

BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

79th National Convention



July 7-10, 2024

Hyatt Regency Riverfront
Jacksonville, FL



 **BLINDED
VETERANS
ASSOCIATION**
SERVING BLINDED VETERANS SINCE WORLD WAR II



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July 5, 2024



Dear BVA 79th National Convention Attendees:

As the National President of the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), please allow me to be among the first to welcome you to Jacksonville and a historic 79th National Convention! We are pleased to be partnering and sharing this unique gathering with our friends at American Council of the Blind (ACB) and offer special thanks to our generous corporate sponsors and exhibitors.

Reflecting on the proud history of our organization, we take immense pride in the remarkable achievements of the past 79 years. From humble beginnings, our organization has grown to become a leading advocate for blind and low vision veterans and their caregivers, tirelessly working towards the empowerment, rehabilitation, and overall well-being of this special population of men and women who faithfully served our country and sacrificed so much of themselves.

As we mark this milestone, let us acknowledge the significance of our congressional charter that allowed me to deliver orally and submit our annual testimony in print this past March. Over the years, the charter has allowed BVA to contribute to advancements made in visual impairment and rehabilitation. From progress in assistive technology to breakthrough medical treatments and the VA Visual Impairment Services Teams that serve us, these improbable accomplishments remind us of the positive impact we can make when we come together.

A primary objective of our national convention is to foster a sense of camaraderie among blind and now low vision veterans. I hope we can utilize our experience here to connect, share experiences, and establish lasting friendships. We can also take this a step further this year as we collaborate and partner with ACB, sharing and expanding our own awareness of resources and experiences.

Let the 79th National Convention begin! Let us use this marvelous event as a springboard in further honoring the courage of those who have gone before us, sharing the knowledge we have gained, and forging a path toward a brighter future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Mimms".

Paul Mimms
BVA National President

2024 Schedule of Events Overview

WayAround

WayAround is providing accessible descriptions of the hotel and convention center. Scan a WaySign (located underneath ADA signs) with your iPhone or Android device to access an accessible directory of all the spaces used for the Convention at the hotel. Be sure to download the free WayAround app for [iOS](#), [Android](#), or BlindShell Classic 2 to access the accessible descriptions. The Blinded Veterans Association would like to recognize WayAround as a Corporate Partner.



Nurse's Station

A nurse's station will be open on Monday, July 8 and Tuesday, July 9 from 8:00am-5:00pm in the Client Office 1 room. **Only veterans** are eligible for treatment. Thank you to the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System's Promotion/Disease Prevention Program for providing this service.

Bow Wow Lounge

Back by "popular" demand the Bow Wow Lounge, courtesy of Waymo, is available as a respite area for attending guide/service dogs. The Lounge is located in the Acosta room and will have access to relief areas. Please ensure to adhere to the Bow Wow Lounge rules that are posted in the room.

Assistance with Claims

Accredited BVA National Service Officers will be available from July 7-9 (Sunday through Tuesday) in Client Office 2 to address issues and questions about VA claims. Office hours will be 8:30am-5:00pm. Please stop by and greet National Service Officers Duayne Driscoll, Marlene Davis-Lilly, and Scott Quinlan.

Hotel Emergency

In case of a fire alarm or other emergency, the hotel's public address system will provide instructions. Please use the stairs or gather at your floor's designated location for rescue. Do not use the elevators!



2024 Schedule of Events *Subject to change Hyatt Regency Riverfront • Jacksonville, FL

Sunday, July 7 ROOM

8:30am-5:00pm – BVA VSP Office _____ **Client Office 2**

9:00am-5:00pm – BVA Registration Open _____ **Daytona**

9:00am-5:00pm – Bow Wow Lounge (*Sponsored by Waymo*) _____ **Acosta**

9:00am-5:00pm – Exhibit Hall Open _____ **Conference Center A/B**

7:00pm-8:00pm – 79th National Convention
Joint Opening Ceremony (*BVA/ACB*) _____ **Grand Ballroom**

Monday, July 8 ROOM

8:00am-9:00am – BVA Registration Open _____ **Daytona**

8:30am-5:00pm – BVA VSP Office _____ **Client Office 2**

9:00am-5:00pm – Bow Wow Lounge (*Sponsored by Waymo*) _____ **Acosta**

9:00am-11:30am – BVA Opening Business Meeting _____ **River Terrace 2**

9:00am-11:30am – BVA Auxiliary Opening Business Meeting _____ **City Terrace 8**

11:00am-5:00pm – Exhibit Hall Open _____ **Conference Center A/B**

1:00pm-3:00pm – Bylaws and Resolutions Meeting _____ **River Terrace 2**

1:00pm-3:00pm – BVA Auxiliary Committee Meetings _____ **City Terrace 8**

3:00pm-3:15pm – Break

3:15pm-4:15pm – Fireside Chat _____ **River Terrace 2**

4:15pm-5:00pm – Break

Monday, July 8 (continued) **ROOM**

5:00pm-6:00pm – BVA Gala Happy Hour _____ **River Terrace 3**

6:00pm-9:00pm – BVA Gala Reception _____ **River Terrace 1**

Keynote Speaker: Major General Patrick Sargent, USA, (RET)
FACHE, Senior Vice President and General Manager
Oracle Health Government Services

