

“THE STATE of the REGION: Region III”

*Submitted by:
Leandra Williams
Region III Representative*

The RID membership recently received the 2010 Annual Report. This information provided a glimpse into the activities of the association during the fiscal year. While this report is beneficial to the membership, it was felt that similar information should be shared on a regional basis as well.

“The State of the Region: Region III Report” will provide information related to: regional census figures, the 2010 Region III Conference report and the financial state of the region (as well as other topics). In addition, each affiliate chapter president within Region III was asked to provide a comprehensive report which describes the activities of the affiliate chapter during the past year. The goal of this report is to provide the Region III membership with information that will enhance member knowledge about the activities of the region during the 2010 fiscal year.

Regional Census

During 2010, the RID membership total was 15,332. RID Region III continues to be the third largest membership region with 3,087 members (following Region II and Region IV respectively. A description of each affiliate chapter census precedes each affiliate chapter report.) The total number of RID Certified members is 8,020. Over 1,800 of those members reside within Region III. There are 15 members who hold certification as a Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI). (Region III also has the honor of being the home region to the 100th interpreter in the country to receive this certification in 2010.) In addition, there are 27 Region III members that maintain a Specialist Certificate: Legal (SC:L) certification.

RID Testing System (NIC)

Some members within RID who have taken the performance portion of the NIC test have experienced longer than average response times. There are several roadblocks that are causing delays to testing candidates. One is a drop in staff in the certification and education department; another is the testing department is conducting a review of the rating process; and the raters themselves are also being reviewed. It is hoped that these roadblocks will be resolved quickly and response times will return to normal.

Region III Rocks

Region III has a proud history of "growing leaders" who have held positions on the RID Board of Directors. Our current **President Cheryl MOOOOSE** will conclude her second term as President and move into the position of Past President this summer at the national conference in Atlanta, GA. Elections will also be held for the positions of: vice president, secretary, treasurer, member-at-large and deaf member-at-large. The nomination process is currently in progress until April 1, 2011.

Region III members are also represented on various task forces and national committees within the association. The following Region III members are currently serving in this capacity:

- **2011 Conference Program Committee:** *Richard Laurion (MN); Donna Snyder(KY)*
- **Affiliate Chapter Relations Committee:** *Shannon Grider (KY); Sara Lucas (IL)*
- **Audit Committee:** *Dr. Rodney Y. Smith (OH); Sue Gudenhauf; Richard Laurion (MN)*
- **Educational Interpreters Task Force:** *Bambi Riehl (WI); Carol Schweitzer (WI); Donna Synder (KY)*
- **Ethics Committee:** *Paula Gajewski Mickelson (MN); Lynn Clark (IL)*
- **Professional Development Committee:** *Shelley Engstrom-Kestel (IL); Daniel Roush (KY)*
- **National Bylaws Committee:** *Janet Beattie*
- **NIC Task Force:** *Linda Ross (OH)*
- **Scholarship & Awards Committee:** *Lynn Wander (MN); Anne Orozco (IL)*
- **SCBRT:** *James Van Manen (IL); Rachel Olson (MN)*

Region III members also “give back” to the interpreting community by serving in regional and affiliate chapter leadership positions. **Darlene Snelson (MN)** serves as the Region III Administrative Assistant. Other members in leadership roles include:

Illinois: Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, President
 Kevin Jackson, Vice President
 Jen Maulding, Secretary
 Rachel Kruk, Treasurer
 Josh Ayoub, Member-at-Large
 Patti Shore Kaden, Member-at-Large
 Irene A. Holl, Member-at-Large
 Marietta Coufal, IAD Representative

Indiana: Ronda Jo Bilz, President
 Lena Van Manen, Vice President
 Zachary Evans, Secretary
 Randy Nicolai, Treasurer
 Anne Harrigan, Member-at-Large
 Robin Reid, Member-at-Large
 Lisa Harmon, Member-at-Large
 Laurie Cocks, Member-at-Large

Kentucky: Amy Hatzel, President
 Dana Parker, Vice President
 Terri Parker, Secretary
 Shon King, Treasurer
 Larry Poole, Director
 Artie Grassman, Director
 Zac Childers, Director
 Barbara Young, Publications Coordinator
 Edie Ryan, Immediate Past President

