



**American Sign Language Teachers Association**

**Newsletter**

**Volume 6 Number 2 Fall/Winter 2001**

## **ASLTA Website Receives Its Facelift!**

President is pleased to announce that our ASLTA website is under construction to renovate its web page. Alan Thomas worked so hard to put various exciting features together to produce an exciting ASLTA web site. However, it is not finished yet. The features of the ASLTA website include administration, member directory, job announcements, workshop/training announcements; newsletter, and so forth.

Please go and check out the ASLTA web site at [www.aslta.org](http://www.aslta.org). While you are at the site, browse and click into the features. Make some comments and let Alan know what you think of the web site. He values your inputs and continues working to make the best ASLTA website.

Meanwhile Alan is working on this project, I would like to have your inputs on whether if ASLTA newsletter should be placed in the ASLTA website instead of mailing the newsletter to the members. Due to advanced technology, there are many changes. As speaking of a main change, we are into an era of "paperless" information. We are using computer as the primary source to obtain information directly. Now, I am asking the members a question, "Are we ready for the concept of "paperless" newsletter?" For your input to share, please send it to my address: [cacnss@rit.edu](mailto:cacnss@rit.edu). For the next newsletter, I will share some selected inputs with you all.



# Editor's Letter: ASLTA Newsletter: Talk of the Town

This is somewhat unusual to have an article in the second page of the ASLTA newsletter. I feel obliged to write this article. I am sure by now everyone now is talking of the town in terms of whether the ASLTA newsletter continues or not.

First of all, the continuation of ASLTA newsletter remains to be seen. In the past few months, there were a few circumstances that prevent me from working on this newsletter. The primary reason is that I am working on my dissertation and it is drawing very closely to an end. I had to re-prioritize my commitments in order to obtain my doctorate's degree in this spring.

Obtaining my degree is my lifelong dream. I am sure everyone said to me, "Yeah, it is over, no more attending to classes, no more writing assignments, no more studying and so forth. To some extent, I agree with you; however, I firmly believe that I always and will continue learning more. I keep hearing from people who received their doctorate degree years ago, they find themselves in a position where they have learned so much. Actually there is a lifelong education after graduation.

Speaking of the prospect of my life, I am so delighted because I want to continue learning. Education cultivates your mind, your heart, and your soul. This is a part of my destiny and I intend to make my life as wonderful as it can be. I know that sharing my personal anecdotes is somewhat unusual because it is a part of my personal life. However, my deep gratitude goes to the officers for being patient with me and allow

me to finish writing my dissertation. Once it is done, I will resume to living my "life" (if I can remember what it is because it has been a while).

Second circumstance has to do with some unprecedented changes involved in the administration. This involved some ongoing communication among the officers in the executive board. Ultimately, it affects on the production of this ASLTA newsletter in which it could not be finished in a timely fashion. For you as the members, again, my sincere apology yet at the same time thank you for being patient with me. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I want to assure that the ASLTA newsletter resumes to be in the operation according to the normal schedule now. The next newsletter will be printed in May and you will receive it in June. Again, my apology to you all.

Warm Regards,  
Cindy Campbell

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## **Leslie Greer, President**

### **ASLTA Computer Raffle**

I want to thank Alan Thomas for fundraising. The fundraising earned about \$6,300 for our computer fund. This enabled us to upgrade our website with several new kinds of software. Our future fundraising goal is to someday have our own server.

### **PASLTA/PSAD**

Last August I went to Lancaster, Pennsylvania to attend the Pennsylvania Society Association of the Deaf Conference. I gave my presentation about the local chapter of ASLTA and state association of NAD work together to provide conferences in their local state. The people of PASLTA and PSAD voted to have conference together. This conference will be at Williamsport in 2001. The PSASLTA also had their election. The new president is Terry Smith - Rawecki. Congratulations to Terry and her board members!

### **NCI**

NAD and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf invited CIT President, Christine Smith and me to attend the National Council of the Interpreting at the Ohio State Association of the Deaf and Ohio Chapter Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. Both organizations hosted the conference together and it was historical, the first joint conference between OAD and OCRID. The conference was productive! They discussed about collaborating on certification levels and procedures for both NAD and RID. On Saturday, Christine and I gave our

presentation of our observation of the meeting. I support the idea but I would like to have ASLTA involved in only two parts of NCI's organizational

chart. Two that I mentioned are program accreditation and ASL performance test. On that evening, I went to the banquet and watched the performance. The Master of Ceremony, Will Hay, was so marvelous!

### **Board Training at CIT**

I invited Marilyn Smith who is experienced in Board Training to train ASLTA Board members and me. The training included how to organize, tax status, political protocol, and many others. I recommend Laura Thomas to provide the training for all chapter presidents or representatives one-day prior before the conference starts.

### **CIT**

The CIT 2000 Convention was held in Portland, Oregon. I want to thank members Northwest ASLTA and Washington ASLTA especially Nat Wilson, President of Washington ASLTA and Kristen Winters, President of Northwest ASLTA for attending the CIT's convention. We really liked the "Wall History Program of CIT" and it gave us an idea about ASLTA's historic timeline.

The ASLTA and CIT board had productive meeting. We set up an ASLTA/CIT Task Force to work on strategies on how can we share and work together on our professional standards regarding teaching credentials and accreditation. Carolyn Ball, CIT new president, and I felt that ASLTA and CIT's should be committed to this very important task force. Carole Lazoriak accepted the position of Co-chair of ASLTA/CIT Task Force. Carolyn Ball, CIT President, appointed Betty Colonomos to be co-chair of ASLTA/CIT Task Force. Carolyn Ball and I will be liaisons of this committee.

To be continued to page 19.

## **Tom Riggs, Vice President**

I'm very pleased and proud to be Vice President of ASLTA. I assure you that I will do my utmost to serve you and ASLTA well.

