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The ALRID News

ALRID... The Interpreter's Source for Success!

President's Update

Submitted by: Karen McLean, ALRID President

The springtime is surely a welcome sight! The Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf has had 3 local chapters to close. The Montgomery chapter has been closed for non compliance. The Dothan and Birmingham chapters have dissolved for lack of interest. Letters have been sent to all these chapters instructing them to close their bank accounts and submit their funds to ALRID. All monies will be returned to the chapters should they reestablish within one year.

The fact that there are large areas of Alabama where ALRID has no presence is very disturbing. A task force has been established to investigate the best method of serving the areas that have no local chapter. A survey is being developed to distribute to all interpret-

ers in Alabama. The survey will help the board get a better idea of how we can advocate and better serve everyone. Changing the structure from local chapters to regions with representatives is one idea that has been tossed around. Putting more effort into better public awareness is another. Please watch for the survey and share it with interpreters who may not be affiliated with ALRID.

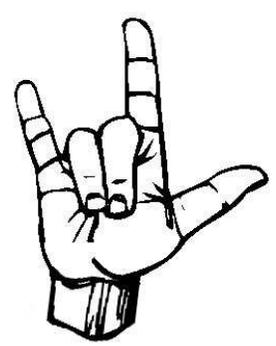
The ALRID Professional Development Committee has made changes to the Sue Scott Scholarship to include the Educational Interpreter Proficiency Assessment (EIPA) as one of the certification assessments accepted for the scholarship. The Board passed these changes. Please visit the ALRID website for more details. www.alrid.org



Inside this issue:



Rewind and Play it Again	2
ALBIT Board News	3
Updates from RID	3
Interpreters and Vicarious Trauma	4
AAD 41st Biennial Conference Application	5
International Institute of Deaf Services	6
Celebrate Deaf Legacy and Literacy	7
ALRID Application for Membership	8
The ALRID Advertising and Newsletter	9



Rewind and Play it Again

By: Sharon Ditto, HRID President

You may remember an article that appeared in ALRID News last fall entitled "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." It addressed the suggestion of changing the structure of ALRID in a way that in other states has divided each state into broad regions with regional representatives; local chapters of those states were disbanded. Just so you'll know, that article was my article, but that title was not my title. (The article I sent in was untitled, and so that "If it ain't broke..." was assigned by someone else.) Also, just so you'll know, my sight is not impaired, I don't wear blinders, and I don't live in a box or think in one.

ALRID is struggling. Some local chapters have only a handful of members and an overwhelmed leadership. Some local chapters have closed for apparent lack of interest, not in the profession of interpreting or in seeing the Deaf have avenues of excellent communication, but in meeting the requirements mandated by ALRID (requirements placed on ALRID by RID.) One local chapter closed because the need for which it was established can now be met in other ways. A couple of local chapters are doing quite well. Two local chapters, having undergone decline and near-death-experiences, have been seen taking deep breaths and showing



signs of life, thanks to a couple of enthusiastic leaders who recently moved to Alabama.

The process of restructuring a state takes much time and effort. That same time and effort given to the local chapter structure we have had for many years now would produce revitalization. I favor directing our focus toward seeking out and welcoming the EIPA certified interpreters recently accepted into the RID fold. I favor directing our focus toward promoting an Interpreter Training Program in the state. Bringing in new perspectives and youthful leadership will certainly provide a breath of fresh air to our state organization.

Here in Huntsville, several HRID members have discussed the topic of restructure at length. We agree with the reasons listed by RID in the Local Affiliate Handbook, 2002, section 10, which follows:

"There are numerous reasons why some affiliate chapters decided to utilize this local chapter structure:

- ◆ It parallels the structure of another organization in their state, so it is something with which they are familiar. (Local colleges, Department of Education, other Deaf or Deafness related organizations)
- ◆ It provides more direct con-

tact with their members.

