



## January 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### ***RID Region III by Representative Kelly Flores***

We have many great updates for you, and we lead with a tribute to a dear colleague who passed suddenly this month (in lieu of a Michigan RID article). I also offer my apology for failing to submit Indiana RID's December e-NEWS article in time for publication; you will find that below as well. I wish you all a prosperous and safe new year!

### **The Epitome of Distinguished Service: A Tribute to Doris Watkins**

*By Helen Boucher, Michigan RID President and Kelly Flores, RID Region III Representative*

*With contributions by Daniel Burch, Agnes Foret, Ben Hall, Martha Meginley and Maureen Wallace*

"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same." – Flavia

Doris Watkins, CSC, longtime Michigan RID (MIRID) and RID member, past MIRID board member, and mentor to many, passed peacefully in her sleep on January 12, 2009. She leaves behind a legacy of truly distinguished and adamantly humble service, as well as a host of memories of her kind, generous soul.

Doris, a child of deaf parents, joined RID and MIRID in the early 1970s and, in the first years of the newly established testing system, received a CSC. She was a founding member of MIRID (but did not consider herself to be so) and told stories of attending the new chapter meetings when Agnes Foret was one of the first board members. According to Agnes, Doris was someone she could count on, always willing to work, and dedicated to MIRID and RID. Later, due in part to the influence of those early meetings of MIRID, Doris began board service that would span more than 25 years. She served as MIRID secretary, president, and treasurer. It was during this time that former RID president and then Ohio Chapter RID president Ben Hall served with her as a Region III president. When asked about that early time in his career, Ben responded with this memorable anecdote:

"Doris, always with a smile, was quick to do what was necessary to help someone, to solve a problem, or to move an issue forward. She loved people and the profession. I had the great fortune to work with her when we first pulled together the Region III President's Council. I remember during one meeting with the Region III Presidents we were wrestling with a particular dilemma on our hands. We went on and on and on worried about the impact one decision or another...what will happen if we do this or if we do that. It drug out forever with no clear consensus. Finally, Doris said, 'You know, worrying about what may or may not happen is like a rocking chair, it keeps you real busy but you don't get anywhere. So, let's stop going back and forth on this, make a decision and stick to it.' We all laughed. Her gentle humor broke the ice and eased the tension in the room. She went on to detail what should be done. We were smart enough to follow her advice. I often think of her comment when I see a rocking chair."

Doris was also active with Michigan Deaf Association and local chapters of MDA and MIRID. She often donated materials, copies, time and money to each organization. As recently as the last MIRID newsletter mailing, Doris offered to copy, fold, staple and stamp to save money for the organization and be of service. Maureen Wallace, retired Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing State Interpreter Coordinator, recalls a time in the early 1990s when the State of Michigan was under severe budget cuts; Doris would drive almost three hours round trip from Kalamazoo, MI, to help out by volunteering in the DODHH office. She would assist with mailing newsletters, phones, testing and other tasks without expectation of compensation.

Doris not only served her professional organization, she also assisted students and novice interpreters in many ways. She worked at Michigan Career and Technical Institute until retirement in 1993 (and after that time as a contractor) and she was always doing kind deeds for those students. She would sometimes purchase outfits for them so the students would have new clothing for job interviews. She often recruited fledgling interpreters to assist her with registration during workshops. Doris would pay for costs associated with traveling to the workshop so that the new interpreters could afford to go (and to encourage their involvement). She even occasionally paid for their state testing fees. At national and regional conferences, Doris would often purchase videos and books with particular people she was mentoring in mind.

One fond recollection from Daniel Burch, past RID President, from his days as a student is as follows:

"Shortly after being introduced to American Sign Language, my teacher and second mother Alberta Westman-Krzyston took me to a Michigan Association of the Deaf meeting. I thought we were going out to dinner at a restaurant. Being a poor college student at the time, I was looking

forward to a decent meal. Does that tell you how progressed I was in ASL??

When we opened the door and went in, there was a room full of people standing around, signing in what seemed like a million different conversations! Then upon some unknown signal, everyone stopped and sat down for what became a three hour business meeting.

At one point of time I knew they were talking about coffee. But, for the rest of the meeting I sat there in a daze of signing what I assumed were questions and answers and something to do with money. I ended up with eye strain and a major headache from concentration.

After it was all over, I found out there were two interpreters in the room. One of them was Doris Watkins. Leta Jorgenson was the other for those of you who remember.

When I found out Doris could hear, I immediately confronted her with my student righteous indignation and demanded of her why she didn't interpret for me! Her response has stayed with me throughout my career, 'To truly understand deafness and Deaf people, you have to be willing to experience them on their own terms, in their own way, at their own time, and in a way that the experience of the communication barrier is so profound that it stays with you forever.'  
She helped shape me to the interpreter I am today, and in setting me on a life course, Doris Watkins will stay with me forever."

Her spirit of service extended to community, friends and family. Doris served as an interpreter at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, for 26 years. Holidays would often find her baking hundreds of loaves of bread to give as gifts. Doris was an avid reader and usually had a Danielle Steele novel in hand. Martha Meginley remembers Doris' kindness in her interactions with Martha's father during his final year; Doris was often one of the few people who could engage him in conversation, and never failed to go when called to interpret for him. Doris doted on her kitties. She was so very proud of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, and spoke of them often. If one ever asked about all of her contributions, Doris would downplay her role. She was incredibly humble. Yet, she never failed to clearly convey her dreams and goals for her beloved MIRID. Doris was a mentor; not just to us, but to countless board members, and we valued her experience with MIRID and RID. It is with a truly heavy heart that we write this; we, and all of Michigan RID, will miss her very much.

*A service in her memory will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday morning, February 7, 2009 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 3000 W. Main St., Kalamazoo, MI 49006. Memorial contributions may be made to MIRID or the Michigan Deaf Association. Kalamazoo Gazette. January 18, 2009.*

## **Illinois RID**

***President Sara Lucas***

Greetings from Illinois and happy New Year! In January in Illinois, we not only welcome 2009, we also welcome the implementation of licensure. The process of writing and passing the bill, townhall meetings and writing and passing the rules has all been worth the wait, and we are excited to bring our profession into the new year with new found respect among other licensed professionals in the state. Thank you to the IDHHC and the Interpreter Board for their dedication and hard work!

I'd like to welcome two new board members to the IRID Board: newly elected Treasurer Abby Anderson and Member-at-Large Kevin Jackson. We are happy to welcome these fine community members to our board! I'd also like to thank our PDC committee, lead by Tim Mahoney, for all of the exciting and diverse workshops they have brought to Illinois. Please check out our Web site for our monthly workshop schedule.

In February the board will welcome RID National Board Treasurer Brenda Walker Prudhom to lead our board retreat.

## **Indiana RID**

***President Ronda Jo Bilz***

*Submitted for the December 2008 e-NEWS*

The 2008 ICRID Annual Conference, which took place October 17 and 18, 2008 at IUPUI (Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis), while smaller than past years, was very successful! Vice President, Carrie Westhoelter, and committee, did a great job planning the conference! The ASL/English Interpreting Program and Director Janet Acevedo were our gracious hosts. The 2009 committee is in full swing, planning our 40<sup>th</sup> birthday bash!

ICRID Reads is growing! We now have SIX locations across Indiana where Interpreters gather to discuss articles on interpreting related topics. These CEU generating round table sessions allow colleagues to talk about their work, gaining new perspectives. For a group near you, or if you'd like to start a group, see [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org).

The board is busy planning our annual retreat for January, and we are looking forward to a productive year! Thanks to Deaf Community Services in Indianapolis for allowing us to use their facility.

Mark your calendars for March 13 – 14, 2009! The 2009 Annual Spring Retreat will take place outside of Indianapolis, for the first time in its 20-plus year history. Our spring retreat has traditionally offered sign language and

interpreting students an opportunity to come together and be immersed in a signing environment with local Deaf community members and working interpreters. Watch the website, [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org), for information. Hope to see you there!

## **Indiana RID**

***President Ronda Jo Bilz***

*January 2009*

When a new year begins, we are inspired to make it better than the past year. ICRID began 2009 with our annual planning retreat on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to achieving our goals and completing the work started last year. Work needing to be completed includes the ICRID website, which has been undergoing changes behind the scenes. We hope to launch our new website in the fall of 2009. The newsletter committee has submitted proposed changes which the board will consider and present to the membership. The bylaws committee is preparing some proposed changes to be submitted to the membership as well. Our PDC has undergone some changes and we look forward to a productive and educational year!

One of the most exciting additions to our organization last year was the implementation of ICRID Reads! This program is bringing interpreters across Indiana from every venue, certified and non-certified, together to discuss the work we do. The phenomenal success of this program proves that interpreters are eager to interact with each other and advance our skills and profession. For a location or information on starting your own ICRID Reads! group see [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org).

March 27 and 28, 2009 is the weekend of our Annual Spring Retreat (ASR), which will take place in Hartford City, Indiana. We will "Inspire the Desire" to go beyond your wildest expectations! See [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org) for more information. Mark your calendar now to come and be inspired!

## **Minnesota RID**

***President Sarah Mansager***

Happy New Year to one and all! After taking time to enjoy the holiday season with family and friends, the MRID Board of Directors is back at work charting the course of MRID for 2009. The upcoming annual board of directors' retreat, scheduled for January 30 through February 1, will be the next step in our top-to-bottom organizational review. At this meeting, the board will evaluate MRID policies, procedures, committees and position descriptions with an eye toward efficiency and relevance. Many thanks to the wonderful MRID volunteers who donated their effort and energy in 2008. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved in 2009. Anyone

interested in learning more about MRID volunteer opportunities should feel free to contact any board member.

## **Wisconsin RID**

***President Susan Gordon***

*December/January*

As we begin a new year, I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone who generously gave of their time for Wisconsin RID.

First, I must thank the Board. They have jumped in and done much to reorganize our state chapter. Vice President Renee Thomas served as our representative to the State Task Force for Interpreter Licensure and on the Professional Development Committee. Secretary Kat Siudzinski headed up a fund raiser along with Trustee Leslie DeMeyer. Treasurer Nicole Stelzner worked with our Trustees Leslie and Julia Jourdan and kept our finances up to date. Nicole also served on the ASL Weekend committee. Student Liaison Alyssa Schauer worked with all the ITPs in the state and sent out graduation and certification congratulations. And Member at Large Jamie Kane jumped in wherever needed. None of these board members took their commitment to the board lightly. It has been an exciting year and I am very grateful for all the work they have done.

I am also very appreciative to the people who have chaired and served on committees. The committee work is vital to keeping our chapter growing and active. Karen Weiser chaired the Professional Development Committee and they organized the Betty Colonomus Foundations workshop this spring. Anna Johnson agreed to chair the Educational Interpreters committee and has done a lot of the ground work to reactivate this important section of WisRID. And Colleen Keating for leading the Scholarship committee for another year.

Another critical committee is the Fall Conference Committee. This year's group was a small but active team led by Leanne Helmrich. They did a wonderful job of "getting us into the game." Thanks to Sue Peterson, Kelly Schumacher, Carrie Gusmer, Virginia Guterriez and Ashley Jacques for the many hours you put in to make our conference a success!

I would also like to thank Brenda Walker-Prudhom and Kelly Flores for their help and support.

Now I would like to welcome our new board members. Welcome back to the board Amber Mullet who will be serving as our Member at Large. Also welcome to our new Trustee is Patty Klabunde, our new Wisconsin Association of the Deaf Liaison is Jeff Cucinotta, and our new Student Liaison is Deb Gerner. Changing positions on the board are our new Vice President Leslie DeMeyer and our new Secretary Alyssa Schauer.

Continuing to serve are Treasurer Nicole Stelzner, Trustee Julia Jourdan. Thank you all for your commitment to our organization.

We also have new committee chairs this year. As Kat Siudzinski and Renee Thomas leave the board, they are moving in to new roles. Kat will chair the fundraising Committee and Renee will chair the Newsletter Committee. Thanks to the many members that signed up during our fall conference to serve on these various committees. You and your work are vital to our organization. If anyone else is interested in serving, you can contact me at [skg@uwm.edu](mailto:skg@uwm.edu) or check our Web site ([www.wisrid.org](http://www.wisrid.org)) for the committee chairs contact information.

Thank you all for the work you do for Wisconsin RID.



