



WVAD Newsletter



A Publication of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc

Volume 27, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec. 2006

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear WVAD Members,

Now all students that are in schools and colleges are looking forward to Christmas break. The WVAD was busy last summer by sending three of the WVAD officers (Vice President, John Burdette and myself as President along with Elizabeth Leisure) to the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference in Palm Desert, California and hosting a WVAD Summer picnic in Summersville with 117 attendees. The WVAD is also busy by preparing for our next WVAD 36th Biennial Conference in Charleston that will be held on August 2-4, 2007. You will receive a package from one of the WVAD Board of Directors who will hand out to you at your local or your favorite deaf club starting this month and continue until the conference. The early combo rate is being offered beginning September 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006. I encourage you to start buying the early combo between now and December 31st to get a good deal by saving some money. The second and other combo rates will begin on January 1st and last until the August 2 – 4 Conference.

In the next two issues of the WVAD newsletters, we will update with all new information and details about what will happen at the Conference, i.e.: What workshops are we going to offer? Who will be our Keystone Speaker? What companies and/or agencies will be coming to our conference to show their products or what do they have to offer. I also encourage you to check our website: www.wvad.org for any last minute updates or details.

I announced at the WVAD Picnic that since the AT&T is no longer providing Relay Services in our state, the West Virginia Public Services Commission (PSC) were sending out letters to all potential Telecommunication Relay Service (TRS) Providers to submit their bids to become our next WV TRS Provider. On August 8, John Burdette and I attended the hearing at the Public Services Commission Headquarter in Charleston, WV, to listen to the three potential TRS bidders' testimonies. The bidders were Hamilton Relay Services, Inc., Sprint, and Lattamamus. I testified on the behalf of the WVAD and the WV Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens that we want the best relay service. While most of us deaf people have a videophone, there are many of those that will need TRS to communicate with hearing callers by using TTY and/or TDD. With the recommendation of the WVAD, the PCS has agreed to set up an Advisory Board on TRS in the near future. The PSC has recently announced that the Hamilton Relay Service will be the WV Telecommunication Relay Service Provider for eighteen months.

Thank you and have a Happy Holiday!

Douglas A. Evans, WVAD President

From Editor:

Issue: Jan., Feb., March

Deadline: Feb. 20

Receive Copy: March



News..News..and more NEWS..

Who is Gallaudet's Next President??

By: Linda Phillips

After President Jordan announced his retirement, the Board of Trustees began their nation-wide search for Gallaudet's 9th President. In May, it was announced that Jane Fernades was selected to be the 9th President. Immediate reaction occurred, some agreed with the decision while others strongly disagreed.

Recently, shortly after classes resumed, students realized their voice was not being heard. Protests began. What started on a small scale soon grew to a nationwide protest. Gallaudet's campus was shut down, hunger strikes started, and other cities joined in. After almost a month of protesting, Gallaudet's Board of Trustees realized they needed to do something to resolve the crisis. Jane Fernadnes' contract as next President was terminated.

Now once again the search is back on. Only this time for an interim president who will start January 1, 2007 and continue until the Board of Trustees has had sufficient time to accept applications, interview, and select the appropriate person to run the University.

Who will be the Gallaudet's 9th President???

WVSD Class of 1952

From: Delores Pyles

The Class of 1952 did not have a framed class picture hung at the WV Secondary School for the Deaf like all of the other classes do. The class graduates were Martha DeMoss, Hazel Nester, Jack Harmon, Delores Stepp, Curtis Hamilton, Janis Hill, Josephine Dow, Harry Oates, Shirley Kimmons, Jack Reed, Sammy Brown and Pedro Del Pas. Janis Hill Williams had always wanted to have a class of 1952 picture hung on the wall at the Secondary School for many years. So she and her husband along with Delores Stepp Pyles got together last summer, gathered all the classmates' pictures and ordered a class picture including a frame. Some graduates helped pay for the cost. The class picture looked very attractive with the colors of gold and blue. It was presented to the Superintendent Jane McBride on October 10, 2006, who saw to it that it would be hung properly on the wall in its right place. When you get a chance to visit the WVSD, please be sure to look at the beautiful Class of 1952 picture. The Class of 1952 is now really proud of it!



Note from Editor..

There was no newsletter last September due to not enough news.

Please send me any news or announcements to put in newsletter. Next deadline is Feb. 20th. Thank you. Have a happy and safe holiday.



Losh Family Welcomes New Baby

The new proud parents, Ruby and Mike Losh, announced that their daughter, Maddie Lily Losh, has arrived here on earth (at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV) on September 28, 2006, at 1:44 a.m. She weighed 8 pounds, and 11 ounces, and was 20 1/2 inches long. She is so adorable. Mom was in labor for 31.5 hours and she did a very good job! Mom and baby Maddie are doing great.



Monroe Family Welcomes New Baby

Owen Jefferson Monroe, was born on LUCKY Friday, October 13, 2006, to the Proud parents, Annie and Jeff (aka Jefferson) Monroe of Morgantown, WV.