Let me share my background... I grew up Deaf in hearing family and I went to the school for the deaf in Rochester. I got BS degree from Metropolitan State College in Denver, and MA degree in Linguistics from the University of Colorado in Boulder. I have been a member of ASLTA for the past 10 years. In 1990, I met and talked with members of ASLTA, then known as SIGN, and they inspired me to establish a chapter in Colorado that year. Keith Cagle, who was the president at that time, once said, "Colorado got the chapter established quicker than any of the other states I know of". The chapter was called Colorado SIGN Instructors (CSI). The name was changed to American Sign Language Teachers Association of Colorado (ASLTAC) in 1992. I was their first president and served for its first three years. I am proud to say that ASLTAC continues to grow to be a strong chapter of ASLTA. When I relocated to Arizona 2 years ago, served as treasurer and became current president of Arizona ASLTA.

I used to work an ASL instructor for IPP at the Front Range Community College in Westminster, CO and also used to work as an ASL instructor for the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO. Right now, I currently work as an ASL Lecturer at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. I teach all levels of ASL and Deaf Culture classes, and my colleagues and I are currently developing a curriculum for a non-

teaching ASL minor. I also work for the Educational Interpreting Certification Project (EICP) at Front Range Community College. EICP is a distance learning program that uses a variety of technologies to bring classes to participants' home communities. Students also have the opportunity to participate in an on-site Summer Institute each year. This program is for interpreters serving students who are deaf and hard of hearing in the K-12 schools of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. I have been their course developer, distance educator, and on site instructor for over one year now.

During the spare time, I love hiking, backpacking, and camping with family and friends. This activity is the most peaceful thing to do if I need a break from work. I have been to almost every inch of Colorado Mountains.

For the past 25 years, ASLTA has been expanding and this organization proved to be more recognizable. Past and present board members did this hard work and we should applaud them. And now, I am very excited and proud that I am going to be the part of this TEAM!



**Laura Thomas, ChapterChair**

**COLLABORATING with STATE  
ASSOCIATIONS and ASLTA CHAPTERS**

As of October 2000, the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) has increased its chapter network to 34 affiliated chapters across USA. Current states with chapters include: Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. Some states have more than one local affiliated ASLTA chapter, while others may have just one. ASLTA strongly encourages other states to get into the bandwagon and establish a chapter!

At the State Association Presidents Conference prior to the July 2000 NAD Conference in Norfolk, VA, President Leslie Greer and Chapter Chair Laura J. Thomas emphasized the importance of State Associations working closely with currently affiliated ASLTA chapters. Collaborating and supporting each other (state association of the deaf and ASLTA chapter(s)) will generate increased efforts in the quality of ASL instruction and recognition of ASL as a pure language. Those states with no ASLTA chapters, information, guidelines and next steps were given to spark interest in establishing an ASLTA chapter.

The State Associations of the Deaf will be hosting their conferences across USA in 2001. This is

an excellent opportunity for many Deaf/hard of hearing persons to learn what is happening on the local, state, and national level regarding American Sign Language (ASL), state legislation, quality instruction, professional development opportunities and the evaluation and certification process of teachers of ASL. The ASLTA Board strongly encourages state associations and ASLTA chapters to work together to have ASLTA as a part of the 2001 state conference workshop agenda.

An excellent collaborative example is the Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of Deaf (PSAD) and the PA-ASLTA chapter. PSAD and PA-ASLTA will host a conference together in Williamsport, PA in July 2001. President Carolyn Stem of the Northern California ASLTA shared this motto, "TEAM - Together Everyone Accomplishes More!" This is very true for state associations and local ASLTA chapters working together to achieve more for everyone involved.

For those interested in starting a local ASLTA chapter, please contact President Greer ([president@aslta.org](mailto:president@aslta.org)) or Chapter Chair Thomas ([chapter@aslta.org](mailto:chapter@aslta.org)) for further information. We can assist with providing chapter guidelines and formulating bylaws.

The ASLTA board is ready to help and see that increased visibility is gained by this collaboration. For further information about ASLTA, check out ASLTA's website: [www.aslta.org](http://www.aslta.org).



## Parade: The Spirit of William Stokoe

Way back in mid-April, the St. Cloud Deaf Club had their meeting regarding different things. One of those different things was about the Wheels, Wings and Water Festival 2000 parade which was hosted by the City of St. Cloud which they have every year in the summer. As we, the St. Cloud Deaf Club were a part of the St. Cloud's largest parade on June 24, 2000, we had to decide on a theme we like to have for our float. As discussed, we decided on "A Tribune of William Stokoe's." This inspiration came up after the announcement of William Stokoe's passing. It was well-fitting.

There were a few of us that didn't know who he was so the whole idea and project was an enriching and educationally experience for all of us, the St. Cloud Deaf Club, hearing folks and the world. The St. Cloud Deaf Club committee who were involved in the parade had shirts made as salute to William Stokoe. Diane Dobe, member of the St. Cloud Deaf Club, had shared her comments about William Stokoe, "I knew how important Stokoe was to the Deaf communities, he was the first linguist to declare American Sign Language as a true language. Many thanks to him, if it weren't for him, we probably wouldn't be the proud people we are today. God Bless William Stokoe!" Kerry Pudas, member of the St. Cloud Deaf Club, who have the greatest tal-

ent to do artwork. She has sacrificed some time to do the drawing of William Stokoe portrait, it will be hang up on the wall for the future's St. Cloud Deaf Club building one day. As Deann "Bear" Dirx, President of St. Cloud Deaf Club said, "As I learned very recently about William Stokoe, who was the first linguist to discover that American Sign Language is a true language, I wished I had known about him and can be able to salute him for what he had done for all of us, the Deaf communities. Deaf people in this world are brilliant individuals, no matter what kind their language is , it is the body and mind they use in American Sign Language along with facial and body expressions. Again, Deaf individuals can do anything except for one thing is that they can't hear but... they still can communicate via their hands and hands do the talking and eyes do the 'hearing' things. As a President of St. Cloud Deaf Club, on behalf of this club, we stand proud of William Stokoe's memory. An appreciation to Stokoe for the time length of research and the discovery about American Sign Language as true language, St. Cloud Deaf Club salutes to William Stokoe." The day had brought all of us, the St. Cloud Deaf Club an immense great time with the sun that shone upon us and the exciting people who waved at us with the sign "ILY". It was an inspiration for everyone and includes in the spirit of William Stokoe.

