

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

Volume 9, Issue 6  
May/June 2011

## President's Message

It sure is hot in Alabama to be the middle of June. I guess we can contribute it to the last couple of months which have been hectic to say the least. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered, contributed and supported those affected by the tornadoes of April 27<sup>th</sup>. It's an easy date for me to remember as this is my oldest daughter's birthday. Just like a teenage girl this storm tore through Alabama and left an everlasting mark. We've learned a lot from this disaster and will make strides to establish some protocol to assist during the next time. There were many who were ready, willing and able to assist but met with resistance due to not having clearance to enter or the necessary paperwork completed. In the months to come ALRID will be establishing relationships with organizations that handle disasters to ensure that interpreters are provided and that they understand the definition of qualified. I recently attended the COSDA Awards Luncheon and the AAD conferences in Birmingham. My favorite quote from Mama Lou was "get with the deaf!" I hold this true to my heart and it's the reason I repeat it so frequently. I was hoping to see a larger turn out of interpreters at the conference. I know in today's economy we must pick and choose what we can

do but I would like to encourage each and every one of you to participate in Deaf activities when you can. There is so much to be gained from this interaction and I know of no better way to do it. I was very pleased and impressed with the attendance of the ITP students from Troy University at both the luncheon and conference. There was a mix up with the scheduling of interpreters for the COSDA luncheon and the students from Troy stepped up and took on a huge endeavor. I was impressed with their willingness to take on this task as platform interpreting makes even seasoned interpreters nervous at times. To those students that stepped up and worked the luncheon I applaud you! I know you were in a tough situation but you did your best and you will learn so much from that experience. If I may speak for the interpreting community, please know that we are here to help. Teaming is all about helping each other out and being there to work through the tough times and develop better skills. I am pleased to announce that Sue Graham will be representing ALRID on the AAD Board until the end of her term as Vice-President. I was honored and humbled to be nominated and elected as Vice-President of the AAD. In



President Melvin Walker

the 100 years that AAD has been in existence never has a hearing person been elected to the executive board of the AAD. I will continue to serve as the ALRID President for the rest of my term and work hand and hand with the AAD. This is what it's all about, PARTNERSHIPS!

It's that time of year again, with the new fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> for RID and ALRID, to renew your membership. With the ALRID website you can pay your membership dues conveniently online using your PayPal account or credit card. Many of you may have read the email that came from Clay Nettles with the RID. It's always disappointing when a person uses their position for personal gain and I applaud the RID in how they handled this situation and saw it through to a conviction for the guilty party. We have been assured that the NIC testing process is still valid and hopefully the turnaround time on results will improve in the coming months.

I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing many of you (I hope) at the RID Conference in Atlanta!

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### Editor's Message

*Editor Amelia England*

As you all already know I'm moving to South Carolina by end of this month but didn't you know that I will still be your editor for as long as I can? I so love it! I just cannot leave ALRID because I love creating the newsletter. I have been an editor since 2007 and I still cannot leave ALRID for whatever reason. I am just grateful for the rewarding organization I've had with ALRID in the state of Alabama. I cannot say enough wonderful things about ALRID. Your leadership has taken us all to the new levels, and I have appreciated all your personal and professional advice over the years. It is my hope that we will stay in touch as I begin in this new chapter of my life. Find me in Facebook!



Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Education. Standards. Excellence.

## A Special Message

Submitted by: Clay Nettles, RID Executive Director

Dear RID Member:

For nearly four decades, RID has offered a robust and highly respected certification program that is nationwide in scope and today mandates educational requirements, adherence to a code of professional conduct and ongoing professional development.

We must regrettably report that a former RID employee committed fraudulent activities that affected the scores of 34 individuals whose National Interpreter Certification (NIC) Interview and Performance Examinations were scored between January and September 2010. These individuals represent less than three (3) percent of those who took the exam in 2010.

While RID has determined that the impact on RID and its members is very limited, we take this fraud seriously and are working diligently to resolve the issues this incident has raised.

At this time, RID has sent notification letters to all affected individuals via traceable mail, with delivery scheduled on or before today, Tuesday, June 21, 2011. Therefore, if you have not received an official communication or notification of an official communication from RID regarding this matter, and then neither your certification nor your exam results are in question.

In order to determine the extent of the fraud, RID retained an outside forensics auditor to conduct an independent investigation. The results of this investigation, combined with a series of internal audits and reviews, revealed that, in the pursuit to embezzle funds from the organization, Guy Motley, the former RID employee, falsified exam scores, rater payments and check endorsements, for the purpose of diverting funds to him.

The procedures RID used to identify the impacted individuals included a

thorough and exhaustive data review that was conducted by both RID staff and outside certification and assessment experts. Working with these experts, RID has identified procedures to address the questionable scores in a way that is fair to the candidates affected and to the consumers of interpreting services. These procedures are based on widely accepted practices, and there is considerable precedence for this type of approach.

