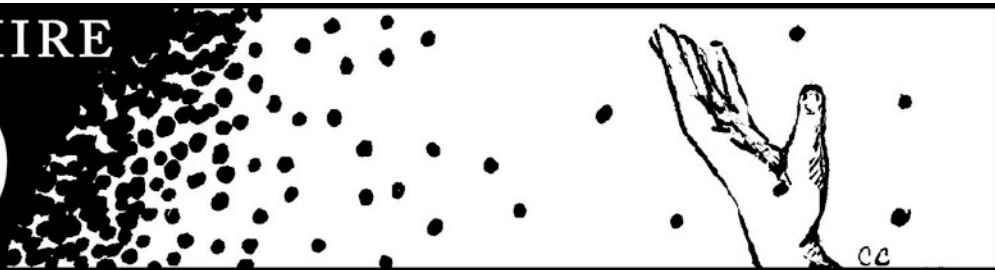


NEW HAMPSHIRE RID



President
Aimee Stevens
president@nhrid.org

Vice President
Shawna Chrostowski
vicepresident@nhrid.org

Treasurer
Amy-Jean Leblanc
treasurer@nhrid.org

Secretary
Emily Graves
secretary@nhrid.org

Members at Large

Rosemary Hill
firefightress28@yahoo.com

Dawn Welshman
harlarz@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Emily Graves

NHRID Logo Designed by
Connie Clanton

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

Spring 2010



Hello NHRID!!

I am hoping the good weather is here to stay!

At our last meeting we voted Shawna Chrostowski in as Vice President (replacing the vacancy left by Shannon Grundy). Unfortunately, Shawna's change in position left another vacancy – Member at Large. So, during our April meeting we will have another election to fill the Member at Large position.

If you think you might be interested in taking a leadership role in NHRID, the Member at Large is a great starting off point. We are currently seeking nominations for this position (and please don't be embarrassed to nominate yourself). If you are interested or even if you just want more information, please email me at aimee.stevens@comcast.net.

In September 2008, we hosted a retreat in Northwood, NH and those who went had a good time. Some people have asked that this become a biannual event. I am all for it. Is anyone interested in being part of a planning committee for such an event?

Over the last few years we have really put forth an effort to recruit people who are not members of NHRID and those who are members but do not come to meetings. One of the biggest reasons people tell me for not joining or not coming to meetings is the fear of peer pressure. I thought this was unfortunate. Yes, we are a volunteer organization and if we do not have members who are willing to take on leadership roles, then we will cease to exist. BUT, we do not want to become a high pressure forum that scares away potential members. So, I would like to vow to not allow this type of "peer pressure" at NHRID events and hopefully you will all join me in this effort. Now let's get the word out that we are a "no pressure" organization and hopefully we can start to see some new faces around the table.

NHRID is charged with working with VR to assess and update the State Rates fee schedule every two years. This July is the time when a new fee schedule will need to be approved. The current fee schedule was established in 2006. In 2008 we voted not to make any changes. We will need to set up a committee of interested members to look over the fee schedule to see if NHRID wants to propose any changes. If you are interested please contact me and we can put a committee together.

NHRID has been working with NHAD in planning a Town Hall meeting set for May 8 in Concord. Please hold this date in your calendar. As interpreters, we are part of the community here in New Hampshire and we should be present to make our concerns, praises, comments (etc.) known. I hope you can make it!

Thank you everyone for a great year so far and I am looking forward to a warm and happy Spring!

Aimee Stevens

Amy-Jean Leblanc

Amy-Jean at her triathlon in September of 2009.



AJ skydiving in July 2009



Sandy Unger

What a winter! Leah was born on January 22. It is hard to believe that she is 2 months old. I have resigned from GSIL after working there for over 2 years to be a full-time mom and to start doing some freelance work in a couple of months. Spending most of my time as a "domestic goddess" has been unexpectedly busy. I also began training for a 1/2 marathon that I will be power walking in April to raise money for Child Voice International, and organization that works with former child soldiers from Uganda. Needless to say, so far I have not had much time to be bored.

