

ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Newsletter

Volume 5 Number 1 1999

PAH! WE GOT RECOGNIZED!

We are now a member of National Council for Languages

NCLIS and International Studies AND Joint
National Committee for Languages



Welcome to NCLIS
by J. David Edwards,
Ph.D., Executive Director
National Council for
Languages and
International Studies



On behalf of the Board of Directors and the member associations, it is my pleasure to welcome ASLTA to membership in the National Council for Languages and International Studies (NCLIS). NCLIS is a not-for-profit public advocacy organization comprised of over sixty scholarly and professional associations concerned with promoting languages and international education in the United States. The member associations' interests range from modern languages, the classics, and the less-commonly taught languages to English as a Second language, bilingual education, translation and interpretation, and now American Sign Language. We address national policies dealing with such concerns as educational reform, compensatory education, professional development, technology, research, educational exchange, study abroad, diplomacy, national security, social services, and economic competitiveness. In short, NCLIS is a Washington-

based lobbying organization serving to promote the public interest in cross-cultural communications and global understanding.

In addition to ASLTA, our most recent members are the American Association of Teachers of Korean (AATK), the National Council of Less-Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL), and the Council of Directors of National (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Resource Centers. We are delighted that ASLTA's membership adds an additional dimension to our promotion of language learning and acquisition and the pursuit of mutual understanding.

NCLIS works closely with the Joint National Committee for Languages (JNCL), a smaller, non-profit education association with similar membership, to develop policies and set priorities. Representatives of the member associations of JNCL and NCLIS meet together annually in Washington, D.C. for a Delegate Assembly to discuss issues of concern to our professions with policy makers, Members of Congress, education leaders, and one another. The focus of this year's meeting will be reauthorization of elementary and secondary education legislation, particularly as it concerns languages, professional development, block grants, and technology. We will welcome ASLTA's delegates' input and participation.

ASLTA BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE JOINT NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR LANGUAGES AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LANGUAGES AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (JNCL-NCLIS)

by William J. Newell, Ph.D.,
JNCL-NCLIS Co-Representative

Wow, that title is quite a "handful"! What is JNCL-NCLIS? It is a national "umbrella/coalition" organization for associations and other groups with interests in foreign language and bilingual education in the United States. To put it simply, it is a lobbying organization which represents the interests of and advocates for foreign-language teaching and learning in the US. JNCL-NCLIS is headquartered in Washington, DC.

ASLTA was formally admitted as a member organization on May 15, 1998 during the JNCL-NCLIS Delegate Assembly Leadership Conference held in Washington, DC (see Letter of Welcome this issue from Dr. J. David Edwards, Executive Director). A listing of the member organizations, which includes ASLTA, is also included in this issue of the newsletter. It is quite an honor to be admitted to this organization and our participation with JNCL-NCLIS will bring ASLTA greater recognition from the foreign-language-teaching profession.

JNCL-NCLIS, as a lobbying group, keeps a careful eye on the Congress and President in an

attempt to influence policy and appropriations which will affect foreign-language teaching and bilingual education. The JNCL-NCLIS report is too long to copy verbatim for our newsletter. One issue that is probably of most interest to our members is Bilingual Education, English Only and English Plus; Crises?

JNCL-NCLIS reports that there were nine "English Only" Bills introduced in the 105th Congress. The most serious is Congressman Frank Riggs', the English Languages Fluency Act (H.R: 3892). With California's passage of Proposition 227 there is strong possibility that the Education Committee will report the Riggs bill and the House will pass it. Fortunately, there is no Senate counterpart bill. In fact, the English Plus Resolution in the Senate is a positive response from Senator Domeneci and nine other Republican senators to change the rhetoric of this debate from English Only to English Plus. This issue remains unresolved but expect English Only legislation to come up again in the 106th Congress.

Members of ASLTA who would like to receive copies of the JNCL-NCLIS may contact our JNCL-NCLIS representative, Bill Newell for copies.

