



ALRID News letter

Volume 6, Issue 6

May - June 2004

ALRID's Biannual Conference "Mentoring: Framework for Our Future"

June 18-19, 2004 Gulf State Park Resort

Join us at the Gulf State Park Resort!

President
Paul Gawecki, C, CT
Appelton, IN

Vice President
Patty Gordon, CI, CT
Mississippi, MN

Friday Night Entertainment!
• Ms. Tyler Banks Miss Deaf America
• "Interpreters Exposed!" by Debra Johnson

ALRID is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for
Continuing Education Activities.
This Professional Studies program is offered for
1.3 CEUs at the "Core" Content Knowledge Level.



ALRID Board for 2002-04

President:	Nancy Hayes
Vice President:	Judith Labath
Past President:	Paula Frederick
Secretary:	Wendy Darling
Treasurer:	Charlene Crump
Members at Large:	Karen Campbell Stacie Yarbrough and Daniel Miller
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Huntsville RID President:	Frances Smallwood
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Mobile RID Pres:	Lisa Gould
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Shoals RID Pres:	Gail Wells
Talladega RID Pres:	Becky Taylor
Tuscaloosa RID Pres:	Ted Kotis
AAAD Representative	Judith Gilliam

Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee (Gail Wells, Becky Taylor, and Lee Stoutamire) will present the following nominations at the June ALRID meeting in Gulf Shores.

President:	Nancy Hayes
Vice President:	Karen Campbell
Secretary:	Lisa Gould
Treasurer:	Lee Stoutamire
Members-at-Large:	

- 1-Dan Miller
- 2-Belinda Montgomery
- 3-Kayleen Pugh

If you would like to add a name to the slate of nominations, it's not too late to nominate someone else (or yourself). Please send names to Gail Wells: gjwells@aol.com.



In The News...

RID MEMBERSHIP SURPASSES 11,000!!

As of May 13th, 2004, RID membership surpasses 11,000! Kudos to each and every RID member, board member, committee member, and National Office staff member.

WEB SITES – UP & RUNNING

ALRID 's Web Page

For information about ALRID and CEU contacts for various divisions and other pertinent and interesting information see the ALRID website:

www.jsu.edu/depart/dss/ALRID.

ALBIT Web Site

The Website is up and still undergoing some construction. It will eventually include a copy of the law and amendment, the Rules and Regulations, the Board members, as well as current applications and CEU forms. The address is: www.albit.state.al.us. Check it out!

Tuscaloosa Division Web Site

Tuscaloosa is live on the web!! Check out the web site at www.tuscrd.com.

The Mary Stotler Award

Reminder, nominations for the Mary Stotler Award are due by July 1, 2004. Nomination Application and details can be found at the RID web site: www.rid.org/stotler.pdf.

ALRID Board Meetings 2004

The next meeting of the ALRID Board will be held at the General Meeting on June 18th in Gulf Shores. Topics of discussion will include the election of officers for the 2004-2005 term. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Silent Auction Fund Raiser

The Tuscaloosa Division of ALRID will be hosting a Silent Auction at the 2004 ALRID Conference in Gulf Shores. There are many WONDERFUL items up for bid so bring your checkbook and come prepared to win your silent bid!



ALRID Raffle Fundraiser

\$3 ea or 2/\$5



Drawing will be held on
June 19, 2004,
at the ALRID General Meeting

Do Not Have to be Present to Win

**Wanna Purchase Tickets?
Wanna Sell Tickets?
Contact Your Division President for Tickets!**

Has Licensure Increased the Quality and Quantity of Training for Interpreters/Transliterators in Alabama?

FROM YOUR ALABAMA BOARD OF INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLITERATORS

This article will continue with the theme of licensure and the impact on the quality and quantity of training for interpreters in Alabama. Your Licensure Board appreciates all the comments received. The next article will report on our transition process including the April public hearing.

This final focus article will begin with comments from our Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf President, Nancy Hayes:

The Alabama licensure law has been very successful in several ways. For interpreters it is a way that the general business world can recognize that they are qualified according to a standard with which they are familiar. This is an improvement over interpreters explaining about certification since that term can mean anything from the completion of an eight-hour seminar to a rigorous testing process by the national Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. For deaf consumers it is an improvement as well, since all interpreters are required to have a license to be able to work for pay in Alabama. This ensures a better quality of interpreter service for them.

