



Fall 2009

Presidential News

President
Aimee Stevens
president@nhrd.org

Vice President
Shannon Grundy
vicepresident@nhrd.org

Treasurer
Amy-Jean Leblanc
treasurer@nhrd.org

Secretary
Emily Graves
secretary@nhrd.org

Members at Large
Shawna Chrostowski
shawnamc77@gmail.com

Rosemary Hill
firefirtress28@yahoo.com

Dawn Welshman
harlarz@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors
Emily Graves
Dawn Welshman

NHRID Logo Designed by
Connie Clanton

NHRID
PO Box 5432
Manchester, NH 03108-5432
www.nhrd.org

October 2009

Hello New Hampshire,

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful autumn weather. NHRID has been busy this summer and fall. We had elections in June and we are gearing up for a full and fun-packed year. Thank you to our previous board members and newsletter gals for their service and congratulations to our new board members.

One of the things we will focus on this year is to set up a mentorship program. Over the years we have tried a few different approaches and none of them seemed to stick. Sigh. We are trying again! We have put together a good group of folks who are all passionate about mentorship to develop a program, and I am confident we will have a successful product at the end of the journey. If there are any other folks who are interested in joining this committee or don't have the time to join but have an idea, please contact me. The more the merrier!

As you may have heard, HB 441 (tuition reimbursement for sign language interpreter and CART students) recently passed and was signed into New Hampshire law. Yay!!! (The goal of this is to encourage new interpreters to stay and work in New Hampshire by offering the incentive of tuition reimbursement over a 5-year period.) There is a group of interested parties who are currently working on writing and making suggestions for the rules that accompany this law. We don't know the date the law will be effective or who is eligible, but rest assured when NHRID learns anything we will let you all know.

I hope to see you at our next meeting Saturday, October 17, from 10-12pm at NDHHS, (57 Regional Drive, Concord). Also, don't forget about our "Meet and Greet" for visitors, new, or shy members starting at 9 am.

Thank you for taking the time to catch up with all the NHRID news!

All the best,

Aimee Stevens
NHRID President

RID Convention 2009-Philadelphia, PA
Submitted by Erin Thompson-Foote, CI/CT

What do the Liberty Bell, the U.S. Constitution, and cheese steak hoagies have in common with RID? They all could be found in Philadelphia this past summer!

RID held its 21st National Convention at the Downtown Marriott in Philadelphia from August 1-6, 2009, and another colleague and I flew to take advantage of the unique educational, social, and culinary opportunities that we knew would be offered.

We were fortunate to participate in a two-day SC:L preparation training session sponsored by the Legal Interpreter Member Section of RID. This pre-conference training was held at City Hall on Friday, July 31st and at the Criminal Justice Center on Saturday, August 1st. This was an excellent training which afforded us the opportunity to observe fellow legally-trained interpreters participating in a mock trial and modeling the skill sets which are required for successful completion of the RID SC:L performance exam. These include: Interpreter Voir Dire/qualification, Deaf witness testimony, jury instructions and other major components of a criminal trial.

The RID convention officially began Saturday evening with the opening ceremony and nearly 3,000 members in attendance. Workshops and trainings offered during the week had something for everyone - educational, medical, legal, VRS, etc.

In recent years, my training focus has been on legal interpreting, and there certainly was no shortage of offerings in that specialty area: forensics, police interrogations, juvenile offenders, and legal reasoning, just to name a few. With well-known presenters like Carla Mathers, Anna Witter-Merithew, Tara Potterveld and Adam Bartley, I couldn't go wrong.

The training which I found most beneficial was "Interpreting for Juvenile Offenders" presented by Tara Potterveld. Among many things, this training touched upon the unique terminology and treatment of young offenders in the criminal justice system, behaviors classified as delinquent, minimum age of jurisdiction, and the concept of "status offenses". I was thrilled to hear Tara emphasize as best practice something which the New Hampshire legal interpreting community has for so long maintained as crucial to successful outcomes in cases involving juveniles: the use of CDIs. She, like we, recognize that it is the only way to ensure the juvenile is fully linguistically present through all phases of adjudication.

