

ASLTA

American Sign Language Teachers Association

Newsletter

Volume 7 Number 1

Spring 2002

President's Notes **Leslie C. Greer**

The spring season is finally here!! We, ASL and Deaf Studies teachers, will be cleaning up our curriculum and lesson plans before the end of the school year and before summer vacation begins. I strongly encourage you to attend the NAD conference, the first week of July 2002 and the Deaf Way, the second week of July 2002 in Washington D.C. If you need information about these conferences, please check our website.

I want to send heartfelt thanks to Alan Thomas, our former and first Webmaster. He set up and organized our website wonderfully!! He was Webmaster for 3 and 1/2 years. He resigned in January 2002 because this spring semester at the Gallaudet University is his last school year and he will graduate this May. His replacement is Sam Holcomb from NTID. We thank Sam for volunteering for Webmaster as of January 2002. If your chapter needs to change its address or announce professional development workshops, or new job announcement, please contact Sam Holcomb. His email address is webmaster@aslt.org.

I want to thank all of you for your feedback on our new bylaws. The bylaws committee carefully considered all the feedback received and made appropriate changes to the By Laws. Laura Thomas will soon be sending your ballots to accept or reject our new bylaws and mission statement. If the vote passes, the new bylaws will become effective this July 15th.

The ASLTA board members and I have been working very hard on the ASLTA Board Manual. The ASLTA Board Manual contains all procedural guidelines for the ASLTA Board and committees to follow. This Board Manual is essential as we move toward becoming an independent organization. The last board meeting was held in Austin, Texas on April 12 and 13, 2002. We focused on the Board Manual. The CIT Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN in October 9-12, 2002. If you need information, their address is www.cit-asl.org.

I am pleased to announce that the 2nd ASLTA Professional Development Conference will take place in Indianapolis, Indiana in April 2003. You will receive more information later or you can check our website.

Finally I really want to thank Cindy Campbell for volunteering as our ASLTA Newsletter editor for the past 2 years. She has done a wonderful job and her hard work is greatly appreciated!

See you in July at the conferences in Washington D.C.!

Warm Regards,
Leslie C. Greer



This will be my last newsletter. I had two wonderful years doing this as a community service to ASLTA. It is time for me to explore into other area to pursue a different activity of community service.

In this newsletter, you will see a few big events in 2003. Your participation will make a difference in those events.

The best part about your rights in U.S. is your right to vote. In ASLTA, we will have two positions, President and Secretary/Treasurer. It is time to exercise your voting right. Send your postcard with your vote.

You received a letter regarding the revision of constitution. Please take some time and review the constitution/bylaws. Please send your postcard to support the revision. ASLTA needs a 2/3 quorum of voting before considering as an approval of revision of the ASLTA constitution/bylaws.

By the way, enjoy your summer!!!!

See you there at the NAD/ASLTA conference.

Cindy



Happy July 4th Independence Day



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Zooming Towards Indianapolis: ASLTA Second National Professional Development Conference in the Works

The Second National Professional Development Conference of the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) will be held Thursday, April 10 through Sunday, April 13, 2003, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the Marriott. This conference will follow the same basic plan at the first NPD Conference, held in Rochester, New York, in October 1999. There will be plenary sessions, workshops, instructive presentations, and ASLTA business. There will be some fun activities, and a few surprises.

As the title indicates, the emphasis is on professional development: workshops, presentations, and skill-polishing. Teachers and students can earn credits towards their ASLTA certification by participating in these events. There will be opportunities for networking and late-into-the night discussions. Sales/exhibit booths will give attendees a chance to see what's new. They can browse through and bring back a variety of ASL-teaching and auxiliary materials: books, videos, software, and CDs.

Presentations will cover various aspects of ASL linguistics, teaching, curricula, and research. ASLTA is issuing a "Call for Presenters."

Following the success of the first Silent Auction Gala at the first NPD Conference, a second Silent Auction Gala fundraiser, featuring original artworks by Deaf artists, has been scheduled for Friday night, April 11. Proceeds will benefit ASLTA and the participating artists. This event will be open to the public.

The Marriott Indianapolis Downtown is located the heart of downtown Indianapolis, connected to the newly expanded Indiana Convention Center and the RCA Dome. It is only 10 minutes from the Indianapolis International Airport and within walking distance to more than 100 restaurants and nightclubs, close to downtown attractions such as the Indianapolis Zoo, IMAX 3-D theater, Children's Museum, and the Indiana Repertory Theatre.

It features 615 deluxe guest rooms, 28 suites, including 2 Presidential Suites, 18th- and 19th-floor concierge levels with private concierge lounge, an indoor pool, whirlpool and health club, a full-service restaurant, Champion's Sports Bar, and a Starbucks. 200 rooms have been reserved for ASLTA. These are available on a first-come, first-served basis (up to four attendees can share a room.)