Sandy, Leah, and Mike



Member Birthdays!

Send an umbrella, a bulb,
or a frozen drink to these ladies!

April

03 Rosemary Hill
27 Lesley Garey

May

20 Sirena Lemieux
24 Bethany Whiton

June

05 Lianne Moccia
08 Amy-Jean Leblanc
10 Kristen Farrell
19 Susan Graesser

Upcoming NHRID Meetings

Monday, April 5

6-8pm at NDHHS

Monday, June 14*

6-8pm at NDHHS

*Annual Elections meeting

2010 NHRID Members

Elizabeth Adler
Diane Aseltine-Grzyb
Luce Aubry
Christine Bricault
Krista Brown
Melody Chicoine
Shawna Chrostowski
Janet Dickinson
Julia Emley
Kristen Farrell
Katherine (Kacie) Farrell
Maura Fay
Lesley Garey
Heather Geisser
Susan Graesser
Emily Graves
Shannon Grundy
Jack Hoza
Tim Kinsella
Amy-Jean Leblanc
Jodi Lefort
Sirena Lemieux
Terry Linehan
Maureen Lundergan

Deb McKinney
Lianne Moccia
Christina Morrill
Amy Mullikin
Jodie Novak
Jane Nunes
Julie O'Meara
Karen Phillips
Bethany Pike
Lynette Reep
Cylyn Reviczky
Toni Robbins
Rosemary Simpson
Aimee Stevens
Mary Stys
Erin E. Thompson-Foote
Sandra Unger
Cindy Wallace
Desiree Weems
Dawn Welshman
Bethany Whiton
Janice Wightman
Jayne Zedon

NHRID Meeting
January 23, 2010, 10am-12noon

Members present: Aimee Stevens, Shawna Chrostowski, Rosemary Simpson, Emily Graves, Amy-Jean Leblanc, Krista Brown, Jodi Lefort, Susan Graesser, NHAD Rep – Lori Johnstone, Tim Kinsella

Visitors: Kim Grenda, Jim Johnstone, Susan Wolf-Downes

Meeting called to order at: 10:05am

Introductions of attendees

Minutes have been accepted as is. (Motion by Jodi Lefort. Seconded by membership.)

Announcement that Shannon Grundy has resigned as Vice President.

President's Report

- NIC certification map (handout) - Percentage of passing rates varying widely in Region 5. Region 5 wrote a letter to RID to point out huge discrepancies in percentage rates of candidates passing the NIC from one year to another. The first year the NIC was available the percentage of people who passed was what would be expected and the next year the percentage of people who passed dramatically increased. RID will be doing some research into the percentage of passing rates.
- RID conference in 2013 will be in Indianapolis from August 9-14.
- Region 1 Conference will be in Albany, NY, Aug 13-15, 2010.
- Keynote speaker: Lewis Merkin, CDI - RID Member at Large
- Lewis is looking for each Region I chapter to send him a list of what make each chapter special or unique. For example, NY has set up an emergency fund for interpreters who have a house fire or sudden catastrophe in their lives.
- Sent card to Terry Linehan to recover soon from a fall.

Treasurer's Report

- Last 3 months NHRID has sponsored 2 profitable workshops, (approx. \$2000 dollars)
- Cd interest rates continue to decline
- Many people have not yet renewed their membership
- KASH policy: applied to membership dues and workshops that we sponsor
- Members responsibility to keep track of KASH
- Any questions, please email Amy-Jean (treasurer@nhrid.org)

Reports

Licensure Board (submitted by Jodi Lefort)

The issue of volunteering is a hot topic. What does the law say? There is a liaison from the Attorney General's office who will help Licensure Board members to understand the law and then policy will be created to address what can and cannot happen when someone volunteer interprets.

In regards to terms of membership on the Licensure Board, a person can serve 2 consecutive terms and then must take a break. That person is able to rejoin the Licensure Board at a later date.

There are 1 or 2 complaints at current time. A representative from NHAD needed. The current rep has missed a few meetings. The next meeting is in February.

