



January 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms

Region IV Representative

Greetings Region IV members and Happy 2010! I am thrilled to be working with the Region IV President's Council again and truly honored to be able to represent the members of Region IV on the RID Board of Directors. I would like to take this opportunity to send a huge 'Thank You,' on behalf of Region IV members, to Amy Seiberlich for her service and dedication to Region IV. Amy has served the region with passion and conviction; she will be missed, but will always be an example of exemplary leadership we can all strive for. I would also like to thank the outgoing Presidents of Oklahoma RID (OKRID), Lisa Mathes and of North Dakota RID (NDRID), Cindy Kupfer for their hard work and dedication to their respective affiliate chapters and to Region IV over the past several years. They will both be missed for their enthusiasm and willingness to lead and serve members on the state and regional levels. At the same time, I would like to welcome the incoming presidents of OKRID, Janna Byrd and of NDRID, Eileen Gray. Both are dedicated leaders and are committed to the affiliate chapter members they represent. The Region IV Presidents Council looks forward to their contributions as we move the region forward into a new decade.

Save the dates for another invigorating and inspiring Region IV conference! This year we will be convening in Omaha, Nebraska August 5-10, for a weekend of fun, networking and professional development. We appreciate the work begun by NDRID and continued by Nebraska RID (NeRID) and all the members of the conference planning team to make this yet another energetic and dynamic conference for the region. Visit the Region IV section of the RID Web site for more information.

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the board and members of OKRID for inviting me to attend "Come Together 6" their state conference, January 15-16. The two days of camaraderie and professional development were stimulating for all and I truly appreciate the hospitality afforded me by members of OKRID. And, of course, there is nothing like spending two days with old friends and making many new ones, too! Thanks, OKRID!

Colorado RID
President Kari Baker

Happy New Year!

The Colorado RID (CRID) board began the New Year with our bi-monthly seven-hour board meeting. There were lots of talk, laughter, and, of course, food. Food is, to be quite honest, one of my favorite parts of board meetings. This time, our Vice President, Nancy L. Dobbs, made a chocolate cake that was...well, I have no words to describe it. I ate three (or was it four?) slices. In between eating all the wonderful food, we accomplished much at this meeting and discussed many pertinent statewide and regional issues. The board we have at this time is truly amazing – I want to thank each of them for all of their work thus far. I am so looking forward to our term together. The president of the Colorado Association of the Deaf (CAD), Ray Kilthau, attended our meeting. CAD and CRID have re-established a partnership, and will be talking about possible collaboration on both legislative and community issues. We will be sending representatives to each other's meetings, and contributing to each other's newsletters and websites. We are all very excited at the renewal of this relationship between our organizations.

Colorado is also beginning the process of establishing a formalized statewide conference planning structure. More about this soon, but suffice it to say that exciting things are in the works to make conference planning easier and smoother for everyone involved. We are also already in the planning stages for both our 2010 and 2011 conferences – I want to thank everyone who is already working on these events.

From all of us in Colorado, we wish you a wonderful 2010!

ColoradoRIDPresident@gmail.com



February 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV PROFILE

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
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.



March 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT:

TSID Profile

Submitted by:

Chris Grooms

Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the March 2010 e-News. This month the Region IV Report profiles the Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf (TSID)

President Rita Lee Wedgeworth

Number of Members: 441 members as of 02/27/10

Web site address: www.tsid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

- Professional development provided at the local level under each of the 15 local area chapters;
- Annual three day conference that includes one day of conference geared to interpreter training students;
- Nine Special Interest Groups (SIG's): Student SIG, Educational Interpreter SIG, Religious Interpreter SIG, Multicultural Interpreter SIG, Interpreter Coordinator SIG, Interpreter Educators SIG, Contract Interpreters SIG, BLEGIT SIG and Interpreters with Deaf Parents SIG;
- Two scholarship opportunities; The Don England Trust Fund is a perpetual fund to provide financial assistance to TSID members for training opportunities, named for the lifetime member who had the vision for this fund; and The Johnnie Duncan Student Trust Fund is a perpetual fund to provide financial assistance for students of the interpreting profession for leadership opportunities and training, named for a lifetime member who dedicated her life to interpreting students;
- Fran Herrington-Borre Mentorship Program – A three day training is provided for mentors and mentees to learn the process of being a mentor/mentee, then a six month commitment of working together in that partnership.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

