



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

American Sign Language Teachers Association
POB 92445, Rochester, NY 14692-9998
info@aslta.org

Volume 2006
Number 02

**TAMPA! TAMPA!!
October 25-28, 2007**

Mark your calendars!

The Fourth National Professional Development Conference, hosted by ASLTA, will be held on **October 25 - 28, 2007 Thursday to Sunday** at the Renaissance Tampa Hotel International Plaza, Tampa, Florida. Check out the beautiful site (photos on page 12).

All ASL teachers, adjuncts, and other interested persons should keep an eye on the ASLTA Website, for early registration information.

Here's a sneak peak:

Early Bird: only \$275!
— great rate! — until June 30th 2007.

Thinking about presenting? Do it and if your paper is selected, you'll receive a special discounted rate to attend the conference.

Details, forms, and more information will be posted soon at www.aslta.org.

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<i>Check the website for current information between newsletters:</i>	
<i>www.aslta.org</i>	

Evaluations:
Keith MOVED!

New Address:
PO Box 1687
Boiling Springs
NC 28017

American Sign Language Teachers Association
POB 92445, Rochester, NY 14692-9998
Return mail to: **POB 480, Boiling Springs, NC 28017-0480**

\$25/donation for each listing

Online resource for teachers of signed languages

100 character description of services

100 character description of services

www.teachasl.org

Email or Web URL

Email or Web URL

Directory Listings

Professional Development

TeachASL

Any Business

Any Business

New Feature

Looking for a way to generate new customers? Want to keep your products in front of your current clientele? Want to launch something new? Need to advertise your services as a workshop presenter? Let ASLTA help you reach your clientele and increase your sales.

Directory listings are categorized by headings and consist of a company or individual's name, an email address or website URL contact, and a short descriptive phrase of no more than 100 characters (letters & spaces). Camera ready copy is not necessary for Directory listings. See below for an example. Send your camera-ready copy today to ARasmus-sen@valenciacc.edu. The editor can access files with the following extensions: doc, jpg, pdf, pub, rtf, and txt.

Directory listings are categorized by headings and consist of a company or individual's name, an email address or website URL, contact, and a short descriptive phrase of no more than 100 characters (letters & spaces). Camera ready copy is not necessary for Directory listings. Look to the left for an example.



ASLTA Membership Form is online at http://www.aslta.org/membership/2006_ASLTA_Membership_Form.html

MEMBERSHIP RUNS JANUARY TO DECEMBER
Or you can fill out the form below. Tear it out of your newsletter.

Mail it to:
ASLTA, 2006 Membership
POB 92445
Rochester, NY 14692-9998

NAME: _____
(As you want it to appear on your membership card.)

LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
(If you move you *must* notify membership@aslta.org.)

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____
(Preferably all 9 digits, if you know it.)

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATE: _____
(Not required.)

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

- Certified \$50 Voting (Must have ASLTA certification.)
- Associate \$40 Voting (For non-certified members.)
- Supporting \$25 Non-voting (For non-certified members.)
- Institutional \$150 Non-voting (For non-personal members.)

MAIN EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
(Where you want ASLTA to contact you.)

OTHER EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
(Your backup email address if we are not able to contact you at your main email address.)
Dues are from January –December, fees are not prorated.

Job Announcements

Position Title	Name of College / University	Location	Application Deadline
2 Full-time ASL High School Teachers ASL Instructor	Fort Worth ISD	Fort Worth, TX	<i>none</i>
ASL Adjunct Faculty	Des Moines Area Community College	Ankeny, IA	<i>open until filled</i>
ASL Teacher	Keuka College	Keuka Park, NY	<i>none</i>
NY State Certified ASL Teacher	Kentlake High School	Kent, WA	<i>open until filled</i>
Secondary – High School ASL Teacher ASL Instructor	Hauppauge High School	Hauppauge, Long Island, NY	<i>position begins Sept 2006</i>
Adjunct ASL Instructor	Huffman Independent School District	Huffman, TX	<i>open until filled</i>
	Western Kentucky University	Bowling Green, KY	<i>open until filled</i>
	University of Central Florida	Orlando, FL	<i>none</i>