## **An Anonymous Letter: Misabuse of Placing Special Education Students**

I have a complaint to file against a public school program that uses American Sign Language as a program to dump special education kids into because they fail to understand or realize what ASL is and that it is for all students, not just special education students. The results of this have been severe violations of special education students I.E.P.'s as they have been placed in classes of 20 or more other CLASSIFIED students with no teacher aids, thus making it next to impossible to teach. Which also, in effect, demonstrated no respect for the language due to the nature of the program and the students they reserve placements for in this program.

If this does not alarm you, I am sorry, because this has resulted in 4 out of 5 ASL teachers in two years to either leave or be fired, and there has been no attempt made to address or correct the problem. This is insulting to the Deaf community as well as abusive toward the people who have attempted to teach in these horrendous classrooms set-ups. In addition, they will not hire Deaf teachers who which to teach ASL because they know a Deaf person would not survive in such a harsh environment and have either ignored Deaf individuals requests for interviews, or have denied them altogether the chance.

Also, it has damaged the students who have been placed in these programs who want to learn ASL, and those who were placed there because they failed other languages and/or were expected to succeed in this one without any sen-

sitivity to their needs or abilities. If you are interested in investigating this, please e-mail me back. I will be happy to help any way I can. I cannot sit back and be silent anymore about this. It is disrespectful to the Deaf community and American Sign Language, and it is disrespectful to the students who are Hmotivated to learn ASL but can't because they are not special education students, or have been been able to get into the program and have found their access to the language minimal due to the environment set-up in which to learn the language. In addition, the community now looks down on ASL and the Deaf because of the horrendous environment which has been created in these classrooms as a result of this program.

Thank You,  
Anonymous

# **ASL Pin**

**for  
\$15.00**

**For more information,  
contact Alan Thomas  
at  
[webmaster@aslta.org](mailto:webmaster@aslta.org)**



# ♄ ASLTA Conference July 2



Participants discussed in a workshop.



Leslie, ASLTA President gave a few words.



Libby Pollard, NAD President, gave her presentation at Chapter Luncheon



Geoff Poor was the presenter of a workshop.

## ASLTA in Norfolk Leslie Greer

The American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) had many events at

this year's NAD conference in Norfolk.

The theme "Navigating into the New Millennium" was so perfect for the conference. During my speech at the Opening Ceremonies, I explained about events during the old millennium such as Thomas H. Gallaudet recognizing that ASL can be used to teach; Laurent

Clerc for educating deaf children in the U.S.; William Stokoe for discovering patterns in ASL; and T. J. O'Rourke for establishing the Communication Sign Program (CSP) and the Sign Instructor

Guidance Network (SIGN). With this history behind us, we have now begun our journey into the new millennium. Next, I thanked Bill Newell for revitalizing the organization, SIGN-ASLTA; all publishers of ASL materials for supporting excellent teaching of ASL; and the members of ASLTA who are "the crew of our ship" and who hold the "key" that opens the door to the treasure of learning about ASL and Deaf

Culture.



Ben Hall, RID President, gave a presentation during Chapter Luncheon



# ASLTA Executive Minutes

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## July 2000

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### American Sign Language Teachers Association

**General Meeting  
at Norfolk, Virginia ~ July 7, 2000  
(draft)**

**Call to order :** President Leslie C. Greer called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

Approval of ASLTA General Meeting Minutes of 1998.

The ASLTA membership reviewed and proposed no corrections on the minutes from the General Meeting held during the NAD/ASLTA Conference in San Antonio, Texas on July 10, 1998.



### **Moment of Silence**

President Greer explained that Isabelle Calvacca who was actively involved with ASLTA as a board member and the Evaluation Team has passed away. We remembered her in a moment of silence.



### **Voting Procedures**

President Greer explained that there are 2 different shapes in red and green. The red hand indi-

cates certified members and whenever any motion related to certification is called upon, the certified members are the only ones to vote. The green star indicates non-certified members and is used to vote on any issue except that related certification.



### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer JaNahne McCready-Johnson gave a report on ASLTA's financial status.



### **President's Report Professional Certified Members**

President Greer explained that the Evaluation Team and Board are still working on professional certified members on the ASLTA website.

### **1st National Professional Development Conference**

Greer expressed deep thanks and appreciation to the 1st National Professional Development Conference Committee and to MSM Productions, Ltd. and their staff for a very successful conference for ASLTA members and non-members in Rochester, New York in October 1999. The Silent



Auction bids produced 60% profit to ASLTA and 40% to artists. She also wanted to thank to the artists. She explained that MSM Productions, Ltd. had no cut deal with ASLTA.

#### ASLTA Bylaws

Greer mentioned that the ASLTA Bylaws are currently being revised.

#### Conference Proceedings

Greer explained that Mike Kemp was selected to be an editor for the 1998 ASLTA Conference workshop presentations to be printed in the Conference Proceedings. Mike was able to get only 3 presentations and felt it would be too costly to print so few of them.

#### ASLTA Website

Greer expressed deep thanks to Alan Thomas, our ASLTA Webmaster for his hard work to create and keep up with the ASLTA Website.

#### Membership Drive

Greer explained that the Board's efforts to draw many new memberships through the Membership Drive "2,000 by 2000" have not been quite successful.