Tuesday, July 9 **ROOM**

7:30am-8:45am – BVA Ambassador Breakfast _____ **River Terrace 1**
(Sponsored by OrCam Technologies)

8:30am-5:00pm – BVA VSP Office _____ **Client Office 2**

9:00am-5:00pm – Bow Wow Lounge **(Sponsored by Waymo)** _____ **Acosta**

9:00am-10:00am – BVA Auxiliary New Business Meeting _____ **City Terrace 8**

9:00am-10:00am – BVA Board of Directors’
Membership Open Forum _____ **River Terrace 2**

10:15am-11:30am – Team BVA Outreach Teams Panel _____ **River Terrace 2**

11:00am-5:00pm – Exhibit Hall Open _____ **Conference Center A/B**

12:00pm-2:00pm – Father Carroll Luncheon
and Awards Ceremony _____ **River Terrace 1**
(Sponsored by Dot, Inc.)

Keynote Speaker: Corporal Matthew R. Bradford, USMC (RET)

2:00pm-3:00pm – Break

3:00pm-6:00pm – BVA Closing Business Meeting _____ **River Terrace 2**

3:00pm-6:00pm – **BVA Auxiliary Speaker:** _____ **City Terrace 8**
Barbara Webb, Dole Caregiver Fellow,
Elizabeth Dole Foundation, Caring for Military Families
Tricky Tray Winners Announced

6:00pm-7:00pm – Break

7:00pm-TBD – Florida Regional Group
50th Anniversary Celebration _____ **River Terrace**
(All BVA Members Invited)

Wednesday, July 10

ROOM

8:00am-10:00am – BVA/BVA Auxiliary _____ **River Terrace 3**
National Board of Directors Breakfast/Business Meeting
(Closed Session)

9:00am-1:00pm – Exhibit Hall Open _____ **Conference Center A/B**



Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront



BVA National Officers, Staff, and Geographical Divisions

2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

National President – Paul L. Mimms
National Vice President – Wade Davis
National Secretary – Tracy Ferro
National Treasurer – Joseph “Joe” Bogart
Director District 1 – Claudia Baldwin
Director District 2 – Joe Link
Director District 3 – Douglas Ingram
Director District 4 – Randall “Randy” Lee Cantrell
National Chaplain – Vacant
Judge Advocate – Stephen Butler
Sergeant-at-Arms – Brian O’Connell
Immediate Past President – Joseph D. McNeil, Sr.
Ombudsman – Tonora Lyn Shannon

NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

National Executive Director: Donald, D. Overton, Jr.
National Development Director: Meredith Buono-DaGrossa
National Membership Coordinator: Teresa Galgano
Deputy National Legislative Director: Alek Libbin
National Database Administrator: Andrea Malmer
National Communications Coordinator: Stuart Nelson
National Marketing Strategist: Kylie FitzGerald
National Communications Strategist: Steve Baskis
National Service Director: Duayne Driscoll
Deputy National Service Director: Marlene Davis-Lilly
National Service Officer: Scott Quinlan
National Program Coordinator: Vernon F. Humphrey, PhD
Webmaster: Jordan Chesley

DISTRICTS AND REGIONAL GROUPS

District 1 – Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

District 2 – Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin

District 3 – Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico

District 4 – California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Washington



Florida Theatre

Past Award Recipients

MELVIN J. MAAS AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

The Major General Melvin J. Maas Award, the highest honor bestowed by BVA, recognizes and honors annually a blind or low vision veteran who has attained a high level of proficiency in adjusting to life with sight loss, and who has achieved a high level of professional success and accomplishment in a chosen career field.