For more job announcements, go to: <http://www.aslta.org/job/index.html>

Conference & Workshop Announcements

Date	Conference	Location
<i>Know of a job? List it in www.aslta.org</i>		
<i>June 29-July 3, 2006</i>	NAD (National Association of the Deaf)	Desert Springs, CA
<i>Oct 18-21, 2006</i>	CIT (Conference of Interpreter Trainers)	San Diego, CA
<i>Nov 17-19, 2006</i>	ACTFL (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages)	Nashville, TN
<i>Dec 27-30, 2006</i>	MLA (Modern Language Association) Convention	Philadelphia, PA
<i>February 16 - 18, 2007</i>	FASLTA 2007 Annual Conference	Orlando, FL
<i>October 25-28, 2007</i>	ASLTA 4th Professional Development Conference	Tampa, FL

For more conference and workshop announcements, go to:
<http://www.aslta.org/workshops/index.html>

Reports: Officers & Committees

President: Glenna Ashton

Summer is upon us and that lounge chair with a tall cool drink is beckoning! Maybe that is when we can catch up on professional reading of journals, magazines, books, and research. Perhaps dream up some new lesson plans, order new materials with a few clicks on the Internet, or share ideas to find ways to keep those students' eyes focused and hands moving!

As we have ended another school year, some of us may have or want to reflect on what we have accomplished and what we would like to improve or change for the next school year. Probably you can find something in your ASL files (are they organized yet?, it's an elusive goal for me every year!) that is worth developing into further lessons and tests, worth sharing with other ASL teachers, worth presenting at your chapter workshop, and worth writing about for this ASLTA newsletter. Since every one of us is a unique person and a unique teacher, we all have something unique to offer!

Some of you may be concerned about larger issues such as legislation, certification, curriculum development, and other areas that affect teaching ASL as a profession. ASLTA is often requested or expected to act upon these issues. However, the entire Board is serving voluntarily with no payments in any form in addition to working full time jobs and other professional and personal responsibilities. We cannot do it all alone! How can we try to ac-

complish as much as possible with these issues? Having many members serve on several committees! This means each one of you can get involved and influence how we solve the issues and move forward as a professional field.

This well-known proverb applies to our field – “Some make it happen, some watch it happen, and others wonder what happened.” Please contact any Board member about volunteering to work with us on any committee, project, or program.

These are the following committees looking for a few good members! ASLPI chaired by Dr. Eddy Laird, MLA chaired by Dr. Rusty Rosen, Legislation – state laws on ASL – open, and K-12 ASL Curriculum Standards project (L1 & L2) – open. In addition, Keith Cagle is looking for several certified – professional level members to train as evaluators for the ASLTA certification system. There may be other concerns that do not have a committee set up to address them yet.

Finally, I must address the issue of membership dues. There is still a majority of you not paid up for the calendar year of 2006. All of you are receiving newsletters whether you are a current member or not. Please check on your membership status (especially if you are certified!) and use the membership form in this newsletter or print it out from our web site. With the low number of members, we will not be able to af-

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ford continuing mailing free newsletters, expanding the web site, or even planning an improved conference. I have had enthusiastic members willing to work on certain activities when I asked them yet discovered they were not paid members for this year! Support, involvement, and professionalism begin with the membership dues!

Now back to that lounge chair, some reading, then working on ASLTA activities. ☺

Vice President: Tom Riggs

No report at this time.

Treasurer: Betti Bonni

I've been asked by several people about why their early registration for the 2007 conference had been refunded. Very simply: This new ASLTA Board has decided to try to run the next conference ourselves, and not rely on an outside conference planner. Those of you who signed up and paid early registration to MSM Productions should have gotten a refund. Registration forms for both the conference and the hotel will be available online soon. We look forward to your participation!

