

# RID Region III Affiliate Chapter Reports

## ***Kentucky Chapter RID***

***Submitted by Amy Hatzel, President***

### *Professional Impact*

The past two years have seen growing numbers at our conferences and events. We have now experienced four consecutive conferences with more than 100 participants each, which is a 20% increase from four years ago. Collaboration continues to make it possible for conference programming to be done at an average of \$100 per two-day conference, with the past two conferences also offering an additional 6-hour pre-conference workshop option. Membership numbers have remained consistent, however at the writing of this report, we are approximately 23 more than the same time last year. We are offering incentives for renewal as well as exploring new ways of recruiting and retaining members. Committees have now been refurbished and are experiencing a revitalization of their functioning. We have also added an Advisory Committee consisting of agencies, entities, and individual stakeholders to the planning and implementation of KYRID initiatives. The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, KY Dept. of Education, KY Department of Behavioral Health, Eastern Kentucky University Interpreter Outreach, and the KY Administrative Office of the Courts have all contributed to the conferences in the past two years which have allowed a wider variety of presenters, topics, and venues. It is our intention to send more delegates to other regional events and to invest more time and money in developing appropriate leadership skills to individual positions.

### *Community Impact*

KYRID has been working diligently to become more of a partner to other associations and organizations within the state so that a sharing of resources can be achieved. We feel this is an important step in promoting awareness to our function as well as encouraging lasting spirit of teamwork as we all explore ways to cut costs and make better use of our resources. KYHELP, an organization affiliated with the Medical Reserve Corps has begun collecting names for a registry of interpreters who are willing to serve during a community emergency. KYRID also established a Susan G. Komen fund and is collecting money for annual donations to this valuable cause. Additionally, KYRID has been working closely with the KY Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. One project was a water booth, manned by KYRID volunteers, to distribute bottles of water to Deafestival attendees. We were so well received that we have been asked to do so again next year AND our volunteers are being remembered individually for this simple act of kindness. One officer reports that a new client referred to her as “the water lady.” We have been involved with the KY Association of the Deaf conference, the American Association of the Deaf-Blind this summer and are already working with the Core Committee for the National Association of the Deaf Conference to be held in KY next summer.

*Individual Impact*

KYRID has awarded annual scholarships/awards via the Norma Lewis Scholarship Fund, Carrie Mosely Distinguished Service Award, and the President’s Award. These funds allow us to recognize those who go above and beyond in our field as well as nurture those who are working to achieve certification/licensure or looking to engage in research/development of new ideas. We are also looking at how KYRID can work with the KY Licensure Board and the ECU Outreach team to support Deaf Language Mentors for our temporary licensees on an individual basis.

*Accessibility*

Working with our partners, KYRID strives to be openly accessible. We are encouraging the use of ASL during conferences, providing interpreters, and for the first time this spring, we were able to provide CART services. In the past, due to the expense, unless it was requested, we did not provide both. We are now looking at these services as a necessity and not an option for our participants and will continue to look for ways to include them in future conferences.

KY is proud of our accomplishments the past two years and have a motivated board in place to see that the efforts made before us are not lost to complacency.

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***Illinois RID***

***Submitted by Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, President***

Illinois RID has had a busy and productive year, with much more to come!

**2010 Conference**

IRID held its biannual Conference in Bloomington, IL from November 4-6, 2010. Thanks to the hard work of the conference committees and volunteers, the conference was a terrific success!

**2011 Fall Workshop and Membership Meeting**

IRID will hold a workshop and annual membership meeting on October 29, 2011 in Aurora, Illinois. Please keep an eye on our website for more information. [www.ilrid.org](http://www.ilrid.org)

**Committee Update**

**Communication Committee** – Will Lee, Committee Chair, has made a great deal of progress with upgrading the IRID website. We are happy to announce that we are now able to accept PayPal. The website looks phenomenal and many thanks go to Will and our previous Communication Chair, Megan Owens, for working so hard for our members.

**Membership Committee** – Becca Teslow, Chairperson, and her committee are hard at work preparing for the upcoming renewal push. They are working hard to make changes to the renewal forms in preparation for the ability to pay online for membership.

**Professional Development Committee** - The PDC has been working hard to provide professional development opportunities for IRID members and members of other Affiliate Chapters who come and visit. IRID gives a member of **ANY** RID Affiliate Chapter (with proof) the member rate on all of our workshops.

