



*October/November 2011 e-NEWS  
RID REGION V REPORT:  
Idaho RID, Sacramento Valley RID,  
San Diego County RID & Washington State RID  
Submitted by: Holly Nelson  
Region V Representative*

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***The 2012 Region V Conference Planning Committee is in full swing with assistance from the Region V affiliate chapters and many volunteers throughout the region. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the Region V Conference, June 13-17, 2012, in Honolulu, Hawaii! Find more information about the conference at: <http://www.idahorid.org/regionv>  
Ho'olu komo la kua!***

### **Affiliate Chapter Updates:**

#### **IdahoRID**

*Submitted by Holly Thomas-Mowery, President*

#### ***A Sense of Community***

IdahoRID is excited to sponsor a Saipan interpreter up to \$2,400 to attend the Region V RID conference in 2012. We share this news with great humility and wish to acquaint you with the back story for this edition of IdahoRID's eNEWS.

IdahoRID has been working on identifying ways to show gratitude to the many partners who have helped create positive change in Idaho and set us in a position to give back. Looking over the years, we've partnered closely with the Western Region Interpreter Education Center at WOU (originally, Western Oregon State College and Julie Simon) and have benefited beyond measure by their co-sponsorship of countless IdahoRID workshops and trainings. Our immediate Past-President, LaVona Andrew, estimates that Idaho was the beneficiary of over \$20,000 in WRIEC co-sponsorship funds over the years so that training could take place across our state, at a time when we had an extremely limited budget and local resources. CM Hall has continued this tradition of finding the need and supporting it – we thank you!

Not too long ago, Idaho was a frontier state when it came to professional support and training for ASL interpreters. We were the Guam and Saipan of the day, and I can only imagine what professional interpreting looked like in the territories at that time. Due to the unfailing support of WRIEC and other partners, Idaho has blossomed into a state with a higher than typical percentage of SC:L interpreters per capita (5 SC:Ls and one more sitting soon for her performance test), one CDI and 52 certified members. We have an ITP in the state now with

satellite campuses, an interpreting agency with a great reputation, ASL recognized as a foreign language at a major university and a thriving IdahoRID affiliate chapter.

This is why we feel so strongly about paying it forward. We certainly don't have all the answers by any means - we've just been lucky to have had effective, timely leadership and partners who saw the need and filled it.

We hope the combined efforts of the affiliate chapters rallying around Guam and Saipan will create synergy and amazing things for the professional status and support for ASL interpreters there.

### **Sacramento Valley RID (SaVRID)**

*Submitted by the SaVRID Board*

During SaVRID's September General Business meeting, we were fortunate to swear in two new officers, Jobina Navratil and Taylor Collis. Jobina was selected by the membership to fill the vacancy of the vice president's position on the executive board. Jobina has previous experience serving SaVRID as a Member-at-Large, Professional Development Committee Chair. Taylor Collis also joins the board with experience. Taylor was appointed to the position of Member-at-Large, Fund Development Chair in July after serving on the Fund Development Committee. With guidance from her predecessor, Sarah Blanchard, Taylor has found creative ways to help raise additional funds for the organization.

In June, we teamed with a local recycling company to raise more than \$600 in just four hours for SaVRID by hosting an E-Waste fundraiser. Advertising on free community calendars meant we were able to collect old electronic devices to help us earn funds without having to once again tap our membership for funds. We partnered with Chevy's Mexican Restaurant so that anyone possessing a SaVRID flyer when they paid for their meal would have a portion of their meal expenses donated to SaVRID. Best of all, local shops have donated to provide the refreshments during our meetings, and our silent auctions during our meetings have consisted of donated items such as park hopper tickets for Disneyland, free horseback riding lessons and wine and spa gift baskets. The results of the Fund Development Committee's hard work has resulted in profits that will go back to benefit the membership in the form of more educational opportunities. I hope other chapters will benefit from us sharing our ideas and they can always contact [fund@savrid.org](mailto:fund@savrid.org) to get more details.

### **San Diego County RID (SDCRID)**

*Submitted by Mala S. Poe, President*

Since the March issue of the *RID e-NEWS*, SDCRID has been quite active. I am proud to say that our board and chairs group is 23 strong, and what a great group of folks we have. It may seem like a lot of people, but some of our positions have co-chairs, like PDC or Mentorship. Co-chaired positions are becoming more popular as they enable busy people to divide the work and not feel as overwhelmed doing it on their own.