Medical Interpreter Advisory Board Report

(Aimee Stevens presented the MIAB report in place of Jayne Zedon.)

Jan. 29 - full MIAB mtg

Steering Committee has met 3 times since I (Jayne) have joined.

- First meeting dealt with sustainability and how to maintain that as well as prioritization of current MIAB objectives.
- The second meeting focused on the current push to create a State Health Equity plan. Discussion also focused on determining where the MIAB fit in the landscape of groups and organizations working on health equity as well as the Steering Committees memberships desire to go this route.
- The recent meeting I was unable to attend but by looking at the notes, the discussion was focused on the full MIAB meeting and what information we plan to bring to that.
 - * Present that the MIAB is at a Point of Transition or Change
 - * Share information of what we know
 - * Grant length, financial sustainability issues beyond length of current grant
 - * But we can sustain initiatives in a variety of way regardless of funding.
 - * Group needs to decide what are the key elements we'd like to sustain
 - * Share what Steering Committee wants to sustain regardless of future Dialogue/Agreement
 - * Discuss opportunities for being involved to impact change in the future regardless of direction of MIAB

PDC report (submitted by Jodi Lefort)

The Robyn Dean workshop was a HUGE success -- thank you to all involved!

No Workshops Currently Scheduled

In the works:

- Rescheduling Cat Dvar and Joan Wattman for Thinking Critically About Our Work: Is This Job Legal?
- Talking about whether or not we want to have ‘supervision’ groups established that would follow Robyn Dean’s model of a practice profession
- 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

PDC is looking for a few good people to take over the tasks of professional development. Terry and Jodi have been doing this for a while and are currently both on the licensing board, as well as Terry having a host of other duties [CMP coordinator, mentorship committee, etc]. We are more than willing to train and work alongside you until you get your feet wet – so let us know!!!

PDC Committee: Terry Linehan terrynewf@comcast.net and Jodi Lefort mom61098@comcast.net

Membership report (Amy-Jean Leblanc)

- 29 members currently
- 2 donations from members (in addition to their membership dues)

Commission on Deafness and Hearing Loss Report (presented by Aimee Stevens in place of Luce Aubry)

The legislative committee on issues facing Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens is focusing on two issues at this time. The first is a retained bill, HB 561-FN, which is mandating insurance coverage of hearing aids in the amount of \$1,500 every three years per individual. This bill is on the calendar for the first day that the House convenes on January 6. Many items are on the calendar, however, so it's not assured that the bill will get heard that day. All members of the committee were given a list of House Representatives to contact encouraging them to vote 'yes' on this bill. I've emailed over 40 Representatives on behalf of NHRID.

The second issue that the committee is focusing on is a mechanism for allowing Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals to have some type of identification on their driver's licenses that they have a hearing loss, if they so choose. This item will not require legislative action but, rather, internal administrative action. The committee is in dialogue with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) on the logistics of implementing this type of voluntary identification system.

Jim Johnstone mentioned hearing aid bill is a sticky situation

Membership inquired as to how members can help the bill get to final approval.

Newsletter Report: next deadline Monday, March 22

Screening Report (Aimee Stevens)

Dec 2, 2009 screening was held. VR trying to figure out the schedule for screening dates. May only take 3 applicants at a time, but offer screening every 2 months.

Revising the screening process has been a struggle for NH. One member suggested sharing the story with the keynote speaker for the Region I conference this summer about how NH has revised its screening process as an example of the “cool stuff” we have been working on.

Special Interest - Education

Contact Sarah Chase (sarahchase@att.blackberry.net)

Scholarship Committee

No report at this time.

NHAD Report

Thank you to the interpreters who participated in the holiday party. In February there is Valentine’s Day party and NHAD hopes to see interpreters there.

Old Business

Mentorship program

Aimee Stevens’ New Year resolution for NHRID will focus on building a mentorship program. She will contact people who have expressed interest and if anyone has any ideas, please let her know.