Watch for additional information on the ASLTA.com Website. The NPD-2 Conference homepage is at <http://www.aslta.com/conf>. As before, teachers, students, and ASL supporters can register online. The ASLTA.com Website is for conference-related information only, and will contain full preregistration details.

Sponsorship, advertising, and on-site sales opportunities (exhibitors' booths) are available. Contact Matthew Moore, Conference Coordinator, 1095 Meigs Street, Rochester, NY 14620-2405.

Background: ASLTA is the national membership and certifying body of and for teachers of ASL. ASLTA seeks to improve the standards of teaching ASL, to ensure that ASL teachers have the highest possible qualifications, to promote recognition of ASL as a language, and to function as a positive force in our community by encouraging greater Deaf awareness and appreciation of the beauty and power of ASL.

Matthew S. Moore
Conference Coordinator

❖ Logo Contest ❖

\$500 Cash Prize!

ASLTA Board has approved to extend the deadline to submit the logo contest. The new deadline date is June 20 2002. ASLTA Logo Contest committee and ASLTA board have seen several logos that were submitted by some of you. Although all of the logo looked great, some were submitted in one color, we would like to see them in two colors or maybe in a patriotic tri-color – Red, white and blue. 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 print out of the logo (computer generated logo is allowed)or**
- ▶▶ **Camera ready layout of logo**
- ▶▶ **Logo should be up to 7 inches in width and at least 2 inch in height.**
- ▶▶ **Logos should be in one color, two colors or a patriotic tri-colors (red, white and blue), submit several samples if you wish**
- ▶▶ **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.**

Submit your entries to Thomas Riggs, ASLTA Logo Contest, Arizona State University, Box 870102, Tempe, AZ 85287. Send in your entries by June 20, 2002. There is no entry fee for the logo competition. If you have any question, please contact Thomas Riggs at vicepresident@aslt.org.

ASLTA Certification and Evaluation Chair's Report

From September 2000 to January 2002, we granted 46 new ASLTA certifications: 3 Renewal of Professionals, 2 Professionals, 15 Qualified and 26 Provisional. Our ASLTA evaluation office continues to be quite busy with many applications. Now our office has at least 120 active candidates who want to achieve Provisional and Qualified certifications. To our great surprise, we have at least 18 candidates who want to take the Professional-level interview during the NAD/ASLTA conference in July, 2002 in Washington D.C. We will have only 20 opening slots for Professional-level interviews. For those candidates are on a waiting list, we will honor the same evaluation fees for those candidates for their professional-level interviews. We plan to have another professional-level interviews a tour 2nd ASLTA Professional Development conference in 2003 in Indianapolis.

At our recent ASLTA board meeting in Washington D.C., we approved several important things as follows:

1. Remove a requirement of 90 hours of teaching experience from Provisional-level evaluation. Put it back to Qualified-level evaluation to make it at 240 hours of teaching experience.
2. Appoint and train three new ASLTA evaluators during the coming NAD/ASLTA conference.
3. Complete a new ASLTA Evaluation policy
4. "ASLTA Certification Agreement" form will be mailed to all ASLTA certified teachers in good standing for them to give ASLTA their consent to publish their ASLTA certifications in our ASLTA newsletter, website and directory.
5. New CHECKLIST sheet will be attached to each evaluation packet to assist a candidate to complete the package 100% before mailing them to me.
6. Two letters of recommendations MUST BE MAILED WITH the Provisional-level evaluation

materials. The person who write the letter of recommendation must sign his/her name across the seal line of envelope.

7. A subcharge of \$15.00 will be added to the Provisional-level evaluation fee if the candidate does not send THREE videotape dubs and FOUR COPIES of paperworks. And a subcharge of \$10.00 to the Qualified-level, Professional-level and Renewal-level evaluation fees if the candidate does not send FOUR COPIES of paperworks.

The real purpose of those changes and additions is to streamline and speed up the evaluation process.

For each evaluation packet, please write your e-mail address VERY CLEARLY on the form. Several times we couldn't read the candidate's email address very clearly or got the message that our emails couldn't reach the candidate due to the e-mail address error. With that problem, we have to resort to "snail-mailing" system, thus delay the candidate's evaluation process.

Importantly, at anytime when you are sending an e-mail message to me, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR LAST NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS in your email message. It will speed up the response. Our assistants and I are continuing to improve speed of evaluation process.

One last important notice for the candidates who want to apply for professional certification for this summer, will receive a guarantee on the same evaluation fee of \$150.00 to be on a waiting list for Professional-level interviews. To be on the waiting list, the candidates must pay \$150.00 before July 15, 2002.

We look forward to meeting many of you at our next NAD/ASLTA conference.

Keith Cagle, Evaluation Chairperson

NAD/ASLTA Conference Schedule

ASLTA is pleased to announce that we will have up to 24 workshops (12 concurrent time slots). We have two business meetings (one is for motion presentation and another is for voting session) along with Chapters meeting, Chapters Luncheon and Awards Reception. Evaluations for certifications will occur during the week. We will have ASLTA Board Meeting (open to the public unless noted otherwise) on that week, we will confirm the schedule at a later date.