## February 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores

Region III Representative

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### **RID Region III by Representative Kelly Flores**

I am looking forward to attending some Region III events this spring and of course, gearing up for national conference this summer in Philadelphia, PA.

On another note, I am officially announcing that I have decided to seek nominations for the office of RID Secretary for the 2009-2011 term. Should I be elected, I will vacate the Region Representative seat after the 2009 national conference. I am looking forward to serving RID in a new capacity, but at the same time, having been a member of the Region III Presidents' Council for 10 years, I will miss service at the region level very much.

(Editor's note: nomination forms for all officer positions can be found at [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org) under "Leadership")

### **Indiana RID**

#### ***President Ronda Jo Bilz***

The ICRID board retreat held on January 10, 2009, was very productive. We set clear and achievable goals with timelines to keep us accountable.

Our Secretary, Kristina Riley, recently had to resign due to over commitment which was affecting her family, so we are in the process of finding a replacement. We would like to thank Kristina for her time and dedication to the organization. We will miss you and wish you all the best! We have issued a call for candidates and have received two resumes for consideration. Candidates have until March 1 to submit their letter of interest.

Our Annual Spring Retreat (ASR) planning committee is in full swing and it sounds exciting! "Inspire the Desire" is scheduled for the weekend of March 27 and 28 at a real retreat center in Hartford City. This is the first

ASR outside of Indianapolis in the 20 plus year history. Accommodations are limited to 150 people so register now!! See [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org) for more information.

The ICRID 2009 Annual Conference dates have been changed from November 6 and 7 to November 13 and 14. It will be at the Holiday Inn North at the Pyramids with the indoor water park and we will celebrate "ICRID at 40: Still Creating Possibilities." Hope all of you can attend!!!

Indiana's BIS (Board of Interpreter Standards) and the Educational Interpreter Task Force (EITF) are working together on a document regarding performance standards for interpreters statewide. ICRID's Vice President, Carrie Westhoelter, is on the BIS and Past President Judy Cain is on the EITF and will keep us informed.

## **Kentucky RID**

### ***President Edie Ryan***

Greetings!

I would like to share with you what we, in Kentucky, have been and are still experiencing in the wake of the recent devastating ice storm. More than 600,000 people have been without power. With no phones, heat, water or other basic necessities, more Kentucky counties are considered disaster areas than not. Trees are uprooted, roads are impassable and families are displaced.

With all of this..... KyRID interpreters showed their "Unbridled Spirit." KY interpreters stepped up! (Many of them displaced themselves). They made calls and trips to the shelters connecting with deaf people who had very little communication if any, for several days.

Within 24 hours, the Kentucky Board of Interpreters (KBI) chairperson made contact with Federal Emergency Management Association to make them aware of the network of interpreters across our state. Also, an e-mail was sent suggesting we do what we could to help in this situation.

The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) staff contacted shelters. Also, a VLOG was set up regarding the lack of access to communication many had faced. There are many heart-wrenching stories from Kentucky people posted on that VLOG.

Here's one example...There was an 83 year old deaf woman who had been at a shelter for several days. She had no family; her friends had all

passed, and she was in no way connected to the Deaf Community. An interpreter was directed to this shelter by KCDHH staff. She assisted this woman in returning to her home along with firemen to check her home for gas leaks. Because of the effort of many, this story had a happy ending.

As the President of KyRID, I can't say enough about how proud I am to have seen, first-hand, the dedication and commitment of the interpreters across the state of Kentucky. We look forward to finishing the clean-up and getting back to normal. Our planning for the KyRID Spring Conference is on target. It will be held April 24-25 in Frankfort, KY. We would love to see you all there!

**Michigan RID**  
***President Helen Boucher***

Greetings MIRID Members and Friends,

With our February thaw here in Michigan, and being eternal optimists, our thoughts turn to spring and our Spring Workshop. Your MIRID Board has been very busy planning. We will be hosting our event at Madonna University, May 1-3. We are featuring the renowned Betty Colonomos presenting her "Foundations of Interpreting." Ms. Colonomos has presented this workshop around the United States to rave reviews. Please plan on joining us in May for this outstanding skill building workshop.

We will be holding officer elections at that time as well. It's time to elect new officers for the positions of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. If you, or anyone you know, would like to run for a MIRID officer position, please contact our Nominations Committee Chair, Stacey Nazurek at [signhere07@gmail.com](mailto:signhere07@gmail.com). Please see [www.mirid.org](http://www.mirid.org) for the explanation of requirements to become a MIRID officer.

We are currently looking for sponsors of our Spring Workshop. Would you be interested in a financial sponsorship that would offset the cost of an interpreter? Perhaps you would like to sponsor a breakfast or lunch at the workshop? Maybe you would be interested in full sponsorship by paying presenter fees? If you or your agency would be interested in sponsoring in any way, please contact Helen Boucher, MIRID President at 810-923-7494.

MIRID would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those of you who donated to the Doris Watkins Memorial Scholarship Fund. If you haven't yet donated to our newly established fund and would like to find out how please visit our MIRID webpage.

**Minnesota RID**  
***President Sara Mansager***

Greetings!

The MRID Board of Directors held their annual retreat and strategic planning meeting from January 30 through February 1, 2009 in Roseville. Our focus at this year's retreat was finding ways to maximize the benefits of MRID membership, while maintaining lean and efficient business operations that are in full compliance with RID requirements and our own bylaws. The planning session was a tremendous success, and I would like to thank the board for the many hours of creative thinking and productive work contributed by all.

The weekend also provided an invaluable opportunity for new and existing board members to get to know one another better.

Last year we laid the foundation for a stronger MRID with our complete bylaws review. In the months to come, we plan to build on this accomplishment by establishing a set of best practices for the board, committees and volunteers of MRID. All committees will be contacted in the coming weeks to discuss how the recent bylaws changes affect their operations.

The board wants to create a supportive environment for our hardworking committee chairs and volunteers. This includes ensuring that committees are operating in such a way as to provide maximum benefit to members, and removing as much uncertainty as possible from committee decisions and operations. My goal is to see that committees are given the tools and direction they need to be successful, and that MRID members feel connected to the organization in a positive way.

**Ohio RID**  
***President Melanie Somnitz***

Ohio is EXCITED to announce our one day spring conference on May 2, 2009. Please see our new and improved Web site at [www.ocrid.org](http://www.ocrid.org) for more details. Anna Witter-Merrithew will be presenting on Ethics, we will have our annual Business meeting during lunch and a Birthday Party Bash celebrating 40 years of OCRID! Please make sure you join us!

The OCRID Board of Directors worked tirelessly to revamp our bylaws. These bylaws have significant changes to the OCRID structure. We are

encouraging members to read them carefully before voting. You can find the current bylaws on our Web site. You will be receiving a letter in the mail asking for your vote. Please take a minute to vote and return your slip to me post-marked by April 15, 2009.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns please email me at [melanie@ocrd.org](mailto:melanie@ocrd.org)

## **Wisconsin RID**

***President Susan K. Gordon***

Greetings from Wisconsin. It is starting to warm up and we have a busy spring with lots of workshops to attend. For more information on any of them or to print out the registration, go to <http://wisrid.org/Events/Calendar/tabid/59/Default.aspx>.

We got things rolling with "Navigating the Catholic Mass" on February 20 and 21. The workshop was held at St. Matthias Catholic Parish in Milwaukee. This two-day program focused on a variety of aspects of the Catholic Mass including analyzing scripture in order to enhance interpreting the Sunday readings, understanding and analyzing the prayers of the Catholic Mass (i.e. Creed, Our Father, and the Eucharistic Prayer), developing better voicing techniques when interpreting for deaf priests, lectors and deacons at Mass, awareness of what Deaf Catholics want and need from the music portions of the Mass and religious sign vocabulary.

The presenters were: Deacon David Sommers, who was ordained in 2000 after attending St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee, WI, from 1996-2000. Deacon Sommers has been serving the Deaf Catholic Community for several years in many different capacities. He has a long history with the International Catholic Deaf Association (ICDA) and has served as president of the organization. Pamela Sue Conine is the Coordinator for the Interpreter Training Program at UW-Milwaukee. She received her Masters from UW-Milwaukee in Administrative Leadership/Adult Education with a focus on interpreter training and her BS Degree in Exceptional Education with a focus on interpreting.

On March 13 and 14, Nigel Howard will be presenting "Medical Interpreting – Keeping a Pulse," will be held in Franklin. This workshop will include: visualization and sensibility: classifiers and the use of non-manual signals and personification; diseases and disorders: ASL classifiers; sensations: throbbing, stabbing, etc.; visual acuteness: visual representation of sound based names (meds vs. color/shape); language

variation: child/teen/adult/seniors; and social differences: gender, status marginalization, sexual orientation, cultural norms, etc.

Nigel Howard has been an instructor for interpreter training programs for over 13 years. In addition, he has worked as a Deaf Interpreter for over 15 years. He conducts workshops on interpreting development and March 20 and 21 brings the much anticipated Demand Control Schema Workshop by Robyn Dean in Madison. After attending this workshop participants will never look at interpreting work the same way again.

This workshop dispels several myths about the work of interpreting. First is the myth that interpreters are not active and influential participants in the communication event. The second myth is that the constructs of language and culture, the ways we usually learn about and talk about interpreting work, are sufficient for capturing the phenomenology of interpreting work. The last myth is that there is a limited set of best practice behaviors that, if followed strictly, interpreters will always be ethically sound. In this workshop, we reconstruct the interpreting event by reformulating and adding to the language and culture factors present in the work. We pay careful attention to the impact of our decisions and ourselves on the communication event - and not by denying that this impact exists. Last, we will use a very different language around decisions and ethics that create a best practice process by which professionals can evaluate the myriad decisions available to them in their work. Participants will leave this workshop with new insights about their work, their decisions, their consumers, their colleagues, and the interpreting profession through a new, structured and holistic paradigm.



## March 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### **RID Region III by Representative Kelly Flores**

While we are gearing up for the national conference, Region III is also well into the planning phase for the 2010 RID Region III Conference July 21 – 24, 2010, hosted by Minnesota RID. Conference Co-Chairpersons for this event are Jimmy Beldon and Lynn Wander. Watch for promotional information at national conference and after that, posted on the regional webpage at [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org).

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Illinois RID  
President Sara Lucas

IRID is proud to have hosted the first of a three part Complete CDI workshop series by Jimmy Beldon, Jr. on March 7 and 8 at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago, IL. On March 7th participants covered the Role and Function of a CDI followed by Ethics and RID CPC on March 8th. We had an average of 50 deaf participants attend Jimmy Beldon's CDI workshop. We were very excited to have several states represented:

Illinois - 16  
WI - 8  
IS - 6  
PA - 4  
MO - 3  
VA - 2  
CA - 2  
MI - 1  
NC - 1  
MD 1

Juan Bernal, Chairperson of the IRID Deaf Interpreters Committee, Tim Mahoney, IRID Secretary and PDC Chairperson, and Brianne DeKing, IRID Member-at-Large planned the event and offered on-site support. The two day training was well received. Everyone was involved and are eager to learn more and achieve their goals of becoming CDIs. Illinois RID would like to see more CDIs in the state. Agencies are constantly

receiving requests for CDIs and there just isn't enough to fill all the requests.

Part 2 is the CDI Written Test Preparation workshop held Saturday March 28th at Mt. Sinai again. Please see: [www.ilrid.org](http://www.ilrid.org) for flyer and registration. Please help spread the word. The entire session will be spent studying for the written test portion of the RID CDI test.

Part 3 is the CDI Performance Test Preparation workshop held Saturday May 2nd again at Mt. Sinai. Please see: [www.ilrid.org](http://www.ilrid.org) for flyer and registration.

We would like to thank all of the sponsors of this event, including: Mt. Sinai, Harris Communications, Deaf Communication by Innovation, Chicago Area Referral Agency, Chicago Hearing Society, Gallaudet, Harper College, Chicago Club for the Deaf, the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission, the CATIE Center at the College of St. Catherine, Columbia College Chicago, Sorenson Communications and of course thanks to Jimmy Beldon, our presenter!



**Kentucky RID**  
***President Edie Ryan***

Greetings Everyone. I would like to personally invite you to attend the KyRID Spring Conference.