**Another PAH! We have our own chatroom!
ASLTA ROOM in www.deafchat.com**

**Come and chat with your President, Leslie C. Greer,
every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. PST.**

**Your Vice-President, Barbara Ray Holcomb,
is online every Monday evening at 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. EST.**

National Council for Languages and International Studies

- Advocates for Language Learning (ALL)
American Association of Teachers of French (AATF)
American Association of Teachers of German (AATG)
American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI)
American Association of Teachers of Korean (AATK)
American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP)
American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR)
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
American Forum for Global Education (AFGE)
American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA)
Association of Teachers of Japanese (ATJ)
California Foreign Language Teachers Association (CLTA)
Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL)
Center for Intensive Language and Culture (CILC)
Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (CSC)
Chinese Language Teachers Association (CLTA)
Coalition of the Foreign Language Associations of Arkansas, North Dakota, Iowa (ANDI)
Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers (CCFLT)
Connecticut Council of Language Teachers (COLT)
Council of National Resource Center Directors (CNRC)
Florida Foreign Language Association (FFLA)
Foreign Language Association of Georgia (FLAG)
Foreign Language Association of Missouri (FLAM)
Foreign Language Association of North Carolina (FLANC)
Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA)
Georgetown University Roundtable of Languages and Linguistics (GURT)
Greater Washington Association of Teachers of Foreign Languages (GWATFL)
Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ICTFL)
Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association (IFLTA)
International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALL)
The International Association for Management Education (AACSB)
Kansas Foreign Language Association (KFLA)
Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
Massachusetts Foreign Language Association (MAFLA)
Michigan Foreign Language Association (MFLA)
Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures (MCTLC)
Modern Language Association - Association of Departments of Foreign Languages (MLA-ADFL)
Modern Language Journal -National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations (MLJ-NFMLTA)
National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE)
National Association of District Supervisors of Foreign Languages (NADSFL)
National Association of Self-Instructional Language Programs (NASILP)
National Committee for Latin and Greek (NCLG)
National Council of State Supervisors of Foreign Languages (NCSSFL)
National Network for Early Language Learning (NNELL)
Nebraska Foreign Language Association (NFLA)
New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYSFLT)
Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL)
Northern New England State Foreign Language Associations (MAVENH)
Ohio Foreign Language Association (OFLA)
Pacific Northwest Council for Languages (PNCFL)
Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA)
Satellite Educational Resources Consortium (SERC)
South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA)
Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT)
Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (SWCOLT)
Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
Tennessee Foreign Language Consortium (TFLC)
Texas Foreign Language Association (TFLA)
Translation and Critical Languages
Washington Association for Language Teaching (WAFLT)
Wisconsin Association of Foreign Language Teachers (WAFLT)

<http://www.languagepolicy.org>



News from the PRESIDENT

by Leslie C. Greer

JNCL/NCLIS

I want to thank David Edwards, Ph.D., for contributing his letter to this newsletter. I am very happy

that ASLTA is part of the JNCL/NCLIS.

JNCL is a nonprofit educational-policy association. It provides a forum for cooperation between language professionals in developing policy and identifying needs in language education. JNCL operates under a three-tiered governance structure: the Delegate Assembly, consisting of one voting representative of each member organization; an 18-member Board of Directors; and an Administrative Steering committee composed of JNCL officers and two at-large members of the Board of Directors. JNCL is also embarking upon new directions for the 21st Century, including educational reform, national language policy, global communications management, professional development, language access, and variety of education.

NCLIS is a nonprofit trade association registered under the Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act. It serves the language and international education community by translating professional priorities into national policy. NCLIS is affiliated with the JNCL, sharing its governance structure. NCLIS's advocacy (Federal funding for languages, literacy, bilingual education, English as a Second Language, exchanges, and educational technology) has expanded by several billion dollars since 1981.

JNCL/NCLIS is staffed by a three-person office in Washington, D.C. This staff includes an executive director, office manager, and policy analyst.

Bill Newell and Jan McCready-Johnson will be the ASLTA's delegates for the JNCL's annual Delegate Assembly in Washington, D.C.. Participants will promote public awareness and discuss new legislation and proposed government bills, lobbying, and information brokering.

Florida ASLTA and Washington ASLTA

The Florida ASLTA invited me to give my first workshops since I was elected President last October. There was a good turnout, with a good number of members in attendance. Both members and non-members were eager to get information about ASLTA's certification system.

