



PERISCOPE

**A Quarterly Newsletter sponsored by the
Mississippi Council of the Blind, Inc.
Summer, 2018**

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Tax deductible contributions may be sent to:

MS Council of the Blind

P O Box 31112

Jackson, MS 39286

Anyone wishing to remember the MS Council of the Blind in a last will and testament may do so by including a special paragraph for that purpose. If your wishes are complex, please contact MCB for clarification.

Contributions to the James Doyle Case Memorial Scholarship Fund or to the Carter Gable Memorial Technology Assistance Fund should be appropriately marked and sent to the above address.

Phone MCB at 601-624-4443.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Eddie E. Turner

MCB President

Hello, MCB Members,

Finally, Winter is over; the problem is, we went straight into Summer. I would like once again to thank Gary Austin and his Convention Committee for such a great Convention. For those

of you that missed it, we had some informative speakers, new technology in the exhibitors' room, good food, music and plenty of fellowship. Next year's Convention is set for April 5-7, 2019, at the Holiday Inn Trustmark Park in Pearl, Ms.

Ralph Smitherman is working very hard to update our membership information. Please let us know when any of your information changes so we can keep our records up to date.

We currently have 161 members. That is great, but we can do better. I would like to challenge all four chapters to add at least five new members by the end of the year. My goal for our membership is 200 by Feb. 15, 2019. We can do it!!!

Our next MCB Board meeting will be at the Addie McBryde Center, June 23, 2018 @ 1:00 p.m. All members are welcome to come, and if you can't attend, you may join by conference call at 1-515-603-4923, access code 299011#).

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. Talk to y'all soon.

STATE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS (MARCH 2018)

By Kris McNair

The MCB State Board met on March 10, 2018, at the Addie McBryde Center in Jackson. All Board Members were in attendance or on the conference call.

After a word of prayer from Robert Thomas, President Eddie Turner called the meeting to order at a little after 1:00 p.m. Minutes from the January board meeting and the Treasurer's report were accepted as distributed. Committee reports and chapter reports were given and also approved.

During discussion of service projects and technology requests, President Turner reminded board members that we have had no requests in spite of the fact that funds had been allocated in this year's budget. On the service project front, the Board approved a \$500 contribution to the "Sea and Sun Camp" for the purchase of food. This camp will be held in May on the Gulf Coast.

Eddie Turner presented a proposal to get the MCB webpage back up and running again. This proposal was also approved by the Board, so look for MCB while you are out there surfing the web this summer.

2018 MCB CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

By Kris McNair

MCB held its Annual Convention April 20 through 22 at the Holiday Inn Trustmark in Pearl, Mississippi. Following registration on Friday evening, festivities got underway with some good food and fellowship. While everyone finished off some tasty chocolate cake, Juanita Bishop put on her auctioneer hat and got the bidding cranked up in the MCB 2018 Auction. Items auctioned included everything from jewelry to cookware, appliances to paintings and fragrance baskets to towels and bedding. The bidding was lively, and over \$1000 was raised for MCB.

On Saturday morning, the Brandon JROTC opened the day with the presentation of the colors, followed by “The Pledge of Allegiance” and the singing of the “National Anthem”. (*MCB should sing the “Anthem” at a ball game--WE SOUND PRETTY GOOD!!!*)

MCB President Eddie Turner welcomed members and guests to day two of the Convention, and Treasurer Rene Virden read the Treasurer’s Report. The morning was rounded out with a number of interesting speakers including Dorothy Young, who brought us up to date with happenings in MDRS; Christy Dunaway, who talked to the group about emergency preparedness in Mississippi; Monica Daniels, who told us about Special Olympics in our state; Rachel Meyers, who gave members an overview of Jackson’s two new “History Museums”

and invited all to help make them more accessible for the blind and visually impaired; and Madeline Smith, who got us up to speed with happenings at L. C. Industries. The morning ended with members sharing “technology tips” about some of the gadgets they use and enjoy.

Prior to the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday afternoon, Daryl Lathem briefed the membership on everything MSB. Eddie Turner then presented Daryl with the “James Doyle Case Valedictorian Award” plaque. This plaque will be displayed at the School for the Blind, and each year the MSB valedictorian will receive a \$500 check and have his/her name engraved on the plaque.

The Annual Business Meeting got underway with the usual minutes, Treasurer’s Report, committee and chapter reports. The membership voted to once again join RSVA and CCD. Approval was given to add \$30,000 to the Technology Fund and to have a two-day convention in the Jackson Metro Area next year. The business meeting wrapped up with the election of two new 3-year Board Members: Terry Shelton and Kenneth Reed.