Tara also gave an overview of other aspects of juvenile cases beyond adjudication, such as: intake/screening, residential treatment/detention and rehabilitation, detention and dispositional hearings and aftercare/follow-up. This training was well worth attending and my hope is to be able to work more effectively with CDIs in situations which involve Deaf New Hampshire youth who become part of the legal system. They deserve equal access and the best care available, and it all starts with effective interpreting.

On a more social note, lunch at the Reading Terminal Market was an experience not to be missed! With so many shops to choose from, there was something for everyone. The cheese steaks were so delicious, I went back two days in a row. And in the evenings, downtown Philly offered a plethora of dining options from authentic Mexican to Asian to Italian. The gelato was heavenly...the perfect end to a perfect day!

But with such a densely packed schedule, I wondered if I'd be able to find time for sightseeing. It was, after all, my first trip to our nation's constitutional birthplace and I would've been embarrassed to admit if I had not visited any historic sites. So to remedy that, my colleague and I hopped an open air city bus tour on the last night. Fabulous! We got to see the burial place of Ben Franklin, the home of Betsy Ross, Liberty Bell and all the quaint little row houses and shops that line the cobblestone streets of Philadelphia proper, all under a full moon.

All in all, it was well worth the trip. That being said, I hope to see you all in Atlanta in 2011. Come join the fun!

General Meetings 2009 - 2010

Date:	Time:
Saturday, October 17, 2009	10-12pm, Meet and Greet 9am
Saturday, January 23, 2010	10-12pm, Meet and Greet 9am
Snowdate: Sat, Jan 30, 2010	10-12pm, Meet and Greet 9am
Monday, April 5, 2010	6-8pm
Monday, June 14, 2010	6-8pm



Please mark your calendars.



Meetings are held at NDHHS, 57 Regional Drive, Concord.

Hello Everyone and Happy Fall!

I bring to you a few things this month, between updates from the RID Board and a little personal history about me.

For brevity's sake, here is "my story," as it pertains to this new position as RID Region 1 Representative. I was born and raised in the Washington, DC area, where I was surrounded by Deaf people and yet, I never knew one. I attended Northeastern University, aspiring to be a talk show host on the way in, and coming out with a degree in ASL-English Interpreting. (The change of major is an entirely different story.) Since then, I received my master's degree in Leadership, held numerous positions in the field, and have spent many hours working with newer interpreters, as well as with my alma mater.

That's me in a nutshell. There's a more extensive "story," especially focused on my professional experiences, on the RID website. Check it out if you'd like, and contact me anytime at region1rep@rid.org.

The RID Board has a face-to-face meeting October 14-18, 2009. Between the orientation and official meeting times, I am certain that I will learn a lot of new information to share with you, and I will do so soon after I return. What I do have to offer you, though, is as follows:

- The Special Election for our future Deaf Member-at-Large position is open. To cast your vote, go to www.rid.org and log into your member account. Once you are logged in, click on "Take a Survey," and "Special Election: RID Board of Directors Deaf Member-at-Large Position" to access the ballot. If you prefer to receive a hard copy, please contact the RID Member Services Department at info@rid.org. Hard copy ballots must be postmarked by October 4, 2009.
- If you are not receiving the monthly e-VIEWS, please contact Tina Schultz, Director of Communications, at tschultz@rid.org.
- If you missed out on the national Conference this year, or if you attended and want more great programming on a regional level, I encourage you all to get involved with and attend our 2010 Region I Conference from August 13-15, 2010, in Albany, New York. Trudy Gilbert (trugilb@aol.com) and Kelly Decker (kelly.lee.decker@gmail.com), our co-coordinators, and their committees, are working tirelessly to provide us all with an enriching, challenging, accessible, and fun conference. Please contact them with your ideas and offers to help. Stay tuned for calls for interpreters, presenters, and student representatives.
- In addition to numerous updates and reports shared at the Region I Caucus in Philadelphia, two questions were asked of our members. They were: "What are the benefits of belonging to your affiliate chapter?" and "What additional services/benefits would you like your chapter to provide?" All affiliate chapter presidents have these notes; please contact your Board for more information.