- ◆ It is easier to provide more frequent workshops for a smaller locale and it reduces the miles members have to travel to attend workshops.
- ◆ It begins the development of leadership skills in incremental steps. Someone who is not willing or perhaps ready to be an officer for the affiliate chapter might be willing or ready to be an officer for a local chapter. This parallels the development of many of our national officers who have served at the affiliate chapter level, then the regional level, and finally the national level.
- ◆ It helps assure that members do not fall through the cracks.
- ◆ It is a comfortable first step for a member to join and know most of the other members.
- ◆ It is a great way to recruit students who are in interpreter education programs.
- ◆ It responds to unique needs of local groups."

Sincerely yours, Sharon Ditto,
President HRID



ALBIT Board News

Submitted by: Patti Sheets, ALBIT Board



New Board Administrator Hired

The Alabama Board of Interpreters and Transliterators for the Deaf has been actively working to secure external funding for Board administration so that we can provide better services to the licensed and permitted interpreters of this state without having to raise fees. Thanks to Belinda Montgomery, ALBIT Chair, and Board Members, Janice Hawkins, and Judith Gilliam, monies were obtained through the Public Service Commission to support this effort. The Board has contracted with *Leadership Alliance, LLC Professional Board Management* to handle the Board administration. Paula Scout McCaleb is the President of *Leadership Alliance* with offices located at 7550 Halcyon Summit Dr., Suite 125, Montgomery, AL 36117. *Leadership Alliance* also represents Alabama Board of Examiners in Marriage and Family Therapy, Alabama Board of Court Reporting, Alabama State Board of Respiratory Therapy, and Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment Service Providers. Except for the July meeting, all committee meetings, Board meetings, and public hearings will be held at the new offices. There is a designated telephone line for ALBIT, with a full-time staff which should translate to better services. Should you need to bring an issue to the Board's attention, we ask that you contact the Board Adminis-

trator rather than contacting individual Board members. I have been astonished at the mounds of official paperwork that is required and have been amazed and appreciative of the work that Belinda Montgomery and Cynthia Frey did on a voluntary basis during the long interim without a Board Administrator.

Website

Please check out the Board's website at <http://www.albit.state.al.us/>. We have been working hard to update the website to have information and forms available online. Please give us feedback and let us know what is working and where there are glitches so we can straighten it out. The phone and fax numbers for the new offices are on the main webpage.

Renewals

March is the renewal month for licenses and permits. Cards have been redesigned in hopes of providing better information to consumers as to the various levels and meanings. Renewal cards will look more like a credit card, and similar to what RID uses. Cards will be printed in "batches" and mailed out. The target date for the first batch of cards to be mailed is in April.

EIPA and National Certification

The ALBIT Board recognizes RID certification for licensure in Alabama according

to the licensure law. The RID recognized a 4.0 on the EIPA for national certification. As a result of this action, ALBIT now recognizes a 4.0 or better on the EIPA for regular licensure.

Equivalencies

In additional Board action, an effort was made to better correlate test scores. It was determined that to receive a Permit, the following scores would be required:

GA-QA	3.0
MS-QA	3.0
FL QA EIE	3.0

In addition, the EIPA required score was changed from a 3.5 to a 3.0 for a permit.

Future Board Meetings

Dates of the Board meetings will be listed on the ALBIT website. Of special note is the July meeting which will be held in Mobile, Alabama during the Special Education Megaconference. In an effort to give more interpreters an opportunity to participate in Board meetings, the Board voted to have this meeting in Mobile. Educational Interpreters will be meeting for training during this time and time is being allocated during the workshop for them to attend this Board meeting and to voice their needs and concerns. This meeting, of course, is open to everyone.

Updates from RID

Submitted by: Susan Gordon, ALRID Secretary



Part of the National Testing System's question and answer page: <http://www.rid.org/ntsnews.html>

Q. I am already certified. I heard there would be grandfathering for the degree requirements. Am I exempt from the requirements? Is there a substitute to holding a degree?

A. If you are already certified, you will not need to have a degree in order to maintain your certification. You will need to have a degree if you want to take further performance exams.