2024 – To Be Announced	1993 – Carl Kirksey
2023 – Dr. Vaneada “Vee” Harvey	1992 – Stephen Maquire
2022 – Dr. Thomas Zampieri	1991 – Don Garner
2021 – No Award Given	1990 – J. Dennis Cadigan
2020 – Thomas Miller	1989 – Buddy Spivey
2019 – Dr. Norman Jones	1988 – Robert Bottenberg
2018 – John Linder	1987 – Joe Burns
2017 – Kennan Horn	1986 – Clayton Simons, Sr.
2016 – Guadalupe (Walley) Guerra	1985 – William Thompson
2015 – James Hogan	1984 – Ellsworth Sharpe
2014 – Paul Mimms	1982 – Jerry Monroe
2013 – Joe Parker	1981 – George Stafford
2012 – Thomas Hicks	1980 – Dennis Wyant
2011 – Dan Standage	1979 – George Gillispie
2010 – Dr. L. Eugene Apple	1978 – Charles Boswell
2009 – Roy Kekahuna	1977 – Irvin Schloss
2008 – Roy Young	1976 – E. Sid Allen
2007 – Peter Link	1975 – Michael Johnson
2006 – Randy Greene	1974 – Salvatore D’Amico
2005 – George Brummell	1973 – John Amaniera, Jr.
2004 – Robert “Dale” Stamper	1972 – Michael Naranjo, Jr.
2003 – Dr. Sidney Ordway	1971 – Thomas Dargie
2002 – Wilbert Vandebos	1970 – Donald Wedewer
2001 – Vito DeSantis	1969 – Dr. George Stocking
2000 – Clifford Philips	1968 – Paul Dule
1999 – Mike Lewis	1967 – Richard Nooe
1998 – Dave Szumowski	1966 – Orlando Milano
1997 – Elizabeth Carr	1965 – Thomas Hasbrook
1996 – Michael Burton	1964 – John E. Hodgin
1995 – Ernie Flynn	1963 – Rob Crowley Riley
1994 – William Fullerton	1962 – H. Smith Shumway

Melvin J. Maas Award for Professional Achievement *(continued)*

1961 – Hez Bussey	1953 – Russell Williams
1960 – Walter Stromer	1952 – Jesse Castillo
1959 – Thomas Kennedy, Jr.	1951 – Hilliard Kirby
1958 – Vincent Lopez	1950 – Paul Grant
1957 – Welker Shue	1949 – Orlando Milano
1956 – James Womack	1948 – Thomas Atkeson
1955 – Criss Cole	1947 – Leonard Shelhamer
1954 – Charles Boswell	

IRVING DIENER AWARD

The Irving Diener Award, established in 1961 recognizes and honors annually the BVA member with the most outstanding contribution to the growth and development of their regional group apart from personal achievements or endeavors.

2024 – To Be Announced	2001 – Harold Powell
2023 – Gary Schoelerman	2000 – Mark Cornell
2022 – Michaun Harrison	1999 – Larry Grant
2021 – No Award Given	1998 – Harold Marshall
2020 – Tracy Ferro	1997 – Gerald McDonnell
2019 – Elizabeth Holmes	1996 – Frank Scarcella
2018 – Floyd Everett	1995 – C. Caroline Maas
2017 – Leonard Pope	1994 – Cornelius Appleby
2016 – Ruben Sanchez-Burgos	1993 – Larry Belote
2015 – Ruth Klein	1992 – Bryan Burnett
2014 – Charles Register	1991 – Russell Gage
2013 – No Nominees	1990 – Elizabeth Carr
2012 – Randall Durrigan	1989 – Bobby Ridener
2011 – No Nominees	1988 – Urban Miyares
2010 – Dennis O’Connell	1987 – Troy McKenzie
2009 – Bill Case	1986 – No Award Given
2008 – Roy Young	1985 – David Szumowski
2007 – No Nominees	1984 – Rev. Jack Kinley
2006 – Don Haynes	1983 – Harry Quiles
2005 – Gene Lowery	1982 – Dr. Ronald Miller
2004 – Terry King	1981 – John Fales, Jr.
2003 – Eldon Pugh	1980 – Henry Berube
2002 – Jimmy Hutcherson	1979 – Walter Powell

continued

Irving Diener Award *(continued)*

1978 – Harold Rogers	1969 – Robert Bescoe
1977 – Dr. George Stocking	1968 – Leonard Shelhammer
1976 – Dennis Wyant	1967 – Robert Ward
1975 – Frank Yagel, Jr.	1966 – Simon Gerbush
1974 – Julius Morris	1965 – Stephen Sivacek
1973 – George Mitchell	1964 – William Hughes
1972 – Harrison Gilpin	1963 – George Gilesie
1971 – Jerry Monroe	1962 – David Schnair
1970 – Clyde Waugh	

DAVID L. SCHNAIR AWARD

The David L. Schnair Award recognizes and honors the outstanding contributions of committed volunteers. BVA established this award in 1994 in memory and in honor of World War II veteran David L. Schnair, a BVA Board Member and a BVA Volunteer for nearly five decades.