The Washington ASLTA (soon-to-be-affiliated) hosted its first workshops on the first weekend of December. On Friday night, there was a general meeting. On Saturday, I gave a workshop, "Metalinguistics of ASL." That evening, there was an excellent performance, "Nat Wilson and His Friends' Show." It was exemplary!!! On Sunday morning, I gave another workshop, "ASL Semantics."

Salute to Isabelle

I want to share a little bit more info about Isabelle Calvacca. She has been a mentor to many ASL teachers in Long Island and New York City. She was not only ASLTA's evaluator; she also served several terms as President and Vice President in the Greater New York ASLTA. She was also a delegate at the NAD conferences in Indianapolis (1990) and Denver (1992). I want to thank her for her hard-working involvement and everything she's done for this organization.

Board Meeting

Our most recent Board meeting was held at the NAD Headquarters in Silver Spring. I want to thank Nancy Bloch for letting us use her executive office instead of the conference room. (Nice office!) Another group, the NAD/RID Task Force Committee, was also there on the same date. We mostly talked about how to collaborate with the CIT (Conference of Interpreter Trainers), and our plans to hold a CIT-ASLTA meeting. We also discussed the need to expand ASLTA's public-relations campaign because too many people aren't aware that this organization, ASLTA, exists. We need to improve our public image of ASLTA. The next Board meeting will be in October 1999.

News from the VICE PRESIDENT
by Barbara Ray Holcomb



CIT Convention Summary

On November 4, 1998, Leslie C. Greer and I were invited to the 12th Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT) in Salt Lake City, Utah—the home of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

The conference theme was “The Keys of Highly Effective Interpreter Education.” Many of the attendees were interpreter trainers, program coordinators, and ASL instructors. The conference provided three different tracks for the participants to choose from: Interpreter Preparation program, ASL/Language Instruction, and Workhorse Development Continuing Education. These tracks provided an excellent way for the participants to pursue their particular interests.

Leslie and I gave three presentations: “Teacher’s Responsibilities—WHAT?,” “It’s a Deaf, Deaf World,” and an “ASLTA Forum.” It was a great opportunity to meet with the participants and talk about our organization.

The CIT Board, Leslie, and I are now discussing long-range plans for the CIT and ASLTA to collaborate on future workshops or a conference.

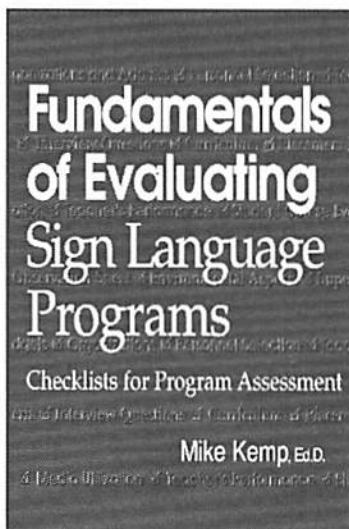
“STUDY NOW, TEACH TOMORROW”

The First National Professional Development Conference is coming to Rochester, New York on October 7-10, 1999. The theme for this conference is “STUDY NOW, TEACH TOMORROW.” What will it do for you? Plenty! You can earn workshop hours toward certification, enhance your current teaching skills and knowledge, exchange ideas, and meet new people.

Continued on page 6

Tools of the Trade

- ☑ Do you want to evaluate your sign language program but don't have the tools to do so? *Fundamentals of Evaluating Sign Language Programs* will show you how!
- ☑ Following years of inadequate guidelines for managing and evaluating a program for teaching a visual language, author Mike Kemp provides the evaluation solution.



- ☑ Designed specifically for administrators and sign language department chairs & teachers, *Fundamentals of Evaluating Sign Language Programs* includes evaluation questionnaires for eight key aspects of a program.
- ☑ Kemp's book is the one-of-a-kind, must-have response for program evaluation and recognition.

Fundamentals of Evaluating Sign Language Programs
112 pages 6" x 9" #9630B \$19.95
6130 Nancy Ridge Drive San Diego, CA 92121-3223 800-549-5350 V/TTY



ADD \$4.25 FOR SHIPPING
VISA MC/VISA Accepted
619-625-2336 FAX www.dawnsign.com

Continued from page 5 Holcomb

The ASLTA Board is proud to have Matthew S. Moore, President of MSM Productions, Ltd., serving as our Conference Coordinator. Leslie and I are Program Co-Chairs.