Michigan: Joan Gage, President
 Rose Gelushia, Vice President
 Josie Cole, Secretary
 Martha Meginley, Treasurer
 Michelle Keeble, Member-at- Large
 Daniel Meginley, Member-at-Large
 Vacant, Deaf Member-at-Large
 Shawn Spearman, Webmaster

Minnesota: Natalie Stanley, President
 Stephen Medicott, Vice President
 Marty Barnum, Secretary
 Melissa Meyer, Treasurer
 Vacant, Northern Rep
 Julie Olson-Rand, Metro Rep
 Vacant, Central Rep
 Vacant, Southern Rep
 Christine Swick, Member-at-Large
 Sarah Mansager, President Ex-Officio

Ohio: Jill Josselson, President
 Shalene Germani, Vice President
 Lisa McLaughlin, Secretary
 Vacant, Treasurer
 Bobbie Huebner, Member-at-Large
 Bill Mair, State Representative
 Gwen Owen, State Representative
 Melissa Marshall, State Representative

Wisconsin: Anna Johnson, President
 Jamie Garrison, Vice President
 Leanne Helmrich, Secretary
 Leslie DeMeyer, Treasurer
 Christina Destrampe, Trustee
 Susan Gudenkauf, Trustee
 Dianna Dentino, Member-at-Large
 Luke Leonhardt, Student Liaison

2010 Regional Conference

The Region III 2010 conference was a HUGE financial success. Kudos to Chairs, **Jimmy Beldon (MN)** and **Lynn Wander (MN)** on doing a magnificent job! The final conference report is provided on the Region II Web page separately from this report.

2012 Regional Conference

Region III 2012 Conference Chairs, **Lisa Butler (IL)** and **Marijo Wimbush (IL)** are anxiously working with the RID national office staff to get things off to a great start. RID has rolled out a new paradigm for regional conference planning but, the hands-on program planning is still the responsibility of the regional planners. Due to past financial concerns, region representatives maintained close oversight in regional conference planning. However, with increased involvement by national office staff, this will no longer be necessary. The reins have been turned over to this “Dynamic Duo” in anticipation of a very successful conference in Illinois.

Financial Outlook

The RID budget contains an annual line item for region representatives to be used for expenses related to regional travel (i.e., affiliate chapter events). Each region representative is allocated \$550 for travel; \$750 for hotel; and \$375 for per diem. Since this amount does not cover the expenses needed to attend the various events that are held within the region, the region representative has often used personal finances to cover some of these expenses. However, during the 2010 fiscal year, the representative was not financially able to continue this practice. Thus, affiliate chapters were asked to assist by financially covering as much of the associated costs (including registration fees) as possible. As a result, the region representative attended affiliate chapter events in Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin; as well as, other related professional events.

In addition, each Region has a separate account for regional activities. This account covers items such as: regional President’s Council meeting expenses; biennial conference meals during the membership meeting; regional gifts provided at the biennial membership meeting; and seed money for regional conferences. Since this was not a biennial conference last year, monies from this account were used for regional conference activities. As a result of the financial success of the 2010 Region III Conference, there is currently \$10,623.49 in this account.

THE STATE of the Region III Affiliate Chapters:

Illinois

RID Membership Census: 467

Certified Members: 271 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 6)

Associate Members: 128

Student Members: 48

Supporting Members: 6

Trial Members: 3

Organizational Members: 11

Illinois RID (IRID)

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, President

The IRID board hit the ground running in January by holding a retreat for the board and committee chairpersons' on January 22 and 23, 2011, in Bloomington. We were fortunate to have RID President Cheryl Moose as our dynamic retreat leader. The retreat focused on teambuilding, board and committee chairperson roles and responsibilities, communication, strategic planning and the concept of training behind. The retreat was a tremendous success, and we all left with a clearer vision of our purpose within the organization.

Board Update

The board is happy to announce that we have chosen October 29, 2011, as the date for our annual conference and membership meeting. Watch for more details on the IRID Web site (www.ilrid.org) soon.

The board has begun to work on a way to share events and information with other organizations in the state and the region. The Members at Large (Patti Shore Kaden, Irene Holl and Josh Ayoub) are developing a contact list and event calendar to assist the board and committees in planning future events. The board will also be reviewing the IRID Policy and Procedure Manual to ensure that it is up to date and includes information that will be useful for future boards and committees.

