



Blind Community Center of San Diego
1805 Upas Street San Diego CA 92103
Phone: 619-298-5021
Donate with PayPal at <https://bccsd.org/>
Email: info@bccsd.org

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER CELEBRATING 72 YEARS

BCC MISSION: To enrich the lives of blind and visually impaired adults preparing them for a normal, active life in a society that is principally sighted by encouraging independence.

The Blind Community Center of San Diego gives blind and visually impaired people in our community an opportunity to socialize and interact. It helps members build skills, confidence and self-esteem through our various, social, recreational and educational, activities. During the pandemic, we are featuring virtual experiences where participants can join by telephone and/or computer.

BUSINESS HOURS:

In order to keep our community safe, our building is temporarily closed following the extended 'Stay at home order'. We will keep you informed in this newsletter when the time is right to re-open. Please stay safe and follow all recommended guidelines.

CONTACTS:

We are here for you:

President Sharlene: president@bccsd.org
phone: 619-298-5021 ext. 208

Vice President Ethel: ethel@bccsd.org

Board Director Christie - christie@bccsd.org

BCCSD email: info@bccsd.org

Website: <https://bccsd.org/>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Sharlene Ornelas, Blind Member: president@bccsd.org

Vice President: Ethel Kirtley, Blind Member: ethel@bccsd.org Secretary: Claude Edwards, Blind Member: secretary@bccsd.org

Treasurer: Brook Logan, CPA, Associate Member: treasurer@bccsd.org

Past President: Gwendolyn Edwards, Blind Member

Directors:

Resource Development and Marketing: Lion Christie Greene, Associate Member:
christie@bccsd.org

Diane Hall, Blind Member: dianehall73@yahoo.com
Eric Linebarger, MD, Ophthalmologist, Associate Member
Magdalena Guillen, Blind Member: nenaguillen6610@gmail.com
Lion Mary Manning, Associate Member: edandmarym@cox.net
Rochelle Harris, Blind Member: rdjharris@gmail.com
Yvette Lee, Blind Member
Lions Optometric Vision Clinic Representative: Marcia DeRuntz

Blind Community Center Membership Opportunity Drawing

Everyone who pays their 2021-2022, \$40 membership fee, by September 30 2021, will be entered into an opportunity drawing.

You could win: an air fryer or a talking calculator or a \$50 Walmart gift card or a \$50 Target gift card.

Entry Deadline – September 30 2021

POPULAR RESTAURANTS THAT OFFER SENIOR DISCOUNTS:

1. Applebees: 10% discount
2. Burger King: 10% discount and discounts on drink items
3. Denny's: senior menu with discounted prices
4. IHOP: senior menu as well as 10% off
5. Sonic: 10% discount
6. Golden Corral: discounted menu prices for 60 and over
7. Subway: 10% discount
8. Wendy's: free drink (or 10% at some locations)
9. Outback Steakhouse: 10% off for AARP members
10. Taco Bell: 5% and a free drink senior discount
11. El Pollo Loco: 10% senior discount for over 60

Many other businesses have senior discounts and birthday specials. Don't be too shy to ask for them.

SAVE A LIFE, WEAR A MASK!

FROM PRESIDENT SHARLENE ORNELAS:

TIME IS MARCHING

It seems like forever since we've been together face to face. We are

striving to reopen the Center but for now we are in the planning phase. I hope everyone has been vaccinated. In the meantime, we will be continuing with our virtual activities. I hope everyone is enjoying their 'In This Together' packages. I would like to thank the North Park Lion's for their part in providing the goodies and the many volunteers for assembling and delivering them.

A FEW QUOTES

Life is better when you cry a little, laugh a lot, and are thankful for everything you've got.

Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking.
C.J. Watts

American Council of the Blind Virtual activities

Those without email can access this information by phone by dialing 1-800-424-8666 and follow the prompts.

