

Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf



Volume 1, Issue 4

April 2015

President's Updates

School will soon be out and hopefully vacation plans are set and in the works. Right now the weather is beautiful with spring time temperature. It seems to make it hard to stay indoors.

Please remember to register for the Alabama Association of the Deaf Biennial Conference. It is June 7th – 9th and COSDA on June 10th in Florence Alabama. Please see the flyer in the newsletter for more information and registration. Please remember interpreters attending the conference will be able to receive CEUs.

ALRID will be having our general business meeting at the conference on

June 7th Sunday afternoon from 2pm-5pm. In the meeting we will be voting on a bylaw change. (See below) An email blast to the members regarding voting for this bylaw changes was sent March 31st, 2015.

Article V Committees

Upon the Board of Directors' approval, the President shall appoint any committees, including standing, special and/or ad hoc committees, composed of at least three members in good standing to serve for a specified term. A majority of the entire committee shall constitute a quorum.

The motion is as follows:

2014-12 Motion: The board is making a recommendation to change the bylaws to state: All members of a committee must be in good standing

Make plans now to attend the ALRID general business meeting, AAD Conference, and COSDA luncheon. Don't miss out on the training and being a part of the AAD Conference!



Board of Directors

- **President:** Susan Gordon (Tuscaloosa)
- **Vice President:** Sue Graham (Sylacauga)
- **Secretary:** Chris McGaha (Chelsea)
- **Treasurer:** Sharon Spencer (Mobile)
- **Member-at-Large:** Karen Gunter (Montgomery)
- **Member-at-Large:** Stacie Yarbrough (Huntsville)
- **Student Representative:** Anna Hayes (Troy University ITP)
- **AAD Representative:** Ben Hollingsworth (Huntsville)
- **Immediate Past President:** Belinda Montgomery (Montgomery)

The Louise Wohlford Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of the Louise Wohlford Memorial Scholarship Fund is to provide payment of registration fees for conferences or workshops providing RID CEUs. Interpreters may request a scholarship for the "Early Bird" registration rate.

A total maximum of \$2,000 may be awarded per calendar year from this fund. Multiple scholarship applications from an individual will be accepted, however primary consideration will be given to applicants who have yet to receive funds. An individu-

al may not exceed \$400 in scholarship awards in any one calendar year.

For more information on how to apply, please go to www.alrid.org and click on Scholarships and click on Louise Wohlford Memorial Scholarship.

Inside this issue:

Mentorship	2
Region Representatives	2
Troy ITP	3
Mentorship continues	4
MEGA Conference	5-6
AAD Conference	7-8
Editor	9

Mentorship– Straight Ahead! By Nancy Brown

This isn't really an article about me or a way for me to tell you my story, but then again, yes, it is. Let me explain... I made the leap into the interpreting profession after having met a really nice and caring Deaf couple from my church. (Isn't that the same for many of you in my generation?) These people were so kind to me. I really wanted to learn ASL—I had no desire to become a "real" interpreter back then, I just wanted to be able to use sign language with the songs and on the drama team at church. Well, after several months of hanging out with the Deaf family, and after an unexpected opportunity in the interpreter's chair at church one night, I came to the realization that the interpreting profession is where I belong.

With a donation in hand from a kind-hearted anonymous benefactor, I walked into a newly developed training program in Huntsville where I had hoped to learn more sign language. The person at the desk talked with me for a few minutes and decided that I would be better off in the basics of interpreting class instead. I was terrified!! Yet, I learned so much in that short 8 weeks. That was almost 20 years ago, and to this day, I have a special place in my heart for that Deaf couple, the lady at the front desk, and

the teacher of the interpreting class.

What's the point of this story, Nancy?

Those folks all served as my mentors without actually bearing the title. Eddie Boger, Teresa Boger Sheppard, Frances Smallwood, and Judy Labath all made major contributions to my career. Without mentors I wouldn't be where I am today. I have had so many unofficial mentors in my career: Belinda Montgomery, Nancy Hayes, Lin Fulton, Stacie Yarbrough, Harriett Hollingsworth, Ben Hollingsworth, Valerie Ball, Tammy Schrimsher, Pat Smartt, Ted Kotis, Karen Gunter, Jennifer Flagg, Amber Bahler. That's a just a very short list of some of the folks who have made eternal impacts on my life as an interpreter and without them, I wouldn't be here.

Who are your mentors? Have you experienced formal mentoring (formal or informal)? Think about it for minute...



"A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could,
because someone else thought they could."