The board is working on finalizing dates and locations for future board meetings and will have the dates posted on the Web site soon.

I, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, have been asked to speak at a future Deaf Social Service Provider (DSSP) meeting in the Chicago area about IRID and our mission.

Committee Update

Communication Committee – Will Lee has taken over for Megan Owens as chairperson of the Communications Committee. Will plans on continuing to work on the Web site, streamlining the Yahoo Group and assisting in the publication of the newsletter. IRID would like to recognize and thank Megan for all of her hard work to get the committee up and running.

Finance Committee – Rachel Kruk, IRID Treasurer, and her committee have been hard at work to streamline IRID’s financial processes. Rachel has been working closely with the Professional Development Committee to develop contracts and financial standards for professional development offerings. Rachel has also been working with an accountant to bring IRID’s record keeping procedures up to speed with current technology and processes.

Membership Committee – Rebecca Teslow, Membership Committee Chair, and her committee are working on recruiting student and educational interpreter members. Planning is underway for visiting the interpreter training programs throughout the state to inform students about the benefits of joining IRID and RID.

Professional Development Committee (PDC) - Tim Mahoney and Katie Waltz, PDC Co-Chairs, have been working hard to bring exciting presenters to Illinois. In January, IRID hosted two workshops at Harper College in Palatine. Upcoming workshops include:

In-Service Training for School Faculty and Staff – March 18, 2011 6pm-9pm in Chicago

Navigating Technical Terminology in the Classroom – March 19, 2011 9a-4p in Chicago

Other News of Note

The IRID Legal Workgroup has been working to develop best practices for legal interpreters in Illinois and agency handling of legal interpreting work, building alliances with stakeholders and professional development in the legal interpreting arena. The work group held a discussion at the IRID conference in November 2010 and was delighted to get input from Anna Witter-Merithew, Howard Rosenblum, Richard Laurion and Cheryl Moose.

IRID will be establishing an Ad Hoc “Entry to Practice” Committee to encourage involvement with interpreters who are new to the field. IRID will be looking to this committee to infuse our organization with new ideas and perspectives.

Scholarships – IRID has the following scholarships available to members:

Educational Interpreter Scholarship – IRID 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.)

Daniel Levin RID Performance Test Scholarship - IRID 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 a Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Performance Test. Thanks to a suggestion made by Richard Laurion at the IRID Membership Meeting in November, we collected \$303 to use toward this scholarship.

IRID looks forward to having a productive and rewarding 2011!

Indiana

RID Membership Census: 279

Certified Members: 170 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 3)

Associate Members: 74

Student Members: 29

Supporting Members: 2

Trial Members: 0

Organizational Members: 4

Indiana RID**Ronda Jo Bilz, President**

The 2010 annual business meeting was held December 11, 2010, in Fort Wayne. There were 10 attendees in addition to the board and two working interpreters. The ICRID board met on January 8, 2011, for our annual retreat, to reflect on 2010 and look forward to 2011. The retreat was very productive, thanks in large part to Rebecca Buchan, who facilitated for us, keeping us on topic and on time! She also assisted us in learning our individual communication styles in an effort to increase productivity at meetings and improve interaction with members.

Accomplishments during the tenure of the current board include acquiring our office space at Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD), which allowed us to organize and archive our history up to 2009. The board has committed to keeping our history updated on the Web site for access by the membership. The office space (in room 229 of Raney Hall at ISD) is a work in progress and continues to evolve. Our historical documents and records now have a home in file cabinets (donated to ICRID by ISD) and our supplies are inventoried and labeled for easy access. This makes it easier for the board and committees when preparing for annual conferences and meetings, annual picnic, and workshops and also allows us to save money by knowing what needs to be purchased and what is on hand.

Another huge accomplishment was the awarding of the 2013 RID National Conference to Indianapolis! The process included gathering information needed for a written proposal and presenting it to the RID committee. This procedure was started in 2008 and the conference was awarded in 2010. The board and membership will have the opportunity to be involved with the RID conference planning committee to implement this historic event!

Our Web site was completely overhauled and brought into the 21st century! It continues to develop as we regularly maintain and update our history, business meeting minutes archive, and other information important to members.

In addition to transitioning to an electronic newsletter, we are now able to use the system to e-blast significant time sensitive information to members.