***The PDC has offered the following workshops in 2011:***

There is no I-phone in TEAM	1/29/2011
How do I Improve my Voicing Skills When I Never get to Voice?	1/30/2011
Trilingual Interactive: What is it? How do you do it?	2/5/2011
ASL & Ebonics in the Black Deaf Community	2/19/2011
In-Service Training for School Faculty & Staff	3/18/2011
Navigating Technical Terminology in the Classroom	3/19/2011
Interpreting in a Hospital?- Get your Running Shoes!	5/21/2011

***The PDC has the following workshops planned:***

Mentoring: Everyone has Something to Bring to the Table	8/12/2011
Hello, My Name is, um...um...um.... An Introduction to VRS	8/13/2011
Resources for the Trilingual Interpreter	9/10/2011
Texas Trilingual Certification Testing Components	9/10/2011
Mexican Sign Language (LSM)	9/11/2011
Trilingual Interpreting using a Deaf Interpreter	9/11/2011
Interpreting for Deaf Latinos - Cultural Dilemmas	9/11/2011

**Please visit the IRID website ([www.ilrid.org](http://www.ilrid.org)) for more information!**

**Other News of Note**

IRID hosted a reception at the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission's Annual Interpreter Conference in Springfield, IL. The conference was held at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel from June 3 – 4, 2011.

**Scholarships** – IRID has the following scholarship opportunities available for members:

**Dan Levin Memorial Scholarship** - Each year, the Illinois Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf will award two (2) scholarships, provided that the necessary funds are available and there are eligible candidates, to members who wish to sit for a Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Performance Test.

**Educational Interpreter Scholarship** - The Illinois Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf will award two (2) scholarships annually, provided that the necessary funds are available and there are eligible candidates, to members who wish to sit for the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA.)

**Elections**

IRID will have an election for the following positions at our upcoming conference:

President – 2-year term

Vice President – 2-year term

Member at Large – 3- year term

Please contact anyone on the board for further information.

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***Indiana Chapter RID***

***Submitted by Ronda Jo Bilz, President***

2010-2011 has been a very busy and intense year for Indiana. The Indiana Department of Education became the certifying authority for educational interpreters on July 1, 2011. The Office of Educator Licensing and Development (OELD) will manage the certification process. The final rule can be seen at <http://1.usa.gov/kBHx2R> . The stakeholders (Deaf community, interpreters, mainstreamed students and parents) attended a public hearing to express their concerns about the weaknesses in the rule. ICRID responded on the public comment site set up for that purpose and several board members attended the hearing. ICRID’s response can be read at [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org) president’s corner archive.

Indiana Association of the Deaf (IAD) invited ICRID to join in forming a grass roots taskforce on interpreter licensure with the goal of drafting a bill to present to the legislature in January 2013 for Indiana Interpreter licensure. The taskforce members were invited by recommendations from leaders in the interpreting and Deaf communities, and meetings are open to the public. Progress slowed when problems with the Indiana School for the Deaf school board situation developed.

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels appointed three persons to the ISD school board who are blatantly opposed to the use of ASL in general and specifically in the education of Deaf children. IAD, NAD, and the ISD communities came together to rally against these appointments and are continuing to pursue the removal of these appointees as well as dialogue with the Governor’s office about how to improve rather than oppress the Bi-Bi educational philosophy held by ISD. ICRID applauds the efforts of the Deaf community and supports the goals of 1) 51% deaf on the ISD school board, 2) removal of the three problematic appointees, and 3) transparency in the selection process with input from actual stakeholders. Video

updates (with transcripts) about the movement, rally and goals can be seen at [www.iadhoosiers.org](http://www.iadhoosiers.org).

The ICRID board is busily planning for the upcoming Annual Business Meeting and Conference to be held in Indianapolis on November 11-12. Details may be seen at [www.icrid.org](http://www.icrid.org). This is an election year and we could potentially have seven new members on our ten-member board. We recently gained a chairperson for our long time un-chaired Ways and Means Committee as well as a new chairperson on our Awards and Scholarships Committee.

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**Michigan RID**  
**Submitted by Joan Gage, President**

Due to family and professional commitments I will not be running for re-election and so this will be my last report as MIRID President. I would like to take a few moments to review the past half of the year:

1. We have been working on Leadership Transition. The transition packet put together by Josie Cole, can and should be added to as elections occur to make the move into an elected position easier for all.
2. We have set up a Membership Concerns Committee, and will continue forward with finding a way to incorporate this committee with our membership.
3. In July, MIRID was asked to write a letter of support for the CATIE Center as they applied for a five-year continuation of RSA funds.
4. We began discussion on needed Bylaw changes and have organized and brought those recommended changes to our membership for a vote today.
5. In July, two of our board members were able to attend the Region III conference in Minnesota.
6. MIRID made a \$75 donation to the MDA picnic.
7. MIRID hosted the fall workshop at CMU, with Howard Rosenblum as the presenter.
8. In the fall, Shawn Spearman answered our call for webmaster.
9. The audit committee received two new members, making the total number of members on the committee = 3.
10. In January, received the recommended changes to our bylaws. The Bylaws Committee has looked at the MIRID Bylaws, and offered recommendations for changes which were voted on during a special meeting called on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
11. MIRID partnered with Madonna to host a workshop in February. This workshop was presented by Christine Gannon.
12. MIRID donated monies to AADB for a fundraising event.
13. In March, received word that Subchapter VII, Cherry Capitol MIRID is up and running.
14. In March, a letter from MIRID was written to the Provost of LCC in support of their interpreting program.