Region Representatives

Region 1: Kim Smith

Region 2: Chaeney Miller

Region 3: Diana Wagoner

Region 4: Vickie Brown

Region 5: Jodie Jernigan

Region 6: Lisa Gould

Region 7: Judy Robertson

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"SIGNS
ARE TO
EYES
WHAT
HANDS
ARE TO
EARS."

Greetings from Troy ITP!

We're at the end of yet another year and ready to celebrate the hard work of a special group of students. Each of them have grown in their own way and we take pride in knowing that they are entering the field with not only skill, but knowledge and heart that is indescribable. I, along with the faculty and staff at Troy University say, Congratulations Graduates on a job well done! With that said, their success would not be possible without the service and dedication of the mentors and others working in the field that are willing to give countless hours and encouragement. Words cannot express our gratitude for what you give so, THANK YOU!!!!

As we wrap up this year, I want to also update you on a few things:

First, we are sad to say that Ricky Rose is resigning from his full-time position on-campus to be with his family in Maryland. To say that he will be missed is an understatement. His desire and passion for teaching and the love of ASL has impacted this program greatly! He will continue to teach with us in an online capacity and will also continue to be involved with various ITP events. So, we don't say good-bye... we say, "until next time".

We held our AIM conference in March and it was a great success! Many of you were involved in some capacity so we thank you for your support in that event! The students are able to push their limits and learn so much from every session and also from interacting with professionals in the field.

Currently, students are gearing up to serve the Deaf community in many capacities over the summer. We are teaming with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services to host a College Prep Camp – Camp Success – for students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing and entering college settings in the fall. Many of our students will be volunteering at either the Troy camp or others around the state.

Additionally, we will have student representatives at various conferences this summer, including the AAD/COSDA conference. These are just a few of the places you will see our students this summer and if you have a need for any other events, please feel free to contact me and I will be glad to pass that information along.

Our program is growing and so is the need for faculty. We currently have two on-campus full time positions open. If you know of anyone seeking a full-time position either teaching ASL or ITP courses, please have them contact me and I can guide them to the application process.

In conclusion, we have some great things happening here in Troy and are excited about the future of the ITP. To those of you who support us in our efforts and contribute your time and energy to our students and program, well, you are simply awesome! We hope that everyone will continue to be involved with our program and students and allow us to serve the Deaf community to the best of our ability!

Sincerely,

Judy Robertson
Director, Troy ITP

TROY
UNIVERSITY™
Interpreter
Training Program

Mentorship continues from page 2

All of us need mentors - no matter if we are already certified, not-yet certified, an ITP student, or an ASL student, or all of the above. Mentors serve as guides that lead us to the crest and show us the view. They don't tell us what to see, but simply get us there so that we can see what we see on our own. Mentors are people who help us get to where we are going. A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could because someone else thought they could.

Who was it for you that believed you could?

Perhaps you never experienced official or unofficial mentoring as an Interpreter or student. Did you know that Alabama has a great pool of Interpreting and ASL mentors? Several of ALRID's members have completed the Master Mentor training and are available to serve you. There are many more ALRID and AAD members who are highly skilled, knowledgeable, and professional, who are willing to serve as mentors.

Wouldn't you benefit from a relationship with someone who can provide knowledge, insight, support, guidance, and perhaps even assist to open doors for you?

Just as Daniel discovered with Mr. Myagi, mentoring doesn't have to be an expensive formal contractual relationship. All it takes is two people, a mentor and mentee, agreeing on what is desired and how it will be achieved.

Having a mentor can provide you with many advantages. "Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction." - John Crosby. A mentor can help to shorten your learning curve, open your mind to new ideas and possibilities, identify opportunities and share advice on how to reach your goals for improving yourself.

Here are few reasons every interpreter, regardless of years of experience, age or specialty, needs mentoring:

A Trusted Confidant: A mentor is someone who serves as a trusted confidant over an extended period of time, usually free of charge or for a small fee. Why do they do this? First and foremost, it's a way of giving back to our community. A true mentoring relationship also works in both directions—the mentors learn about new ideas from you, just as you learn new perspectives from them.

ly have "been there, done that." Learn from others' mistakes and successes. The mentors don't have to have experience in your particular area of growth. The mentors' role is to share with you lessons from their experience in the hopes that you can learn the lessons a bit more quickly and easily than they did.

A trusted, long-term relationship: Your mentor has no ulterior motive and no service or product to sell you. As the relationship develops over time, you will develop trust in your mentor. As a bonus, time with your mentor becomes more and more efficient as the mentor becomes more and more familiar with you, your style, and your goals.

