



The ALRID News...

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

President's Message

The fall season is upon us and I, for one, welcome the cool weather and change of season. I would like to take this opportunity to talk about the ongoing changes to our profession. When you think about your own experience in the profession or read the history of our profession it is evident that we have reached numerous milestones. In considering the types of changes our profession has experienced it is only natural to think about those significant leaders who have inspired such change. These leaders were simply volunteers who wanted to see the profession of Interpreting grow from a "helper" model to a recognized "profession" in the business world. Who would have thought that we would get to a point where interpreters would be required to have a degree and professional training in the field of interpretation? This is a natural transition because more and more Deaf people are obtaining degrees and need interpreters who can match their register. We are seeing more and more need for specialty certifications in the fields of legal, medical, mental health, and other specializations where specific skills are necessary. Most of the work done in the early days to promote these types of changes came from volunteers.

How many of you have sat back and questioned why things in Alabama are done a certain way? How many of you have thought what is Melvin doing and why can't he see that if he did this it would make more sense? I'll be the first one to admit that I have done that many times, not only in regards to interpreting but other things as well. The lesson that I have learned is that instead of

sitting back and judging those who are representing us that it's better to roll up your sleeves and join the fight. Alabama is a great state and we have great interpreters but sometimes we lack in the area of volunteerism. The leadership is only as good as the people they represent. There is a quote by Isaac Newton, "If I have seen farther than others, it was because I was standing on the shoulders of giants." If we are to continue growing as a profession and meeting the needs of each individual interpreter within our state we need help from each and every one of you.

I was sitting and talking with an interpreter that I knew in passing but not really well. We began talking about the politics of interpreting in Alabama and in talking I learned a lot about this person. I feel that this person learned a lot about me and for both of us a lot of perceptions were dispelled. It's always interesting how open communication solves so many issues. I learned that this person has a lot to contribute to the interpreting community but felt that they didn't have the experience to make substantial contributions. The truth is that we all have substantial contributions to make and should never feel that our opinions or ideas are not important. I have encouraged this person to take a more active role in ALRID which lead me to this article. I would like to extend an invitation to each and every one of you to become more active in ALRID. It does not matter how long you have been interpreting, if you are an ITP student, if you are a Deaf interpreter, or an interpreter who has been working since Jesus was a boy, you are important to our profession and your



ideas and opinions are not only wanted but are NEEDED!

Please consider this article to be a call to action. If you are not a member of a local ALRID chapter then join one. If your area doesn't have local chapters form one! Modern technology has made it easier to communicate without meeting face to face but those in person meetings are invaluable. This is a time to network with colleagues and to mentor new interpreters. Your help is also needed on the state level. ALRID can only provide services if we know what services are needed. When no one speaks up how can we know what needs to be done? If you feel things need to change or grow then roll up your sleeves and contribute. If you are not sure how you can contribute contact any board member and ask how you can best help.

In the words of John Quincy Adams, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." I would like to be remembered as one who inspired others to do more. I volunteered to be on the ALRID board and the ALBIT because I wanted to help make change happen. Now it's your turn to step up and carry the torch. We've come a long way but have many more miles to go and with your help we will accomplish so much.

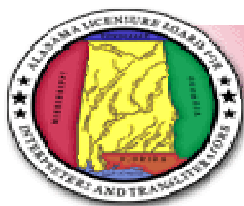
As the holiday season approaches I wish you and yours the very best!

Inside this issue:

ALRID Representative Position for ALBIT	2
COSDA 2010 Conference Chairperson Needed!!	2
Interpreter Training Program Fall 2009 Update	2
ITP Continued...	3
ITP Continued...	4
ITP Continued...	5
ITP Continued...	6
ITP Continued...	7
ITP Continued...	8
AIDB Dothan Regional Center Workshop	9
2010 Birmingham Silent Dinner List	10
ALRID Membership	11
The ALRID News	12

Happy Harvest





ALABAMA LICENSURE BOARD FOR Interpreters and Transliterators

ALRID Representative Position for ALBIT

Submitted by: **Melvin Walker, ALRID President**

There is a position coming up on the Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Transliterators representing ALRID effective January 1, 2010. If you would like to be considered as a recommenda-

tion to the Governor for this position please send your resume and a cover letter to Melvin.Walker@rehab.alabama.gov or you can mail it to Melvin Walker, ADRS, P.O. Box 1686, Decatur, AL 35602.

