

# ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Newsletter

Volume 6 Number 3

Fall 2001

## President's Report

by  
Leslie Greer

Before delivering my president report in this newsletter, I think it is appropriate that we, ASLTA members, take a moment of reflection and prayer for the victims, their families and their friends during the unspeakable tragedy. In one of his few speeches, President Bush said that we needed to move on with our lives. I concur with his statement that we need to move on and make the best out of our lives.

Last August, I attended to Register Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) conference in Orlando, Florida. During the meeting, the eight-fold RID rationale was presented on the floor. This is regarding the degree requirement before receiving RID certification. A following section was discussed:

*The degree requirement would be any more hardship for our members who are deaf. The American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) now requires a degree for individuals to be certified to teach American Sign Language.*

As my role, I informed that this section was error. By clarifying, I explained that each candidate has two options to meet the criteria before being certified: 1) have a bachelor's degree or 2) fifteen years of teaching. I am glad that I had the opportunity to share the criteria of ASLTA certification with the RID members. This rationale is referred to National Council of Interpreter (NCI). This will be pursued with my future involvement to explore the establishment of degree requirement and accreditation of the program for the interpreters.

Last October, Missouri Statewide Conference was held in Missouri. About five hundred people attended to this conference. The ASLTA board members were invited to attend. Tom Riggs and I gave a presentation, ASL Grammar. The board members continued their work from last February retreat and will complete the tasks hopefully before the next NAD conference in July. I want to thank Laura Thomas, Bill Newell, Libby Pollard and Nancy Bloch for their energy and effort to complete the revision of the new ASLTA by-laws.

Continued to page 2.

I am pleased to announce that ASLTA and CIT are making a productive progress. For more information, see Carole's article on this exciting prospect. Please give your support on this venture.

Go and be with your family and friends and enjoy the holidays.

Happy Holidays!  
Leslie Greer  
ASLTA President

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## Editor's Letter



### Election

This year we are expecting some new changes within the organization of ASLTA.. Now it is the time for election. Laura Thomas created the nomination form. A green paper is inserted in the middle of the newsletter.

Election is an important event for every member. Because each vote is counted, the members show their faith in certain elected people who are able to run the organization in a good standing. Thus, please read the nomination form and follow the procedure of nomination. When you are finished, mail it to Laura Thomas.



### Logo

This is another exciting change. The ASLTA board members would like to change the logo of ASLTA. Thomas Riggs, Vice President, is taking in charge of the logo contest. His flyer is in this newsletter. For people who are into the artwork, we would be delighted to have your work to be a part of this contest. Any questions, please contact Thomas Riggs.



## ASLTA By-Laws

There is another change. The members receive their newly revised ASLTA by-laws shortly. Please review and write your comments to Laura Thomas. Your support is greatly appreciated.



## NAD/ASLTA Conference

There will be NAD/ASLTA conference held in Washington DC during the summer. Please check the website for further information. More information, see Thomas Riggs' article. You will receive conference call paper in the mail shortly. Reserve your dates for this special event.



## New Changes

There will be some new changes within the organization. Nomination, election, logo, ASLTA by-laws are the instances of ASLTA's commitment to move on into a new direction -- become an independent organization-- in which we need your full support to make this happen.

Share your holiday spirits with your family and friends. My thoughts are with you all.

Cindy Campbell

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## **Raising the Bar.. many solutions at hand**

written by  
Carole Lazorisak  
CIT-ASLTA Task Force

Our first full meeting session took place in Denver on October 4 – 7, 2001 (Betty Colonomos, Carole Lazorisak, Rachel Naiman, Anna Witter-Merithew). After exploring several possible approaches to our work, we were able to identify a number of areas we could impact. We want to share these with the membership so that we may communicate our work in progress and welcome your ideas and suggestions.

We also realize you may want to know about us and what we bring to the work of this committee. As interpreter educators, we all recognize that an event or utterance may be perceived by its participants in various ways, depending on the context and experiences of each. In our own interactions, it was clear that we interpreted the motion differently and understood each other in different ways. We had to find out where everyone was "coming from" to see the message from another's perspective. Because this was so valuable to us as a team, we feel it is equally important that you know where we are coming from (and not coming from) in order to provide a context for our communications with you. As a group, we bring valuable resources to this Task Force.

There are one hundred years of teaching language and interpreting (averaging 25 years each) among us. We come from diverse communities ranging from Northeast to the South and to the Rockies. We work and have worked in academic institutions and in independent businesses on local, national and international levels. Our composition reflects the contributions we have made to our field such as strong organizational leadership, inno-

vative approaches to teaching, curriculum

development and implementation, distance education and technology, theoretical and pragmatic foundations, and affiliations with organizational and institutional assessment.