The PROUD new grandmother is Kara Russell of Romney, WV, and the PROUDEST great grandparents are Roy and Delores Pyles of Seebert, WV. (Roy and Delores are now in Florida for the winter.)



WVAD 2007 Conference

Don't forget to pay your early bird combo and save your money for the 2007 WVAD Conference. Mark your calendars now - August 2 - 4th 2007 in Charleston, WV at the Embassy Suites, Don't miss this exciting conference.



If you have not received information check our website under conference or contact one of our officers to receive a conference packet.

Dos and Don'ts when Stopped by a Police Officer...

- Do keep your hands on the steering wheel. Don't make a move to look for a note pad and a pen because the officer may suspect that you plan to do something stupid.
- Do let the officer know that you are deaf or hard of hearing by using your hand and pointing at your ear. That will make it obvious to the officer.
- Don't get out of the car unless instructed.
- Do ask the officer for an interpreter (not acceptable when stopped for a speeding ticket, judge rules)
- Police isn't always looking careful at your DL that shows you are deaf or hearing. Because of the basic training, the officer is always focusing on where you are from and proof of Driver License.
- Police doesn't realize that there are a lot of deaf and hard of hearing people (about 6 millions alone in USA comparing to only 600,000 law enforcement officers in the USA)
- Don't let an officer who knows sign language interpret because he or she may not be certified.
- A police officer cannot handcuff a deaf person "in front", only "in back" just like the rest of the others.
- Don't go near or touch the officer, they may think you are trying to do something stupid. Simple wave or yell "HEY!"
- Most law enforcement officers are not familiar with the ADA! Because that is the way they being trained "to help people."



~ Tips from AllDeaf.com

Local Woman Receives National Award



A Parkersburg woman has been given the National Association of the Deaf's National Youth Service Award. Linda Phillips, 25, of Parkersburg was presented the award during the NAD's 48th biannual Conference in Palm Desert, California, in July. "I was surprised that I was given this," said Phillips, an eight-year member of the organization and vice president of the Parkersburg Association of the Deaf. "I knew I was to get it two weeks before because they sent me a letter, but it was still a surprise." The award was given to three individuals, including Phillips this year, and is to be awarded to individuals between 14 and 28 years old whose dedication, vision and leadership have made a difference in the community and the world around them, said Caryn Keller, Phillips' friend. Linda Phillips is involved with the deaf communities locally and in West Virginia and she does a tremendous amount of work." Keller said.

"She's always busy." Phillips serves as chairman of the WV Association of the Deaf's bylaws committee, is editor of the WVAD newsletter and is Webmaster of the WVAD Website (www.wvad.org).

"I travel around the state because I want to make a difference and help children." Phillips said. "It's important for everyone to get the same education." In her work with legislators and the WVAD board, Phillips tries to improve the accessibility for deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens to interpreters, transportation, emergency communication and the development of youth programs.

"Someone has to step up and start work; if not me, then who?" Phillips said. "I don't think what I do is special; it needs to be done." Phillips, who has some hearing, became involved in deaf communities as a child because her mother, Liz Leisure of Parkersburg, is also deaf. "I am just following in my mother's footsteps." Phillips said. She is a 2000 graduate of Parkersburg High School and has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Gallaudet University, the world's leading deaf and hard-of-hearing undergraduate university in Washington, D.C. Phillips is not only working on a master's degree in counseling through West Virginia University's online classes, but she also teaches American Sign Language (ASL) as a faculty member of Washington State Community College. Phillips is a member of the ASL interpreter-training program and teaches ASL courses with her mother through the Wood County Society. Phillips, Miss Deaf West Virginia 2003-2005, said she has no aspirations to work for the deaf community on the national level.

~Parkersburg News by Jolene Craig, Staff Writer

(**Pictured at left is Jennifer Yost Ortiz, NAD Youth Coordinator with Linda Phillips**)

The Miss Deaf West Virginia Pageant Is looking for YOU!

Are you a young lady between the ages 17 and 28? Deaf or hard of hearing? Have the desire to be a leader and encourage other young children? Want to educate others about Deaf culture?

If so, sign up today to be in the Miss Deaf West Virginia Pageant. The next pageant takes place on August 4th 2007 in Charleston, WV. Check the website (www.wvad.org) for more information or contact the directors at pageant@wwad.org or 304-428-7761 (TTY/VP).



"Adopt an Interpreter" Project **By Annette Carey**

In August 2006, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) adopted a policy setting standards for educational interpreters. Phased in over the next four years, educational interpreters must have 32 hours of college credit and a score of 3.5 on the Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment by 2010 to work in public schools. WVAD, the WVDE, and the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) are working together to help interpreters improve skills and achieve the score of 3.5.

WVAD, WVDE, and WVCDHH are developing two projects that will not only help improve skills but will connect educational interpreters to members of the deaf community and other skilled interpreters. The first program is "Adopt an Interpreter". Interpreters will be paired with deaf signers who will help the interpreters, not only with vocabulary, grammar, and syntax but also offer emotional support as a friend and an advisor. It will not only improve the interpreters' skills but will help establish bonds between the deaf and interpreter communities. This is an excellent opportunity for deaf adults to really have an impact on educating deaf children by teaching, nurturing, and supporting the interpreters who work with these children everyday. WVAD will be asking for volunteers who are willing to give their time to help reach the goal of better interpreters in our schools, and hence, a better education for deaf children.