I've also been asked by some people to clearly point out whether or not the 2005 Las Vegas conference was a profit or not. I will point to the December 31 2005 Treasurer's report, which indicated a beginning balance of \$85,438 on December 1st and a closing balance of \$65,842 on December 31. The major expense had

to do with the LV conference, including a payment of \$18,545 for use of facilities and fees. This is in addition to an earlier payment of more than \$5,000.00 when we first contracted with the hotel. Later, reflected in the March 2006 report, MSM Productions presented ASLTA with a check for \$16,737 which was their donation to us based on their accounting of receipts and expenses during this conference. So, in actuality, we took a loss on this conference.

Thankfully, our membership is still thriving, and our membership dues has been a major source of revenue for our organization. You will note that our closing balance in the March 2006 report is \$89,026. We hope you continue to support us with your dues, and continue to participate in the activities of ASLTA

Secretary: Dorothy Wilkins

We ASLTA Board members made two motions that were carried. They were:

Motion: Retroactive plan for the lapsed or expired certified members

June 7, 2006 ... Keith Cagle make a motion that the ASLTA allows the ASLTA certified members who have lapsed or expired their valid certification to make the retroactive payment for each 2-years extension for their certification lapsed or expired since Jan. 1, 2004. Each extension fee is \$100 (Remember after each extension is made, another extension fee after Jan. 2006 has an

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ASLTA News is published four times a year:
January, April, July, October

ARTICLES WANTED:

Articles about teaching, learning, and/or research in the areas of 1st and 2nd language acquisition, Deaf culture, Deaf community, Deaf history, Deaf life, et cetera, are being sought. Please consider submitting something today. After all, this is your newsletter and it should reflect your needs, wants, and desires.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

ARTICLES & DONATIONS FOR ADVERTISING:

March 1st (April)

June 1st (July)

September 1st (October)

December 1st (January)

\$150/full page

\$100/1/2 page

\$75/ 1/4 page

\$25/ directory listings

5% discounts apply if paid 1 year in advance.

DONATIONS should be sent to

ASLTA

P O Box 9244

Rochester, NY 14692-9998

Copy (advertising & articles) is accepted in the form of MS Publisher, MS Word, jpg, gifs, or Adobe Acrobat (PDF) files and should be sent as an email attachment directly to the newsletter editor:

arasmussen@valenciacc.edu

Please cc to AlysseR@aol.com

ASLTA Treasurer's Report

April 1- 30, 2006

Balance on hand as of March 31, 2006
\$ 89,026.47

RECEIPTS

BANK OF AMERICA ACCOUNTS

4/05 Membership dues	785.00
4/12 Membership dues	1,685.00
4/24 Membership dues	705.00
4/28 Savings Interest	3.73
OTHER RECIEPTS	
Charles Schwab Money Funds Dividends	35.47
Charles Schwab Cash Dividends	11.30

Evaluation Fees

Total Receipts	\$ 4,145.50
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DISBURSEMENTS

BANK OF AMERICA ACCOUNTS

4/06 #1145 JNL-NCLIS (G. Ashton Registration)	\$ 350.00
4/14 #1146 JNL-NCLIS (L. Jacobowitz Registration)	350.00
4/14 #1147 Mark D. Jones Membership Coordinator	420.00
4/24 Debit Post Office (Stamps for Mbr Coord.)	118.00

OTHER DISBURSEMENTS

Cagle (Monthly Report)	
Evaluators fees	\$ 65.00
Wages	840.00
Other (PO Box Rental)	102.00
Other (supplies/postage)	<u>75.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,320.00

TOTAL BALANCE
\$ 90,851.97

Balances

BA checking	\$ 28,619.78
BA savings	6,992.83
1 st National (Cagle)	4,563.05
Charles Schwab Investments	<u>50,606.28</u>
(\$50,629.54 -80.22 + 56.96 = end value)	

TOTAL ASLTA FUNDS

\$ 90,781.94

Checking Accounts

	BA	1st Nat'l
4/30 Balance	28,619.78	4,563.05
Apr. Receipts	3,175.00	920.00
Transfers	-0-	-0-
Apr. Disbursements	1,238.00	1,082.00
Outstanding checks	-0-	-0-

Schwab Investment Trade Activity this month:

4/04 Management Fee	\$ (126.99)
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Politicizing Language

“A shprakh iz a diyalekt mit an armey un a flot.”