We have a great line-up for Friday evening and all day Saturday. This is one you do not want to miss. Attached you will find our flyer. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

**Minnesota RID**  
***President Sarah Mansager***

Greetings! Save the Date! The MRID Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the 2009 Mid Year Conference will be held on Saturday May 30, 2009 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center on the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus. Detailed event and schedule information will be available in the next few weeks. MRID members should watch the mail for conference updates, or visit our website [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org).

In other news, I am pleased to announce that former Northern Representative Natalie Stanley has been appointed by the MRID board of directors to fill the board position of President-Elect from now until December 31, 2009. The board also appointed Joshua Carlson to the Northern Representative position. The Central Representative position remains vacant for the time being, but the board is planning to fill that role very soon.

At the MRID Fall Conference in October, the following positions will be up for election by the membership: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Northern Representative, Central Representative, and Member at Large. Any MRID member who is interested in running for a position should contact a current member of the board of directors for more information.

**Ohio RID**  
***President Melanie J. Somnitz***

The 40th Anniversary and Birthday Bash for OCRID will be held on May 2nd, 2009 in Columbus, Ohio. This one day conference will feature Anna Witter-Merrithew on the topic of Ethics. Registration forms and more information can be found on our website at [www.ocrid.org](http://www.ocrid.org). If you have any additional questions about the conference you can email Michelle Rodriguez at [michelle@ocrid.org](mailto:michelle@ocrid.org).

A mail referendum has been sent to all current OCRID members to vote on the proposed OCRID Bylaws. Letters were sent the week of March 16th

and must be postmarked by April 20th, 2009 for a valid vote. If you have any questions regarding the proposed Bylaws you can contact Melanie Somnitz at [melanie@ocrid.org](mailto:melanie@ocrid.org)



KYRID Spring Conference  
April 24 – 25, 2009

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Capitol Plaza Hotel and  
The Kentucky History Center  
Frankfort, KY



Role VS Ethics - Parker/Bettini

Live Performance – Open to the Public  
“An Interpreter’s Life...”by Sam Parker

Body Speak – Parker/Bettini

Making your Interpretations Sound  
Like a Source Presentation – Carol Ressler

## Workshop Descriptions

### Friday: *Meet at Capital Plaza Hotel*

**5:30 – 8:30 pm** - “**Role VS Ethics: The Eng and Chang Approach**” Need ethics hours for licensure? Come investigate the ethics of interpreting with this special presentation by Sam Parker and Nancy Bettini!

**8:30** - **Light Reception with hors d'oeuvres**

**9:00** - “An Interpreter’s Life...” by Sam Parker

### Saturday - *Meet at KY History Center*

**8:30 am** - **Concurrent Sessions**

#### “**Making Your Interpretation More Like the Source Presentation**” - Carolyn Ressler

What makes an interpretation sound like naturally produced speech? As interpreters we often focus on issues of message equivalency and content accuracy in ASL to English interpretations while not thinking about the naturalness of our English product. This workshop takes a close look at what goes into making an English interpretation sound more like an original, speaker initiated utterance.

To do this, participants will be guided through a process of understanding the situational factors that impact a communication event. Various tools and strategies will be explained that allow for a natural spoken English delivery. Issues of prosody, speaker background, situational context, register, speaker and audience goals will be examined. Common and predictable phrases and communication contexts will be identified and pre-determined equivalent scripts will be discussed and developed. Strategies for making repairs in the English interpretation sound natural and mid-interpretation repair strategies will be discussed. Tips and tricks of the trade will be shared and practiced in guided hands-on (voices-on!) activities. Come ready to learn some new theories, approaches and then put them into immediate practice in a safe learning environment.

#### “**Body Speak**” Sam Parker & Nancy Bettini

This fun filled 6-hour workshop is designed to offer interpreters working in educational settings and community settings a means to examine their own skills as it pertains to grammatical features in Non-Manual Signals in their signing or interpretation work. This workshop is designed to be fun, silly and stress free. Participants will explore through face and body activities ways to increase their use of Non-Manual Signals. Participants will engage in activities that will focus on the use of their choices of mouth morphemes used with specific signed vocabulary that has been identified through linguistic studies. Participants will further explore how grammatical features of Non-Manual Signals can change according to intensity of sign, vocabulary choices, and emphasis. Activities will include watching fun videotapes by both hearing and deaf performers, creative exercises that would be considered non-traditional in interpreter training and linguistic information that will help them in their work.

## About the Presenters

**Sam Parker** brings a wealth of information with him about the world of the Deaf and their culture. He is a child of deaf parents, and has worked as a interpreter for more than 25 years. As an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of North Carolina, in the IPP, Sam has taught classes for more than fifteen years. He has a Masters of Fine Arts degree in acting with an emphasis on voice. His studies have availed him the opportunity to travel and he has studied at the Royal National Theatre in London. Sam’s passion for theatre and performing has lead to his one man show entitled “An Interpreters Life...”. In addition to all of these accomplishments Sam also has directed fully signed performances utilizing interpreters and Deaf actors at The Raleigh Little Theatre. His past production credits include Children of a Lesser God for which he won Best Production. Sam has incorporated his theatrical training with his interpreting experience and has interpreted many theatrical performances in Washington DC, Los Angeles, and New York.

Many years ago, **Nancy Bettini** realized that she possessed an innate interpreting talent that flowed easily, seemingly without effort. Born to deaf parents, a deaf sibling and numerous deaf relatives

gave Nancy her early roots in ASL. In 2002, she was chosen as one of only two female platform interpreters for the 1<sup>st</sup> RID World Symposium held in Washington, DC. Nancy has interpreted for a myriad of National and Regional Conferences and is well-known among other highly respected platform interpreters, all of this in addition to being a community interpreter for over 30 years. Nancy also has quite an extensive resume voicing for deaf celebrities and presenters: Linda Bove (Sesame Street), Leo Jacobs and Jack Gannon (authors), Mary Lou Novitsky & Gil Eastman (DEAF MOSAIC). Now semi-retired with a "PhD. in life experiences," she wants to share her knowledge and skill with others.

**Carolyn Ressler** has been interpreting professionally since 1985 and has been a staff interpreter at Gallaudet Interpreting Services since 1994 and provides workshop opportunities across the country. She currently holds the NIC Master certification, a RID Specialist Certificate: Legal (SC:L) and has also been RID certified (CI & CT) since 1989. In addition, she received a Masters of Arts degree in Intercultural Communication from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

**Capitol Plaza Hotel Frankfort**  
**405 Wilkinson Blvd, Frankfort, KY 40601**  
**Call (502) 227-5100 to reserve your room**

Rooms are \$77 based on single occupancy.

Saturday morning special: Show your room key and get breakfast at a discounted rate of \$4.80 at the hotel restaurant

## ***Schedule of Events***

**Friday Night:**      *Meet at Capital Plaza Hotel*

- 5:00      Registration
- 5:30      "Role vs. Ethics: The Eng and Chang" (3 hrs.)  
                 Sam Parker & Nancy Bettini
- 8:30      Light Reception
- 9:00      Entertainment: "An Interpreter's Life" by  
                 Sam Parker
- 10:30     Dismiss

**Saturday Morning:**      8:00 am Registration

*Meet at the Kentucky History Center*

8:30      Concurrent Sessions begin:

- "Body Speak" by Sam Parker/Nancy Bettini
- "Making your Interpretation More Like the Source Presentation" by Carolyn Ressler (*presented in ASL*)

- 11:30     Luncheon
- 1:00      Concurrent Sessions continue
- 4:30      Closing remarks and Evaluations

Luncheon includes a salad, choice of beef stroganoff or roasted pork loin, buttered red potatoes, green beans, rolls, with coffee or tea

Saturday afternoon break: Dessert with coffee or tea

## KYRID Spring Conference 2009 Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Early Bird, before April 15:**                      **After April 15:**

___Member	\$125.00	\$145.00**
___Non-Member	\$145.00	\$165.00 **
___Student*	\$85.00	\$105.00**

\*Students must provide proof of full time status in an ITP.  
\*\*Luncheon NOT available to those registering at the door.

### One Day Registrations – circle one:

Friday Only - Includes Performance and Reception \$65.00  
Saturday Only – (If Pre-registered lunch included) \$100.00  
\*\*Luncheon NOT available to those registering at the door.

Payment Method:    Make Payable to KYRID  
Cash/\_\_\_Check \_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ \*Payment must reach us WITH registration to guarantee Early bird rates.

Payable to:    KYRID  
Mail to::       KYRID Spring Conference  
                  P O Box 1108  
                  Versailles KY 40383

**NEW!!** Renew your membership on-site and be entered into a drawing!!

Does your employer offer reimbursement? Don't forget to ask...!      Useful websites to visit:

[www.ky-rid.org](http://www.ky-rid.org) or [www.interpreting.eku.edu](http://www.interpreting.eku.edu)

KYRID wishes to express special thanks to Eastern Kentucky University Outreach Program and Sorenson for ongoing support and commitment to our profession! Thru partnerships such as these, KYRID has been privileged to offer innovative workshops at affordable prices, closer to home!



**Friday Night performance at 9:00 pm**

**“An Interpreter’s Life...” is**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

**Tickets available the night of the show for \$10.00!!**

**Invite all your friends!**



## **APRIL 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT**

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### **RID Region III by Representative Kelly Flores**

Greetings, fellow Region III members! I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the national conference this summer; plans are underway for a great Region III Caucus and a new event: Region III Night In. For many years, the tradition has been to plan an informal regional outing (and that is still in the works). However, this year, we will also be planning some social time with light refreshments immediately following the business of the caucus – I hope all can join us and help celebrate what I hope will become a new tradition.

I love every minute of conference, and cannot wait for the next one. It can be very demanding: Many people spend early morning until late at night in workshops. Others, like affiliate chapter officers and national board members have duties that keep them on virtually the same schedule. It can be tough to take time out, even for an hour. Thus, below is some of the advice I have heard or been given about conference:

1. Do not overpack. Unless you are on stage every day, no one will notice if you recycle certain garments, and the hotel will often have a guest laundry – take advantage of it!
2. Related to clothing care, I have been advised to: use the hotel shower as a steamer (not very green but works in a pinch), iron everything on the first day, or to use the dryer to straighten out those wrinkles (definitely my favorite choice).
3. Along the same lines, do not, no matter how tempted, bring every shoe in your closet (like, well, me, and my pals Heidi and Janet). Shoes are HEAVY, and you probably will not wear all of them.
4. Do, if you can, take some time to get out and see the sights. Arriving a little early or leaving a little later can give you some time to relax and explore; so can prioritizing your days so you give yourself a little freedom to savor a well-earned hour (or more) of fun (thanks to those who have advised this and forced me to abide!).

5. Finally, and most importantly, when you get time to nap, TAKE A NAP. Just 1 or 2 hours can make a big difference (thanks, Claudia and Cookie!).

Have more conference advice? Lessons learned? Send them my way – [region3rep@rid.org](mailto:region3rep@rid.org).

## **Michigan RID**

### ***President Helen Boucher***

Greetings MIRID Members and Friends! MIRID will be hosting our Spring Conference on May 1, 2 and 3 at Madonna University in Livonia. Our guest presenter will be Betty Colonomos. We are very fortunate to have Ms. Colonomos presenting on a variety of topics: "The Role of Affect in Message Equivalence," "Where are we going with Team Interpreting?," and "Process Mediation, A New Approach." Please see [www.MIRID.org](http://www.MIRID.org) for registration details.

MIRID will also be conducting elections for the positions of chair, vice chair, treasurer and secretary during our business meeting on Saturday, May 2. Please consider running for a position on your state board. Please see [www.MIRID.org](http://www.MIRID.org) for election details.

## **Wisconsin RID**

### ***Vice President Leslie DeMeyer***

As professionals, we are all fully aware of the need for continuing education. Often times we find ourselves searching for professional development opportunities that will meet our individual needs or spark our interests.

Here in Wisconsin, I am proud to say that over the last two years we have seen tremendous growth in the number and variety of workshops offered throughout the state. Historically, we would see events mid spring, most markedly the ASL Weekend hosted at Lions Camp in Rosholt, a handful of events over the summer and then our big fall conference in October or November.