The Awards Dinner got Saturday evening off to an exciting start with Sorrento’s band providing entertainment. Peggy Maddox won this year’s George W. Cantin Humanitarian Award. Herbert Humphrey won the Jessie Jaynes Employee of the Year

Award. Wanda Allen won the Frankie Thames Service Award. And ... “Lucky” Linda Brown won the \$1000 that MCB had been selling chances on since last fall. Congratulations to all!

The Convention closed out on Sunday morning with a “Gospel Sing”. Thanks to the Convention Committee for all their hard work.

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER NEWS

By Sara M. Rogers, MCBNM

Greetings from the Northeast Chapter of MCB to all of our fellow Council members, friends and family.

We are continuing to have our quarterly canned food drives and penny rolling fund raisers. Also, we are presently selling raffle tickets for an over-sized chair and ottoman to be raffled off during the month of June.

Once again, summertime is here, so we hope that everyone has the opportunity to get out and enjoy all the fun activities that come with this season. Have a safe and Happy 4th of July! Until next time...

JACKSON CHAPTER UPDATE

By Jane Peets

Hello. everyone. On April 28, our chapter had a social at Scrooge's. We had a good time, and they even gave us all free dessert. On May 8, the chapter board met at the home of Peggy Maddox. Thanks, Peggy, for graciously hosting this meeting and for a delicious meal.

This year, on May 18, Eddie Turner presented the James Doyle Case award to Kristin Brent at the MSB graduation ceremony. Eddie had asked if I would say a few words about Doyle's accomplishments, which I was glad to do. The Jackson Chapter board had voted to present each of the 2018 graduates with a card of congratulations containing a gift of \$20.00, and this was done also.

The ACB National Convention is our next big event, and I hope many of you will be able to attend. It is an opportunity to meet people from all over the country and broaden your horizons. I am planning to go this year only for the second time, and I hope to see some of you there. Until we meet again, best wishes from the Jackson Chapter.

Hazlehurst Chapter Happenings

by Alvin Daniels

Greetings from the Hazlehurst Chapter of MCB!

Our chapter held its last meeting on Saturday, May 12th at Knoo's Restaurant. We were honored to have in attendance our state MCB President, Eddie Turner, along with Wanda and

Wayne Allen, as well as Shirley Sandifer, who is our town's Mayor and a member of MCB and the Hazlehurst Chapter.

We have sold a lot of tickets for our upcoming raffle drawing, which will take place on June 9th. We will be raffling off a \$200 gift certificate from Wilson's Meat House in Crystal Springs. This raffle has been a Father's Day tradition in our chapter for several years.

We in the Hazlehurst Chapter wish each and every one of you a safe and enjoyable Summer!

NEWS FROM THE PINE BELT CHAPTER

By Phyllis Seyfarth

Secretary of the Pine Belt Chapter of MCB

The heat has returned in full force to Hattiesburg, flowers are blooming, kids are beginning their summer breaks, and we're hoping that our chapter will have a fruitful and fun summer and rest of the calendar year.

The most recent meeting of the Pine Belt Chapter of MCB didn't achieve a quorum of members physically attending (or on the phone), so we had a later teleconference instead. As with other recent meetings, the subjects mainly centered on details about the convention and on fundraising ideas. We had six

members who went to Jackson, including Kris McNair, and we look forward to their reports and discussions about their experiences and the subjects that matter to our organization state-wide and here locally.

We've had a lot of good ideas on how to raise money, including raffling a \$100 gift card. Tickets will be \$2 for one ticket and \$5 for three, so we're looking forward to getting that underway and we hope for a good response. We've also discussed auctions, which we've had in the past and which were very successful, along with continuing a 50/50 drawing among our members at every meeting.

We're hoping to revitalize our little group and encourage better participation at the meetings, which are bi-monthly in downtown Hattiesburg, and to come up with some ideas to foster growth, fellowship, and service in our own little group and the community in general, so we hope to see everyone attend who possibly can!

**MISSISSIPPI INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND WITH
SUPPORT FROM MIB FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND
AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED OFFERS SEEBOOST EYE
DEVICE TO ITS EMPLOYEES**

By Herbert Humphrey

Thanks to tremendous support from MIB Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Mississippi Industries for the Blind (MIB) has offered the seeBoost eye device to its employees to assist them while on the job and at home. The seeBoost is an electronic magnification device designed for those with central vision loss. This device will allow MIB employees, who qualify, to be more productive, both at work and at home.