2024 – To Be Announced	2012 – Enrique Sanchez
2023 – Tracy Ferro	2011 – Ronald Morales
2022 – Marlene Davis-Lilly	2010 – Robert Keller, Sr.
2021 – No Award Given	2009 – Ron Lester
2020 – Dennis Curry	2008 – Hazel Powell
2019 – Johnnie Busch, Sr.	2007 – Jack Shapiro
2018 – Anthony Ricci	2006 – Frank Armstrong
2017 – Dennis O’Connell	2005 – David T. May
2016 – Betty Charlesworth	2004 – Paul Kaminsky
2015 – Ronald G. White	2003 – Dora Gibe
2014 – Charles Davis	2002 – Rochelle Gurgle
2013 – Carl Hytinen	2001 – Corwin Mathews

GAVEL AWARDS

The Gold Gavel Award is presented to the regional group which achieves the largest numerical increase in membership during the past year.

The Silver Gavel Award is presented to the regional group which achieves the largest percentage increase in membership during the past year.

The Bronze Award is presented to the individual recruiter of the year.

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
2024	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
2023	Louisiana/Mississippi	Alabama	No Award Given
2022	Louisiana/Mississippi	Georgia	No Award Given
2021	No Award Given	No Award Given	No Award Given
2020	No Award Given	No Award Given	No Award Given
2019	Heartland	Illinois	No Award Given
2018	Massachusetts	White River Junction	Florida
2017	Rocky Mountain	Emerald Coast	Florida
2016	Louisiana	Emerald Coast	Florida
2015	Florida	Illinois	Minnesota
2014	Washington State	Wisconsin	Florida
2013	Southern California	Rio Grande	Florida

BVA National Convention Host Cities and Hotels

July 7-10, 2024	Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL
August 14-18, 2023	Marriott St. Louis Grand, St. Louis, MO
August 22-26, 2022	Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC
August 16-20, 2021	Virtual Educational and Business Sessions
August 10, 12, 18-20, 2020	Virtual Educational and Business Sessions
August 12-16, 2019	Marriott Tulsa Hotel Southern Hills, Tulsa, OK
August 13-17, 2018	Nugget Casino Resort, Reno, NV
August 14-18, 2017	Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL
August 22-26, 2016	Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Milwaukee, WI
August 18-21, 2015	Louisville Marriot Downtown, Louisville, KY
August 18-21, 2014	Nugget, Sparks, NV
August 20-23, 2013	Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane, WA
August 20-23, 2012	San Luis Resort, Galveston Island, TX

BVA National Convention Host Cities and Hotels *(continued)*

August 16-20, 2011	Golden Nugget Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
August 25-28, 2010	Marriott Crystal Gateway, Arlington, VA
August 18-22, 2009	DoubleTree Hotel, Portland, OR
August 14-18, 2008	Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, AZ
August 14-18, 2007	Hyatt Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM
August 15-19, 2006	Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY
August 16-20, 2005	Wyndham Miami Beach Resort, Miami Beach, FL
August 10-14, 2004	Reno Hilton Hotel, Reno, NV
August 26-30, 2003	Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC
August 13-17, 2002	St. Anthony Wyndham Hotel, San Antonio, TX
Aug-Sept 28-01, 2001	Riviera Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, NV
August 15-19, 2000	Radisson Resort Knott's Berry Farm, Anaheim, CA
August 17-21, 1999	San Juan Grand Beach Resort, San Juan, PR
August 11-15, 1998	Wyndham Northwest Hotel, Chicago, IL
August 19-23, 1997	Sands Regency Hotel, Reno, NV
August 12-17, 1996	Hotel Monteleone, New Orleans, LA
August 21-26, 1995	Stouffers Renaissance, Arlington, VA
August 23-27, 1994	Omni Netherlands, Cincinnati, OH
August 10-14, 1993	Holiday Inn, Tucson, AZ
August 11-15, 1992	Loewes Vanderbilt Plaza, Nashville, TN
August 20-24, 1991	Sands Regency Hotel, Reno, NV
August 01-11, 1990	Kennedy Plaza, Providence, RI
August 15-19, 1989	Radisson Hotel, Denver, CO
August 09-13, 1988	Omni San Diego, San Diego, CA
August 11-15, 1987	Omni International Hotel, Orlando, FL
August 10-14, 1986	Caribe Hilton, San Juan, PR
August 13-17, 1985	Holiday Inn, San Francisco, CA
August 07-11, 1984	Radisson-Plaza, Nashville, TN
June 26-30, 1983	Deaville Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ
August 10-14, 1982	International Hotel, New Orleans, LA
August 11-15, 1981	Stauffer's Hotel, Washington, DC
August 12-16, 1980	Sheraton Park Plaza, New Haven, CT
August 07-11, 1979	Wilshire Hyatt Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
August 08-12, 1978	International Hotel, New Orleans, LA

