



February 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV PROFILE

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Region IV Representative

To start the new decade, RID is going to try a different approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters. To initiate this new approach to region reports, starting with the February 2010 e-NEWS, here the profile of Region IV. We hope this will be a new and innovative way for RID members to learn more about each of the affiliate chapters as well as for each of the affiliate chapters to spotlight themselves and their members.

“The Vision of Region IV is to promote a community that inspires personal and professional transformation by offering cutting edge and innovative opportunities that honor the evolving and diverse needs of the membership.”

Did you know that Region IV is the largest geographical region of RID? Region IV consists of the 14 states and 3 Canadian Provinces that cut a swath directly through the heartland of North America.

Even though Region IV is the largest region, it is the least populace with only 15% (approximately 2,200) of RID members residing within its bounds. Our most populace state is Texas, with Wyoming being the least.

Region IV is also home to the oldest Affiliate Chapter (TSID) and the youngest (KAI-RID). Members in Region IV are eagerly awaiting RID Board approval for the addition of yet another affiliate chapter-Missouri (see below for a special update).

The membership of Region IV is diverse and dedicated to the profession of interpreting. This is evidenced at our regional and state conferences where the camaraderie is palpable and the diversity shines. In recent years at the state and regional level, members have asked for and been given the opportunity to attend tri-lingual and CDI tracks at conferences in keeping with the Vision of Region IV.

Many members in Region IV live in rural areas of the states which can make it difficult to attend professional development opportunities that tend to occur in the more urban areas. As a result, the Region IV Presidents Council is dedicated to securing a conference venue every two years that is convenient and cost effective for members to attend.

This year, August 5-8, we will be gathering in Omaha, NE, for another invigorating and educational conference. Since many of the members in Region IV work in educational settings and must maintain educational interpreting credentials, our conferences always offer an educational interpreting track. Of course, there is also a variety of other workshops and professional development opportunities to attend.

Region IV is 'Alive and Rockin'!

A special update from our comrades in Missouri:

For much of 2009, a task force comprised of deaf and hearing members from across Missouri collaborated to promote the possibility of establishing an RID chapter for the "Show-Me State." With much support from President Cheryl Moose and former Region IV Representative Amy Seiberlich, we hosted an informational booth and town hall meeting at the Missouri State Interpreters Conference in Columbia, MO, the weekend of September 25, 2009. An interim board was selected with President Moose's approval that weekend, and subsequent town hall meetings were held throughout the state in October. Our organization, Missouri Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf was incorporated in January, bylaws were created, our register of well over 20 names was signed, and with generous assistance from our current Region IV Representative, Chris Grooms, our completed paperwork was submitted to the national office in early February. We now await approval by the RID Board of Directors for affiliation into the organization and look forward to continuing our structural establishment and continued outreach throughout 2010.