ALRID must recommend three interpreters for the Governor to consider filling one position. If you have any questions feel free to call Melvin Walker at 256-353-2754.

COSDA 2010 Conference Chairperson Needed!!

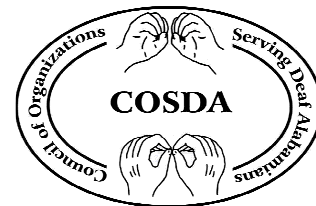
Submitted by: **Amelia England, COSDA Secretary**

We are looking for a person who is interested in running as COSDA Conference Chairperson for next year in the summer time. We would love to have someone who is motivated and able to operate with the progress of setting up a day or two-day of conference. The location will possibly be in Montgomery at a Renaissance Hotel. This is just

**"Hopefully, this day will be looked upon as the beginning of an effort that will make a tremendous impact on deafness in Alabama."
~Mr. Earl Lindsey~**

a tentative planning and the decision will be finalized as soon as we find the Chairperson for the 2010 COSDA Conference.

If you are interested, please feel free to contact our COSDA President, Evon Black, Evon.Black@rehab.alabama.gov, thank you for your interest.



Interpreter Training Program Fall 2009 Update

Submitted by: **Lynne Wiesman**



TROY UNIVERSITY
A future of opportunities.

Greetings!

Because you are an interested stakeholder in the Troy University Interpreter Training Program, I wanted to provide you with the most recent update for Fall, 2009. It feels like I have been here for a few years

but in reality, I've been here just over 3 full months! In that short amount of time, we have really done some amazing things and have many more things planned. Please see the attached update organized into past accomplishments, current

undertakings, and growth goals along with a few opportunities we have!

I would be remiss not to mention all of the people involved making this happen (please see attached), however, if I attempted to do so in this email, it would read like a good novel. Just know that Alabama is unique in the overwhelming support and partnerships of people, agencies, businesses, and organizations that are

making this wildly successful!!! You are one of those supporters and for that I thank you with genuine sincerity for providing me with this opportunity of a lifetime to make such an incredible mark on the community for which I have such a passion!

A few of the major highlights are:

- We have increased our enrollment from 22 in June to over 100 declared interpreting majors!
- We have a fully self-contained online and on-site program and receiving over-

whelming interest in transfer students from AA programs throughout the country

- We have just completed our inaugural **ASL/ITP club** workshop on Oct 10th with Sharon Neuman Solow with monthly speakers to follow (funded by AIDB) provided in 3 ways:

- o Live on Troy's campus for Troy students and local interpreters
- o Via the 7 AIDB Regional Centers for working interpreters and students in other areas of the state
- o Via Blackboard (Wimba/