Look for more information inside this newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any one of us. And don't forget—Leslie and I are both online in the ASLTA Room in www.DEAFCHAT.com each week, so you can stop by for a real-time chat, ask questions, share concerns, or just say hello.



L-R: Barbara Ray Holcomb, Jona Maiorano (CIT President), Anna Witter-Merithew (CIT Vice President), Leslie C. Greer.

News from SECRETARY/ REGIONAL EDITORS COORDINATOR

by Jan McCready-Johnson



I am excited about the new concept of having 3 co-editors to collect news, announcements or anything to contribute for the **ASLTA Newsletter**.

Let me name them...Eric Scheir (EScheir@aol.com), Nina Coyer (SERcoyer@acs.sku.edu) and Holly Roth (Holly.Roth@gallaudet.edu).

Eric is responsible for the Western Region - which contains Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Texas.

Nina is responsible for the Central Region - Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

Holly is responsible for the Eastern Region - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

If you desire to have an article inserted in the **ASLTA Newsletter**, please send one to your Region Co-Editor. The **Newsletter** is yours, so any news worthy to be published will be appreciated. The deadline is JUNE 1, 1999.

EASTERN REGIONS

by Holly Roth, Eastern Regional Editor

Monica Shimmin wrote that she enjoyed two ASLTA workshops given by Holly Roth at Fairfax, Virginia (Veditz): "How to Use Materials in Teaching ASL" and another one by Cinnie MacDougall from San Diego: "The Phantom of ASL Classifiers." She claimed that she now can expand on her teaching materials easier and now is tempted to take some Linguistics classes at Gallaudet University. Way to go, Holly and Cinnie!

Teaching Tip #1: Sign Language Dialogue Journal (ASL Teachers can use this as a handout for ASL Class)

Each student is required to maintain a dialogue journal. The journal will be used as a way to communicate privately with the instructor about issues regarding the class, or personal questions you may have. The journal can be used to express your opinion about the material covered, frustrations, or pleasure you may be experiencing with aspects of the class, and any specific signed vocabulary you may find difficult. You can also include any

Continued on page 7



2,000 BY 2000!

The National ASLTA Executive Board is pleased to announce that there are over 800 members of National ASLTA!

**Now we have a new theme for our Membership Drive:
"2,000 by 2000!"**

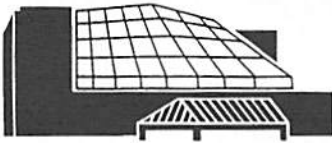
Help us achieve the goal of 2,000 or more members by the year 2000!

**You will get a reward for recruiting a new member!
How??**

National ASLTA will give a \$5.00 discount to the current member who recruits a new member. If you recruit 5 new members in one year, your ASLTA membership dues will be FREE! (limit of 5)
(note: to be considered a new member the recruited member cannot have been a member of ASLTA in the past 3 years.)

Give this special membership form to a person who you just recruited. When we receive a new membership on this form we will send a voucher to the referring member. New members you recruit must use this form. No other claims of recruitment will be accepted.

Any voucher you receive must be used when you next renew your membership.



Rochester's Only Glass-Enclosed Atrium Hotel

We are an upscale 250-room "Holidome" facility with an indoor pool, whirlpool, gym area, exercise room, gift shop, lounge, restaurant, lobby bar, and complimentary limousine service to and from the airport. All this and more!

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State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Voice TTY

Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____ @ _____

Guaranteed Reservation Credit Card #



EXP. DATE:

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS

Single/Double \$85.00 per room

Share with _____ & _____

The above-quoted rates are valid through 9/10/99

Check-in: 3:00 p.m. Check-out 12:01 p.m.

Arrival Date: October 7th October 8th

I will arrive before 6 p.m. • I will arrive after 6 p.m.