The only inadequacy I see in the licensure law for interpreters is that it exempts interpreters who work in the K - 12 educational setting. This is unfortunate because deaf children are dependent on their interpreters for getting instruction from their teachers. If the interpreter is insufficiently trained, then teaching cannot take place and the child suffers.

The law also does not provide for interpreters who do not maintain their national certification. Once an interpreter receives a license, s/he only needs to maintain the 2.0 CEUs per year. However, having the law in place has created a need for more training and since the training must be up to the standards that RID requires, the training that has been provided is at a higher level.

One other change I would like to see in the law is to add that once an interpreter is granted a permit or provisional permit, they are assigned a mentor whom they must meet with at least on a monthly basis for supervision until they achieve a license. We see many interpreters who are satisfied to maintain a permit when one of the goals of this law was to have all interpreters licensed. Mentorship would provide a vital role in the continued development of newly permitted interpreters.

Editor Note: The June ALRID conference will feature two presenters, Paula Gajewski and Patty Gordon who will be sharing their mentoring program that is used in Minnesota (created and succeeded to get ALL educational interpreters RID certified).

From Margie McLaughlin, CI and NAD III, whose private practice, Sign Language Services of Alabama provides interpreting in the educational area:

Benefits of the Alabama Licensure Law are threefold, which makes for a strong, supportive approach to the Interpreting profession. First there is the Deaf Community who deserves and should demand the best possible services from interpreters. Second, deals with the professional Interpreters, who are striving for excellence in their chosen field. I feel with the strength of the Alabama Licensure Law, they are encouraged to succeed and push themselves to attain better credentials and certifications, which means better services to the Deaf Community. The monetary gains of Licensed Interpreters help them to make a decent living and assist in paying for continued education, workshops and certifications. This would add more professional, competent interpreters for Deaf and hearing clients.

Third, without the law, persons entering the interpreting profession may not feel the need to pursue any further education, training or certification. Sometimes, we need to be challenged, to be more than we are, and I feel that is a key component of the Licensure law. This law can be viewed as a catalyst for us all to reach for higher goals and stretch our skills. I do feel very strongly about the law and that it should have more power of enforcement.

From Janice Rogers, NAD III, Interpreter Educator at Bishop State Community College, and former Educational Interpreter as well as Rehabilitation Worker:

I feel the licensure has fulfilled its purpose in ensuring the quality of service given to the consumers by the interpreters. Making it mandatory to obtain CEUs causes interpreters to constantly strive to learn more and improve....not just being satisfied with passing a test and sitting on that fact alone. However; the quantity has not caught up with the quality of service. There is still an imbalance in the supply and demand of interpreters. My prayer and efforts are to work toward increasing both the quality and quantity of interpreter service for both the Deaf/deaf consumer and the hearing consumer.

From Diane Napper, CI, Interpreter for Alabama
Department of Rehabilitation Services and formerly an
educational interpreter:

First I would like to say the licensure has given our profession the recognition it has longed deserved; therefore, we must strive to continually improve our skills. I have noticed the nature of training offered now seems to cover a broader spectrum of topics. This is much needed considering the myriad assignments we undertake.

The next comment comes from Cathy Lacour of Mobile, also involved in education.

I moved back to Alabama as Licensure was just coming into play. I was coming from the state of Ohio where Licensure was not even a thought. I was a former deaf educator when I moved to Ohio and had no interpreting experience; but was the only available person in the Ohio Valley who was not working full time and could sign. I was sent out on many an assignment that I was totally unprepared for; but I felt obligated to go, as "they didn't have anyone else". As I look back, I cringe at what I was allowed to do and the horrible quality of service we gave the deaf in our area. I made the commitment early on to go for training and I did at every opportunity that came up. There were quite a few others whose skill levels were lower than mine who didn't bother. The "interpreter coordinators" we had did not even know any signs!! I really do believe that Licensure has helped protect deaf consumers from people who are "just helping out." It also protects the interpreters from feeling they should take every assignment that comes along. My permit status helps me to be able to say, "you know, I am not qualified to take that assignment, you really need someone with aCertification".