15. In March, Warren Coryell Jr. emailed MIRID to ask permission to have MIRID endorse a letter he was writing to the Governor and Legislators of Michigan. MIRID gave permission and support.
16. In April, discussion was held of the upcoming workshop in TC and the hardship placed on membership due to the limit requirement for attendance. It was decided to call for a special meeting in June at a more central location.
17. In April, a letter was received from a member concerning the limit of attendance at the spring workshop.
18. In April a letter was received from Michelle LaCrosse asking for information on interpreters transferring into Michigan from another state.
19. In April a discussion was held about online voting or proxy voting.
20. In May, the Spring Workshop was held in TC and presented by Betty Colonomos.
21. In May, MIRID received the US GAO- Report for Language and Literacy in PDF format
22. In May, MIRID received information about those with a RSA Distance Learning Training Grant opportunity for a MS in Rehabilitation strong ASL skills required.
23. May, received information about the Government Affairs Program hosting a two-part forum at the upcoming conference in Atlanta.
24. In May, received an update of status from the DODHH.

Thank you so much for allowing me to be a part of this wonderful organization.

### *Subcommittee Reports*

#### *WestMIRID*

On Saturday, May 8th, we hosted a workshop called “Interpreting for Sexuality” presented by Christine Gannon. There were 40 interpreters and students in attendance! The evaluation comments supported our theory that there is a very real NEED for workshops in this topic.

During the workshop, we held our Executive Board elections. The results are as follows:

1. Amy Van Oordt - Chairperson
2. Kim Stevenson - Treasurer
3. Amanda Aalderink – Secretary

Our current member-at-large (Brenna Francik) will continue to serve on the Board until the Spring of 2012 elections. Our current student representative is Allison Chapin from Baker College Muskegon. The search continues for a Deaf member-at-large. During our Business meeting/elections, 2 ITP students have volunteered to serve on our Workshop Committee: Gina Vincenti from Grand Valley State University Allendale and Shelby Purdy from Baker College Muskegon. Bethany Perry has been serving on our Workshop Committee and Valeria Boerema has recently been appointed to serve there also. Our Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer (Janie Hernandez) is reporting approximately \$3400.00 in our budget along with 34 members.

As our annual tradition, WestMIRID will be providing ice cream treats for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services’ “Silent Celebration” on June 18th, 2011. This will be held in Grand Rapids at

Johnson Park. Every year, there have been increasing numbers attending the picnic...therefore increasing numbers of ice cream treats! I believe last year, WestMIRID provided over 150 treats!

I would personally like to thank all of my past and present Board members and committee members. Each and every one has worked diligently to plan and carry out the activities at these workshops. They have gone above and beyond whatever I've asked of them to do! I'm proud to call them WestMIRID's Board. Many hands truly do make like the work.

Respectfully submitted by Outgoing Chairperson, Rose Gelushia.

### *GLMIRID*

GLMIRID has long had a hope of doing mobile workshops that would travel to each of our counties on a rotational basis. We have attempted to start this by doing monthly rotating meetings, but were unable to get the workshops up and running. In December of 2010 we started off with our first workshop in Macomb County and we also started meeting less often (bi-monthly). Our second workshop went off without a hitch in St. Clair County and took place in late January. Our third workshop took considerably more planning, but was just as great a success. We had almost 50 in attendance for our May 7th workshop in Oakland County. We are planning our 4th workshop right now. After the three workshops and our memberships we have roughly \$1900 in the bank. Elections took place in December at the workshop.

Our board includes:

Shawn Spearman – Chair

Peggy Ostrander – Secretary

Rochelle Koloff – Treasurer

David Stuckless – Membership Coordinator

### *Vice President/ Workshop MIRID*

On Saturday, February 27th, MIRID hosted a workshop in Novi, MI called "Contraceptives and STIs: Interpreting for Prevention, Risk and Care" presented by Christine Gannon. There were 55 interpreters and students in attendance!

MIRID is of the belief that we should represent the entire State of Michigan. Therefore, when MIRID hosted a second Spring workshop, it was decided that this time we'd be moving further north to Traverse City, MI. This was a 13-hour workshop held Friday, May 13th through Sunday, May 15th. The title was called "Foundations of Interpreting Processes: Series I" and it was presented by Betty Colonomos. Tim Mumm from Wisconsin was Ms. Betty's assistant for the entire weekend. It was the consensus of the entire group of attendees that Ms. Betty be asked back for "Foundations II" and beyond.