Our human resources are somewhat diverse too. The members are from several linguistic and cultural communities, but it is clear to us that we do not bring enough diverse backgrounds as we need. Accordingly, one of the goals of this committee is to allocate energy and resources to enhance our understanding of our work as educators in all our "worlds". We will be discussing these efforts in more detail in our series of communications to you. However, if there are current members who want to contribute to this specific task and help expand the diversity of our committee.

We began our thinking outside the box to give us maximum creativity. What we ended with was a wide range of ideas that we tried to organize in some logical fashion for you to examine. Our first draft of is a compilation of our efforts thus far, some of which may be assumed by existing or future committees or to the boards of both associations for further consideration. We recognize that committee work usually is presented in a public forum as a complete or final product. This Task Force wants the membership to have access to our thinking and process as we move forward. This is where we are at this point:

We are now at a point where we can all participate in this opportunity and potential for growth that will stimulate the elevation of our fields. Our organizations' members and committees can bring fresh eyes and minds to this endeavor so that CIT/ASLTA will turn these possibilities into reality.

If you would like to be a part of this, please contact us at: [cit-asltataskforce@yahoo.com](mailto:cit-asltataskforce@yahoo.com)

# ❖ Logo Contest ❖

## \$500 Cash Prize!

The current logo is great but it has caused lot of printing problems. The board has decided that it is time to change the logo. ASLTA would like to invite you to participate in this contest. For those with an artistic interest will be a competition for the best logo to be used for ASLTA by the time we have 2002 NAD/ASLTA Conference in Washington DC. The winner will receive \$500 cash prize and the name will be recognized in the newsletter and web page as well as in NAD/ASLTA Conference.

To enter, competitors must submit the following:

- ❖ A printout of the logo (computer generated logo is allowed) or
- ❖ Camera ready layout of logo
- ❖ Attached to the printout or layout should be the designer's name, address, phone number and email address
- ❖ Competitors must also supply a letter to release the permission to use the logo.

Fax your entries to Tom Riggs at 480-752-2311, attach your artwork via email at [Thomas.riggs@asu.edu](mailto:Thomas.riggs@asu.edu) or mail it to me, Thomas Riggs, ASLTA Logo Contest, Arizona State University, Box 870102, Tempe, AZ 85287. Send in your entries by February 1, 2002 (postmarked if mailed). There is no entry fee for the logo competition. If you have any question, please contact me at [vicepresident@aslta.org](mailto:vicepresident@aslta.org).

# ❖ Logo Contest ❖

## \$500 Cash Prize!



## American Sign Language Teachers Association

### Board Positions for 2002-2004 Call for Nominations

- 1) President (FOUR year commitment 2002-2006). The candidate MUST have Professional Level ASLTA certification.

**For President, I nominate:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Email Address)

- 2) Secretary-Treasurer (FOUR year commitment 2002-2006). The candidate MUST have Professional Level ASLTA certification.

**For Secretary-Treasurer, I nominate:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Email Address)

**\*To check the members who hold professional certificate, go to the website [www.ASLTA.org](http://www.ASLTA.org).  
—SIGN this form, with your EMAIL address, and MAIL/FAX by 5 pm, December 15, 2001, to:**

**Nomination Procedure**

- ❖ Be sure you have the person's approval before submitting nominations for the two positions of: President and Secretary-Treasurer. Refer to the attached list of Professional Level ASLTA certified members.
- ❖ Nominators **MUST** be ASLTA members.
- ❖ The ASLTA Nominations Committee will contact nominees for the two positions for brief biographical information.
- ❖ ASLTA members will vote for the two positions via mail ballot. According to ASLTA's current bylaws, election will take place by mail ballot to be sent out within sixty (60) days prior to the start of the regular biennial meeting. All voting members in good standing will be provided with one (1) mail ballot.
- ❖ Return of the ballots will be accepted up to thirty (30) days prior to the start of the biennial meeting. Results of the election will be announced at the biennial meeting during the July 2002 NAD/ASLTA conference.