Lastly, please get out your calendars and "save" the following dates:

- NAOBI 2010 Professional Development Conference from June 24-27, in Phoenix, AZ. The Conference theme is "Running with the Vision: Empower. Educate. Excel."
- 2011 National Conference from July 18-23, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you, and I wish you all the best this fall.



Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Emmart
RID Region I Representative
region1rep@rid.org



Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Jodie Novak and I am the newest addition to Granite State Independent Living's Interpreter Referral Program. I am originally from

Hokah, Minnesota and hold a Bachelor's Degree from Winona State University (WSU). While at WSU, I became heavily involved with the ASL Club on campus. Through my involvement, I made friends with and later became roommates with a few of the Deaf students. It was through them that I informally learned to sign and was introduced to the Deaf Culture. After moving to New Hampshire last fall, I began pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Sign Language Interpretation from the University of New Hampshire Manchester.

As the new Interpreter Referral Coordinator at GSIL, I am looking forward to learning about the values and preferences of New Hampshire's Interpreting and Deaf Communities. My goal is to provide thorough, efficient, and consistent referral services that cater to the specific preferences and needs of those people needing communication access, to interpreters, and to the hiring party.

Please feel free to contact me at 603-228-9680 or Interp@GSIL.org to make sure your preferences are on file or to learn about our referral program or other programs offered by GSIL.



LanguageBank



A Program of Lutheran Social Services

LanguageBank was founded in 2001 with an ambitious goal: to bring high-quality face-to-face spoken language translation services to New Hampshire professionals and the people they serve who have limited English proficiency. Since that time our language "bank" has grown to over 60 languages, offered by over 120 trained interpreters. We have recently added sign language interpretation to our service offering, and we are actively seeking to grow our relationships with the sign language interpretation community in New Hampshire

Our services are mission-driven in the sense that we strongly believe that everyone has a right to have equitable access to a range of critical and routine services -and opportunities- through clear communication. Our goal is to help both parties to not only understand the meaning of words in the other's

language, but also understand the meaning of critical concepts in each other's culture.

In addition to Alen Omerbegovic, the Program Manager, Lynda Burnside handles the billing and occasionally schedules interpreters. Rebecca Adams and Sarah Frost are in charge of scheduling and confirming interpreters. At this time, Alen is the only person assigning ASL interpreters, but this will transition to Rebecca and Sarah in the future. Alen came to the USA as a refugee in 1999 and was resettled by Lutheran Social Services. He speaks Bosnian (Serbo-Croatian) and also speaks some Dutch and Russian. Alen has been working as an interpreter for over 10 years and also had the opportunity to work for the US Army in Bosnia.

For more information please call 603-410-6183 or email info@thelanguagebank.org.



NDHHS

As many of you know, Referral has been very, very busy this fall. Besides the usual hectic nature of late summer and early fall, we started to use our new database in early August. Throughout August and September we have been working the kinks out with the developer, and we feel we are in the home stretch towards a complete, efficient new system. Many parts of our internal referral process have been made easier by the design of the new database. For instance, confirming college classes is much less time-consuming than it has been in the past. The database will duplicate the date, time and location of a class, and as we add each week of the class into the

database the only piece of information we need to change is the date. Confirmation letters include more information automatically. Where before Dawn and I had to type a team interpreter's name, phone number, and email address into each confirmation letter, this information is pulled straight from the database now and reduces the amount of steps it takes to send a confirmation letter.

Dawn and I would like to thank interpreters for working with us through this busy time. We will keep you informed of the next steps in the new database project through our monthly emails. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know at referral@ndhhs.org or 603-224-1850 x250. Thank you!