Many of our calls will be streamed live on ACB Media. When this is to be done, we will post with the event in the daily schedule along with the ACB Media link. However, these can also be heard using your Alexa device by saying: "Name, open ACB Media," and then respond with the corresponding number:

- 1: Mainstream
- 2: Mainstream 2
- 3: Treasure Trove
- 4: Café5: Community
- 6: Live Event
- 7: Special Event
- 8: Convention 1
- 9: Convention 2
- 10: Convention Info

Access by phone: 518-906-1820 and use the same corresponding numbers with the exception of 10 (use 0).

Access ACB Media Network to access all streams, podcasts, and more:
www.acbmedia.org

Be safe

President Sharlene

FROM VICE PRESIDENT ETHEL KIRTLEY:

For ordering or replacement of Money-identifier

If you are a Braille Institute library user or BARD user, you can contact them for assistance. You pay nothing, nor do you have to return the broken one. Just tell them what you need. Or contact the nls.gov website.

Ms. Kirtley, V.P. BCCSD

TECH IT OUT WITH VISTA - GOODMAPS EXPLORE

Imagine being in an airport and not knowing how to get to your flight gate or shopping at the mall and not knowing what stores are around. GoodMaps Explore helps people who are visually impaired navigate safely and efficiently in buildings that have been mapped.

Lookaround Mode

Direction-based discovery at your fingertips. Point the phone in the direction of choice to hear points of interest and intersections in that direction.

Virtual Mode

Use Virtual Mode to explore outdoors and indoors from the comfort of home. When you hear a POI announced, you will be able to virtually move around and even get turn-by-turn directions to a POI.

To learn more about GoodMaps visit their [website](#).

You can download the GoodMaps Explore app at the [AppStore](#) or at [Google Play](#).

**FROM VOLUNTEER BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS MANAGER
CHRISTIE GREENE:**

Every Tuesday at 11:00 the BCC holds a 'Table Topics' activity. In August, some of the topics included the funniest family members, TV theme songs

from the 60's and 70's, and favorite Holidays. We also talked about past favorite trips. Jerry told us about his experience at the 3-day Blue Grass Festival in Vista that he attended in August. Lee shared experiences in Washington DC and a family trip to the British Isles. Sharlene told us about horseback riding in Utah and an event at which she was able to meet and serve refreshments to Actor Lauren Green. She said he was very friendly. He wanted cream and sugar in his coffee and a soda and Sharlene made sure he got it.

During the favorite Holidays discussion, everyone talked about their favorite meals. Claude talked about a quiet special meal, we all talked about turkey and favorite side dishes. When it was Ethel's turn she talked about her family get-togethers, twice a year, when she was home from Blind school. She has a very big family and when they all got together, there were at least 100 people. The meal was always potluck and everyone brought something. Here is the Holiday menu she shared with us: Collard greens, macaroni and cheese (usually three 14-inch by 18-inch by 3-inch pans). Eight different cakes, seven different kinds of pies, huge bowls of potato salad, gumbo (3-5 gallon pot), black-eyed peas, candied yams, cranberry sauce, giblet gravy, three large turkeys, except for the year her guide dog ate part of one of the turkeys when it was sitting on a piano bench in the den, cornbread dressing (three large pans), two huge bowls of garden salad, deep fried fish (usually 30 pounds), dinner rolls and large bowl of rice, a large pot of succotash or boiled corn on the cob (five gallon pot). Just a few of the basics.

Join the fun on Tuesdays and share your experiences with your friends.