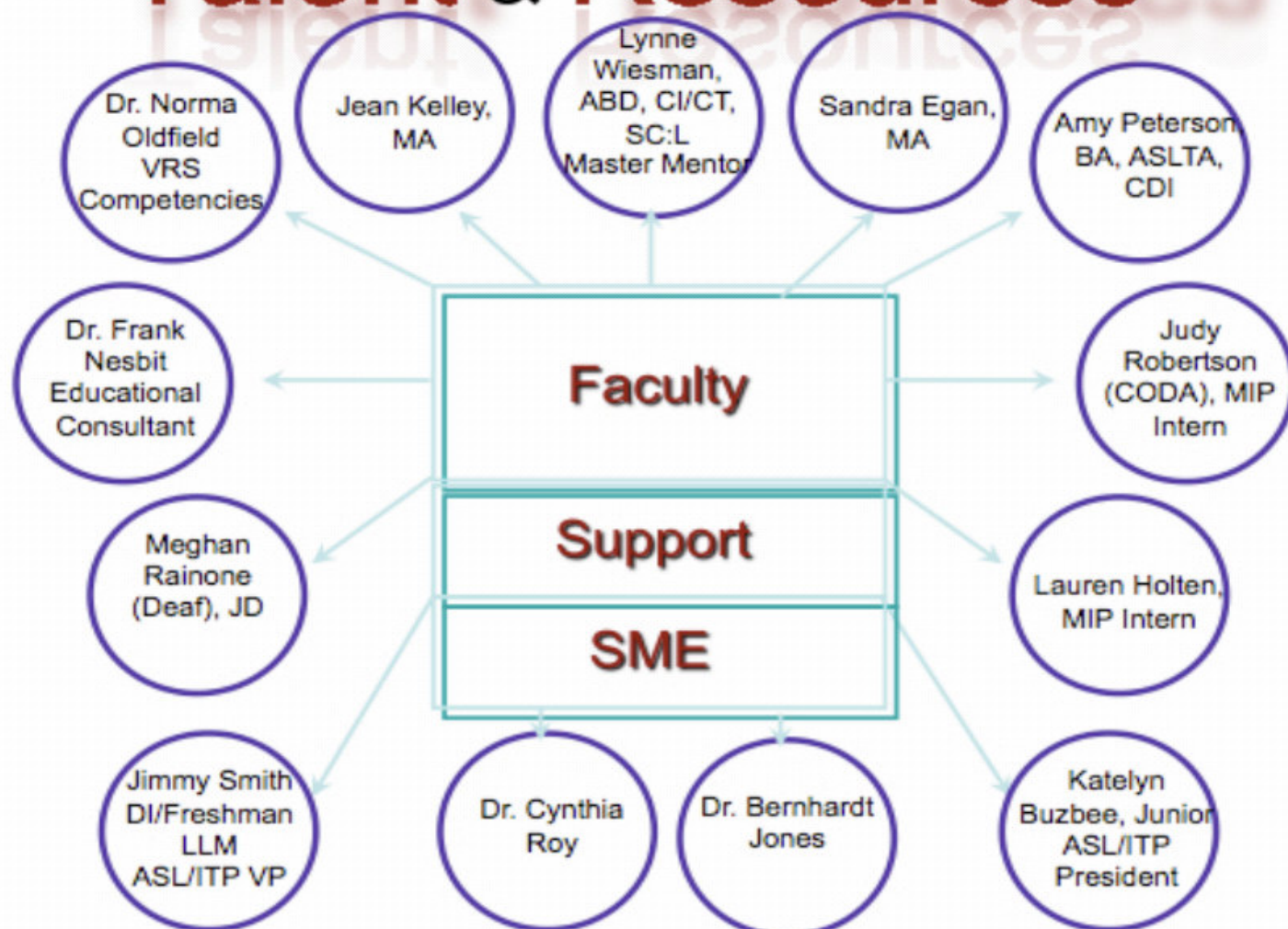
Pronto) to online students

We are working to develop a state-of-the-art language lab staffed with Language Lab Mentors (DoE funded)!

This is a snapshot of what we have been doing. The attached document provides a more in-depth (albeit summarized) listing of all of the accomplishments! If you have any questions about the update document attached, please feel free to inquire!!! I welcome any and all input! Feel free to share this with whomever you feel may be interested!

Lynne

Talent & Resources



Troy University Interpreter Training Program

Fall 2009 Update

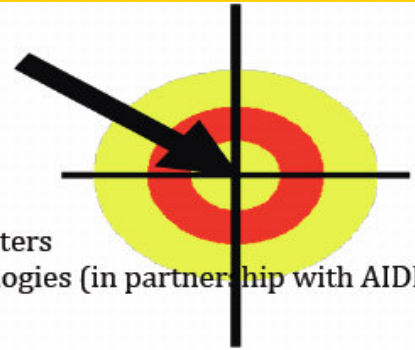
Accomplishments

- PR/Promotions/Recruitment
 - Trojan Vision News
 - E-campus newsletter
 - Partnerships with stakeholders including AIDB, DMH ADRS, DoE, Alabama Relay Board, ALRID, AAD
 - Stakeholder meetings (students, organizations, consumers, educators, etc.)
 - Establish partnerships with international programs including
 - Preston, England,
 - Ghana, and
 - Sydney, Australia
 - Recruiting of prospective students
 - Cultivating informal 2+2 moving to formal articulation agreements
 - Deaf interpreters being educated
- Human Resources
 - Program Director
 - Adjunct Faculty
 - Support Staff
 - Language Lab Mentor (funded by DoE)
 - Work/Study Student
- Leveraging Technology - Cultivating Adjunct Faculty to teach:
 - Online asynchronously through Blackboard
 - On-site synchronously through WIMBA
- Administrative
 - Scholarships awarded (\$50K DoE / \$2K DMH)
 - Develop language lab including proposal
 - Designed guiding and foundational underpinnings for courses and program
 - ASL/ITP Web Page development (WIP)
- Curricular & Extra-Curricular
 - Review and revision of ASL curriculum
 - ASL / ITP Club formed
 - Interpreting on-campus events
 - Easter Seals walk
 - Language Lab - ASL exposure and practice opportunities (2d & 3d)
 - Brown Bag lunches weekly
 - Silent Dinners monthly
 - Special events - picnic
 - Developed scope and sequence for entire program (5 years out)
 - -On-campus classes
 - -e-Campus classes

