

A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION OF

The ALRID News

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



AAD and RID Conferences

Submitted by: Karen McLean, ALRID President

It has been my pleasure to represent ALRID at the 2007 Alabama Association for the Deaf Conference in Birmingham, Alabama and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf conference in San Francisco, California. Both conferences were well attended and beneficial to me and to ALRID.

The Alabama Association of the Deaf Conference was a grand event this year packed with informative workshops, business meetings with elections, the Miss Deaf Alabama Pageant and entertainment. The officers for the 2007-2009 term are: President: Judith Gilliam, Vice-President: Jerry Smith, Secretary: Charles Estes, Treasurer: Rann Gordon. AAD is our sister organization. I encourage all ALRID members to become involved with AAD at either the state or local chapter level.

The RID conference in San Francisco was fantastic!! There was record breaking attendance at this conference and I can understand why! From the Opening Cere-

mony on Thursday until the Closing Ceremony on Wednesday afternoon, there were a variety of workshops topics to choose from that catered to the various skill levels and specialties within the profession, as well as RID Leadership forums, Member Section meetings (formerly SIGs, Special Interest Groups), chocolate buffets and great food all around. The entertainment was fabulous and reflected the culture of the city. I counted eleven ALRID members in attendance and I was proud to see workshops given by Charlene Crump, Brian McKenny, Liz Hill and Lisa Frey Barrick. Sharon Ditto, the president of the Huntsville Chapter was given the RID Affiliate Chapter President's Award. I was honored to give Sharon this award for her dedication to the Huntsville Chapter and to ALRID. I was thrilled when I heard that one of our own, Belinda Montgomery received the Judie Husted Leadership Award. This award recognizes an interpreter from each region who has shown

commitment to the profession as a role model for present and future interpreters. "The coldest winter I ever saw was the summer I spent in San Francisco" is a quote often attributed to Mark Twain describing his visit to San Francisco. It was a shock for many as there was a cold snap the week of the conference. Temperatures ranged from the 40's to the mid 60's for most of the first week of August. Brrrr, I was envious of the heat wave back in sweet home Alabama!

Plans are underway for the 2008 ALRID Conference. Contact Melvin Walker, Melvin.Walker@rehab.alabama.gov, if you would like to get involved. Committees are forming now!! Joining a committee is a great way to network, as well as getting to know interpreters from all over the country. Everyone has a special talent to lend that could make this best conference possible, so come on... volunteer!!

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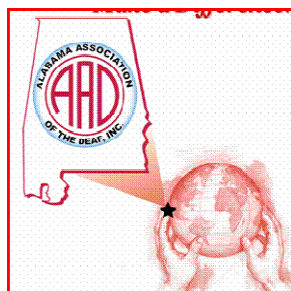
July/August 2007

Special points of interest:

- *The need for a B.A. degree in interpreting.*
- *Volunteer Training for Academic Bowl 2008 needed!!*
- *Who want to be CDI & CI?*
- *17th Anniversary of the ADA on July 26, 2007*
- *News update for Interpreters Working in Video Relay Services*
- *Photos from the 2007 RID Conference in California*

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Belinda Montgomery & Sharon Ditto



The Judie Husted Leadership Award

RID Affiliate Chapter President's Award





General Photos



Interpreter Training Program (ITP)

Submitted by: Dan Miller



Governor Riley was approached by four agencies concerning the need for a baccalaureate degree in interpreting. The agencies involved in spearheading this effort were: Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (Steve Shivers), Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (Terry Graham), State Department of Education (Joseph Morton), and Mental Health and Retardation (John Houston). Though requesting \$500k, the Governor did include this as a line-item at \$250,000.00.

The Alabama Legislature then voted and approved \$250,000.00 be earmarked as a line-item (meaning just a one year guarantee) to establish an ITP. The State Department of Education (SDE) is managing the funds for the creation of a four-year degree in interpreting for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

An *ad hoc* committee was formed to write the

“Request for a Proposal” (RFP). The committee was broad-based and included individuals with the savvy needed to construct a document that meets multiple needs. The RFP was issued in early August to all four-year institutions. The submittals were due September 5th.

Three institutions submitted Proposals: Jacksonville State University, Montevallo University, and Troy University. There are 13 “Readers” for this RFP. They are independently readers each Proposal and will meet in mid-September to make a recommendation to the SDE. It is hoped that all of the procedural facets will be completed and the awardees will be announced by Oct. 1, 2007.

This will be an exciting time for those interested in interpreting degree work in Alabama. The up coming RID credentialing which include degree requirements certainly put extra pressure on the creation of academic programs to offer this type of degree. A quick search in the RID website show that not only are there minimal options in the South, but nation-wide the number of baccalaureate degree programs is very low.

We should all be proud of the efforts these State Agencies made to address a long held problem. ALRID President, Karen, has been involved with this effort for most of the year. She and Judith Gilliam, AAD, have traveled about the state on their own time to help ‘apply pressure where needed.’ They have been actively engaged in meeting with various representatives at the postsecondary level to garner support.



