AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING
NAD/ASLTA Conference
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, D.C.
July 7, 2002

I. Call to Order
President Leslie Greer called the meeting to order at 1:53 p.m.

II. Voting System
Green card in the hand of each member = for/support
Red card = against/oppose

III. Approval of 2000 General Meeting Minutes
The membership approved the General Meeting minutes held in July 2000 at Norfolk, Virginia.

IV. President's Report by Leslie Greer

Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT) Convention – October 2000
ASLTA Board attended the CIT Convention at Portland, Oregon met with CIT Board members to discuss collaboration and advice on some issues.

JNCL/NCLIS Assembly – May 2001
(Joint National Committee for Languages / National Council for Languages and International Studies)
President Greer along with Liaison Dr. William Newell attended the JNCL / NCLIS Assembly in Washington, DC. She was pleased that the Assembly delegates, whose main occupations were to teach foreign languages, were very interested to learn more about ASL. NTID donated a CD-rom on ASL vocabulary to John D. Edwards, the Executive Director of JNCL/NCLIS. Greer and Newell lobbied with Congress and gave them kits about ASLTA. It turned out that the Assembly delegates wanted the kits so they promised they would bring kits next year for them.

Greer felt it was important for each ASLTA Board member to attend the Assembly. This year Vice President Tom Riggs went with Dr. Newell. They gave the kits to the Assembly delegates as promised.

ASL Way Conference at Monterey, California in April 2001
Greer on behalf of the ASLTA Board attended the ASL Way Conference. It had only 30 participants but they all learned so much from the workshops.

Deaf Studies Conference at Orlando, Florida in April 2001
President Greer and Chapter Chair L. Thomas attended this conference and gave a presentation to the conference attendees.
2002 ASLTA General Meeting Minutes

Missouri Statewide Interpreters Conference at Ozarks – October 2001
ASLTA Board had its board meeting during this conference. Greer and Riggs also gave a presentation to the conference attendees.

RID Conference at Orlando, Florida in August 2001
President Greer attended this conference. Greer mentioned about one of the motions proposing that any interpreter applying to become certified must first obtain a BA degree. She explained to RID membership about ASLTA procedures on certification systems. They asked Greer for more opinions and she suggested they be referred to NCI (National Council on Interpreters).

Dinner with NAD Board and World Federation of the Deaf Board
The NAD Board invited the ASLTA Board to join them and the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Board as well as Youth Delegates for dinner in Washington, DC.

WFD to ASLTA Chapter Luncheon
ASLTA Board invited the President of WFD, Dr. Liisa Kauppinen and the General Secretary of WFD, Carol-lee Aquiline to the Chapter Luncheon. They were impressed with the idea of ASLTA chapters and would like to see ASLTA expand its roles and provide assistance in their countries.

World Federation of the Deaf Conference
The WFD will hold a conference at Montreal, Canada on July 18 - 26, 2003.

CIT and ASLTA Task Force Committee
ASLTA Board committed to provide a fund of $5,000.00 to the CIT and ASLTA Task Force for their travel expenses to enable them to meet and discuss on the collaboration of both organizations. Carole Lazorisak who is Co-chair and Rachel Naiman are on the committee. Greer is the representative from the ASLTA Board.

Appreciation to ASLTA Board
Greer thanked the ASLTA board members for working hard on developing the guidelines for the Board Manual. Once completed, they will be passed on to Nancy Bloch, NAD Executive Director and Marilyn Smith for review. She thanked Dr. Newell for his assistance on English grammar.

Marilyn Smith, the Board Trainer during the Board Meeting at Phoenix, AZ in Feb. ’01
The ASLTA Board hired Marilyn Smith from Seattle Washington to provide training to them. She gave advice on how to provide a smooth transition before ASLTA would become independent from NAD.

Parliamentarian of this General Meeting
As the President of ASLTA Greer announced the appointment of Matthew Moore as a Parliamentarian during this General Meeting.
V. **Vice President’s Report by Thomas Riggs**
Tom Riggs reported that his term is 2000 – 2004. He has enjoyed working with the Board. One of his job duties is to replace the President in event of her absence.

