

PARID Newsletter

Winter 2011

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President’s Report

Brian McHale, CI/CT

I hope everyone enjoyed the RID Conference in Atlanta as much as my family and I did. There were some very interesting and heated debates at the bi-annual business meeting. Some of the topics were if there should be a CODA at large member on the board of RID; and to investigate if it is possible for RID to use their 15,000 + members to attain group health insurance. (Instead of all of us community freelance interpreters feeling that we are alone in the medical health insurance arena.)

This upcoming summer PARID is planning a whitewater rafting adventure/ mountain bik-

ing/ paintball war games in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania as a fundraiser. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting event. We still are accepting donations from our “work an hour for PARID” fundraising project. This is a progressive idea that if everyone could donate just one hour of pay to PARID for the entire year then no one has to sell tablets, pens, or anything else for that matter.

This newsletter includes information about our upcoming annual conference in Allentown, Pennsylvania this year. We also have exciting position openings for webmaster and news-

letter editor. We are all thankful to Mark Hardway for taking the reins and organizing this newsletter.

Lastly, but certainly not least, the board is accepting letters of interest and resumes for vacant positions. The positions are vice president, recording secretary, and District 1,3,4,5,6, and 8 representatives. We all thank Rebecca Friedman and LaTanya Jones for their recent services and diligent efforts.



“Our mission is to provide state and local forums and an organizational structure for the continued growth and development of the profession of interpretation and transliteration of American Sign Language and English.”

PARID Board of Directors

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Vacant

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Recording Secretary
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**Corresponding Secretary/
Membership**

**Annie Hardway,
NAD IV,
NIC Master**

2815 Lehigh Road
York, PA 17402
membership@parid.org

PARID Districts

District 1

Vacant

Counties: *Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango, Warren*

District 2

Rich Wilson
district2rep@parid.org

Counties: *Armstrong, Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Green, Lawrence, Washington, Westmoreland*

District 3

Vacant

Counties: *Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Somerset*

District 4

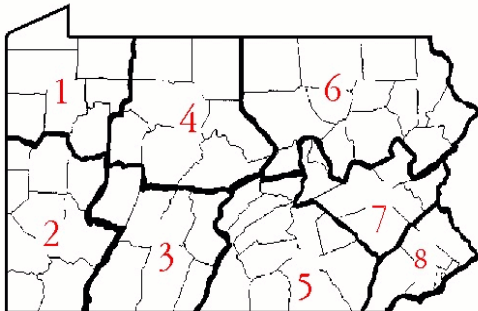
Vacant

Counties: *Cameron, Clinton, Centre, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter*

District 5

Vacant

Counties: *Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, Snyder, York*



District 6

Vacant

Counties: *Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming*

District 7

Elizabeth Setley,
CI/CT
district7rep@parid.org

Counties: *Carbon, Berks, Lehigh, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Schuylkill*

District 8

Vacant

Counties: *Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia*

PARID News Information

Deadlines for submission:

Spring Feb. 28
Summer May 31
Fall Aug. 31
Winter Nov. 30

PARID News is published quarterly by the Pennsylvania Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

Articles and notices should be sent to the newsletter editor via email (newseditor@parid.org) or postal service. **Paste your original article directly into the email if possible.**

Matters of concern and interest to the membership will be published in the *PARID Newsletter*. *PARID Newsletter* reserves the right to edit, excerpt, or refuse to publish any submission. Unsigned articles will not be published.

2012 PARID CONFERENCE

Where:

Four Points by Sheraton
3400 Airport Rd.
Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-266-1000

Hotel Cost: \$109.00 + Tax per night

Hotel rooms must be reserved prior to 4/18/12

Check out the amenities

www.fourpoints.com/allentown

When: May 18-19, 2012

Friday:

8/9am-12pm— 2 seminar options

12pm-1pm—Lunch

1pm-5pm—2 Seminar options

7pm-8:30pm—Entertainment (Performed in ASL)

Saturday:

7am-9am—Breakfast

9am-12:30pm— Annual meeting (with CEUs)

12:30-1:30—Lunch

1:30-5:30—3 Seminar options

PARID will be holding a silent auction that will conclude on Saturday May 19 in the morning.



If you would like to donate an item, email conference@parid.org



COME JOIN US!

