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President's Post Fall 2008

Wow, the fall months have been a busy time. Seems so much more has been happening in education and organizations. There were changes in expectations of all teachers and students in order to accomplish lofty goals. Of course, there was also the added excitement of the presidential election. ASLTA also kept busy trying to keep up with the challenges of moving forward as a growing organization.

1) The ASL standards are now out in a draft document but still need some finalization. There has been positive general feedback. However, we are looking for readers who are familiar with

the "5 Cs" to give it a thorough review. If you are such a person, please contact us immediately.

2) At the ACTFL conference I had a meeting with the Standards Collaboration Board that approved the development of the ASL Standards. They were discussing the issue of requiring world language teachers to have a higher level of proficiency. The teacher education programs were requiring intermediate plus level, and some wanted to raise it to the advanced level. I informed them that ASLTA will require the advanced plus level for the certification, and they actually applauded! See elsewhere for further information about the ACTFL conference.

3) The entire ASLTA Board was at the CIT conference busy with certification evaluations, committees work, issues forum, and a meeting with the CIT Board. We discussed common concerns such as membership and conferences, but CIT will have an online journal. We will assist in developing video manuscript guidelines which we can use. If anyone would like to help develop them, please contact me.

4) Please see Larry's report on the NAD conference. We had a good turnout at the workshop on ASLTA and certification with more people wanting to join.

5) We have been working with Leslie Riggs, our webmaster, with a long list of things we want to add to the website such as a presenters' directory, chapters sections, for members only, newsletter archives, and so forth, so keep checking for the additions. You are welcome to send materials to one of the Board members for posting.

6) Several committees are mentioned in the Board reports and minutes and all can use more members to get more done but we need chairpersons to keep them moving. Again please contact us if you are interested. We need to work with the chapters more in providing workshops, increasing memberships and funds, and doing advocacy.



7) There's a lot of information about the 2009 Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Be sure to register early to get the lower rates. There will be activities to promote and fundraise for the event. Again keep checking the web site for further information.

8) It's time to renew your membership as a certified, non-certified, sponsor, or institutional member. Our dues are on the calendar cycle so please start sending in your dues and encouraging other people to renew or join. Hope you have had time to recuperate, rest, and revive during the holidays!



2009 Conference Information for Chapters
Dr Larry Forestal

Hello! I would like to share some new information on the upcoming ASLTA Conference in Phoenix, Arizona on October 29-November 1, 2009.

Please feel free to visit www.aslta.org, and then look for CONFERENCE where you can look into flyer, registration, hotel, booth exhibits, etc.

You can distribute the flyer. There will a pre-conference workshop (see PRECONFERENCE).

Also, you can cut this http line and paste:

<http://www.aslta.org/images/documents/conference/2009/aslta2009flyer2.pdf>

Cheers!
Larry Forestal
Secretary, 2009 ASLTA Conference

ASL Teachers at ACTFL –

Alysse Rasmussen

ACTFL -- American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language -- has more than 12,000 members, world-wide and almost 6,000 of them were in attendance at this year's ACTFL in Orlando, Florida. During the past 3 days there were 40 concurrent workshops at any given moment -- more than 525 workshop sessions -- covering every language you can think of and covering every interest area from culture to research to -- well, you name it, they had it!

Lesley Silvestris & Craig Leavitt were sponsored by Florida Foreign Language Association - **FASLTA** is on the FFLA Board, by the way and the competition for the 14 slots FFLA had was pretty fierce. It's quite an honor to be selected. Their topic was *Implementing Cross-Discipline Activities and Technology in the ASL Classroom*.

Glenna Ashton was sponsored by ACTFL. Her topic was *An Introduction to American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA)*.

Betti Bonni manned the ASLTA table – She only got to sample one workshop out of the incredible range offered, but she did have ASLTA's complete DVD collection of the Tampa ASLTA conference there and showed it off. I've got to tell you the collection of stories and materials -- not to mention the workshops themselves -- were incredible. You should especially watch the one of Betti doing "Who's On First".

FASLTA hosted evening get-togethers for any and all ASL teachers. This year there were more than 10 ASL teachers in attendance. ACTFL, btw, was VERY accessible for the Deaf attendees. Each Deaf person was assigned a minimum of 2 interpreters for the entire convention -- really good ones!

ASL Teachers who we found were:

- Glenna Ashton (FL, National ASLTA President)
- Betti Bonni (FL, National ASLTA Treasurer)
- Cathy Hass (CA)
- Shawn Olmstead (FL, ASLTA)



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Rico Peterson (MA)
Craig Leavitt (FL, ASLTA)
Cheri Martinez (VA)
Alysse Rasmussen (FL, ASLTA)
Jennifer Schnieder (FL)
Lesley Silvestris (FL, ASLTA)
Jason Zinza (CA, ASLTA)
Jennifer Zwicker (FL)
Did I miss anyone?

National conferences are fantastic for research and theory and design -- tremendous amounts of information is shared. They're "brain food" events. Local conferences and workshops do the same, but have a much higher incidence of "roll up your sleeves and give it a try".

ACTFL's next conference will be in San Diego!

VISUALIZE & COMMUNICATE
FASLTA's 20th Annual Conference
February 13-15, 2009
West Palm Beach

20 GREAT Years! * 20 GREAT Conferences! * FANTASTIC Presenters!

Friday Evening Social ... based on a Deaf Tradition ... The Literary Society ... entrance is a story ... come & have fun!

**Saturday ... workshops & focus groups, Business Lunch
Entertainment Extraordinaire = Dr Lynn Jacobowitz!**

Sunday ... more workshops (and maybe even a "Job Jar")

All this & CEUs & ASLTA Hours, too

Hotel:

The Holiday Inn Airport Hotel & Conference Center
www.hiwestpalmbeach.com (FAS is the room code.)



The ASLTA Evaluation Committee chair, **Keith Cagle**, has confirmed that a team will be sent and that up to 12 candidates will be screened for Professional Certification! If you'd like to share in the excitement and benefit from the professional development and camaraderie of your peers, go to www.faslt.org and sign up today. There are only 10 rooms left at the hotel, so hurry!

Conference Registration form:
<http://faslta.org/2009FASLTAConfReg&Memb.pdf>

Hotel Registration
<http://www.hiwestpalmbeach.com/> ... mention FASLTA!



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

What Teachers Are Saying about Signing Naturally Units 1-6!

“The faculty at Bakersfield College is very impressed and extremely pleased with the new curriculum. We have seen, first-hand, a tremendous growth in our students.” —Tom Moran, Bakersfield College, Bakersfield, CA

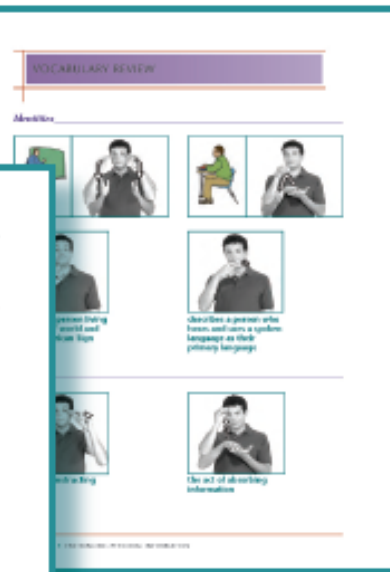
“The new book has a lot of meaningful and great activities which will strengthen students’ skills, including information about Deaf community and culture.” —Keith Cagle, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC

“They [students] were especially enthusiastic with the DVD and clearly marked photos in the book.” —Louise Sattler, Howard Community College, Columbus, MD

**Teachers agree ...
Signing Naturally
Units 1 - 6 is the
BEST made Better!**



Order now online at www.dawnsign.com!



CLAYTON WALKER (1951-2001)
Clayton Walker lived a full and vibrant life. He was a deaf poet, author, and educator. He was a member of the National Deaf Leadership Conference in 1995, and received a Ph.D. in ASL from the Deaf Institute in 1991. The Ph.D. was a personal triumph, but was also a recognition of his lifelong work in ASL. Many researchers had his ASL poetry in their research study of ASL, but Walker stepped and expanded the research.



He studied at the University of Maryland, and worked in ASL poetry and education. He was a member of the National Deaf Leadership Conference, and worked in ASL poetry and education. He was a member of the National Deaf Leadership Conference, and worked in ASL poetry and education.

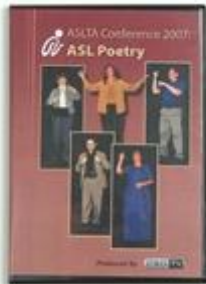
Walker's poetry first came to be known by the community of ASL when he published his first book, *Deaf Poetry*. It was a collection of his ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry. It was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry.

Walker's poetry was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry. It was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry. It was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry.

