



## March 2009 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT

Submitted by:  
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Region IV Representative

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### Happy Spring RIV members!

I hope this finds you all feeling the hope and newness of energy that spring brings. The little snow we had this year in the mountains of Colorado is beginning to melt, the air is taking on a spring-like quality and I'm ready to swap my snow skis for my water-ski - spring is definitely right around the corner!

With the advent of spring comes state conference planning for many Region IV Affiliate Chapters. If your state is hosting a spring conference that I am not able to attend, know that I'm sending all my best for a successful, synergetic event. Special greetings go out to the TSID membership - if I could have found a way to get back and forth from the face to face board meeting in Washington D.C. and South Padre Island I would have! (Note to self: check out prices of leer jets.)

I have been fortunate enough to be able to get a few state conferences on my calendar this spring - I'll be seeing members of KAI-RID and Colorado RID in April, and Arkansas RID in June. Then it's off to Philadelphia for the RID National Conference! As a member I have always loved attending national conferences; as a board member I have a feeling I'm going to love it even more! Your national leadership team has put together an amazing conference with a multitude of opportunities for you to participate in the business of RID including extended business meeting sessions and "issues forums." Look for more information on these opportunities in communication from President Moose and your state president.

One more quick comment and one plea for help, and then I'll turn this over to members of your Region IV President's Council.

*Comment:* To those members who have contacted me in the past few months with questions and concerns, thank you. Each time I am contacted by a member, I am given the opportunity to support and learn more about my colleague, and become more educated about what it means to be a leader in this organization.

*Plea for help:* The Region IV President's Council has gratefully accepted letters of interest for both the Region IV Financial Steward and Historian positions (selected members will be announced after the March 21<sup>st</sup> President's Council call). We are, however, still in need of a Fundraising Coordinator. While this task may seem overwhelming, the Region IV President's Council has done much of the legwork to ensure a successful term for whoever might step into this position. In fact, we

are currently investigating a very exciting fundraising program – and you may be just the person to oversee it! If you are interested in contributing to the financial well-being of Region IV please contact me at [region4rep@rid.org](mailto:region4rep@rid.org) for information on applying for this position.

Now, on to comments from your state leaders...

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**Alberta Chapter – RID**  
***President Dona-Marie Rossi***

Greetings!

As reported in January, we accepted the challenge from the provincial Deaf organization to create a team to compete in a Community Volleyball Tournament. I am proud to report that the “ACRID All-Stars’ won second in their division and fourth in the overall tournament – smile - much to the surprise of many, including us! The event enjoyed a terrific turnout and it was a fun way for us to make connections within the Interpreting and Deaf Communities. We also hosted the Board from our national organization AVLIC for their meeting that same weekend. It worked out wonderfully as the Boards from both the provincial and national organizations were able to socialize and catch up with each other and with the local Deaf Community at the Volleyball Social hosted by the Deaf Sports Association that Saturday evening.

Our AGM weekend was March 14/15. We hosted a very successful workshop on “Interpreting Humour” on Saturday and held our AGM on Sunday afternoon. Having everyone come together for the Brunch and the AGM was the perfect time to actively recruit members in an effort to fill some of the vacant positions on the Board. This year we also established our ACRID Awards Gala. The Awards Brunch was held on the Sunday morning before the AGM. We were proud to present three awards – the Community Spirit Award, the Outstanding Volunteer Award, and the Donna Korpiniski Mentorship Award which was created in memory of one of our Interpreting Community leaders. It was quite touching as we invited Donna’s family members to the Brunch to present the inaugural award to the first recipient. We have had a tremendous start to 2009 and, with our Goal Setting/ Board Planning Meeting set for April, I look forward to things to come.

**KAI-RID**  
***President Kathy Stewart, President***

We are busily preparing for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual KAI-RID Conference to be held in Junction City, KS on April 3-5. As part of our preparations, we researched and found a new online payment system called Acceptiva, and it is fast becoming an integral part of our online activities. We are using it now for conference registration and membership fee payments, and can even be used for specific

fund-raising events. The really great part about it is that it works seamlessly with our Web site, makes our bookkeeping much more streamlined, and provides a real boost in public relations with our membership.

We are looking forward to a great conference this year, with some outstanding presenters, including our very own Region IV Rep. We will be offering workshops that cover legal interpreting, educational interpreting, ethics, classifiers, visual music, and much, much more! Hope to see you all there!

## **Nebraska RID**

***President Connie Herndon***

neRID created a lot of energy and sharpened its focus at the spring retreat last year under the leadership of Amie Seiberlich. From that strong beginning, many 'new' looks and features of neRID were unveiled at the fall conference. With healthy pride and energetic satisfaction, the organization formally debuted the crown jewel of their labors: the provocative proposition.

Now it's time to allow that inspiring document to propel the group to the next level! The few, the proud—not Marines, but neRIDians—will gather to continue working to activate the group's provocative proposition March 13-15, 2009, at the Embassy Suites in La Vista, Nebraska. Through the activities of the weekend, members will re-group, re-think, re-new, re-energize, and re-do some necessary little details and some huge dreams of choice.

Billed as the "Spring WORKING Retreat," the event will emphasize the theme, "Beyond Our Provocative Proposition." While developing new action to reflect who we are in the bigger picture, the group will also explore the history, purpose, and design of bylaws to keep the organization legally compliant.

Although attendance will be purposefully small, the registrants express a unanimous enthusiasm for the organization and look forward to a weekend devoted to shared passion and continued growth! *A full report on this event will be available in the April 2009 Region IV Report.*

## **New Mexico RID**

***Co-President Dana Sumrow***

New Mexico is gearing up for its first conference May 2. We hope you'll join us for a day filled with meaningful professional development and an evening of social and networking opportunities. Stay tuned to the yahoo group for details!

We would also like to encourage those who plan on attending the national conference in Philly to apply for a professional stipend. We have funds available to ITP students AND certified members alike. Please e-mail Leah Ekzut at [lgekzut@yahoo.com](mailto:lgekzut@yahoo.com) for details.

## **North Dakota RID**

***No report at this time***

**Oklahoma RID**

*President Lisa Mathes*

OKRID held its annual conference in January at East Central University in Ada. We had a great turnout (over 100 participants) and excellent workshops presented by Amie Seiberlich, Maria Ruiz-Williams, Trenton Marsh, and Keith Gamache.

Additionally, the OAD/OKRID Licensure Task Force is pleased to announce that the Licensure Bill (HB1842) passed the House with an overwhelming majority of 91-7. It will soon be sent through the Senate, and we are hoping for similar results! If you have questions feel free to contact Lisa Mathes at [lisamathes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisamathes@sbcglobal.net).