**Appreciation to NAD**
He expressed deep appreciation to Nancy Bloch, NAD Executive Director and Anita Farb, NAD Administrative Assistant for making this conference a smooth and successful one.

**JNCL/NCLIS Assembly in May 2002**
Riggs and Dr. Newell attended this Assembly at Washington, DC. He considered it a great benefit to get acquainted with 2nd language teachers and to be lobbying with Congress. John D. Edwards, the Executive Director learned signs from the CD-Rom. Riggs was pleased to see him signing “FINE”. There were more than 100 delegates attending this Assembly.

**Polling with ASLTA Conference attendees**
He polled with the conference attendees about the best part of the conference. They agreed on with French Deaf guests and wanted them to come back.

**Bar codes for workshop attendance**
Riggs explained on how the bar codes work for attending the workshops. He encouraged the members/participants to submit the Participant Handbook to him by September 1st. He will submit them a certificate of clock hours.

**Appreciation to Lynn Jacobowitz**
He gave a hat off to Lynn Jacobowitz that while she was the President of ASLTA, she successfully saw ASLTA become a membership of JNCL/NCLIS.

VI. **Treasurer’s Report by JaNahne McCready-Johnson**

**Power Point Presentation**
McCready presented the Treasurer’s report through the Power Point.

* **Auditors:** Provided and paid by the NAD
* **Status of audit results:** last 3 years it was found to be *unqualified* (meaning perfect and complete) This year NAD and ASLTA are being audited and completion is expected by Fall 2002.

* **Appreciation to: MSM Productions, Ltd** for donating 1st Professional Development Conference proceeds of $35,000.00 to ASLTA;

* **Waldron Estate** — money from the will and is now completed

* **Contributors** — members from the Deaf Community to help with fundraising from computer raffles and denim shirts embroidered in ASLTA.
Financial reports according to the fiscal years:
Fiscal Year One: April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001
Revenues total: $89,946.45  Expenses total: $69,450.73
Fiscal Year Two: April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002
Revenues total: $48,966.25  Expenses total: $36,426.90

Breakdown of Revenues for FY 1:
Advertisements: $2,765.00
Chapter fees: $150.00
Donations: $41,605.00
Evaluation fees: $10,450.00
Interest/Dividends: $6,195.20
Membership dues: $15,472.74
(some with deductions of expenses
  from ASLTA's home office)
Royalties: $1,594.32
Transfer: $13,714.19

Breakdown of Expenses for FY 1:
Travel: $28,468.08
Professional Artists: $125.00
Professional Evaluators: $1,865.00
Professional Interpreters: $750.00
Professional Labor: $10,918.90
Supplies: $12,190.86
Postage: $3,028.11
Printing: $5,270.47
Bad Debt: $339.00
Equipment/Furniture: $132.49
Fundraising prizes: $2,600.00
Professional Membership: $1,325.00
Advertisements: $1,815.00
Refund: $622.82

Breakdown of Revenues for FY 2:
Advertisements: $80.00
Chapter Fees: 0
Donations: $9,381.31
Evaluation fees: $10,035.00
Interest/Dividends: $3,659.55
Membership dues (after deducting
  home office expenses): $19,922.24
Royalties: $2,305.15
Transfer: $3,583.00

Breakdown of Expenses for FY 2:
Travel: $16,625.19
Professional Artists: -0-
Professional Evaluators: $2,650.00
Professional Interpreters: $950.00
Professional Labor: $4,901.25
Supplies: $2,829.45
Postage: $3,692.36
Printing: $2,148.05
Bad Debt: -0-
Equipment/Furniture: $1,318.60
Professional Membership: $1,000.00
Fundraising (denim shirts): $312.00

VII. Evaluation Chair Report by Keith Cagle

Appreciation to Evaluation Assistant
Cagle expressed deep appreciation to his Evaluation Assistant, LaVerne Verwiebe who is
his mother for her great work on organization skills. He also hires Vanghin Hardin who
assists him occasionally.
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Being a Chair
Since he took over in August 2000, he realized that being a chair is a big job; however, he has 4 more years. Once ASLTA becomes officially independent and has its own office and full time staff, the Evaluation Chair can be just a leader in this capacity.

