



A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION OF

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

THE ALRID NEWS...

ALRID... THE INTERPRETER'S SOURCE FOR SUCCESS!

JULY/AUGUST 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2008 CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP 2

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) 2

PASSED CDI WRITTEN EXAM 2

TUSCALOOSA RID NEW OFFICERS 3

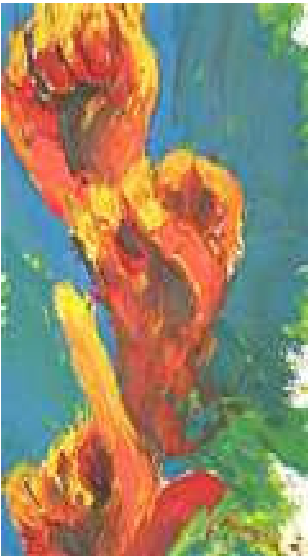
THE PROFESSIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER'S HANDBOOK 3

2008 ALRID CONFERENCE COMMITTEES 4

2008 ALRID CONFERENCE SPONSORS 5

HRID WORKSHOP 6

MOBILE DIVISION OF ALRID WORKSHOP 7



NEW PRESIDENT'S NEWS

SUBMITTED BY: MELVIN WALKER, PRESIDENT



This is my first article as the new president of ALRID. I am excited with the prospect of our organization continuing to grow to new heights. Let me begin by introducing myself to those who might not know me. I reside in Madison, which is right outside of Huntsville, and am also a native of Huntsville. My parents are both Deaf which makes me a CODA!! My wife is Deaf and usually the most exciting part of my life, to most people, would be my six daughters. My girls range in age from sixteen to two and a half. The

youngest are identical twins. I have worked as a "paid" interpreter for about eighteen years with the last five years being a staff interpreter for Vocational Rehab. I am certified CI/CT and NAD V. I currently serve as chairman of the ALBIT and have

served on various committees for ALRID for the past several years. Suffice it to say, I think I bring many years of experience with me into this new position.

The ALRID Board is planning to meet in mid to late September for our first face to face meeting as a board. We will work on developing goals for the next two years. There are lots of opportunities for our state chapter to grow and this is the best time to start brainstorming. The new Board officers are as follows: Dee Johnston, Vice-

President; Susan Gordon, Secretary; Lori Pituk, Treasurer; Karen McLean, Immediate Past President; Belinda Montgomery, Cheryl Willis, and Jodie Jernigan, Members-at-Large; Frances Smallwood, Willie McLellan, Stephanie Manning, and Stephen Cain, Local Chapter Presidents.

Remember that this organization is YOUR organization; so please let us know what you would like to see happen. A few of the things I have thought about are trainings offered in various areas of the state, connecting with the new ITP program, getting clarification on the RID rulings about the local chapters, and making our website more useful for our members. These are topics off the top of my head, and I expect the first board meeting to end with lots of ideas and a list of goals that can be accomplished. I look forward to working with each and every one of you in times to come.

LETTERS OF INTEREST NEEDED BY ALRID!

SUBMITTED BY: MELVIN WALKER, PRESIDENT

There are two ALRID positions for the ALBIT that will be available for appointment by the Governor on January 1, 2009. ALRID has the responsibility to recommend three interpreters to the Governor's office for these appointments. One of the appointments must be an Educational Interpreter and the law stipulates that Interpreters must be Nationally Certified. If you are interested in these positions, please send a letter

of interest along with a current resume to the ALRID Board, C/O Susan Gordon. You can email your materials to Susan.Gordon@rehab.alabama.gov or mail your materials to ADRS, Attn: Susan Gordon, 1305 37th St. East, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-1610. All letters of interest and resumes should be received by ALRID no later than September 15, 2008, to be considered. If you would like more information about the

ALBIT, please feel free to send you questions to me, Melvin Walker, at Melvin.Walker@rehab.alabama.gov. The one thing that I do ask is that before you send your letter of interest and resume, please take some time to consider the TIME COMMITMENT you must make to be a board member. If you are able to make the time commitment then your expertise and talents

2008 CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP

SUBMITTED BY: MELVIN WALKER, PRESIDENT

The 2008 Conference was a great success! There were 71 participants, 6 trainings, 5 presenters, an ALBIT Forum, the ALRID business meeting, and a total of 1.4 CEUs offered. This was all accomplished in a two day period. Can you say jam packed!! Overall the conference evaluations were very positive, and everyone seemed to enjoy and benefit from the materials presented. Many of the comments made were to keep the conference in Montgomery due to its being centrally located and many more complimented the choice of hotel. I must say

that the Renaissance was an excellent choice as the service was impeccable! I would like to thank the committees for all of their hard work and to the presenters for bringing such great information and sharing it in a way in which we could all benefit. Also to our sponsors, without you we could not have pulled this off, and we thank you for your constant support of interpreters within Alabama. Lastly, to our interpreters, thank you for giving of your time and talents to ensure that our conference went beyond the standard levels of professionalism. This year the ALRID

conference started a new tradition by teaming up with Deaf Interpreters to provide platform interpreting. Thanks to Amelia England and Shannon Reese for doing an OUTSTANDING job! You ladies made a little bit of history, and I can't think of any two better to do so.