Current

- Current Enrollment (from 22 in May to date)
 - ASL Classes = 94
 - **ITP Declared Majors = 100+**
- Leveraging Technology
 - Guest Speakers (via technology)
 - Robert G. Lee, Director ITP Preston, England
 - Dr. Cynthia Roy, ITP Professor, Gallaudet University
 - Guest Speaking & Partnering in Education & Psychology Classes
 - Continued enhancement of ITP web page
 - e-campus article focusing on ITP
 - ITP Webpage
 - Classes / In-Service Training for Alabama Community-based & Educational Interpreters
 - AIDB Centers
 - e-Campus (Blackboard Wimba/Pronto)
- Stakeholder Partnerships & Relationships
 - Alabama Relay Board
 - AIDB
 - DMH
 - DoE
 - ADRS
 - Troy Students in other Majors (Education, Counseling, Criminal Justice, Nursing, etc.)
- Promotional Goals
 - Increase Student Enrollment
 - 2+2 Articulation Agreements
 - Interpreting as a viable “recession-resistant” industry
- ASL / ITP Club
 - Sharon Neuman Solow (sponsored by AIDB) – October 10th
 - On Troy’s Campus
 - via 7 AIDB Centers
 - For e-campus students via BlackBoard Wimba
 - Monthly Speakers’ Series
 - Easter Seals Walk
 - Interpreting Campus Events
- Language Lab Activities
 - Pronto (2d) & Face-to-Face (3d)
 - Instructor-Assigned conversations
 - Help with homework
 - SLPI Preparedness
 - Language Exposure & Immersion Activities
 - Brown Bag Lunches
 - Silent Dinners
 - Picnics
 - Bowling League
- Promotional Efforts
 - Conferences
 - Workshops
 - Articles
 - Trojan Nightly News
 - e-Campus News
 - Deaf Awareness Week

Growth Goals



- Pre- & in-service educational opportunities for Alabama interpreters
 - Distance opportunities utilizing of AIDB centers & technologies (in partnership with AIDB, DoE, ADRS, & DMH)
 - Evening Classes (beginning Spring 2010)
 - Continuing Education or University Enrollment opportunities
 - Educational Interpreter In-Service Speakers' Monthly Series
 - Spring Workshop TBA (sponsored by AIDB)
 - Summer AIM (Alabama Interpreting Metamorphosis) –June 21-25, 2010 @ Troy Campus
 - Community interpreting track (including topics related to Mental Health, VRS, medical, legal, obtaining certification, professionalism, etc.)
 - Educational interpreting track (including topics related to the EIPA, interpreter in the classroom roles, interpreting in specialized settings such as a counselor's office, professionalism, etc.)
- Hiring of full time faculty (position need already anticipated)
- Continued class & sequence development for **complete online and on-campus programs**
 - practicum,
 - internships &
 - externships
- Stakeholder Partnerships
 - AIDB – Lifeskills, interactive technology, grant funding for training
 - VRS – 2d training & equipment
 - DMH – scholarships, SLPI evaluations
 - ADRS - internships
 - DoE – Language Lab, scholarship, EIPA testing
 - Alabama Relay Board – training provided to AL interpreters
 - Cultivating new interpreting resources
 - Community-based interpreters
 - Interpreters in education (secondary and post-secondary)
- Program Evaluation (align with CCIE standards)
- International Partnerships & Experiences
 - Preston, England ~ Spring 2010
 - Sydney, Australia
 - Ghana
- Promotion of ASL & ITP Courses
 - ACCESS in AL high schools, 2+2, & Troy University
 - Major
 - Minor
 - Elective (for those majoring in education, counseling, criminal justice, nursing, etc.)
 - Electives by ITP majors in education, counseling, criminal justice, nursing, etc.)
- State of the Art Language Lab
 - Sony Virtuoso system
 - 10 sound proof booths with computer, web cam, & materials
 - Instructor Interactivity