Indiana was the location for the immensely popular pilot 'ICRID Reads' program which has progressed into the ICRID R.A.P.S. program which is scheduled to begin this month. Date and location information can be found on the website. This program offers a way to earn CEUs through independent study, by bringing interpreters together in small local groups to discuss the article as it applies to their work.

In planning for 2011, the board is committed to keeping the membership informed of all that happens behind the scenes. The Web site and newsletter will keep members informed of the progress of specific events and projects, as well as list opportunities for members to be involved. The minutes will continue to be posted within two weeks after each board meeting.

ICRID and Indiana Association of the Deaf (IAD) are working together on the State Licensure Task Force, and we are in the process of selecting a liaison for each of the BIS and EITF to keep ICRID members aware. The Indiana Department of Education will become the certifying authority for Educational Interpreters on July 1, 2011. A proposed rule has been submitted and the public has been asked for input. ICRID is responding and will be in attendance at the hearing on February 17, 2011, in order to work toward strengthening the requirements for educational interpreters.

Another goal for 2011 is to increase awareness of our member referral program as well as add an additional incentive for member recruitment. One more focus for this year will be to continue to actively seek members to be involved on committees, especially the Fundraising and Ways and Means Committees.

We have a very busy year planned! The 2011 Annual Conference will be held on March 4 and 5 in French Lick. The Annual Spring Retreat is scheduled for April 1 and 2 in Indianapolis. Our Members Annual Family Picnic will be July 9 and our 2011 Annual Conference and Business meeting will be November 11 and 12 in Indianapolis.

Planned board-meeting dates for 2011 are March 26 (possibly in Fort Wayne), May 21 (1pm-4pm in Indianapolis), July 9 (Indianapolis, Annual Picnic following board meeting), October 1 (possibly at Bethel College), and the Annual Conference and meeting will be November 11-12 (Indianapolis). Meetings are held 9am to noon, local time, unless otherwise noted.

2011 is an election year for ICRID. The four executive board positions and two member-at-large position terms are concluding so we could potentially have a completely new board beginning in November.

The state of ICRID is very good. All of the accomplishments represent members working hard as a team. Make sure to check icrid.org often for updates and information about events and news.

Kentucky

RID Membership Census: 284

Certified Members: 189 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 2)

Associate Members: 64

Student Members: 24

Supporting Members: 3

Trial Members: 0

Organizational Members: 4

Kentucky RID (KYRID)
Amy Hatzel, President

KYRID continues to be actively involved with the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Eastern Kentucky University and the Kentucky Board of Interpreters Policy Committee. KYRID has had direct input into several initiatives since our last meeting. Kentucky continues to support and participate in activities that push for better access to movie theaters, increase the number and knowledge base of legal interpreters, revamp licensure regulations to better delineate licensure requirements, provide more opportunities for CDIs and those pursuing CDI status and improve mental health interpreting services.

All but one of the committee chair positions have been filled; two important positions (the KAD rep and KCDHH representative) have also been filled for the first time in years. We are excited that, with the establishment of the Advisory Committee to the Board, we have opened some important dialogues among the key agencies, entities and stakeholders involved in the interpreting profession. It is our belief, and our goal for the organization, that this type of collaboration will lead to richer, more inclusive opportunities for all.

Nominations are being sought for our annual awards and we are now in conference mode for the spring conference on March 18 in Lexington. The flyer is available at the Eastern Kentucky University Web site at www.interpreting.eku.edu and information on the individual workshops can be found at www.rid.org.

As President of KYRID, I have been invited to attend a conference in West Virginia on March 12 to invite and welcome those interpreters currently working in West Virginia to join KYRID. We were contacted after a group of interpreters who recently established a referral agency near the KY-WV border and began to look for an RID CEU sponsor. We look forward to working with this group and eventually, we may just see a WV Chapter springing up with some time, and some encouragement. This is very exciting for us and we look forward to sharing what we've learned! For now, we're very glad to have those who would like to join KYRID!

