# **Focus On ACBI**

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# **A Publication of the American Council of the Blind of Indiana**

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# **April-June 2025**

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## **Ways to contribute to the American Council of the Blind of Indiana:**

Those much-needed contributions, which are tax-deductible, can be sent to ACBI, Attn: Cindy Brooking, 676 VFW Road, Mitchell, Indiana 47446 or through our website noted above.

Vehicle donations: 1-800-929-8659. You can donate cars, trucks, vans, and boats. Live operators are on hand 7 days a week and it includes free pick-up.

Consider including a gift to ACBI in your Last Will and Testament.

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## From Your President

## By Rita Kersh

Now that we’re moving into summer, that means it’s time for the ACB National Conference & Convention. This year it will be in Dallas, and it looks like we’ll have six of our ACBI members attending in person. From what I’ve heard there will be a lot of business to conduct and of course there will be elections, resolutions and bylaw amendments to vote on by all of us.

### Individual Voting

Everyone will receive your individual voting code that will allow you to vote during the convention. The voting code will come to you in the format you currently receive your Braille Forum in. You can vote on-line or on the phone. All the details can be found in the voting material.

### Delegate votes

ACBI will only have three delegate votes this year. Any ACBI member who would like to participate in the delegate vote will contact either me, as your Delegate, at hoosierrita60@gmail.com or 812-797-7699 or Dee Ann Hart, your Alternate Delegate, at deeannhart3@gmail.com or 765-215-1211. We will work together to count the votes for each of you then at the beginning of the general sessions, one of us will give our delegate vote for ACBI.

I hope you have registered to join in virtually if you’re not able to attend in person. The national convention is always quite an experience.

## **Hoosier All State Chapter (HASC) News**

## **By Melissa Wobschall**

The Hoosier All State Chapter of the American Council of The Blind of Indiana is having a chill summer despite the hot weather outside. During the last Meeting, Dee Ann gave us a virtual tour of Muncie and Ball State University. In July, we will be taking the month off due to ACB's National Convention. In August, we will have a trivia month and discuss what we would like to talk about in the fall since the virtual tour have come to an end.

If you have a topic of interest, please contact me to let me know, or just come to the next meeting! We meet on second Tuesday of August. We are always happy when people show up at our meetings. :)

## **Bi-annual picnic**

## **By Maggie King**

Hello! This is Maggie King on the Picnic Committee. We have landed on a wonderful spot for this year’s picnic! It’s Munger Park (3505 Greenbush St, Lafayette, IN 47905). The date is September 6th, 2025. The park is located less than 10 minutes from State Road 26 and I-65. There are lots of hotels on that exit off I-65. I am sending 3 of the ones that I’ve found:

1. Courtyard Lafayette 150 Fairington Ave, Lafayette, IN 47905
2. Residence Inn Lafayette 3834 Grace Ln, Lafayette, IN 47905
3. Comfort Suites Lafayette 31 Frontage Rd Lafayette, IN 47905

We will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs. There will also be potato salad, coleslaw, chips, fruit and veggie trays.

I will be sending out more information soon that has specific times for the picnic on the 6th. There will be a Google Form for people that plan on attending to fill out so we can get an accurate head count for the day. If you would like to bring a dessert that would be great.

Also, there will be an auction, and the benefits will go towards the convention next year! If you would like to donate a basket (either individually or as a chapter) please email me with a general idea of your baskets theme so I can document it. We are looking for about 10 baskets.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out via email or text.