The first MIB employee to use the seeBoost eye device is Porter Williams, who works in various manufacturing departments at MIB. When asked, Mr. Williams indicated that he enjoys using the seeBoost device and is pleased with how it has improved his remaining vision.

There are several other employees who have tried or will be trying the device to see if it works for them.

This is just one of the many ways that MIB Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired supports the efforts of Mississippi Industries for the Blind.

For more information go to www.mibfoundation.org or email Herbert at hhumphrey@msblind.org.

MCB SCHOLARSHIP FUND – A LOOK BACK

By Michael Smitherman

I know scholarships is a sore subject to many of our members simply because we do not, at present, have a viable fundraiser that will bring in huge amounts of money to support MCB and its various projects. Your concern is that we don't have any money, and you are correct. But, the James Doyle Case Memorial Scholarship Fund, referred to now as an annuity fund, is not the answer to our fundraising activities. Also, many believe that MDRS pays for a full ride for students who attend college. I, for one, do not believe this, which is my opinion, but there seems to be no clear answer as to what MDRS pays for when it comes to students going to college.

A brief history of the James Doyle Case Memorial Scholarship Fund: In 1996, MCB signed a contract with Will Petty to manage our Bingo Plaza located in Kosciusko. We went for approximately a year and a half to two years before we ever saw an appreciable monthly dividend as a result of bingo. In 1998, at a board meeting, which I believe was held in Hazlehurst, the board discussed at length setting up a scholarship fund that would be perpetual. We started the scholarship fund with an initial deposit of \$25,000. We struggled with the bingo splits in the early days of bingo because the checks were not that large, but we stayed the course. It is sad to see what has happened to

MCB's desire to do away with the scholarship fund, albeit a little at a time. But, taking \$30,000 from that fund and placing it elsewhere is not a little at a time. The purpose of the scholarship fund was to provide scholarships to assist in furthering the education of blind/visually impaired students or students who are children of blind/visually impaired parents. The primary intent of the James Doyle Case Memorial Scholarship Fund was for scholarships, not to be used as a cash cow to draw from when MCB does not have a fundraiser that can sustain us.

One question that I have is: When people donate to the scholarship fund, are they guaranteed that the money donated is being used for scholarships, or is it being designated for other uses? Since the scholarship fund is not a protected fund, how can we be assured that the money will go toward scholarships? The James Doyle Case Memorial Scholarship Fund, although not a protected fund I'm sad to say, was set up to provide scholarships for blind/visually impaired students from Mississippi.

I have now had my say in the best way I know possible, so I will not bring the subject up again in a board meeting or at a future convention. As Andy Griffith would so aptly say, "What's done is done!"

THE GAMES BOOKLET

By Ralph Smitherman

The Braille Revival League has a fundraising project. A booklet, consisting of nine games, has been developed. All the games are in Braille. As a tribute to baseball, each game is listed as an inning. All of us know that a normal baseball game has nine innings. Each game has nine clues. Each game has a corresponding answer sheet. There are nine separate games--no duplicates! In one game, see what you know about authors, in another game find what is common. There is also a numbers game. Are you knowledgeable about coffee? Well, find out in the coffee game. There is a notification page in this booklet with instructions for each inning. The cost for each booklet is \$10; with all proceeds directed to the Braille Revival League. As previously mentioned, all booklets are in Braille only. We hope you will enjoy the games and have fun! It's easy to purchase a booklet; if you want to pay by credit card, just call our BRL Treasurer, Jane Carona, at: 301-598-2131; if you would like to pay with PayPal, money may be sent to treasurer@brailerevivalleague.org, alternatively, checks may be sent to:

JANE CARONA
3511 FOREST EDGE DRIVE
APARTMENT 1G
SILVER SPRING, MD 20906-1518

If you write a check, pay to the order of BRL, and in the memo section write “Games Booklet.” Thank you for supporting the Braille Revival League!

**INTRODUCING UBER HEALTH: REMOVING
TRANSPORTATION AS A BARRIER TO CARE**

<https://www.uberhealth.com/>

Whether it’s helping seniors regain their independence, providing newfound mobility to those living in underserved areas, or providing a safe alternative to drinking and driving, Uber has changed the way people live their lives in ways that were never expected.