HB 441 (Tuition Reimbursement bill)

441 passed, but there’s virtually no money behind the law. The question is: how will the money be found? Terry Linehan, Jack Hoza, Luce Aubry, and Aimee Stevens all worked on writing the rules for the law.

Region 1 conference in August 2010

Have some registration forms here today for the conference. They have not announced the workshops yet, but the early bird registration deadline is April 1.

New Business

Confusing acronyms for NURIEC (Regional Interpreter Education Center at Northeastern University). They have grant money and offer many different programs. There is an article in the newsletter explaining their programs.

Mileage/Travel/VR

Regarding the VR conversation about mileage and travel. VR only talking about Part B jobs. During that discussion there was a suggestion to use students or recent graduates for Part B jobs (in order to fill more Part B jobs and hopefully to be able to stretch the Part B money that is available). This suggestion is a conversation for the Licensure Board issue. NHRID would like to start a committee with NHRID, NHAD, and other interested parties.

Conversation ensued about using students or recent graduates for “light” Part B jobs. One interpreter mentioned that he is willing to reduce travel or mileage if asked, but that the decision to reduce or not reduce an invoice depends on the situation.

The Part B budget been decreasing each year in the last few years. SSP money also comes from the same budget.

One member made a suggestion to students or recent graduates to get together among themselves and see how they can provide support to each other to practice, and to prepare for screening and national exams.

Licensure Board meetings are open to the public and people trying to get into interpreting in New Hampshire can bring their concerns to the Licensure Board. An idea was proposed to set up a workshop series where some Deaf folks are videotaped and having students/graduates can interpret videos.

Election of Vice President position

Accepted Shannon Grundy’s resignation. Will now have election for VP position. Shawna Chrostowski has been nominated. Member at Large position will be vacant. Membership can’t vote on Member-At-Large position today because the whole group is not aware that position is officially open.

No objections to Shawna Chrostowski as VP. Shawna Chrostowski is the new Vice President for NHRID.

Announcements

Sandy Unger gave birth to her daughter on Friday, January 22! Leah Katherine was born and weighed 6 lbs, 9 oz and is 20”. Congratulations Unger family!

There will be a conference on Deaf Culture at NECC on April 4. Arkady B. will be one of the presenters. Cost is \$55 (lunch included). Aimee will send the who, what, where, when and why info to the members.

Adjourned 11:09am

Gallaudet announces T. Alan Hurwitz as 10th president

Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz has been appointed by the Board of Trustees as Gallaudet University's tenth president. The announcement was made by Dr. Benjamin Soukup, chair of the Board of Trustees, on October 18 before an overflow crowd in the University's Swindells Auditorium.

Hurwitz currently serves as president of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), one of eight colleges within the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), and vice president and dean of RIT. He has worked at NTID/RIT since 1970, first as an instructor in RIT's College of Engineering and, subsequently, as an NTID professor, department chair, dean, and the college's president. Throughout his career he has been active in a variety of professional organizations, including serving as president of both the National Association of the Deaf and the World Organization of Jewish Deaf.

"In Dr. Alan Hurwitz the Board of Trustees has chosen a leader for Gallaudet who possesses an extensive and distinguished track record in the field of higher education for deaf and hard of hearing persons," said Soukup. "This expertise, along with his commitment to Gallaudet's unique mission and strategic plan, ensures that he is the right person to lead the University as it seeks to attract and educate students from a variety of educational and communication backgrounds."

Dr. Soukup introduced Dr. Hurwitz and Gallaudet's new first lady, Vicki Hurwitz, to the exuberant crowd that had assembled for the announcement. Hurwitz called the occasion "a very emotional time, as well as an exciting time for me and my wife, Vicki." He thanked the Board of Trustees and the Gallaudet

community "for their support and confidence in my selection," he said. "I enthusiastically accept the appointment."

Hurwitz, who will take office in January, succeeds Dr. Robert Davila, the University's president since 2007. Hurwitz said, "I'm humbled to follow in Dr. Robert Davila's footsteps," and he praised the other finalists for the position, Dr. Roslyn Rosen, Dr. Ronald Stern, and Dr. Stephen Weiner, as "outstanding individuals. ... I love all three of them." Hurwitz said he looked forward to working closely with all the University's constituents in pursuing Gallaudet's mission and strategic goals.