His poetry is a landmark in the history of ASL poetry. It was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry. It was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry, and it was a landmark in the history of ASL poetry.

“This new curriculum is awesome! ... You’ve done something good for the ASL teaching field!”
—Christine Multra Kraft, Augustana College, Sioux Falls SD





CSD-TV's ASL Poetry DVD

Review by Betti Bonni

In October, 2007, the ASLTA Board entered into an agreement with CSD-TV to film the proceedings of the 4th National Professional Development Conference in Tampa, Florida. The result is a set of DVDs divided into 3 parts: ASL Poetry, Presentations made during the Conference, and a special series "About Teaching ASL." (See order form elsewhere in this issue; you can order the whole set or pick one of the 3 topics. See also a separate review on the About Teaching ASL series.) This article introduces the reader to the contents of the ASL Poetry DVD, along with some comments from the reviewer.

There is a veritable smorgasbord of signers and signing styles in this DVD. If an ASL teacher wanted to show students the wide range of storytelling styles in the Deaf community, look no further! There are approximately 20 different signers on this DVD, some solo, so duos, and one group presentation. The one technical drawback of this DVD is that there are no titles on the Title menu, just a numerical list of Chapters. Each presenter is introduced onstage by the evening's emcee, Janis Cole, but no title of the presentation is given. The reviewer has taken the liberty of listing each below, along with a descriptive title:

- Opening remarks: Glenna Ashton, ASLTA President
- "Star Spangled Banner" – Janis Cole and Betti Bonni
- "Who's on First?" – Janis Cole and Betti Bonni

- Commentary on American School for the Deaf's 200th Anniversary in 2017 – Patti Wilson
- Mime piece, at the Amusement Park – Ricky Smith (note: onscreen title erroneously says John Smith)
- Experiences at the Alabama School for the Deaf – Bob Moore
- Commentary, Appreciation to the Deaf Community – Tracey Marks
- Humor: Preacher at the Funeral – Jennifer Furlano and Delia Lozano-Martinez
- Walking the Dog – Judy Gough
- Riding a Horse – Dr. Gabriel Love
- A Witch's Brew – Dawn Watts, Camille Lorello and Jenna and Vicky Joy
- A History Lesson – Pauline Spanbauer
- Handshape Stories: "4" and "5" – Keith Cagle
- Ukraine Experiences – Arkady Belvozky
- Poem – "Dive In" – Shawn Olmstead (note: this poem was awarded the judge's choice for best poetry of the evening)

The DVD kicks off with a hilarious duo presentation, side by side, of the Star Spangled Banner, one in ASL, and the other in mangled fashion. This is followed by the well-known Abbott and Costello skit, performed in ASL.

For teachers who need a short vignette which could be used as a cultural lesson, Bob Moore's recollections of hi-jinks in the dorm is a must-see! There's a lot of material which could be expanded further in your lesson plans.

An excellent segment to use for receptive practice of an ASL narrative for intermediate or advanced ASL students is the true story shared by Judy Gough. There is excellent use of constructed dialogues, constructed actions, and side comments made by the narrator. The signing pace is relaxed. If you are a teacher looking for good examples of authentic signing, use of space, and descriptive material, this is THE story to use.

For cultural awareness of deaf people's lives in other parts of the world, Arkady Belvozky's piece will soon be a true classic. He is a master storyteller, able to convey in ASL his experiences in Ukraine.

Since this is not a rehearsed production (such as the material you might find attached to textbooks), I have found this to be an appealing resource for my ASL classes. I really appreciate having access to a DVD which shows authentic samples of ASL. Most of the presenters onstage are people who are not only seasoned performers, but are also people conversing in a non-rehearsed form with the audience, who are mostly Deaf people. This is a treat, indeed.

ASLTA EVALUATION REPORT

By Keith M. Cagle
Fall 2008

The number of professional interviews being offered is increasing. The interviews were offered for the seven candidates at the Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT) conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico in October. Other interviews will be offered at the Florida ASLTA conference in West Palm Beach, Florida in Feb 2009. FASLTA fundraising made it possible to retain several ASLTA evaluators to come and provide the interviews. The limit of interview slots for Florida is twelve. First application comes, first serves. The deadline date is December 15, 2008. There will be interviews at the ASLTA Professional Development conference in Phoenix, Arizona in October 2009.

Prior to the CIT conference in October 2008, we had 351 ASLTA-certified teachers: 81 Professional, 86 Qualified and 184 Provisional.

You might notice a couple of new items added to the certification section in our ASLTA website. I have been working closely with our new ASLTA webmaster to add a sub-section of ASLPI and SLPI: ASL with contact information for you to get either ASLPI score or SLPI: ASL rat-

ing. The requirement of ASLPI score or SLPI: ASL rating for a new candidate applying for Provisional-level evaluation will become effective on January 1, 2009. Another new sub-section is about the State Licensure with information about Florida, North Carolina and Virginia's requirements for ASL teachers. If your State does have ASLTA certification as a requirement or an option, please let me know. I will need an URL address to verify it before add it to our ASLTA website.

There are two committees on things related to ASLTA evaluation and certification. One committee is to explore the feasibility of creating new ASLTA L1 certification. The chairperson is Christine Wood of Indiana with the committee members, Rachel Stone of California and E. Lynn Jacobwobitz of Maryland. Another committee is developing a survey on professional development topics for ASLTA Professional-certified members. The committee members are Dorothy Wilkins, Sharon Staehle and Barbara Ray-Holcomb all of New York, Tom Wills of Oregon and myself. The surveys will be sent shortly. It will help us to know what professional development training the ASL teachers should have.

Next, the DVDs of "ASL Poetry," "About ASL Teaching" (4 DVDs) and "ASLTA Conference Proceeding" (24 DVDs) have come out from the CSD-TV. Thank Jim DeBee and his CSD-TV team for done an excellent production job. They are professional quality, clear, focused and easy to watch. I strongly encourage your ASL or Interpreting program and ASLTA chapter to order those DVDs. Your chapter can set up a time for its members and interested persons to get together to view the DVDs and discuss, and then count the hours toward your Professional Development hours requirement for your future Qualified and/or Professional-level evaluations. Your chapter can set a DVD workshop registration fee and earn revenues to pay off for the purchase of DVDs from the CSD-TV. They will be rich resources for your ASL and interpreting students to watch and improve their receptive skills and



knowledge about the profession of ASL teaching.

I gave a presentation of "Historical and Current Curricula for AAS, BA and MA programs in ASL / Deaf studies and ASL Education, and ASL courses" at the Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT) conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I discussed my research with numerous colleges and universities on their ASL course curricula, programs and training for teachers of foreign language and ASL. The presentation Power-Point slides are available in the ASLTA website's Professional Development section for anybody to look at and read through. You may find some information there helpful for your programs and future plans.

Finally, soon the new year of 2009 comes. It is very important for you to renew your ASLTA membership to maintain your ASLTA certification valid. Our evaluation office will receive an updated membership listing from Amy Gregg-Kurz, the ASLTA membership coordinator, and then our office will mail an annual stamp to you on the month of your certification's date.

If you have any question about ASLTA evaluation and certification, please take some time to take a look at our ASLTA website at www.aslta.org's Certification section. If you feel that your question was not answered, please feel free to contact me at evaluation@aslta.org

Have another productive year in 2009!

ASLTA at CIT in Puerto Rico



MINUTES

**American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA)
Board Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2008
Condado Plaza Hotel & Casino
San Juan, Puerto Rico**

Attendance: President Glenna Ashton, Vice President Larry Forestal, Secretary Dorothy M. Wilkins, Treasurer Betti Bonni, Keith Cagle, Evaluation Chair, Trix Bruce, Professional Development Chair & Pat Beech, Chapter Affiliated Chair

Visitors: Alysse Rasmussen and Sharon Lane

I. Call to Order: 1:15 p.m.

II. Secretary's Report: (Dorothy M. Wilkins)

- A. Approval of Minutes from the meeting during October 28, 2007 in Tampa, Florida accepted as corrected.
Seconded. Carried.
- B. Approval of E-motions accepted as corrected.
- C. Secretary Dorothy received a number of emails and referred to appropriate committee chairs.

III. President's Report (Glenna Ashton)

- A. The 15 committees were being followed up on occasionally, however several are not active.
- B. The **501c3 committee** work is waiting on getting financial figure in the appropriate format to put on the IRS forms. The committee will need to meet again soon. The bylaws need to be revised to be acceptable.
- C. The **ASL standards committee** has met regularly by e-mail, and face to face. We now have a draft document that other people are looking at. We hope to find more qualified reviewers to give us feedback. Some of the ASLTA Board members also reviewed the document. The ASL standards are on the agenda of the Standards Collaboration Board



meeting during the ACTFL conference November 20, 2008.