Chapter members
Cagle encouraged chapter members to become certified and they to encourage their own membership too.

Current and Valid Certifications
Professional - 40; Qualified - 44; Provisional - 127
Total certified members: 211

Active Files (applicants in process of becoming certified):
Professional - 14; Qualified - 46; Provisional - 125
Total applicants in process: 185

Chart of revenues and expenditures for ASLTA Evaluations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 2000 (5 mo)</th>
<th>2001 (12 mo)</th>
<th>2002 (6 mo)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$3,490 ($698)</td>
<td>8,281 (690)</td>
<td>9,870 (1,645)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistants</td>
<td>$1,928 ($385)</td>
<td>4,600 (383)</td>
<td>3,022 (504)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies/Postage</td>
<td>$1,065 ($213)</td>
<td>2,573 (215)</td>
<td>1,377 (230)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluators</td>
<td>$1,155</td>
<td>1,408</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>$4,148</td>
<td>8,581</td>
<td>7.304 (possible in black)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New fees for Evaluations
Cagle announced that the Board has approved new fees which are effective on July 15, 2002.

Revisions on Certification System
A team of evaluators will conduct a revision in the fall of 2003.

Retraining of Evaluators
It is being done every 6 years.
New Evaluators
The ASLTA Board has approved 2 new evaluators. A training session was being provided this week to one trainee. Unfortunately, the other one was unable to come due to death in her immediate family.

VIII. Chapter Affiliation and Bylaws Chair Report by Laura Thomas

Chapter Affiliation and Bylaws Chair – it is appointed by the ASLTA Board President. Thomas said her position is pending upon the election of the next President.

Chapter Affiliation Status – total of 33 affiliated chapters as of July 1, 2002; however, there are 3 probable inactive status. OklaASLTA is pending for National ASLTA approval. She just received interest from 4 states wanting to become a chapter.

Appreciation for Chapter Luncheon prizes – Thomas expressed deep appreciation to President Greer and Dr. Piela for donating briefcases to be distributed to Chapter Luncheon guests as well as pens to ASLTA membership.

Chapter Guidelines/Maintenance – She completed them in March 2002 and presented them to the Chapter Presidents when they met. They made further revisions.

Chapter Start-up Manual – Thomas has been gathering Chapter comments for additions to the Manual and hopes to distribute to current and new chapters by September 2002

Vote on 501©3 Status – She conducted membership mailing for vote on ASLTA to become 501©3 Status; thus, becoming independent from NAD. 514 members voted yes, 56 voted no and 4 did not vote.

National ASLTA Bylaws and Mission Statement – Thomas established a committee with Greer and Newell to rewrite the bylaws. Libby Pollard, NAD Board President and Nancy Bloch, NAD Executive Director provided assistance. She conducted membership mailing for vote which resulted in 360 votes of yes and 5 of no.

ASLTA Awards – she gathered votes for TJ O’Rourke Award, Stephen Ryan Award, George Veditz Award from the ASLTA Membership. She selected the Chapter of the Year. They will be announced at the Awards Reception on Sunday, July 7, 2002.

Election of President and Secretary/Treasurer for the term of 2002-2006 – Thomas conducted membership mailing through newsletters for nominations of: President – Leslie Greer and Mike Kemp
Secretary/Treasurer – Jan McCready-Johnson and Cindy Campbell. She again conducted membership mailing for vote on these candidates. She formed a committee of 3 to count votes. She will announce the results after this Business Meeting today.
IX.  CIT/ASLTA Task Force Co-Chair Report by Betty Colonemos, CIT Rep

Other Co-Chair – Carole Lazorisak who was unable to come here. She is representing
ASLTA.