TSID members are a very diverse group of individuals. Many of our members in the southern part of our state are also fluent in Spanish because of living near the Mexico/Texas border,

producing tri-lingual interpreters. We also have many who involve themselves in the political aspects of our profession (i.e., advocating and promoting better working conditions, pay rates and professionalism in our field). Because Texas is so large and the geography so different around our state (rural vs. urban areas), the local chapter members are the ones who know what the needs of their area are and can best supply those needs.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

- TSID was the first professional interpreter organization in the world;
- TSID first started interpreter certification in our state
- Our annual conferences draw at least 500-600 individuals, producing one of the largest state conferences in the US;
- TSID provided the first ever track for tri-lingual and CDI interpreters at our annual conference in 2008, which also happened to be the first joint conference between a state affiliate chapter and RID Region IV. There were 950 attendees.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

04/10/10 Seeing, Saying, Sighing in Relief

McLennan Community College, Waco, TX

This workshop will present activities that interpreters can use to practice and improve ASL to English interpretation skills. Participants will work on prediction skills, tone of voice, and recognition of common non-manuals (both linguistic and non-linguistic) to improve content and register of interpretations. For more information and CEU info, please contact the Vice-President of HOTID, Marnie Sellers.

04/10/10 10 AM - 2 PM Country Signs Around the World: The Middle East

Lubbock Community Services for the Deaf, Lubbock TX

Participants at this workshop will learn both the ASL and indigenous signs for countries in the Middle East/Southwest Asia. Variations and regional signs for each country as well as the etymology of the signs will also be presented as available. In a group setting, participants will have the opportunity to practice expressive and receptive skills in communicative situations that incorporate the country signs taught. The main reference for these signs comes from www.aslresource.net, the Web site that showcases the presenter's research.

06/22-26/10 TSID Annual Conference

Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX



April 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Wyoming RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the April 2010 e-News. This month the Region IV Report profiles Wyoming RID. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: Wyoming Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (WyRID)

President Denise Morse

Number of Members: 15 paid members and many others actively involved.

Web site address: www.wyrid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

We provide a biannual workshop and conference for professional development. We are also in the process of working with Colorado RID and their mentoring program.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

We are a small group, but mighty! Wyoming is mostly comprised of educational (K-12) interpreters, but we also have many skilled community and post-secondary interpreters, as well. The professionals in our state work in a variety of venues.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

"It is the vision of WyRID to reach out to all stakeholders within the state of Wyoming for the purpose of providing communication access and to unify us, together, as a cohesive group. WyRID will accomplish this by promoting ownership through membership, training and mentorship opportunities in a safe and supportive environment."

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

- WyRID Spring Workshop featuring Tim Chevalier and Susan Brown, *Educational Interpreter Roles and Responsibilities: Supporting Student Transition*, May 1.
- Fall 2010 Annual State Conference -- TBA

What else would you like to share about your affiliate chapter?

Wyoming offers the Hathaway Scholarship for Wyoming students attending an in-state post-secondary institution. Recently, WyRID individuals worked diligently with state legislators to amend the Hathaway Scholarship to include ASL as a foreign language in order to satisfy the foreign language requirements for these Wyoming students. More than ever, high school students are interested in ASL!

State standards for educational interpreters have now been passed and will take effect as of June 2011!



May 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Oklahoma RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the May 2010 e-NEWS. This month the Region IV Report profiles Oklahoma RID. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: Oklahoma Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (OKRID)

President Janna Byrd

Number of Members: 104 current members

Web site: www.OKRID.org (not accessible at this time though)

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

We work very closely with the Oklahoma Association of the Deaf, the Department of Rehabilitation Services and their Quality Assurance Screening Program and with the Oklahoma Department of Education on training and supporting educational interpreters in Oklahoma.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

Awesome, proactive and willing to actively support those causes which will benefit the field of interpreting and the consumer for which it serves.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

The passage of the Oklahoma Educational Interpreter Act of 2004. OKRID and the Oklahoma Association of the Deaf continue to work on the Licensure Task Force in order to create acceptable interpreter licensure legislation.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

The Educational Interpreter Summer Institute will begin in June at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf. Plans are also currently underway for Deaf Awareness Day in September of 2011.



