July 8, 2021 National Senior Division Annual Business Meeting

At 2 p.m. eastern time, our national Senior division president, Ruth Sager, called the meeting to order. She offered introductions and explained that our theme this year is: Accessibility.

She spoke about our project for the division, being that of our National Senior Retreat. In 2018-2019, we were able to have in person retreats at Rocky Bottom retreat and conference center for the blind, in South Carolina. In 2020, we had a very successful Virtual Retreat. We hope to return to an in person retreat in the year, 2022. Our second Virtual retreat will be held this fall September 19-25. The applications for this retreat will be posted soon on our national website:

[Seniors.nfb.org](https://Seniors.nfb.org)

Our schedule for the retreat will also be posted to our website. The topics to be covered will include:

Cane travel, organizational and daily living skills, a break where questions can be answered, technology, and hobbies/points of interest to those who are new to vision loss.

Our newest senior division group is in the state of Tennessee with Yvonne Newburt as the president.

Discussion of the importance of paying national senior division dues of $5 ensued. This gives us the opportunity to vote on issues being discussed, as well as voting for officers. This way, we officially represent our division.

Mr. Roosevelt Burgess from South Carolina, was asked to speak about his experience as a first time participant in last year’s virtual senior retreat. He gave many examples as to how he has taken that information, and acquired a cane, technology to assist him, and has become involved in the NFB of South Carolina.

Also, Mr. Vincent Elorza from New Jersey, spoke of how learning of this virtual retreat and how participation in the training provided him knowledge to learn the skills and acquire the necessary tools for doing so.

Michael Babcock a representative from A. T. Guys, spoke about accessible phones. The Shell phone

Andy Burstein and Alexandra Luzier, representatives from Accessible Pharmacy gave us great information about their program. Accessible Pharmacy is a program for setting up your pharmacy needs to be delivered directly to your home. They work with all insurances and the service costs is nothing to the consumer. Their phone number is: 215-799-9900.

Peter K, Vice President of Spectrum’s Accessibility Center of Excellence spoke of a variety of accessibility features offered through Spectrum.

Robert Felgar of Ross Mobility spoke of another accessible phone. It is the Raz phone which works with the T-Mobile phone service.

We were introduced to Brian Mackey our new Senior Division Webmaster. He informed us that the application and agenda for this fall’s Virtual Senior Retreat is on the website. The applications for this year’s retreat are to be submitted by August 25, 2021.

We conducted our elections of officers. Ruth Sager-President; Judy Sanders-first Vice President; Diane McGeorge-second Vice President; Shelley Coppel-Secretary; Duncan Larsen-Treasurer; Glen Crosby-Board member 1; Jane Degenshein-Board member 2

Our treasurers report was given by Duncan Larsen. Our current balance is: $3530.64.

We discussed that there will no longer be a lifetime membership. Wayne Marshall is our Membership chairman, and dues may be paid on line or call Wayne for help.

Tennessee is our newest state with a Senior Division.

Our website is:

[Seniors.nfb.org](https://seniors.nfb.org)

You can look at the website for information as to how to join our listserv.

There were 165 participants in this year’s division meeting.

If you have calendar events to post, you may contact Zena Pearcy at:

[Zpearcy@gmail.com](mailto:Zpearcy@gmail.com)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Coppel, Secretary