BVA National Convention Host Cities and Hotels *(continued)*

July 26-30, 1977	Stauffer's Hotel, Washington, DC
August 24-28, 1976	Ben Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
August 12-16, 1975	Statler-Hilton Hotel, New York, NY
August 06-10, 1974	Holiday Inn Hotel, Denver, CO
August 14-18, 1973	Dennis Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ
July 19-22, 1972	Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, CA
August 04-08, 1971	Playboy Plaza Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
July 13-18, 1970	Statler-Hilton, New York, NY
August 06-09, 1969	Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
July 24-27, 1968	Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco, CA
August 01-05, 1967	Hotel America, Hartford, CT
August 16-20, 1966	Deaville Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
July 12-17, 1965	Statler-Hilton Hotel, New York, NY
August 05-08, 1964	Granada, San Antonio, TX
August 06-10, 1963	Deshler-Hilton Hotel, Columbus, OH
August 07-11, 1962	The Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
July 18-22, 1961	Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, CA
August 03-06, 1960	Somerset Hotel, Boston, MA
August 04-09, 1959	Carillon Hotel, Miami Beach, FL
July 16-19, 1958	Hotel Ben Franklin, Seattle, WA
August 21-24, 1957	Hotel Statler, Hartford, CT
August 01-04, 1956	Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee, WI
August 02-06, 1955	Hotel New York, New York, NY
August 18-21, 1954	Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo, OH
August 19-22, 1953	Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
August 13-16, 1952	Palace Hotel, San Francisco, CA
August 08-11, 1951	Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, MA
August 23-26, 1950	Hotel Severn, Indianapolis, IN
September 07-10, 1949	Hotel Washington, Washington, DC
September 02-05, 1948	Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, CA
September 05-07, 1947	Continental Hotel, Chicago, IL
September 20-22, 1946	Lincoln Hotel, New York, NY

Out and About in Jacksonville

Welcome to the Blinded Veterans Association's 79th National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida. The city's Convention and Visitor's bureau, known officially as [Visit Jacksonville](#), claims that if Jacksonville were to be summed up briefly, it would be a boiled peanut, a secret recipe, an unexpected delight, or a place with a reason to pause rather than to merely pass through.



“We’re a little bit country, and a whole lot of rock n’ roll (southern rock n’ roll, that is),” the [Visit Jacksonville](#) description continues.

Jacksonville has a rich history dating back over 6,000 years. The area was originally inhabited by the Timucua people before being colonized by the Spanish in the 16th century. In 1822, Jacksonville became part of the United States when Florida was acquired from Spain. During the Civil War, Jacksonville played a significant role as a supply center for Confederate troops. After the war, it became a major port for shipping lumber and other goods. The city grew rapidly during this time and became an important center for industry and commerce.

In addition to its economic growth, Jacksonville also played a significant role in civil rights history. In 1960, Ax Handle Saturday occurred in downtown Jacksonville where white segregationists attacked African American protesters advocating for equal rights at lunch counters.

Jacksonville has also played a significant role as a major port for the United States Navy. Today, it is home to multiple naval bases and provides vital logistical support to Navy operations in the Atlantic because of Jacksonville’s unique geographical location. The city’s strategic location on the St. Johns River made it an ideal choice for the same military operations during World War II and beyond. The Navy’s presence in the city has profoundly impacted the local economy, with many businesses providing goods and services to support military personnel and their families.

Jacksonville is known for its museums, art galleries, professional sports, and lively music festivals. The city’s extensive park system, including the stunning Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, presents BVA convention attendees with ample recreational and exploration opportunities.

Downtown Jacksonville boasts 5.6 miles of beautiful riverfront, including almost three miles of riverwalk, perfect for a stroll or a jog by the St. Johns River or a stop at the iconic Friendship Fountain, pictured at right.



The city's outskirts also offer 22 miles of beautiful beaches with year-round sunshine and numerous waterways. The Jacksonville Shrimp, the Triple-A affiliate of the Miami Marlins, have a noteworthy presence in the city but are unfortunately on the road for the duration of the convention week, and the Jacksonville Jaguars begin training camp just a couple of weeks after the convention.

Now a thriving metropolis with more than a million citizens, Jacksonville boasts the largest municipal population among Florida cities thanks in part to its consolidated city-county government structure which combines municipal and county governments into one entity.

Downtown museums include the Ritz Theatre & Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, and the Museum of Science and History. Other attractions to visit include Sweet Pete's, a local candy factory with free tours. Visit the Jacksonville Public Library and do not miss the Imagination Squared Exhibit or the outdoor courtyard! You can get out on the water on one of the many tours offered by St. Johns River Taxi and Tours.