Motion from CIT National Conference 2000 – Colonemos read the motion made at
that conference to establish a Task force with several reasons for its purpose. She
realized that ASLTA did not support the term “Deaf ASLTA members” in that motion.

She then gave a brief history on accreditation with a self study review, teacher credentials
on a portfolio model and a desire for CIT to collaborate with ASLTA through
conferences, language accessibility, committee input, membership benefits and office
space/staff. CIT members felt strongly that Deaf people be allowed to provide input to
the Task Force.

Surveys sent to CIT and ASLTA membership – the Task Force recently completed
gathering the surveys. Check on survey results on the website: CIT.aslta.org.

Invitation to CIT National Conference – Colonemos encouraged ASLTA members to
attend CIT’s upcoming national conference in St. Paul, Minnesota on October 9 – 12,
2002.

X.  K – 12 Committee Report by E. Lynn Jacobowitz, Ph.D.

Rachel Stone, Ph.D. – She continues to chair this committee. The progress of developing
curriculum is still in the beginning stage. There is a big need for more people to serve on
this committee.

Laurene Gallimore, Ph.D. – she continues to chair the L2 Committee. The members of
the L2 committee are based in Oregon and will continue to finish the curriculum. They
will complete the pilot study with other teachers in schools from the Stars Project and
other schools throughout the U.S. The teachers will provide feedback and suggestions to
the members of the L2 committee. The members of the L2 committee will finalize the
curriculum after receiving input from teachers.

Grant Writer – during this past year she has been quite ill so the work is somewhat
stalled.

E. Lynn Jacobowitz, Ph.D. – she continues to be the Project Director of the ASLTA
National K-12 ASL Curriculum and is working with Dr. Rachel Stone to find people to
serve on the L1 team.
XI. ASLTA Newsletter Editor

In absence of the Editor, President Greer reported for Cindy Campbell, Ph.D. – her term has expired so there is an opening. Anyone interested in taking over, see President Greer.

XII. 2ND ASLTA Professional Development Conference

It will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on April 10 – 13, 2003. Members are encouraged to spread the word about it. Website: www.aslta.com/conf/

Call for Papers Presentation – deadline on December 1st.

XIII. ASLTA WEBMASTER

Greer introduced Sam Holcomb, the new ASLTA Webmaster. She thanked Alan Thomas for his volunteer working on ASLTA website over the past four years.

Holcomb reported that he has been working with NTID Web Designer on the website since April 2002. He has received many requests for information about ASL classes. He also posted job announcements.

XIV. UNFINISHED FLOOR MOTIONS FROM 2000 CONFERENCE – President Greer reviewed each one with an action made by the ASLTA Board.

XV. NEW BUSINESS

NOTE: July 4, 2002 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm was assigned only for making motions and discussions. Today they are allowed to vote on them without any discussions.

Motion 1: Laura Thomas moved that ASLTA suspend current Bylaws, Article IX – Amendment to Bylaws, to vote on new Bylaws. Passed.

Motion 2: Glenna Ashton moved that the advance registration of $175.00 paid at the 1st National Professional Development Conference in Rochester, NY 1999 be considered as a deluxe package rate ($285.00 according to flyer). Passed.

Motion 3: Alma L. Bournaziam moved that National ASLTA take a role to encourage its membership to join their local/state ASLTA chapters as well. Referred to Resolution Committee

Motion 4: Mike Kemp moved to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to develop requirements for Sign Language Trainers in other countries to receive International Teacher’s certificates from ASLTA. Passed. (Note: Kemp included goals of this committee and a rationale.)
Motion 5: Brenda Jo Falgier moved to have a Parliamentarian of ASLTA be selected. Out of order.

Motion 6: Arkady Belozovsky moved to allow clock hours to be counted for attending National ASLTA membership meetings. Passed.