Departure Date: October 10th

Contact: Reservations 716-475-1510 EXT 152

Mail this form and check payable to:

Holiday Inn

1111 Jefferson Rd., ASLTA Group
Rochester, NY 14623

**Deadline for Reservations:
August 31, 1999**

SIGNATURE _____

You can register online! Visit us at www.aslta.org/conf/

ASLTA's 1st Professional Development Conference Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Voice TTY

Fax: (____) _____

E-mail: _____ @ _____

SIGNATURE _____



EXP. DATE:

The registration fee of

\$200.00

includes:

hors d'oeuvres at the Thursday-evening
welcoming reception and Friday-night Silent
Auction Gala, daily breakfast buffet,
Saturday-night entertainment, program book—
and more. Pre-registration automatically
earns you 2 hours credit.

Between Aug. 1, 1999 to Sept. 30, 1999: \$225.00

Starting October 1, 1999: \$250.00

**Mail registration form and
make check payable (IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY) to:**

ASLTA Conference

1095 Meigs Street

Rochester, NY 14620-2405

**Deadline for Registrations:
July 31, 1999**

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

October 7-10, 1999

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Please use this form to submit your abstract for a 60- or 90-minute presentation, forum or discussion session related to applications to American Sign Language teaching/learning/linguistics and Deaf Culture for college/university level, K-12, L1/L2, and community-based, non-credit teaching at the first National Professional Development Conference on October 7-10, 1999 in Rochester, New York.

ABSTRACT REQUEST

(Please type or print all information).

Presenter/Co-Presenter(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____

TTY/Voice: _____ E-mail: _____ FAX: _____

Presentation Title: _____

Proposed Format: _____ Lecture _____ Teaching Demonstration _____ Panel _____ Hands-on Workshop

Anticipated Target Audience: _____ College/University _____ K-12 _____ Community-based

All workshop rooms will be equipped with overhead projector and screen, VCR/Monitor, flip chart and easel. Presenters are expected to provide their own handouts. **NOTE:** *Specialized equipment: computer-assisted Power Point presentation equipment will be not provided. Interpreters (voice and signing) will not be provided.*

Please attach this form with a description of the proposed presentation or workshop on a separate piece of paper. Limit 100 words in the description as it will be printed in the ASLTA conference program book. Please send a short biography about yourself.

Presenter's Expenses: The ASLTA will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the presenter. The presenter is responsible for his/her travel, room, board and conference registration.

DEADLINE: June 30, 1999

Please send this completed form to:

Barbara Ray Holcomb, ASLTA Vice President
c/o Lilac Chapter of ASLTA
P.O. Box 23853
Rochester, New York 14692-3853

ABSTRACT

Please type no more than 100 words

Reminders:

- Completed all in this form?
- Enclosed a biography of yourself?

Continued from page 6 Roth
questions you may have related to deaf and/or Deaf Culture.

Various formats for the journal can be used. You may choose to keep your journal entries in a notebook, or to communicate them via E-mail. Whichever format you choose is fine. Please keep the entries to a maximum of one page, and if written in a notebook, allow space for the instructor's response. The instructor will review and respond to your entries at various times during the course.

Please keep in mind that your journal will be kept confidential.

Teaching Tip #2: When is Voicing Rude? (ASL Teachers can use this as a handout for ASL Class)

A lot has been written about Deaf/non-deaf interaction. One of the most important areas is that of etiquette. There are always standards of behavior that must be followed when two cultures meet. When Deaf and non-deaf people are in the same room, it is considered very rude for the non-deaf to use their voices. (This might be considered similar to whispering in front of other people among non-deaf, which can be considered rude.)

When in a non-deaf (hearing) environment, use of voice among all non-deaf people would be acceptable. However, as soon as a Deaf person walks into the room, all should start signing, and continue signing as long as the Deaf person is present.

Remember: Part of learning a language is learning the culture of that language. Cultural mores differ, and it is important not to participate in behavior that is offensive to members of any culture.

Also, keep in mind that you are in this class to learn another language. You should be using it at all times anyway. Right?

Books Review

1. "Communicating in Sign" by Diane Chambers; 1998, \$12.00

2. "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Learning

Sign Language" by Shelly & Schneck; 1998, \$16.95

3. "American Sign Language: The Easy Way" by David Stewart; 1998, \$12.95

All three books are NOT the best books, however, if someone wants to have a self-study, they may be useful. Some information in these books are not correct. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Learning Sign Language seems to be better than the other two books. It has "Warning Sign", "Sign of the Times" and "Signposts" which are very useful. It even uses the famous MJ Bienvenu's name!