Maggie King

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## **Step by Step Together Awareness and Fundraising Campaign**

## **By Dee Ann Hart**

Please support the Indiana Pacesetters in our efforts to get up and to get moving step by step together for the 2025 American Council of the Blind (ACB) Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk (BDMW) awareness and fundraising campaign. Thus far Indiana Pacesetters have had five contributions with a donation balance of $725. The Indiana Pacesetters Walk team’s goal is to raise funds greater than $1,500. 50% of donations for affiliate teams can be designated to go back to that affiliate. Please donate! We have until the end of August to exceed our goal. Make your tax-deductible donations today. Reach Indiana Pacesetters crowdfunding page directly at:

[http://weblink.donorperfect.com/AmericanCounciloftheBlind/2025ACBBrendaDillonWalk/IndianaPacesetters](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fweblink.donorperfect.com%2FAmericanCounciloftheBlind%2F2025ACBBrendaDillonWalk%2FIndianaPacesetters&data=05%7C02%7Cmstores%40iu.edu%7C8b65ba20dbf34405768c08ddaaa7114c%7C1113be34aed14d00ab4bcdd02510be91%7C1%7C0%7C638854356708568842%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ir4YONB3uyKBjgAUi%2FV09s6pawVPa8OhrW7gku5TP6A%3D&reserved=0)

If you wish to pay with cash, check, money order or another method not supported through the webpage or if you need assistance, contact the Minnesota office at (612) 332-3242.

The Indiana Pacesetters Walk team is the Indiana affiliate of ACB. Our team goal is to continuously increase awareness within and about the blind, low vision/visually impaired and DeafBlind community and to raise funds to promote the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and overall quality of life for all individuals in this community. ACB's mission involves advocacy, public awareness, support and collaboration, serving as a clearinghouse, encouraging independence... ACB's vision: To create a society without barriers for the blind, low vision/visually impaired and DeafBlind community through our mission.

The Walk serves as an opportunity for us to raise-much needed funds for ACB and our affiliate at the same time. From a nationwide perspective our goal is to raise at least $64,000 in honor of ACB's 64th birthday.

Theme: The 2025 theme for the Walk is "Step by Step Together." This theme emphasizes unity, collaboration, and the collective effort to create a positive impact for the blind, low vision/visually impaired and DeafBlind community. The ACB BDMW fundraising campaign encourages participants to come together, recognizing that progress is made through collective action.

\* When: The walk is held during the ACB's 2025 national conference and convention. The in-person portion of the convention is scheduled for July 4-11, 2025. The on-site Walk held during the convention, will take place immediately after the Tailgate Party leading up to the opening session on Saturday, July 5, 2025. For questions about the Walk, contact Donna Brown, Walk Committee Chair, by phone at (304) 940-0292 or by emailing donnambrown59@gmail.com.

The 2025 ACB Conference and Convention, and therefore the walk, will be held in Dallas, Texas, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (300 Reunion Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207). There will also be opportunities for virtual participation across the country.

\* Purpose: The Walk serves as a platform to raise awareness about the challenges faced by people who are blind, low vision/visually impaired and DeafBlind and generates funds for various ACB initiatives. A portion of the proceeds often benefits state and special-interest affiliates.

History of the Walk: The Walk has been a well-attended event for the ACB for 16 years. The Walk was officially renamed the ACB Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk in 2014 to honor Brenda Dillon, who was one of the Walk's founders. The ACB BDMW is typically held during the ACB's national conference and convention.

About Brenda Dillon: Brenda Dillon (who passed away on July 11, 2013) was a deeply compassionate and dedicated individual with an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of people who are blind or low vision. Brenda Dillon's contributions to the ACB and the broader blindness community were immeasurable:

* Tireless Advocate: Brenda Dillon worked tirelessly to improve accessibility, promote inclusion, and advocate for the rights of the blind community.
* Mentor and Advisor: Brenda Dillon spent many years as an advisor to ACB Students, mentoring future ACB leaders and encouraging blind individuals to pursue careers in various professions, emphasizing that "students do not need sight to have a vision."
* Fundraising Prowess: Brenda Dillon was an exceptional fundraiser, instrumental in starting the ACB Auction and raising substantial funds for the ACB Walk. Brenda Dillon was known for her ability to secure contributions from anyone, regardless of their status.
* Leadership Roles: Brenda Dillon held leadership positions within the ACB and its affiliates, serving as President of the Mid-Tennessee Council of the Blind (MTCB) for six years, then President of the Tennessee Council of the Blind (TCB) for another six years, and later as Second Vice President of the ACB for a number of years.
* Counseling and Motivation: Brenda Dillon had a special passion for counseling individuals experiencing vision loss for the first time, helping them see vision loss not as an end but as the beginning of a new world.