Stop in at one of three Visitor Centers to secure advice from a local expert or obtain information on downtown walking/talking tours. One exists at the Jacksonville International Airport that can be visited upon landing with a little extra time on hand. Another is found on North Laura Street in the heart of the city, and a third is located at the Beaches Museum and History Park, stop in to say hello and learn more about things to do in the area from a local expert. Grab some information on downtown walking and talking tours.

There are many ways to get around the heart of downtown. The Skyway, for example, connects downtown's Southbank to its Northbank in fewer than five minutes for free. You can also enjoy incredible views and move between downtown points of interest on the water taxi. To help you find your way, Downtown Ambassadors are always nearby ready to give directions and suggestions to visitors. They can be spotted by their bright orange shirts. Go Tuk'n partners with the Jacksonville Transportation Authority to offer pay-to-ride shuttle service in

Out and About in Jacksonville *(continued)*

downtown Jacksonville. To view the stops, download the Tuk'n Ride app from the Google Play and Apple app stores.

Visit Jacksonville offers a wealth of additional resources and tips for enjoying your stay in this historic city. Do not hesitate to refer to it **here** throughout the convention week.

Restaurants within a 5-minute walking distance:

- Shor Seafood Grill, inside the Hyatt Regency – melting pot of southern, creole, and Floridian flavors (breakfast, lunch, dinner)
- Morton's, The Steakhouse, inside the Hyatt Regency – prime aged beef and seafood
- SHOR2Go, inside the Hyatt Regency – pickup or delivery
- TAVERN, inside the Hyatt Regency – signature cocktails, craft beers, or wine with appetizers and grill items
- River Breeze Pool Bar – cocktails, beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks
- Market, inside the Hyatt Regency – steady rotation of fresh pastries, sandwiches, and flatbreads, as well as freshly brewed Starbucks coffee (open 24/7)
- D&G Deli and Grill, 223 East Bay Street – fresh salads, sandwiches, and grill items
- Bay Street Bar and Grill, 119 East Bay Street – pizza, burgers, sandwiches, salads
- Cowford Chophouse, 101 East Bay Street – steaks, seafood, cocktails, and rooftop views
- Casa Dora Italian Café, 108 East Forsyth Street – large menu of Italian recipes and pizza
- Dos Gatos, 123 East Forsyth Street – handcrafted cocktails
- Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, 1201 Riverplace Boulevard inside Crown Plaza Hotel – USDA prime beef

Out and About in Jacksonville *(continued)*

- Super Food and Brew, 11 East Forsyth Street – fresh sandwiches, salads, bowls, and entrees.
- Indochine, 21 East Adams Street, Suite 200 – Thai food and pho
- Burrito Gallery Downtown, 21 East Adams Street – flavors from down south and south of the border labeled Jax Mex.
- BB’s Restaurant, 1019 Hendricks Avenue – buzzing bistro serving innovative New American dishes and sweets from a dessert case amid “chic digs,” BB’s management asserts.
- Bread and Board, 100 West Bay Street – gourmet sandwiches and sandwich boards, entrees, fresh salads and soups, daily crew Specials, and brunch Saturdays and Sundays, craft beer.
- Sweet Pete’s, 400 North Hogan Street – famous for candy but also offers weekday classic American food specials, weekend brunch, and candy cocktails
- Estrella Cocina, 100 West Bay Street, Suite 701 – rooftop restaurant offering lively flavors of Mexican and coastal dishes
- Bellwether, 117 West Forsyth Street, Suite 100 – elevated southern classics