According to an article written in Yiddish (1945) by linguist Max Weinreich, “A language is a dialect with an army and a navy”. If that’s the case, then we’re ASL’s army and navy!

We come, peace on our hands.
 We come silent, but we come!

March on! ASL March on!

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increment of \$50). ASLTA will allow the lapsed/expired ASLTA members to take an action within one year from July 1, 2006. Seconded. Carried.

Motion: Conference Registration for 2007

June 12, 2006 ... Trix Bruce, Professional Development Chair, move the registration fee for our National Professional Development Conference in October 2007 to request these fees to be approved to put in our newsletter, flyers, and website advertising.

- \$250 Presenters
 - \$275 Pre-Registration by June 30th, 2007
 - \$350 July 1st—September 30, 2007
 - \$400 late—October 1st until door
- Seconded. Carried.

Standing Committees

Evaluation Chair: Keith Cagle

Greetings to the summer!
 First, please note that the address for our Evaluation Office is new. Now it is

PO Box 1687

Boiling Springs, NC 28017.

The Gardner-Webb University address is no longer used. That is because I have accepted a new job at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) in Charlotte, NC. I will begin working there on August 1, 2006 and will become the new chair

of their ASL/Interpreting program in 2007. It was a rewarding experience to work for ASL Studies program at Gardner-Webb University for past ten years. I look forward to a new opportunity, experience and growth at CPCC.

Secondly, there has been a discussion about using ASLPI for a candidate's ASL skill.

Yes, it is an excellent idea and it will lessen the evaluator's responsibility to evaluate a candidate's ASL skill. I think it is wise to include either ASLPI or SCPI, because both are widely used by many schools, vocational rehabilitations, governmental agencies and community services across the United States. Both have different rating procedures and purposes. We need to determine what rating level of ASLPI and SCPI is considered as a benchmark for passing the ASL skill part of the ASLTA evaluation. The ASLPI committee under Eddy Laird will address this issue and bring the recommendation to the board.

Thirdly, several of you have requested our office about sending the DVD or CD-ROM.

Yes, the technology is changing, therefore we will need to move with the new technology. At this moment, we will keep the old-fashioned VHS videotape until we can train our evaluators and assistant on using and making the copies of the CD-ROMs and DVDs respectively. We are aware that making the copies of CD-ROMs and DVDs are much faster than making the copies of videotape. Also they will cost less postages. We

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will reach that point soon.

Fourth, our evaluators have been outstanding and several of them have been the evaluators for more than 10 years and 15 years. One by one has retired and left the team. We need 6 new evaluators for the team. If you have a Professional certification and have some experiences of evaluating such as for RID, State interpreting certification or ASLPI / SCPI, you would be a good candidate. If you are interested, please send your letter of intent and vitae to me at PO Box 1687, Boiling Springs, NC 28017 or send them as the attachments to me at asltaevaluation2003@yahoo.com We will provide a two-three days training for new evaluators. We are aiming for that to occur during next summer in 2007.

Fifth, I can't emphasize enough how important it is for you to maintain your ASLTA membership in good standing and keep your ASLTA certification alive by renewing your membership and certification in timely fashion. There have been a few cases where the candidates hadn't renew the membership or requested an extension for several years. Their certification expired and no longer valid. Then they had to do the evaluation all over again. Remember you can always request for a two-years extension if you feel you are not ready for next level. The board has passed the motion last January to allow the certified persons to have an extension repeatedly with an understanding that each extension will have an increment of \$50. For an ex-

ample, first extension will be \$100. Second extension will be \$150. Third extension will be \$200.