By way of giving back to our community, we collected money for Breast Cancer Awareness at the fall conference and are now partnering with the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and KY Help, a nonprofit that helps to ensure resources are made available during times of disaster or community emergency. From the state to the local level, our three entities are now exploring models for community emergency response. If your state has incorporated interpreters/communication needs for deaf and hard of hearing citizens in terms of disaster and emergency services, please let me know. I'd like for us to look at what other states are doing as we develop our own emergency response procedures. Although it has not been decided, we are working to become recognized as first responders through KCDHH so that their people will have input from the top down during such a time. Furthermore, we will be identifying and mobilizing interpreters who are willing to help in different regions and in various capacities as emergency response unfolds. This partnership is just being formed, so we look forward to having more exciting news about its progress as the year goes on.

Vice President

As conference chair, our vice president has worked with the board and committee to pull together an interesting and fun-filled spring conference and awards program. The topics, without completely repeating the information in the flyer, include using technology, k-12 and an overview of international sign. Kevin Williams will provide the educational workshop, Carol-lee Aquiline, the International Sign workshop. We strive to be accessible, per the leadership training this summer, and have coordinated with an outside sponsor to help us with the cost of multiple accommodations. We have more accessibility options for participants than we have had in the past. KYRID is appreciative of the ongoing and generous support from ECU and KCDHH.

Secretary and Publications Coordinator

We are working to establish and maintain a current database and mailing list of members to make communications more convenient for both the board members and the constituents. We have developed the e-mail distribution list, and are still making adjustments to that to be sure we don't miss anyone. We are having considerable difficulty with a former software program and with the Web site tools used to update the Web site. Another roadblock for us, as a board, is that we are spread as far across the state from each other as we can be. We are looking for new and more creative ways to get our work done and get each board member what they need, when they need it. We've added several new student members from the ECU interpreting program, thanks to the work of Director Zac Childers at ECU. We now have a membership of 138. We are currently in the process of collecting registration for our Spring Conference.

Among some of the current works in progress, the secretary is preparing for on-site membership renewals at the conference and we are exploring options for online membership renewal, revisiting the decision to do away with printed membership cards, and shopping for laptops as a result of our fall board meeting.

The Web site is still a work in progress. Our publication chair can't access the site from her home, which hinders progress. The new laptop will allow her to work on it from her school site, or some other site that gets a stronger signal. We are working on another edition of the newsletter to be distributed at the spring conference.

Treasurer

Although we do not have a full financial report, the treasurer has worked with a professional accountant/bookkeeper to review and organize our books. At last reporting, we broke nearly even with the fall conference with only one outstanding check to the screen-printer outstanding.

Misc.

In general, KYRID is striving to become more fully accessible. We are also eager to 'bump up' our conference programs by the continued partnerships with content-specific sponsors (mental health, legal, education, etc.). Moreover, as a board, we are looking to leave a legacy behind us which includes establishment of effective and lasting partnerships with various state agencies and stakeholders groups, revitalization of our committee process, standardization of forms and procedures for conducting board business and compiling this information for use by future boards to ensure the growth we are currently seeing will continue well after we've moved on. The driving force behind this particular set of goals is the belief that constituent motivation and involvement will be the key to success for this member-driven organization. We want to see our

members taking responsibility and ownership within our ranks to ensure that the board will be a living, fluent, dynamic body of leadership, now and tomorrow.

On a side note, Edie Ryan (Immediate Past-President) took a bad fall the week before Christmas and is still recovering in a rehabilitation facility. She suffered a bad break in her leg and has spent the holidays, and weeks since trying to regain her strength and stamina. Please remember her as we move forward!

Michigan

RID Membership Census: 376

Certified Members: 188 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 0)

Associate Members: 106

Student Members: 57

Supporting Members: 8

Trial Members: 2

Organizational Members: 15

Michigan RID (MIRID)

Joan Gage, President

MIRID has had a long, hard start in 2010. Shortly after our two wonderful workshops in the spring, MIRID received the early resignation of two member-at-large (MAL) positions and our Web site manager. Our third and final MAL offered their resignation in June. Electing another Web site manager at the spring workshop alleviated the loss of that position, but it was short lived, for the elected member was not able to offer the time needed for the position and offered their resignation in August. Our elected board at that time consisted of only four people. Our focus as we moved forward was to fill the vacant positions on the board, as well as, motivate members to become involved with their professional organization.

Things started to brighten up when the subcommittee members across the state of Michigan were brought together in the form of a Yahoo group. This group is chaired by Rose Gelushia, Vice President. This group should offer a site where leading subcommittee (formerly known as local chapters and subchapters) members can give and receive information directly to executive board members, as well as, other subcommittees hopefully creating a strong framework of networking that will benefit interpreters across the state.