Editor's note: See www.ocrid.org for updated information of standards in Ohio.

And finally we have comments from an educational interpreter who wants to remain anonymous. Parts of the comments have been changed or deleted so as not to divulge the identity of this interpreter. The following is the combination of the two emails received:

I work as an Educational Interpreter (primary job), Community Contract Interpreter and Church Interpreter in xxxx County. I am not involved in the training of new interpreters; therefore, I do not feel qualified to comment on the *training* available. Licensure *has not increased* the quality of interpreters. I was trying to address the specific question asked. I **do** support testing and permit/licensing of interpreters to assure deaf consumers quality service. But, that was not the question. Hopefully, other states will learn from Alabama's experience.

The quantity of interpreters is a serious problem. In my county, working interpreters are stretched thin to cover

all needs and have no backups/subs except to call on other working interpreters in an emergency. No qualified replacements are being found to fill vacancies now. Very soon, a large percentage of working interpreters will be ready for retirement. If this happens next year, or the year after, where will qualified replacement interpreters be found?

Licensure **has definitely not** increased the quantity of interpreters. The same interpreters, who were working before Licensure, are working still. Licensure required us (with no financial reimbursement) to take expensive interpreting tests so we could do the same job, for the same pay. Licensure charges us \$50 a year to continue to work. Too many exceptions/exemptions/extensions have been made about the Licensure law requirements. Under-qualified people are still being used, because there is now a desperate shortage of qualified interpreters. Soon, the first wave of trained and qualified interpreters in xxxxxx will be retiring after working 25 years. Who will replace us?

In conclusion, the last newsletter article asked for more input from educational interpreters relating to our theme of quality, quantity, and qualifications of interpreters in Alabama. No additional comments were received. Your Licensure Board and your professional interpreter organization, ALRID, would like to see each Alabama interpreter at the general meeting and training in Gulf Shores. Together, we can face the challenges of the quality, quantity and qualifications of interpreters in Alabama.

Sue Scott, Secretary



Ask ALBIT

This column answers your questions about the Alabama Interpreters and Translitterators Licensure Law. Send your e-mail inquiries to Belinda Montgomery at BM7678@msn.com. The questions and answers will appear in this column.

Dear Fellow Interpreters:

In the middle of May, we members of the Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translitterators (ALBIT) find that the role we have taken on has been gaining maturity from the one conceived of in the Alabama Licensure Law of 1998. As a five year-old, we are excited about the new opportunities that we are pursuing and we hope you will be, too. Please watch for the next article in this newsletter about these changes and your relationship to them. In the meantime, I hope to see you at Gulf Shores in June.

Cynthia Frey,
Chair, ALBIT



ALRID's Biannual Conference

"Mentoring: Framework for Our Future"



June 18th and 19th, 2004
Gulf State Park Resort

Join us at the Gulf State Park Resort! In this highly interactive workshop, participants will discuss the possibilities for personal and professional growth for mentors and mentees, discuss what each person in the mentoring relationship brings to the table and apply the concepts of guided self-discovery. In addition, the topic of Professional Development Planning will be discussed, including goal writing and the identification of resources to support the plans made.

Meet the Presenters:

Paula Gajewski, CI, CT: Paula has been in the interpreting field for nearly 20 years and holds degrees in Educational Interpreting and Human Service Administration/Human Resource Development. She is a partner and co-founder of SLICES- an organization that specializes in Sign Language Interpretation, Consultation and Education Services. She is currently a Program manager for the RSA Region V Interpreter Education Project at the College of St. Catherine (CSC) in Minneapolis, MN. Paula has extensive experience planning and presenting professional development events for working interpreters, particularly those who work in educational settings. She has been actively involved in mentoring pre-certified educational interpreters in MN and has presented on the topic locally, regionally, and nationally. Paula is a co-author of the *MRID Self-Paced Modules for Educational Interpreter Skill Development*. She lives in Apple Valley, MN, with her husband, Paul, and their children, Molly and Jake.