What business tip would you recommend to other interpreters?

- Have you found there's a brand of clothing that stands up to constant wearing?
- Do you bill once a month? Twice a month? After every assignment?
- Do you use Aveeno, Nivea, or a generic brand moisturizer?

Share your knowledge. Send your business tip to newsletter@nhrid.org and see it in the next newsletter!



Check out the [New Hampshire Lions Haunted House](#) on October 25. Interpreters will be provided from 5-9pm on the 25th in memory of Susan Auerbach.

Real Simple magazine has an article in its October 2009 issue about taking care of your hands. Click this link, [Helping Hands](#).

Upcoming Birthdays

**Send a card, send a pie,
send a small animal!**

October

15 Luce Aubry

26 Celia Michau

28 Dawn Welshman

November

01 Sally Plows

22 Julie O'Meara

December

08 Jayne Zedon

18 Sandy Unger

22 Janet Dickinson

26 Deb McKinney

30 Glenys Crane-Emerson

Happy Birthday, ladies!



*Congrats to Dawn Welshman on
her engagement to Paulo Braga!*



**Submit your queries, business tips, and articles for the next edition of
NHRID News by January 15, 2010.**

NHRID General Meeting
6/15/2009

Board Members:

Present: Aimee Stevens, Shannon Grundy, Jayne Zedon, Amy Jean Leblanc, Emily Graves, Krista Brown, Heather Geisser, Shawna Chrostowski

Absent: Sarah Chase

Others Present: Maureen Lundergan, Sandy Unger, Jodi Lefort, Dawn Welshman, Terry Linehan, Rosemary Hill, Lianne Moccia

Meeting called to order at 6:08pm

President's report – (Aimee Stevens)

- April's meeting minutes have been accepted without corrections.
- The Region 1 conference is scheduled for Aug 13-15, 2010 in Albany, NY.
- There was a request for help with funding for food at the 2009 NH*RID conference. So far, Region 1 has \$1400, and they are looking for \$600 more.
- Shannon will be attending the 2009 NH*RID conference in Philadelphia, representing NHRID.
- Rebecca Barkowitz, Region 1 Representative, is leaving her position as representative and is looking for a new representative for Region 1. She will officially resign her post after the national conference in August. If anyone is interested or has any suggestions for potential representatives, please let one of the board members know.
- The term of one of the interpreter members on the Licensure Board is up this fall. If anyone is interesting in becoming a board member or knows someone they think would be good fit, please let the Board know.

*Clarification submitted via email

Treasurer's report- (Amy Jean Leblanc)

- Budget handed out, profits and expenses have been documented
- Last column indicated totals for the year
- See handout – workshops have been listed with profit/loss made/lost
- Still looking into both profitable Certificate of Deposits and affordable liability insurance
- New proposed budget, see handout. Terry Linehan motioned we accept the new budget, Lianne Moccia seconded. After the vote, the motion to accept the new 2009-2010 budget was passed.

Reports

Licensure Board – (Shannon Grundy)

- April 14 - board met with a member of the State Attorney General's office to review bylaws regarding volunteer interpreters
- 2 waivers & 1 complaint, under investigation
- NHRID rep's term up in Oct., need another rep. Role: approve/renew licenses, investigate complaints. Training will be offered for new members. If you are interested, contact Shannon Grundy or Terry Linehan
- Next meeting – Aug. 11, 6pm-8:30pm, Walker Bldg., 21 Fruit St. in Concord
- Upcoming meeting dates: Oct. 13, Dec. 8

MIAB- (Amy-Jean Leblanc)

- Meeting in May had decreased attendance, maybe due to meeting time (during day)
- Greater Nashua Mental Health Center (formerly CCN) presented at last meeting, brought brochures and DVD to help get the word out about their services
- NHRID will need a new representative to attend these meetings. They are 3 times a year and have multiple subcommittees that meet more often. If interested, contact Amy-Jean Leblanc.