June 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

Greetings RID Region IV Members and Colleagues!



Are you ready to Rock!?! The 2010 RID Region IV Alive & RockN! Conference is just around the corner, August 5-8 in Omaha, Nebraska.

Early registration has passed, but it is not too late to register for a fun-filled and CEU-earning weekend! Go to <http://regioniv-aliveandrokn.com/index.html> for all information related to conference. There you will find the schedule of workshops and other events offered. Click on the Zoolapalooza link to see what we will be up to at the nationally renowned Omaha Zoo on Saturday. Zoolapalooza is not just for zoo lovers. There are three options for everyone from the die-hard zoo fan to the person who's not so fond of zoos. <http://www.regioniv-aliveandrokn.com/zoolapalooza.html>

We've added another event to the Thursday afternoon line-up. "Bodies--The Exhibition" is in Omaha, just a few blocks from the hotel. Randy Thress, CI, M.A., PA-C will lead a "Tour of Anatomy" at the exhibit.

Hotel rooms are going fast! The conference planning team had to add more rooms to the block because we've already gone over the original amount contracted! Registration deadline for the conference rate is **July 5**. <http://www.regioniv-aliveandrokn.com/hotelinfo.html> .

For Thursday night's opening ceremonies come dressed in your favorite Rock 'N Roll outfit! Or as you favorite Rock Star! Or in the Rock 'N Roll style of your high school/college days! I'll be going through the boxes in my attic to pull out those old clothes—yes, I actually saved them!

While you are on the conference Web site, be sure to click on the 'Get Rock'N!' link for conference merchandise. You will find everything from T-shirts to key-chains to coffee mugs displaying our awesome logo. <http://www.zazzle.com/RegionIV2010>

We are currently looking for silent auction donations from all members. The silent auction is one way that we raise funds to help support our members through scholarships and leadership training. Please consider donating. The affiliate chapters in Region IV have been offered up a challenge from the Silent Auction Committee, so be sure to bring your check books and/or cash, you won't be disappointed...unless you are not the highest bidder!

http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/Region_Conferences/RIV_Silent_Auction_Member_Donation_2010.pdf

Can't wait to see you all in Omaha!

Your Rock'N Rep, Chris



July 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Nebraska RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the July 2010 e-NEWS. This month the Region IV Report profiles Nebraska RID. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: Nebraska Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NeRID)
President Bethany Koubsky

Number of Members: 109

Web site address: www.nebraskarid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides: We provide educational opportunities and opportunities to earn CEUs on a biannual basis with our fall and spring conferences. We also have additional workshops throughout the year as our budget allows. We participate in fundraising activities throughout the year. We also participate in local events such as the Deaf Expo to help us to gain new members. We will also participate in the local "Sign Language Interpreter Day" celebration this fall. We encourage communication and networking through our new Web site and Facebook page.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter? Our members are a forward-thinking and dynamic group of people. We have recently developed a Provocative Proposition, which could also be our "claim to fame." At the spring retreat in 2009, NeRID members crafted this Provocative Proposition:

We are a passionate, forward-moving organization. We:

N urture creativity through trust and support
E nergize excellence through cutting-edge learning opportunities
R espect diversity by embracing all interpreters
I nvent destiny through honoring the past, living in the present and looking forward to the future
D esire change through a collaborative shared experience

We live with integrity. We are dedicated to fostering growth. We perpetuate the outrageous.

We are the change we want to see.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame? One of our biggest successes is the coming together of our members to host the 2010 Region IV Conference. Many members have given and lot of time and effort into all of the committees and should be applauded!

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences: We have the Region IV Conference in August, which will take the place of our fall conference this year.



August 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Arkansas RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the August 2010 e-NEWS. This month the Region IV Report profiles Arkansas RID. 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.

Region IV Alive and RockN! was the best tour ever! Thanks to Conference Co-Chairs Connie Herndon and Gretchen Whitney, and their incredibly talented crew of conference planners, participants were engaged in the show of a lifetime. Creative professional development opportunities, social and professional networking, a day at the zoo and support from conference sponsors all helped excite and thrill everyone who attended. Special congratulations go out to Glenace Humphrey, former Region IV Representative, for receiving the Region IV Excellence In Service to RID Award; and to Connie Herndon for receiving the Spirit of Region IV and Excellence in Leadership Awards.