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Nominations Committee  
c/o Laura J. Thomas  
485 – 42nd Avenue, Suite 4  
E. Moline, IL 61244-4040  
309-755-0025 FAX

**Name****State**

Torrie Armour	NY
Brenda Aron	WA
Glenn Ashton	FL
Alan Atwood	OH
Mary Bacheller	NY
Patricia Beech	VA
Nancy Becker	MA
MJ Bienvenu	MD
Sue Boesen	TX
Keith Cagle	NC
Cindy Campbell	NY
Catherine Clough	VA
Judie Cronlund	Az
Bryan Eldredge	UT
Lorraine Flores	CA
Sandra Frankel	MD
Leslie Greer	NY
Chuck Gromly	OH
Donna Gustina	NY
Harry Hoeman	OH
Samuel Holcomb	NY
George Johnson	NJ
William Kemp	VA
Carole Lazorisak	NY
Dominique Lepoutre	NY
Diane Lyles	ND
Geoffrey Mathay	WA
JaNahne McCready- Johnson	MN
Ken Mikos	CA
Christine Monikowski	NY
Alec Naiman	NY
Rachel Naiman	CO
William Newell	NY
Timothy Owens	KY
Jean Parmir	OH
Geoff Poor	NY
Anne Potter	VT
Colleen Pouliot	NY
June Reeves	NY
Thomas Riggs	AZ
Ruth Sandefur	NC
Rita Slater	FL
Barbara Stansbury	VA
Laura Thomas	IL
Dorothy Wilkins	NY

# American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) 2002-2004

## Call for ASLTA Awards Nominations

### ❖ T. J. O'Rourke Memorial Award

An ASLTA member who has contributed tremendously to the field of ASL teacher training.

2000 – Dr. Rachel Stone    1998 – Keith Cagle    1996 – MJ Bienvenu

For this award, I nominate:

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(Full Name)

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(Email Address)

### ❖ Stephen M. Ryan Teacher of the Year Award

A person who has contributed immensely to the culture or humorous aspects of ASL instruction. He/She may or may not be ASLTA-certified.

2000 - E.L. Jacobowitz    1998 - Dr. Ben Bahan    1996 - Alan Barwiolek

For this award, I nominate:

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(Full Name)

---

(Email Address)

### ❖ George Veditz Award

An ASLTA member who has contributed tremendously to the field of ASL teaching.

2000 – Dr. William Newell    1998 – Marie Jean Philip    1996 – Dr. William Newell

For this award, I nominate:

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(Full Name)

---

(Email Address)



**Awards Nomination Procedure**

- ❖ Nominators **MUST** be ASLTA members.
- ❖ The Nominations Committee will compile all nominations for the three awards. Award recipients for 2002 - 2004 will be announced during the 2002 NAD/ASLTA conference.

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN this form, with your EMAIL address, and MAIL/FAX by 5pm, December 15, 2001, to Laura Thomas.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominations Committee  
c/o Laura J. Thomas  
485 – 42nd Avenue, Suite 4  
E. Moline, IL 61244-4040  
309-755-0025 FAX

# **ASLTA Events at the 2002 Biennial NAD/ASLTA Conference**

**By Tom Riggs  
ASLTA Vice President and Conference  
Committee chair**

At the 2002 Biennial NAD Conference on July 3-8, 2002, we all need to unite together and support the Conference theme, "Hand in Hand, We make a Difference!"

The American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) will definitely make a difference at the Conference by moving along with our professional development, evaluating for ASLTA certifications, and sharing our expertise with other ASL teachers!

The NAD has organized six tracks or themes for all workshops at the Conference. The ASLTA will focus mostly on two of the six tracks: "Language/Interpretation" and "Culture/Diversity." The ASLTA will offer two concurrent workshops and the Professional Certification evaluation throughout the week.

During the Conference, the ASLTA will also have a Chapter President's luncheon, ASLTA Awards Reception, and ASLTA General meeting. The Chapter President's luncheon will take place on Saturday July 6 and the Business Meeting: motion presentation will take place on Thursday July 4, and Business Meeting: Voting session on Saturday July 6 and Awards Reception on Sunday July 7.

Please be sure to check the NAD Conference website (<http://nad.org/conf/>) or the link on the ASLTA Home Page (<http://www.aslta.org>) for updated NAD Conference and ASLTA event information.

The "Call for Workshops" information is on the NAD Conference website (<http://nad.org/conf/nutsbolts/callWorkshops.html>). This information will be posted on the ASLTA website soon. At the NAD Conference website link provided, you can download the workshop proposal form then mail, FAX, or email the form to the NAD/ASLTA Headquarters. The ASLTA Committee will screen ASLTA workshop proposals. The ASLTA and NAD workshop selections, workshop titles, and descriptions will be announced in late February or early March 2002.

