

JULY 2008 e-NEWS

RID REGION II REPORT

South Carolina RID

President Michele Bach-Hansen

South Carolina RID (SCRID) is having a busy summer. In an effort to hear concerns, meet members, share upcoming events, and more with the membership, the SCRID Board of Directors is traveling around the state for various town hall meetings. Additionally, the entire board and a number of members will be attending the Region II Conference in Raleigh, NC. Special thanks to those who came out to the town hall meetings and to the board of directors for all of their hard work in putting them together.

Potomac Chapter RID

Secretary Jenifer McGilligan

Potomac Chapter RID (PCRID) is in the thralls of planning our annual conference. Tara Mathis will serve as the Chair for this year's planning committee. You might recall that Tara Mathis co-chaired the amazingly successful 2007 annual conference, which was co-located with the Maryland Association of the Deaf. With Tara at the helm, 2008 is expected to be even better. The Annual Conference is scheduled for Friday, November 7 through Sunday, November 9, and it will take place at the Four Points Sheraton at BWI Airport. The plan is to have a "green track" for first time presenters; as well as several other breakout sessions; and a Banquet/President's Award Luncheon. Check out the conference Web site for more information: www.pcrid.org/conference.cfm.

Come conference time, 2008 will be coming to an end, but there will still be some big decisions to be made. The current and devoted President of PCRID, Ms. Lauren Potempa, will not be running again. We have been honored by her dedication for many years. PCRID is better for having her leadership. The board is looking to the membership to bring about a new leader. Along with the position of president, elections will also be held for second vice president (of professional development), secretary, and member at large - District of Columbia.

There are many activities going on in PCRID.

The Archival Project has gathered quite a bit of historical information but is still looking for more. Do you have old PCRID documents; if so, we want them (e-mail secretary@pcrid.org).

The Professional Development Committee and the Mentorship Program are constantly seeking ideas for providing the most diverse professional development opportunities for our membership. The Development Committee is always looking for ways to raise money for PCRID (check out www.smartraise.com/PCRIDfundraising). The many committees/programs of PCRID work very hard all year round for our membership; the board is honored to serve with them.



September 2008 e-NEWS RID REGION II REPORT

Submitted by:
**Lisa Schaefermeyer, CI and CT
Region II Representative**

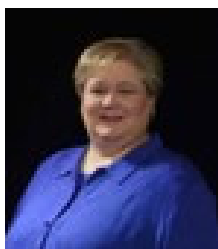
Special note from Lisa:

As the incoming Region II Representative, I would like to thank Connie Jo for her service on the RID Board of Directors for the past two years. I first met Connie Jo as President of North Carolina RID and then worked with her on the President's Council when she became Region II Representative. It wasn't until these past two months that I have been getting to know the RID board members and observing the work they do that I realized how much is really addressed at this level. It is with much admiration that I say thank you for your time and talents in representing Region II and all of its members with grace and diplomacy. We won't forget you Scarlet!



Georgia RID
Keith Smith, GaRID Editor

GaRID President Jean Plant Honored



GaRID President Jean Plant was recently honored during the Region II Conference in Raleigh, NC by the receipt of the Region Representative's Award. Then Region II Rep Connie Jo Lewis awarded this honor to Jean for her willingness two years ago to take up a leadership role in GaRID, which was at that time experiencing difficult times. Under Jean's leadership, Georgia's affiliate chapter has been able to recover from dire circumstances and has now once again

become a strong state chapter with a thriving membership. Since 2006, GaRID has hosted two state conferences (after a span of 6 years without any annual meeting of the membership) and anticipates that the 2008 State Conference will be the best yet.

During the worst of GaRID's recent troubled past, membership had dropped to only a few lifetime members. In the subsequent 2 years the affiliate chapter's membership has grown to a consistent 150 members (give or take a few). Under Jean's continued leadership, GaRID would like to see a further increase in membership as well as a greater number of members interested in taking a lead role in the continued success of the organization.

Congratulations to GaRID President Jean Plant for the honor she has received and thanks to her for the role she has played in the recovery of Georgia's affiliate chapter. To learn more about GaRID, please visit www.garid.org.