Please donate! Help the Indiana Pacesetters surpass our goal to raise funds greater than $1,500. we have until the end of August to exceed our goal. Make your donations, today, reach Indiana Pacesetters crowdfunding page directly at:

[http://weblink.donorperfect.com/AmericanCounciloftheBlind/2025ACBBrendaDillonWalk/IndianaPacesetters](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fweblink.donorperfect.com%2FAmericanCounciloftheBlind%2F2025ACBBrendaDillonWalk%2FIndianaPacesetters&data=05%7C02%7Cmstores%40iu.edu%7C8b65ba20dbf34405768c08ddaaa7114c%7C1113be34aed14d00ab4bcdd02510be91%7C1%7C0%7C638854356708619781%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5f%2BctPSxbF2duSpnsQtEDQVRB7e5Fk0cYxFE9Y0c6Cc%3D&reserved=0)

## **Password Managers for the Blind**

## **By Tim Dixon**

As more of our daily lives have gone digital, it feels like we have passwords for everything. Passwords are key to ensuring our data is secure and private, we don’t want others to be able to access our information. Most of us, if not all, started out using the same password for everything so we could remember it. However, this has proven to be a big issue as you are only as secure as the weakest website. It is best practice to use a different password for each website, but when you have over a thousand passwords how do you remember them all? A Password Manager, but which are Password Managers for the Blind.

### What is a Password Manager?

A password manager is a secure digital tool that helps you store, organize, and manage your passwords in one central, encrypted location. Instead of remembering dozens of complex passwords for different websites and services, you only need to remember one strong master password to access the manager. It can automatically generate strong, unique passwords for each account, fill them in when you log into sites or apps, and sync them across your devices. This not only improves your online security but also makes it far easier to manage your digital life—especially for those using screen readers, as many password managers are designed with accessibility in mind.

Here’s why they’re so valuable:

* Strong Passwords: Automatically generates complex, random passwords that are virtually impossible to guess or crack.
* Unique for Every Site: Using different passwords for each service helps contain breaches to a single account.
* Convenience: No need to remember dozens (or hundreds) of passwords—just one master password to unlock your manager.
* Secure Sharing: Share access to accounts with trusted people (e.g., family or team members) without revealing the actual password.
* \Multi-device Syncing: Access your credentials across phones, tablets, and computers.
* Accessibility Features: Good password managers provide screen reader compatibility for blind and visually impaired users.

### What is Two Factor Authentication?

Two-factor authentication, or 2FA, adds an extra layer of security to your online accounts by requiring two things to log in: something you know (like your password) and something you have (like a code sent to your phone or generated by an app). Even if someone steals your password, they still can’t access your account without the second step, making it much harder for hackers to get in. It’s like needing both a key and a security code to unlock your front door.

Passkeys are a new way to log in to websites and apps without needing to remember a password at all. Instead of typing something in, you use something you already have, like your fingerprint, face, or device PIN, to prove it’s really you. It works a bit like unlocking your phone. Behind the scenes, your device securely stores a digital key that matches a key held by the website, and they work together to log you in. It’s faster, safer, and much harder for hackers to steal than traditional passwords.

### Password Managers for the Blind

There are lots of password managers available, but not all of them work well with screen readers. Let’s cover Password Managers that support screen readers.

#### Built-in Password Managers

There are built-in password managers for Apple, Google and Microsoft that are available out of the box.

##### Apple iCloud Keychain / Passwords App

Website: [Apple Support Article on Passwords App](https://support.apple.com/en-us/120758)

Platform: macOS, iOS, iPadOS, Limited Support for Windows

Accessibility:

* Fully compatible with VoiceOver, Apple’s built-in screen reader.