We are working hard to keep the cost down. For Affiliate chapter members, early registration is **only \$9.00 per 0.1 CEU**.

Early Registration will begin Mid January, 2012—Check your Mailbox or go to parid.org/conference-overview



Treasurer Report Mark Hardway

PARID
 Quarter 1 2011-2012 Fiscal Year
 Treasurer's Report
 September 30, 2011

Account	\$ 26,923.48	Checking Account
Totals	\$ 28,665.14	Savings Account
	\$ 2,678.85	Certificate of Deposit #1
	<u>\$ 2,650.02</u>	<u>Certificate of Deposit #2</u>
	\$ 60,917.49	Total Assets
Less:	\$ 5,217.51	CDI Funds
	\$ 7,450.83	Mentorship Funds
	\$ 1,583.71	Conference Funds
	\$ 506.10	District 1 Funds
	\$ 2,683.59	District 2 Funds
	\$ 570.00	District 3 Funds
	\$ 100.00	District 4 Funds
	\$ 12,026.59	District 5 Funds
	\$ 6,449.72	District 6 Funds
	\$ 1,550.00	District 7 Funds
	<u>\$ 10,443.08</u>	<u>District 8 Funds</u>
	\$ 12,336.36	Actual PARID General Fund Balance

Most of the income for the first quarter was from annual membership renewals. Expenses included SWAP processing, workshops, and misc. printing, postage, and supplies.

Position Openings for Webmaster and Newsletter Editor

The positions for PARID Webmaster and Newsletter Editor are currently vacant; and there are detailed position descriptions posted on the PARID website. The application deadline will be January 31, 2012.

We also have several districts in need of a representative to serve on the PARID Board.

If you are interested, send a letter of interest and resume to the president at: president@parid.org. Also, direct your questions about the positions to the president.



Membership Chair's Report

Annie Hardway NAD-IV, NIC-Master, AOPC Certified, PA State Registered

“Professional Development.” Do those words scare you? Send chills up your spine? I know that since I did not attend college, it used to scare me. Going to workshops and signing in front of colleagues, working with colleagues that did go to an ITP or any continuing education always made me feel “less” than my colleagues. I still remember one interpreter I used to work with regularly early in my career (who will remain nameless... Smile.). She would tell me “Stop it!” because when we were done teaming an assignment and I would always ask, “Ok, what did I do wrong this time?” with my head bowed low. I was hearing that “interpreter noise” in my head, concerned about my interpreting skills. Their nice reminder has been a tremendous help when that “interpreter noise” tries to creep in again. (Thank you. You know who you are!)

I also remember a presenter for a workshop in our area many years ago, that said “I didn’t go to college to learn what I do. I may not use the same terms that you who went to college use. But I have 20 years of experience doing what I do, and you can change the terms to match the terms you learned in college.” Boy, I felt better after that! (I am now at 20 years of professional experience... I started interpreting at 9 years of age... really when I was 29... My, how time flies!!!)

Since I didn’t attend an ITP, I have always looked forward to attending the National RID Conferences, as well as PARID Conferences. Conferences are a great opportunity to learn from colleagues who are leaders in the field of interpreting, and earn those precious CEUs. Many of the presenters for Atlanta had up to 45 years of experience, degrees in several fields, and several certifications. (Unfortunately, due to health issues, I spent most of the week in Atlanta in my hotel room.) But, nothing will stop me from being a life-long learner. I always consider myself a student. There is always more to learn no matter what your age. Sign language is always changing, just like the English language.

I would like to encourage everyone to attend the PARID and RID National and Regional Conferences, as well as workshops and any “professional development” you can attend. It is worth more than you know, benefiting the consumers, yourself, and the profession.

PARID Demographics

(Membership Statistics for all 310 members as of Oct 31, 2011)

Membership Category

Associate: 51
 Certified: 203
 Organizational: 10
 Student: 38
 Supporting: 8

Primary Job Title

Independent
 Contractor: 136
 Interpreter Coordinator: 7
 Interpreting Student: 35
 Parent of Deaf Child: 3
 Referral Agency: 10
 Staff Interpreter: 77
 Teacher of the Deaf: 8
 Other: 19

Primary Job Setting

Business: 9
 Community Freelance: 116
 Government: 4
 K12 Education: 69
 Legal: 5
 Medical: 12
 Post Secondary
 Education: 20
 Video: 9



District 2 Report Richard Wilson

PARID District 2 wrapped up our “Introduction to Interpreting in Church Settings” workshop. We had 40 in attendance, as Leo Yates Jr. shared stories and developed our skills. He was widely received and the workshop was a complete success. District 2 hopes to have Leo come again to Pittsburgh. One of the comments received by District 2 was that, “It has been a long time since church interpreting was addressed in our area”. The workshop was enjoyed by all of us. District 2 is in the process of working on an “Ethics Workshop” and “Theatrical Performance”. We are still working on a few more workshops and hope to get the word out soon, so keep an eye out for workshops in District 2.