Davila, who joined Hurwitz on the stage, remarked, "I'm confident he'll do well," and added that Gallaudet will be fortunate to benefit from "his wealth of skill and knowledge." Noting that Hurwitz was wearing a Gallaudet jacket, Davila commented "one thing is missing," and went over to the new president to attach a "Team Gallaudet" pin to his jacket.

In closing, Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA) Board President Alyce Slater Reynolds congratulated Hurwitz on behalf of GUAA's 17,000 members, and said, "We look forward to joining you on the journey we're taking."

(Article reprinted with permission from Gallaudet University.)

Region 1 Conference News

Albany, New York: August 13-15, 2010

Early Bird Registration Deadline Extended to April 15, 2010

Click [here](#) for the Region 1 Conference website

[Workshop Schedule](#)



PRESS RELEASE – February 28, 2010

NCIEC OFFERS NATIONAL ONLINE WEBINAR ON VR INTERPRETING NEEDS

Interpreters: View Archived Presentation and Earn CEUs!

The National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers (NCIEC) collaborated with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) and the National Clearinghouse on Rehabilitation Training Materials (NCTRM) to broadcast a webinar titled “Recent Findings: Interpreting Needs in Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Settings” over the Internet. Offered on February 11, 2010, the webinar was attended by over 100 VR counselors, administrators, and interpreters across the U.S. A good number of the participants were from the NURIEC region, including counseling and interpreting staff at the offices of Vocational Rehabilitation in Puerto Rico who were provided a Spanish version of the PowerPoint presentation and listened to a Spanish interpretation of the proceedings. The NURIEC sponsored CEUs for participating interpreters; VR counselors could submit documentation of participation to earn CRC credits. Now the webinar is available in the NCRTM archives at <http://ncrtm.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=1884> and may be viewed at any time. The content is of special interest to anyone responsible for or interested in the current needs and challenges of providing appropriate and qualified sign language interpreting services in VR settings.

Key findings shared in the webinar include:

- Respondent agency data
- VR consumer characteristic information
- Utilization of full-time staff interpreters versus part-time contract interpreters
- Interpreter availability
- Requirements for interpreter qualifications and education
- Interpreter pay
- Need for interpreters by consumer sub-group
- Need for interpreters by VR setting
- Interpreter training needs
- Mentoring for interpreters

The complete final report, NCIEC Vocational Rehabilitation Interpreting Needs Assessment Report (October 2009) is available on the National Consortium website at: <http://www.nciec.org/resource/docs/FinalVRReport2009.pdf>.

Earn CEUs

Interpreters who view the presentation for the first time between April 15 and June 30, 2010 can earn 0.2 CEUs. You will be required to view the video and follow through with an online "post-test," evaluation, and demographic survey. If you would like to view the webinar and earn CEUs, please provide the following information to Alberto Sifuentes, Program Assistant, NURIEC by email a.sifuentes@neu.edu or by at 857-366-4195 VP or Voice Direct.

Put in Subject Line: CEUs for Webinar
Include in the text: Your name, address, and RID number.

Alberto will follow up with instruction on how to proceed.

We recently changed the face of our website. Please visit us at <http://www.asl.neu.edu/riec>.

The Regional Interpreter Education Center at CMP to sponsor Continuing Education Activities, the Content Area of Professional Studies and processing fee for those participants requesting



*Northeastern University is approved by the RID
This offering is for .20 CEUs or ACET credits in
has an Instruction Level of Some. There is a \$10
CEUs or ACET credits.*

The Regional Interpreter Education Center at Northeastern University is funded by the U.S. Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration, Interpreter Training Program Grant #H160A050002.

Kick off Deaf & Hard of Hearing Awareness Month
and celebrate at the game!



Saturday, April 17, 2010

Fisher Cats Stadium, Manchester, NH

1:05 pm

NH Fisher Cats vs. Binghamton Mets

Only \$10.00 (partial ticket sales benefit NDHHS)

Please contact Rosemary Simpson if you have questions or would like to purchase tickets.