South Carolina

We were pleased to have 21 interpreters from South Carolina attend the Region II conference. It was a wonderful opportunity for more networking, training, and providing motivation which we have already started to share with the rest of the interpreters in South Carolina.

Our summer series Town Hall Meetings were a success. They were a great way to network with interpreters around the state as well as to get their input on interpreting issues in South Carolina. We are now getting ready for an ASL Linguistics Workshop on September 20, presented by Cinnie MacDougal. For more information, check out our website at www.southcarolinarid.org.

We are thrilled to be one of the recipients of the RID-NCIEC mentoring grant. Plans are underway to kick off the South Carolina Peer Mentoring Program (PMP) in the coming months. More information will be available on our website.

SC RID will be celebrating its 40th birthday during our 2009 annual conference. The conference will be February 20-22, 2009, at the Embassy Suites in Myrtle Beach. Check our Web site for more updates. You won't want to miss the big celebration!

We've got lots of other exciting projects in the works. Stay tuned to the website for more information. South Carolina is ON THE MOVE!!!!



October 2008 e-NEWS RID REGION II REPORT

Submitted by:
Lisa Schaefermeyer
Region II Representative

Georgia RID
Editor Keith Smith

The 2008 GaRID State Conference was AWESOME!!!

I can't really think of what to say other than Thank You to everyone who made this year's conference an overwhelming success. And the biggest thank you of all goes to our members who made a commitment to our profession and sold out this year's conference.

The economy is bad, gas prices are outrageous (and in many parts of Georgia, gas is scarce), and it's a long drive for many of us to get to Savannah, but you guys came and made the weekend one of the best experiences of my interpreting career.

A big thank you also to RID President Cheryl Moose for joining us in Savannah and to Ari-Asha Castalia for coming all the way from San Francisco to make us laugh till we cried and to make us think seriously about how we can improve our profession in our state. *Georgia loves you, Ari!*

Plans will soon begin for the 2009 GaRID State Conference. If you'd like to serve on the conference committee, please email me at editor@garid.org and I'll pass your message on to Rick Wright, our incoming GaRID Vice President and conference committee chair.

Congratulations to Rick and to our other incoming or continuing board members:

Mandy Stone, Treasurer
Diane Lynch, Professional Development Coordinator
Stephanie Boyd, Member At Large
Angie Nielson, Member At Large
Erin Salmon, Member At Large

Also, be on the lookout for your **2009 membership renewals** that will be going out soon. Please get your renewals in early and let's keep up our great momentum going into the new year.



GaRID President Jean Plant leads the way.



GaRID Editor Keith Smith with RID President Cheryl Moose.



Great presenters and dinner from Paula Deen's Lady & Sons restaurant meant full minds and full bellies!

Potomac Chapter RID Jumping into the Deep End...Adventures of a New Board Member

Treasurer Kate Hemmis

I went to the PCRID Conference last fall as a new interpreter. I had been interpreting professionally for about a year, and thought that it would be a good chance to get my feet wet in terms of experiencing workshops, and expanding my learning in a venue other than my ITP. I was (and still am) working for an agency in the area, and knew that I would be running into my colleagues at the various events throughout the weekend. Some of these colleagues have served in high-profile positions on both local and national executive boards, so I was interested in going to the business meeting as well to meet and speak with some of the current board, to see what that type of service was all about. I am not certified yet, and have only been interpreting a short time; so naturally, I only expected to be an observer in this process. Little did I know....

When the time came for nominations for the Board, I was sitting next to a co-worker, and when the call went out for a new treasurer, we sat together as the President explained that the current treasurer would be unable to serve a second term, and that they needed someone to fill the vacancy. Silence. No one raised a hand as the President explained that you don't need to be certified to serve on the Board, just a member in good standing. More silence. I leaned over to my co-worker (who has attended conferences for years) and asked, "Is there seriously no one interested? I am treasurer for my kids' PTA, but...." No sooner had those words gotten out of my mouth than she raised her hand and said, "I nominate Kate Hemmis!" Heads turned and followed me as I walked slowly to the front of the room, where the President asked if I preferred to stay on the floor or climb up to the stage to introduce myself. I explained that I thought I'd better step up to the stage because there wasn't anyone in the room who would know me by name! I explained that I had a bit of experience being a treasurer; truthfully, I had more experience being a treasurer than an interpreter at that point! Well, obviously, I got the job. I realized it was going to be a given when I walked to the front as the lone volunteer, but I must admit, hearing the cheers of the people from my agency when it was made official still felt pretty good!