District 2 is looking forward to the Sign-A-Thon at the Mall at Robinson Township on April 14, 2012. It is long way off but we want to get as many involved as possible. District 2 is also eager to participate in “Main Street” event at the University of Pittsburgh. This event is at the Student Union on the Pitt Campus and draws all the ASL students and those interested in ASL to learn more about Deaf Culture and events in the Pittsburgh area. Information table and performances are available at this event to encourage them to become more active in the Deaf Community.



District 7 Report Elizabeth K. Setley, CI and CT

Boy is it cold outside!!

District 7 has been busy this fall. Workshops, “The Doctor Is In” and “The Road to “Helper” Is Paved With Good Intentions”, were both well attended at Berks Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services in Reading PA. Even though Mother Nature tried her best with rain at the first and six inches of snow during the second workshop, the workshop attendees were real troopers.

District 7 Rep has been in touch with Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PATTAN) to see how we can benefit mutually with shared services and ideas. PATTAN has Educational Interpreting Mentorship programs as well as outreach with PA State Universities and their Interpreter Education Programs.

Solicitation for Nominations

In 2012, elections will be held for PARID president, vice president, treasurer, recording secretary, and membership secretary. Nominations need to be submitted to the nominations committee by March 1, 2012.

Hearing Loss Expo 2012

Friday, March 30, 2012
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Four Points Sheraton Pittsburgh North
910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA 16046

The Office for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing is planning its 2012 Hearing Loss Expo: Putting It All Together, the only event of its kind which highlights Pennsylvania's services for the deaf and hard of hearing community. The Expo is an excellent opportunity for you to learn, network and explore services. Join ODHH and help us make Pennsylvania a better place to live for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.

2012 RID
Region I Conference
July 26-29, 2012

Sheraton Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ

Be watching RID and PARID websites for more information!

PARID Mentorship Program

March 23 - 25, 2012
Harrisburg, PA

Application deadline is February 15, 2012.

The brochure will be emailed to all members in January.

The FAQ & applications will be posted on the website in January.

Region I Conference (Summer 2012) Call for Volunteers

The PARID Board is asking for volunteers at our Region 1 Conference this summer in 2012. We have volunteered as a group to coordinate the student/support staff. If anyone is interested in helping out, we and Region 1 would greatly appreciate it. It is a great way to meet other professionals from Region 1 of RID or North East United States; and also it is a good way to work with future interpreters in the student/support staff positions. Thank you in advance for helping with this.

Contact Brian McHale: President@parid.org

Be Prepared

Mark Hardway, PARID Treasurer

Working in scheduling interpreters at an interpreting agency, we try to do whatever we can to assist individual interpreters in their preparations for assignments. However, there are a number of things that every community interpreter needs to do to assist in their own personal preparation, regardless of the type of job.

The first area of preparation would involve understanding the content and context of the assignment. You should know the type of setting in which you will be interpreting, and the nature of the communication needed. A key component is knowledge of the specific communication needs of the consumers involved. (Does the deaf consumer voice for themselves? Are there multiple deaf consumers? Do they prefer ASL, PSE, etc? Is tactile communication required? Is this a group setting, or one-on-one conversation? Is it a formal presentation? Are there deaf presenters?) Obviously the answers to these and other questions will define the interpreting requirements for each situation.

Seeking preparation materials in advance is an important step. Try to get copies of agendas, hand-outs, PowerPoint files, speaker's notes, etc which can help in your preparation. If you frequently interpret in a similar setting, try to gain lists of acronyms and terminology used in that setting. Unfortunately, interpreters can't always get these kinds of prep materials in advance, especially for last-minute requests.