Next, I have been the chairperson of Evaluation for 6 years now. I have been ready for a new person to take my place as the chair of Evaluation. The person must have the Professional certification, some evaluation experience and administrative skills. The major duties of chairperson are to:

- 1) supervise the assistant(s) who do many tasks for the evaluation office such as typing, filing, making copies, sending the renewal notice / reminders / annual valid stamp to the certified teachers, printing certificate, updating the candidates' profiles & listing, mailing the congratulation letter with certificate to candidate and more;
- 2) write the evaluation result to the candidate;
- 3) communicate with the candidates and outsiders upon their emails and letters of inquiry;
- 4) submit financial reports to the Treasurer;
- 5) schedule professional interviews;
- 6) communicate with the president, board and evaluators;
- 7) provide training to new evaluators;
- 8) send updates/revisions to the ASLTA webmaster; and
- 9) attend the board meetings.

The new chair will train with me and my assistant to become familiar with the system and procedure in order to ensure a smooth transition. If you are interested, please contact

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2007 ASLTA Professional Development Conference Renaissance Tampa Hotel International Plaza



Large, spacious, and well-lit, these conference rooms will host fantastic workshops designed and hand-picked to meet the professional needs of our ASLTA members.



When you're not in sessions, sit by the pool or lounge in the lobby, talking about all the great info you'll take home!



Curl up comfy in your room and talk the night away as you network with ASLTA friends from all around the nation!



How do YOU teach ...

by Alysse Rasmussen, editor

The ASLTA News has two responsibilities. The first is to keep you apprised of what the Board is doing on your behalf. The second is to help you inform your practice.

Janice Blum came up with a great idea for an on-going column for the ASLTA News.

ASLTA News needs you to respond to questions like:

1. "How do YOU teach classifiers?"

2. "How do YOU teach kinship terms?"
3. "How do YOU teach topic/comment structure?"

If you would like to suggest questions — or respond to them, please feel free to do so.

What say we get started today?

How do YOU teach ... numbers?

When I teach numbers, I model 1-5 then 6-10. I emphasize the correct way to shape the hand for 3 and the way to move the 10. Afterward, I show the learners 0. We practice counting for bit and then I show them a number story and we "count down" (after all this *is* Florida!)

"Blast Off!"

- 10
- 9
- 8
- 7
- 6
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1

0 (in the palm of my hand)
CL:R "rocket to the moon"

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Glenna Ashton, the ASLTA President at president@asлта.org.

Lastly, I have been very pleased with the new board. They have been very active in communicating with each other. They made many important and responsible decisions for the best interest of ASLTA and to ensure ASLTA's autonomy. Glenna Ashton is the woman of ACTION. I am very impressed with her organizing skills, communication and delegation of tasks. The new board members Betti Bonni, Dorothy Wilkins and Pat Beech are new promising leaders for our organization and ASL cause. Our president and board will sail our organization through the seas successfully.

Professional Development Chair: Trix Bruce

Summer is here! Take advantage to visit our ASLTA website for workshops to continue learning more and updated our trainings. More workshops have posted in our website already. If you have upcoming workshops, please kindly send to pdchair@asлта.org. All you do is to send an attached of PDF flyer and we are glad to post there.

If you need a sample of flyer, please let us know. We are happy to look over your draft flyer before making an officially announced with everyone. We are thrilled to see the more workshops to come. Our next conference is coming, we are planning to announce "Call for Presenters". Have a great summer!!!

Chapter Chair: Pat Beech

During middle of May, I received materials from the former Chapter Liaison Chair (Laura Thomas). Please bear with me while I go through all of the materials.

Updates on chapters below since the last issue:

- Florida Chapter of ASLTA – New Officers:

President: Cheryl Zuckerman
VP: Alysse Rasmussen
Secretary: Linda Combee
Treasurer: Rose Adams
Director: Stephen Hardy III
Director: Shawn Olmstead
Director: Jennifer Briggs

- Missouri Chapter of ASLTA – Officers listed on the ASLTA website are current.

- Ohio Chapter of ASLTA – New officers:

President: Fred Palchick
Past President: Lori J. Woods
VP: Michael Halischak
Secretary: Leigh Landon
Treasurer: Arlon Nash
Professional Development Chair: Dawn Watts

- NW ASLTA (Oregon) - New officers:

President: Tom Wills
VP: Patty Martin
Secretary: Judy Kraft
Treasurer: Jenene Studer

- Washington Chapter of ASLTA - New officers:

President: Lance Forshay
Past President: Nat Wilson

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Your
ADVERTISEMENT
Here!