The MIRID Executive Board has also started to work on different issues within the state. The creation of a Membership Concerns Committee was established. This group is chaired by Josie Cole, Secretary. We are now actively seeking members who wish to become a part of this group. MIRID also needed to take a look at the recommendations for bylaw changes by the RID Bylaw Committee. These recommendations will be prepared for a membership vote at our spring business meeting, which is held at our spring workshop.

Our fall workshop was held in October at Central Michigan University. We brought in Howard Rosenblum to discuss, "What Interpreters Need to Know about Rights and Risks." At our business meeting we held elections and some wonderful MIRID members stepped forward and filled most of our vacant positions.

The new MIRID board:

President: Joan Gage
 Vice President: Rose Gelushia
 Secretary: Josie Cole
 Treasurer: Martha Meginley
 Member At Large: Michelle Keeble
 Member At Large: Daniel Meginley
 Member At Large (Deaf): Vacant
 Publications: Shawn Spearman

As the New Year began, Shawn, the new Publications Manager, beautifully reworked the www.mirid.org Web site. MIRID is also in the process of having two spring workshops. The first, in partnership with Madonna University's Sign Language Studies, which was held on February 27, at their Orchard Lake campus with the topic of "Sexuality" being discussed. The second to be held in May is still under construction, with information coming in the near future on the MIRID website. In May is when we will also be voting on recommended changes to our bylaws, as well as, elections for president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

To end on a happy note: The Doris Watkins Workshop Scholarship is available now. This workshop scholarship was set up in 2009 in honor of Doris Watkins; one of MIRID's founding members and a long time executive board member. Doris mentored many interpreters in various ways. She was interested in doing something to help interpreters attend workshops, knowing this would help them enhance their skills. By offering this scholarship her legacy continues.

Minnesota

RID Membership Census: 697
 Certified Members: 532 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 2)
 Associate Members: 100
 Student Members: 51
 Supporting Members: 7
 Trial Members: 0
 Organizational Members: 7

Minnesota RID**Natalie Stanley, President**

It has been an exciting few months in the Northland. We had our fall conference October 1-2, 2010, with about 140 members attending. We had topics that included; medical, theatrical and managing conflict in the work place. It was a fantastic conference and a great turn out.

Our MOTY (Member of the Year) award went to Stephen Medlicott who has been involved with MRID in many different capacities and wearing many different hats. Congratulations to Mr. Stephen Medlicott. We could not pick a better deserving person.

At this Conference, we had quite a few board positions open. Some board members' terms were ending and some were positions that became vacant from a few board members resigning their

position. Most of the positions are filled at this time. I would like to introduce you to our new board members:

MRID 2011 Board of Directors

Sarah Mansager: MRID President Ex-Officio (former Vice President appointed this past year)

Natalie Stanley: MRID President

Stephen Medicott: MRID Vice President

Marty Barnum: MRID Secretary

Melissa Meyer: MRID Treasurer

Julie Olson-Rand: MRID Metro Rep.

Christine Swick: MRID Member At Large

(At this point, MRID Northern Rep., Central Rep. and Southern Rep. are vacant.)

We are working on filling the three vacant positions with members who are qualified to do the job. We still struggle with members volunteering their time without any kind of incentive. That will be one of the goals we have set for the coming year. WELCOME ABOARD SHIP MINNESOTA REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF.

We recently had our board retreat January 8-10. We all had a great time, with great food, great laughter and fantastic brain storming sessions. I would like to thank Stephen Medicott for hosting this event at his home. It was a cozy atmosphere and also very intimate so that we could get to know each other very well. At this retreat, one of the topics was a survey that was sent out to our members through a program called Survey Monkey. This was sent out before the end of the past board members' terms were expired. The survey was developed to find out what members thought about us turning more green and getting a feel of what they would like to see happen to our organization. We received many professional and workable suggestions. One of the suggestions is recruiting and retaining volunteers for our organization. I understand that most affiliate chapters struggle with this too.