- D. Last May David Martin was the second delegate with me for the annual **JNCL-NCLIS** Delegate Assembly in Washington, DC. There was a smaller turnout but more excitement about the government increasing support for languages, especially the critical languages. We attended the grand opening of the ACTFL headquarters in Alexandria, VA.
- E. Leslie Riggs has been working on the **ASLTA web site** redesign with our long wish list but it has been slow progress. She sent a report.
- F. Larry Forestal and I attended the NAD conference this past summer. The Delegate meetings were streamlined and run efficiently. ASL was among the top motions for action by the NAD Board. We met several ASLTA members there.
- G. Dr. Cindy Sanders recently launched online e-journals through RIT focused on ASL teaching and research. We had discussions on where we stand on this possible partnership with them.
- H. The PowerPoint presentation for the ASLTA Issues Forum at CIT was completed with input from all Board members.

IV. Vice President's Report (Larry Forestal)

- A. Larry Forestal worked on revising the ASLTA Mission Statement and will receive feedback/input from the fellow ASLTA members.
- B. Larry attended the NAD Convention as an alternate ASLTA representative. President Glenna arrived two days after Larry's arrival at the conference. Bills were made beforehand from Regional 1, 2, 3, & 4. Over 200 bills were made at the NAD General meeting. NAD developed a new strategy to have a better steam lining regarding to bills being moved at the General Meeting. The newly established Steering Committee will screen the bills moved online which will reduce the numbers of bills at the future NAD General Meeting. NAD Board members at the conference were at work by monitor-

ing, answering questions and providing troubleshooting.

- C. Ginny Francini, ASLTA Professional Development Coordinator and Larry Forestal will have ideas for ASLTA Board members to do during the upcoming 5th NPD Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. They will communicate with us in the near future.
- D. Larry is actively involved with the Arizona Board of Regents to get ASL recognized as a foreign language. He is working closely with the Arizona Association of the Deaf (AAD) to recognize ASLTA Certification as an official certification in the state of Arizona. Now, the state of Arizona is in the working process of getting more information on ASLTA Certification (Prov. Qualified & Pro).
- E. Larry represented with ASLTA Board members by giving feedback/input for the National ASL Standards Committee during the CIT Conference.
- F. Larry gave a report on 5th NPD Conference.

- V. **Treasurer's Report (Betti Bonni)**
- VI. **Standing Committees ASLTA Evaluation's Report (Keith Cagle)**
- VII. **ASLTA Chapter Liaison Report (Patricia G. Beech)**
- VIII. **Professional Development's Report (Trix Bruce)**

1. Trix has received many emails regarding Professional Development workshops and referred them to Larry Forestal for the 5th National ASLTA Professional Development Conference.
2. There are links to the different Chapters' websites for PD workshops. Pat Beech suggested having a map of USA and people can click to a certain state to find out what workshop they may offer.
3. Trix also referred Job Announcements to the Website Master, Leslie Riggs on email, but she hasn't heard from her.
4. Trix got emails from Holly about CEU. Keith suggested that we use a similar system that RID used for their CEU. Alyssa Rasmussen contacted RID to get some information. RID recommended that we as the board members needed to set up criteria when giving



out CEU. Both Trix and Alysse are RID supporters. Keith Cagle expressed his frustrations that there were no follow up activities regarding to CEU since Leslie Greer and Barbara Ray Holcomb's Era.

- 5. There was a discussion on how we know presenter's qualities before giving CEU to the participants. One of us needed to make a proposal on the criteria of the presenter's qualifications. One of the qualifications is having an ASLTA certification and their research or expertise with given topics. The flat fee of \$50/hr was also discussed.

Ad Hoc Committees
 Website Design
 ASL Honor Society

V. Unfinished Business (Hold)

I. New Business

Motion #1:

Trix Bruce moved to set up a "Presenter's Bureau" on ASLTA website comprised of submission of Curriculum Vitae only for certified ASLTA members. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #2:

Keith Cagle made a motion that ASLPI and SLPI: ASL rating for initiating ASLTA Provisional evaluation will be no more than 5 years old. This will be effective on January 1, 2010. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #3:

Betti Bonni moved to revise the ASLTA membership form effective by November 15, 2009 to remove the category of "supporting membership which is \$25. Tabled and referred to the By-laws Committee which is chaired by Larry Forestal.

Motion #4:

Betti Bonni moved to add a special designation on the membership form for ASLHS sponsors who are non-certified of active ASLTHS Chapters for \$35. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #5:

Pat Beech moved that reactivation fee would be \$100 for any chapter that has been inactive for at least two years. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #6:

Betti Bonni moved to suspend the New Business until 8:30 pm today. Seconded. Carried.

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Call to Order: 9:00 p.m.

Continued with New Business:

Motion #7:

Larry Forestal made a motion for Booth Exhibitors to pay \$500 for profit organization, \$400 for non-profit organization both including ONE Combo ticket before March 31, 2009. The booth fee will increase after March 31, 2009; \$600 for profit organization and \$500 for non-profit organization, including ONE Combo ticket. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #8:

Larry Forestal made a motion that ASLTA support the concept of a \$1000 Club, provided that those who contribute \$1000 prior and during the 2009 Conference are invited to Sunday Brunch in Phoenix, Arizona. It will be announced during the Opening Night. Seconded. Carried.

Motion #9:

Betti Bonni moved to amend that the motion #1 from October 28, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes (stating that \$5K be allocated to NPDC 09 account) to have authorized signatures added as follows: Larry Forestal, Gerry Francini, & Judy Mohan. Seconded. Carried.

II. Announcements

1. Reminder for Larry Forestal: Send the Hotel Contract to the board members on email.
2. Betti Bonni, our money person, will write a check to pay ASLTA board members' registration fee the 5th NPDC.
3. We will need to see if there will be a good turn out for selling 4th NPDC Proceedings DVDs. Jim DeBee gave us an estimate of \$15,000 to produce the 2009 NPDC Proceedings DVDs. President Glenna would recommend that we needed to break even for our FIRST DVD proceedings before we decided for our next proceedings.

III. Adjournment: 9:28 p.m.



Submitted by:
Dorothy M. Wilkins
ASLTA Secretary
2006-2009



**American Sign Language
Teachers Association (ASLTA)
Board Meeting
October 28, 2007 @ 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Tampa, Florida
Accepted as corrected: October 23, 2008**

Attendance: President Glenna Ashton, New-elected Vice President Larry Forestal, Secretary Dorothy M. Wilkins, Treasurer Betti Bonni, Keith Cagle, Evaluation Chair, Past Vice President Thomas Riggs, & Pat Beech, Chapter Affiliated Chair

Absentee: Trix Bruce, Professional Development Chair

Members: Sharon Staehle, Gerry Francini, Jason Zinza, Lance Forshay, Amy Kurz, Darlene Sarnouski, Lynn Jacobs, Alysse Rammussen, and Judie Cronlund,

I. Call to Order: 1:24 p.m.

II. Mission Statement. Dorothy M. Wilkins signed the ASLTA Mission Statement.

III. Secretary's Report (Dorothy M. Wilkins)
Approval of Minutes from meeting during June 1-2, 2007 had been approved by email.

IV. President's Report (Glenna Ashton)

- a. Code of Ethics: Larry Forestal and Betti Bonni
New Officers: Larry Forestal, Vice President and Betti Bonni, Re-elected
Treasurer signed the Code of Ethics Forms.
- b. Two VRS offers

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Set up committees (from the June 1-2 meeting)
 - Ad Hoc Committee to investigate the ACET official transcript for the Professional Development (suggestion was to contact Nina Coyer, Trix Bruce, Janice Remier-Castella, and James Womack). Betti Bonni will ask those people to be on the committee.
 - Ad Hoc Committee to study the new professional development for requirements for ASLTA certifications. Keith Cagle will contact Tom Wills.
- b. Motions carried over from the 2005 conference
 - Motion 1: Conference in spring instead of fall due to new staff scheduling (Referred to the conference committee)
 - Motion 2: Appoint Professional Certified person to represent ASLTA at any non-ASLTA ASL-related conferences
 - Motion 3: L2 curriculum be transferred from Gallaudet Department of Education to ASLTA webpage. (Dorothy Wilkins will contact Matt Disch on that matter).
 - Motion 4: Contact American Medical Association to create national policy stating that ASL as babies 1st, 2nd, and/or Primary I language. (Larry Forestal will elect 3 new members to form a committee).
 - Motion 5: Create representative positions for K-12 and college interest groups who will coordinate with the board (those will not be Board members). They will collaborate with the Board to develop programs, policies, etc. as needed. (Glenna Ashton will contact Delia Lovanto and other members for the interest



groups of K-12 for L1, K-12 for L2 and Higher Education for L2).