As you can see, the rewards are many, and the risk is non-existent.

You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by finding a good mentor.

Ready to get started?

Visit <http://www.alrid.org/mentoring> - you'll be very glad you did!

Nancy Brown, M.Ed. CRC, RID: CI/CT Master Mentor
Sign Language Interpreter
Madison, AL



Don't Fly Solo: In this profession we tend to fly solo. But we don't have to. Everybody needs a good, reliable sounding board, second opinion, and sometimes, just emotional support. In addition to skill development and growth, this is what mentoring is all about.



Been there, done that: Many mentors in our field real-



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

January 21, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
FROM: Thomas R. Bice *TRB*
State Superintendent of Education
RE: 2015 MEGA Conference Announcement – July 20-24, 2015

The Alabama State Department of Education is pleased to announce the 2015 MEGA Conference. We encourage participation in this professional development conference where local, state, and nationally known speakers from all facets of the education spectrum will provide collaborative learning experiences to support increases in student learning and achievement. I am requesting your assistance in publicizing this event by sharing this memorandum and pre-registration form with all administrators, teachers, parents, and other interested persons in your area.

The conference will begin on Monday at 1:30 p.m., and will end on Friday at the conclusion of the morning sessions. Preliminary conference information with a listing of sessions and other conference details will be available on our Web site at www.alsde.edu in early March 2015. However, participants should note the following information in preparing for the conference:

Dates:	July 20-24, 2015
Location:	Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel, Renaissance Battle House Hotel, and the Mobile Convention Center Mobile, Alabama
Registration:	Early Bird Pre-Registration is \$125 (Deadline: April 17, 2015). Pre-Registration is \$150 (Deadline: May 22, 2015). Late Registration (Beginning May 23, 2015) and On-Site Registration is \$175.
Lodging:	Contact the following hotels for lodging reservations: Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel – 800-922-3298 Code: MEGMEGA Renaissance Battle House Hotel – 866-316-5957 Code: MEGMEGA (Request MEGA Conference rates.)

Registration options are attached to the Registration Form for the 2015 MEGA Conference.

If you have questions or concerns, you may contact Ms. Beverly Jackson at 334-242-8114 or via e-mail at bjackson@alsde.edu.

TRB/LFS/MLP
Attachment

cc: Applicable Local Education Agency Staff
Applicable State Department of Education Staff
FY15-2014

Alabama
State Board
of Education

Governor
Robert Bentley
President

Al Thompson
District I

Betty Peters
District II

Stephanie Bell
District III

Yvette M.
Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Ella B. Bell
District V
Vice President

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
District VI

Jeff Newman
District VII
President Pro Tem

Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.
District VIII

Thomas R. Bice, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

REGISTRATION FORM 2015 MEGA CONFERENCE

July 20-24, 2015

Mobile, Alabama

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel • Renaissance Battle House Hotel • Mobile Convention Center

Please read before completing form:

- **Please print or type and use one Registration Form per registrant.**
- **Confirmation will be sent by email.** * If your work email is restricted by SPAM filters, you may want to provide a personal address to improve deliverability.
- **Name Badges will be picked up at Conference Registration when you arrive. Badges will NOT be mailed.**

Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Ms. ___

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Home/Mobile Phone (____) _____ - _____ School Phone: (____) _____ - _____

E-mail* _____ *Confirmation/ Receipt will be sent by email.*

School/Organization _____

Work Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- \$125 – Early Bird Registration Fee** (must be faxed or postmarked by 4/17/2015)
- \$150 – Pre-Registration Fee** (must be faxed or postmarked by 5/22/2015)
- \$175 – Late Registration Fee** (beginning 5/23/2015 and onsite at conference)

Method of Payment:

- Check/Money Order – Please make payable to **Montgomery Public Schools – MEGA Conference**
(Purchase orders will not be accepted.)