Jacksonville Beach

Exhibit Floorplan

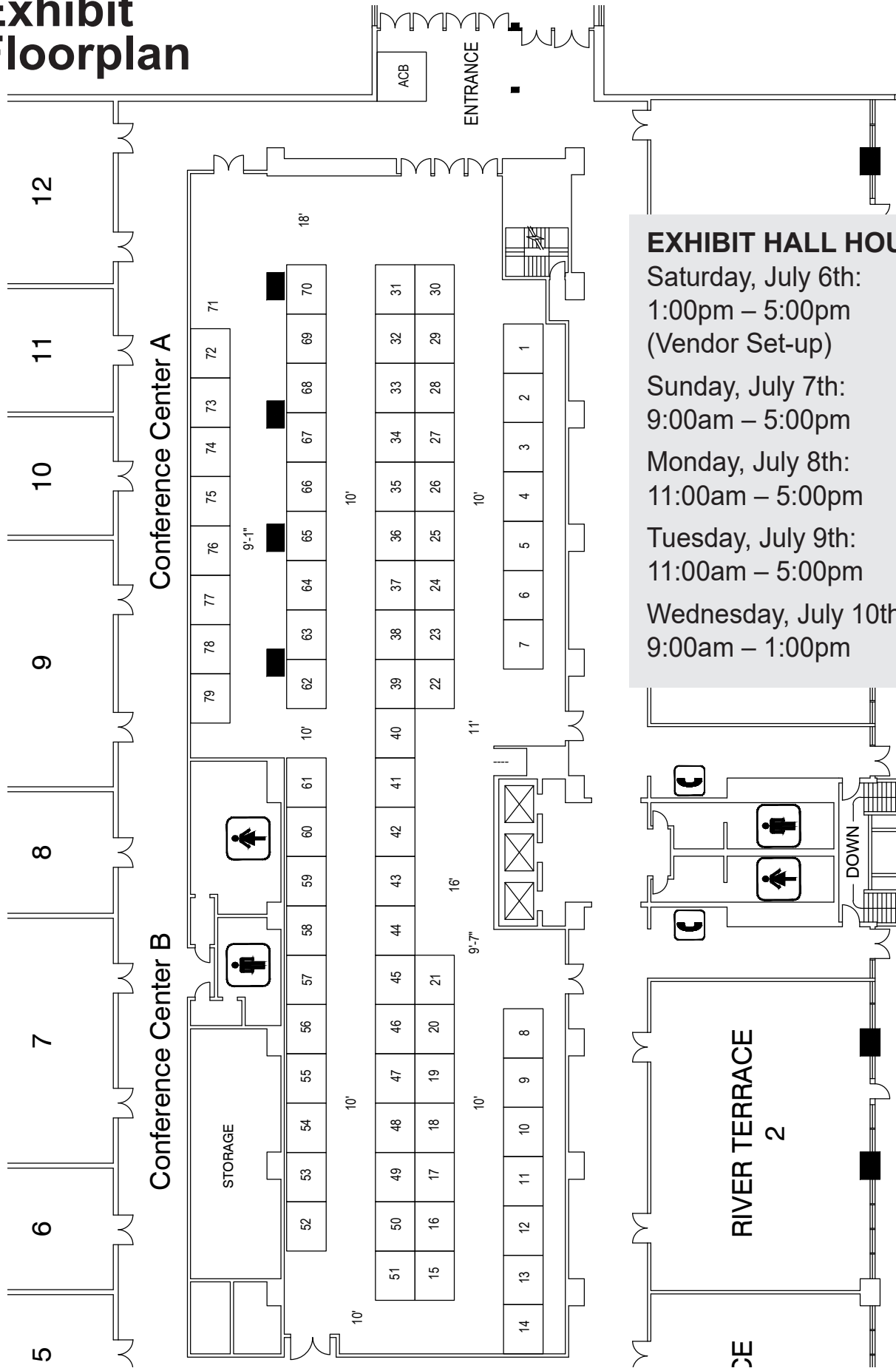


EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Saturday, July 6th:
1:00pm – 5:00pm
(Vendor Set-up)

Sunday, July 7th:
9:00am – 5:00pm

Monday, July 8th:
11:00am – 5:00pm

Tuesday, July 9th:
11:00am – 5:00pm

Wednesday, July 10th:
9:00am – 1:00pm

Exhibitors by Name and Booth Number

EXHIBITOR NAME	BOOTH NUMBER
ACB Angels	Booth #27
ACB Mini Mall	Booth #24
ACB Mini Mall	Booth #25
AIRA	Booth #59
American Braille Flag Project	Booth #22
American Printing House	Booth #31
American Printing House	Booth #32
BiPed.ai	Booth #6
Blazie Technologies, LLC	Booth #74
Blind Girl Designs	Booth #5
Bosma Enterprises	Booth #65
Braille Bibles International	Booth #37
Bureau of Engraving and Printing	Booth #14
Christian Record Services	Booth #76
Computers for the Blind	Booth #23
Digital FOV, LLC	Booth #15
Dogs, Inc.	Booth #60
DOT, Inc.	Booth #62
DOT, Inc.	Booth #63
Dream Vision Group	Booth #61
En-Vision America	Booth #11
Envision	Booth #54
Eschenbach Optic of America	Booth #70
eSight by Gentex Corp.	Booth #7
Florida Vision Technology	Booth #8
Genentech	Booth #68
Genentech	Booth #69

EXHIBITOR NAME**BOOTH NUMBER**

Glidance	Booth #71
GoodMaps	Booth #16
Guide Dog Foundation	Booth #47
Guide Dogs for the Blind	Booth #50
Guide Dogs for the Blind	Booth #51
Guide Dogs of America	Booth #38
Guide Dogs of the Desert	Booth #56
Guiding Eyes for the Blind	Booth #53
HIMS, Inc.	Booth #58
HumanWare	Booth #10
HumanWare	Booth #9
iBug Today	Booth #44
Insightful Visionaries	Booth #66
Irie-AT, Inc.	Booth #20
IRS	Booth #34
JW.ORG	Booth #79
Leader Dogs for the Blind	Booth #77
LVI America	Booth #52
Maggie Vision	Booth #21
National Braille Press	Booth #45
National Braille Press	Booth #46
National Industries for the Blind	Booth #78
National Library Service	Booth #13
ONECOMCO., LTD.	Booth #55
Orbit Research	Booth #48
OrCam	Booth #40
OrCam	Booth #41