Starting with an upswing in workshops and mini-conferences in 2008, we have noticed a marked increase in the number of event sponsors who are contacting us to seek CEUs. From January through March 2009, Wisconsin has enjoyed the presentation of at least eight events throughout the state. What is most interesting and exciting is that the events are being sponsored by a variety of entities; from WisRID local area groups who

brought in national sensation Robyn Dean, to governmental agencies like the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing and the Wisconsin American Sign Language Teachers Association, to private groups like Anointed Interpreter and the Wisconsin Registry of Christian Interpreters. Even local interpreting agencies have increased their level of involvement by supporting professional development; most recently PIE hosted a workshop featuring international presenter Nigel Howard!

The state of Wisconsin presents a Wisconsin Court Interpreter Training program that offers basic court room protocol instruction to all language interpreters seeking to work in the legal system. The number of sign language interpreters who took advantage of that first stepping stone to the provisional level of legal interpreting increased by 50 percent over the last couple of years.

Has supply finally caught up with the demand? It's hard to pin down exactly why we are enjoying this surge in professional development opportunities. One thought was that last year, WisRID member Karen Weisser stepped up to chair the Professional Development Committee and has worked hard in cooperation with other entities and agencies to seek out and support workshops from the WisRID side of things. Direction and dedication are paramount to achieving results!

Anna Johnson, our current WisRID CMP Sponsor, has been busier than she may have expected as she took over the responsibilities last fall. "Thank you Anna!"

It is with great pride that I say 'Thanks' in appreciation to Wisconsin interpreters and to supporting agencies alike for showing their enthusiasm and dedication to the field of interpreting by sponsoring and attending the many professional development opportunities offered here!



## **May 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT**

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### **RID Region III by Representative Kelly Flores** ***Looking Forward in the Rearview Mirror***

As RID grows into a 15,000-member association, change is inevitable. Systems that served us well a mere 15 years ago, when we were 4,000, may now be outmoded. Our philosophy, mission and goals, also written 15-some years ago, may also require revision to better envision our burgeoning organization.

Changes may include new decision-making opportunities, changes to the credentialing system, changes to our testing paradigms, changes to our governance and changes to regional conferences. Change is painful, and sometimes controversial, but change can be a catalyst for things we never imagined – what if changes to our voting system actually increase member participation in decision-making? What if changes to our philosophy, mission and goals create an environment that values the diverse nature of our membership, and thus engenders a greater feeling of belonging for all? On the other side, what if change creates undesirable results? What if we are torn loose from our foundations, from our anchor, of the Deaf Community?

Our ties with the Deaf Community demand further considerations – of tradition, of relationship, of alliances. Tradition holds that face-to-face meetings and decision-making are valuable; that we must always be mindful of our relationship to the very reason for our existence. Is it not true that we owe a great deal to those who have nurtured us, who have permitted us to learn and use their language in our work? How do we best serve tradition? How do we ensure that we continue to be allies? It starts with grounding in understanding – that we all walk in each other's shoes and gain a greater appreciation for each other's struggles. This pertains as much to examining diversity as it does with our roots in Deaf culture.

**Anzalua (2000, as cited in Snyder, et. al., 2008) said it best:**

*"Becoming allies means helping each other heal. It can be hard to expose yourself and your wounds to a stranger who could be an ally or an enemy. But if you and I were to do good alliance work together, be good allies to each other, I would have to expose my wounds to you and you would have to expose your wounds to me and then we could start from a place of openness. During our alliance work, doors will close and we'll have to open them again. People who engage in alliances and are working toward certain goals want to keep their personal feelings out of it, but you can't. You have to work out your personal problems while you are working out the problems of this particular community or that particular culture." (p. 475)*

Change is difficult, and it can critically affect our relationships with members and allies. It is a struggle that we repeatedly face. Yet, I do believe that we, as a diverse and dedicated membership, in opening ourselves to each other's perspectives and evincing genuine commitment to our alliances, can find greater appreciation for, and a better relationship with, each other. In doing so, we create a future greater than that which we might have envisioned alone.

*Cindy Snyder, Janelle Peeler, J Dean May. (2008). COMBINING HUMAN DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. Journal of Social Work Education, 44(1), 145-161. Retrieved April 26, 2009, from ProQuest Education Journals database. (Document ID: 1582261511).*

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**Indiana RID**

**President Ronda Bilz**

Indiana's fall conference planning is in full swing! Mark your calendars for November 13 and 14 for "ICRID at 40: Still Creating Possibilities." We will gather at the Holiday Inn Pyramids in Indianapolis, which has a fabulous indoor water park so pack the swimsuits! Watch [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org) for updates.

Senate Bill 57, which amends the Indiana Code concerning sign language interpreters in schools, was recently passed into law. Effective July 1, 2009, the advisory board of the division of professional standards of the department of education is required to adopt rules setting standards for sign language interpreters who provide services to children with disabilities in an educational setting and an enforcement mechanism for the interpreter standards before July 1, 2010.

**Minnesota RID**  
***President Sarah Mansager***

Save the Date! The Minnesota RID (MRID) Fall Conference will be held October 15-18 at the historic Kahler Hotel in downtown Rochester. Several conference-related volunteer opportunities are still available. If you would like to find out more about how you can help out at fall conference, just e-mail any board member.

Springtime in Minnesota heralds the return of green leaves, songbirds and some of the most beautiful weather anywhere. It is also graduation season. Minnesota is fortunate to have three excellent interpreter training programs right here in the Twin Cities metro area. Please join me in congratulating our new interpreting colleagues on their academic accomplishments. On behalf of MRID, I welcome you to the profession!



## **June 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT**

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### **RID Region III Representative Kelly Flores**

As conference approaches, we are preparing for another great Region III caucus. We will publish our reports for that meeting in the July e-News. In addition, we will have more information about the 2010 Region III conference hosted by Minnesota RID (MRID).

### **Kentucky RID President Edie Ryan**

Greetings All!

This is a very busy time for Kentucky Interpreters. Renewal is all around us! It is time to renew our RID/NAD membership, our Kentucky RID (KyRID) membership and a myriad of other things that we are involved with. One crucial thing to remember is our Kentucky license! It is time to renew that, also!

Not all states have a license requirement and it definitely has caused some growing pains, but we as a profession have been enhanced because of it. It can get complicated having several avenues to take when applying for a license, especially if applying for the first time. For an extension to a temporary license or for a full license, you can go to the Kentucky Board of Interpreters Web site (<http://finance.ky.gov/ourcabinet/caboff/OAS/op/interpret/>). On the Web site, scroll down to "Kentucky Administrative Regulations" and there you will see what is required to apply.

The KyRID spring conference was a huge success! My thanks to the board and all of our awesome volunteers!

Our Web site is a work in progress. You can visit us at [www.ky-rid.org](http://www.ky-rid.org).



## July 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Kelly Flores  
Region III Representative

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### **Special Caucus Edition**

This edition of the e-NEWS RID Region III Report will consist of reports for the Region III Caucus. In keeping with the new green theme of *VIEWWS* and the national office, we will not be providing paper copies when we convene, although one paper copy of each report will be available for reading onsite.

### **RID Region III**

*Representative Kelly Flores*

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as the Region III representative for the past four years. This will be my final report in this capacity to the Region III membership; after the national conference, I will assume the office of RID secretary. I will miss participating primarily in Region III activities and engaging with members and leaders around our great region on a regular basis. However, no matter where I serve, my heart is always here in Region III and I will continue to attend as many events as I can. You will have an excellent new representative and I know that you will all support and teach him or her as much as you have taught me (and, no doubt, will continue to teach me). I trust that Region III will continue to lead the way and to nurture new leadership!

I traveled to the fall conferences of Wisconsin RID, Illinois RID and Minnesota RID. I also attended the Convention of the Conference of Interpreter Trainers. I went to Philadelphia, PA and Alexandria, VA, for the fall and spring face-to-face meetings of the RID Board of Directors. I also attended the spring conference of Michigan RID. I served this past year as liaison to the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) RID Certification Council and to the legal interpreters member section. I also served on the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers (NCIEC) RID Mentoring Grant Work Group.

Over the past year, the president's council has been diligently working on developing the criteria for the Region III Distinguished Educational Interpreter Award and revising the job duties of the Region III Secretary/Treasurer. Reports on these items, as well as the state of the

Region III fund, the 2008 Region III conference and definitions of regional caucuses and regional membership meetings, are below.

### **RID Region III Distinguished Educational Interpreter Award**

The president's council and I would like to request Region III member feedback on the award description below. Please send your comments to [Region3Rep@rid.org](mailto:Region3Rep@rid.org) by August 31, 2009. The first time this award is presented will be at the 2010 RID Region III Conference.

### **Draft — RID Region III Distinguished Educational Interpreter Award**

The RID Region III Distinguished Educational Interpreter Award recognizes an outstanding educational interpreter from Region III who has made a major contribution to the field of educational interpreting and has shown commitment as a role model for present and future educational interpreters.

Recipients will be presented with:

- an engraved plaque
- registration to the next Region III Conference

Criteria:

(Failure to follow the rules below will render the application void)

- be a member in good standing with RID and an affiliate chapter
- have received a certification recognized by RID (EIPA, NIC, CI and CT, etc.)
- have demonstrated leadership on local, state and regional levels
- have made significant contributions to the educational interpreting field

Letters of nomination must include:

- a brief biography of the nominee including:
  - 1) details of nominee's educational background, years of experience, and involvement in the profession and Deaf community
  - 2) certification status
  - 3) number of years in RID and affiliate chapter
  - 4) contributions made to the field of educational interpreting
  - 5) positions held at local, state, regional and national levels
  - 6) rationale for nomination

Note: Copies of documentation must be submitted electronically. All material will be sent to the Region III representative who will distribute copies to the Region III Presidents Council members.

Cycle: Nomination material must be postmarked by March 1 of each even year. Awards will be announced at the Regional Conference.

### **Region III Administrative Assistant — Job Description**

The RID Region III President's Council tasked Region III Secretary/Treasurer Darlene Snelson with revising the job description for the position. The revised description is as follows (including a title change to Administrative Assistant):

- I. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-JOB DESCRIPTION
  - a. The Administrative Assistant shall transcribe the minutes of all meetings of RID Region III, transmit meeting minutes to the RID Region III representative for approval, disseminate said minutes to the Regional Affiliate Chapter (AC) Presidents' Council, and maintain the Region III Record by infusing meeting minutes into the appropriate sections for archiving purposes.
  - b. The Administrative Assistant shall assist the Region III Representative in the development of the Region III Budget, report on a regular basis the status of the Region III account, assist in the collection of Region III monies, forward funds to the National office and/or deposit said monies into the Region III fund and supervise the Region III temporary Conference account.
  - c. The Administrative Assistant shall be charged with other duties of the position as prescribed by the Region III Representative and the Regional AC Presidents and /or Representatives.
  - d. The Administrative Assistant shall serve as a non-voting Regional Officer during Region III conference call meetings. The Administrative Assistant may be able to vote at the Region III Business meeting.
  
- II. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – QUALIFICATIONS
  - a. The individual must be a dual voting member in good standing of RID and an AC.
  - b. The individual is not required to be a president of a Region III Affiliate Chapter; however, the individual might be a "President in training" or "Past President".

- c. The individual must possess or have ready access to a computer, modem and e-mail.
- d. The individual must be committed to attendance at RID Region III meetings and conference calls.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - SELECTION PROCESS

- a. It is recommended that individuals interested in the position of the Region III Administrative Assistant submit a letter of intent and resume no later than two- months prior to the RID Region III Conference.
- b. The individual selected to be Region III Administrative Assistant shall be selected at a meeting of the RID Region III Officers prior to or at the face-to-face President's Council meeting conducted at the RID Region III Conference. This person shall be notified prior to or during the RID Region III Conference and will assume the duties of the position immediately thereafter.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-VACANCIES

- a. Any vacancy occurring in the position of the Region III Administrative Assistant may be filled by an affirmative vote of a majority of the RID Region III AC Presidents and/or Representatives.
- b. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for the unexpired term of their predecessor's office.

(Revised edition 10/22/08 from Region III Record, Appendix pp. 2-3, 1997)

**Region III Fund**

The Region III fund balance as of 7/15/09 is \$8,420.72.

**2008 RID Region III Conference**

The 2008 RID Region III Conference, hosted by Ohio Chapter RID (OCRID) had funds remaining after conference in the amount of \$9937.82.

Accordingly, OCRID sent 40 percent of the remaining funds to RID for deposit in the Region III fund. The amount deposited was \$3975.13.

I extend my gratitude and congratulations to OCRID, Co-Chairpersons Anthony Nelson and Linda Adams and their entire conference planning committee for a wonderful and successful conference.