We also had a discussion about our goals. We would like to have a balanced budget and at the same time be transparent to our membership. We plan to have our board meeting dates added to our Web site so that members can come and see what it entails to be on the board. We also would like to publish our overall budget and business meeting minutes on our Web site. At this time, our Web master is working at finding a web designer that is cost effective and can help her upgrade our web site to become an excellent resource to our members. We also discussed what is expected of our committee volunteers and co-chair person(s). Our goal is to have our organization run smoothly and that when a member is asked, what does MRID do? We will have a great resource center to refer them to other than the board of directors.

We plan to have our spring event on either April 2nd or April 9th. As I write this report, we are still working out all the details and recruiting volunteers and presenters.

Camp ASL is in full swing in their planning of our awesome camp. The dates for this will be May 6-8, at Friendship Camp located in Central Minnesota. Check out our Web site for more details.

Our Fall Conference date is scheduled for October 20-22. Place: TBD. This will be our 40-year anniversary and we have many ideas being generated to make this a big celebration. We have just started planning this as a board, since it's our 40th year in operation; we wanted to make

sure we focus on the last 40 years. At this conference, it will be the end of my term. We will be electing for new nominees for vacant positions once again for all positions that expire, yet again, this December.

I am looking forward to an exciting year. We had a few board collapses last year with many board members resigning at the same time. But we have a new fresh outlook for this coming year and many more to come. As the new board starts this endeavor together, we have made a vow to work together as a professional team for MRID, and not individually. I am lucky and blessed with this new board and look forward to a fabulous year.

Ohio

RID Membership Census: 627

Certified Members: 321 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 1)

Associate Members: 185

Student Members: 95

Supporting Members: 7

Trial Members: 6

Organizational Members: 13

Ohio RID (OCRID)

Jill Josselson, President

Electing a new board in May 2010 provided OCRID with new leadership at the helm. Melanie Somnitz stepped down after four years in the president position. Melanie provided OCRID with a clear direction and moved OCRID into the 21st century. Melanie is currently in a position of Past President and her advice is always welcome. OCRID appreciates and thanks her for her service.

OCRID membership currently has 267 members with 53 percent being certified. Our Member-at-Large, Bobbie Huebner, is currently looking at ways to bolster our membership with a marketing campaign. She is advertising OCRID to the ITPs around the state to included students in the organization to strengthen our future. It is an important goal that all organizations must focus on.

At the conference last May, OCRID members participated in a Walk for the Cure in the name of Sara Paullin Casto. The walk was organized by long time active member Linda Laughlin Williams. Linda helped to raise over \$400 in Sara's name. Sara was a leader and mentor for many interpreters around the state of Ohio. She was a special member of our interpreting community. Sara gave everything she had to whomever ask for her time. OCRID has established a scholarship in Sara's name related to research and development within the interpreting community. Bobbie Huebner and Lisa McLaughlin will be board liaisons to the awards committee who will administer this scholarship. Sara Paullin Casto will be missed.

In 2010, OCRID was able to update many of the ways that we communicate with our members. A new internet site was launched and is beautiful. Check it out at www.ocrid.org for workshops and other networking opportunities in the state of Ohio. Another wonderful feature of the Web site is the ability to renew memberships online through PayPal. OCRID will also be establishing a link for workshop registrations in the future.

Constant contact is used to keep members updated in a simple monthly e-mail. The e-mails provide information pertaining to workshops, employment opportunities and RID or OCRID updates. A liaison to the board, Christine Ricciardo, has been appointed to the OCRID Facebook and Twitter pages. Christine is new to this position and is currently familiarizing herself with communications factors related to OCRID. We are very happy to have her aboard.

OCRID changed the structure of how we provide workshops and professional development. In the past, OCRID held a conference every year. Attendance varied depending on where it was held within the state. The board decided that this year we should sponsor quarterly workshops in various areas around Ohio. This schedule will alternate with a full three-day conference. The first workshop was a huge success. OCRID collaborated with Sinclair Community College ITP in Dayton, to bring Jody Daulton, RN, CSC to present on medical terminology and anatomy. The participants provided comments and enjoyed the new one day format for the workshop. A full three-day conference will be held in 2012. TERPexpo is coming to Columbus in March 2011. The board decided to support this event by obtaining a booth in the exhibit hall. Also, we will not be providing a quarterly workshop for the first quarter of 2011 due to TERPexpo. The board felt it was better not to compete with such a large event and to be a part of it instead.

