Affordable Technology Investment Act. This would allow a blind consumer to get a \$2000 tax credit after purchasing expensive accessible technology. The second bill is the Greater Accessibility and Independent Non Visual Accessibility Act. It would set non-visual access to screens in medical, gym equipment, and home appliances. Machines are coming with non-accessible screens. This can be a safety issue when using a glucose monitor or modern stove top. The third bill is the Disability Employment Act, which would eliminate sub-minimum wages and require employers to provide accessible tools to disabled employees. Also disabled employees would be given preference in bidding for government contracts. Later, NFB Members will be asked to contact their legislators in Congress to support the proposed bills.
- The NFB, National Convention will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Mandalay Bay Resort on the Las Vegas Strip, July 7- July 12, 2019. 2019. It is unusual to have a national convention on the West Coast. NFB has sued Wal-mart in order to make their self check- out terminals accessible to the

blind. Many blind consumers, about, 5000 have sued to make websites and apps accessible to the blind, meaning that specialized screen reader software can navigate websites. Recently Domino's Pizza will have to make their website and apps accessible to the blind. Previously NFB sued Target for inaccessibility. Now the Target website is completely accessible to blind and an outstanding example of what a website should look like. This encourages blind consumers to shop at Target. Tucson NFB chapter meets on the first Sat. of the month at SAAVI, 3767 E. Grant, 1-3 p.m. Next time I will talk about the advocacy of the American Council of the Blind.

Since we are going on a field trip to the Tucson Botanical Gardens, I thought the following advice from a ladybug, bee, and mountain lion, (oh my) is appropriate.

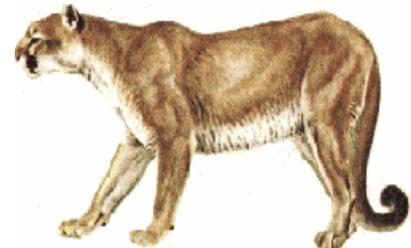
Advice from a Ladybug: Spot new opportunities, Spend time in your garden, Be well rounded, Enjoy the wonders of nature, Don't let the small things bug you, Keep family close by, Be simply beautiful!



Advice from a Honey Bee: Create a buzz. Sip life's sweet moments, Mind your own beeswax, Work together, Always find your way home, Bee Yourself!



Advice from a Mountain Lion: Stand your ground, Climb to new heights, Put your best foot forward, Find your inner strength, Don't be a Copycat, May the forest be with you, Stay wild at heart, Always land on your own feet!



Eye Talk by Annie Schlesinger

If you are legally blind you are entitled to free information on the phone to obtain a person's or business' number. You will need to register with the phone company and for that you need a physician's statement saying you are legally blind. Ask your eye doctor about this. If you receive the statement, make copies and keep the original. It also gives you an extra deduction if you file income tax.

Blind folks appreciate it if you say who you are when entering a room or starting a conversation. As in, "Hi, it's Annie." We rely on voice identification and, after a while, will recognize your voice even if your face isn't quite clear.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

February

02 – Diane Sanchez  
08 – Manny Celis  
12 – Betsy Baily  
16 – Erma Seal

March

21 – Kerry Goodman  
30 – Louis Herrera

## Audio Bibles on digital cartridges for Blind.

For a \$10 donation, you can order the Bible in the new King James Version on digital cartridge which can be played on the Advanced Talking Book player. The neat thing is you can find the exact verse you are looking for. Audio Bibles 941-748-3031. A digital cartridge can be listened to by using the short cord on the Victor Stream. You can download the Bible from Bard (90 hours) or download the Holy Bible, a free app on your I phone or I pad by going to the Apple iTunes Store. To get the free advanced talking book player, simply call your reader advisor. He will send you the new player in a box using free matter for the blind mail. You just take the new book player out and put your old one in the box and ship it back to Phoenix. The advanced book player is the same except it has a book shelf on \*1.

## Bob Hope quotes

- You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.
- Middle Age is when your age starts to show around your middle.
- I'm so old they've cancelled my blood type.
- I thought 'Deep Throat' was a movie about a giraffe.
- I love to go to Washington, if only to be nearer my money.
- If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf.
- When they asked Jack Benny to do something for the Actor's Orphanage - he shot both his parents and moved in.
- I grew up with six brothers. That's how I learned to dance -waiting for the bathroom.
- I don't feel old. I don't feel anything till noon. That's when it's time for my nap.
- I have a wonderful make-up crew. They're the same people restoring the Statue of Liberty.
- If I have to lay an egg for my country, I'll do it.
- Middle age is when you still believe you'll feel better in the morning.
- A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.