We on the ASLTA Board encourage you to start thinking about pursuing professional certification now. For information about certification procedures, go to the ASLTA website: <http://www.aslta.org> or contact the ASLTA Evaluation chair, Keith Cagle at [evaluation@aslta.org](mailto:evaluation@aslta.org).

If you have any questions about ASLTA workshops or ASLTA events at the 2002 Biennial NAD Conference, contact me at [vicepresident@aslta.org](mailto:vicepresident@aslta.org). We are looking forward to working "Hand in Hand" with you and we will make a big difference!

# ◆ASLTA FUNDRAISING!◆

**Demand from ASLTA/NAD Conference 2000  
Attendees! They saw the ASLTA Board members  
wearing them.**

**Lovely Denim Shirt embroidered  
American SignLanguageTeachers Association**

**\$27.00 + 3.00 shipping charge = \$30.00**

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## ORDER BLANK

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Print please

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SIZE: circle S M L XL

QUANTITY: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = total\$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Check payable to: ASLTA  
Send to: Jan McCready-Johnson  
ASLTA Treasurer  
12115 Dogwood St. NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Delivery expected 4 to 6 weeks

# Evaluation Chair's Report

by  
Keith Cagle

Our ASLTA Certification and Evaluation office has been receiving many applications for ASLTA evaluations to gain an ASLTA certification. We are very pleased with the volume. From Sept 2000 to Oct. 15, 2001, we have 40 newcertified ASL teachers. They are as follows:

2 Renewal Professional, 2 Professional,  
12 Qualified and 24 Provisional

As of now, we have 196 certified ASL teachers in good standing. Unfortunately we have 64 ASL teachers whose certifications have expired or not extended. If they are in good standing, we would have 260 certified ASL teachers. Please contact me in regard to extend your expired certification. The extension fee is \$75.00.

We will have interviews during the NAD-ASLTA convention on July 2-8, 2002 in Washington DC for candidates who want to earn Professional-level certification. Nancy Bloch and Anita Farb both of NAD and I have worked together to reserve 24 interview blocks. If you believe you will be ready for Professional-level interview, please contact me at [kmcagle@yahoo.com](mailto:kmcagle@yahoo.com).

Our evaluation fees haven't been increased since 1990. The revenues from the evaluation fees have been below the budget line we paid the expenses for the evaluators, assistants and it's operation. It becomes very necessary

2000

to increase the evaluation fees. On Oct. 20th, the ASLTA board has passed the motion to increase evaluation fees for Screening, Provisional, Qualified and re-evaluation, effectively on July 15, 2002 as follows:

Screening:	\$25.00	(up from \$10)
Provisional:	\$125.00	(up from \$75)
Qualified:	\$125.00	(up from \$75)
Re-evaluation:	\$75.00	(up from \$50)
Professional:	\$250.00	(up from \$150)
Renewal:	\$125.00	(up from \$75)
Extension fee	\$100.00	(up from \$75)

When you send me by an e-mail or letter / package, please follow this procedure:

1. Put your full name and your address in your e-mail and on the letter / package.
2. Write my name along with "ASLTA Evaluation" in the email title or on the letter / package.
3. Do not send me any attachment in the email.

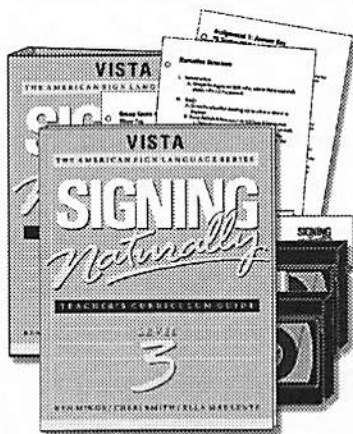
Importantly, put all items required for each level of evaluation into ONE PACKET, or you would risk more delay. When we received your package and found several missing items, we would put your package on a waiting list with other incompleated packages to be responded and followed up. If your package has everything readily, then we can work on it right away and mail it to the three evaluators quickly.

If you have any question, please check our ASLTA Website at <http://www.aslta.org> FIRST for information and answers to your questions. If you still do not get what you need from our ASLTA website, then contact me at [kmcagle@yahoo.com](mailto:kmcagle@yahoo.com).

ASLTA  
814 Thayer Ave  
Silver Springs, MD  
20910-4500

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*Level 3* materials expand on the successful techniques of the *Signing Naturally* series. Through years of practical experience and testing in the classroom, master teachers Ken Mikos, Cheri Smith, and Ella Mae Lentz have developed the ultimate result for the student... "Signing Naturally."

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