**Regional Caucuses and Regional Membership Meetings**

The RID Board of Directors has drafted a description of regional caucuses and regional membership meetings (formerly regional business meetings). The descriptions of these gatherings are as follows:

### **Regional Caucuses**

Regional caucuses are a traditional gathering at the national conference; this time is set aside for region members to meet as a group. Every region organizes and carries out their caucus in a different way. Caucuses are typically two hours in length, run concurrently and are held a day or two before the RID business meeting at the national conference. Typically, regional caucuses are events built around camaraderie and celebration. Therefore, the conference planning committee does try to place them in rooms that are not near another caucus or a workshop that they might disturb. There are no set rules for caucuses, but some uses of the time include the following:

1. Provide an educational opportunity for members (requires CEU paperwork in advance, and the presidents council typically designs and presents it) – usually 45 minutes to 1 hour of the allotted time
2. Provide reports from chapters and the regional representative
3. Establish an atmosphere of cohesion, rapport and excitement (aka “Rah-Rah”)
4. Provide an opportunity to discuss current issues in an informal forum
5. Promote the next regional conference
6. Promote the next national conference when it is in a particular region
7. Provide social time for the members

### **Regional Membership Meetings**

One of the critical duties of the regional representative is to preside over regional membership meetings. These meetings, while important, are not formal business meetings, but more like committee meetings. Thus, credentialing is not appropriate or used for these meetings. A regional representative may choose to have a sign-in sheet that asks members attending the meeting to identify their dual member status (and voting status). However, these cannot be used to determine quorum, or to discourage those regional members who are not voting members (supporting, retired, student) from participating in the true purpose of the meetings: to gather member feedback and present that feedback to the RID Board of Directors. Any motions that come out of a regional membership meeting are considered recommendations and thus are not binding motions.

Region representatives can choose to host these meetings in a formal or informal way. Hosting the meeting in a less formal way can give a more collegial, comfortable environment while hosting the meeting in a more formal way, using RRO, can allow for a more orderly discussion of regional issues. However, formality can cause misunderstandings with members if they perceive it to mean that the regional membership meeting is an official gathering of RID. Therefore, regional representatives choosing to assume a formal operation should take great care to inform the president's council and the members of the unique nature of these meetings prior to and during, the proceedings. Should the meetings be convened in an informal fashion, a basic agenda is as follows:

- a) Awards
- b) Presidents Reports
- c) Motions/Acclamations/Resolutions
- d) State of the Region Report

Should the meeting be convened in a formal fashion, steps to take can include:

1. Sign in sheet (honor system) asking dual members to verify their status (see sample sign-in sheet below).
2. Documents and reports to provide in writing may include:
  - a. Agenda
  - b. past meeting minutes
  - c. motions history for the past two years
  - d. financial report for the past two years
  - e. Regional Representative Report
  - f. Presidents reports
  - g. (optional) RRO in brief
3. Call the meeting to order, and upon convening, remind the membership that the regional membership meeting is akin to a committee meeting, and thus motions are actually recommendations from the body that may be considered by the board of directors.
4. Follow the traditional order of a meeting as outlined in RRO. For example, the order may be as follows:
  - a. Call to order
  - b. (Optional)Parliamentarian's remarks
  - c. Optional: report of the number of dual members in attendance
  - d. Approval of the minutes of past meeting
  - e. Reports
  - f. Unfinished business

- g. New business
- h. Announcements
- i. Adjournment

5. At the start of new business, remind the membership of the informal status of a regional membership meeting. At this time, the regional representative may choose to convene as a Quasi-Committee of the Whole (QCW) in order to allow for a more informal discussion of topics. Refer to RRO for information about how to convene a QCW.
6. Due to the informal nature of this type of meeting and also depending upon the space restrictions imposed by using hotel conference space, the regional representative may choose to end the meeting exactly at the time of adjournment without allowing motions from the floor to extend the time. Should there be some additional time available to extend the meeting, the regional representative can ask for a motion to extend.

### **2009 President's Council Motions**

(Note that a full motions history will be presented during the regional membership meeting in 2010)

Motions passed by the RID Region III President's council in 2009 include:

#### R3M09.01

Move that Region III funds be used to reimburse the Region III Secretary/Treasurer, Darlene Snelson, for the following expenses at the 2009 RID National Conference: early bird registration, hotel and transportation.

Moved: Sara Lucas/Sarah Mansager

Amendment: Carries

Main Motion: Carries

#### R3M09.02

Move to designate \$1,000 of the Region III Fund as seed money for the 2010 RID Region III Conference.

Moved: Ronda Bilz

Seconded: Sara Lucas

Motion: Passed

#### R3M09.03

Move to change the title of the Region III Seceretary/Treasurer to Administrative Assistant.

Moved: Ronda Bilz

Seconded: Shannon Grider  
Motion: Passed

R3PCM09.04

Move to purchase 500 pins for the 2009 RID National Conference in the amount of \$725.

Moved: Sue Gordon/Edie Ryan  
Motion: Passed

R3PCM09.05

Move that the PC transfer funds for the early bird registration fee to Eve Dicker Eisman's RID account.

Moved: Sue Gordon/Helen Boucher  
Motion: Passed

R3PCM09.06

Move that we donate \$250 to WASLI.

Moved: Sara Lucas/Sue Gordon  
Motion: Passed

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## **Illinois RID**

### ***President Sara Lucas***

Can you believe it is national conference time again?!? I feel like only yesterday I was wandering Haight and Asbury and nibbling on garlic ice cream at the Stinking Rose! San Francisco was a terrific conference and now, in the hometown of the Liberty Bell, running up the steps at the art museum Rocky style, I am excited for another memorable conference! By far one of the highlights of serving as the Illinois RID (IRID) president these past four years has been the ability to network with other members of our region and also the nation at conferences and bringing back new ideas, goals, plans and renewed energy to share with our board and our state. And as we in Illinois gear up for our fall conference in November, I prepare to pass the torch and support our new leaders to continue to grow the organization. I am grateful for the board members who've gone and those who remain who continue to work hard for the interpreters of the state of Illinois. Also finishing up her term is Vice President Tracy Duffing. Tracy is a colleague and friend who I admire, respect and appreciate. Thanks for taking the journey along with me, Tracy. To our remaining board members: Abby, Brianne, Rachel and Kevin I wish you insight and wisdom, success, determination, strength and courage. Since the last national conference our PDC was completely revamped thanks to the support and work of a committee of one and for that I must thank Tim Mahoney. Now is a landmark time in the history of IRID, we have several

positions on the board and within the committees that need to be filled. I encourage our members, recent grads and longstanding members alike to consider getting involved in IRID. It is only through involvement that we can make change and it is at the state level that we can see the most return on our investments. Volunteering for our state organizations gives back not only to ourselves, not only to the profession as a whole but also supports interpreting students and the Deaf community members in our neighborhoods. Please consider serving the state affiliate chapter today. Thank you!

## **Indiana RID**

### ***President Ronda Bilz***

The 2008-2009 Indiana Chapter (ICRID) Board has successfully undertaken several challenges and is pleased with our progress and accomplishments.

We began 2008 by moving into our new office at the Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD), thanks to efforts by past president Judy Cain. Due to renovations at ISD during the summer of 2009, our office has been moved to a different location on campus where we will be able to hold our meetings and continue to archive our history.

The past two annual spring retreats were great successes, with outstanding workshop presenters and excellent attendance numbers. We branched out for the first time in 2009 by bringing the spring retreat to a city outside Indianapolis and the response was phenomenal. Thanks to the incredible dedication and hard work of our members-at-large, we may continue this trend in order to reach as many interpreters across the state as possible.

From fall 2008 through spring 2009, Indiana was the site for the pilot "ICRID Reads!" program, which brought interpreters together in different locales across the state to discuss professional articles related to interpreting and how it relates to their work. The CEU generating program was a great success and we look forward to being involved as "Reads!" continues to develop.

Our newsletter, *INSIGHTS*, transitioned from paper to electronic form in order to make our contribution in conserving resources and being "green." We are continuing to improve the delivery of our newsletter in order to enhance communication with the membership.

Another improvement to communication, our Web site is in the process of a complete overhaul, including the software being used. The new Web

site should be ready for unveiling near the end of summer or early fall.

In an endeavor to add a member benefit, ICRID held its first Members Family Picnic in July 2009. The board and members who braved the weather have not had so much fun playing in the rain since we were kids! We hope to continue this as a fun activity to bring members together in a relaxing environment to really get to know each other without the stresses of work. The board has requested a dryer day for the picnic next year.

Planning for the 2009 annual conference is in full swing and we look forward to celebrating ICRID's 40th birthday at the Holiday Inn Pyramids indoor water park November 13 and 14. Hope to see many of you there!

The surest way to run out of time is to rush around and try to live in the next moment, instead of experiencing the one you're in. Slow down.

## **Kentucky RID**

### ***President Edie Ryan***

Since the beginning of my presidency in July 2008, several things have happened.

- September 26-27, 2008: Fall conference was in Morehead, KY. "Marriage of Verbs" was presented by Karen Sue Boyd and "Daily Dilemmas: Ethical Decision Making K-12" was presented by Amie Sieberlich. 65 people attended the conference. The silent auction earning was close to \$300.
- Kentucky RID (KyRID) sponsored "Town Hall Meeting" to meet the new Executive Director of KY Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Liz Hill. January 2009.
- January 26, 2009 KY was hit with a devastating ice storm. With very little communication available to anyone, no phones, electricity or heat KY interpreters stepped up where ever there was a need. Checking shelters for deaf individuals helping families get to each other. Through the many experiences of Deaf/Hearing KCDHH is gaining information on how to better serve the deaf community in emergencies such as this one.
- The Web site has a face lift and as always is a work in progress [www.ky-rid.org](http://www.ky-rid.org). Check us out online!
- April 24-25, 2009: Spring conference was in Frankfort, KY. "Body Speak" was presented by Sam Parker and Nancy Bettini. "Making

your Interpretation Sound like Source Presentation" was presented by Carolyn Ressler. 95 people were in attendance. The Norma Lewis Scholarship was awarded to Kara Herdt. The Presidents Award was given to Sorenson Communications for their support of the interpreting profession.

- June 30 is the time to renew you KY interpreters' license. You can go to [www.kbi.gov](http://www.kbi.gov) to see how KY's licensure law works.
- A huge thank you to the KyRID board for their dedication to the organization. Also, thank you to all of the volunteers and members who make this organization work.

## **Michigan RID**

*President Helen Boucher*

Greetings Michigan RID (MIRID) members and friends! The past two years since our last national conference have been busy ones for MIRID. The amendment of PA – 204 has affected all interpreters in the state. It is now the law that people working in the state of Michigan providing interpreter services must hold a credential approved by the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DODHH) and must also register with the DODHH. As MIRID president and as an interpreter who has worked in the community for many years, I was appointed to the committee to help craft rules and regulations for PA-204. It has been an arduous process but we are moving forward and the outcome will be more effective interpreting services for Deaf and hearing consumers here in Michigan.

MIRID has provided many excellent workshops and conferences over the past two years for students and working interpreters. Some of the topics presented on were: preparation for the NIC, team interpreting, voicing, interpreting a funeral, audism, the role of affect in message equivalence, process mediation and mentoring. MIRID was also involved in collaborative efforts with other organizations to provide legal interpreter training and on two separate occasions, workshops for NIC preparation.

We have had the good fortune to have a fully staffed MIRID board for the past year. Vice President Susan Clark has worked tirelessly to secure presenters for our conferences and workshops. She has done an outstanding job. She has also ensured that all of our conferences and workshops provided CEUs as well as Michigan QA Units for our attendees. Susan has also coordinated our student volunteers. MIRID tries to have students from each of the interpreter education programs (IEP) at every conference and workshop.

Toi Williams has done an excellent job as our MIRID secretary. Toi volunteered to fill in when our previous secretary had to step down from her position. Toi is a quick study and learned the duties of secretary at record speed without a lot of mentoring. We were thrilled when she agreed to run for secretary during the next general election.

Martha Meginley, MIRID Treasurer, has been not only our money manager but our resident historian. Martha has volunteered her time with MIRID for many, many years, serving in most, if not all executive board positions. Any time we have a question as to why a procedure is in place or how something has been handled in the past, Martha is there to guide us. This spring Martha also presented "Treasurer School" for our local committee chairs.