Rock on Region IV!

Affiliate Chapter Profile of the Month

Affiliate Chapter: Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (ARID)

Number of Members: 93

Web Site Address: www.arkansasrid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

We offer three workshops a year along with a fun Holiday Celebration which all coincide with our General Membership Meetings (GMM). We plan to offer one free workshop a year to our current members. We are making a special effort to work with Arkansas Rehab Services to make it easier to track ARID current members' QAST CEUs for ARS' records. We have a biennial conferences instead of annual, with 2011 being the year ARID will partner with the Arkansas Association of the Deaf (AAD) to hold a joint conference in Little Rock. We also have a reciprocal agreement with Louisiana RID to provide interpreters for our respective conferences.

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How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

Our members are a diverse group. We are made up of interpreters in the educational, community and VRS setting as well as welcoming interpreter training program (ITP) students to be actively involved in our chapter.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

We are actively working with the AAD organization to hold our conferences jointly in 2011. We are also partnering with the Arkansas Coalition for the Education of Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing to help ensure that all interpreters in the educational setting are qualified and receive all the assistance they need to do their jobs. We also think our Web site is one of the best. Our Web master, Melanie Thornton, has developed a Web site that is easy to navigate and is up to date. We are in the process of holding our first "on-line" voting for two Members-at-Large positions.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops and conferences:

Our next workshop and GMM will be September 17th and 18th in Rogers, AR. Stephanie Winslow will be presenting a workshop focusing on special techniques for interpreting in the classroom. The first weekend of December we will have a workshop (TBA) along with our GMM and our holiday celebration in Little Rock.



September 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: New Mexico RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the September 2010 e-NEWS. This month the Region IV Report profiles New Mexico RID. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: New Mexico Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NMRID)
President Dana Sumrow

Number of Members: Approximately 100 current members (as of September 1, 2010)

Web Site Address: www.nmrid.org (The site has been completely re-designed, check it out!)

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

We offer professional development opportunities at a reduced cost for members including a winter workshop and spring conference. We offer numerous scholarships and professional development stipends in an effort to help defray financial hardships for our members. Currently, we offer:

- three stipends annually of \$250.00 to attend the Region IV or National RID Conference;
- two scholarships of \$40 to participate in the New Mexico Mentoring Program awarded twice per year;
- one annual scholarship to cover the cost of taking, or re-taking, the National Interpreter Certification (NIC) or the Certified Deaf Interpreter exam (CDI);
- NMRID members also receive copies of our quarterly e-newsletter, have access to our lending library and are invited to our annual membership appreciation event;
- we have a Yahoo Group that is open to anyone in the community and our newly revitalized Social Committee plans events that are open to both the Interpreting and Deaf community. NMRID strives to maintain ties to the Deaf and hard of hearing community.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

NMRID members work in a variety of urban and rural settings. We are an organization of dedicated professionals who strive to provide high quality communication access to New Mexico's Deaf and hard of hearing population.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops and conferences:

Please see the events calendar on our Web site for details on the following events and meetings and other activities happening across New Mexico:

- December 11, 2010 Third Annual Winter Workshop
- January 7, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting
- May 7, 2011 Third Annual Spring Conference



October 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Colorado RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

RID's new approach to sharing information with the membership from each of the affiliate chapters continues this month with the October 2010 e-NEWS. This month the Region IV Report profiles Colorado RID. 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.

Affiliate Chapter: ColoradoRID

Number of Members: Approximately 200

Web site address: www.coloradorid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

- Annual state conference
- Workshops throughout the year
- Mentor/scholar match – we have provided mentor training in the past and now have the ability to match mentors and scholars throughout the state
- Electronic newsletter sent to all members all throughout the year
- Scholarship opportunities for members

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

- Dependable – they step up when it is needed
- Dedicated – they give a lot to the organization. Committee chairs and committee members all dedicate so much time to their respective area of service.
- Respectful
- Supportive – there are many students who attend events or who are involved, and members are very supportive of students.
- Accepting of new ideas and opinions – a lot of change has happened in terms of the structure of ColoradoRID and members have generally been open-minded and willing to dialogue about the changes.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

- April 2011 – ColoradoRID State Conference
- 2012 – RIV Conference in Colorado
- State Board Meetings – from 9am to 4pm November 13, January 8, March 12, May 30

What else would you like to share about your affiliate chapter?