There are no such things as books and/or videotapes that can be used as self study. The best way to learn ASL is to attend a class!

TeachASL is HERE!

TeachASL@ADMIN.HUMBERC.ON.CA (E-mail) is here! We can chat live with ASLTA members on any topic about ASLTA or teaching.

TeachASL@ is a discussion opportunity for teachers of American Sign Language. Please join TeachASL@. You will need to go into the Website first, which is

<http://members.aol.com/alysser/slll.htm> and it will tell you how to join it. It is FREE for ASL teachers!

CENTRAL REGION

by Nina Coyers, Central Regional Editor

Joel Mankowski from Missouri writes and says that there is a legislative bill that recognizes ASL as the official and native sign language in Missouri. Including in the bill also encourages Missouri secondary and higher - education institutions to offer courses in ASL to meet foreign-language requirements. Several organizations/agencies from Missouri are working together to provide assistance, advice, and guidance on the development, establishment, and teaching of ASL courses.

Joel, update on this issue by using ASLTA's Website...contact Alan Thomas, the ASLTA Webmaster, if you need assistance. Good Luck!

News from EVALUATION CHAIR

by William J. Newell, Ph.D.



Thanks to Isabelle Calvacca for Her Long Service to ASLTA

Isabelle Calvacca, a dual citizen (State of NY and State of FL), has retired from the ASLTA Evaluation & Certification Committee due to health reasons. Isabelle is a long and faithful member of ASLTA and our predecessor organization SIGN. Isabelle served since 1990 as an evaluator. As chairperson of the Evaluation Team, I wanted to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge Isabelle's outstanding service and thank her for her many years of work to help all of us in the profession of American Sign Language teaching through her evaluation work. Thanks, Isabelle!



Certified Members Top Two Hundred!

As of January 1, 1999, ASLTA had 208 certified teachers of ASL as follows:

Provisional Level Certification121
Qualified Level Certification22
Professional Level Certification65

Five individuals successfully achieved Professional Certification this past July in San Antonio. Congratulations to: Glenna Ashton, Catherine Clough, Samuel Holcomb, Geoffrey Mathay, and Jean Pamir.

Rules for Expiration of Certification are being Enforced

Certification at the Provisional and Qualified levels is not permanent. Teachers may be certified at the Provisional and Qualified levels for 4 years each. Under special circumstances, the teacher may request a two-year extension of their certification. This will be granted when there is reasonable expectation that the next

level of certification will be awarded within that two year period. At the end of the 4-year timeframe or in the case of a two-year extension, the certification will be revoked. The teacher must reapply at the certification level that they held.

The ASLTA Evaluation Certification System is Explained on the World Wide Web

The ASLTA Evaluation Certification System is explained at our Website at www.aslta.org. The Screening Application, which is the first step in becoming certified, is also online. You may print this Application and use it.

Evaluations for Professional Certification Planned

The ASLTA Board is considering offering the ASLTA Professional level evaluation as a pre-conference activity to occur prior to our first National ASLTA Conference in October, 1999 in Rochester, NY. Persons who have achieved the Qualified Level Certification and meet the other criteria for proceeding to the Professional Level Certification may want to consider taking the Professional Evaluation at this opportunity. Information will be sent to members who have the Qualified Certification. If you do not presently hold Qualified Level Certification there is time (IF YOU BEGIN NOW). Let's hear from you.

Anyone wanting information regarding the ASLTA Evaluation & Certification System should contact me through E-mail (evaluation@aslta.org).

**Save these dates:
October 7-10, 1999.
Please mark your calendar!
What's happening?
The First National
Professional Development
Conference at
Rochester, New York!
See you there!!!**

News from CHAPTERS AFFILIATION and
BY LAWS CHAIR by Laura J. Thomas



With the record snowfall the Midwest has been getting, there's hope for SPRING and RENEWAL! Soon we will be coming out of the woodwork, embracing the longer and warmer days, filled with sunlight!