Patty Gordon, CI, CT: Patty has a BA in Linguistics from Metropolitan State University. She also holds certificates from the University of Colorado at Boulder's Teaching ASL and Master Mentor programs. She has been a freelance interpreter working in performing arts, medical, governmental, and corporate settings since 1987. As an interpreter educator, she has taught at Western Oregon University, Front Range Community College and is currently adjunct faculty at The College of St. Catherine in Minneapolis. She is a co-author of the *MRID Self-Paced Modules for Educational Interpreter Skill Development* and *A Plan for Mentorship of Educational Interpreters in Minnesota*. She has taught workshops on various topics including ASL linguistics, interpreting, mentoring, and educational interpreting and interpreter education.

Entertainment:

Come see presentations by:

• **Tyler Banks:** Miss Deaf Alabama

"Interpreters Exposed: a hilarious look at a day in the life of a Sign Language Interpreter"

Directed by Dee Johnson

Come prepared to participate in the Silent Auction! Successful bidders will be announced at lunch on Saturday.

ALRID is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for Continuing Education Activities. This Professional Studies program is offered for **1.3 CEUs** at the "Some" Content Knowledge Level.



ALRID Conference Agenda

Friday, June 18, 2004



8:00 to 8:30: Registration

8:30 to 11:30: General Session “Mentoring: Framework for our Future”

Patty Gordon and Paula Gajewski Mickelson

11:30 to 12:30: Lunch

12:30 to 2:30: ALRID General Meeting

Election of New Officers

2:30 to 5:30: “Mentoring” Workshop Continues

7:00 to 9:00: Entertainment and Presentation of the Mary Lou Bingham Award

Saturday, June 19, 2004

8:00 to 12:00 “Mentoring” Workshop Resumes

12:00 to 1:00 Lunch

1:00 to 5:00: “Mentoring” Workshop Concludes

If, for any reason, ALRID cancels this training, refunds will be given.

Hotel Information

Gulf State Park Resort **1-800-544-4853**
21250 E. Beach Blvd Gulf Shores, AL

Rooms: \$105 per night plus 11% lodging tax

Reservations must be made by June 3, 2004. Be sure to tell them that the reservation is for the ALRID block.

Directions: I-65 South to Exit 37 “Bay Minette”, turn left (east). Continue to Highway 59 E. Turn left onto Highway 182 S, “Gulf Beach Highway”. Gulf State Park is ahead a mile and a half on the right.

Registration:

RID Members: \$65.00

Non-RID Members: \$75.00



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Accommodations: _____

Send to: ALRID: Attention Susan Gordon, 5950 Monticello Dr., Montgomery, AL 36117

Division Reports

Huntsville...

Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Picnic
August 7, 2004
11:00am - 5:00pm

Jacksonville....

The Appalachian School *Of Alcohol and Other Drug Studies*

June 22 - 25, 2004

"Treating the Deaf Client"

The fourth ApSADS is scheduled for June 22-25, 2004. This event will have a special course "Treating the Deaf Client" taught by Dr. Debra Guthmann. RID CEUs will be offered. The web site is www.apsads.org where complete registration and conference information can be found.

Deb's course is sponsored by ADRS, who also has scholarships for their employees. 75 scholarships are also available through the Department of Education (just note on the registration if you are employed by an educational agency.) This course will cover many specialty issues such as cultural considerations, accessing treatment, aftercare services AND OF COURSE interpreter issues. Each participant will leave with an expansive manual of resources materials.

Deb is back at the request of previous participants. She understands the difference between issues of deafness and addiction. She is currently at the California School for the Deaf, so she certainly understands the needs in the academic arena.

ApSADS is designed for all professionals in education, prevention, identification, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation, and enforcement of chemical abuse and dependency. Besides the course on Deafness there are many other offerings that any professional in today's world might benefit.



Disability Support Services and the Jacksonville Chapter of ALRID will be hosting a mid July workshop for interpreters. Check the DSS web site at <http://dss.jsu.edu> for details.

L.I.F.E.

A special grant from the Workforce Investment Act through ADRS is focusing transition of 14 to 18 year old students who have functional disabilities due to hearing loss. L.I.F.E. is a joint project that involves ADRS, JCCD, AIDB/ASD, and JSU/DSS. Some 180+ students statewide have been identified. If you know of students in the local schools, private schools, or home school who could benefit from transition information, please contact Tammy Adams at ADRS or Linda Turner at JSU. L.I.F.E. has a strong focus on developing a database of all students who might benefit from services that would lead them to better meet their potential.