#### Inquiries via Emails

President Greer showed a chart of various topics from the inquiries through the ASLTA Website. She referred many issues appropriate to local chapters and for non-ASL issues to other organizations. She intends to write a letter to various organizations to encourage them to refer ASL-related issues to ASLTA website.

#### Presentations

Greer displayed a chart of her presentations for each year in 1998, 1999 and 2000 (only half) related to ASLTA.

#### ASLTA/NAD Ad-Hoc Committee

President Leslie C. Greer explained that the ASLTA/NAD Ad-Hoc Committee had been communicating by emails. The ASLTA Ad-Hoc Committee is Bill Newell, Laura Thomas and Leslie Greer. There are three goals. They are 1) visibility, 2) membership, and 3) continuing relationship between NAD and ASLTA

#### Conference of Interpreter Trainers (CIT)

Greer announced that she and Vice President Barbara Ray Holcomb were invited to present at the CIT Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah during October 1998. They also met with the CIT Board and discussed about each organization's goals. Both have the same goals of quality teachers. CIT is almost completed with their package to accredit the Interpreter Training Programs (ITP) and ASL Programs. Bill Newell and Leslie C. Greer are currently on their training team. She announced that the CIT will host their biennial convention at Portland, Oregon this coming October. She is awaiting their formal invitation to the ASLTA President and Vice President to attend the convention. Once it is received, President Greer and Vice President will be going. The CIT registration fees will be the same for both CIT and ASLTA members. Greer encouraged the members to consider attending the CIT convention in October.





## **Vice President's Report**

### Workshop Presenters

Vice President Barbara Ray Holcomb reported that the San Antonio Conference had 25 workshops; 1st National Professional Development Conference had 35 and this time has 24 workshops. She turned down an average of 5 to 7 Call for Papers.

### Guidelines for Call for Papers

Vice President Holcomb felt it is important that ASLTA develops guidelines for Call for Papers.

### Presenters' Bureau

Since Holcomb took over the role as the Vice President upon Keith Cagle's resignation, one of the duties is to revise and update the Presenters' Bureau. A guideline for this function is being developed.

### CEU versus Clock Hours for Workshops

Vice President Holcomb clarified from the confusion about ASLTA offering Continuing Education Units (CEU). Currently ASLTA is offering only Clock Hours for ASLTA participants attending the workshops. However, ASLTA is now in the process of applying CEU with American Continuing Education TSS (ACET). Once it is implemented, it will be absolutely a must for ASLTA to hire a person on a formal and continuous basis to work with ACET and awarding the CEUs to the applicants.

### New Logo

Holcomb explained that ASLTA's current Logo has caused difficulties for printing due to its lines.

She suggested that ASLTA get a new logo.



## **Evaluation Chair**

Evaluation Chair, Dr. William Newell announced that he has spent the past 10 years as the Chair of Evaluations and that he is stepping aside to allow another capable member of the evaluation team to serve as chair. Keith Cagle is replacing him.

### Evaluation Team Training

Evaluation Chair Newell explained that he along with Keith Cagle had a training to retrain the current evaluators and to train three new Evaluation team members on June 30th and July 1st (prior to this Conference). Total of 12 people attended the training. The trainees are to be committed to 6 years on the Evaluation Team. He explained that the training session could be offered in 2 ways; through correspondence or in person. The Evaluation Team members must be certified on a professional level.

### Directory on Website

Evaluation Chair Newell wanted to see a directory of certified members on the ASLTA Website. He said it can be done through a CGI system; however, he considered the new Chair would work on this.

### Keith Cagle as New Chair

Newell explained that because of his resignation



as a Chair and Keith taking over, Keith went to Rochester, NY last January to be trained. Then he teamed up with Bill on the recent training session. On September 15th Bill will officially turn over the duties of chair and Keith becomes a full time Chair; however, Bill will assist during the transition.

#### Numbers of Certified Members

Newell showed a chart of the numbers of individuals achieving ASLTA certifications.

#### Active and Inactive Members

Evaluation Chair Newell displayed another chart of the numbers of active and inactive members.

#### Currently Expired Certifications

Newell explained that because of the rule that ASLTA set in 1996 for those who received a provisional level in 1996 that it would last only 4 years and now it is being expired this year. He intends to write a letter to these members and encourage them to apply for the next level, Qualified or they can extend for 2 years.

#### Professional Level Certification

Newell reminded that any one who is certified on Professional Level must continue to remain active as a teacher and continue their professional development in order to maintain their certification.

#### Suggestions

Newell would like to see more from ASLTA to encourage more people to apply for higher certi-

fication levels. He also felt an analysis is necessary to find out why people do not bother to apply for the next certification level.



#### **Chapter Affiliation/Bylaws Chair**

President Leslie C. Greer announced that she appointed Laura J. Thomas to remain as a Chair of Chapter Affiliation and Bylaws for another 2 years.

#### State Association Presidents Council (SAPC)

Chapter Affiliation/Bylaws Chair Laura J. Thomas and President Greer gave the presentation to the Presidents of State Associations on July 2nd. Each President received a packet loaded with information about ASLTA. The purpose of presentation was to raise awareness of ASLTA and hope the Presidents will make efforts to work with ASLTA and ask for workshops pertaining to ASL.

#### New Affiliated Chapters

Chapter Affiliation/ByLaws Chair Laura J. Thomas announced that there were five new affiliated chapters. They were Arkansas ASLTA, Los Angeles ASLTA, New Jersey ASLTA, North California ASLTA and San Diego ASLTA. As of today, there are 33 chapters. Each new chapter received a videotape, "The ASLTA Evaluation and Certification System."

#### Chapter Affiliation Guidelines

Current guidelines need to be revised for chapter affiliation. Additional assistance is provided for beginning affiliation of new chapters.



## Chapter Maintenance

The Board recognized the importance of chapter maintenance, support, revamping bylaws, and hosting elections after some years of inactivity.