List of committee members and sponsors for the ALRID Conference continued on page 4 and 5.



Anthony Aramburo did an oath with the new officers: Melvin, Dee, Susan, Lori, and Jodie.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

SUBMITTED BY: AMELIA ENGLAND, EDITOR

Is it easier to use sign language as a method of communication which uses hand movements and other gestures? Is it harder to use sign languages that are rich, complex languages capable of expressing the same scope of thoughts, feelings, intentions and complexities as spoken languages? In my opinion, it is better to use gestures if there is communication break down between hearing and Deaf individuals. I also feel that it is harder for hearing people to learn and use a

rich and complex language such as American Sign Language.

While there are more than one hundred different sign languages used throughout the world the language used by the majority of culturally Deaf North Americans is ASL. I predict that as long as there are Deaf people on this Earth ASL will remain a valued part of our culture.

Did you know that American Sign Language is the fourth most commonly used language in the United States? Of course! ASL is a visual language with its own grammatical rules and semantics. Many public schools and universities now offer classes in ASL and recognize ASL as a modern "foreign" language. It is about time! PAH!

"I passed!!!! I'm just glad to report that I passed the hardest hurdle, now it is onto the performance part."

PASSED CDI WRITTEN EXAM

SUBMITTED BY: KAREN MCLEAN

On July 10th, there was an awesome message from Shannon Reese: I passed!!!! I just wanted to thank you and the committee for the opportunity to take the test with the financial help of the Sue Scott Scholarship. It was very much appreciated and I'm just glad to report that I passed the hardest hurdle,

now it is onto the performance part. Please pass this



on to all of the ALRID members who have been rooting

for me!

Message from ALRID Members: CONGRATULATIONS! We will root for you on your performance test! Way to go!

By Shannon Reese



Congratulations Susan Gordon!!! She passed her performance test on the Certification of Transliteration (CT).

TUSCALOOSA RID NEW OFFICERS

SUBMITTED BY: STEPHANIE MANNING, TRID PRESIDENT



From L to R: Lisa Williams, Vice-President; Stephanie Manning, President; Kitty Whitehurst, Parliamentarian; and Teresa Mello, Secretary

THE PROFESSIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER'S HANDBOOK

SUBMITTED BY: AMELIA ENGLAND, EDITOR



3rd Edition!
Soft Cover
8.5" x 11"
Over 325 pages
Resources
Appendix Index
\$59.95

**Your Ultimate Guide to the
Field of Sign Language
Interpreting.**

Finally, it's here! The PROFESSIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER'S HANDBOOK is the "missing link" between

interpreter training programs (ITPs) and the real world of sign language interpreting. In these pages, Linda Humphreys bridges "the gap" between academic theories and the day-to-day reality of working as a professional interpreter.

The Professional Sign Language Interpreter's Handbook, authored by Linda Humphreys, is a comprehensive, invaluable, and wonderful resource for both the Deaf and interpreting communities. Everyone, including interpreters and those who wish to join the interpreting profession, service agencies, professionals working with deaf and hard of hearing individuals, and consumers who work with sign language interpreters, will want to have

this HANDBOOK in their libraries.

Packed with valuable resources, THE HANDBOOK is a must-have for the fields of:

- Career/Vocational/ Personal Counseling
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Disability Advocacy/ Service Providing
- Deafness
- Sign Language Interpreting
- Interpreter Training

Nancy J. Bloch
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of the Deaf

For more information, check out the website: <http://interpreterinformation.com/homepg.html>



Amelia England, Deaf Interpreter at ALRID Conference.

**"Did you know
that American
Sign Language
is the fourth
most commonly
used language
in the United
States?"**



Shannon Reese, Deaf Interpreter at ALRID Conference.

2008 ALRID Conference Committees

Professional Development

Melvin Walker—Chair
Lori Pituk—Conference Treasurer

Registration

Suan Gordon—Chair
Jody Jernigan
Ricky Clemons

Fay Yell
Lisa Williams

Exhibits / Fundraising

Nancy Greer—Chair

Silent Auction

Cheryl Willis—Chair
Amanda Lawley

Judy Wells
Cheryl Prine

Interpreters

Lisa Gould—Chair

Program

Nancy Hayes—Chair
Michelle Kennedy

Paul Ellis
Elizabeth Bruffey

Local Arrangements

Belinda Montgomery—Chair
Wendy Darling

CEUs

Melvin Walker—Chair



***The Alabama Association of the Deaf (AAD) is proud to be a sponsor
of the 2008 ALRID Conference!***

***Congratulations and best wishes for successful
conference!***

2008 ALRID Conference Sponsors

ALRID wishes to acknowledge the contributions of our generous sponsors to the conference. These contributions greatly assist ALRID in keeping registration costs down. ALRID is grateful for the generosity of these organizations and hopes members will let them know of your appreciation as well.

