



February 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT

Submitted by:
Amie Seiberlich
Region IV Representative

Greetings!

I hope this finds each of you well, happy, fulfilled and optimistic as we continue our journey into 2009. This year is already bringing tremendous change and expansion both for me personally and for our national organization.

You may have read in other venues that RID recently filled the position of director of certification and education. This brings the total of directors in the national office that have been on board for a year or less, to three. The board has also seen a significant transition in the past year; three of the five region representatives are in their first year of service.

Such tremendous change in leadership and management can be challenging; new leaders require time to get acclimated to the business of the organization and desire to honor the work of those that have paved the path to success, and at the same time, want to bring in new ideas and energy that will forward this success. This new energy, when combined with the seasoned expertise of those that have been in service for several years, has created changes that you may start to notice on a regional level:

- A shift toward regions working together in projects such as the "State of the Regions" article in the *VIEWS*,
- A shift toward regions receiving more support from the national office for region conference planning, and the creation and maintenance of region web pages,
- A shift toward utilizing more assertive means to garner member input and feedback about the direction of the organization, and
- A shift toward increased efforts to provide efficient and two-way communication between members and leaders.

One of the ways that I see communication increasing is in the creation of these e-News reports. I realize that oftentimes information that Region IV state affiliate chapters submit to these reports contain information that you may have access to in other forums, at the same time, these reports allow for the sharing of information that may happen between bi-monthly or quarterly state newsletter publications. Your Region IV Leadership Team hopes that you find these reports helpful and of interest.

In the event that there is anything that I can do as your Region IV Representative to make the changes we are experiencing as a national organization more transparent, or support the transitions you may be experiencing in your own state

affiliate chapter, please call on me either directly or through your state leadership team.

One more final comment before I turn this over to your state leaders...**RIV needs your help!** We are still accepting applications for Region IV Fundraising Coordinator, Historian and Financial Steward. Applications can be obtained by clicking [here](#), then scrolling down to "Region News." Each of these positions is one that Region IV members have asked for to help us manage the business of our region – if you are looking for ways to expand your life of service please take a look at these applications and submit a letter of interest. The deadline for applications is March 1st – in the event you are unable to meet this deadline but are interested in one of these positions please email [me](#).

Ok, on to other news from around the region!

KAI-RID

President Kathy Stewart

KAI-RID met in Wichita for a board meeting on January 10, and received valuable input from members. That input is leading to improvements in our Web site and our methods for working with volunteers at our annual conference.

The same evening, we hosted "An Evening of Silent Entertainment—Breaking the Sound Barrier." This was an evening at the Orpheum Theatre where we were delighted to show an old silent movie classic, "College," with Buster Keaton, and several videos from D-PAN. We also had an unusual visit from two mimes that were doing some advance advertising for their own performance. Our group was small, but the entertainment was great! We had so much fun that this is an event we will look at repeating in the future!

We have recently tapped into a new resource, www.acceptiva.com, that allows us to provide our members with a way to pay online for membership, conference registrations or any other event. We are excited about the impact this will have on our members and on our ability as a board to manage all of our records online.

We have several things coming up, and I invite you to check out our Web site to stay updated. One thing I will mention is our 2nd Annual 2009 KAI-RID Conference, "Passport to Interpreting," in Junction City, KS, April 3-5. Hope to see you there!

Iowa RID

President Jennifer Taylor, President

The Iowa State Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf will be having their Spring Conference to be held in Sioux City on March 27-29. For more information please visit our Web site at www.iowastaterid.org.

Nebraska RID

President Connie Herndon

From across Nebraska and neighboring states came cast, crew and crowd to the sold-out spectacle, "Unleash the Possibilities," Nebraska RID's annual fall conference, November 14-15, 2008. The curtain rose to unveil a series of new stars reflecting the vision, labor and love of dedicated interpreters. The crowd responded with collective awe and spontaneous applause when each star took the stage.

Star 1: New Logo

After a casting call was issued to members and interested persons, Thomas Beyer (Lincoln) emerged as creator of the winning logo. His creation and representations of the basic design reflect the identity and dreams of our organization. The official grand banner graced the stage during the entire event.

Star 2: Provocative Proposition

No production succeeds without a well-written script. Our script, a provocative proposition drafted and perfected by members at the spring retreat, was presented in print, spoken English and ASL. A large poster allowed the printed words to remain a focal point of the set as the event unfolded. Sarah Monaghan read the meaningful English words to the listening audience. Lindsay Darnall, Jr., presented the script in a stunning ASL performance.

Star 3: Conference Mascot and Theme

The award for Best Actress in a Leading Role undoubtedly goes to Rosie! Gretchen Whitney (Carter Lake) unveiled a poster of the lady who has come to be known as Rosie the Riveter. To embellish the scene, Whitney came in costume as a real-life Rosie to portray the theme of the event, "Unleash the Possibilities."

Star 4: New Web site

Meghann Cassidy (Council Bluffs) and Rebecca Cook (Omaha) unveiled a new Web site to an interactive crowd. The result of grueling hours of rehearsal and technical preparation, the Web site made its entrance complete with a new, easy-to-remember address (www.nebraskarid.org). As a bonus for those who join our cast, the Web site features a "members only" page.

Star 5: Facebook

One of the newest members of Nebraska RID's cast is the Historian, portrayed by Bethany Koubsky (Omaha). In addition to documenting the history we're making with traditional records, scrapbooks and

photographs, Koubsky presented our new virtual outlet for frequent updates and interaction among members—Nebraska Interpreter on Facebook.

Star 6: Cool Merch!

De Anna Twigg (Bellevue) worked with Thomas Beyer to represent the new logo on a T-shirt. She unveiled the stunning shirts, along with two button designs to commemorate the conference.

In addition to the new stars, veteran guest artists delivered outstanding, well-received performances in the workshop portion of the event. Kim Barron (Sioux Falls, SD) and Austin Andrews (Rochester, NY) returned for repeat performances to spellbound audiences. Nebraska's own Maureen Larsen left her audience asking for an encore.

The red carpet was filled with Nebraska RID's very own celebrities who came to be enriched and left radiating satisfaction, enthusiasm, and a genuine longing for the next big event.



Meghann Cassidy (Executive Director) and Gretchen Whitney (Professional Development Chair) unveil the conference banner featuring the new logo designed by Thomas Beyer.



Kim Barron challenges her audience to interpret idioms.



Gretchen Whitney presents the conference mascot – by poster and in costume.

Colorado RID

President Ilah Jackson

I am pleased to announce that everything you have ever wanted to know about the 2009 CRID State Conference in Colorado Springs has been uploaded to the CRID Web site. Visit www.coloradorid.org for the workshop schedule, descriptions, and presenter biographies. In addition, there is a link for the registration form and hotel information. Conference interpreter applications are also available. See you soon in Colorado Springs.