



January 2011 e-NEWS RID REGION V REPORT: Alaska RID & Oregon RID

Submitted by: Dawn Bolduc
Region V Representative

Greetings Region V members, colleagues and friends:

As we welcome in this New Year and begin to create the reality that is 2011, we are saddened by the event that occurred in Arizona. This event has affected family, friends and colleagues in Region V and beyond. Events like these lead us to ask questions. We may search within ourselves or we may seek guidance from a power outside of ourselves. Our questions may differ. Our search for reason may result in conflicting truths. It is with that, however, that I encourage us all to keep in mind that our journey is the same; we all seek understanding. It is my hope that the understanding that we come to, as a community, is one that allows for us to, in the words of President Obama, "talk to each other in a way that heals, not a way that wounds."

I look forward to this year for many reasons. I look forward to holding true to my resolution of allowing myself more time away from work. (Board resolutions found at <http://www.rid.org/userfiles/File/pdfs/Leadership/PresidentColumn1210.pdf>). I look forward to a year of enjoying life with my friends, family and colleagues. I look forward to serving the membership of RID. But most of all I look forward to conversations with community members about how we can encourage a cohesive community. I invite you join me in these conversations.

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day."

-Edith Lovejoy Pierce

On a lighter note, this month we learn a bit more about Alaska RID and meet the board members of Oregon RID. The dedication and hard work by all of the leaders within Region V is truly inspirational. On behalf of all the members, I thank you for all you do!

Read below for information about both Alaska RID and Oregon RID. For up-to-date information about Alaska RID please visit <http://www.akrid.org/>. For up to date information about Oregon RID please visit <http://www.orid.org/>.

Happy reading!

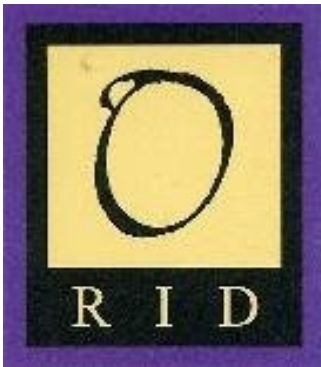
Best,
Dawn J. Bolduc
Region V Representative

Alaska RID (AKRID)

President Gayle Hadley

Greetings from Alaska. We have made good progress toward our goal of reaching out to interpreters in rural areas of our vast state. On Saturday November 13, 2010, for the first time, we provided a workshop via distance technology. AKRID was able to offer training to interpreters in Fairbanks and Juneau with the assistance of Disability Support Services (DSS) at the University of Alaska, Anchorage. The workshop titled, "Mathematics: What does it mean and How do I interpret it?," was presented live (in real-time) in Anchorage by Terry Clayton and Mylinda Klein and was provided simultaneously to rural areas via Skype and online class software. The presenters utilized a Promethean Board and were able to e-mail handouts to the distance interpreters as needed. HOORAY FOR TECHNOLOGY!! We extend our many thanks to DSS for their generous support of continuing education for sign language interpreters. In the future, it is our intention to offer more workshops, as well as conduct our AKRID meetings via distance technology.

Another success in reaching out to interpreters in rural areas has been made by our Educational Interpreting Committee (EIC) in establishing an Educational Interpreter Web site. The Web site, <http://akedterps.ning.com/>, is an ASL/English interpreter networking site for educational interpreters in all educational and instructional settings. The Web site includes events, blogs, videos and group forums and discussions. We send thanks to Laura Miller and Deborah Bigler, of the EIC, for launching and maintaining this useful Web site. With our concerted efforts, we will be able to accomplish one of our chapter objectives: "to provide professional development for interpreters; exchange ideas, opinions and experiences concerning interpreting"...regardless of location.



Oregon RID



CM Hall

President

CM Hall, NIC Advanced; Ed K:12; is the Project Coordinator of the Western Region Interpreter Education Center at Western Oregon University. She holds a Bachelors in the ASL/English Interpreting Program from Western Oregon University and prior to that completed Western's one-year interpreter training program (1992-93). CM holds a Master's in Education from Oregon State University in College Student Services Administration. CM has worked in the K-12 and various post-secondary environments as a staff interpreter and has considerable experience with platform and deaf-blind interpreting. CM is currently teaching in Western's interpreting program as well.