Platinum Sponsors (\$1,000 or more)



Gold Sponsors (\$500)



Silver Sponsors (\$250)



Special thanks to the following sponsors for donating Interpreter services:



The Alabama Department of
Mental Health &
Mental Retardation



Bronze Sponsors (\$100-\$200)

Gallaudet University Regional Centers

FLAGLER
COLLEGE

HUNTSVILLE - ALRID



DEAF ACCESS

TUSCALOOSA - ALRID

Individual Sponsors (\$50-\$99)



Do You Speak...“Male-ese”? “Female-ese”? “Legalese”?

Huntsville Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf welcomes Dr. Kenneth J. Levine, JD, from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Levine is an Assistant Professor in the School of Communication Studies and has conducted research into interpersonal and organizational communications. In addition, he has researched the overlap between communication and the law. His research has been presented nationally and internationally and he has been published in several peer-reviewed journals. He was published in the RID Views in March, 2007.

COMMUNICATING VOICE: UNDERSTANDING HOW TO INTERPRET THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN AND AN INTRODUCTION TO LEGALESE AND THE LEGAL PROCESS

Saturday, September 13, 2008 @ 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

\$45.00 members at any level/ \$50.00 non-members

Includes lunch

Place ADRS Building, 3000 Johnson Road, Huntsville, AL

Questions?

Sharon Ditto @ 721-9366 and SharonDitto@aol.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

Interpreting services or other accommodations required? _____

Please register before the workshop: June Pockrus C/O HRID P.O. Box 2824 Huntsville, AL 35804
(Cancellation policy: Refund with 5 day notice.)

PEPNet South is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for Continuing Education Activities.
This Professional Studies program is offered for .6 CEUs at the "some" Content Knowledge Level.

Activity #0237.0908.01





TRIX BRUCE *IN MOBILE!!*

Mobile Division of ALRID is excited to have **TRIX BRUCE** here

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

for a workshop for interpreters, students, deaf interpreters, etc.:

Part One: "ASL Semantics: Precision of Expression in ASL"

Semantics is defined as the study of meanings expressed by the elements of a language or combination of the elements. A concept expressed in an ASL sign often cannot be conveyed by a single all-purpose English word. Likewise, English words and phrases may have variations in meaning, which require translations using different ASL signs. This workshop helps the student advance skills in translating the languages of ASL and English.

Part Two: "Handshape Common Misuse: Really? Did I Sign That?"

The Handshape is probably the most apparent parameter of ASL. Linguists have identified a large number of discrete handshapes, which the signs are most look-like. Trix will demonstrate several categories that demonstrate various degrees of similarity for particular Handshapes, which can lead to misunderstandings. She will also show the proper application of palm orientation, location, and movement for the Handshapes.

Workshop is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at AIDB, Mobile Regional Center (1050 Government St.). Get your registration in by **September 8th** for the early rate! There will be no voice interpreter provided. **A total of 0.6 RID CEUs in Professional Studies will be provided.**

***Also, plan to stay to see Trix perform Saturday evening at the Deafest at Oysterella's! For tickets, call Lisa Gould at (251) 432-7777.*

TRIX BRUCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

EARLY REGISTRATION – Must be received by September 8, 2008.

Lunch is provided for pre-registered participants.

COST: ☐ \$35.00 (Mobile Division ALRID Members as of August 1, 2008)
 ☐ \$40.00

ON-SITE REGISTRATION: ADD **\$10.00** TO EACH OF THE ABOVE FEES. *Lunch may not be available.

Make checks payable to MDALRID.

Mail registration to: Jeanne Perkins, 10255 County Rd. 32, Lot 13 Fairhope, AL 36532.

For questions, call (251) 752-1983.

We are on the Web!

www.alrid.org

AMELIA J. ENGLAND'S BOX

Editor, The ALRID News

% Amelia J. England, ADRS

1305 37th Street, East

Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

Fax: 205-554-1369

E-mail:

amelia.england@rehab.alabama.gov

**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:

**Dee Johnston, Vice-President
The ALRID NEWS
Alabama School for the Deaf
205 E. South Street
Talladega, AL 35160**

The ALRID News

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor: *Amelia J. England*

Videophone: (205) 554-1309

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

Volume 8 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