While the fraud involved invalid scoring of some NIC Interview and Performance Examinations, it is imperative to understand that this did not compromise the validity of the exam format or the integrity of the testing methodology. Nor does it call into question the qualifications or integrity of the raters who were used, without their knowledge, by Mr. Motley to embezzle funds.

This incident was caused entirely by Mr. Motley who was, upon discovery, immediately terminated, criminally prosecuted and ultimately convicted of conspiracy to commit embezzlement and attempted forgery. He is currently serving a one-year jail sentence and has been ordered to pay restitution to RID. As a result of this restitution, as well as insurance coverage, the financial impact on RID has been limited and RID remains a financially strong organization.

RID quickly took steps to prevent similar incidents from taking place, including implementation of new systems and processes in our Certification and Finance departments, and plans for additional steps in the future.

RID will not reveal the names of those individuals who have been affected. We recognize the sensitivity of this situation and are keeping the names of affected individuals confidential.

In addition to the invalid rater scores,

the fraud has also had a profound effect on the speed of ratings currently being reviewed, and thus the results notification timeframe. Once RID discovered the fraudulent activities, we immediately stopped rating exams. Upon completion of the preliminary investigation, RID screened each rater and a new rater qualification process was developed and implemented. As a result, test results have fallen behind the ideal 90-day notification timeframe, and we temporarily have a smaller pool of eligible raters. We apologize for the delays and difficulties test candidates have experienced during this time as we work to alleviate the backlog of exams awaiting results.

RID's function is to support our membership by providing the foundation needed to launch and sustain careers while ensuring quality service to consumers of interpreting services. As with any profession, one important measure of an individual's knowledge and skill set is professional credentials. RID stands true to our commitment to our members, the Deaf community and our certification program.

We are committed to open and transparent communication about this matter. For more information, please visit [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org). We will provide additional information about the issue as we can while prioritizing service to those directly affected by the criminal actions of Mr. Motley and maintaining the confidentiality required by the sensitive nature of the incident.

Respectfully,  
Clay Nettles  
RID Executive Director

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf  
333 Commerce Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-838-0030 (V)  
703-838-0454 (Fax)  
703-838-0459 (TTY)  
[www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org) <<http://www.rid.org>>

# The 2011 RID National Conference

## Atlanta, GA

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 July 17-22, 2011  
 Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Find more vital information to assist you in *Growing Globally* in 2011 at [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org)

- Registration information
- Hotel reservations
- View a tentative conference schedule
- A garden of opportunities for sponsorship, exhibiting and advertising in the official conference program book
- Support staff information

### EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

RID is pleased to announce that there will be a variety of tracks geared toward specializations such as the educational, legal and trilingual fields. In addition, we will have a few specialized, more informal educational sessions where you will have the opportunity to learn in a more intimate workshop setting with some of the most respected and recognized educators in the interpreter community.

A preview of a sampling of speakers include: Cathy Cogen, David Evans, Paula Gajewski-Mickelson and Susanne Morgan Morrow. Be sure to check the complete list of educational sessions on the RID conference Web page in late January.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION RATES

Registration is now open! Register today to save!

	Early Bird Ends 1.31.2011	Regular Ends 4.30.2011
Member	\$375	\$450
Student/Senior	\$250	\$300
Non-Member	\$475	\$550

### RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW! Atlanta Marriott Marquis

We know the hotel rooms at the Marriott will be gone in a flash! Reserve your room today!

- Single/double - \$149
- Triple or quad occupancy – add \$20 per person
- Suites starting at \$369
- Link directly to the Marriott from the RID Conference page of the RID Web site.
- These rates are available July 13 – 27, 2011, based on availability
- Rates do not include applicable taxes

Please be sure to reserve your hotel room through the link provided on the RID Web site.

### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE FEATURES

July 18 – Opening Ceremony and Reception  
 July 19 – Regional Caucus Night  
 July 22 – Closing Ceremony – featuring a keynote speaker who is a leader in the field and dynamic speaker with unique insights into the Deaf community that you will NOT want to miss!

Watch for announcements on featured sessions and exciting and relevant keynote speakers throughout the week.

Thank you to our conference sponsors.  
 Paramount Sponsor: \$50,000



Platinum Sponsors: \$15,000



Silver Sponsors: \$5,000



Bronze Sponsor: \$2,500



2011 RID National Conference

2011 RID National Conference

**SERID 2011**  
 October 15 - 19  
 Montgomery,  
 Alabama  
 Renaissance  
 Montgomery  
 Hotel & Spa  
 Convention  
 Center

Sweet Home  
**SERID**  
 Fabulous after 40!  
 Montgomery, AL  
 October 15-19, 2011

## Call for Nominations for SERID 2011 AWARDS



**Outstanding Deaf/Hard of Hearing Citizen:** Presented to a Deaf/Hard of Hearing individual who has exhibited outstanding leadership within the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community.

**Distinguished Service Award:** Presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding community leadership, personal achievement, or contributions to Deaf/Hard of Hearing persons.