Motion 7: Mike Kemp moved to establish a consortium of American Sign Language Program Directors and/or Coordinators consisting of no less than 5 or more than 7 persons who are ASLTA members in good standing, possess ASLTA Professional Certifications and currently are either Program Directors or Coordinators in academic settings such as respective programs; high schools, community colleges, colleges, and or universities. The newly elected or re-elected ASLTA President shall appoint a Chairperson and he/she, in turn will select the members to serve on the Consortium for at least 4 years, subject to the ASLTA Executive Board’s approval. The Consortium members’ respective locations will be geographically balanced in the United States. Passed. (Note: Kemp included the goals of the Consortium and a rationale)

ASLTA Resolution 1 from Cheri Courtright:
Whereas ASLTA membership as assembled during this conference have expressed concerns regarding non-standardization and tarnishing of American Sign Language (ASL).

Whereas there is widespread dissatisfaction among ASL Instructors throughout the United States about the inconsistency and improper usage of ASL.

Whereas we feel that there is a need for ASLTA to explore the potential avenues of Establishing standardization of ASL.

Therefore be it resolved that the ASLTA Board will form a Special Interest Group (SIG) for the purpose of implementing a Standard National ASL Proficiency Interview Team by April 2003 in preparation for the next National Professional Development Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. Referred to Board.

XI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nomination Chair Laura Thomas announced the election of the following:
President: Leslie Greer (for the term of 2002 – 2006)
Secretary/Treasurer: JaNahne McCready-Johnson (for the term of 2002 – 2006)

According to the new ASLTA Bylaws that were voted and approved by the ASLTA membership that contain a new Board Roster and terms:
McCready-Johnson as Treasurer (2002 – 2004 – 2 year term)
Dr. Cindy Campbell as Secretary (2002 – 2006 – 4 year term)
XII. Announcements

MOU
President Greer who also is a delegate for the NAD Council of Representatives (COR) announced that she and NAD Board President Libby Pollard signed the MOU (Memo of Understanding) in front of the COR delegates. The purpose of this MOU is that NAD is currently recognizing that ASLTA will become an independent organization and will no longer be affiliated with the NAD effectively on December 31, 2003. They will also sign another MOU during the ASLTA Awards Reception.

Concerns/Comments Shared by ASLTA Members
- too many non-deaf unqualified ASL teachers currently teaching ASL
- ASLTA members should be encouraging the school districts hiring ASL teachers to become certified

Suggestion by Mike Kemp
Mike strongly encouraged ASLTA to consider charging a program to post an ad about a job opening for an ASL Teacher in the ASLTA Website – example: 50% off of the ad cost to the program who requires ASLTA Teaching Certification and 100% off to the program that has hired a candidate with the current ASLTA Teaching Certification.

Job Announcement
Debra Hast announced that University of Pennsylvania has a job opening for ASL Teacher.

Wishes
Neil Johnson wish the new and old ASLTA Board members Best of Luck during the transition of becoming independent from NAD.

XIII. Adjournment
The general meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.
ASLTA MEMBERSHIP MOTIONS (Floor Motions)
GENERAL MEETING on July 7, 2000

1. Sponsorship
Whereas the Northern California ASLTA Chapter has set up a training conference for March 2001 in Seaside/Monterey, California, Whereas The Northern California ASLTA Chapter (although focus is on California ASL instructors) has extended welcome to ASL instructors from other states, Whereas the Northern California ASLTA Chapter is now operating on bare-bones budget and is in need of good sponsorships, Whereas there is low Visibility in California, Jeanne Leighton moved that National ASLTA and NAD each provide the $5,000 sponsorships and receive free advertisement in the conference program book, free exhibit booths, share their brochures with the conference participants and set up banners on display to promote their image.

ACTION:  Wording of NAD in this motion = out of order
Request of $5,000.00 is unrealistic for ASLTA to give to a state chapter.

2. Sponsorship
Jeanne Leighton moved that National ASLTA and NAD each send a minimum of three board members to the conference and that the costs of their attendance be covered by ASLTA and NAD.

ACTION:  Wording of NAD in this motion = out of order

-----President Leslie will write a letter to ASLTA president regarding the need for ASL Way Conference and explain the need.