TRAINING FOR ACADEMIC BOWL 2008

*Four 2-hour training session options
Thursday or Friday, September 27 or 28, 2007*

We need to request that you attend this training if you are volunteering to help at ASD at the competition, February 15 and 16, 2008.

HOSTED
by the
**Alabama School
for the Deaf**
205 South Street E.
Talladega, AL
35160
256-761-3214

For further information, please contact:

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Vera Hendrix, **or**
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RID President Encourages Deaf Member's Involvement

Submitted by: Cheryl Moose, RID President

Dear Friends,

Please mark your calendars and spread the news:

I will be available via videophone to Deaf Members on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 7 - 9 pm CST. Email me if you prefer to make an appointment for a different day/time.

My videophone number is **847-888-0787**

Feel free to call me with questions, concerns comments and feedback.

Among my goals as RID president is to increase the number of Deaf members in RID, encourage Deaf member involvement and champion Deaf leaders

in RID.

Hearing members may email me for an appointment to meet by phone.



CDI & CI Workshop

Submitted by: Belinda Montgomery

We have a date for Debbie Peterson to come back to talk about "**processing**". This workshop will be for those who are interested in becoming a Certified Interpreter.

Please save the date:

November 2-3, 2007
@ JCCD in Montgomery

Friday, November 2nd
from 4:00 - 8:00 PM

Saturday, November 3rd
from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

More information will be coming. Please pass this information on to whoever you think would be interested.

We are applying for RID CEUs.

"Sexual Signs"

Submitted By: Lisa Gould



Mobile
Division of
ALRID
is
co-sponsoring a

"Sexual
Signs"
workshop

Monday, October 15th, 2007
from 4:00 - 7:00 PM
for 3 CEUs.

For more info, contact:

Lisa Gould, Vice-President
1050 Government Street
Mobile, AL 36604
251-432-7777

Americans with Disabilities Act

It gives me a deep comforting sense that "things seen are temporal and things unseen are eternal."

~ Helen Keller ~



17th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act
July 26, 2007

Each year, the nation observes the milestone legislation that opened doors to full inclusion for people with disabilities – the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Across the Federal government, many programs have contributed significantly to opening these doors. Both President George W. Bush and U. S. Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao's have issued statements on the anniversary.

The Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment has also announced various initiatives and advancements related to the employment of people with disabilities.

- **President George W. Bush Issues Proclamation**

- **U. S. Secretary of Labor Issues Statement**

- **New Solutions for Small Business Video Released**

- **DisabilityInfo.gov Adds State and Local Resources**

- **High School/High Tech Director on ABC's "American Inventor"**

High School/High Tech Program Recognized by Department of Education as Effective Transition Strategy

You can read more about these topics at <http://www.dol.gov/odep/media/ada17th.htm>

Attention Interpreters Working in VRS - (Video Relay Services)

Never before, in the history of the interpreting profession, have interpreters worked in settings where the federal government and large corporations have played such an important role in the provision of interpreting services. The FCC has defined VRS interpreters as communication assistants¹ (CA), using language from TRS regulations. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and later FCC regulations, interpreters working in the VRS setting must be ³qualified.² At this time, there are issues before the FCC that affect the provision of video relay services and the professionals who work in the field. It is crucial for interpreters working in this setting to stay current with the issues facing video interpreters working for VRS.

The TRS (VRS) Issues link can be found on the FCC Disability Rights Office web page: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/>

FCC Disability Rights Office - TRS Issues
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trs.html>

Be sure to read the FCC fact sheet on Video Relay Service:

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/videorelay.html>

The TRS history docket includes summaries and citations of TRS (VRS) issues.

http://ftp.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trs_history_docket.html

The TRS/VRS Orders and Notices link includes the most recent headlines regarding TRS/VRS issues

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trs.html#orders>

If you have an opinion about issues related to VRS, such as Interpreters working in the VRS setting or VRS providers, go to the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau link: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/cgb_offices.html#CGB

and click on: How to file a comment (ECFS): <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/ecfs/Upload/>

There you will find a list of open proceedings. Click on the appropriate proceeding for which you want to submit a comment and follow the directions on the web page. You can find more detailed direction on the ECFS home page:

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>

There you will see the ECFS Main Links on the right:

Getting Started

Submit a Filing

Search for Filed Comments

Search for a Proceeding History

Pre-ECFS Comments

ECFS Alternate Link

Archived News Items



You CAN make a difference!

Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Membership

Application

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Name			
Address			
City-ST-Zip Code			
Contact Preference:			
Phone			
Email			
Other			

Payment:

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



Information:

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

Payable to: ALRID

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 of ALRID
 1305 37TH Street East
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205.554.1300
 Susan.Gordon@rehab.alabama.gov

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date received:

Check #:

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We are on the Web!

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:

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
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Mobile, AL 36604***

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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