**Outstanding Educator of the Year:** Presented to an individual who exemplifies the highest standard of the educational profession and who demonstrates extraordinary commitment to educational excellence for the education and welfare of Deaf/Hard of Hearing persons.

**William E. Woodrick Case of the Year:** Presented in recognition of unique and/or outstanding efforts in the rehabilitation of a Deaf/Hard of Hearing individual in employment. Please follow the outline below:

*Identifying Date*

*Background*

*Information*

*Identification of Problems*

*Solution of Problems*

*Placement*

*Summary and Justification for Selection of This Case*

**Outstanding Interpreter:** Presented to an interpreter in recognition of outstanding service to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community for higher efforts in making communication more accessible and increasing awareness of the need for better communication.

**Employer of the Year:** Presented to an employer in recognition of outstanding efforts in recruiting and hiring persons who are Deaf/Hard of hearing.

# Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness



## 2011 SERID Conference

October 15-19, 2011

Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa Convention Center  
Montgomery, AL



### 2011 SERID AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Please indicate below for which award you are making this nomination:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distinguished Service Award         | <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Deaf/Hard of Hearing Citizen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Educator of the Year    | <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Employer of the Year         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Interpreter of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> William E. Woodrick Case of the Year     |

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby nominate the above named individual for a SERID award and verify that the information submitted for this nominee is correct and true.**

Nominator's Name and Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attach justification (typed, double spaced)**  
**to this form and mail to:**

Evon Black, *2011 SERID Awards Chair*  
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services  
236 Goodwin Crest Drive  
Homewood, AL 35209-0888

**Or e-mail attach this form to:**

Evon.Black@rehab.alabama.gov

**Submissions are due by September 16, 2011**

## 2011 Silent Dinner List

At the December 2010 silent dinner, those in attendance developed a list of restaurants as possible locations for the 2011 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 Deaf community, local interpreters and other persons interested in sign language in the Birmingham area. 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)

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <del>January 13</del>  | <del>Red Lobster (1030 Montgomery Hwy, Vestavia)</del>            |
| <del>February 10</del> | <del>Newk's (2800 Cahaba Village Plaza, Suite 130, Hwy 280)</del> |
| March 10               | Habanero's (1477 Gadsden Hwy-Trussville)                          |
| April 14               | Olive Garden (Galleria)   |
| May 12                 | Mellow Mushroom (920 Inverness Corners, Hoover)                   |
| June 10                | The Fishmarket (612 22 <sup>nd</sup> St. South, B'ham)            |
| July 14                | Jim n Nick's BBQ (1660 Gadsden Hwy, Trussville)                   |
| August 11              | Chuy's (Summit on Hwy 280)  |
| September 8            | Outback Steakhouse (281 Lakeshore Parkway)                        |
| October 13             | Kobe Japanese Steakhouse (Hwy 280)                                |
| November 10            | Red Robin (5021 Pinnacle Square, Trussville)                      |
| December 8             | Macaroni Grill (Summit Shopping Center)                           |

# Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

## Membership

<b>Application</b>		<b>Fiscal Year: July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012</b>	
Name			
Address			
City-ST-Zip Code			
<b>Contact Preference:</b>			
Phone			
Email			
RID Member: (Circle one)	Yes	No	RID member number:

<b>Payment:</b>	
ALRID Membership Dues - \$30.00	
ITP Student Dues - \$15.00	
Donations: Scholarship Fund	
Training Fund	
After June 30 <sup>th</sup> , add \$5.00 Late Fee	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	



<b>Information:</b>	
Local Division:	
Credentials:	
Newsletter: (circle one)	Email    or    Postal

<b>Payable to: ALRID or join online at <a href="http://www.alrid.org">www.alrid.org</a></b>
Check or money order can be made payable to <b>ALRID</b> and will serve as your receipt. <i>ALRID shall assess a \$25.00 fee for each check returned due to insufficient funds.</i>
<b>Send application and payment to:</b>
Sereta Campbell, Secretary of ALRID 200 University Blvd Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205.759.0314 Sereta.Campbell@mh.alabama.gov

<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:</b>	
Date received:	Check #:



Editor, The ALRID News  
% Amelia J. England, ADRS  
394 Woodside Lane  
Spartanburg, SC 29302  
Videophone: 205-210-4070  
E-mail: Babyame78@gmail.com

**We're on the web:  
[www.alrid.org](http://www.alrid.org)**

## **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:

<b>Full-page ad:</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Half-page ad:</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Quarter page ad:</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>Business card ad:</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>

Email print-ready ad to:  
***Babyame78@gmail.com***

Send appropriate fee to:

***Sue Graham, Vice-President  
The ALRID NEWS  
3867 Coaling Road  
Sylacauga, AL 35151  
Home: 256.369.1057  
Cell: 276.708.5885  
Email: msueg13@charter.net***

## **The ALRID News NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

**Editor: *Amelia J. England***

**Videophone: (205) 210-4070**

**Email: *Babyame78@gmail.com***

### 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**