It has been an exciting time, meeting with some of you, in person, or via E-mail. You all have such passion and vitality for your chapters and I commend your efforts. Keep it up!

BYLAWS and MEMBERSHIP

Affiliated chapters may take this opportunity to do some housecleaning .. ever consider reviewing your chapter's bylaws? Dig up some papers from before and determine what has been done and what needs to be done? Were

there workshop topics yet to be addressed? Are there ASL/Deaf Studies teachers near you who have not yet joined your chapter? This is a ripe time to get them in ... with NAD/ASLTA's "2000 members by the year 2000" promotional plan! Recruit new members and give them a warm and sunny welcome!

COLLABORATION and WORKSHOPS

Some of our chapters have been very active, while others could use some encouragement. ASLTA's Website lists all the affiliated chapters, with officers, names and addresses sometimes included. Contact your neighboring chapter and arrange for a joint meeting or host a joint conference. According to national ASLTA bylaws and your own, chapters must host at least two professional-development workshops per year to remain affiliated with national ASLTA. You will be contacted for compliance with the national ASLTA and your chapter's bylaws regarding workshops.

Continued on page 10

ACQUIRE CONFIDENCE

WITH THE ASL NUMBER SYSTEM!

The *Numbering in ASL* book and *Number Signs* video teach you how to clearly and accurately communicate numbers in ASL!

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CHAPTERS INCLUDE:

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- Sports
- Scientific Numbers
- Personal Numbers
- How Long
- Money
- When
- Where, Which
- Measurements
- Age
- How Many
- How Often



VISA/MC Accepted

Continued from page 9 Thomas

1999 NAD STATE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES

NAD's state associations will host their state conferences this year. This is a ripe opportunity to get on their workshop agenda for your chapter to have a presentation. This will increase visibility and provide the opportunity to establish a liaison with your NAD state association to promote quality ASL/Deaf Studies instruction and certified teachers. Contact your NAD state-association conference chairperson and tell him/her you have an exciting workshop topic!

MATCHING FUND PROGRAM

For newly affiliated chapters not yet two years old, our Matching Fund program may be able to assist your chapter's professional development. Guidelines for applying for funds of up to \$500.00 are outlined in the Vol. 4, No. 3, Fall 1997 ASLTA Newsletter. For further information and an application, contact chapter@aslta.org.

ASLTA's CONFERENCE in ROCHESTER

Save the dates - October 7-10, 1999 - for an exciting conference, chaired by Leslie C. Greer, President and Barbara Ray Holcomb, Vice-President. We are considering a chapters meeting/training workshop during this conference. More information will be disseminated soon. Encourage your chapter members and others to attend this conference!

COMMUNICATIONS and DEVELOPMENT

With advanced technology these days, we are able to have immediate access to each other, yet a personal letter or note is still valued. I welcome inquiries, information and ideas! I will be in contact with each one of you, affiliated chapter presidents, and we will do a "review and planning" of chapter activities. It is revitalizing to look back at your accomplishments and do some action planning for development and expansion. Watch your mailbox for more information!

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE AGENDA

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 7, 1999

- 3:00 p.m. — 10:00 p.m.
Registration and Hospitality

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 8, 1999

- 7:30 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast Buffet
- 8:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.
Welcoming Address
Keynote Address
- 10:00 a.m. — 10:15 a.m.
Break
- 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 11:45 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 3:00 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.
Break
- 3:15 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)

- 7:00 p.m. — 12:00 a.m.

Silent Auction Gala:

**Celebrating Sign Language
through the Arts**
with hors d'oeuvres

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 9, 1999

- 7:30 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast Buffet
- 8:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 10:00 a.m. — 10:15 a.m.
Break
- 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 11:45 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)

- 3:00 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.
Break

- 3:15 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)

- 7:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.
An Evening with....TBA

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 10, 1999

- 7:30 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast Buffet
- 8:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 10:00 a.m. — 10:15 a.m.
Break
- 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent sessions
(4 halls-8 presenters)
- 11:45 a.m. — 12:45 p.m.
Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m. TBA
- 2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Endnote Address

2,000 BY 2000!

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**Come and chat with other members
in the ASLTA Room at www.deafchat.com!**

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