ColoradoRID has had many successes in the last couple of years. We:

- Raised over \$2000 earmarked for scholarships for ColoradoRID members in the last two years.
- Reconstituted our local affiliate chapters into committees per RID's mandate and made the appropriate financial oversight adjustments.
- Changed our membership cycle so that it falls in line with RID's membership cycle.
- Consistently donated to other deaf and interpreter-related organizations or causes.
- Revamped our Web site.

ColoradoRID has also faced some challenges:

- Leadership transition – though transitions continue to be difficult (both on a board and a committee level) we are continuing to work on ways to make this more successful.
- Continued vacancies in leadership positions – on both a board and committee chair level.
- Lack of involvement on committees (both standing and ad hoc) from the general membership.

ColoradoRID has many goals for the next two years. We plan to:

- Create transition documentation for committee chairs and board members.
- Increase collaboration and communication between committees and the board.
- Set up a committee about licensure to assess if ColoradoRID members want to take the lead on passing licensure for interpreters in Colorado.
- Create and implement a distribution policy (based on membership desires) to determine what information gets distributed by ColoradoRID, along with how it gets distributed (Web site, e-mail, newsletter, mailings, etc.).
- Set up an ad hoc committee to continue working on the structural transition from local affiliate chapters to committees.
- Add a "members-only" section to the Web site.



November 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Louisiana RID & Missouri RID Profile

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

Affiliate Chapter:

Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

President:

Darlene Austin, CI and CT

Vice President:

Monique Sarpy Revader, NIC

Secretary:

Cara Magee-Johnston, CI and CT, Missouri Advanced

Treasurer:

Linda Ducotey, NAD III

Member at Large:

Shirley Delahoussaye, NAD V

LAD Rep to LRID:

Pauline Wood, Secretary, Louisiana Assn. of the Deaf

Number of Members: Approximately 110

Web site address: www.lrid.org

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

We sponsor workshops at different times of the year with the most recent focus on general skill building and educational interpreting, sponsor continuing education units for RID for various workshops and conferences in the state and hosting an annual state conference.

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

We are a close-knit and supportive group that is always looking to expand knowledge and reach out to interpreters who may be new to the profession.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

New Orleans was host to the 1995 RID National Conference as well as the 2000 Region IV Conference. Many folks who attend our state conferences from out of state continue to come back for the food, the fun, the camaraderie and education.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

Currently planning the conference and workshop lineup for 2011.

Affiliate Chapter: Missouri Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (MO-RID)

Number of Members: 64

Web site address: www.mo-rid.com

Describe the programs and services your affiliate chapter provides:

As the newest affiliate chapter of RID, we are focused on building infrastructure this first year.

Since our birth date of May 7, 2010, we've:

- Elected a board
- Appointed chairs and created four committees
- Provided two free workshops
- Conducted two board meetings in different areas of the state and have one planned for December
- Created a Yahoo group, Facebook page, e-newsletter, and website
- Represented MO-RID at the RIV conference at the Presidents' Luncheon and with an award-winning silent auction basket ☺
- Created a rockin' logo
- Created fundraising streams with bake sales, a Zazzle account, and "Art on Everything"'s logo necklaces sales.
- Hosted an informational booth at the state-run Missouri interpreters conference, with Chris Grooms on site
- Held a training retreat led by Chris for our board
- Developed an action plan for the remainder of FY 2011, which includes plans to double our membership, host a fundraiser/workshop event, and leadership development for our chairs
- Created links in our community by becoming an organizational member of MoAD (Missouri Association of the Deaf)
- Sponsored our president and vice president to attend the RIV leadership retreat in Boulder

How would you define the members of your affiliate chapter?

Pioneers! Since we are so new, most of our membership is comprised of "early adapters" – interpreters who already embrace RID's culture and philosophy. We're so excited to share our enthusiasm with Missouri's 600+ other licensed interpreters in the months and years to come.