- Motion 6: Creates a new team of L1 evaluators using ASLPI (Referred to ASLTA Evaluation team).
- Motion 7: Appoint 2 new chairs (1 as the National curriculum project chair and the other as National Legislation chair). (Larry Forestal will appoint 2 new chairs).
- Motion 11: Appoint a committee to work with each state board of education and legislation to promote implementation of ASLTA's L1 and L2 teacher certification. (Thomas Riggs will work with Glenna on that issue).
- Motion 12: Set up a committee to investigate developing praxis test for K-12 or 9-12 (Foreign Language). (Pat Beech and Emily Kurz will set up that committee).
- Motion 16: Current professional ASLTA certification to be required by the National Council on Accreditation Teachers Education, NCATE for college professors (Referred to the Evaluation Committee). Committee for the state/national level will work on different levels for getting ASLTA certification to be recognized. (Glenna Ashton, Keith Cagle, & Amy Kurz will work on it by Dec. 200).

V. New Business

a. Site for Conference 2009: Phoenix Area, Arizona.

Motion #1: Betti Bonni made a motion that ASLTA assigned Gerry Francini as an ASLTA Conference Chair in 2009. Seconded. Carried.

FYI: Leslie Greer is willing to be ASLTA Evaluation Chair at the NAD convention 2008 if Keith Cagle can't come there.

b. Switch to different website

Motion #2: Keith Cagle made a motion that ASLTA use www.deafvision.net as a web master. Seconded. Carried.

c. Bylaws revisions (The revisions referred to the 501 3(C) Committee).

d. The following Motions have not been completed during the ASLTA General Meeting on October 22, 2007 and we ran out of time. These motions were brought to the

ASLTA Board Meeting to complete the motions.

- Motion#1: Larry Forestal moved that those ASLTA members with the Qualified-level certificate have the option to maintain this certificate permanently as long as they are ASLTA members in good standing (Referred to Evaluation Committee).
- Motion #2: Mary Jean Shahan moved that national ASLTA create and maintain a certification database (Pro, Q, Prov) because K-12, colleges, and universities can look to the website to ensure that their teachers are appropriately certified and taught (Already in Bylaws, but need to follow-up with committee).

-Motion #3: Mary Jean Shahan moved that National ASLTA assist all the state chapters in creating a national letter template (or website page) that states can pass on to their state colleges, universities to educate the program administration on the importance of hiring teachers with ASLTA certification. Otherwise we will not see an increase in ASLTA membership and attendance. (Referred to ASL in IHE Committee)

Amended: insert \$5,000 as ASLTA's financial support to develop survey to find out which school/colleges/universities use ASL and the entrance level and to develop information kit. Before the information kit goes out, it will need to have the approval by the board members.

- Motion #4: Mary Jean Shahan, move that National ASLTA create and maintain a login and username to access the resources, guidelines, information sharing, files, lesson plans, etc. (referred to Webmaster)

- Motion #5: Lynne Jacob moved that ASLTA website server offer the place (links) for all the chapters that host their own websites. (Referred to Chapter Affiliation and Webmaster)

- Motion #6: Delia Lozano and Jennifer Furlano moved that ASLTA recognizes L1 (ASL), develops ASL L1 curriculum and trains k-12 teachers. (Already in by-laws – 2005 ASLTA General Meeting, Motion #5, 11 & 12)



- **Motion #7:** Jennifer Furlano moved that ASLTA provide grant writing workshop. (Referred to Conference committee)

It was recommended to have workshops for teaching ASL instructors on how to write syllabus, develop lesson plans, acquire assessment tools, and explain different teaching methods and research at the next conference.

- **Motion #8:** Timothy Gough moved that ASLTA worked with NESINC (National Education Systems) regarding nationwide state exam for ASL Teachers, and urges NESINC to make the nationwide state exam available to 50 states. (Already made the motion #12 in 2005 ASLTA General Meeting Minutes).
- **Motion #9:** Molly Estes moved that ASLTA Mission Statement needed to be updated to include new statements for L1 and L2. Seconded. Carried.
- **Motion # 10:** Mary Jean Shahren moved that one of the ASLTA board members become a full-time staff with pay. Betti Bonni will investigate and report it on January 2008.

VI. Announcements

- Betti Bonni, Treasurer, made a check of \$91,275.40 as a final bill to the hotel for the conference.
- Keith Cagle reported that 15 candidates for the professional interviews were completed and one candidate didn't show up.
- Almost all of the presenters signed the waive form for the CSD-TV. Keith Cagle will follow up with all the presenters to send their power point presentation to him before Dec. 1, 2007 to be printed on the CD-Rom proceedings. It was a pleasure working with Jim DeBee.

VII. Adjournment: 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by
Dorothy M. Wilkins
ASLTA Secretary
2006-2009

**ASLTA Motions from
November 2007 to June 2008
Accepted as corrected: October 23, 2008**

E-Motion, 9/16/08: ASL Rating Up to 5 years
Keith Cagle made a motion to limit ASLPI and SLPI: ASL rating to 5 years old or less for ASLTA Provisional evaluation requirements. Seconded. Carried.

E-Motion, 8/9/08:
Keith Cagle moved that ASLTA grant \$1,000 to each of Kim Kurz and Jason Zinza for their many hours of works and contribution to the development of national ASL Standards. The fund is from the donation given by Dawn Signs Press. Seconded. Carried.

E-Motion, 5/15/08: ACTFL Exhibit Table
Keith M. Cagle made a motion that ASLTA will have an exhibit at the ACTFL conference booth. The cost of exhibit is \$700. Carried

E-Motion, 4/16/08: 2009 ASLTA Conference at Phoenix
Larry Forestal moved that the ASLTA Board provide the 2009 ASLTA Conference at Phoenix Committee with an 2009 NPDC account for \$5,000.00 seed money to get the 2009 ASLTA Conference Committee started with the understanding that \$1,000 be set aside for travel costs; \$2,000 for advertising, printing and mailing; \$500 for miscellaneous expenses; and \$1,500 be reserved for a budget for the actual 2009 conference expenses. Carried.

E-Motion, 3/6/08: Clearblue
Dorothy Wilkins made a motion that ASLTA accepts Clearwater as a business partnership for two years from 2008 to 2010. Betti Bonni seconded this, with a friendly **amendment**:

"Betti Bonni made a motion that ASLTA accepts CSDVRS's Clear Blue business proposal, and enter into a business partnership for two years from 2008 to 2010." Carried.



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

2009 ASL Literature Competition



Open to ASL students at schools with active ASLHS chapters



Entry forms, submission guidelines, and judging criteria available at aslhonorsociety.org

American Sign Language Honor Society



High School • College • University

Entries may be submitted in these categories

Open to Individuals at Any Level

Retell a classic ASL story or joke!

Choose from a list of recommended titles or choose your own!*

1st prize... \$100.00
2nd prize... \$75.00
3rd prize... \$50.00

*Suggested titles available at the ASLHS website

Open to Individuals, Pairs, Groups, and Entire Classes at Any Level

Create a video commercial / public service announcement on the topic of, **"Why people should learn ASL!"**

1st prize... \$150.00
2nd prize... \$100.00

Entry deadline: Postmarked by April 17, 2009

Important Information:

- All entries must adhere to the guidelines for each category
- All entries must be recorded onto DVD
- Entry fee of \$10.00 per story or \$15.00 per commercial must accompany the DVD
- Checks or money orders payable to: ASL Honor Society
- Visit the ASLHS website for complete details & guidelines at <http://www.aslhonorsociety.org>

Note: ASL Honor Society chapter dues must be current by April 17, 2009 in order for students to be eligible for this competition. New chapters may be established by submitting the appropriate forms and dues along with the 2009 ASL Literature competition submissions.

Questions? Email: Jason E. Zinza: jzinza@gmail.com



E-Motion, 2/10/08: New Name for MDASLTA

Pat Beech moved that we approve the concept of a new Maryland Chapter of ASLTA, with the current officers of the Frederick Chapter taking a leading role. Carried.

E-Motion, 2/3/08: Hotel Site for the 2009 ASLTA Conference

Larry Forestal moved that we approve the 2009 ASLTA Conference Committee's recommendation that Arizona Biltmore be our official conference hotel site on October 28 - November 1, 2009. Carried.

E-Motion, 1/27/08: ASLPI and SLPI

Keith Cagle made a motion that the board approves a revision on our previous motion made in June 2007 in regard to the ASLPI and SLPI: ASL entry for the ASLTA Provisional evaluation.

New ruling:

ASLPI: 3+

SLPI ASL: Advanced Plus

Carried.

E-Motion, 11/25/07: West Virginia Mountaineers New Chapter

Pat Beech moved that we approve West Virginia Mountaineers as a new chapter of ASLTA. Carried.