## Group Tax Exemption Rate

There has been no action from NAD regarding chapters receiving this group tax benefit since the 1998 conference. Negotiations will continue with NAD.

## Student Assistants during Conference

Thomas introduced three new student assistants - Alan Thomas, Dene Scott and Sherry Mabry for their dedication and exceptional work during this conference.



## **ASLTA Editor**

President Leslie C. Greer announced that she appointed Cindy A. Campbell to be an editor for ASLTA Newsletters.



## **K-12 Curriculum Project Coordinator**

E. Lynn Jacobowitz, currently the Coordinator of K-12 Curriculum Project was unable to come. President Greer reported that the L2 Curriculum package is completed. The L1 Curriculum committee really needs to have more ASLTA members to get their project moving.

## **ASLTA Webmaster**

Alan Thomas reported that he constantly updates the ASLTA website. He would like to investigate the ISP for better service and he can do a better job from the server.



## **Unfinished Business**

ASLTA Bylaws Committee with the Chair of Laura J. Thomas continues to work on revising the bylaws.



## **New Business**

### 1. ASLTA Logo

Barbara Ray Holcomb moved that to set up a committee to review the new ASLTA logo designs before presenting them at the next ASLTA Conference. Alan Thomas amended to appoint a chair to develop guidelines and network with the Logo Committee. The motion as amended was passed.

### 2. Professional Certification

Lorraine Flores moved that a candidate with a portfolio of ASLTA criteria and a Master's degree in the field of Deaf Studies, ASL Studies, Teaching ASL or ASL Specialist (L1 and/or L2) send his/her official transcripts from the college to ASLTA and be automatically given Provisional and Qualified certificates. He/she will be required to go through the procedures for



Professional Certificate. Neil Johnson amended the teaching experience of 5 years.

Jim Lipsky amended the teaching experience of 300 hours. Both amendments were passed. The motion referred to the Evaluation Committee.

### 3. General Membership Meeting

Carolyn Stem moved that the National ASLTA hold membership meetings (minimum of 3 hours) at each ASLTA Conference. The motion was passed.

### 4. Hire a CEU person

Sharon Antal moved that ASLTA hire a part time person to handle the CEU. The motion referred to the Board for guidelines.

### 5. Interpreters with Deaf-Blind Consumers

Sharon Antal moved that ASLTA help the local chapter to cover interpreter expenses with Deaf-Blind consumers at the chapter workshop. The motion referred to the Board.

### 6. Board Communication with Members

Sharon Antal moved that the ASLTA Board responds email communication within 48 hours. Patti Raswant amended that the response be within 5 business days. The motion with amendment passed.

### 7. Amend the Requirements for Professional Certification

Brian Cerney moved to amend the requirements for ASLTA Professional Level Certification to pro-

vide a third option of (or have an associate degree in "teaching ASL" plus five years ASL teaching experience). [NOTE: this would expand #8 of page 16 for "ASLTA Information and Screening Application", Appendix D.] The motion referred to Evaluation Committee.

### 8. 3rd ASLTA Professional Development Conference

Jeannie Wonder-Leighton moved that the 3rd National ASLTA Professional Development Conference be held in Bay Area, California in 2003. The motion passed.

### 9. ASLTA Information Kit

Whereas there is increasing inquiries from various language teachers of program directors on ASL as a language, whereas most of the ASL teachers often are not aware of increasing wealth of materials to support ASL as a language. Carolyn Stem moved that ASLTA Board appoint a committee to put together the ASLTA Information Kit to be shared among the ASLTA members. The motion passed.

### 10. Increased Input from ASLTA Board to the Members

Whereas National ASLTA sends out four newsletters a year, whereas National ASLTA newsletters contain vital information but exclude other useful information due to limited number of pages, whereas National ASLTA now has its own home-page, Carolyn Stem moved that National ASLTA use the home page to provide monthly information on the ASLTA Board activities, minutes,



financial reports, information and news and announcements. The motion referred to Board.

#### 11. Increased Visibility of Support from NAD for ASLTA

Whereas National ASLTA is affiliated with NAD according to Objective #1 of the ASLTA Bylaws "to provide closer relationship between instructors of ASL and the NAD", whereas all ASLTA membership includes required. NAD membership, whereas the level of information and support of ASLTA in the NAD Broadcaster and at NAD Conferences is minimal, whereas the level of information and support of ASLTA by NAD state chapters is almost non-existent, Carolyn Stem moved that ASLTA Board approach the NAD and have them commit to providing ASLTA with one full page of the NAD Broadcaster on a monthly basis. The motion passed.

#### 12. Remainders of Motions be referred to Board

Neil Johnson moved that the remainders of the motions brought to the floor are referred to the Board and they act on them before December 2000 (due to time constraint of this general meeting.) Bill Newell amended that the deadline of December 2000 is removed and the results of Board action on the motions are reported on ASLTA website. The motion and amended passed.

- a) Sponsorship
- b) Conference attendance
- c) Chapter Presidents Conference
- d) Certification of ASL Instructors

- e) NAD/ASLTA Conference
- f) ASLTA Chapter Presidents accessing to information
- g) ASLTA and NAD workshops
- h) 50% of Revenues
- i) Reword the Qualified Level Written Question
- j) ASLTA Workshops
- k) Audit Committee
- l) ACTFL Conference
- m) ISP Provider
- n) ASLTA Editor Budget
- o) Annual Membership fee for ASLTA International Members

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.