Opportunities for Growth

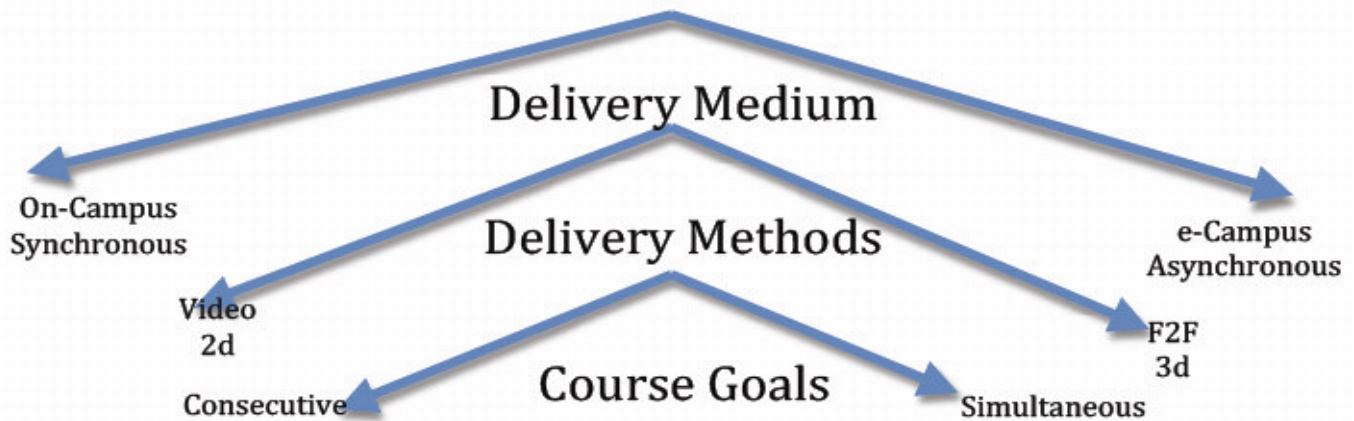
- More universities implementing online programs
- Program Infancy
- High Demand
 - Rapidly increasing student population
 - Interpreting Industry demand
- Faculty loads e-Campus & on-campus
 - ASL 1 & 2 high, 3 & 4 average, ITP low
- Recruitment issues
 - 9 weeks e-campus vs 16 weeks on campus
 - e-campus pay per student vs on-campus pay per class

Existing Opportunities

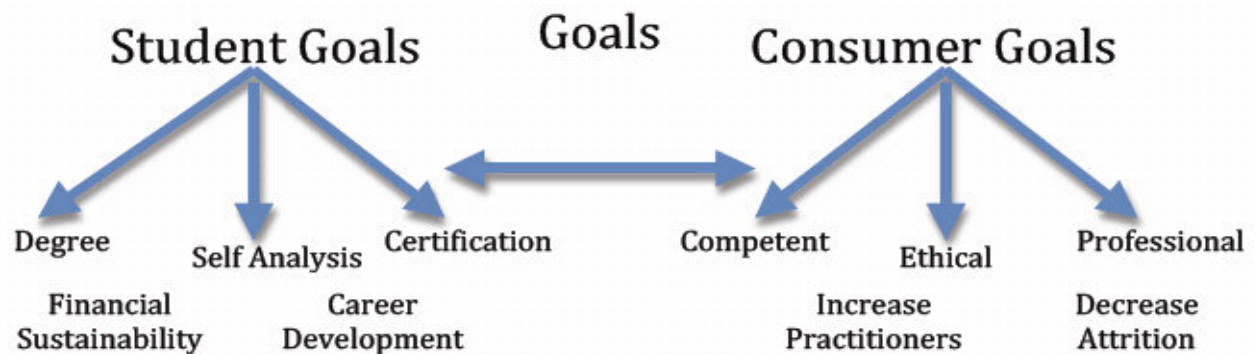
- 11,305 RID members
 - 8,166 RID members with certification
 - 11.4% possess BA/BS or graduate degree
- BA/BS degree required by June 30, 2012
- Develop Learning Relationships
 - Increase Switching Costs
- First-to-Market
 - ONLY fully self-contained online and on-campus ITP, students can take:
 - Only e-campus classes
 - Only on-campus classes
 - Blended approach
- Creative use of Resources & Support
 - Utilizing national experts to teach courses through distance technologies benefitting:
 - On-campus students
 - e-Campus students
 - Technology & Technical Support
 - Video conferencing support
 - John Brunson
 - Anna Gooden
 - David Griffin
 - Webpage support
 - Marci Shirley
 - Instructional Design Team
 - Gayle Nelson
 - Lee Scarbrough
 - Loubna Zahri
 - John Robinson
 - e-Campus Scheduling
 - Kim Barron
 - Stakeholder Partnerships & Support Unprecedented
 - One-Year Externship
 - Decrease graduation-to-certification gap

