

Dear ICUB members and friends,

The time for the Thirty-Sixth Annual Iowa Council of the United Blind Conference and Convention is fast approaching. The convention will be held both hybrid and in person. The theme this year is “Honoring Our Past and Building Our Future.” It is scheduled for the weekend of August 23rd and 24th, 2024, at the Courtyard Marriott in Ankeny. We would love to have you join us!

As always, we have a great Convention planned with a variety of topics and speakers that will meet the interests of everyone. You’ll learn valuable information, meet some new friends, and have a good time doing it!

Festivities will begin at 2:00 p.m., Friday afternoon, August 23rd, with registration and two breakout sessions: “Touch and Go,” presented by the Des Moines Historical Society, and “Technology Timeline,” the facilitator for which is yet to be determined.

The first general session will open at 6:30 p.m. Friday evening. There will be both morning and afternoon sessions on Saturday, beginning at 8:30 a.m., punctuated by plenty of time to visit our many exhibitors.

On Saturday, ICUB will host a morning breakfast, noon luncheon, and evening banquet. Hospitality will be open Friday and Saturday evenings. The Convention will end with Saturday’s banquet.

We wish to thank in advance our speakers, exhibitors, ICUB members and everyone else who has been working so diligently to make this Convention another memorable one. We also want to send out a big thank you to the Greater Iowa Credit Union for providing a grant to cover the costs connected with this year’s ICUB Bulletin, to Democracy Live, and to Cars R Us.

So read all the details below, send in your registration form, and start packing your bags. We'll see you in August!

Bettina Dolinsek, President

Iowa Council of the United Blind

Iowa Council of the United Blind
2024 Annual Conference and Convention
August 23-24, 2024

Registration

Our 2024 Conference and Convention is hybrid. You may choose to attend either in person or via Zoom. In either case, you must pay the registration fee of \$20.00 per person in order to participate in Convention business, as well as hear the luncheon and banquet speakers. You will be asked on the registration form at the end of this document which method you have chosen to attend. If you choose to attend by Zoom, we will send you an e-mail--call if you don't have email--with the Zoom information you need to connect to Convention proceedings. Convention sessions will also be streamed on ACB Media Radio, but listeners will not be able to participate in Convention business or hear the luncheon and banquet speakers. In addition, each evening's music entertainment--Steve Hagemoser's band, Two Tall Guys with Guitars, on Friday, and Frank "Freight Train" Strong's on Saturday--will not be available via Zoom.

Hotel Reservations

We are pleased to host our Convention again this year at the Courtyard Marriott, 2405 SE Creekview Drive, in Ankeny. The hotel features comfortable rooms with free Internet service, a mini-refrigerator, microwave, and a flat-panel television. A fitness room, swimming pool, and hot tub are also available. On-site food options include the Bistro Restaurant, Starbuck's Coffee, and a convenience/sundry store.

Room rates are \$109.00 a night for a room with either one king- or two queen-size beds. The total with tax is \$122.08 per night. The last day to reserve a room at this rate is August 14, 2024. To reserve your room, call Marriott central booking (800-321-2211) or the Ankeny Marriott office (515-422-5555). To get the reduced rate, you must reserve your room by August 14 and let them know you will be attending the ICUB Convention.

Transportation

Transportation to and from the Convention can be expensive, especially if you live outside of Des Moines. If you need assistance covering these costs, please contact President Bettina Dolinsek at president@icublind.org or 866-436-0141.

Convention Meals

Convention attendees can choose to gather for breakfast on Saturday morning in addition to the noon luncheon and evening banquet. The costs are \$18.00 for breakfast, \$22.00 for lunch, and \$40.00 for the banquet. You will need to indicate which meals you will be attending and your meal choices on the registration form provided at the end of this packet.

Hospitality

Meeting with friends is one of the highlights of attending the ICUB Convention. After the first general session on Friday and again, after the banquet on Saturday, a time for gathering is planned. Food brought in from outside the hotel is only permitted in your room. However, you can bring in beverages and snacks you have purchased from the Bistro Restaurant or Grab and Go area, both located in the hotel lobby. Friday night hospitality will be in the Courtyard Room (just past the Bistro) and outside by the fire pit (weather permitting). There will be no food or beverage provided for this gathering, but you can bring your own as noted above. On Saturday, following the banquet, attendees can remain in the banquet room to chat with friends. A cash bar will be available, and ICUB will provide desserts purchased from the hotel for all to enjoy.