There will be alternatives to holding a degree. The Certification Council recom-

mended equivalent alternatives in lieu of the educational requirements that the RID Board of Directors approved. These are: life experience - a portfolio assessment would be prepared by an accredited college or university; years of professional experience - (a) national certification would be considered; and (b) a portfolio assessment would be prepared by an accredited college or university; years of education - a person would need at least 60 college credits in defined categories below to be equivalent to an associate's degree and 120 credits for a bachelor's degree. Categories of credit for equivalencies (9 credits must be

completed in each category. 15 credits can be completed in any area of study): English-English Literature, English Composition, etc. Social Sciences - Psychology, Sociology, etc. Math/Sciences - Algebra, Basic Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, etc. Language arts - ASL, Spanish, etc. Liberal Art - Art appreciation, Music appreciation, etc.

Questions on grandfathering degree requirements

Interpreters and Vicarious Trauma

Presenter: Steve Hamerdinger



- ◆ This professional studies program is offered for .4 CEUs at the "some" content knowledge level for participants in the CMP and ACET programs.
- ◆ This workshop is offered to experienced interpreters due to subject matter. There will be no voice interpreting.

Steve Hamerdinger, has been Director of the Office of Deaf Services at the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (ADMHRMR) since January, 2003.

Highlights

- ◆ Define Vicarious Trauma and Secondary Trauma Stress
- ◆ Identify effects of VT/STS
- ◆ Identify strategies for coping with effects

Mail your name, address, and payment to:

PLACE: ADRS 3000 Johnson Road SW, Huntsville, AL

Contact person: Sharon Ditto@aol.com; 721-9366

HRID c/o June Pockrus
P.O. Box 2824
Huntsville, AL 35804



ADMHRMR is an approved RID CMP Sponsor for continuing education activities.

RID Activity Code 0263.0407.02

By April 18: \$20.00

At the door: \$25.00

Refunds with 5 day written request



Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!

AAD 41st Biennial Conference June 14-17, 2007

REGISTRATION FORM:

Name(s):	
Name(s) for Badge:	
Address:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Videophone:	
Number of Tickets:	
Total amount enclosed:	

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ You will save \$30 if you buy your
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ combo ticket now! So hurry up
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ and buy it, use the extra money
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ to enjoy yourself at the confer-
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ence—better yet—use it for the
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ hotel room if you haven't re-
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ served a room yet! Hope to see
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ y'all there!

COMBO TICKETS:

Deadline: May 5, 2007	\$120
At the Door	\$150 with no banquet

Make checks or money orders payable to:
2007 AAD Conference
 Mail the check and registration form to:
 Harvey Brasher, 2007 AAD Conference Treasurer
 P.O. Box 35
 Chelsea, AL 35043

For additional information about AAD conference, please contact Shannon Reese at fitdeaf@aol.com

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Hilton Birmingham Perimeter Park
 8 Perimeter Park South
 Birmingham, AL 35243
 Phone: 1-205-967-2700
 Fax: 1-205-972-8603

Room Type:

- King (\$89.00 Rate + tax)
- Double/Double (\$89.00 Rate + tax)

***Guest Room Block will be held until May 14, 2007**

Reservations can be made by the following:

Call the Hilton Hotel in Birmingham and make sure that you state that you are with the Alabama Association of the Deaf in order to receive the discounted group rate. **The group code is AAD.**

COMBO INCLUDES:

- Registration Fee
- Workshops
- Snacks/Breakfast/Lunch
- Banquet
- Entertainment
- 2-year AAD Membership Fee
- Miss Deaf Alabama Pageant

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DEAF SERVICES

presents

Celebrate Deaf Legacy and Literacy

April 13 - 14, 2007
Birmingham, Alabama

Purpose of Celebrate Deaf Legacy and Literacy

To reach out to our diverse community increasing their awareness of the rich deaf history and of our various library resources that will benefit the public-deaf and hearing. By observing National Deaf History Month offer an occasion to celebrate the legacy and many contributions made by people who share the personal, familial or societal deaf experience as well as instill into our young deaf/hard of hearing students their own legacy and their self worth.

Voice Interpreters provided for the Hearing and signed impaired



RID CEUs Pending

For more information, contact:
Paul William Ellis
(205) 305-2173 vp/text/voice
pwellis@enablelight.com
www.enablelight.com



Celebrate Deaf Legacy and Literacy

SCHEDULE

Friday, April 13, 2007

CELEBRATE DEAF LEGACY AND LITERACY AT YOUR LIBRARY AWARD CEREMONY

This is an opportunity to celebrate Deaf/Hard of Hearing students who have achieved success. Students, as well as the community, will have the opportunity to interact with national and state recognized presenters and to become better aware of library resources that will benefit the public - Hearing and Deaf.