Strengths:

* Automatically suggests strong passwords.
* Syncs seamlessly via iCloud.
* Autofills in Safari and many apps.
* Integrated two-factor authentication (2FA) codes.
* Supports Passkeys

Considerations:

* Limited to Apple ecosystem.
* No secure sharing with others outside your Family.
* Not ideal for cross-platform users or advanced workflows.

##### Google Password Manager

Website: [Google Password Manager Support Page](https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/6208650?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&oco=1)

Platform: Chrome browser, Android, limited support on iOS

Accessibility:

* Works with TalkBack on Android and screen readers on Chrome desktop.
* Mixed accessibility results depending on the platform and browser.

Strengths:

* Syncs across Chrome browsers on different devices.
* Integrated into Android and Google account.

Considerations:

* Less control over stored credentials.
* Accessibility lags behind Apple in consistency.
* Autofill sometimes unreliable outside Chrome.

##### Edge Password Manager / Microsoft Authenticator

Website: [Microsoft Support Article for Edge Password Manager](https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftedge/forum/all/how-to-manage-saved-passwords-in-microsoft-edge/e80f5472-5e37-4053-a857-5ec1e5f4fa94)

Platform: Windows, Android, iOS, Microsoft Edge browser

Accessibility:

* Works with Narrator on Windows and VoiceOver/TalkBack on mobile devices.
* Ongoing improvements to keyboard and screen reader support in the Edge interface.

Strengths:

* Stores and syncs passwords securely across Microsoft services.
* Integrated with Microsoft Authenticator app for autofill and 2FA support.
* Works well for users in the Microsoft ecosystem, especially with Windows and Office 365.

Considerations:

* Autofill mainly optimized for use within Microsoft Edge.
* Feature set is more limited than third-party managers like 1Password.
* Password sharing and advanced breach alerts not yet available.

#### Third Party Password Managers

While built-in password managers are a great starting point, they are often limited by their limited cross platform support. For cross-platform support a third-party password manager is needed. There are many password managers available, but let’s look at third party password managers that work with well with screen readers.

##### 1Password

Website: [www.1password.com](https://www.1password.com)

Platform: macOS, Windows, Linux, iOS, Android, web

Accessibility:

* Strong VoiceOver and TalkBack support.
* Keyboard navigation works well with screen readers.

Strengths:

* Excellent cross-platform syncing.
* Watchtower feature alerts you to compromised passwords.
* Secure password sharing and secure notes.
* Built-in support for 2FA token storage.
* Built-in Passkey support.
* Family and business plans available.

Considerations:

* Paid subscription (though includes generous features).
* Slight learning curve for newcomers.

##### BitWarden

Website: [www.bitwarden.com](https://bitwarden.com)

Platform: macOS, Windows, Linux, iOS, Android, web

Accessibility:

* Highly accessible across platforms.
* VoiceOver, NVDA, JAWS, and TalkBack compatibility tested by the community.

Strengths:

* Free tier is generous and includes password generation, syncing, and vault access.
* Open source and regularly audited.
* Option for local hosting.
* Paid plan includes encrypted file storage, 2FA integration, and more.

Considerations:

* UI is more technical than 1Password but still navigable.
* Fewer convenience features like automatic breach notifications on free tier.

#### Conclusion

Selecting a password manager really depends on your situation. If you are only using one ecosystem, then you will likely be happy with one of the built-in password managers. However, if you are using multiple platforms (e.g. Mac and Android) then you will need to go with a third-party password manager. 1Password provides a slick interface, lots of features and excellent support for a reasonable subscription cost. However, if you are more technical or don’t want yet another subscription then BitWarden has you covered.

I personally use 1Password with a family subscription – it makes securing and sharing our passwords a breeze. Check out [My Blind Tech Setup 2025](https://www.timdixon.net/blog/2025/01/my-blind-tech-setup-2025/) to find out what else I use.

Tell me what you think in the comments below or on X @timdixon82

<https://www.timdixon.net/blog/2025/04/password-managers-for-the-blind/>

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