Door Prizes and Raffles

Drawings for door prizes will be made during Convention sessions and the banquet. To be eligible to win, you must have paid the registration fee and be present in person at the Convention. Registered Zoom attendees will be eligible for some door prizes as well. This year we will also have two door prizes designated for Current Members Only.

At the conclusion of the Saturday Business meeting, the Des Moines Chapter will be giving away a \$100.00 gift card. Computers for the Blind has also generously donated a \$200.00 voucher to be used towards a refurbished laptop. The laptop will come with a one-year subscription for screen magnification or a screen-reader program, whichever the winner prefers. At the end of the one-year prize subscription, the winner will be responsible for paying subscription fees. Both of these door prizes will be drawn for registered Convention attendees only, present either in person or via Zoom, at the time of the drawing.

Two raffles will be held during the Convention, the proceeds of which will go to ICUB. One is a 50/50 raffle, in which the lucky winning ticket holder wins half of the money collected. Tickets are \$1.00 apiece or six for \$5.00. The other raffle is for a \$100.00 Amazon Gift Card. Tickets are \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00. The winning tickets for both these raffles will be drawn at the banquet. Winners do not need to be present to win.

Pre-Convention Activities

Along with registration on Friday afternoon, we are holding two breakout sessions beginning at 2:00 PM:

--“Technology Timeline,” will take you back in time to review how blindness technology and tools have evolved over the decades. This session will encourage lively discussion and hands-on displays of nostalgic yesteryear items

--“Touch and Go,” with the Des Moines Historical Society will offer hands-on displays from the Historical Society along with an in-depth introduction to their new museum tour guide system using an iPad.

Each session will be offered twice, allowing participants to attend both sessions. Registration for the breakout sessions is included on the registration form at the end of this packet.

Exhibits

Be sure to take some time on Saturday to visit the exhibits in Salon III. The Exhibit Hall will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year’s exhibitors include:

Des Moines Historical Society

Des Moines Chapter of ICUB

Dubuque Association of the Blind

IDB Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Kyle Kuhlman Accessible Darts

Nano Pack

Oak Street Health

Penny Forward

Team Run Free

Convention Attendance Media Disclaimer

By attending the Iowa Council of the United Blind (ICUB) Conference and Convention, you are attending an event where photography, audio, and video recording will be occurring. Any in-person or remote attendance constitutes your consent to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded and to the release, publication, or reproduction of any and all recorded media of your appearance, voice, and name for any purpose in connection with ICUB and its initiatives, including, but not limited to, website, social media, news, and advertising.

By being present at the event, you waive any claims you may have related to the use of recorded media of you during the event. You understand that all photography, filming and/or recording will be done in a respectful manner to all who are present and reliant on this consent. If you do not agree to these terms, please contact President Bettina Dolinsek at president@icublind.org or call 1-866-436-0141.

Agenda
Iowa Council of the United Blind
Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference and Convention

Friday, August 23, 2024

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Break-out sessions

“Technology Timeline”

“Touch and Go” – Des Moines Historical Society

4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Registration

**5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Meeting of the ICUB Across Iowa Chapter in the
hotel Board Room**

First General Assembly

Convention Host, Mark Edge

6:30 p.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President

Invocation – Cody Dolinsek

**Star Spangled Banner – Led by Cody Dolinsek with the
help of Convention attendees**

**6:45 p.m. Convention Greetings – Maryfrances Evans, IRIS
Executive Director**

6:55 p.m. Introduction of Participants

- 7:05 p.m. ICUB President's Report – Bettina Dolinsek**
- 7:20 p.m. Election of Nominating Committee – Carrie Chapman, Committee Chair**
- 7:30 p.m. Get to Know the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council – Brooke Lovelace, Executive Director**
- 7:55 p.m. ACB Updates – ACB 1st Vice President David Trott, ACB Representative**
- 8:20 p.m. Convention Address – The Benefits of History and Why It's Important for Blind Iowans – Dr. Cody Dolinsek & Dr. Robert Martin**
- 8:45 p.m. Announcements and Door Prizes**
- Adjournment**

There will be a brief break after adjournment, followed by Hospitality in the Courtyard Room with music provided by Two Tall Guys with Guitars

Saturday, August 24, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast in Salon IV for those who have registered for the meal**
- 8:00 a.m. Remembering Those We Have Lost – Donna Seliger and Jo Ann Slayton**

Second General Assembly

Convention Host, Mark Edge

8:30 a.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President

Pledge of Allegiance – led by Dr. Cody Dolinsek

**Thank You to Our Sponsors Greater Iowa Credit Union,
Democracy Live, Cars R Us and the Des Moines Chapter
of ICUB**

Introduction of Participants

Announcements

8:45 a.m. Long-Term Service Award Presentation – Don Wirth

**9:15 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Update – Connie
Mendenhall, IDB Chief Information Officer**

**9:40 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Library for the Blind and
Print Disabled Update – Sarah Willeford, Library
Program Administrator**

**9:55 a.m. Friends of the Iowa Library for the Blind Report – Don
Wirth, Library Consumer and Board Member**

10:05 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Door Prizes

**10:20 a.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Vocational Rehabilitation
Update – Keri Osterhaus, VR Program Administrator**

**10:45 a.m. Disability Rights Iowa – Amber Wallingford, Intake
Coordinator, “Who is Disability Rights Iowa?”**

11:10 a.m. Democracy Live – Charlie Kinnune

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open in Salon III

12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. ICUB Luncheon in Salon IV

Luncheon Speaker – Judy Deutch, retired Iowa Teacher of the Visually Impaired

Presentation of the Marie Hoenig Braille Award to recipient Leo Mendoza– Mike Hoenig, Award Committee representative

Presentation of the ICUB Scholarship Award to recipient Jacob M. Longmire– Dr. Robert Martin, Award Committee representative

Third General Assembly

2:00 p.m. Call to Order – Bettina Dolinsek, ICUB President

Announcements and Door Prizes

2:15 p.m. Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ISEBVI) Update – Jonathan Karli, Chief Academic Officer/Regional Director, NE Iowa

2:40 p.m. The Beginnings of BEP and What the Future Holds – Matt Nemmers, BEP Executive Officer

3:05 p.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Blindness and Empowerment and Independence Center update – Karly Prinds, Center Program Administrator

- 3:30 p.m. Break**
- 3:45 p.m. Door Prizes**
- 3:50 p.m. Living the History of Blindness in Iowa and the Lessons We Should Learn – Mary Clarke and Sandy Tigges**
- 4:15 p.m. ICUB Business Meeting**

Secretary Report – Liz Soenen

Treasurer Report – Jeana Mowery

Audit Report – Jeana Mowery

Election of ICUB Officers and Directors

Election of ACB Mid-Year & National Convention Delegates

ICUB Bulletin Publication Report – Karen Keninger

2024 ICUB Resolutions

Chapter Reports – Cody Dolinsek (Des Moines Chapter), Kristen Steele (Dubuque Chapter), and Don Wirth (At-Large Across Iowa Chapter)

Announcements and Door Prizes

Adjournment

Saturday Evening, August 24, 2024

- 5:30 p.m. Meet and Greet – Cash Bar in Salon III & IV with music by 2019 Iowa Blues Hall of Fame inductee, Frank Strong, professionally known as Freight Train**

**7:00 p.m. Iowa Council of the United Blind Thirty-Sixth Annual
Conference and Convention Banquet in Salon III & IV**

Cody and Bettina Dolinsek, Emcees

Mark Edge, Convention Host

Invocation – Cody Dolinsek

Banquet Address – David Trott, ACB 1st Vice President

Presentation – Linda Dietrich Volunteer Award

Raffle Drawings

Announcements

**Hospitality with dessert and music by Frank “Freight Train”
Strong will follow in the Banquet Hall.**

Convention Registration, Meals, and Donations

Pre-registration for the Iowa Council of the United Blind Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference and Convention is due by August 14, 2024. You can still register at the Convention itself if you do not want reserved meals. You can choose one of three ways to register, make your meal selections, and make payment: online, by e-mail, or by U.S. mail.

Registering online is the easiest way. To do so, go to our website at: www.icublind.org . On the home page, you will find a link that will take you to the Convention Registration page. Fill out the form, make your selections, and submit your payment electronically using the donate button.

If you have received this packet by e-mail, you can also go online to register as mentioned above, or you will find the registration form below as well as in a separate attached file that you can fill out and print. You can mail the form along with your check to the ICUB treasurer. If you have received this information by U.S. mail, you can fill out the print copy of the enclosed registration form and mail it with your check to the ICUB treasurer.

If you need assistance in filling out this form, please contact Treasurer Jeana Mowery at 712-310-7140 or eyeforonly1@gmail.com . You can also contact President Bettina Dolinsek at president@icublind.org or 866-436-0141.

Make your check payable to the Iowa Council of the United Blind or ICUB and mail it to:

**Jeana Mowery, Treasurer
29965 185th St.
Honey Creek, IA 51542**

**Convention registration is \$20.00, and the cost of attending all t
three meals is \$80.00, for a total cost of \$100.00.**

**Raffle tickets may only be purchased during the Convention
either online or in person. Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are \$1.00
each or \$5.00 for six. Tickets for the \$100 Amazon gift card are
\$3.00 or two for \$5.00. Remember, you don't have to be present
to win either raffle.**

**A donation to help defray additional Convention costs would
be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation,
whether or not you are able to attend the Convention, please
indicate the amount on the attached form or online and include
that amount in your check or online payment. Thank you.**

**Keep in mind, if you wait to register at the Convention itself,
you may not be able to purchase tickets for the Saturday
breakfast, luncheon, or banquet. We must give the hotel a final
count for these meals before the Convention begins, and only a
few extra tickets will be available for sale.**

**Registrations made prior to the pre-registration deadline of
August 14 may be cancelled, and a refund of 80% of the
registration fees may be requested. The balance of the fees will
be retained to cover administrative expenses. Because most
costs are fixed at the pre-registration deadline, no refund will be
issued if a refund request is made after the pre-registration
deadline has passed. A full copy of this cancellation policy is**

**available by contacting President Bettina Dolinsek or Treasurer
Jeana Mowery.**

Registration Form
Iowa Council of the United Blind
Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference and Convention

Name(s) of Registrant(s):

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

The registration cost for each participant is \$20.00.

_____ Number of Registrations included in this form

Please check the attendance option you have chosen:

_____ I will be attending the Convention in person.

_____ I will be attending the Convention via Zoom.

Please check the break-out session(s) you would like to attend. Attendance is available in-person only. There is no extra cost for either session.

_____ “Technology Timeline”

_____ “Touch and Go” with the Des Moines Historical Society

Meal Choices and Costs

The meal costs are \$18.00 for breakfast, \$22.00 for lunch, and \$40.00 for the dinner banquet. Please indicate your meal choices below and the number of meals you wish to purchase for each event with this registration form.

Breakfast (\$18.00):

_____ The Heartland – scrambled eggs and breakfast potatoes with sausage. Served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.

_____ Bistro Breakfast Sandwich – scrambled eggs, Applewood-smoked bacon, and white cheddar cheese on a brioche roll. Served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.

_____ **Healthy Start Breakfast** – egg whites, turkey, spinach and Havarti on an English muffin. Served with a fruit cup and choice of juice, tea, or milk.

Lunch (\$22.00):

_____ **Gourmet Cheeseburger** – 1/4 pound hamburger with smoked bacon, white cheddar cheese, lettuce and tomato on a Brioche bun. Served with pickle chips, seashore-style fries, fruit cup and choice of water, lemonade, or tea.

_____ **Croissant Sandwich** – Croissant stuffed with ham, turkey, Swiss and cheddar cheese, topped with bacon, lettuce and tomato. Served with chips, fruit cup and choice of water, lemonade, or tea.

_____ **Southwest Chicken Salad** – Grilled chicken on top a bed of romaine lettuce, black beans, corn shredded cheddar cheese, tortilla strips and creamy chipotle dressing on the side. A choice of water, lemonade, or tea.

_____ **Veggie Wrap** – Vegetable wrap served with a fruit cup, pasta salad and choice of water, lemonade, or tea.

Banquet (\$40.00):

_____ **Rosemary Pork Loin** – Tender roasted pork loin dressed with a creamy rosemary sauce. Served with roasted Yukon potatoes, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ **Bacon wrapped Sirloin** – 8 oz. sirloin wrapped with Applewood-smoked bacon topped with a demi-glaze sauce. Served with garlic

mashed potatoes, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ Grilled Bruschetta Chicken – herb seared chicken breast topped with roasted cherry tomatoes, onion, basil and fresh garlic in wine sauce. Served with baked potato casserole, salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

_____ Ricotta Stuffed Tortellini – Tortellini pasta stuffed with Ricotta cheese and topped with a creamy Alfredo sauce. Served with salad, fresh vegetables, specialty bread, and choice of water, iced tea, lemonade, or coffee.

Donations

I would like to donate the following amount to help defray the cost of the 2024 Iowa Council of the United Blind Annual Conference and Convention: _____

Total Amount of Check Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to the Iowa Council of the United Blind or ICUB. Please return all pages of the registration form with your check and mail it to:

**Jeana Mowery, Treasurer
29965 185th St.
Honey Creek, IA 51542**