



August 2008 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT

**Submitted by:
Amie Sieberlich, M.A., CI and CT
Region IV Representative**

Greetings!

For those of you that I have not yet had the pleasure to meet, my name is Amie Seiberlich; I am the incoming RID Region IV Representative. The fact that I am "incoming" means someone must be "outgoing" – and your six-year, three-term Regional Representative Glenace Humphrey is certainly just that! She is also moving on to other challenges, enjoying life outside of serving Region IV members and hopefully taking some time to recharge her batteries after many years of dedicated service. Glenace has been a blessing to our region and to our national organization. We thank her for her support, her service and her open-minded willingness to implement our sometimes "creative" ideas. Her leadership will be missed.

Before I share the news from our region, I also want to take a moment to thank several people. Lucy James, thank you for your continued willingness to volunteer your time and energy to this organization. I am so honored to have been able to stand next to you, before the members of our region, as we awaited the results of the election. Thank you also for your offer of support as I find my footing in this new role; I feel better prepared to take on this position knowing that I can rely on your experience, expertise and wisdom. Thank you also to Daniel Burch and Linda Stauffer – although our conversations are not frequent, they are always supportive and encouraging. I will do my best to follow in your footsteps while firmly planting my own. Finally, thank you to each and every member that placed your trust in me by electing me to this position. I am under no delusion about the enormity of the role I have assumed and am committed to contributing to our region and our organization in the fullest way possible. I am fortunate to have an established relationship with many of the leaders in our region and am thrilled about the opportunity to deepen that relationship through service to Region IV members.

Moving on to regional news, I have an item of interest to share that may be of special significance to those that attended the recent TSID/Region IV Conference (which was a SMASHING success, by the way!). One of RID's founding members, Lillian Beard, was in attendance for much of the weekend. I, like many others, was truly touched by her presence; the combination of meeting and speaking with her, and the tribute to Lillian coordinated by the conference planners, impacted my perspective of

who we are as interpreters and as a community in ways I never imagined possible. I could write several pages on my insights into those few moments with Lillian...it truly was profound. If you happen to cross paths with me in the near future, please ask me about it, I'd love to go into more detail in person.

In the meantime, there is a fundraising campaign underway to honor Lillian's contribution to the Deaf Community and to celebrate her 100th birthday. "The Lillian Beard Deaf Connection Center" is being built in Lillian's honor. If you wish to make a contribution to this effort, please e-mail region4rep@rid.org, and I will share additional information.

One other note before I turn you over to affiliate chapter reports. A big "congratulations" to Texas for the establishment of Hispanic trilingual interpreter training and the Hispanic trilingual interpreter certification tests sponsored by the DARS-DHHS, BEI. As evidenced by the trainings provided at the TSID/Region IV Conference, your commitment to broadening the scope of our work is tremendous - we are proud to have you in Region IV!

This will probably be one of the few times I say this, so revel in it while you can, smile - I have nothing else to say right now. More from me as soon as I have had a chance to catch my breath and gather my thoughts...for now, here are a few words from around the region.

New Mexico RID

Submitted by Amanda Retsek & Dana Sumrow

New Mexico RID (NMRID) is working on preparing our annual report. Our fall workshop and annual meeting is scheduled for October 4. NMRID has requested representation on the NM Licensure Rules and Regulations committee. We have selected two awardees for NM Mentoring Program scholarships.

Wyoming RID

Submitted by Darla Sullins

Over the summer, our chapter has been working on two things:

1. 2008 WYRID Fall Conference, September 27- 28. in Cheyenne. Our presenter will be Valentino Vasquez from Greeley, CO. During this conference, we will be voting on three positions: two members at large and secretary/treasurer. The evening before the conference, we will have a social gathering with Deaf Association of Wyoming (DAW).

2. Involvement in a state department Task Force meeting. The purpose of this Task Force is to adhere to a legislative mandate to start the process of exploring what ASL as a foreign language (K-12) would look like, and who would be qualified to teach it.

North Dakota RID

President Cindy Kupfer

First of all, thank you all for allowing me to attend the Region IV Conference in Houston.

We have had three North Dakota RID (NDRID) Board Meetings this year, all by conference call. We have a board that is ready to roll, if the Region IV 2010 conference is in Bismarck. We are currently planning to have our 2008 Fall Conference in September at Medora. Details will be forthcoming.

As of May 2008, the written portion of the EIPA is being offered in Fargo. The test will be offered in August. The written test is currently \$150 and usually takes between 1.5 to 3.5 hours to complete. The test can be completed in groups or individually. The performance portion of the test is offered in Devils Lake.

Arkansas RID

Submitted by Karin Binko

Several Arkansas RID Members were able to attend the RID Region IV Conference in Houston, Texas, in June. We had approximately 12 in attendance! That is fantastic for Arkansas! And of course, a wonderful time was had by all!!!

We are extremely proud of our very own Raphael James, who was the recipient of the *first ever* RID Region IV Excellence in Service Award! Kudos to you, Ray, for all you have done in Arkansas as well as in Region IV!

Our Web site is currently undergoing renovation and we are pleased at the progress that has been achieved thus far. Take a peek and let us know what you think: www.arkansasrid.org. There is contact information on the Web site, and we welcome any feedback. We are doing our best to keep it up to date.