Wednesday, July 3

ASLTA Evaluation through out the day

Thursday, July 4

Workshops:

Session I 8 – 9:30 am (2 workshops)

Session II 10 – 11:30 am (2 workshops)

Business Meeting – Motion session – 1:30 – 4 pm

Friday, July 5

Workshops:

Session I 8 – 9:30 am (2 workshops)

Session II 10 – 11:30 am (2 workshops)

Session III 1:30 – 2:30 pm (2 workshops)

Session IV 3 – 4 pm (2 workshops)

ASLTA Chapter Luncheon (by invitation only) – 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Saturday, July 6

ASLTA Chapters Meeting (Chapter Presidents or Representatives only) 8 – 9:30 am

Workshops:

Session I 8 – 9:30 am (2 workshops)

Session II 10 – 11:30 am (2 workshops)

Session III 1:30 – 2:30 pm (2 workshops)

Session IV 3 – 4 pm (2 workshops)

Sunday, July 7

Workshops:

Session I 8 – 9:30 am (2 workshops)

Session II 10 – 11:30 am (2 workshops)

Business meeting – Voting Session: 1:30 – 4 pm

ASLTA Awards Luncheon (ASLTA only) – 4 – 6 pm

More detailed schedule with workshop topics can be found on <http://nad.org/conf/>

ASLTA Presenter's Bureau

Now this is a good time to make the updated presenter's bureau directory available for those who is interested in your workshops/training you have presented. And it is great opportunity for you to share your studies, work, and knowledge to other people. ASLTA Presenter's bureau is for ASLTA members (both certified and non certified) who give training, presentations, and /or workshops where the contents include (but not limited to):

- ✓ ASL/Deaf Studies
- ✓ ASL/Deaf Studies Pedagogy/Instructional Systems
- ✓ ASL/Deaf Studies Curriculum and Syllabus Development
- ✓ ASL/Deaf History, Culture and Community
- ✓ ASL/Deaf Studies Evaluation/assessments
- ✓ ASL Linguistics
- ✓ ASL/Deaf Studies materials and resources

If your application is approved, your name, address, email and phone numbers will be published in the directory. The directory will be distributed to ASLTA members and interested persons/programs at the 2002 NAD conference in Washington DC. NAD and ASLTA will not take responsibility presenter's or agency's arrangements. This directory will also be used as resource for ASL/Deaf Studies teachers, program coordinators, school/college/university administrators, state association, interpreting program, etc.

If you are interested in applying, please submit the form (below) to Thomas Riggs, ASLTA Presenters Bureau, ASU, Box 870102, Tempe, AZ 85287 or email, thomas.riggs@asu.edu
Deadline: June 20, 2002

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ TTY Voice (circle one)

Email: _____

Fax: _____

Are you a member of National ASLTA? Yes No
Do you have an ASLTA certification? Yes No
If yes, which level? Provisional Qualified Professional

*What topics are you giving for the workshop/training?

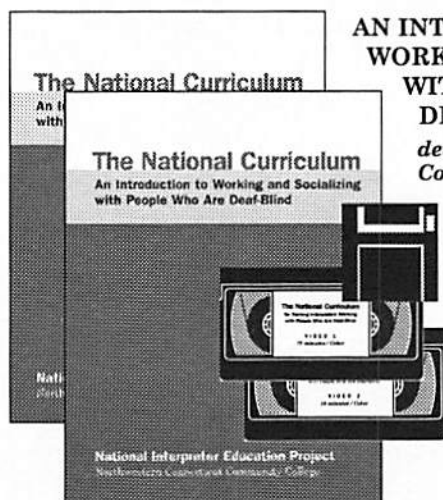
*Please attach an abstract/description for each topic.

- ▶ To be included in the abstract for each topic:
- ▶ Title of workshop/training
- ▶ Abstract/description of workshop/training (25-50 words)
- ▶ Target audience (ie. ASL teachers, students, researchers, etc)
- ▶ Length of workshop/training
- ▶ Media needs (ie Overhead projector, TV/VCR, etc)

ASLTA
814 Thayer Ave
Silver Springs, MD
20910-4500

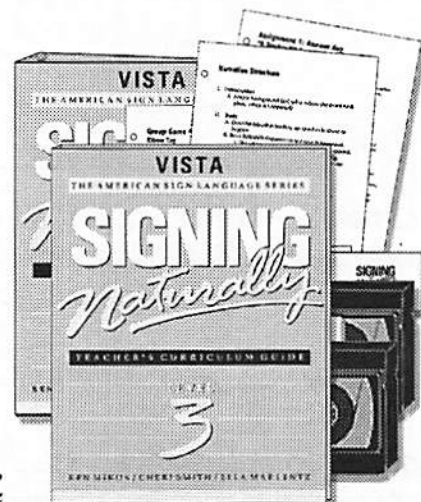
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