NORTH PARK LIONS is sponsoring monthly 'We Are Thinking of You' food deliveries for the BCCSD. **The next delivery is scheduled for Saturday, September 18.** Some packages will be delivered during the week. Active members and participants will receive a phone call prior to the delivery to coordinate delivery time.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the deliveries.
Thank You.

christie@bccsd.org

SEES CANDY FUNDRAISER LINK

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/blindcco blind community center of san diego4/candy?h=Chr Gre3967](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/blindcco%20blind%20community%20center%20of%20san%20diego4/candy?h=Chr%20Gre3967)

ENCINITAS LIONS BLIND SURF EVENT SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 **9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM**

SAN DIEGO'S VISUALLY IMPAIRED WILL ONCE AGAIN HIT THE WAVES AT SOUTH PONTO BEACH MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

The Encinitas Lions Club in partnership with Urban Surf 4Kids and Stella Maris Surfing will hold their 24th Annual Surfing Clinic for the blind and visually impaired. All participants will be eligible for a drawing for two Disneyland tickets. Surfers are provided wet suits, surfboards and instruction, in the water by Certified Surfing Instructors as they challenge themselves to balance atop surfboards.

Breakfast and a BBQ lunch for all our guests will be included, if you surf or come to enjoy a day at the beach. Of course, there will be no charge and no age limit. Free Surfing Instruction Free: Breakfast & BBQ Lunch Free: Commemorative T-Shirts Free Rides will be provided from the Encinitas Transit Station to the event.

Directions: In Carlsbad, from the 5 Freeway, take the Poinsettia turn off, go west to Pacific Coast Highway. Turn left (south) and proceed about two miles to South Ponto Beach on your right. You will see our canopy from the street and can park free For more information: jim@jmgreene.com

WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

PLEASE USE OUR WEBEX NUMBER FOR SPANISH CLASSES

Join by phone

+1-510-338-9438 USA Toll+

Access code: 623 586 039

Join by computer

<https://riosassociates-dfc7.my.webex.com/meet/pearl.a.mecenas>

Meeting Number: 623 586 039

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **BEGINNING SPANISH** taught by **Nena**

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **INTERMEDIATE SPANISH** taught by **Nena**

TUESDAYS

FOR TUESDAY ACTIVITIES, PLEASE USE OUR ZOOM NUMBER:

Join by Phone

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

11:00 a.m. – NOON TABLE TOPICS

BCC History, future program discussion, ideas and brainstorming for fundraising and new programs. Everything BCC.

Led by **Christie and Ethel**

September Table Topics may include: sharing an amazing fact about you, that nobody knows. Or, we might answer the question: Who do you sometimes compare yourself to?

WEDNESDAYS

PLEASE USE OUR WEBEX NUMBER FOR WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Join by phone

+1-510-338-9438 USA Toll+

Access code: 623 586 039

Join by computer

<https://riosassociates-dfc7.my.webex.com/meet/pearl.a.mecenas>

Meeting Number: 623 586 039

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

BLIND RHYTHM led by **Shon**
OPEN MIC led by **Pearl**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

TRIVIA led by **Pearl**
NAME THAT TUNE coordinated by **Shon**

On September 1, at 12:30 pm, Linetta made a return appearance to describe her creative process and inspiration.

On Wednesday, September 22, at 12:30 pm, Marianne will come back to share her Fall collection of music.

THURSDAYS

10:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER WRITERS WORKSHOP with **CLYTIE**

All are welcome! This a Zoom meeting and is on a different Zoom account than the others listed in the newsletter.

Please call or email Clytie for the link.
760-271-8138 or clytiek104@yahoo.com

FRIDAYS

FOR BINGO, PLEASE USE OUR ZOOM NUMBER:

Join by Phone

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>
Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.

BINGO led by **Christie**, with a bingo caller app and sighted volunteers.

SATURDAYS

10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. **LIVE MARTIAL ARTS ZOOM CLASS** taught by
SENSEI JOSH LOYA

All abilities welcome. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to info@bccsd.org.

You can also message on Facebook link -

<https://www.facebook.com/Blind-Community-Martial-Arts-211126265596001>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, September 14 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

To Join, please use the ZOOM number below:

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Guests are welcome. If you would like to address the board, please call 619-298-5021 ext. 208, 24 hours prior to the meeting to be added to the agenda.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday September 28 2021 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

To Join, please use the ZOOM number below:

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Membership Meetings are held every month on the 4th Tuesday using the ZOOM virtual link from 1:00-2:30. Members, participants and guests are all welcome to attend. Attendance shows your support and appreciation for the BCC and our generous speakers.