# ASLTA Budget 2000

<b>ASLTA FINANCIALS</b>			
<b>FISCAL YEAR 1999</b>		<b>FISCAL YEAR 2000 *</b>	
(April 1, 1998 thru March 31, 1999)		April 1, 1999 thru March 31, 2000) (* still being verified)	
NOTE**			
<b>REVENUES</b>		<b>REVENUES</b>	
Advertisements	\$ 250.00	Advertisements	\$ 5,050.00
Chapter Fees	\$ 150.00	Chapter fees	\$ 50.00
Donations	\$ 15.00	Donations	\$ 77,372.00
Evaluation Fees	\$ 1,265.00	Evaluation Fees	\$ 6,405.00
Interest/Dividends	\$ 43.00	Interest/Dividends	\$ 1,577.00
Membership Dues	\$ 5,133.00	Membership Dues	\$ 24,450.00
Registration Fees	\$ -	Registration Fees	\$ 65,765.00
Royalties	\$ 1,285.00	Royalties	\$ 2,918.00
Transfers	\$ 4,450.00	Transfers	\$ 174.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$12,591.00</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 183,761.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Advertisements	150.00	Advertisements	\$ 895.00
Credit Card Fees	0.00	Credit Card Fees	\$ 1,029.00
Postage	207.00	Postage	\$ 2,396.00
Printing	1655.00	Printing	\$ 12,556.00
Prof Membership	0.00	Prof Membership	\$ 1,000.00
Prof Svcs/Artists Fees	0.00	Prof Svcs/Artist Fees	\$ 5,277.00
Prof Svcs/Evaluators	1505.00	Prof Svcs/Evaluators	\$ 1,215.00
Prof Svcs/Interpreting	0.00	Prof Svcs/Interpreting	\$ 704.00
Prof Svcs/Labor	1650.00	Prof Svcs/Labor	\$ 5,153.00
Refunds	0.00	Refunds	\$ -
Supplies	429.00	Supplies	\$ 3,070.00
Transfers	184.00	Transfers	\$ 3,290.00
Travel	2528.00	Travel	\$ 24,649.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>8308.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 61,234.00</b>
Note**: from 11/25/98 - 3/31/99			



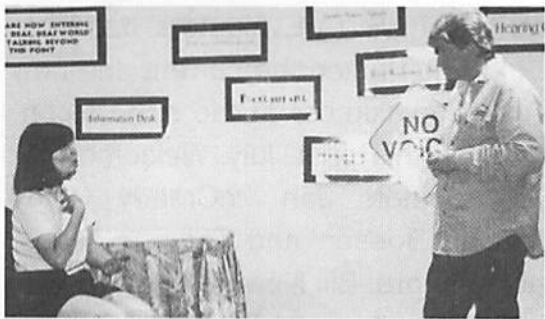
# Conference in Norfolk ↗ 2000

## The Conference Cindy Campbell

ASLTA members gathered once again at the NAD/ASLTA conference at Sheraton Hotel in Norfolk, VA. ASLTA conference was sponsored by a few corporations: Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, MSM Productions, LTD., Conference of Interpreters Trainers and Dawn Sign Press. Many workshops were offered during the conference. Presidents from the chapters had their luncheon at Sheraton Hotel. Libby Pollard, NAD president and Ben Hall, RID president were invited to give a short presentation.

ASLTA members received a nice "ASL" pin. At the end of week, ASLTA Awards Reception was held in Marriott Ballroom. It was a great turn out. Many thanks went to people who volunteered to make this conference running smoothly.

Next ASLTA conference will be announced some-  
times this  
year.



Barbara Ray-Holcomb asked a participant a question during the workshop.

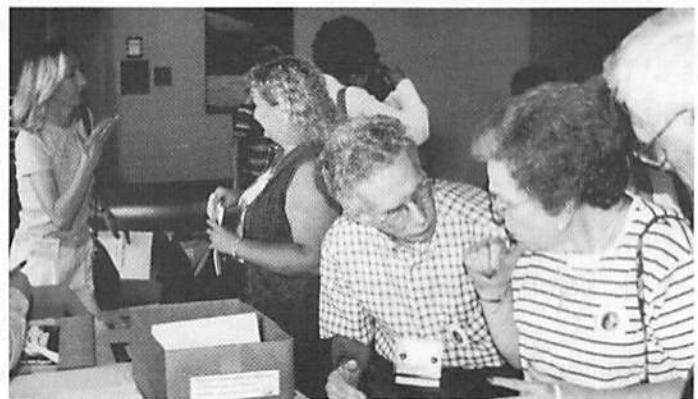
**More Conference snapshots  
...see page 23.**



Leslie as the presenter discussed with the participants.



ASLTA members enjoyed their lunch.



During a break, ASLTA members mingled.

## **Farewell**

**by William J. Newell, Ph.D.**

Outgoing Chairperson of the ASLTA Evaluation System

This is my final report to the membership as Chairperson of the ASLTA Evaluation and Certification System. I have been chair for 10 years, since 1990. It has been my great pleasure to serve the organization in this capacity. Although I am saying "Farewell" as chairperson, I will be assuming my new duties as ASLTA Liaison. In this capacity, I will be assisting the ASLTA Board in responding to the numerous requests for information that the board receives and other duties as the President may assign me. I look forward to continuing to assist our organization in this capacity.

As you may already know, Keith M. Cagle of Gardner-Webb University, American Sign Language Department and former President and Vice President of ASLTA is taking over the responsibilities of chairperson of the ASLTA Evaluation System. I am thrilled that Keith has accepted this responsibility and I know the Evaluation & Certification system is in very capable hands with Keith. Big Hand Waves for Keith as he assumes these duties. I know all of the membership will support him in this important responsibility.

Status of Certified Members of ASLTA as of July 18, 2000

Actively Certified at all levels: 193  
Active Provisional Certificates: 122  
Expired Provisional Certificates: 34

Active Qualified Certificates: 25  
Expired Qualified Certificates: 2

Active Professional Certificates: 44  
Expired Professional Certificates: 16

Persons holding Expired certificates at all levels have been contacted and requested to extend or renew their certifications. Provisional and Qualified certification is valid for 4 years. Under special circumstances it may be extended for an additional 2 years while you continue to work on Professional Development. Professional certification is valid for 8 years and may be renewed for an additional 8 years after meeting the Professional Development and Teaching Hours requirements. If you are not sure of your certification status, please contact me at [wjnncd@rit.edu](mailto:wjnncd@rit.edu) as soon as possible.