Mobile....

by Lisa Gould, President

We held our general meeting and elections on Tuesday, May 11, 2004, at AIDB, Mobile Regional Center. We have a really active division with a lot of support and involvement from our members. Our website is still up and running and continues to be a great way to communicate our happenings. We are planning our 2nd annual celebration of our Interpreters who have achieved certification and/or passed the code of ethics generalist written exam throughout the past year. The celebration will be on Saturday, June 26, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at Blue Gill Restaurant on the Causeway. Members only are invited. If any members from other divisions are in Mobile, please drop by and celebrate with us!

We recently held an advanced workshop with Amy Peterson on "Refining My Receptive Skills" with 15 people in attendance. The comments from this training were positive and many stated that they would like to have Amy back again for more training. Our Professional Development Committee will look at how this can be done.

Our new officers for 2004 - 2006 are:

President: Sandy Ryan

Vice-President: Lori Pituk

Secretary: Ellen Langham

Treasurer: Willie McLellan

MCAAD Representative: Paula Faircloth

I want to send out a heartfelt thank you to the officers and members who I worked with for the past three years as President. I appreciate your support and hard work at our board meetings as well as workshops. With teamwork anything is possible!

Shoals...



The 2004 Helen Keller Festival Will be held June 22-27, 2004, at Spring Park in Tusculum, Alabama, birthplace of Helen Keller, known as *America's First Lady of Courage*. The admission-free event includes arts and crafts, art exhibits, athletic events, a parade, and street concerts by a

variety of talented bands and performers. More information is available at

www.wraygraphics.com/hkfest.

Performance times and ticket prices for ***The Miracle Worker***, the inspiring drama written by William Gibson and performed outdoors at Ivy Green, Helen Keller's family home, are also available on the website. ***The Miracle Worker*** will be professionally interpreted on Friday, June 25th and Saturday, June 26th. Go to www.wraygraphics.com/hkfest for ticket information.

Tuscaloosa...



ANNIE

Book by Thomas Meehan, Music by Charles Strouse,
Lyrics by Martin Charnin

**Theatrical Interpreting
Provided by TRID!**

Sunday • June 27, 2004

2:00pm

Leapin' Lizards! The popular comic strip heroine takes center stage in one of the world's best-loved musicals. "Annie" is a spunky orphan determined to find her parents, who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations, befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and finds a new family and home with billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary Grace Farrell and a lovable mutt named Sandy. For more information contact Mindy Norton at mnorton@jmf.com.



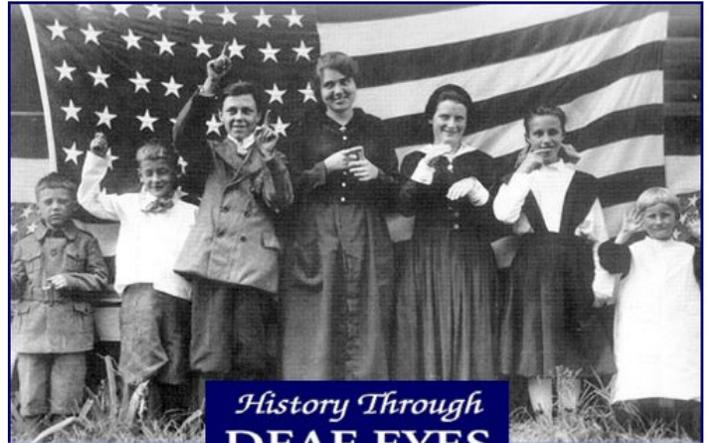
AUCTION

Shhh! It's a Silent Auction!

TRID will be hosting the **Silent Auction** at the ALRID Conference. We've got many wonderful items for you to bid on! So bring your checkbook and come ready to bid.

Winning bids will be announced at lunch on Saturday, June 19th.

Advertisement



Students from the St. Rita's School for the Deaf, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1918. Photograph by J.B. Schmidt. National Archives, Image: 165-WW-77E-3.