Folks in attendance were very appreciative that MIRID brought a workshop "up north" and asked that MIRID would consider coming back annually. To show their appreciation, one attendee purchased four warm/freshly baked cherry pies for our Saturday break time. Another attendee brought in bagels and cream cheese assortments for our Sunday breakfast.

Cherry Capital MIRID is up and running and their entire Board was in attendance at this workshop. CCMIRID presented each of the attending MIRID Board members and weekend presenters with a thank you gift of chocolates!

Respectfully submitted by Outgoing Chairperson, Rose Gelushia.

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**Ohio Chapter RID**  
**Submitted by Jill Josselson, President**

Ohio has been very busy over the past few months planning and providing workshop opportunities for members, non-members and students around the State. OCRID, in collaboration with Columbus State Community College, hosted the annual business meeting and conference in Columbus, Ohio. It was a great success with record numbers in attendance for the business meeting. Two new members were welcomed to the board, Tom Berry as Treasurer and Shanna Cullins as one of our State Representatives. Topics and presenters for the conference workshops included, Royce Carpenter, "Do I Say Black or African American?"; Linda Ross, Ph.D, NIC Master, CI/CT "Sign Language Interpreters: Qualified? Says Who?"; Pam Brodie, M.S., CSC, Margaret Murphy, M.S., CI/CT, OTC, Ed: K-12, Jean Parmir, M.A., IC/TC, CI/CT, Ed: K-12 "Interpreting for Student with Cochlear Implants"; Amy DeLorenzo, M.A., CI/CT, "Case Conferencing: A New Approach to Talking about the Work We Do"; Robbin Hoopes, M.A., CI, J.D., "Gaining Conceptual Understanding: Spatial Mapping in Math and Science".

Also, upcoming educational opportunities include a collaboration with the University of Findlay, in Northwest Ohio on September 10, 2011. The presenters are Tammie Carmichael and Helen Faith Jones. They will be presenting "Profanity in Everyday Settings". In November, OCRID will collaborate with Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Windell "Wink" Smith Jr. will present on "Hand-in-Hand: Deaf and Hearing Reaching for Respectful Collaboration" The title is currently tentative so check out the OCRID website page at [www.ocrid.org](http://www.ocrid.org) click on workshops for more details!

OCRID is excited to bring all these wonderful educational opportunities to our members and neighbors. Indiana provided Ohio with a registration certificate to their fall conference that was raffled off to the people in attendance at the conference. Ohio will be providing a reciprocal certificate to Indiana for registration to Ohio's spring conference in 2012. It is fantastic when organizations are able to work together to accomplish a common goal. Thank you Indiana!

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**Wisconsin RID/WisRID Area Chapter Report  
Submitted by Anna Johnson, President**

Wisconsin RID has had some exciting and eye opening moments over the last two years!

After over a decade of town hall meetings and passionate arguments from all sides, Wisconsin has a Law requiring Sign Language Interpreters who work for money in the state to carry a License. Like any law in its infancy, there is some general confusion and concern over the ultimate outcome...but if we all sit back and look at it for what it really is, a civil rights victory, we can agree it is indeed a step forward for the human rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons all over the state.

Over the last two years WisRID has worked hard to move into complete compliance with RID and its mandates for Area Chapters. From the demands for our Treasurer to whip our finances and accounting practices into shape to better adhere to the IRS requirements for non-profits, to the numerous reports and constant communication required by RID and Region 3, our current Board has put in a great deal of volunteer hours to satisfy the necessary flow of information required from States in order to fulfill RID directives.

WisRID continues to serve as a CMP Sponsor in the state of Wisconsin, all at no cost to our members. We work closely with the ASL Weekend held annually in Northern Wisconsin, provide CEUs for the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf biannual conference, and work in conjunction with other entities in the state that provide peripheral opportunities for Interpreters to take advantage of non-traditional opportunities for professional development! We also have a congenial working relationship with RID members from neighboring states! WisRID has processed requests for literally thousands of CEUs over the last few years. I think that is one perk that our members often overlook. Once again, the CMP sponsor is a volunteer position. Do we see a theme here?

WisRID continues to enjoy a healthy membership and our annual Fall Conference has been a constant in the state for providing professional development and networking opportunities. We also provide support for various workshops throughout the state. Our fundraising has incorporated volunteering at Milwaukee Brewers Ballgames food stands. Through the hard work and dedication of a growing number of member volunteers we have been able to double the number of Scholarships for NIC testing this year!

WisRID utilizes an 'E-Interpreter' email type of communication that allows us to update members as often as pertinent information comes to our attention! Workshops, legislation and Interpreter/Deaf community news are at our fingertips! We still snail mail a hard copy of our newsletter with membership renewal once a year.