Voice: 603-224-1850

VP: 866-269-2463

Email: relaynh@ndhhs.org

ASL interpreting students will be throughout the stadium for communication accessibility w/ vendors.



Random thoughts and ramblings from your RID Region I Representative, Jackie Emmart

As I compose this “update” for your newsletter, I sit aboard Delta flight 691, en route to Atlanta, GA, where I will find myself for the next five days, to meet with the RID Deaf Advisory Council, Board of Directors, and national office directors. We will, over the course of <insert exaggerated number here> hours, work our way through a 1 1/2” binder of our agenda, supporting documents, proposals, and various reports. At the close of each day, it is likely that we’ll gather as a group, and continue “unofficial” business over dinner, thereby increasing the exaggerated number of hours you first created by at least...yup, you guessed it, <throw another outrageously large number in here>.

After all is said and done, I will be exhausted, and will at times be unable to distinguish up from down, right from left, or myself from the lady next to me. This will continue well into the following week.

And yet, I can’t wait for my flight to touch down, so that I can run to the hotel and begin the marathon sessions. Why, you may ask? Some of those who are nearest and dearest to me will tell you it’s because I’m crazy. Because I’ve lost it. Because I’m a tomato short of a sandwich. I’ll tell you, though, that it is because I serve alongside advisors, directors, and staff members who ooze respect, commitment, and the desire to do right by you. Though our discussions will take on a life of their own, and become an animated, at times heated, dynamic, there are two things that are sure to be constant among us: respect for one another, and a commitment to fight for continual organizational improvement.

There’s another reason I anxiously await the opportunity to dive into our meetings; because RID needs me. Now before you run off and form judgments about your arrogant Region Rep, I assure you that I am not needed any more than you. The words “status quo” do not exist in my vocabulary. I like to “keep things real,” to change them up, and ask a lot of questions. You may call me a rebel or a rabble-rouser; I prefer to identify as a concerned member doing my due diligence to ensure that our decisions are made in an informed, prudent, and transparent manner, encouraging participation with each step of the way. I lose sleep when decisions, and subsequent actions, are not in alignment with this formula.

There is much work to do. As I see it, RID is at an important crossroad. The Strategic Challenges and Bylaws Review Task Force is working nationwide to ascertain your thoughts about our future directions. At a regional level, I will host our Membership Forum at the “TEAM 2010” regional conference this August. Here you will have the opportunity to share with and learn from others; our lively discussions will lead us to the “What’s next for RID,” a shared concern among so many of us.

The opportunities to affect change are there and they anxiously await your contributions. Though unsolicited, here are your “next steps,” in case you need a little boost:

- 1) Register for the TEAM 2010 Region I conference before the early bird deadline, which is April 1st. This will ensure that you surround yourselves with our colleagues and time to dialogue, including the Membership Forum.
- 2) Think of at least one person who you think would make a stellar Region I Representative, to take the reins at the close of TEAM 2010. Nominate them. Be sure to put yourself in the running. I will not be your competition for the position; when I applied to complete Rebekah Barkowitz’s term, I committed to doing so in a way that exceeded expectations, and by giving it my all. My higher power(s) have other plans for me for the next two years. For those of you considering it, though, contact me. Let’s “tawlk.” I’m a transparent gal and I’m happy to provide you the ins and outs of what it looks like to serve.

- 3) Stay tuned for additional updates, coming soon, from me. At the close of our board meeting on Sunday, I will create a summary of our discussions, my experience, and more opportunities for you to provide your input.

As it turns out, this “update” was filled with more ramblings than “meat,” contrary to what I hope you have found with my previous newsletter submissions. There are a couple of things that I hope you take away from this, though: one, RID needs you now more than ever and two, what better ways to serve than to throw your hat in the ring to run for Region I Representative and to attend the Region I conference in August, to directly affect change and ensure the organization is going where you want to go?

Cheers,
Jackie

region1rep@rid.org