The MIRID board has had the honor in the past year of filling two member-at-large positions with Deaf constituents. The first is Natalie Grupido. Natalie has been wonderful at sharing her Deaf perspective with us. She has gently guided us with her sensitive input. Her sense of humor has gotten us through very trying times. She is also an expert at procuring door prizes! MIRID has never had such great door prizes to award as we have since Natalie came on board!

Our second Deaf member-at-large is Dawn Taylor. Dawn had been involved with our MIRID Mentoring Committee and has participated in workshops as a mentor. She is always willing to pitch in when any type of help is needed.

Janet Jurus is our third member-at-large. Janet has taken on many responsibilities with the MIRID board. She drafted essential presenter and interpreter contracts that we are currently using. After the executive board approves the interpreters for a conference, Janet is responsible for making all interpreter arrangements. Janet is our liaison between the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DODHH) and MIRID. She keeps us up to date with new information coming from DODHH.

Our publications are managed by the incredible Bruce Wicklander. Bruce is responsible for all aspects of our MIRID newsletter, *LINK*, as well as our MIRID Web site. We are in the process of transferring to a paperless newsletter and Bruce is spearheading this project for us.

We were also fortunate to have the guidance of Diana McKittrick, President of Michigan Deaf Association (MDA). Diana attended our executive board meetings when her schedule allowed and invited me as MIRID president to attend the MDA board meetings as well.

With respect to input from our members, MIRID has made a sincere effort to move workshop locations to different venues around the state. If attendance numbers are adequate, we hope to continue this practice in the future.

It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to long time friend and former MIRID President Doris Watkins. With deep respect and in hopes of honoring Doris, MIRID has established the Doris Watkins Memorial Scholarship Fund. The executive board will be working to establish guidelines in the next year on how to award monies from this fund.

In the past year MIRID has had strong local leadership to be proud of. Our sincere gratitude goes out to Stacey Nazaruk, Janna Bennett, Rose Gelushia, Ed Theis and Donna Leahy for all their efforts on behalf of MIRID. Many excellent local workshops were presented with wonderful attendance. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Thank you also to the countless MIRID volunteers who I have not mentioned here. Whether you made copies, made coffee, shopped for muffins or completed one of the other duties that made our events run smoothly, we are grateful.

We are looking forward to October and the start of almost a completely new MIRID Board. We are welcoming Joan Gage as president, Dan McDougall as vice president and Josie Cole as secretary. Returning are Treasurer Martha Meginley, Deaf Members-at-Large Natalie Grupido and Dawn Taylor and Member-at-Large Janet Jurus. As always, we hold a seat at our board table for our Michigan Deaf Association President.

In closing and on a personal note, the past two years have been a wonderful learning opportunity for me. I have grown as a person in the process of working through our challenges and took great personal pleasure in our many MIRID successes. The MIRID Executive Board continued to strive to work as a cohesive, supportive team. I believe we were successful. I am finishing my time as MIRID President on October 1 and have chosen not to run for office again. I will be serving as ex-officio for the next year. I am confident that I am leaving you with an excellent, enthusiastic, dedicated executive board. I know that MIRID members will rise to the challenges we face in PA- 204. I am hoping that all of you will look at our new state testing procedure as an improvement to our system and as a personal challenge to improve skills. I wish you all continued success on your personal and professional journeys.

**Minnesota RID**  
*President Sarah Mansager*

The MRID board of directors began 2008 by holding a strategic planning conference focusing on the future of our organization. With the goal of increased membership participation and wider access to MRID programs, services and committees, all aspects of the organization were reviewed. As a result the board met with membership, gathered feedback and studied interpreter demographics from January through October 2008 and then revised the existing bylaws based on findings from those efforts. In October 2008, the newly revised bylaws were adopted by membership vote.

Some highlights of the new bylaws include: changes to the position of president and vice president, term length and duties of board members, changes to the regional boundaries and the addition of a Central MN representative. The complete revised bylaws are available online at [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org).

In 2009, the MRID board of directors has been working on the second part of our strategic plan by reviewing and updating all existing policies and procedures. This work is scheduled for completion during the late summer/early fall of 2009.

Other highlights of the review process include: moving all MRID belongings and documents from various donated spaces into a single secure location in Saint Paul, MN and creating a new Web site which is currently under construction. The Web site is scheduled to be up and running by fall 2009.

During this period, MRID held its 2008 fall conference at the Grand Rios Hotel and Waterpark in Brooklyn Park, MN, a Minneapolis suburb and its 2008 & 2009 Spring Conferences at the University of MN Twin Cities Campus.

Plans are underway for the fall 2009 conference. The conference will be held October 16-18 at the Kahler/Marriott in Rochester, MN.

The 2010 RID Region III Conference will be held July 2010 in Bloomington, MN at the Hotel Sofitel near the Mall of America.

For further information please visit [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org).

**Ohio RID**

***President Melanie Somnitz***

Welcome to Summer! Ohio Chapter RID (OCRID) has been very busy this spring and have some updates to share with our members:

Our 2009-2010 membership drive has been a great success. We have over 170 members renewing before the deadline. We will continue to accept memberships through the year so please get our memberships forms back to Shalene.

In April, the OCRID members passed the new organizational bylaws. While there were many minor changes, the most significant change is that we have restructured the organization and no longer will have local chapters. Instead, at the annual business meeting we elected three state representatives that will work in conjunction with our vice president to bring educational opportunities throughout the state of Ohio. Be on the look out for a fall event in the Greater Toledo Area.

We are aware of a serious problems with our Web site. We are in the process of obtaining bids for a new Web site and hopefully will have this problem resolved by the end of summer. If you have any questions or problems, please email me at [mel4ocrid@aol.com](mailto:mel4ocrid@aol.com).

Several of the Ohio RID board will be attending the national conference in Philidelphia. We do hope that you will join us at the RID Region III Caucus.

**Wisconsin RID**

***President Susan K. Gordon***

- The past two years have been a time of rebuilding for Wisconsin RID (WisRID). We have had a couple of years of a full board, but little committee involvement. These past two years we have focused on the committees and encouraging membership to get involved.
- One of our first steps was to define the committees and the responsibility of each committee. We did this on one of our executive board work days. Each year we get together as a board, roll up our sleeves and focus on getting as much work done as we can. We have worked on updating our bylaws, restructuring the board, defining the roles of each board member and establishing guidelines for area committees (to replace the LAC). I want to thank the board members for their willingness to give up a weekend to focus on the work of WisRID.

- Renee Thomas and I were pleased to represent Wisconsin at the Collaboration for the Advancement of Teaching Interpreter Excellence (CATIE) Center Leadership Summit. Paula Gajewski led this summit and we have integrated much of the information learned into our board practices. All Region III presidents, the national board and the National Alliance of Black Interpreters (NAOBI) Board participated in the summit.
  
- Two exciting things are happening in Wisconsin. The first is that we have reopened a RID testing supersite. It is housed at the University of Wisconsin and is a collaboration with their Interpreter Training Program and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program. The second is that we have a statewide pilot mentoring program this year. The Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, along with WisRID, agencies and interpreter training programs throughout the state have collaborated on the project. The Wisconsin Mentoring Program pilot project mission is to offer training and mentoring specifically designed to focus on professional goals toward attaining national certification.
  
- Plans for fall conference 2009 are underway. This year's conference will be held November 13-15 at the Country Springs Hotel and Waterpark in Pewaukee, WI. We hope you can join us.

**2008 Executive Board**

President: Susan Gordon  
 Vice President: Renee Thomas  
 Treasurer: Nicole Stelzner  
 Secretary: Kat Siudzinski  
 Trustee: Leslie DeMeyer  
 Member at Large: Jane Kane  
 Student Liaison: Alyssa Leighton  
 WAD Liaison: Joel Mankowski

**2009 Executive Board**

President: Susan Gordon  
 Vice President: Leslie DeMeyer  
 Treasurer: Nicole Stelzner  
 Secretary: Alyssa Schauer  
 Trustee: Patty Klabunde  
 Trustee: Julia Haack  
 Member at Large: Amber Mullet  
 Student Liaison: Deb Gerner  
 WAD Liaison: Jeff Cucinotta



## August 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Leandra Williams  
Region III Representative

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Greetings All:

We can now add another GREAT conference to our list of RID Conference favorites. This year's event held in Philadelphia, PA, not only surpassed previous conference attendance records, but also provided a marvelous array of professional development opportunities. As always, conference participants enjoyed the various opportunities to network and renew old friendships. This conference was very special for me because I was appointed and sworn in as YOUR NEW REGION III REPRESENTATIVE. Our previous Representative, Kelly Flores, is assuming the position of RID Secretary. Congrats Kelly - we know you will do us proud!

At conference I hit the ground running, meeting with the Region III President's Council and getting familiar with the issues in each of their states. In the next three months, many of our state affiliates will be hosting conferences:

October 16 - 17, 2009  
Kentucky RID and Minnesota RID

November 13 - 14, 2009  
Indiana RID and Wisconsin RID

November 21, 2009  
Illinois RID

Unfortunately, the Kentucky and Minnesota dates conflict with the RID face-to-face board meeting, so I will not be able to attend these events. I will try to attend as many of the other conferences as *physically* possible. In order to give the presidents council the much needed time to prepare for these events, they are taking a hiatus for the August e-NEWS. Watch for their reports next month!

I also met with both the 2010 Region III Conference Chairs, Jimmy Beldon and Lynn Wander, and the 2010 Conference Program Committee. They all have wonderful ideas to make the 2010 Region III Conference the best yet! So.....

**SAVE THE DATE: July 21 - 24, 2010**

**2010 Region III Conference**

*(hosted by Minnesota RID)*

Hotel Sofitel  
Bloomington, MN (near the Mall of America)

I also enjoyed the opportunity to greet the members in attendance at the Region III Caucus. In the future, I will be discussing some of the issues mentioned during my presentation.

Lastly, I would like to take a moment and *THANK* a few folks who have been invaluable to me in these first few weeks:

***KELLY FLORES - outgoing Region III Representative***

*(for taking me under your wing and helping me adjust to these new responsibilities while you are doing the same in your new position)*

***THE REGION III PRESIDENTS COUNCIL***

*(for your support and faith in my ability to serve in this position)*

***DARLENE SNELSON - Region III Administrative Assistant***

*(for your much-needed assistance and counsel)*

***THE REGION III MEMBERSHIP - THAT'S YOU!***

*(for all the messages of love and support - YOU ARE THE BEST!)*

Until next month.....

*Leandra*



## September 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Leandra Williams  
Region III Representative

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Greetings All:

It is official. Those long lazy days of summer are over. We are noticing that the daylight hours are becoming shorter and the air is getting cooler. A sure sign that change is on the way.

The same is true for several of our Region III affiliate chapters. Most of the chapters will host state conferences during the next eight weeks. With that, there will also be "a changing of the guard." Several of the members of the Region III President's Council will transition out of their positions and welcome new members to their affiliate executive boards. It will be a bittersweet journey for these presidents and other outgoing board members as they move on to other tasks. Please join me in taking a moment to *THANK* these individuals for their dedication and service to our professional organization. Without them, there would be no one to carry the torch for those of us who can not or will not do so.

And speaking of change, our 2010 Region III Conference Chairpersons, Jimmy Beldon and Lynn Wander are planning a conference with slight differences from past Region III conferences. The conference theme, "Passport to Possibilities" exemplifies their desire to provide a conference environment with a diversified focus that will appeal to a variety of people in the profession. This includes establishing committees with a multicultural composition (Deaf, hearing and various ethnic members), providing workshops presented in ASL and hiring Certified Deaf Interpreters as part of the interpreting team. The conference will also feature an opening ceremony with a keynote speaker on the first day of the conference, instead of the traditional Saturday night banquet. In the coming months, the chairpersons will provide more details related to the conference program.

**SAVE THE DATE: July 21 - 24, 2010**  
2010 Region III Conference  
(hosted by Minnesota RID)  
Hotel Sofitel  
Bloomington, MN (near the Mall of America)

As a result of a bylaws referendum, the membership has voted to add the position of Deaf Member at Large to the leadership cadre of the RID executive board. This not only changes the board composition but, for the first time in history there will be *TWO* Deaf members serving consequently on the RID Executive Board of Directors. Voting is open to all certified and associate members in good standing. Be sure to cast your vote before the October 4 deadline. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this historical event.