Donations
full page = \$150
½ page = \$100
¼ page (this size) \$75

ASL / Deaf Businesses show your support.
ASL Clubs advertise your wares!
Help ASLTA publish more articles by sponsoring our news with a donation for advertisement.

ASLTA, POB 9244, Rochester, NY 14692-9998. See page 6 for more details.

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VP: Elizabeth Krockner
Secretary: Janina Starr
Treasurer: Terry Sasser
Professional Development
Chair: Geoff Mathay

I still need updates for the ASLTA website:

- Chesapeake ASLTA
- Indiana ASLTA
- Kentucky ASLTA
- Michigan ASLTA
- Oklahoma ASLTA
- San Diego ASLTA
- Utah ASLTA

I still need to get e-mail information:

- New Mexico ASLTA
- South Dakota ASLTA
- Shenandoah Valley ASLTA

Those that are interested in becoming chapters, so I am still working on that:

- DC ASLTA
- DFW ASLTA
- Georgia ASLTA
- New Hampshire ASLTA

Please do keep me posted with updates. You can e-mail me at chapter@aslta.org.

**Membership
up to date?
Form on page 15**

Ad Hoc Committees

ASL Honors Society Report: Jason Zinza

ASL Honors Society update:

The ASL Honor Society is quickly moving forward and is expected to begin operations by this Fall. All information about the ASL Honor Society, including membership forms and answers to frequently asked questions, will be posted on the ASLTA website when ready. We are pleased to offer the ASL Honor Society to both K-12 and post-secondary ASL programs. K-12 students are eligible to earn graduation honor cords or the Laurent Clerc Medal, while post-secondary students are eligible to earn the Alice Cogswell Medal or the Laurent Clerc Medal. Eligibility is determined by GPA and how long the student has taken ASL. Check the ASLTA homepage for updates!

ASLPI Report: Eddy Laird

Eddy Laird and Elizabeth Bonni will attend the ASLPI Think Tank meeting at Gallaudet University July 21 & 22, 2007.

ASL-RIH Report: Alysse Rasmussen

Robin Portnoy, Alysse Rasmussen, James Womack, Jason Zinza, and Cheryl Zuckerman have been charged with updating the list of 4 year colleges that accept (or reject) ASL. Once that portion of the project is concluded, the committee will begin developing materials help support ASL's rightful place as a world languages. To volunteer, contact Alysse Rasmussen at AlysseR@aol.com.

Breaking News ...

by ASLTA Board

4th ASLTA Professional Development Conference, Tampa, FL, October 25-28, 2007.

The following registration rates are for current ASLTA members. Membership status will be checked for 2006 and 2007.

Check our website for the conference section for registration forms for the conference and hotel - it will be there soon!

Only \$275.00 pre-registration until June 30, 2007! You have a year to pay this low rate!

\$350.00 regular registration July 1 to September 30, 2007

\$400.00 late registration October 1 to October 28, 2006.

NONMEMBERS or members not current must add \$50.00 to the above registration fee (\$325., \$400., \$450.) - cheaper to join or renew!!

There will be a call for presenters later on. Those presenters that applied by a certain deadline and are notified of early acceptance will be allowed to register for \$250.00 if they are ASLTA member in good standing.

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Upcoming Conferences

CIT/ASLTA

<http://daphne.palomar.edu/aminer/CITconvention2/Default.htm>

ASLTA will have an ASL Teacher Track at CIT. ASLTA members are encouraged to attend.

Keep track of your own hours. See form on page 2 of the previous issue of the ASLTA News.

Know of local, state, regional, or national conferences? Share that info with ASLTA!

ASLTA Denim Shirt Available! (delivery expected 4 to 6 weeks)



\$30 for S, M, L, XL; \$33 for XXL

Send check, credit card, or money order to

ASLTA, POB 92445

Rochester, NY 14692-9998