There are a number of things you can do on your own for preparation. The internet is a terrific tool to gain background information about the company, organization, or general situation in which you are about to enter. Familiarize yourself with the subject matter involved. As an interpreter, it is a good idea to be building a library of resource materials for you use in various scenarios. Keep your eyes open at thrift stores or garage sales to build your library. It is amazing the number of medical, legal, or business encyclopedias you can find which will allow you to learn or refresh yourself on terminology. While it may be more expensive, it is also a good idea to accumulate books regarding sign language used in the various specialty situations.

There are various physical and logistical preparations that can be done for each assignment. Verify the address and directions. It is best to do web map search and become familiar with the location. Sites such as MapQuest, Google, and Bing allow you to have wonderful "birds-eye" views of locations from aerial photography so you can become familiar with the surroundings. (This is much better than just looking at a map.)

Having a GPS is great, and is becoming pretty much a requirement for a community interpreter. However, you cannot rely solely on the GPS... Know where you are going before you start. Also, be mindful of the importance of verbal directions that you may have received. Some locations are notorious for having bad information on internet maps and GPS. Don't be like the interpreter who ignored their written directions (which included "Do not use GPS or internet directions"), and they frantically called the office at the last minute saying their GPS took them to an open field!

Be Prepared (continued)

Some other items of physical preparation that are best done the night before include making sure you have sufficient fuel in your tank to get to your assignment the next day. If you get home on Monday night with your tank on “empty,” don’t pressure yourself into finding a gas station on Tuesday morning when you might be running late. Along the same lines, make sure your cell phone and GPS have adequate charge before you start your day, and always have car chargers for your devices. Don’t rely on having all of your assignment information stored on your smart phone. Some facilities (like courthouses) prohibit cell phones from being brought onsite. So it is always a good idea to have paper documentation of your assignments for the day.

If your job will require you to have special IDs or passes to get onsite, make sure you have all of that ready in advance, or allow extra time for processing before arriving at your job. Also be aware of the parking and toll situation for your trip. Especially in inner-city assignments, be prepared to pay for parking, and possibly have a considerable walk from the parking facility to the assignment. Some garages do not accept credit cards, so be prepared to have enough cash. (I often recommend that interpreters keep an envelope with some emergency reserve cash in their glove compartment for just such a situation.) Also be aware if you need to pay tolls to get to your assignment. I once had to rescue someone stranded at a toll booth with no cash!

Interpreters should be prepared for wearing appropriate attire at their assignment. Community interpreters can have a wide array of clothing that may be required at various jobs. It is true that most assignments can be the typical “business” attire. However, you may have been told that dress is extremely casual for an event, especially if it is at a picnic or some outdoor event. Interpreting at an exercise class can be challenging in a business suit! Many situations may have certain safety requirements regarding clothing. An example might be “No open-toed shoes.”

Because of these types of varying situations, it good for an interpreter to have a “ready kit” kept in their car. It is a good idea to always have a dark solid-color blazer available. (This can be a quick way to “business-ize” your clothing!) Having a few different pairs of shoes may also be helpful (athletic shoes, steel-toe shoes, etc.) A pair of plastic safety glasses would be another good item for the kit. I have heard of several interpreters who keep a set of solid-colored scrubs on hand to wear in hospital situations. It can make the interpreter seem much more like a professional working in that environment rather than appearing as a “visitor.” Hand sanitizers, wet-naps, and stain removal wipes can also be very handy. I’m sure you can think of some other “nice to have” items that you might want to keep in your kit.

We could probably write a whole book about this subject, but hopefully this article will help you to think about the things you need to do before assignments. Just like good scouts, you will always “be prepared.”

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Check us out on the web:
www.papid.org



PARID

Philosophy, Mission, and Goal Statements

The **Philosophy** of PARID is *that excellence in the delivery of interpretation/transliteration services among people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and people who are hearing will ensure effective communication. As an affiliate Chapter of the professional association for interpreters and transliterators, PARID serves as an essential arena for its members in their pursuit of excellence.*

It is the **Mission** of PARID to *provide state and local forums and an organizational structure for the continued growth and development of the profession of interpretation and transliteration of American Sign Language and English.*

It is the **Goal** of PARID to *promote the profession of interpreting and transliterating American Sign Language and English.*

PARID is an affiliate chapter of the Registry of the Interpreters for the Deaf.