Change is all around us. It can be a scary prospect, especially for us staunch RID members. Whether it turns out to be something with a positive effect or whether it becomes "one of life's learning experiences" we must learn to embrace the uncertainty and hope for the best.

Until next month,

Leandra

**Indiana Chapter RID**  
***President Ronda Bilz***

Indiana Chapter RID (ICRID) is busy planning our annual conference, which will take place November 13-14 at the Holiday Inn Pyramids in Indianapolis. This year is our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the history committee is assisting with coordinating a birthday bash including past presidents, board members and a presentation of our progress through the years.

The state of Indiana has chosen a coordinator for interpreting services statewide, the goal being more efficient use of funds paid for interpreters used in state venues. See <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/3892.htm> for the announcement and more information.

ICRID has a new CMP! Lena Van Manen, assisted by Robin Reid, will be our new CMP, assuming the responsibilities from long time CMP Coordinator and current Vice-President, Carrie Westhoelter. Thanks to Carrie for a great job and welcome to Lena and Robin.

We have moved into our new office at the Indiana School for the Deaf. The office is shared by Indiana School for the Deaf Alumni Association (ISDAA) and the Parent, Teacher, Counselor Organization (PTCO). Other organizations such as Indiana Association for the Deaf and Indiana Deaf-Blind Association will be able to use the community room for their meetings.

**Minnesota RID**  
*President Sarah Mansager*

Greetings Fellow Interpreters,

The 2009 Minnesota RID (MRID) Fall Conference will be held on October 16-18 in Rochester, MN which is about 80 miles south of Minneapolis/Saint Paul.

As we prepared for this year's conference we spent time developing our theme. We realized that as interpreters, we find ourselves in a variety of roles. Personally, we are mothers, daughters, fathers, sons, siblings and friends. Professionally, we are interpreters in education, mental health, medicine, video relay, government and more. As a field we are young, old, new and experienced colleagues. All of these assets make interpreters, just as many facets make one jewel. This year's conference theme is "Diamonds." A diamond's value is based on its cut, clarity, color and carat.

An interpreter also has four valuable C's: communication, collaboration, community and culture.

The weekend's workshops will help us examine both our personal and professional roles as we improve communication, foster collaboration, build community and examine culture. Join us for this year's conference as we explore these values.

The 2009 MRID Fall Conference Co-Chairs are Tarra Grammenos and Evonne Bilotta-Burke. Hotel and registration are now available at [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org)

See you at the conference!

**Kentucky RID**

Dear Members and Friends of Kentucky RID (KyRID),

Today more than ever, we interpreters find ourselves seeking quality programming to fulfill our professional development needs. In the past, much of what we had came from Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Eastern Kentucky University. That's about it! Today, we are pleased to say that there are many more avenues for us to learn, grow and fellowship together.

With increased volume, however, comes the need for choice. As our constituents, you are being offered many quality workshops at the best possible rates available. With this opportunity, however comes responsibility. We, at KyRID, are responsible for seeing that you are offered the best quality programming our fees can afford. At the same time, we must carefully coordinate with other agencies to make sure that we do not overlap, causing our members to have to pick one over another.

With all this being said, the KyRID board, has decided to forego the fall conference 2009. The date we chose has recently been scheduled for other workshops in the state and we feel the turnout would suffer, causing cuts to an already tight conference budget. This would most likely lead to fewer options and potentially a lower quality conference for the membership and our guests.

The flip side however? KyRID has been in deliberation with Michelle Niehaus, Linda Bozeman and David Herman to provide a joint conference in the spring of 2010. Having multiple speakers and topics and to explore the possibility of an on-going professional development relationship. Michelle particularly has some "out of the box" ideas that will give us a chance to have fun and learn more about each other. She is calling it "speed mentoring." Yes, that's right, kind of like speed dating! We can't wait!

The spring conference, given less competition for resources, will be a doozie! We are going to offer some personal health/self-care topics, a track for interpreters in mental health settings, a track for legal interpreting, and one for education. In addition, we will be looking to offer another speaker for a skills/techniques track including linguistics. Participants will not be required to stay in one particular track and will be allowed to pick from various topics.

Additionally, be prepared to shop, shop, shop! The silent auction and the 50/50 raffle will return! We will present awards, have some fun learning together and then call it a night to retreat home to our families. Contact Barbara Young at [byoung1966@att.net](mailto:byoung1966@att.net) with donations today!

We hope this is not an inconvenience to anyone. EKU, AOC, and Sorenson have wonderful workshops planned throughout the fall, so get out and take advantage of them and we will see you all in the spring. Dates will be announced soon!

Take care, everyone!  
The KyRID Board



## October 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Leandra Williams  
Region III Representative

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Greetings!

As one of the new kids on the block, I am still trying to field my way through a myriad of new experiences. I am amazed at the number of e-mails related to RID board activities I receive on a daily basis. Whether it is a board discussion on how to proceed with motions that were not heard by the membership at conference or comments from members regarding the NIC testing system, my RID inbox has become the focus of my attention on a consistent basis (at least twice daily for about an hour).

Often I have struggled in my response on these issues. I am no longer answering on an individual basis but as a representative for the individuals who live in my regional area. In my analysis of these situations I end up asking myself the same question, "Who are we?" RID started as a point of reference for those looking for sign language interpreters—a registry. Certification standards were added to our list of tasks as well as recruitment of sign language interpreters to the field, producing literature related to the field and providing continuing education opportunities for practitioners. We have truly come a long way.

We ended the membership year with over 15,000 members on our scrolls. Do we still have the same goals as we did in 1964? In an effort to help respond to some of the abovementioned issues presented to me as a board member, I have asked my fellow board members: "What are we? A credentialing body; a membership organization; a grass roots community group or all of the above? Should we function as a business or as a body lead by 11 representatives acting on behalf of the membership? What role does the membership play in matters where organizational decisions may be dictated by legal or governmental authority?"

For me, the answers to these questions make all the difference in how I address the issues presented. It seems I am not the only one asking this question. Several of my fellow board members as well as some of our members are asking the same question. (Whew! I thought it was my naivensness on the board talking.) While I have participated in discussions impacting the membership, I can't help but feel I would have done a

better job if I had the answer to my underlying question. Thus, I would like to ask you to start this discussion with your professional colleagues, within your affiliate chapters and WITH ME. My inbox has plenty of room, so send me an e-mail with your opinions on this issue. Forums and other opportunities for membership input will be held next year at various events. But, please don't wait. Let's start thinking and talking about this. I would LOVE to hear from you!

Until next month,

Leandra

**Illinois Chapter RID**  
***President Sara Lucas***

Greetings to the membership of Illinois! The board of directors and the conference committee are very excited to bring you news that it is almost conference time! Please join us November 20 and 21 at Columbia College in Chicago, IL. We will be gathering for networking, learning and of course CEUs! We are really excited to be bringing a list of great interpreters and presenters to share with our members the most recent educational tools for you! Our presenters will include: Judy Cain and Dave Calvert from Indiana, Bonnie Gibson from California, Dan Cook from Colorado, Joe Lucas from Washington, D.C. and David Evans from Minnesota who will be sharing a brand new workshop for us! Also we will hold our annual business meeting where we will elect a new president, vice president and member-at-large and a special presentation by Columbia College of Grease which will include performances in American Sign Language and English! Do not miss this opportunity if you can get to the Land of Lincoln!

**KENTUCKY RID**  
***President Edie Ryan***

What's happening in Kentucky?

Reminder there will be no fall conference. We are concentrating our efforts and resources on the spring conference which is set for April, exact date coming soon. Any donations for the silent auction contact Barbara Young at [byoung1966@att.net](mailto:byoung1966@att.net)

The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has a limited number of FREE NIC Performance and CDI Test slots available to

interpreters who are residents of KY or interpreters who work 51 percent or more of their time in KY. Check online how to apply at [www.kcdhh.org](http://www.kcdhh.org).

I encourage you to look at the draft for the "Standard Practice Paper on K-12 Educational Interpreting". It is available on the RID Web site. Give your opinion before November 1 by e-mailing [LWaltera@rid.org](mailto:LWaltera@rid.org). Be a mentor.

In closing we would like to extend our sympathies to the National Office Staff and the family of Nathan Nolan.

**MICHIGAN RID**  
*President Helen Boucher*

On October 25 Michigan RID (MIRID) hosted our fall workshop at Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan. We were happy to see the rain stop and clouds part long enough to warm the air and make a gorgeous autumn day. We had a wonderful turnout. Our focus this workshop was "Interpreting in Mental Health Settings" presented by Kathleen Mitchell and June Walakiewicz. Attendees gained strategies for working with Deaf individuals who are mentally ill, including language and dysfluency. At our executive board meeting we were able to say goodbye to all of our departing board members as they finished their term. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all those who have worked tirelessly to make this the wonderful organization it is. We also voted for a vice president and I am happy to announce that Rose Galushi will be filling that vacancy. Our new board is made up of the following people: President Joan Gage, Vice President Rose Galushi, Treasurer Martha Meginley, Secretary Josie Cole, Members at Large Dawn Taylor, Janet Jurus, Natalie Grupido and Publications Bruce Wicklander. We look forward to spring as we prepare for MIRID's 40th anniversary.

**MINNESOTA RID**  
*President Sarah Mansager*

The Minnesota RID (MRID) Fall Conference 2009 came to a successful close on October 18. Thank you to all of the many volunteers who contributed to making our annual event a great success. The conference was well-attended with 170 people present, the silent auction items were very popular (as evidenced by some frenzied bidding) and Minnesota interpreters had the opportunity to attend several stellar workshops as well as catch up with colleagues from around the state. Please extend a warm welcome to our incoming board members, Preside Natalie Stanley, Vice

President Julie (Jules) Gossman-Mead, Treasurer Claire Alexander, Central Representative Nic Zapko, Metro Representative Julie Olson-Rand, Southern Representative Tarra Grammenos and Member-at-Large Kelly Murphy. And we also bid a fond farewell to outgoing board members Lynn Joa Wander, President Ex-Officio; Pamela Wellumson, Treasurer; Heather Ortiz, Metro Representative; Angela Curtis, Central Representative and Cassie Lang, Member-At-Large.

## **OHIO RID**

*President Melanie Somnitz*

Greetings Ohio Interpreters!

Ohio Chapter RID (OCRID) has had a busy back-to-school season. On October 3 we hosted a workshop for educational interpreters at the Ohio School for the Deaf. Our dear regional friends, Dave Calvert and Judy Cain came over from Indiana with their workshop on educational interpreter ethics. We had over 35 people in attendance. This was our first opportunity to partner with the Interpreting and Sign Language Resource (ISLR) department since the state restructuring and are looking forward to future endeavors.

On October 24 we hosted David Evans in Toledo with his new workshop "The Interpreting Process—Intention or Retention."

We are also working on a collaboration with the University of Cincinnati to bring Barbara Jean Slopey to Cincinnati on December 11-12 for her workshop on open process interpreting. We are also planning on having this workshop offered via distance learning to two other sites within the state. More details and flyers should be out in the next few weeks.

Lastly, OCRID will be hosting our spring conference in the Greater Cleveland area May 14-16. A call for committee members, presenters and interpreters will be coming out in the next couple of weeks. If you are interested in serving in any capacity please contact Michelle Rodriguez at [michellelrodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:michellelrodriguez@gmail.com).

The following positions on the board will be open for election: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and member-at-large. If you are interested in any of these positions or would like more information please contact Melanie at [Mel4Ocrd@aol.com](mailto:Mel4Ocrd@aol.com)

## **WISCONSIN RID**

*President Susan Gordon*

We are busy in Wisconsin getting ready for our annual fall conference. This year it is taking place November 13-15 at the Country Springs Hotel and Waterpark in Pewaukee, WI. This year's conference highlights include: "The NIC Interview: Aim High" workshop presented by Austin Andrews and our Friday night entertainment is "RID: The Musical" presented by Amie Seiberlich and Maria Ruiz-Williams. Saturday night features a screening of the award-winning film "Universal Signs." It is a groundbreaking "silent" film presented in American Sign Language with English subtitles that touches the hearts and minds of hearing and Deaf audiences alike. For complete conference information please visit our website: [www.wisrid.org](http://www.wisrid.org). Please join us for an educational and entertaining weekend.