Our mentorship has been attracting members from other areas and affiliate chapters, and I want to thank our mentors for continuing to give back to the community and hope that other affiliate chapters decide to set up their own mentorship programs as they prove to be quite fruitful for our field. Thank you to Martin Yost and Karen Boyle for your commitment as co-chairs.

Our Community Representative for Working Interpreters, Judith Kroeger, continues to facilitate lively discussions and brainstorming activities with Think Tanks, Trilingual meetings, Video Interpreter meetings, and now, government affairs meetings. Judith was also one of the authors of Motion J heard at the business meeting on the feasibility of RID offering comprehensive health insurance. We hope you were able to partake in the recent survey and be a part of the new directions that our members decide to take it.

There is no better time to be a part of this field, as it is ever changing and we are becoming more knowledgeable about the roles we play. It's also pretty exciting that our regional conference will be in Hawaii this June 2012! If you are interested in serving on the committee, please do contact your affiliate chapter president to inquire on what is available.

We are lucky that we don't have to fly to exotic places to earn our CEUs, because we have so many great opportunities. Locally, last month we partnered with San Diego Unified School District, where many attended an awesome workshop by Melissa Smith on "Revealing the Complexities of Interpreting in K-12 Settings." The next day we partnered with Purple Communications where Nancy Yesbeck gave a workshop, "ICE, ICE BABY: Melt the Form Away." We had an exciting fall with Cindy Farnham and Debbie Peterson giving a 10 hour workshop on Classifiers October 28 – 29. Coming up, before our general membership meeting in December, we will have a free .2 CEU workshop to members on tax preparation for interpreters. Visit our Web site for all the details [www.sdcrd.org](http://www.sdcrd.org)

### **Washington State RID (WSRID)**

*Submitted by Eloisa Williams, WSRID President*

During the opening ceremony at the national conference in Atlanta, GA, Cheryl Moose spoke about *reflection*. She stated that *reflection* not only refers to looking back in time, but also taking the time to look inward.

For the past several years, the WSRID board and bylaws committee have struggled to update and rework our bylaws. During our Annual Meeting of the Membership, members have been at odds with the form of governance used to facilitate our meetings.

WSRID, as an organization, continues to make inroads to forge alliances with the Deaf community and recruit Deaf members, but there is more work to be done. These challenges, along with the regular business meeting decisions, have presented us with some questions:

*"Who are we as an organization?"*

*"Why do we value membership in WSRID?"*

*“How do we want those outside our organization to view us?”*

This year, WSRID boasts 274 members served by 12 board members. After 43 years, there have been many changes in WSRID and in our profession. It is time for WSRID to look inward and truly analyze who we are as an organization within the 21st century, determine our core values and consider how we want others to view us. In order to move forward as an organization, we must take some steps back; we must reflect.

To begin this task, WSRID members will be asked to collectively identify and prioritize the core values that important for our organization. Our current mission statement provides the “what,” however, we need more clarity on the “why” and “how.” During the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Membership, we began this process with a presentation by Amy Seiberlich titled, “Allies: Co-Creating our Vision and our Future.”

Information was gathered during the presentation and follow-up work will be done to include the entire membership in the final product.

By identifying and clarifying core values, members and leaders will have the necessary foundation for revising and updating our bylaws; clear direction for our organizational decision making processes; motivation behind the fostering or expanding of relationships with allies; and guidance as we work to satisfy our mission.

In closing, I would like to mention how the past year has provided WSRID with opportunity for growth:

- In depth board training on Formal Consensus
- Involvement with the Deaf Bilingual Coalition to start conversations regarding qualification standards for educational interpreters
- WSRID provided a letter of support and procured a letter of support from RID for the Seattle Central Community College (SCCC) ITP Program; unfortunately, the SCCC board of directors decided to terminate the program
- Successfully negotiated with a deaf webmaster to begin the creation of a new, updated and user friendly WSRID Web site
- Sponsorship of Deaf lead events including:
  - Washington School for the Deaf, Flying Hands Poetry and Art competition
  - Washington State Association of the Deaf Biennial Conference
  - Eastern Washington Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (now known as Hearing Loss Center) Fun Day
- Outreach meetings with WSRID members and community interpreters from across the state regarding alarming changes in interpreting services for Medicaid clients
- Collaboration with deaf stakeholders in order to raise awareness on recent
- Medicaid changes