Vice President, Shalene Germani, is currently planning our annual business meeting and workshops set for May 21 of this year. It will be in Columbus at Columbus State Community College. OCRID and CSCC ITP will collaborate for the workshop portion of the day. Two different educational tracks will be provided with the annual business meeting during lunch. State Representatives, Melissa Marshall, Gwen Owen, and Bill Mair are working diligently to collect proposals, make flyers, and begin advertising. The state representatives have been an integral part of our new structure for planning workshops. All three are nearing the end of their terms and OCRID is hopeful they will all continue on for another two years.

OCRID sponsored Shalene Germani to attend a grant writing course. The board felt that it was a good investment for our future. Shalene is working to find grants to provide future professional development opportunities to our members. She is focusing on various organizations and foundations around the state to achieve this goal.

OCRID is developing a leadership training program to strengthen the board and our members. When transition occurs with a new board, it jostles the process and moves the organization in a slightly different direction. The plan is to nurture the leaders through training and have it trickle down to the members. Our members are our future.

Wisconsin

RID Membership Census: 357

Certified Members: 197 (Includes Certified Deaf Interpreters: 1)

Associate Members: 92

Student Members: 50

Supporting Members: 5

Trial Members: 3

Organizational Members: 10

Wisconsin RID (WisRID)
Anna Johnson, President

Hello! WisRID welcomed in the New Year along with our new executive board on January 8. The new and continuing members met at a local library, you have to love those free meeting rooms! We set up our next two face to face meeting dates, March 19 and September 10. I warned the board that we do the majority of our business on the Yahoo Group, so pay attention and discuss! Haha. We reviewed the expectations of each member according to our bylaws and then dove right into a list of pressing concerns.

We started discussion about creating a budget for donations/sponsorships, how much can we give, to whom and what is a donation versus a sponsorship. One of the ideas that we came up with was to, sometimes, offer "in-kind" donation of services instead of just money, depending on the event. We had to decide how we wish to reimburse board members for their travel to meetings. And we had a request for funding, all conversation continued on our Yahoo Group. I'm happy to say after lively dialogue, we were able to agree on the issues and are ready to move onto new business!

We also spent meeting time discussing our response to questions and requests from our new Education Committee Chair, which were forwarded to her after the meeting.

WisRID continues working in conjunction with the ASL Silent Weekend committee in providing, for the 10th year in a row, a wonderful, inexpensive weekend of workshops and mentoring led by deaf individuals. The weekend offers RID CEUs as well as college credits to help satisfy the DPI License requirements for K-12 Interpreters! ASL Weekend is being held at the Lions Camp in Rosholt Wisconsin May 20-22.

WisRID has an agreement to co-host an Evening of Comedy with the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf (WAD), on Saturday April 2, in Waukesha. Watch our Web site for further information!

We are excited to get our new committee chairs in place. Due to our spectacular fundraising efforts from the last fall's conference, we are going to be able to increase the number of NIC testing scholarships that we can award this year!

Sue Gordon, who served as WisRID President over the last four years has agreed to continue her service to WisRID as a "co-Web Mistress" with Deb Boness. A Web site is a truly dynamic, living, breathing creature and we are very proud of ours! I invite everyone to take a look! WisRID.org

The Board supports the idea of another year of Brewer's Baseball Fundraising in 2011 to benefit our general membership through increased scholarships, workshops and professional development opportunities. WisRID members have already started training and locking in those volunteer dates. Due to the opportunity to use this venue as a fundraiser for our Fall Conference in 2010, our profit soared to just over \$13,000.00. I strongly encourage other affiliate chapters to go out and seek those fundraising opportunities in the community! It beat the heck out of selling cookbooks, T-shirts or chocolate!!

We will take on a project that has been floating around since last year in that we want to research past fall conference votes by the general membership and past executive board meeting minutes to ferret our decisions that were either voted on or made by the board regarding the business of WisRID. Why reinvent the wheel?

WisRID is a co-sponsor of the WESPDHH, Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, conference this year. We will also be manning a booth at the event to introduce/remind people in the profession that WisRID is here and ready to support them!

I am excited by the ambitious executive board that we have, everyone is full of great ideas and thoughtful discourse. At the same time I am always impressed by the many members who serve in other, often unofficial capacities. Member involvement is truly what drives a great organization, and I feel that Wisconsin RID is one of the best!

Region III “ROCKED” in 2010 and will continue to *ROCK* in 2011.