3. Chapter Presidents Conference
Whereas there is a need for more interaction between the ASLTA chapters, whereas there is a need for chapter presidents/representatives at the ASLTA annual meeting to share ideas and feedback and propose what is needed for the chapter's survival and growth, whereas there is a need for adequate training for the chapter president and representatives to receive training for chapter management, Jeanne Leighton moved that NAD/ASLTA include the two-day pre-conference meeting or training for ASLTA board, chapter president/representatives before each ASLTA conference.

ACTION:  Survey to membership; NAD/ASLTA Conference will precede Deaf Way in 2002; monetary factor

---Handwritten note---
Leslie:
All for Newsletter
I think you & I both wanted
members to know about 2000
floor motions & selected
3 issues
if any questions.

www.ultratec.com
1-800-482-2424 (TTY)
Page 2...Motions from the floor

4. **Certification of ASL Instructors**
   Whereas the National ASLTA evaluation procedures are now in place, whereas the objective #3 of the ASLTA Bylaws shows “to certify ASL Instructors and programs offering ASL courses”, whereas the process of Evaluating ASL teachers for certification is dependent upon the availability of the selected evaluators, whereas increasing number of ASL instructors are applying for certification and pawning limited feedback or delays in certification process, whereas the national ASLTA lack adequate funding to speed up the evaluation process for certification and for maintaining stronger data base, Carolyn Stem moved that the national ASLTA receive funding and office support from NAD that makes it possible for all ASLTA instructors to receive feedback or certification of all three levels within a year from the date of the initial application.

ACTION: Refer to Evaluation Team

5. **NAD/ASLTA Conference**
   Jim Lipsky moved that NAD/ASLTA Conference should be replaced by CIT/ASLTA Conference during even years.

ACTION: failed

6. **ASLTA Chapter Presidents accessing to information**
   (no name?) moved that ASLTA Chapter presidents will, on an needed basis, have access to the membership list, list of certified members and ASLTA conference registrants by contacting ASLTA Board with a request.

ACTION: refer to Chapter Affiliation Chair

7. **ASLTA and NAD workshops**
   Jane Ross moved that ASLTA and NAD workshops be separated during the different date and place. ACTION: failed
8. **50% of revenues**
Jim Lipsky moved that NAD gives 50% of money (revenues) to ASLTA from NAD/ASLTA Conference.

**ACTION:** failed

9. **Reword the Qualified Level written question**
Ruth Ann Schornstein moved to have the committee reword the qualified level written question as it is more of K-12, not college level.

**ACTION:** refer to Evaluation Team

10. **ASLTA Workshops**
Kathy Mutter moved that ASLTA workshops should be offered without conflicting other workshops. (Reason: we need to earn more clock hours since ASLTA wants us to continue rather than limit)

**ACTION:** refer to Conference Committee
ASLTA MEMBERSHIP MOTIONS (Floor Motions)
GENERAL MEETING on July 7, 2000

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ACTION: Wording of NAD in this motion = out of order
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2. **Sponsorship**
Jeanne Leighton moved that National ASLTA and NAD each send a minimum of three board members to the conference and that the costs of their attendance be covered by ASLTA and NAD.

ACTION: Wording of NAD in this motion = out of order

----President Leslie will write a letter to Carolyn Stem, the coordinator of ASL Way Conference and explain to her from the above 2.

3. **Chapter Presidents Conference**
Whereas there is a need for more interaction between the Board and the ASLTA chapters, whereas there is a need for adequate time for chapter presidents/representatives at the ASLTA conference to discuss issues, share ideas and feedback and propose agenda items for meetings, whereas there is a need for adequate time for chapter president/representatives to receive training for chapter management and operation, Carolyn Stem moved that NAD/ASLTA include the two-day pre-conference meeting or training for ASLTA board, chapter president/representatives before each ASLTA conference. ACTION: Survey to membership; NAD/ASLTA Conference will precede Deaf Way in 2002; monetary factor