## November 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Leandra Williams  
Region III Representative

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Greetings Region III Members!

Where is the time going? Seems as though it was yesterday that I was struggling with juggling my Region III travel schedule to accommodate as many of the Fall Conferences as physically possible. This was particularly challenging because many of the events were being held simultaneously. Of the seven states in our region, four held events that conflicted with other states in the region. Two of the events were held during the weekend of the RID Board's first face-to-face board meeting. Thus, I was not able to attend either event. Another state event was held on a weekend that conflicted with my personal/work travel schedule. Two other states hosted their events during the same weekend and I vowed to "put on my Wonder Woman costume" and attend both events. But, as I tried to work through the travel arrangements (it would have taken 10 hours to get home from the last location) I realized that I can no longer fit into that costume. I was forced to choose between the two events. Neither an easy task nor an enjoyable one. The two remaining states made the decision much easier. One decided not to host a Fall Conference; and the other scheduled the event for a date that does not conflict with other activities in the region.

I am sharing all of this with you, to help you understand why you may not have seen me at your fall conference. It is my understanding that the region representative SHOULD attend events within the region. While we do have a small budget for travel allowances; and can request a small stipend to help offset costs associated with the loss of income associated with serving in this position, it does not cover a majority of the expenses. The physical toll of extensive travel and time away from family is also not covered in these stipends. Thus, time management and financial planning is a MUST.

Many of the affiliate chapters will host a Spring Conference. I have already informed the affiliate chapter presidents that it is my desire to attend these events, especially those I could not attend this fall, but, we MUST coordinate the dates as not to conflict with each other. If I

am willing to make the sacrifices needed to attend these events, I need everyone else to work with me to develop a 2010 Calendar of Events that is doable for us all. Keep in mind, overlapping events also prevents the membership from being able to attend a variety of events in the region.

The Region III presidents have "heard my cries" and have vowed to do better. As you read the reports below, you will see they have started planning for spring events and so far, things are looking good. **Many THANKS to the Region III President's Council for working cooperatively to address this issue.** They are truly the best!

I look forward to seeing you all at the various events being hosted by the affiliate chapters in 2010.

Until next month,

Leandra

## **ILLINOIS**

By the time of this publication, IRID will have hosted its annual conference and elected a new President, Vice President and one Member at Large seat. Hopefully, we are also in the process of appointing a new Secretary, working on the updates to our Web site, finding a new newsletter editor and working on a contract which will ensure our workshops will continue to grow for the 2010 year. There is much to be done for the new board of directors and I encourage your support!

The shape and scope of our organization is changing. We do not function in a vacuum nor can we thrive in a silo. The future of IRID is only as strong as our willingness to embrace and endure change, our ability to accept and encourage diversity and our drive to collaborate with the IDHHC, the IAD, NAOBI and other like-minded organizations to serve our members, the Deaf community and the state of Illinois.

To our new president, I offer congratulations, admiration and respect. To the membership of the Illinois Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, I thank you for entrusting me with the keys to the castle, but remember there is no moat around the castle, no walls too high to climb, no damp and dark halls to hide in and no lingering ghosts to scare you away. This castle is as much yours as it is mine. You are

free to enter, to stay for a while and to improve the leaky bricks, throw a few coals on the fire or beat the dust from a tapestry, just as I am obliged to do.

Whatever is the will of the membership and is for the good of the whole, we do. Without member involvement, support, feedback and initiative we cannot operate. When there is no one left standing, who's voice is to be heard?

I look forward to seeing you around the castle.

## **INDIANA**

ICRID's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday bash was fabulous!! The History Committee did an outstanding job highlighting each year for which we have information since 1969. Two years, 1971 and 1972, information is missing so if anyone has access to that information please send it to committee chairperson, Judy Cain, at [historical@icrid.org](mailto:historical@icrid.org). Participants were provided with memory pages in their packets to record their favorite memories of ICRID, which will be compiled into an anecdotal history to be kept in our office for members to enjoy. Long time member, Judith Carson's keynote address also led us down memory lane with an eyewitness account of the establishment of our chapter. We were privileged to have Region III Representative Leandra Williams join us. Excellent workshop presenters and topics, exceptional interpreters and support staff and extraordinary entertainment were planned and implemented by outgoing Vice President Carrie Westhoelter and her hard working committee.

The newly elected board includes incumbents Ronda Bilz, President; Zachary Evans, Secretary; Randy Nicolai, Treasurer; Members at Large Lisa Harmon, Laurie Cocks and Robin Reid; and new board members Lena Van Manen, Vice President; and Anne Harrigan, Member at Large. Our Indiana Association of the Deaf (IAD) representative, Jennifer Kutcka, will continue to serve until IAD chooses a new representative at their conference in March. We are now looking forward to our Annual Spring Retreat, which is scheduled for March 26-27, 2010.

## KENTUCKY

What's Happening in Kentucky.....

**\* KYRID Spring Conference**

April 2 & 3, 2010

There will be legal as well as educational options. You don't want to miss this one!

Check out our website [www.ky-rid.org](http://www.ky-rid.org)

**\* Kentucky prepares to host SERID**

Fall 2010

**\* Deaf Festival - Great Fun for All**

September 4, 2010 downtown Horse Cave, KY

Go to [www.kcdhh.org](http://www.kcdhh.org) for more information

## MICHIGAN

## MINNESOTA

Minnesota RID

Submitted by Sarah Mansager

Greetings!

As I wrap up my term as President of MRID, I would like to say that I feel truly honored to have had the opportunity to continue the important work that this organization has carried out for more than 35 years. The past five years that I have spent on the Board of Directors, first in the position of Metro Representative then as President-Elect and President, have been rewarding both personally and professionally.

I believe the great strength of MRID is our membership. We are fortunate to have such a talented and involved pool of interpreters in this region. MRID members are the DNA that drives this organization, and I ask all members to recognize the role that you as individuals play in our collective success. MRID board and cCommittee members are all volunteers who give generously of their time and talents. And any member can play a first-hand role in MRID activity by volunteering to serve. Joining a committee or the board of directors is a great way

to make your voice heard, to give back to the community, to gain new experience and to network with your professional peers.

## **OHIO**

OCRID Report  
Submitted by Melanie Somnitz

OCRID now is on Facebook and Twitter. You can follow us just by searching OCRID in your menu. We are very excited to have this opportunity to keep you updated on all the exciting events that OCRID can offer.

We want to thank our membership for their patience with our Web site. We understand how frustrating it can be to have a Web site that doesn't work. We are currently in the process of accepting RFPs for a new Web site developer. In the mean time, will be launching a simplified version of an events Web site. Be on the look out for a constant contact or tweet to let you know what our new events address will be.

Lastly we are planning our spring conference for May 14-16, 2010 in the greater Cleveland area. Calls for presenters and interpreters are forth coming. Registration forms will be out around the first of the year.

## **WISCONSIN**

This is my final report as President of Wisconsin RID. As my final term is nearing its end, it is appropriately a time for reflection. What an incredible journey it has been and what incredible people I have been fortunate to get to know along the way. There are many I want to thank, but I fear I will miss someone. If I do, please accept my apology.

First and foremost, I need to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of our board for their dedication in the past year. Without them...well, you know where we'd be! Leslie has been a tremendous help as Vice President, stepping in to write an article or send out reminders when my plate was particularly full. Nicole has worked tirelessly keeping our finances in order. Alyssa has done a wonderful job of documenting our meetings and sending out correspondence. Julia, Patty, Amber, Deb and Jeff have all contributed a great deal of

time and energy to various board activities and projects. The work they have done has been a huge benefit to WisRID and its membership.

There are many other critical supporting roles within our association. We owe a debt of gratitude to Anna Johnson as our CMP Sponsor. She has put in countless hours processing paperwork and fielding questions so that we can get credit for the CEUs we have earned. Special thanks to Deb Boness for keeping the Web page looking fresh and the information up to date. And I am grateful for Leanne Helmrich for all her work as membership secretary.

This year we have had more active committees than we have had in the past several years. Thank you to all of the committee chairs: Amber Mullett, Anna Johnson, Renee Thomas, Colleen Keating, Karen Weiser and Kat Siudzinski. Thank you to the many members who have gotten involved, rolled up their sleeves and done the work on these important committees. Without your work, this would be a lifeless organization.

I also want to thank Pam Conine and recognize her for her work in establishing a new RID Supersite in the state. It is a critical need as we work towards licensure. Joel Mankowski has traveled throughout the state educating and gathering feedback. We are very grateful for the many hours he has dedicated to this important mission.

Finally, I would also like to thank the membership for all of the support you have shown me over the past three years. It has meant more to me than you know. I have to mention Brenda Walker-Prudhom and especially thank her for her support and input. Even though Brenda is busy with her work on the RID board of directors, she always finds time to share her knowledge and experience with us.

Although it is a time for reflection, it is also a time to look to the future. What are the next steps for me? For WisRID?

Remember the story of the Shoemaker's Children? The shoemaker was so busy crafting shoes for everyone in the village that he and his own family went barefoot. My schedule has been very full for the past several years. My focus has been on just getting the work done and I have put my own development aside. So for me, I will be focusing on my "shoes." I am starting work on my master's degree and I want to refocus my energies on advancing my interpreting skills.

For our organization, an important ongoing goal is to strengthen our relationship with the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf (WAD). This year RID signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Association of the Deaf to codify their collaboration and to enhance their "commitment to work in close partnership for the future benefit of the deaf community, the sign language interpreting community and for all people who use sign language." My hope is that we can do something similar with WAD.

Although we have accomplished a great deal in the past three years, you always wish you could have done more; you wish you could have done it better. As I was preparing the packet for our annual business meeting, I was looking through the packets from past conferences. After my first year serving as president, I used a quote:

*"If a man is indeed the sum of his memories, then removing or changing an experience would change the man. I like me; I may not like the things that happen to me, but if I changed them I wouldn't be who I am today or who I will be tomorrow. Never regret; you may look back and think things could have been better but you may just turn that weakness into the strength needed to be where you are today."* Peter Davidson

I think this quote is even more appropriate now as I complete my final term serving as President of WisRID. I may not like everything I have done, and I often feel like I have not done enough. But I have learned from all of these experiences over the past three years – both positive and negative. I have grown by the interactions I have had with the board and members, the members of the Deaf community, the members of other organizations we have partnered with and the members of the greater interpreting community. I will take this experience and move forward.

To the board I have served with and to the members alike, I again say thank you for your commitment to our chapter and to our profession. Thank you for the support you have given me. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you in a wide array of situations over the past three years. I have been honored and I look forward to continuing to serve Wisconsin RID in other capacities.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Gordon



## December 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION III REPORT

Submitted by:  
Leandra Williams  
Region III Representative

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### REGION III 2010 CONFERENCE COMING TO MINNESOTA!

The RID Region III 2010 Conference will be taking place in Minnesota and Minnesota RID (MRID) will serve as the host affiliate chapter. Mark your calendars for July 21-24. The conference will be held at the Hotel Sofitel, a five star hotel in Bloomington. The hotel has many wonderful amenities including a shuttle to and from the Mall of America!

Plans are well underway to bring in presenters who will focus on the future of interpreting, as it pertains to diversity in language and culture with a variety of interpreting workshops relating to the conference theme, "Passport to Possibilities."

Promoting a global perspective and working with New American Deaf populations is one of the conference programming goals; it will consist of hands on skill workshops as well as advanced topic workshops. This goal will encompass promoting the inclusion of members who are culturally, racially and ethnically diverse. It will also provide a plethora of opportunities for attendees, presenters, conference interpreters (especially CDI's) and conference support staff to network and learn from one another.

Another goal will be to incorporate a visually supportive environment by having conference committee members and regional board members sign during the conference in all common areas. Workshops will be conducted in ASL only, spoken English or a mixture of both. Integrating the above within the conference experience will allow for a Deaf friendly environment and inclusion of all members and attendees.

There will be plenty of opportunity to explore and enjoy the summer venues with friends and families close to the conference site such as the Mall of America, Water Park of America, restaurants, museums, theaters and much more. For those of you who are outdoor baseball fans, the Minnesota Twins will be playing at home in their new

stadium. Plans are underway to include a Deaf day at one of these locations. The conference promises to have some great entertainment!

Check out [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org) or the Region III Web page at [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org) for conference details.

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## PASSPORT to POSSIBILITIES



**RID**  
Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.