VR Advisory- (Terry Linehan)

- New chairperson – Don Powers

NHRID Membership – (Amy Jean Leblanc)

- 58 total members

PDC report- (Jodi Lefort)

Thinking Critically About Our Work: Is This Job Legal?

Presenters - Cat Dvar and Joan Wattman

June 26 – 28, 2009 *CANCELLED*****

Southern NH University

Upcoming Events:

Foundations of Court Interpreting

Presenter - Carla Mathers

September 11 – 14, 2009

Portland, ME

*Sponsored by MERID but NHRID members will receive the member discount

Interpreting in Mental Health Settings: A Practice Profession Approach

Presenter - Robyn Dean

November 14 & 15, 2009

Community Council of Nashua, NH

*MERID members will receive the member discount

In the works:

- More medical workshops are in the planning stages – stayed tuned for more information
- More educational interpreting workshops are in the works – co-sponsoring with NDHHS/Department of Education
- Feel free to contact us with any ideas for workshops or if you're willing to help coordinate. Terry – terrynewf@comcast.net

Commission on Deafness & Hearing Loss report – (Luce Aubry)

The Legislative Committee on Deafness and Hearing Loss continues to track two bills this session: HB 441, the CART Provider and Sign Language Interpreter Net Tuition Repayment Program, and HB 561, regarding insurance coverage of hearing aids.

The bill is scheduled for House Committee of Conference hearing on June 15. The Senate has asked for clarification of the language in the bill and the Committee on Deafness and Hearing Loss has responded. The substantive changes of interest to NHRID members are as follows:

Interpreters and CART providers would become qualified for tuition reimbursement up to 100 percent of their qualifying tuition, not to exceed the cost of a four-year, in-state college education degree. The reimbursement would be spread out over a period of five years as follows: 10% reimbursement upon completion of the first year of employment in the state; 10% reimbursement after the second full year of employment, 20% after the third full year of employment, 30% after the fourth full year, and 30% after the fifth full year. Interpreters who qualify for this reimbursement shall participate in a mentoring program in accordance with rules to be developed.

As has happened over the past few months, this hearing may get postponed due to the pressing budget issues the legislature is facing.

Newsletter Report – (Amy Jean Leblanc)

- Celia and Amy Jean stepping down as editors. Anyone interested in taking their places? Emily Graves, Dawn Welshman, & Krista Brown volunteered.
- Newsletter is now electronic, saving time and money

Screening Committee- (Aimee Stevens)

- Rater training beginning this summer
- Testing planned for this September

Special Interest Groups

Educational Interpreters –(Heather Geisser) Trying to think of ways to get people to attend these social events during summer months. Suggestion to change location.

Old Business

- Softball game with NHAD – FUN!
- Liability insurance company recommended by RID quoted us at \$991/yr.
- Looking into local agencies for pricing

New Business

- NHRID needs a representative to attend NHAD's meetings (6 times a year)
- Suggestion that the 3 members-at-large take turns attending these meetings
- Mentorship Program – wrote a grant/submitted to RID
- Lianne Moccia motioned to donate \$100 for the Region 1 Caucus meeting, Shawna Chrostowski seconded. Vote, motion passed to donate \$100.
- A committee was set up to research and develop guidelines for NHRID to award grants and scholarships to interpreters and interpreting students. Rosemary Hill, Lianne Moccia and Terry Linehan volunteered for this committee. (This last bullet was submitted via email as an addition to the minutes of the meeting.)

Elections –

New Board members:

President – Aimee Stevens

Vice President – Shannon Grundy

Secretary – Emily Graves

Treasurer – Amy Jean Leblanc

Members-at-Large – Dawn Welshman, Rosemary Hill, & Shawna Chrostowski

Year in Review – Video clips of 08-09 year.

Kash winner – Shawna Chrostowski

Meeting ended at 7:50pm.