"We have been called deaf-mutes, mutes, objects of charity, deaf and dumb, semi-mutes, dummy, and now, hearing impaired. We have been described as 'the most misunderstood among the sons of man.' Some of us are deaf and some of us are Deaf. Some of us use American Sign Language and some of us do not. This exhibition is our untold and largely unknown history. It is American history...Through Deaf Eyes."

—Jack R. Gannon, Curator

SEP 7 – OCT 24, 2004

**Birmingham Civil Rights Institute,
Birmingham, AL**

ALRID Newsletter

If you are interested in placing an ad with us: ALRID does not necessarily endorse or support any products or businesses whose advertisements appear in the ALRID Newsletter. The ALRID Board makes the final decision on which ads to publish. RATES:

Full-page ad:	\$10.00
Half-page ad:	\$7.50
Quarter page ad:	\$5.00
Business card ad:	\$2.50

Send print-ready ad and appropriate fee to:

**ALRID Newsletter Editor
Nancy Stansell, TRID
PO Box 3191
Tuscaloosa, AL 35402**

Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Committee Picnic

Come join the fun!

Come to HADAC's picnic for food, friends, volleyball, horseshoes, and of course, swimming (there are life guards, too)!

Bring your swimsuits and change at the pool!

When: August 7, 2004

11:00am to 5:00pm

WHERE: Monte Sano Pool



Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Awards will be presented.

DIRECTIONS IF DRIVING FROM I-65: Take the I-565 exit to the Governors/Hwy 431 exit. Take Hwy 431/Governors Drive through the business and hospital area and up the mountain. Turn left onto Monte Sano Blvd (it is at the top of the hill at the light). Then follow directions below.

DIRECTIONS IF DRIVING NORTH (from Guntersville): Take Hwy 431 and turn right onto Monte Sano Blvd (at the top of the hill, at the light.)

Continue on Monte Sano Blvd for about three miles. You will pass a school and then a fire station on the right. Turn right on the first street after you pass the fire station (also on the right) at Mae Street. (This is across from the Channel 31 building.)

Continue on Mae as it curves to the left. At the end, turn right. This street takes you to the pool property.

Cost: \$7.00 for ages 13 and up

\$5.00 for children 6-12

Children 5 years and under are free

Bring your swimsuits and your smiles! See you there!

For more information about the location, visit
<http://www.montesano.org/pool/poolhome.html>