E-Motion, Nov 2007: NAD Convention

Keith M. Cagle made a motion that the ASLTA will cover our ASLTA President's NAD conference registration fee, travel and room for four nights in the range of \$800 for Glenna Ashton to represent our ASLTA at the NAD conference in New Orleans in July 2008. Carried.

E-Motion, Nov. 2007: Web Designer

Keith Cagle made a motion that we hire the DeafVision.net to become our new website host and to maintain and update our website for the monthly fee of \$99. Carried.



2009 ASLTA 5th PD Conference

1. The committee has got the ball rolling. It has met several times in September 2008. Our organizational chart has been designed (see attached).
2. Bundles of thanks go to Treasurer Betti Bonni, the 2009 Conference committee opened a separate account for \$5,000 with Bank of America as seed money for making advance preparations for the conference.
3. We met with Jeremy Vasquez and Claudine Jelier at Arizona Biltmore Resort & SPA on Friday, October 17. On agenda were contract, conference agenda/schedule, booth exhibits in Mesa Room (25 – 8' tables and two chairs @table), DAWN-SIGN Press Workshop in Grand & Canyon Rooms (limited to 50-60 participants) on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, AV equipment cost estimates, caterers (Pat Herbold and Penny Herbold)
4. Hotel reservations and procedures, effective on November 1, 2008 – Links; Jeremy Vasquez will send me information shortly.
5. DeafNation Expo Site Visits in 2008-2009
 - A. Orlando, Florida Spring 2008
 - B. Phoenix, Arizona Spring 2008
 - C. Pomona, California Spring 2008 – Judie Cronlund and Judy Mohan reported good publicity about the 2009 conference; a good number of ASL teachers expressed interest in attending the conference; ASL sales generated 78 dollars; good turnout at the EXPO about 2,000 people.
 - D. Denver, Colorado – Sept 20 - Judy Mohan reported that a good crowd attended the Denver EXPO; a lot of people stopped by the 2009 ASLTA booth to inquire about the upcoming conference; the Colorado ASLTA took the opportunity to campaign for a membership drive; many ASL students from Front Range Community College visited the booth, too, and some of them purchased video and pins.



- E. Chicago, Illinois – Oct 4 - Gerry Francini reported that many ASL teachers came to the Chicago EXPO from Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois and visited the booth; this booth activity helped publicize the ASLTA conference widely. Frequent questions about ASLTA membership and conference registration came up there.
- F. Pleasanton, California – Oct 25 - Judie Cronlund is currently well-organized and ready to work on this booth with the aid of Cathy Haas who presently teaches ASL courses at Stanford University.
- 6. DeafNation website: <http://2009asla.deafnation.com>. DeafNation is our media sponsor. The committee has asked Joel and Jed Barish to help us with booth exhibits because of their reputable expertise. They have not yet decided.
- 7. DawnSign Press will sponsor a four-hour workshop on the new text: *Signing Naturally – Teacher's Curriculum Guide Units 1-6* prior to the 2009 ASLTA Conference on Wednesday, October 28, 2009. They will pay all travel and lodging expenses for two workshop presenters at Phoenix on Wednesday. In addition, DSP plans to contribute \$1,000 to the 2009 Conference. In addition, DSP and the 2009 Conference have agreed that the conference will determine a reasonable fee of \$150 per person to attend the DSP workshop on the first come, first serve basis at 1-5 PM on Wednesday, October 28. Kenneth Mikos and Cheri Smith will be workshop presenters.
- 8. Sign Media, Inc. will contribute \$5,000 to the 2009 Conference like they did at Tampa in 2007.
- 9. Progress with Sorenson Communications is ongoing for both sponsorship and keynote speakers.
- 10. Chair Gerry and Dr. Larry Fleischer from CSUN came up with a brilliant idea to start a 1000 Club. ASLTA chapters, colleges and universities, and individuals interested in supporting the concept will be contacted. Further details will be forthcoming. One possibility is Sunday Brunch in honor of those organizations, educational institutions, and patrons who wish to contribute \$1,000.

Treasurer's Report

ASLTA Bank Stmt Balances

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS March 2008 Checking/Savings Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 54,285.23 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7,050.01 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5,836.58 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,127.20 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,299.02 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,299.02 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,299.02 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS Apr 30, 08 Checking/Savings Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55,037.12 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6,022.29 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,972.62 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3,934.38 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,986.41 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,986.41 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,986.41
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Assets: May 31 & June 30, 2008

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS May 31, 08 Checking/Savings Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 32,194.64 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6,024.08 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8,929.93 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3,953.11 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70,411.76 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70,411.76 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70,411.76 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS Jun 30, 08 Checking/Savings Bank of America NPDC09 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -5,000.00 Bank of America Checking - Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 52,492.09 Total Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 47,492.03 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6,025.81 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6,931.58 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,970.68 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64,420.10 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64,420.10 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64,420.10
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Assets: July 31 & Aug 30, 2008

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS Jul 31, 08 Checking/Savings Bank of America NPDC09 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -5,000.00 Bank of America Checking - Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45,460.03 Total Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,031.50 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,275.99 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5,588.46 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,355.98 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,355.98 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,355.98 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69,355.98 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSETS Aug 30, 08 Checking/Savings Bank of America NPDC09 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -5,000.00 Bank of America Checking - Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41,688.02 Total Bank of America Checking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36,688.02 Bank of America NA Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,037.46 BK of America Honor Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,277.80 First National Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,887.24 Total Checking/Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59,890.52 Total Current Assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59,890.52 TOTAL ASSETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59,890.52
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Assets: September 30, 2008

ASSETS Sep 30, 08

Checking/Savings	
Bank of America Checking	
Bank of America NPDC09	-5,000.00
Bank of America Checking - Other	
47,364.84	
Total Bank of America Checking	42,364.84
Bank of America NA Interest	9,043.23
BK of America Honor Society	9,803.60
First National Bank	
3,882.15	
Total Checking/Savings	65,093.82
Total Current Assets	65,093.82
TOTAL ASSETS	65,093.82

ASLTA EVALUATION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

October 2008

EVALUATION

- a. **Interviews here in Puerto Rico** - 7 (6 interviews and 1 re-interview)
Begin with DVD on the laptop, and camcorder.
- b. **Trained Dorothy Wilkins, Betti Bonni and Pat Beech** on Professional-level interview
Next training will be on Qualified.
- c. **Preparing interview in Florida** (3 candidates) and sent out the letters to 62 Qualified-level teachers, and **Arizona** (16 candidates)
- d. **# of ASLTA certified teachers:** Total: 351.
81 Professional; 86 Qualified & 184 Provisional
- e. **Training Mike Roberts** to take over LaVerne Verwiebe as an assistant gradually.
- f. **Worked with Leslie Riggs, Webmaster**
- to update our evaluation package in the website,
- to add the section about ASLPI/SLPI there.
- to add "State Licensure and Requirements" in the website. Start with Florida, North Carolina and Virginia. Wait on Arizona and Indiana. Got inquiries from and saw the actions in Penn, Maryland and Kentucky about requirement.
- g. **Professional Development topics and hours.** Working with Dorothy Wilkins, Tom

Wills, Barbara Ray-Holcomb and Sharon Staehle.

- brainstormed topics
- survey for Professional-certified teachers
- make recommendation for board
- add to our Qualified and Professional evaluation requirements

h. **L1 Evaluation System** (Chair: Christine Wood, Rachel Stone and E. Lynn Jacobowitz). No action.

CSD-TV DVDs

- a. Done with both "ASL Poetry" and "About Teaching ASL"
- b. Just got a set of 24 DVDs for ASLTA Conference Proceeding
- c. Future works (conference, series of "About Teaching ASL", CEU, VP-interviews)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOPICS for ASLTA Certification

- Activities for ASL Class
- Adult Learners or Andragogy
- ASL Conversational Regulators
- ASL Curriculum and Design
- ASL and English Translations
- ASL Discourse
- ASL Grammars
- ASL Linguistics
- ASL Literacy
- ASL Literature: Folklore, Poetry and Storytelling
- ASL Registers
- ASL Semantics
- ASL Teaching Methodology
- ASL Teaching Portfolio
- Bilingualism and Multiculturalism
- Careers Opportunities in ASL/Deaf Studies
- Class Management
- Classifiers
- Communication in Gestures
- Comparative Linguistics: ASL and English
- Contemporary Issues in Teaching ASL
- Curriculum Development and Design (general)
- Deaf Black Studies
- Deaf Arts and Deaf Artists
- Deaf Cinema



Deaf Community
 Deaf Culture
 Deaf Education and Teaching
 Deaf Film, Theater and Novels
 Deaf History
 Deafhood
 Deaf Minorities
 Deaf People and Civil Rights
 Deaf Studies
 Deaf Women's Studies
 Disability Studies
 Diasporic Media: Negotiation of Deaf Identity
 in the Blogosphere
 Discourse (general)
 Evaluations, Assessment and Testing (general and ASL)
 First Language Learner or Pedagogy
 History of ASL Teaching
 History of Methodology: ASL
 Theories and Methodologies of Teaching
 ASL as a 2nd Language
 History of Methodology: General
 Learner Styles: ASL
 Learner Styles: General
 Linguistics (general)
 National and State ASL Standards
 Non-manual Signals in ASL
 Professionalization
 Psycholinguistics (general)
 Psycholinguistics: ASL
 Registers (general)
 Semantics: General
 Sociolinguistics (general)
 Sociolinguistics: ASL
 Syllabus and Lesson Plan for K to 12
 Syllabus and Lesson Plan for college level
 Teaching ASL as a 1st Language (L1)
 Teaching ASL as a 2nd Language (L2)
 Teaching ASL Literature (Folklore, Humors,
 Poetry and Storytelling)
 Teaching Deaf Culture
 Theory & Practice in Fingerspelling
 Theory & Practice in ASL Numbers
 Using Media and Technology for ASL Curriculum, Instruction and Evaluation

Subcategories:

Assessment and Evaluation
 Curriculum and Design

Deaf Studies (e.g. Deaf Community and Culture, Deaf History)
 Language, Linguistics and Literature
 Methodology (e.g. L1, L2)
 Technology and Media

Course or Workshop?

If course, 1-4 credits
 If workshop, 1-10 hours

Teaching or presenting a course or workshop, involving as a panelist or consulting?

A listing of readings and resources?

Where? National, state and local chapters of ASLTA, RID, NAD
 Onlines
 College programs



Open letter to ASLTA Certified Teachers

ASLTA Professional Development Topics committee is studying many different professional development topics and would like to gain your input on which professional development should be required or recommended for ASLTA certification through course or workshop.

Please review and mark your votes. Then mail the survey to ASLTA Evaluation Office at PO Box 6, Newell, NC 28126

Professional Dev. Topics Required Recommended Course Credit hrs Wkshp Hours

Committee members: Cagle, Staehle, Ray-Holcomb, Wills and Wilkins, October 19, 2008



Appendix F
ASLTA
Chapter Liaison Report

by
Patricia G. Beech
October 23, 2008
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**ASLTA Affiliated Chapters in
2008**



Active 26
Inactive 10
Total 36

Active Chapters

- California – Los Angeles
- California – Sacramento Valley
- California – San Diego
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- Indiana Willard
- Kentucky Bluegrass
- Maryland (state-wide) – formerly Frederick
- Maryland Chesapeake Bay
- Michigan
- Minnesota Loon
- Missouri
- New Jersey
- New York Rochester Metro/Lilac
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oregon Northwest
- Pennsylvania
- South Dakota
- Texas Dallas-Fort Worth
- Texas Houston
- Virginia Veditz
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

Reasons for Inactive Status

- Not enough members
- Hard to get new officers
- No replies

Inactive Chapters

- Alabama
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Illinois Chicagoland
- Massachusetts
- New York NYC Metro
- Oklahoma
- Utah Beehive
- Virginia Dogwood
- Virginia Shenandoah

**Interested
in becoming Affiliated Chapters**

- South Carolina
- Iowa
- New England (ME, NH, VT, MA)

**Interested
to be reactivated**

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Virginia - Dogwood

Need to discuss reactivation fee.

Updates

I have a hard time getting updates re:

- Officers
- Contact information (i.e. e-mail addresses)
- Workshops
- Revisions to Bylaws



ASLHS Quarterly Report October 6, 2008

The ASL Honor Society is entering its third year with several exciting objectives and goals. First, continue growth. The 2007-2008 year saw growth of more than 100% as chapters formed at high schools, community colleges, and university programs around the country. Second, increase the numbers of new ASLTA members establishing ASLHS chapters. Third, begin preparing for transitioning to a new cadre of leaders to be elected at the ASLTA conference in October, 2009.

New for 2008-2009 is an ASLHS e-newsletter, which will share relevant news, profile ASLHS chapters and students, and contain ideas and write-ups for community service projects. The one-page newsletter will be distributed via email to ASLHS chapter sponsors.

The third annual ASL Literature Competition will be held in the spring of 2009 and will focus on ABC stories for beginning students, and a different topic for intermediate / advanced students (to be announced shortly).

The ASLHS budget is solid, with more than \$4,000.00 available. Major expenses for this year include ordering Laurent Clerc Medals (approximately \$1,000.00) and additional honor society pins (approximately \$800.00).

If the budget allows and corporate sponsorship is obtained, it is strongly hoped to bring each of the ASLHS advisory board members together during the ASLTA conference in Arizona. Strategic long-term planning, discussion of goals, and outreach is necessary for the ASLHS program to continue into the future.

Areas of desired support to be worked on:

1) Streamlining the membership process and forms. The majority of ASLHS sponsors are new to ASLTA, and there is a great deal of paperwork involved when a person joins both ASLTA and ASLHS at the same time. Combining both forms, or developing a new ASLTA membership

form that includes signing up for ASLHS as a special interest group is an area to investigate.

Submitted by Jason E. Zinza



Tidbits

Maryland ASLTA recently had a successful Statewide Conference in October. See the Chapter Reports below.

Keep an eye out for the BGASLTA (**BlueGrass ASLTA**) Spring Conference. Aline29@aol.com

Florida ASLTA will hold its 20th Annual Conference February 13-15th, 2009 in West Palm Beach, FL. Each year approximately 100 ASL teachers from all over the US take advantage of President's Day weekend, our great weather, and travel to Florida to participate. In spite of the fact that FASLTA offers one of the oldest Professional Development conferences around, we also keep our workshop topics current with lots of hands on activities, a smattering of theory, and ground-breaking activities – like being the first chapter to bring in an ASLTA Professional Evaluation Team. To register, go to www.faslta.org. For more information, contact AlysseR@aol.com.



“About Teaching ASL” DVD

Review – by Betti Bonni

As an ASL teacher, do you often wonder how another ASL teacher would handle certain lessons? Do you wish you could peek into the classroom of a skilled teacher? Ahh, wish and wonder no more. You now have access to the thoughts and ideas of twelve of ASLTA's Professionally certified teachers, all on 4 discs, more than 6-1/2 hours of material! (There is an order form from CSD-TV elsewhere in this issue for a set of DVDs divided into 3 parts: ASL Poetry, Presentations made during the 4th National Professional Development Conference in Tampa, FL in 2007, and a special series “About Teaching ASL” which is the focus of this article.)

The intent of the producers (James DeBee , Keith Cagle and the ASLTA Board) was to offer something for almost any ASL teacher. This set is a must have for teachers who would like different ideas on introducing ASL vocabulary, or perhaps some recommended resources. Perhaps you are thinking about going for ASLTA certification.

The presenters are all ASL teachers themselves, sharing their ideas and expertise in a relaxed setting. Presentations (ASL only, no audio, no captions) range from 20 minutes to an hour or so. They almost look like they are conversing with you on a video phone! Some of the presenters make use of powerpoint slides, which is useful if you are the type who likes to see information presented in different modes; you can pause the DVD and take notes.

There is something here for everyone, from beginners to masters.

The contents are:

On Disc #1:

- Judie Cronlund, “How to Introduce ASL Vocabulary”
- Tom Riggs, “Introduction of ASL Vocabulary”
- Dorothy Wilkins, “Professionalization in Teaching ASL and Code of Ethics”
- Keith Cagle, “Evolution of Teaching Methods” (including Teaching ASL Grammar)

On Disc #2:

- Keith Cagle, continued “Evolution of Teaching Methods”
- Christine Wood, “Selection of Curriculum, Textbooks and Resources for ASL Courses”
- Glenna Ashton, “Teaching ASL in High School”
- Sandra Frankel Fontana, “How I teach ‘Family Members’ lesson”
- Bill Newell, “Principles for Teaching ASL”

Disc #3:

- Ken Mikos, “The Functional-Notional Approach to Language Syllabus”
- Betti Bonni, “Teaching Classifier Predicates”
- Sharon Hurley, “Introduction to Teaching ASL”

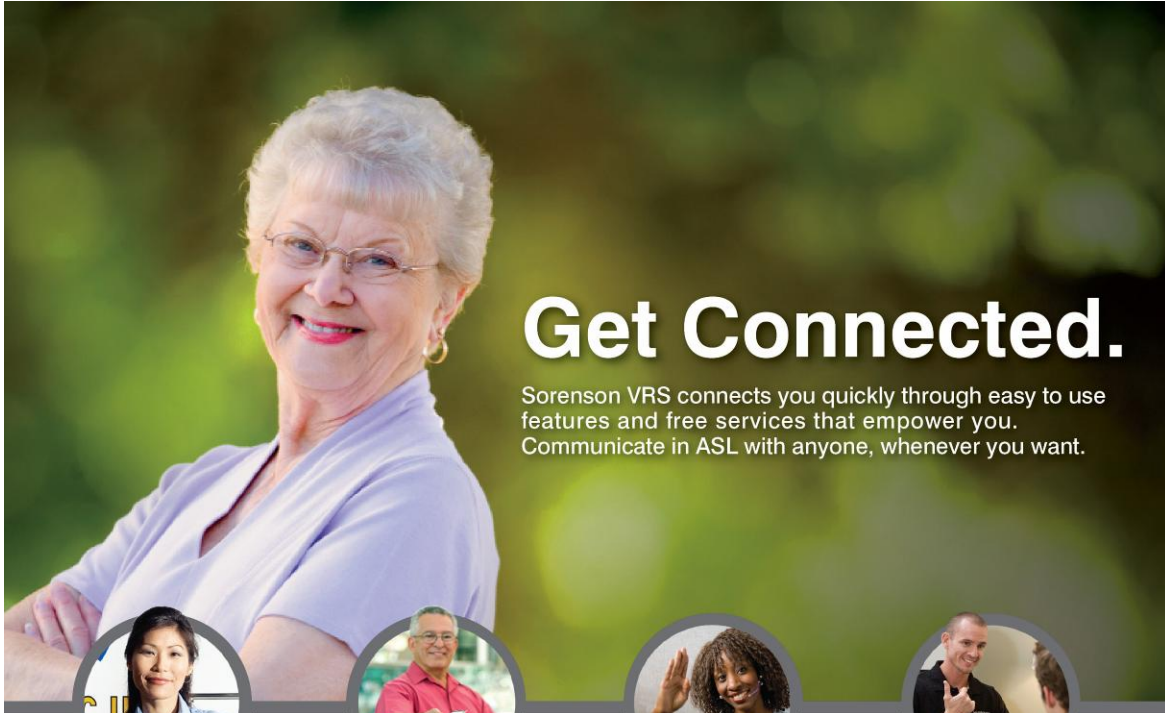
Disc # 4:

- Tom Willis, “Teaching ASL in High School”



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association



Get Connected.

Sorenson VRS connects you quickly through easy to use features and free services that empower you. Communicate in ASL with anyone, whenever you want.



Enhanced 911 Services

We've handled more 911 emergency calls than all other VRS providers combined.



Choice of Real Numbers

When you connect with Sorenson VRS® you can choose a DirectVP number, a local 10-digit number, or both.



Highest-Quality Professional Interpreters

Sorenson invests heavily in our customized interpreter training and mentoring programs.



Sorenson Gold Services

When you select Sorenson you get the best services and features delivered through your Sorenson videophone.



To find out more, go to www.sorensonvrs.com/connected

sorenson VRS®

Get Connected.

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Chapter Liaison News

Patricia Beech

I would like all chapters to continue sending their workshop announcements and attendance information to Trix Bruce, PDC. She will be tracking your chapter's workshop hours (minimum of 12 per year). Her e-mail address is pdc-chair@aslta.org.

Whenever you have new officers, change in officers, workshops, etc., please do inform chapter@aslta.org and webmaster@aslta.org so those can be posted to the ASLTA website. If you know of an interested group of teachers, individuals, etc., that would like to set up a chapter, please ask them to contact chapter@aslta.org for an application packet, or see:

<http://www.aslta.org/images/chapters/GuidelinesForJoiningASLTA.pdf>

<http://www.aslta.org/images/chapters/AffiliationApplication.pdf>

Active: California Los Angeles, California Sacramento Valley, California San Diego, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana Willard, Kentucky Bluegrass, Maryland (formerly Frederick), Maryland Chesapeake Bay, Michigan, Minnesota Loon, Missouri, New Jersey, New York Greater Rochester/Lilac, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon Northwest, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas Houston, Virginia Veditz, Washington, West Virginia Mountaineers, and Wisconsin.

Inactive: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois Chicagoland, Massachusetts, New York NYC Metro, Oklahoma, Utah Beehive, Virginia Dogwood, and Virginia Shenandoah Valley.

Below are reports from three chapters.

Thanks,

Patricia Beech, Chapter Liaison

Maryland ASLTA (formerly Frederick MD chapter)

On Saturday October 4th, Maryland ASLTA (formerly known as Frederick ASLTA) hosted their first ever Statewide Professional Development Conference at Frederick Community College. The theme was #ASL !Hot! Over 83 participants registered for the conference. The participants not only were from Maryland but came from various local states such as Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia and one person came from California.

There were 2 keynote speakers. The morning keynote was Ms. Carole Lazorsiak from New York. Ms. Lazorsiak talked about E-portfolios and the future of ASL instructions, and how we can become better ASL instructors. The afternoon keynote was Dr. Kim Brown Kurz also from New York. Dr. Kurz talked about ASL standards and the 5 C's. In between we had workshops given by Kim Pudans-Smith, Thomas Withrow, Brian Leffler, Dr. E. Lynn Jacobowitz, and Edna Johnston.

During lunch we had recognition awards. Recognition was given to Dr. Barbara Kannapell as an outstanding ASL instructor. Community College of Baltimore County-Catonsville received recognition as a program that promotes ASL learning. The MDASLTA board recognized Jackie Kanekuni for her long time service to MDASLTA.

There were exhibition booths from various colleges and universities as well as some vendors. McDaniel College, Towson University, Frederick Community College, CCBC-Catonsville were the college representatives. The vendors were SMI, CyberASL, and ASL Rose. Other supporters were Dawn Sign Press, Harris Communications, and CSDVRS.

For more information on the recent conference check out our website www.mdaslta.org

North Carolina ASLTA

North Carolina ASLTA (NC ASLTA) establishes a new SLPI: ASL. It is available for any candidate within and out of State who wishes to take Sign Language Proficiency Interview in ASL. The SLPI: ASL interviews are conducted through videophone and recorded for the raters. There are two plans: a) full report with diagnostic feedback; and b) report informing if a candidate has a rating of at least Advanced Plus or not which is a required rating for national ASLTA Provisional evaluation. This requirement becomes effective on January 1, 2009.

The NC ASLTA SLPI: ASL consists of at least 25 interviewers and raters in North Carolina who have undergone trainings and some years of SLPI:ASL experience. Many of them are working in governmental and community services for deaf and hard of hearing, colleges/universities and businesses.

To apply for a SLPI: ASL interview, please fill out the following form, and then mail it to

Kathy Apperson, Statewide coordinator of NC ASLTA SLPI: ASL. Then you will be contacted to set up your interview schedule. For any more information, contact Kathy at NCASLTA-SLPI-ASL@msn.com.

NC ASLTA was founded as a chapter of national ASLTA in 1993. For more information about NC ASLTA, see its website at www.ncaslta.org

Pennsylvania ASLTA

Hello ASL teachers, friends and you –

Hope you all have been excited about being ready for holidays.

PA ASLTA wants to thank you for your support and kind comments when we got the feedback about how to persuade Pennsylvania Statewide Department of Education. We still won't give up. We **still need** you to continue giving us your support.

I want to update you how progress is. **Very little** progress has been made on the foreign language educational certification for American Sign Language in Pennsylvania.

Let me take this opportunity to explain the issue. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) still recognizes PA ASLTA with Pennsylvania ASL, which still is considered a foreign language by state legislature. ASL still is recognized under state law HB 572, which was amended in 2002 and became effective in July 2003. However, it has started to fade. (An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, recognizing American Sign Language courses as satisfying foreign language requirements imposed for high school graduation.)

Actions: History

Referred to EDUCATION, Feb. 8, 2001
 Reported as amended, Sept. 25, 2002
 First consideration, Sept. 25, 2002
 Laid on the table, Sept. 25, 2002
 Removed from table, Sept. 30, 2002
 Second consideration, Sept. 30, 2002
 Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, Sept. 30, 2002
 Re-reported as amended, Oct. 7, 2002
 Third consideration and final passage, Oct. 8, 2002 (197-1)
 (Remarks see House Journal Page), Oct. 8, 2002
 In the Senate
 Referred to EDUCATION, Oct. 16, 2002
 - There are currently no votes for House Bill 572

For some of you who are not familiar with the certification history, I will give you a brief synopsis of the path from legislative passage to the present-day circumstances for K-12 ASL certification in Pennsylvania. It has been over 5 years since the Pennsylvania legislature had accepted ASL as a language that can meet the world language requirement in public schools.

Since then, we, PA-ASLTA, have been involved with Pennsylvania Department of Education



(PDE) in creating a viable path for certification, but there have been stumbling blocks along the way. We continue to struggle with the current practice of it being non – certification of National ASLTA and an Instructional I certificate (same as other languages). We strongly recommend that it be a Program Specialist certificate requiring the completion of a specifically designed and abbreviated program. We have in mind specific coursework that is comparable to other states' requirements and expectations for certification. The coursework that we feel is appropriate is as follows:

1. Type of Certification: Program Specialist Certificate
2. ASL Content Knowledge: 4 semesters of ASL classes and ASL content areas 4 semesters of ASL or the equivalent skill level as documented and certified by a college or university ASL department: An ASL elective: ASL Literature or another content course; A Linguistics course or ASL Linguistics; A course in Deaf Culture; A Second Language Acquisition course.
3. Certification Testing: National ASLTA Certification

However, it seems that there is **little to no movement** to create a path for certification in ASL as **the process has stalled at the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Education's desk**, despite our consistent encouragement and contact with Department liaisons throughout the process.

As such, we are creating this task force to re-examine our approach to advocating for ASL certification in Pennsylvania. There is **still a lot** to be done.

Your support is **vital** in keeping our proposal relevant to Department of Education liaisons and the state Secretary of Education. Jami Fisher

(PA-ASLTA Professional Development Coordinator) and I would like to meet with you, Chapters of ASLTA, National ASLTA, etc to **discuss strategies for pushing the ASL Certification process through to completion in the State of Pennsylvania.**

As well, any advice you can give us to voice our support of this proposal would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know of your interest, and we will certainly make use of your talent.

By the way, PA ASLTA will have a **workshop in Philadelphia given by Jason Norman and David Rivera titled "ASL Conceptual Blending."** The following is the workshop description:

American Sign Language is similar to the language of film; both are fully animated and include rich visual details. In this workshop, film clips will show a variety of genres and special effects. First we will review the concepts of Surrogate Space, different kinds of ASL verbs, and a few examples of structure of an ASL sentence. Secondly, we will attempt to translate those video clips into ASL using Depicting verbs, Surrogate Space, and other ASL features. Film clips are fully visual without audio or captioning included. It will be an **all-day workshop--9 AM to 4 PM on February 7, on Saturday. Location: University of Pennsylvania, Williams Hall, Room 1, 36th and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19104** - further information, please contact Jami Fisher or MJ Shahan at: jami@sas.upenn.edu or Shahenmj@comcast.net

Feel free to visit our website at <http://pa-aslta.org/>

Please contact us; we look forward to hearing from you soon.



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Do your students resist the idea of following Deaf cultural norms?

They need their own copy of

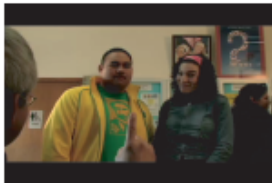
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What should hearing people do if they don't understand what someone signed to them?



What is an appropriate "Deaf Hug"?



What is the polite way to join a group of signers?



Should hearing people alert Deaf people to noises?

This DVD/workbook set contains an interactive DVD with 18 cultural scenarios and a 69-page workbook with readings and exercises designed to be used as homework activities for ASL/Deaf culture students. An excerpt from the workbook:

Deaf people are often oblivious to sounds in their environment. Sometimes they would like to know about these sounds. Other times, they wouldn't care. How do you decide to tell deaf people about sounds? Read the following and decide if most Deaf people would be interested in knowing about them or not.

1. Deaf person's car making funny noises
2. Toilet running in a deaf person's house
3. Mouse/rat footsteps in a deaf person's house
4. Hearing neighbors in a screaming match next door
5. Deaf person's stomach growling

For more information, visit www.treehousevideo.com

Only \$24.95 per student for DVD and Workbook*

*NOTE: Workbook is provided on the DVD as a .pdf file





***Gerry Francini Heads
2009 ASLTA Conference at Phoenix***

The American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) announced that next national ASLTA conference would take place at Arizona Biltmore in Phoenix on October 29 – November 1, 2009. The ASLTA Board appointed Geraldine “Gerry” Francini as the Conference Chair. At present, Judie Cronlund, Vice-chair; Larry Forestal, Secretary and Judy Mohan, Special Assistant have started to serve on the 2009 ASLTA Conference Committee with Gerry. The Conference Committee, which has met numerous times, is anticipating approximately 400 participants from across the nation and foreign nations. Nearly 325 people attended the previous ASLTA conference at Tampa, Florida in October 2007. Further information and details are forthcoming.

ASL is the natural language of the American deaf community. In September 2007, the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) hosted “Celebrate ASL!” in observance of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) International Day of Sign Languages at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Furthermore, the NAD has reaffirmed its stance that acquisition of language from birth is a human right for every person, and that deaf infants and children should be given the opportunity to acquire and develop proficiency in ASL as early as possible.

Concurrently, the ASLTA works closely with the Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT). The CIT is a professional organization, which promotes educational advancement and specialized training for sign language interpreters. Undoubtedly, the ultimate success of professional interpreting depends on students’ ASL proficiency, academic knowledge of the linguistic aspects of ASL, and the principles of effective interpreting in various fields such as education, business, employment, community service, and cultural enrichment.

At present, the ASLTA is the only national organization dedicated to the professional growth of teaching ASL and Deaf Studies. It is an individual membership organization comprised of ASL and Deaf Studies teachers and program directors ranging from elementary education to higher education as well as public/private service agencies in the United States.

--Larry Forestal, Secretary, 2009 ASLTA Conference at Phoenix



Phoenix, AZ



Biltmore Resort & Spa



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association



American Sign Language Teachers Association



What? 5th National Professional Development Conference

Where? Arizona Biltmore Resort & SPA in Phoenix, Arizona

When? October 29 – November 1, 2009

Who can attend? ASLTA Members, ASL/Deaf Studies Professors and Instructors, Program Directors, Linguists, Researchers, Interested Individuals, Sponsors, and Friends

Conference theme?

VISION of ASL: CHALLENGE and CREATIVITY

Why not grab your Early Bird Combo now? Save extra \$\$\$!

The Early Bird Combo is worth only \$375 per person! It is good until February 28, 2009.

The combo will include conference registration, program book, reception, keynote speaker, business luncheon on Friday, October 30; one breakfast on Saturday, October 31; banquet dinner on Saturday evening, October 31; and unlimited participation in a variety of professional development workshops and the booth exhibit area during the conference.

The late combo will be worth \$425 per person from March 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009. The very late combo will cost \$475 per person on and after August 1, 2009.

(Cut along the line)

Name _____ Date _____

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Please make check or money order payable to **2009 ASLTA Conference**



Please mail the form with payment to:

Judy Mohan, Special Assistant

JudyAZ@mac.com

2009 ASLTA Conference

P.O. Box 71297

PHOENIX, AZ 85050



ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Update! Poetry-1 DVD, Teaching ASL-4 DVDs, Proceedings-24 DVDs, Combo-29 DVDs



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DVDs will be shipped in February 2008

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About Teaching ASL	1 disc	\$99.95
Conference Proceedings	4 discs	\$146.95
Combo (All three DVDs)	6 discs	\$234.85

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CSD (also known as Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.) is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing broad-based services, ensuring public accessibility and increasing public awareness of issues affecting deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Through global leadership and a continuum of quality communication services and human service programs, CSD provides the tools conducive to a positive and fully integrated life. Please visit us online at www.c-s-d.org to learn more about what we can do for you.



CSD-TV has launched two compelling new programs created by and for the deaf and hard of hearing community.



FYE provides investigative reports, interviews, feature segments and profiles of deaf and hard of hearing people in the news. **Spice Up** takes you into the kitchen of noted deaf chef Jeff Perri as he shares the secrets to creating exciting cuisine. Watch a new episode every week online at www.csd.tv





ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association



ASLTA
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

2009 ASLTA Membership
PO Box 92445
Rochester, NY 14692-9998



2009 Membership Application

To maintain valid certification [Provisional or Qualified or Professional], dues must be paid each and every calendar year

Dues cycle is based on annual calendar year, January to December

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Address: _____

Main email: _____

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Institutional Affiliation: _____

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Certified Membership (Voting)

Circle one: Provisional _ Qualified _ Professional

\$ _____ (\$50)

Associate [Non-certified] Membership (Voting)

(Non-certified ASLTA members, Aspiring Teachers, Mentors, Presenters)

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ASL Honor Society Chapter Sponsor

(for those teachers who are not certified but are sponsors of the ASLHS chapter in their school)

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(for general public –non-teachers - who would like to lend support to the efforts of the national organization)

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Important Privacy Notice:

ASLTA maintains a database of all membership information. This database is kept strictly confidential, with access only by members of the Board and the Membership Coordinator.

However, when deemed appropriate by the Board, announcements or news may be sent via email to members on the list. If you wish to NOT receive any emails, Initial here: _____

ASLTA may set up a membership directory on our website. Members' names, state of residence, and certification level may be published. If you do NOT wish to have your information in the directory, Initial here: _____ Lack of initials implies consent.

American Sign Language Teachers Association
POB 92445, Rochester NY 14692-9998