What is your affiliate chapter's claim to fame?

We're brand new! Missouri itself is famous for great steaks and BBQ, blues and jazz, the St. Louis Arch, beautiful rivers and forested areas, Branson ("Live Entertainment Capital of the World"), the Ozark Mountains and Lake of the Ozarks, being a political bell weather, Budweiser beer, hot summers and cold winters, and being the birthplace of both Sheryl Crow *and* Brad Pitt.

Please list any upcoming meetings, events, workshops, conferences:

In St. Louis on December 11, 2010, we're hosting a free workshop for interpreters about their role and ethics in Deaf suicide prevention. In the afternoon, we'll conduct a board meeting.

What else would you like to share about your affiliate chapter?

We are *thrilled* to be connected to RID and the intangible benefits professional affiliation can provide. While we definitely live in the "Show-Me" State, we know that the leaders and peers from RID will help us build the trust and camaraderie for which our state has been thirsting. Plus, we've got a lot of wonderful people, excellent interpreters, and fantastic places to live and work in our beautiful, diverse state.



December 2010 e-NEWS RID REGION IV REPORT: Leadership Training and Retreat

Submitted by:
Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative

Greetings Region IV Members:

The Region IV Presidents' Council and designated representatives from the Region IV affiliate chapter (AC) boards held the annual Leadership Training and Retreat November 19-21 in Boulder, CO. While much time was spent on leadership training, attendees did take time to discuss and plan for the next year within Region IV. Below is a summary of the weekend:

On Friday evening, we were fortunate to be joined by Cori Dossett, RID Director of Meetings. Cori discussed the new regional conference planning paradigm within RID and outlined specific responsibilities that the national office and regional conference planning will be assuming. Cori is committed to ensuring that each of the regional conferences maintains the "flavor" of the respective region. And we all know Region IV certainly has an abundance of "flavor!"

Cori then presented her research and recommendations for the Region IV 2012 Conference site in Colorado. Those in attendance voted on a specific site in downtown Denver. Once the hotel contract has been signed, a formal announcement will be made to members regarding the site and dates of the conference.

On Saturday, we had a full day of leadership training and discussion regarding Region IV issues and AC issues. We discussed AC year end reports and what those need to contain as well as the fact that RID will be taking a stricter stance regarding year end reports and AC compliance.

Attendees also looked forward to the RID 2011 conference and shared ideas regarding the Region IV Caucus, which will take place Tuesday evening during the week of the conference. In the evening, we headed to the Pearl Street Mall for an organized scavenger hunt and team building exercise. Even though the weather was a bit chilly for most of us, we had a great time running around downtown Boulder and figuring out the clues together. This was a competition between the four teams, but we all won in the end!

On Sunday, we wrapped up the weekend by compiling the following action items for the Presidents' Council to work on over the next year:

- Adding vice presidents and president-elects to the Presidents' Council Yahoo group.
- Recommending to the RID board that AC presidents or designated representatives be offered a 50 percent discount for national conference registration as they are not able to take advantage of various CEU earning opportunities due to other duties at the conference. (proposal due 1/29/2011)
- Continued support for interpreters who work primarily in educational situations.
- Request that the presenter database on the RID Web site be made more user-friendly as

- it is difficult to navigate at this point. (recommendation due 1/29/2011)
- Work with other Region Presidents' Council to offer a sound recommendation to the RID board regarding regional finances. With the new regional conference planning paradigm, regions could potentially lose the majority of our main source of funding.
 - Ask the RID board to increase Region IV Representative budget for travel and hotel as there are 14 ACs in Region IV and the current budgeted amounts are not sufficient to cover costs of attending AC conferences. Some of the ACs in the region are large enough to offer the representative travel and hotel while others are not large enough to have sufficient budgets to do so.
 - Region IV will cover travel costs for the secretary to attend the annual leadership training and retreat. (Presidents' Council to vote on this 1/29/2010)
 - Plan for 2011 leadership training and retreat.

The weekend was a full and very successful one for all in attendance. Not only were we able to plan for the upcoming year, we were able to establish new bonds and strengthen the old ones that have made the regional leadership such a cohesive group. You will be hearing more from the Region IV Presidents' Council after the new year.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Chris Grooms
Region IV Representative