Tuscaloosa Chapter of AAD
Annual Summer Picnic

Lurleen Wallace Park

June 12, 2004

10:00 am till 8:00 pm

Shelter # 4

Gate Admission: \$2.00



Host by Tuscaloosa Chapter of AAD

Adult-\$ 5.00 Children-\$ 3.00

Soda

Swimming

Social and Fun

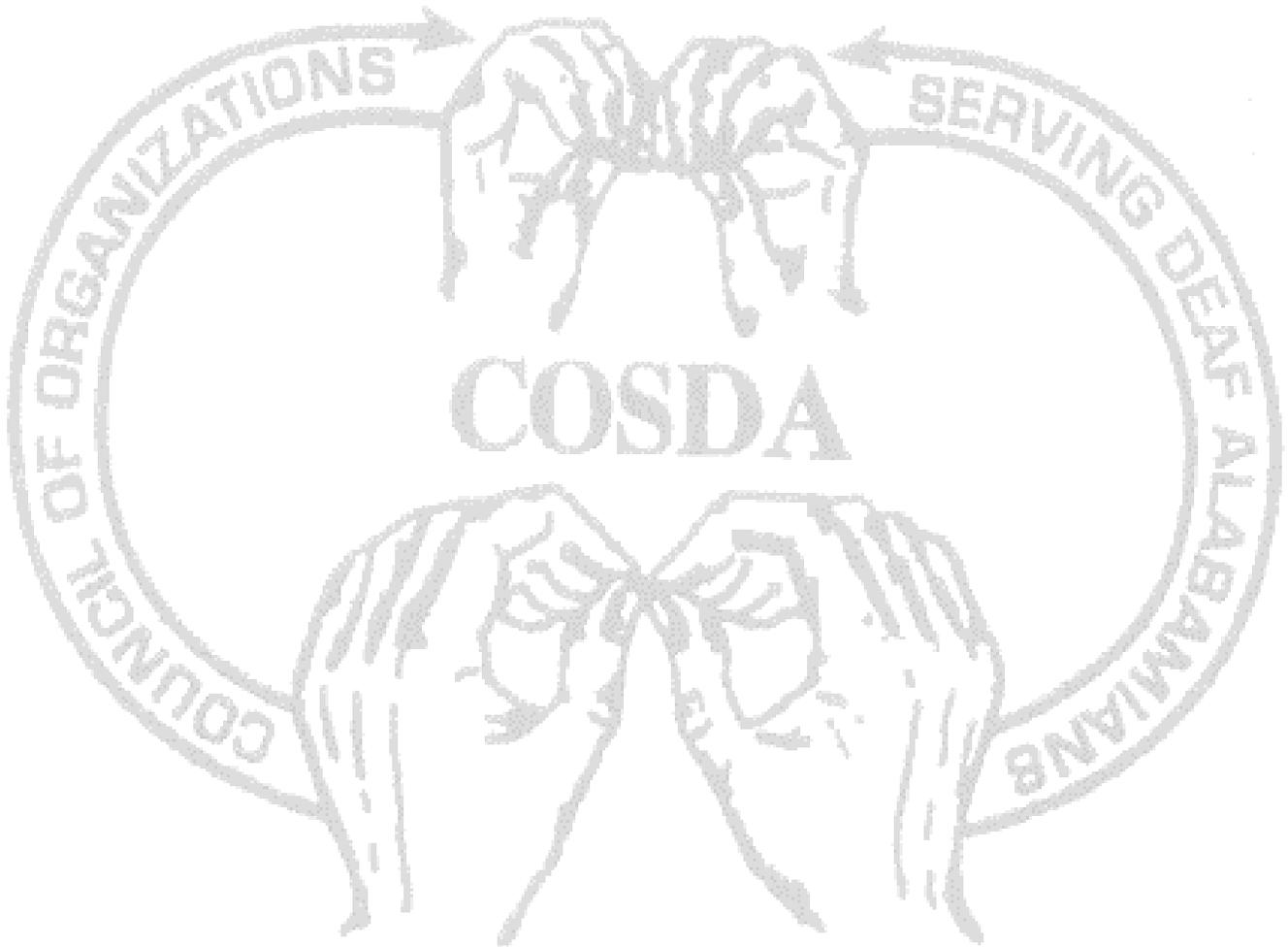
Contact Donald Barnes, dgbarnes@tombigbee.net for more information.

“Constructing the Future for Deaf People in Alabama”

19th Annual COSDA Conference

June 17, 2004

Gulf State Park Resort Hotel



Need to stay at Gulf State Park Resort Hotel? Call reservations at 1-800-544-4853. Rates are \$105.00 per night plus 11% lodging tax. Tell them you are attending the COSDA meeting.



**ALABAMA REGISTRY OF
APPLICATION FOR**

**INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF
MEMBERSHIP**

Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

LOCAL DIVISION: _____

CREDENTIALS: _____

Are you a member of RID? _____ **yes** _____ **no** **If yes:#** _____

PAYMENT

ALRID Membership Dues..... \$25.00
Donations (please specify): Scholarships..... _____
Other..... _____
After June 30, 2004 add \$5.00 Late Fee... _____
TOTAL..... \$ _____

ALRID Newsletter: E-mail *or* US Postal Service (Circle One)

ALRID membership dues pay for newsletter subscription, ALRID Policies and Procedures, and an opportunity to have input into state policies affecting interpreting and membership. Your check should be made out to **ALRID** and will serve as your receipt.

Send Application and Payment to:
Wendy Darling, Secretary of ALRID
JCCD
5950 Monticello Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
darlingwendy@juno.com

For office use only: Date Received: _____ **Check Number:** _____



ALRID Conference: Mentoring: Framework for Our Future

**June 18-19, 2004
Gulf State Park Resort, Gulf Shores AL
See details inside!**

ALRID Newsletter Editor
• Nancy Stansell, TRID
PO Box 3191
Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED