



# NFBF-Parents

National Federation of the Blind of Florida

Parents of Blind Children

Blind Parents of Sighted

Children

## Braille is Beautiful- Braille Readers are Leaders!

Our 2009 state convention theme will be all about literacy. Dr. Ruby Ryles of Louisiana Tech will be our keynote speaker! Now is the time to give input on areas you'd like covered, speakers you'd like to hear, activities you'd like included, etc. We'd love to have your participation! Please send in suggestions and join the team!

As your children are reading, be sure to sign them up for the "Braille Readers are Leaders" contest. All participants receive goodies from National, and all will receive goodies on the state level as well. **Participants will be entered into a drawing to attend National Convention.**

Also be sure to check out the "Braille Reading Pals" for our younger kids. For information about this year's contest: [www.nfb.org/nopbc](http://www.nfb.org/nopbc) On the left, click on "Programs and Events". Contest starts Nov 1!

Literacy is vitally important for our children! Check out [www.nfb.org](http://www.nfb.org) and

put "literacy" into the search window to find articles on this issue.



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Great sources for Braille books can be found on the National Parents website at [www.nfb.org/nopbc](http://www.nfb.org/nopbc). Click on "Parent Resources."

<http://www.marchforindependence.org>

Join the "Florida Parents of Blind Children" team. Even if you can't physically join us, you can be a virtual marcher and help gain donations. You can also make donations here to someone on our team. These funds come back to help us in our state.

We'd love to have you join our listserv. Go to [NFBF-parents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NFBF-parents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) and give a brief introduction. This is a great place to share questions, information, and to stay in touch. Check out our personalized Braille blankets!

### **CONVENTION DATES**

State: Boca Raton  
Memorial Day weekend  
National: Detroit, MI  
4<sup>th</sup> of July week

### **NEEDED: TEACHERS OF THE BLIND!!**

There is a national shortage!  
Have you, or anyone you know, ever thought of becoming a Teacher of the Visually Impaired?  
Check this out and share it with others!  
<http://www.pdrib.com/video.htm>.

Florida State University has satellite programs to train teachers. Locations in St. Petersburg and Miami/Broward.  
Contact Dr. Sandra Lewis:  
850-644-8409 or [lewis@coe.fsu.edu](mailto:lewis@coe.fsu.edu) or  
Dr. Amy McKenzie  
850-645-6588 or [mckenzie@coe.fsu.edu](mailto:mckenzie@coe.fsu.edu).

**NFB NEWSLINE** Over 250 local and national newspapers are provided free to those who cannot read regular print. For more info: [www.nfbnewsline.org](http://www.nfbnewsline.org) or 1-800-603-8578.

Membership to NFBF-Parents of Blind Children is just \$10 per year. Everyone who joins by December 1 will be in a drawing for state convention! Make your check payable to **NFBF-Parents**, 8468 SW 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Stuart, FL 34997. Include your name, child's name and birth date, address, phone, and email.



**Congrats:** Dennis and Sue Davids (our VP and Treasurer)! After working at convention, their daughter and son-in-law added “blindness” as a characteristic for a child to adopt. Their little one is now home and is as cute as a button!

**Congrats:** Carolyn Millard was the winner of our educational survey drawing. Anyone who would like to participate in the survey, please check our website [www.nfbflorida.org/parents](http://www.nfbflorida.org/parents).

**From one family about their first National convention:** “...we learned where to go, who to talk with, and we learned who to ask what questions to. Until I had a blind child no one in our family had ever been around a blind person, so we have been living pretty much like one day at a time, take it as it comes. When we were in Dallas it was amazing to see and watch and just talk to others that knew what we were talking about. We came home with so much information, that it will take us until next year to read it all. The experience was priceless. The people were amazing. The information we took back to our friends, family, church, and school was awesome.”

**A word from our president:** “Hoping the school year is off to a great start for each of your children! Before we know it the holidays will be here. Now is a good time to check our website for information on our Braille blankets, back by popular demand! They’ll make great gifts! Be sure to mark your calendars to join us Memorial Day weekend for state convention. It just gets better every year. Please let us hear from you, this is YOUR organization!”

# Thank you!

The NFBF-Parents of Blind Children wishes to thank everyone who has helped to make this a successful year, and who assisted with our state convention. They include:

Ai Squared  
All American Gymnastics  
Ameripath Dermatology  
American Foundation f/t Blind  
Brackett Family  
Braille International  
Chick-Fil-A  
Davids Family  
Division of Blind Services  
Enabling Technologies  
FL Instruct'l Materials Center  
Greater Daytona Beach chapter

Guerilla Technology  
Marten Family  
NFBF Merchants Division  
National Braille Press  
NFB Imagination Grant  
Newsline  
NOPBC  
Papa John's Pizza  
Pellicer Family  
Seedlings Braille Books  
VIEW International  
Woodward family

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**FREE MATTER FOR  
BLIND &  
HANDICAPPED**