Place

Birmingham Public Library
Five Points West
4812 Avenue W
Birmingham, AL 35208

Time

10:30 am - 1:00 pm Awards Ceremony

Cost

FREE to the public - Deaf and Hearing

Saturday, April 14, 2007

CELEBRATE DEAF AND LITERACY SYMPOSIUM

This is an opportunity to learn from recognized presenters, to network with others in the field and to learn about the rich deaf history.

Place

McWane Science Center
Special Event Center (park on level C)
200 19th Street North
Birmingham, AL 35203

Time

Registration 8:30 am
Symposium will start promptly at 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Cost

\$25.00 before April 14, 2007
\$35.00 day of Symposium, includes lunch and parking
OPEN to the Public - Deaf and Hearing

PRESENTERS

Bobbie Beth Scroggins (Deaf), National Association of the Deaf, President

Pamela Kay Baldwin (Deaf), Historian/Presenter

Paul William Ellis (Hearing), Founder/CEO - International Institute of Deaf Services

Shawn Richardson (Deaf), Graphic Artist

Terry Dahlgren (Deaf), DI/Graphic Artist

LaShawn Washington (Deaf), BSW

EVENT PARTNERS

Birmingham Public Library
Alabama Association of the Deaf
Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Alabama Black Deaf Advocates
Office of Deaf Services—Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation

REGISTRATION FORM

Register by April 3rd in order to confirm food selection for lunch on Saturday, April 14th

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Select one: Deaf, Hearing, Interpreter, Educator, Student, ITP

Select one (4/14): Chicken Salad Croissant, Fried Chicken Wrap, Roast Beef and Swiss on Ciabatta, Vegetable Wrap

Please enclose your check or money order made payable to IIDS and mail to:

IIDS/NDHM, P.O. Box 39009, Birmingham, AL 35208



ALABAMA REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
Fiscal Year July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ Local Division: _____

Email Address: _____

Credentials: _____

ALRID Newsletter: E-mail Address or U.S. Postal Service (Check One).

PAYMENT ALRID Membership Dues \$25.00
Donations: Scholarship Fund
Training Fund
Other
After June 30, 2007, Add \$5.00 Late Fee
TOTAL \$ _____

Check or Money Order can be made payable to **ALRID** and will serve as your receipt.
ALRID shall assess a \$25.00 fee for each check returned due to insufficient funds.

Send Application and Payment to: Susan Gordon, Secretary
1305 37th Street East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403
(205) 554-1300
Susan.Gordon@rehab.alabama.gov

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Check #: _____

Editor, The ALRID News
% Amelia J. England, ADRS
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Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

If you would like to submit
updates to the ALRID website,
send email to Cindy Camp at
ccamp@jsu.edu



The ALRID News ADVERTISING!

ALRID does not necessarily endorse or support any products or businesses whose advertisements appear in the ALRID Newsletter. The ALRID Board makes the final decision on which ads to publish.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Full-page ad:	\$20.00
Half-page ad:	\$10.00
Quarter page ad:	\$5.00
Business card ad:	\$2.50

Email print-ready ad to:

Amelia.England@rehab.alabama.gov

Send appropriate fee to:

*Lisa Gould, Vice-President
The ALRID NEWS
1050 Government Street
Mobile, AL 36604*

The ALRID News NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor: *Amelia J. England*

Tel: (205) 554-1300

Email: *Amelia.England@rehab.alabama.gov*

Volume 6 Publication Dates:

Issue 1: JUL/AUG Submissions Deadline: JUL 15

Issue 2: SEP/OCT Submissions Deadline: SEP 15

Issue 3: NOV/DEC Submissions Deadline: NOV 15

Issue 4: JAN/FEB Submissions Deadline: JAN 15

Issue 5: MAR/APR Submissions Deadline: MAR 15

Issue 6: MAY/JUN Submissions Deadline: MAY 15

We are on the Web!
www.alrid.org