- Credit Card Information (VISA / MasterCard / American Express):

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name of Cardholder: _____ CCV Code: _____ (back of card)

Credit Card Billing Address: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

Registration Options:

Mail to: MEGA Registration  1401 Maclay Commerce Dr. Tallahassee, FL 32312	Fax to: 850/906-0077  (If sending by fax, DO NOT mail original form)
--	---

Online Registration:



To access the 2015 MEGA Conference Online Registration, go to:
<http://www.alsde.edu/ofc/ols/Pages/megadocs-all.aspx>

Questions regarding your registration?
E-mail megareg@mcraemeetings.com or Phone 844-261-3074

For Office Use:

Date Rec'd: _____ Amt Paid: \$ _____ Check# _____ Paytype: C S P ST O V/M Amex _____ CC Transaction # _____



2015 Alabama Association of the Deaf Conference
June 7-10, 2015



REGISTRATION FORM

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone#: _____ (VP, Voice, or Text)

E-Mail: _____

Registration DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2015 (must be postmarked by May 25, 2015)

Registration Combo includes the following:
Membership Fee
All Workshops/Presenters
All Entertainment Events
Luncheon/Awards Ceremony

Lodging Costs NOT INCLUDED.

To make lodging reservations: Go to the al-deaf.org website and the link will be on the conference page.
Alternative link: <http://tinyurl.com/lepyxf> or contact hotel at 800-593-6450 and refer to group code: ADAADAA
Deadline for Room reservation for the hotel's best rate (\$83/night): **BEFORE** May 7, 2015.

Registration Options: _____ Mark if attending _____ Cost _____



ALRID Meeting (Open to Public) _____ FREE

AAD Conference Combo: \$75.00/person _____

Will you be attending the AAD Luncheon/Awards on Tuesday, the 9th? _____ (please mark for head count)

Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf (COSDA) _____

COSDA Registration Fee: \$50.00/person _____

Total: \$ _____



Method of Payment (Please put a check mark on the appropriate line)
 Check (make check payable to Alabama Association of the Deaf)
 Pay Pal (AAD Website, www.al-deaf.org)

Please mail your completed registration and payment arrangements to:
Philip Magourik
108 Meleah Drive
Talladega, AL 35160-3346
E-mail: pcmagourik@gmail.com
VP#: (256) 474-0102

AAD is partnering with the Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (ALRID) and the Council of Organizations Serving Deaf Alabamians (COSDA) for this conference, so we can all show Deaf Alabamians what we do for you!



2015 ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF CONFERENCE June 7-10, 2015



2015 Conference Partners: Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (ALRID) Council of Organizations Serving Deaf Alabamians (COSDA)

BOOTH REGISTRATION FORM

Exhibit/Booth Cost (Full Conference, 4 days)- \$200.00 (one booth) POWER HOOK-UP FEE: \$35.00 (one-time for all four days) WIFI ACCESS: FREE



One-Day Exhibit/Booth Agreements

We regret to inform you that we will be unable to offer one-day exhibit booth agreements due to hotel guidelines/limitations on setting up and breaking down exhibits.

Start/End Time for Exhibits/Booths

In accordance with hotel guidelines and availability, AAD will be opening conference rooms for exhibit booth installation on Sunday, June 7 with an exhibit/booth breakdown time of up to 2 hours after the conclusion of the conference on Wednesday, June 10.

Questions or Reservations for Exhibit/Booth space:

If you have any questions or want to arrange reservations for exhibit space, please contact Ben Hollingsworth, exhibition/booths chairperson at benhworth@gmail.com or 256-274-4926 (VP).



Name of Individual Registrant for Booth Name of Agency/Company Represented: Address of Individual OR Agency/Company: Phone number: (VP/Voice/Text/Fax) (circle one) E-Mail:

Booth Registration Options (check your preference)

One booth, 4 days (\$200.00) \$ Method of Payment (Please put a check mark on the appropriate line) Electric hookup (\$35.00 one time fee) \$ Check (make check payable to Alabama Association of the Deaf) Each additional booth: (x \$200) \$ Pay Pal (Contact Ben Hollingsworth to find out how to do this.) Total: \$

Please mail registration and payment to: Ben Hollingsworth ADRS 621 Cherry Street NE PO Box 1686 Decatur, Alabama 35602-1686

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00PM on FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2015 TO GUARANTEE BOOTH SPACE AVAILABILITY.

Beth Overland
ALRID Newsletter Editor
2014-2016

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
1305 James I. Harrison, Jr Parkway East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

Phone: 205-210-4067
E-mail: beth.overland@rehab.alabama.gov

**WE are on
the website!**
www.alrid.org

Hi everyone!

Please do not forget to send me articles, stories, workshops, or any new information that you want ALRID to know about. You can send them to me at beth.overland@rehab.alabama.gov.

Thank you!

SAVE the date!!!

Alabama Association of the Deaf, Inc.

June 7-10

<http://al-deaf.org/>

At

Theme: "Obstacles Together Overcome"

Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa,
Florence, Alabama

THAT DEAF GUY

BY MATT & KAY DAIGLE