CM is committed to equality and progressive politics and lives with her wife, Kendra and their two pups, Riley and Lucy in Portland.



Tina Buchanan
Vice-President

Tina M. Buchanan is a graduate of the interpreting program at Western Oregon University in Monmouth. She has worked in various interpreting settings including K-12, post-secondary, freelance, theater and VRS. Ms. Buchanan was first elected to the Oregon RID Board of Directors 12 years ago and has enjoyed holding several positions in the organization. Currently, she is a freelance interpreter in the Portland Metro area, serves as Oregon RID Vice President, CMP Coordinator and is a local test administrator for RID. Interpreting is still a job she is thrilled to do every day.



Brooke Mendez
Treasurer & Membership

My name is Brooke Mendez. I reside in a nice place called Salem. I have been an interpreter for four years upon graduating from Western Oregon University with a B.A. in American Sign Language/English Interpreting degree in 2006. I am currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Leadership, through Walden University (all online), with an estimated graduation date of March 2012.

I mostly work in post-secondary education and out in the community. As of November 2010, I have been working as a TRiO disability services support specialist advisor at Chemeketa Community College and interpreting during the evenings. This is a temporary job until August 2011, and then it's back out full-fledged in the field of interpreting.

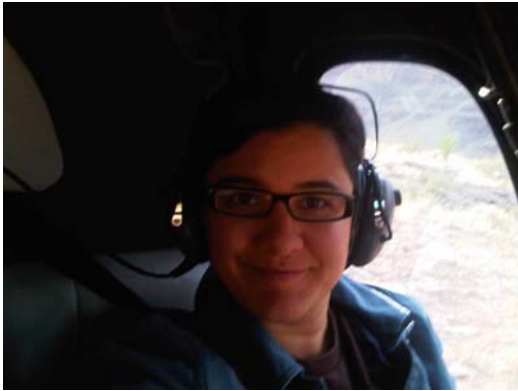
I am happily married and have two adorable cats.



Stacey Rainey
Secretary

Stacey Rainey has been an interpreter in the post-secondary and freelance settings for the past nine years. She graduated from Western Oregon University with two Bachelor's degrees--ASL/English Interpretation and Speech/Communication in 2002. Stacey enjoys spending time with her husband and two adorable daughters-- Maggie, two years old and Clara, almost four months old. Although her family is her priority, she finds that any spare moment that can be spent catching up on sleep is a bonus!

Stacey and her family live in the quiet, cute town of Monmouth.



Mel Deleon-Benham
Member-at-Large

My name is Melanie Deleon-Benham. I have an AA in Deaf Studies, B.S. in ASL/ English interpreting, and an M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling-Deafness.

I have been interpreting for 15 years. I love interpreting in other countries; I have interpreted in 12 so far. I currently specialize in legal interpreting.



Judi Webb
Member-at-Large

Judi Webb has been working as an interpreter since 1987. Most of her work has been in Oregon, but she also had three fabulous years working with the great interpreters in New York City! She received her interpreter education at Western Oregon State College and had a year of Signing for Theatre training at The Juilliard School. She is currently working as a video relay interpreter and is continuing her education toward a degree!

She lives in Portland with husband Tom, and sons Max and Frank.



Cindy Holmes
Scholarship Committee

My name is Cindy Holmes. I have an interdisciplinary degree from George Fox University in 1992 and graduated from Western Oregon University's interpreter training program in 2001. I am the former treasurer for Oregon's chapter of RID and presently am the scholarship committee chairperson. Recently I signed up to become a local test administrator for the NAD-RID NIC exam at Oregon's new site in Monmouth. I have been a staff interpreter in both a k-12 setting and for a private community interpreting agency, and now freelance with time in the community and collegiate settings. Deaf-blind interpreting is an interest of mine, as is working with individuals in and from other countries. Traveling is a passion! My husband and I love to hike, backpack and camp, and believe time outdoors is always well spent. I feel blessed to have a job that I love and that allows me to balance work with play.