This job is not easy. I certainly understand why people would be intimidated by being responsible for the financial workings of a complex organization such as a local chapter of RID, but I'd like to make an argument in favor of just biting the bullet, and serving on a Board for those who may find on the fence as we approach Conference/election season. Yes, it is hard work; yes, it can be time consuming, frustrating, terrifying, and overwhelming (sometimes all at the same time!); and yes, it can be a job that does not get noticed unless something goes awry. (I promise, I'm getting to the good part!) But there are benefits to this service that far outweigh the difficulties. The support of the rest of the Board is so encouraging, especially to someone who is just entering the field, both in the career and organizational aspects. When I stepped into this job, I was 100% lost and confused, but the previous treasurer, current Board, and RID liaisons were there for me every step of the way. Sometimes, they answered questions I didn't know I had yet! Whenever I needed help, clarification, or support, there have been people to turn to. And for each day that goes by, the job becomes a little less overwhelming and confusing, and feels more like an accomplishment, a success, and something I was meant to do so that I could learn how to support and serve this organization that has so graciously given so much to me. So, if you think you might be up for a challenge of your own, my advice is to just jump in...you may just surprise yourself!

Relax Rejoice! Remember Relearn Rejuvenate Reconnect Revisit Reflect

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You're Invited !



South Carolina
 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
 "40th Birthday Celebration"

When:	SC RID 2009 Annual Conference February 20-22, 2009
Where:	The Embassy Suites Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
RSVP:	www.southcarolinarid.org

Relax, Reflect, Rejuvenate, Reconnect, Renew,
 Revitalize, Refresh, Relearn, Revisit, Remember...

Rejoice!

Relax Rejoice! Remember Relearn Refresh Revitalize Renew Reconnect Revisit Rejuvenate Reflect



December 2008 e-NEWS RID REGION II REPORT

Submitted by:
Lisa Schaefermeyer
Region II Representative

Region II wishing everyone a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!

South Carolina RID Michelle Bach-Hansen

Planning Committees are in the process of planning a huge Birthday gala to celebrate 40 wonderful years of service. This will be an event for the history books as we celebrate the past, present and future of South Carolina RID (SCRID).

This year's conference will be held at the coast in Myrtle Beach on February 20-22 and will honor past SCRID presidents as well as their board members. We are pleased to announce that our night of entertainment will be provided by the National Theater for the Deaf. We expect this to be a fun event for the Deaf and hearing communities to gather together. Tickets for the NTD night can be purchased for those not attending the conference.

Several skill building workshops will be offered, but we are especially excited about our luxurious "Spaaaaaaa! Night" led by Dr. Diane Gross of TerpHealth who was recently featured in the Fall 2008 issue of the *VIEWS*. Come pamper yourself and learn how to relax and take care of yourself for a change. You don't want to miss it!

Potomac Chapter RID President Lauren Potempa

As 2008 comes to a close, so does my time of service on the Board of Directors. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has served PCRID with me over the past nine years. These people, often unknowingly, provided me amazing examples of how to be an effective leader, how to consider the other perspective, and how to accept an idea even if I didn't like it.

I have had the honor and pleasure to be on the Annual Conference Committee as a member and the chair, a Subchapter Representative for the Chesapeake Bay region and the Metro DC region, the Treasurer, and for the past three years, the President. Each position has provided learning experiences and incredible opportunities.

The incoming Board of Directors – Jennifer Bell, President; Mike Labadie, First VP; Sarah Yates, Second VP; Kate Hemmis, Treasurer; Jenifer McGilligan, Secretary; and Anne Tomkinson and Leslie Eccleston, Members at Large – will guide PCRID to tremendous heights.

Happy Holidays!