Yet, still, there’s so much more that can be done. We’re unveiling a new service focused on an issue vital to all of us: health. Every year, 3.6 million Americans miss doctor appointments due to a lack of reliable transportation. * No-show rates are as high as 30% nationwide. ** And while transportation barriers are common across the general population, these barriers are greatest for vulnerable populations, including patients with the highest burden of chronic disease.

Today, we're introducing Uber Health as a way to partner with healthcare organizations to provide reliable, comfortable transportation for patients. The dashboard allows healthcare professionals to order rides for patients going to and from the care they need. We are also launching an Uber Health API to enable easy integrations into existing healthcare products. Developed with healthcare in mind, new features include:

- **Flexible ride scheduling for patients, caregivers and staff.**
- **Access for patients without a smartphone.**
- **Simple billing, reporting, and management.**
- **HIPAA Compliance.**

Both our dashboard and API are available publicly starting today everywhere in the U.S. Visit www.uberhealth.com to learn more about the unique features designed specifically for health. Keeping our partners and their patients in mind, we're looking forward to seeing what's possible when transportation is no longer a barrier to care.

GoGoGRANDPARENT

GoGoGrandparent offers affordable transportation for seniors, using Uber and Lyft vehicles. They charge a higher fee since

they book your ride for you, and you don't need a smart phone app. For more information or to sign up, go to www.GoGoGrandparent.com or call 1-855-464-6872.

APPLE ACCESSIBILITY TIPS AND TRICKS

By: Don Marotta, Apple Fashion Show

Readability:

- Bold text can be enabled by navigating to settings, general, accessibility, bold text.
- Larger text sizes can be enabled by navigating to settings, general, accessibility, larger text, and turning on larger accessibility sizes.
- Display accommodations are available by going to settings, general, accessibility, display accommodations, turning color filters on, and selecting an appropriate filter and intensity.
- Speak screen will speak the content on the screen by navigating to settings, general, accessibility, speech, and turning speak screen on.
- Zoom can be turned on by going to settings, general, accessibility, zoom. When activated, you can use a full-screen or window zoom. You can navigate using an on-screen controller, or three-finger drag gesture.
- Filters are available including inverted colors and greyscale from the zoom menu.

- Turn on the magnifier feature by navigating to settings, general, accessibility, magnifier. Magnifier is activated by triple clicking the home button.
- Color filters, brightness, and contrast can be adjusted by selecting the filters button.
- A freeze frame can be saved to the camera roll by taking a freeze frame and tapping the image to display the save image button.
- VoiceOver navigate using both touch discovery and swipe navigation.
- Swiping right will advance the VoiceOver forward through content, while swiping left will move the VoiceOver cursor backwards.
- Double tapping anywhere on the screen will allow you to activate or select items VoiceOver is focused on.
- The Rotor provides access to additional features in VoiceOver allowing for faster navigation, customization of VoiceOver behaviors, and quick actions, like deleting an email.
- Screen curtain turns the display off, while allowing the user to retain full functionality of their device while providing privacy and better battery life.
- Apple devices support braille keyboards for reading and data entry.

Siri:

- Access the Siri tutorials by activating Siri and saying "Help".
- Enable hey Siri by navigating to settings, Siri, and turning allow "Hey Siri" on.
- Lots of third party apps are gaining functionality with Siri, including Facebook, Twitter, and Uber.
- Siri is available on iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch, Apple TV, and macOS.

Resources:

- Apple Store and Apple support Apps for iPhone and iPad
- support.apple.com/accessibility and getsupport.apple.com for assistance and troubleshooting
- apple.com/accessibility for general Accessibility information
- applevis.com

APPS:

KNFB Reader, Be My Eyes, Light Detector, Color Say, Money Readers

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

By Alison Smitherman

Thanks, once again, to all of you who submitted articles for this issue of the Periscope, as well as to the staff and volunteers of Talking Book Services for formatting and mailing our

newsletter. Without your assistance and hard work, this newsletter would not be possible.

The deadline to submit articles for the Fall, 2018 issue of the Periscope is **August 21, 2018**. As far as suggestions for articles, we always like to include the President's Message, MCB Board Highlights, and updates from each of our local chapters. Also, we welcome opinions, human interest stories, updates from blindness service providers, articles about technology, and advertisements that would be of interest to people who are blind and visually impaired.

If you have suggestions as to how we might make improvements to the Periscope, please do not hesitate to send them to me, and I will gladly take them under consideration.

I hope to see many of you at the ACB Conference & Convention in St. Louis in July. In the meantime, have a safe and enjoyable Summer, 2018!

“The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.” – Helen Keller