Troy Interpreter Training Courses

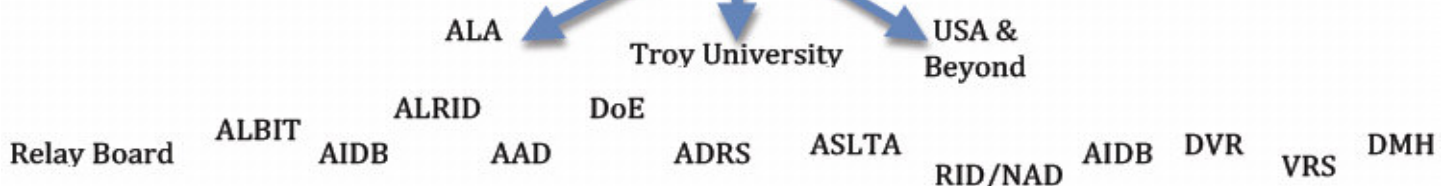
Distribution Systems



Stakeholders



Impacts



Page 9

2010 Birmingham Silent Dinner List

At the 2009 silent dinner, those in attendance developed a list of restaurants as possible locations for the 2010 Silent Dinners. I used this list as a guide and tried to choose different locations and different types of menus. We will continue to meet on the second Thursday of every month. Try to arrive by 6:30 pm to make sure we can get tables. The Silent Dinner is a signing only experience. Please do not use your voice even on the outside of the restaurant. This is a wonderful way to get to know members of the Birmingham Deaf Community, local interpreters and other person's interests in signing. Please feel free to e-mail me back if you need more information regarding a location. We hope you will join us.

Thank you so much, Patty Sransky (patty.sransky@rehab.alabama.gov)

Nov. 12, 2009	Habanero's (1477 Gadsden Hwy in Trussville, AL)
Dec. 10, 2009	Olive Garden (Hoover Galleria)
January 8, 2010	California Pizza Kitchen (Summitt)
February 12	Logan's Roadhouse (2740 John Hawkins Parkway-Hwy150)
March 12	Applebee's (579 Brookwood Village, Homewood)
April 9	Jade Palace (330 Inverness Corners)
May 14	Jim & Nick's (1660 Gadsden Hwy-Trussville)
June 11	Cheesecake Factory (Summitt)
July 9	Red Lobster (1041 Montgomery Highway-31)
August 13	Buffalo Wild Wings (2772 Highway 150)
September 10	Costa's Mediterranean (3443 Lorna Road, Hoover)
October 8	Mellow Mushroom (920 Inverness Corners)
November 12	Habanero's (1477 Gadsden Hwy-Trussville)
December 10	Olive Garden (Hoover Galleria)

Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Membership

Application		Fiscal Year: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	
Name			
Address			
City-ST-Zip Code			
Contact Preference:			
Phone			
Email			
RID Member: (Circle one)	Yes	No	RID member number:

Payment:	
ALRID Membership Dues - \$25.00	
ITP Student Dues - \$15.00	
Donations: Scholarship Fund	
Training Fund	
After June 30 th , add \$5.00 Late Fee	
TOTAL:	



Information:	
Local Division:	
Credentials:	
Newsletter: (circle one)	Email or Postal

Payable to: ALRID
<p>Check or money order can be made payable to ALRID and will serve as your receipt. <i>ALRID shall assess a \$25.00 fee for each check returned due to insufficient funds.</i></p>
Send application and payment to:
<p>Susan Gordon, Secretary of ALRID 1305 37TH Street East Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205.554.1300 Susan.Gordon@rehab.alabama.gov</p>

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	
Date received:	Check #:



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**Happy
Harvest**

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:

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Volume 9 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