Please connect 10 minutes early so we can get started on time. The meetings are one way to catch up on what is happening at the BCC.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING SPEAKERS

September 28 2021 – Board member Diane has invited Wanda from the Braille Institute to speak with us.

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND

<https://ibvi.org/careers/>

If you have questions or would like additional information.

Michele.repischak@ibvi.org

414-778-3054

WANT SOMETHING TO DO?

GO GO GRANDPARENT

First month free – then as low as \$9.99 per month

For rides, meals, groceries, medication deliveries and more

call GoGo at 1 (855) 464-6872 or visit **www.gogograndparent.com**.

An easy way to Call Lyft & Uber Without a Smartphone

THANK YOU

**AT&T Pioneers
Chula Vista Harbor Lioness Club
Chula Vista Host Lions Club
Del Sol Lions Club**

Foundation for Delta Gamma at San Diego State University
Friends of the BCC
PDG Lion Rick Hannum
Harbison Canyon Lions Club
La Mesa Lions Club
Mira Mesa Senior Center Garden Club
National Charity League
Oceanside Sea Lions Club
Rancho Bernardo Lions Club
San Diego County Employee's Charitable Organization (CECO)
San Diego Executive Lions Club
San Diego North Park Lions Club
San Diego United Lions Club
Singing Hills Lions Club
UCSD Pre Optometry Club
University of San Diego

Please visit our web site at <https://bccsd.org/> for more information about our wonderful supporters and find out how they contribute to the Blind Community Center of San Diego.

The Lions Optometric Vision Clinic is now open by appointment only. It is a non-profit 501C3 agency, located on the third floor of the Blind Community Center building. Their Mission is to provide basic vision care for **low-income** individuals throughout San Diego County. For vision screening or a pair of quality, **low-cost** glasses, **call 619-298-5273 for an appointment.**

COOL ZONES FAN PROGRAM

To help beat the heat, the County of San Diego, in partnership with SDG&E, provides free electric fans to those who are living on limited incomes. To be eligible, a resident must not have access to an air-conditioned space at their home or apartment building. To learn more about the Cool Zones Fan Program or to request a fan, call Aging & Independence Services at **800-339-4661**.

COMMUNITY LAW PROJECT

This information is from a speaker we had at a membership meeting before COVID-19, COMMUNITY LAW CLINIC.

For a list of services and locations: <https://cwclp.org/services/>

AGE WELL SERVICES: resources and classes for adults 55 years+
www.sandiego.gov/agewellservices
619-525-8247

PARTNER AGENCIES

Do you have a competitive side?

Then come get your game on with the **NFBC of San Diego**, as we raise funds, and dial up the fun in a thrilling virtual game extravaganza. For only \$10, enjoy a virtual scavenger hunt, put your musical IQ to the test in an exhilarating game of Name that Tune, and buckle up for a championship round of Fast Money that will have you on the edge of your seats! The team that can best handle the heat, know all the beats, and think fast on their feet will take home a \$100 prize!

The event will take place on September 25th at 11:00 AM; held over Zoom. The funds raised will be used by our chapter to support programs such as Advocacy in the Washington Seminar, the **NFB** National and California State Conventions and future local outreach events.

RSVP by September 17th. 619-828-3120.
We hope to see all of you there!

DON'T LET UP!

HELP PROTECT AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 VIRUS EVEN IF YOU ARE VACCINATED!

- Step 1: Wash your hands
- Step 2: Wear a face mask when required
- Step 3: Avoid touching your face
- Step 4: Disinfect frequently touched surfaces

Step 5: Practice social distancing

Step 6: Wash your hands

**BE SURE TO GET VACCINATED!
AND THEN FOLLOW-UP WITH THE SECOND VACCINATION!**