## **ASLTA Evaluation Report Keith Cagle**

As we know, Bill Newell has served as our Evaluation chairperson for TEN years. Our hats go to him for his outstanding service for our ASLTA certification and evaluation. I am enthusiastic to assume this position as Chair of ASLTA Evaluation. I have witnessed Bill Newell's hard work back in 1989 to revise the Evaluation system from one level to three levels. And I became involved in the Evaluation System Revision committee with Laura Thomas, Chuck Gramley and Bill Newell several years ago. I had been in a couple of ASLTA Evaluators' trainings. Bill Newell and I co-trained the current and new additional ASLTA evaluators at the ASLTA conference in Norfolk this past July. Welcome four new ASLTA evaluators: Jan McCready, Cindy Campbell, Susan Boesen and Thomas Riggs. Current evaluators are: Bill Newell, Leslie Greer, Lynn Jacobowitz, Laura Thomas, Chuck Gramley, Sandra Frankel, Ken Mikos, Barbara Ray-Holcomb, Barbara Stansbury and Ruth Sandefur.

ASLTA Evaluation for certification is one of very important functions of our professional organization and for many ASL teachers to earn to preserve quality of ASL instruction in universities, colleges, public schools and many other programs' ASL classes.

It is important for all of us, the ASL teachers, to strive for higher level of ASLTA certification of teaching ASL. The more for us have the ASLTA certification, the more the administrators and governments will recognize ASLTA certification as a requirement. Several administrators and governments have shown their reluctance to do so due to a small number of certified ASL teachers nationwide. We MUST strive to encourage ourselves and other ASL teachers to get certification for numerous reasons.

For more information about ASLTA Evaluation system, please go and see our website of <http://www.aslta.org>

### **Leslie Greer, President..Cont'd**

#### **Ohio DEAFestival**

Laura Thomas and I went to Columbus, Ohio for the Ohio DEAFestival. We had the ASLTA Booth with the local chapter, Buckeye Chapter of ASLTA. Karen Nunley who is treasurer of the local chapter joined us at the booth. I met many people. I am glad that Sam Holcomb brought his concern that ASLTA needs to spread visibility by attending any Deaf events such as DEAFestival, Deaf Expo, and others. I was invited to join the National Black Deaf Association Board Meeting last month. I explained them that ASLTA needs NBDA because we need more diverse members. I also mentioned that we, ASLTA and

NBDA, can work to recruit people to join the organizations.

#### **Conferences**

I will attend the ASL Way Conference in March at Monterey Bay, California and give two presentations. Laura J. Thomas and I will attend The Deaf Studies VII at Florida in April. We will have the ASLTA Forum on Friday. I hope that you will attend those conferences.

#### **ASLTA needs you!**

The organization of ASLTA and its members are far from perfect. Some members would rather spend all their time criticizing the ASLTA activities taking place. While their criticism may be quite valid, still we must be realists. The Board, staff and I are volunteering for this organization. We are giving our free time to spend on ASLTA. Ours is a world of opportunity; the doors are not shut. We can look forward and move forward towards exciting new opportunities in the new millennium. Now is honor the past of our organization by serving each other and our profession by working within ASLTA, sacrificing and promoting. I want to emphasize to you that ASLTA is much like an extended family. This organization is beneficial to support our profession, and ourment. I want to emphasize to you that ASLTA is much like an extended family. This organization is beneficial to support our profession, and nourishing an unwavering commitment careers. It encourages us to get together by improving the profession and ourselves through support, networking and sharing.

## **National Council on Interpreting by Clay Nettles, RID Executive Director**

The NAD-RID Task Force on Interpreting, which has assumed the new name of the National Council on Interpreting, met August 4-5 in Houston, Texas. The most salient issue for the meeting was the work begun years ago on developing a new joint certification test, work that had been slowed by the lack of adequate amounts of funding. With the sizable grant awarded by the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, the work on the new test is now able to proceed at full speed.

Accordingly, the Council, meeting at the site of and present at several events of the conference of National Deaf Black Advocates (NBDA), turned its attention to numerous details which were necessary to get the work moving.

This included, but was not limited to the following:

- \* reviewing and recommending the NAD and RID Boards approval of the contract with the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing (ACDHH);
- \* reviewing, revising and recommending approval as noted above on a contract with the Research and Training Center of the University of Arkansas for test development assistance;
- \* development of job descriptions and advertisements for other staff needed to conduct this effort as well as consultation with staff already hired;
- \* progress reports for ACDHH, the Council, the Boards of Directors and for members of NAD and RID;

- \* development of organizational chart
- \* development of communication chart
- \* work plan development
- \* fact sheet development
- \* involvement of other groups in this effort and further fundraising work
- \* work plan
- \* content experts

Much was accomplished during the meeting. Far more will be happening in upcoming months. With funding in place, staff development, and adequate resources, both organizations and the Council anticipate regular articles.

Present from the NAD at the meeting were Judith Gilliam, Nancy J. Bloch, who played an important role in the grant, and Libby Pollard. Present from RID were Janet Bailey, Gary Sanderson, Daniel Burch, Leandra Williams and Clay Nettles. Those not able to be at the meeting were Pam Lloyd, Ben Soukup, William Newell and Ben Hall. Special guests included Richard Laurion, Vice-President of RID; Douglas Watson of the University of Arkansas; David Meyers, Executive Director of the Texas Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Sherri Collins, Executive Director of the Arizona Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, who was recognized by the Council for her tremendous contribution in securing the grant; Jackie Roth, Project Director; Dr. Steve Boone of the University of Arkansas; Kent Kennedy, Vice-President of the NAD; Laurie Nielsen, Project Specialist Consultant from RID; and Don England, President of Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf.



# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASLTA CONFERENCE

## "ASL WAY"

March 28, 29, 30, 31, 2001

California State University, Monterey  
 Conference Center - Seaside, Califor  
 and  
 Western Best/Monterey Beach Hotel  
 Monterey, California



### CONFERENCE FEE includes four days of workshops and evening activities

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Making ASLTA chapters stronger, enjoyable, and rewarding Teambuilding activities Lunch included At the Monterey Beach Hotel	<b>THURSDAY</b> Information/reports on course standardization project (from the ASL Instructor Week team) American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language (ACTFL) 5 C's information/training for all participant
<b>FRIDAY</b> Regular workshops and presentations Time management and lesson planning	<b>SATURDAY</b> Regular workshops and presentations Applications of the 5 C's and activities Demonstration of communication activities

### EVENING ACTIVITIES

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <u>NorCal ASLTA "Luau Night"</u> Buffet dinner, icebreakers and entertainment Art showings for the silent auction Bonfire on beach(weather permitting) At the Monterey Beach Hotel	<b>THURSDAY</b> <u>"Evening at Monterey Aquarium"</u> Private strolling buffet Free viewing of sea life Closed to public In Monterey
<b>FRIDAY</b> <u>"Paint the town your own color"</u> Explore the local restaurants and sights On your own/at your expense	<b>SATURDAY</b> <u>"Deaf Highbrows Night" : A formal affair</u> Buffet dinner Entertainment and Deaf Art auction At the Monterey Beach Hotel

Not included in the registration  
 Breakfasts and lunches --  
 Sunday Whale Watching boat rides

(we are now looking for sponsorships to help pay for free meals)  
 Sunday Bayonet/Black Horse Golf Benefit Tournament

**EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!**  
 Limited edition!!!

**FREE** to the first 100 individual registrants only!  
 100 Conference t-shirts (design of ASLTA / Monterey / otters)

**SUPER EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION** postmarked by October 14 = \$250  
**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION** postmarked by January 14= \$300  
**REGULAR REGISTRATION** postmarked by March 1 = \$350  
**DEAF STANDARD TIME REGISTRATION** After March 1 (space permitting) = \$400

National Distance Learning Project  
Distance Opportunities for Interpreter Training Center  
FRCC @ Lowry  
Co-Sponsorship for Technology Training Announcement

Technology is rapidly becoming a viable medium for the delivery of interpreter education and a host of other functions. The Distance Opportunities for Interpreter Training Center (DO IT Center) is committed to promoting greater opportunities for interpreter educators to learn about technology. To this end, we are offering funding assistance for interpreter educators for the purpose of delivering interpreter education using distance technology. These technologies could include video, audio, print and computer-based media.

Funds will be made available to individuals currently engaged in interpreter education, either with an ITP or an in-service training provider. The DO IT Center can provide up to \$750, in financial assistance to three applicants per year. Each applicant will be required to submit a written report of their training experience for publication in the DO IT Center *Communicator* or on the Center's website within thirty (30) days of participating in the training. Additionally all recipients will be required to sign an agreement stating the understanding that funds will have to be repaid if the written report is not provided in the specific timeframe. Applications **must** be submitted no less than 60 days in advance of the training registration deadline for which funds are being requested.

Early applications are encouraged. Questions regarding the co-sponsorship funding application process should be directed to:

**Distance Opportunities for Interpreter Training Center  
FRCC @ Lowry Campus**

Anna Witter-Merithew, Assistant Director

945 Xanthia St

Denver, CO 80230

(303) 365-7683 TTY/V

(303) 365-7677 Fax

1-866-885-6087 Toll Free TTY/V

Anna.Witter-Merithew@wc.frcc.cccoes.edu

**Application Instructions:**

Contact the DO IT Center for an application packet.

Fill out the application form completely. Incomplete applications **will not** be considered.

Submit your completed application packet.

**Selection will be based on:**

Statement of need/benefits	(20 points)
Evidence of partial support from other source(s)	(20 points)
Quality of narrative responses and attachments	(30 points)
Quality of letters of recommendations	(30 points)
Total amount of points:	100 points

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Laura Thomas held The ASLTA chapter meeting with chapter presidents and vice-presidents.

## More ASLTA Conference Snapshots



The participants enjoyed discussing.



What a GREAT turnout!

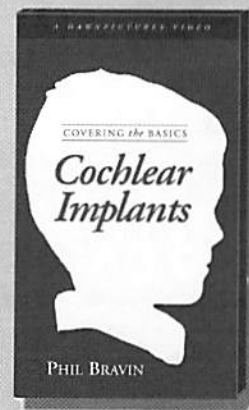
# Cochlear Implants

## Covering the Basics

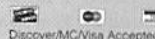
### DEAF Parents, It's Up to You!

For most Deaf parents with Deaf children the issue of cochlear implants is simple. There is no need for them. For hearing parents the issue is more complex. There is a good chance they have never met a Deaf adult and don't realize the potential for their child to grow up happy, healthy, and Deaf.

Now it is your turn, as Deaf parents or Deaf adults, to reach out to the hearing parents you meet at schools or in the community. Tell them about this video, sit down and watch it with them, help answer their questions. As a role model, you may be a child's best hope of growing up happy, healthy, and Deaf.



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Come and chat with other members  
in the ASLTA Room at [www.deafchat.com](http://www.deafchat.com)!

Volano 12c

## Multicultural Children in the Classroom—Are You Prepared?



### Deaf Plus: A Multicultural Perspective

A collection of essays that offers current information and progressive reforms to help successfully educate Deaf children from diverse backgrounds. The latest recommendations and ideas for teacher preparation in a multicultural classroom make *Deaf Plus* an indispensable resource for teachers of the deaf. It is also an essential secondary text for students of Deaf Education and Deaf Studies programs. Edited by Kathee Christensen.

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