EXHIBITOR NAME	BOOTH NUMBER
Palmer Vision	Booth #17
Palmer Vision	Booth #18
Palmer Vision	Booth #19
Patriot Vision Industries.	Booth #35
Patriot Vision Industries.	Booth #36
Penny Forward	Booth #43
Polara Enterprises.	Booth #1
Q&G Premium Products	Booth #72
Real Thing ai	Booth #49
Social Security Administration	Booth #12
Solar Groove Solutions	Booth #33
Spectrum	Booth #39
Tactile Engineering	Booth #73
The Seeing Eye	Booth #64
US1 Supply	Booth #75
Vanda Pharmaceuticals.	Booth #28
Vanda Pharmaceuticals.	Booth #29
Veterans of ACB	Booth #26
ViewPlus Technologies, Inc.	Booth #67
Vispero	Booth #2
Vispero	Booth #3
WayAround	Booth #4
WeWalk Limited.	Booth #30
Wisdom 4 the Blind	Booth #42
ZYRLO.	Booth #57

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESOURCES

VA Care and Urgent Care Facilities

JACKSONVILLE 1 VA CLINIC (2 miles)

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 5:30pm

Address: 1536 North Jefferson St, Jacksonville, FL 32209

Phone: (904) 475-5800

NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE- NAVAL HOSPITAL

JACKSONVILLE — TRICARE (11.2 miles)

Hours: 24-hour Emergency Room

Address: 2080 Child St, Jacksonville, FL 32214

Phone: (904) 542-7300

CARESPOT URGENT CARE — JACKSONVILLE ARLINGTON CESERY (3.6 miles)

Hours: 7 days a week from 8:00am – 8:00pm

Address: 1021 Cesery Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32211

Phone: (904) 743-2466

CARESPOT URGENT CARE — JACKSONVILLE SAN MARCO (3.7 miles)

Hours: 7 days a week from 8:00am – 8:00pm

Address: 4498 Hendricks Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32207-6326

Phone: (904) 854-1730

Veterinary Care

SAN MARCO ANIMAL HOSPITAL (1.7 miles)

Hours: Monday – Friday 7:00am – 6:00pm, Saturday 8:00am – 6:00pm, and Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm

Address: 1546 San Marco Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 516-9767

FOREVER VETS ANIMAL HOSPITAL AT RIVERSIDE (1.9 miles)

Hours: Monday – Saturday 7:00am – 7:00pm, Sunday 10:00am – 5:00pm

Address: 580 College St, Jacksonville, FL 32204

Phone: (904) 204-2191

RIVERSIDE ANIMAL HOSPITAL (3.3 miles)

Hours: Closed Monday and Sunday,

Open Tuesday – Friday 7:00am – 6:00pm, and Saturday 7:00am – 2:00pm

Address: 2641 Park St, Jacksonville, FL 32204

Phone: (904) 388-3494

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Other Medical Facilities

BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER JACKSONVILLE (1.3 miles)

Hours: 24 hours daily

Address: 800 Prudential Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 202-2000

WOLFSON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - MAIN CAMPUS (1.3 miles)

Hours: 24 hours daily

Address: 800 Prudential Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 202-8000

UF HEALTH JACKSONVILLE (2.3 miles)

Hours: 24 hours daily

Address: 655 W 8th St, Jacksonville, FL 32209

Phone: (904) 244-0411

ASCENSION ST. VINCENT'S RIVERSIDE (3.1 miles)

Hours: 24 hours daily

Address: 1 Shircliff Way, Jacksonville, FL 32204

Phone: (904) 308-7300

Pharmacies and Groceries

HARVEY'S SUPERMARKET (.6 miles)

Hours: Monday – Sunday 7:00am – 10:00pm

Address: 777 Market St, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: (904) 632-0844

WALGREENS (1.3 miles)

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 6:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm, and Sunday 9:00am – 1:00pm

Address: 836 Prudential Dr Suite120, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 202-5288

PUBLIX SUPERMARKET/PHARMACY (2.4 Miles)

Store Hours: Monday – Sunday 7:00am – 10:00pm

Pharmacy Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am – 9:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 7:00pm, Sunday 11:00am – 6:00pm

Address: 2039 Hendricks Ave Ste 325, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Pharmacy Phone: (904) 523-7317



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