The "Adopt an Interpreter" project is an opportunity, for interpreters, to improve their sign language skills from a native user and to increase understanding about the Deaf community/Deaf culture. For deaf adults, it is an opportunity to impact the language/learning environment of deaf children and to meet the committed adults that serve them. For both, it is an opportunity for friendship and fun. Intended to be an informal project, it is hoped that a bi-cultural relationship/understanding will be strengthened benefiting everyone—especially the children.

The WVAD and the WVDE will survey target audiences to determine interest and geographical restrictions. This spring introductions will begin with an exchange of contact information. From that point, the pair will decide whether their visits involve an informal coffee at McDonald, silent lunches, classroom visits, after school sign tutoring, weekend social clubs, etc. "Adopt an Interpreter is only the beginning".

WVAD, WVCDHH and WVDE will also be participating in the second project to establish a mentoring network for educational interpreters. More information about this project will be available in the spring.





Anniversaries



Samuel Mason and Marzina Mae (Lawson) Brown



Samuel Mason and Marzina Mae (Lawson) Brown of Pliny exchanged wedding vows on May 26, 1956, at South Charleston Episcopal Church with the Reverend Donald Rogan officiating. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at home with family. Sam and Marzina are graduates of WV Schools for the Deaf in Romney, Class of 1952 and 1953. Sam retired in 1995 from International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #9 of Charleston. He and Marzina are the parents of Molly Smith of Pliny and Kevin and wife Sandy of Kill Devil Hills, N.C. They have four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They enjoy spending their time camping, fishing and traveling.

Della Lee (McCormick) and William Corns Jr.

Della Lee (McCormick) and William Corns, Jr., of Cross Lanes, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Nitro Senior Citizen Community Center in Nitro, on June 17, 2006, with their family, relatives, and friends. The party was given by their children, Lorna Workman and Molly Summers, both of Nitro, and William Virgil Corns, of Cross Lanes. The couple received many lovely gifts from their guests. The couple was married June 2, 1956 in Nitro. They are WV Schools for the Deaf alumnus. They have three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The couple enjoy going to Apostolic Church in Huntington, WV. William enjoys fishing while Della enjoys shopping. William owned Corns Upholstery for many years at his residence, but he retired at least 20 years ago. His daughter, Lorna, now owns the business in Nitro.

William Virgil Corns Jr.
June 2, 1956



1956 - 2006



50th Anniversary Celebration!

Gene and Shirley Simmons

Simmonses celebrate 50th anniversary – Gene and Shirley Simmons met at a high school football games, began dating and eventually married on October 7, 1956 at Church of Christ in Beckley, West Virginia. Gene worked at Storck Baking Company for 49 years and Shirley worked at Public Debt for 20 years and 4 months. They raised two deaf sons named Ronnie and Jeffery Simmons. All attended the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf in Romney, West Virginia. Gene and Shirley became grandparents of two deaf grandsons, Jordan, Joshua, one granddaughter, Jessica, and one great-grandson, Austin.

The couple attends the Walnut Street Church of Christ in Belpre, Ohio, where the celebration was held and hosted by their two sons and their wives. There were about 175 guests attending the celebration. Since Gene's retirement, he stays home and enjoys watching sports on television. He likes all sports, especially baseball and football. Shirley likes to clean house, read, and help teach sign language. She has helped teach sign language at Camden-Clark Memorial Hospital and WVU-Parkersburg.



Jimmy and Veronda Harrison

The Harrisons celebrated their 25th anniversary at the Charleston Association of the Deaf Picnic on August 26, 2006. A huge sheet cake with the Harrison's' wedding picture on it was purchased by Missy Barrie, Sally Hubbard, Julie Simmons, Jackie Robinson, and Debby Steel. Jimmy and Veronda (Morgan) Harrison met at the West Virginia School for the Deaf when they were in the 11th grade. In the late Fall, Jimmy had asked Veronda several times to go out with him on a date but she turned him down each time. Jimmy dated another girl to make Veronda jealous. One day, Veronda scribbled on the side of her tennis shoes "Veronda loves Jimmy" and wore them. She went to the snack bar to look for Jimmy but could not find him anywhere. She asked a friend to help her find Jimmy. Her friend saw what Veronda wrote on her tennis shoe. Then the friend found Jimmy and to his surprise, he saw that Jimmy wrote, "Jimmy loves Veronda" on the side of his tennis shoes! Neither Jimmy nor Veronda knew that they did this on their shoes!

After Jimmy and Veronda finally got together again, they dated for five years. After the graduation, Jimmy and Veronda tied their knots on August 15, 1981, at Veronda's mother's church in Simon, West Virginia. After the honeymoon, they resided in Cross Lanes, West Virginia. Veronda worked in the laundry room at the Charleston House Holiday Inn for three years and Jimmy works at the US Postal Service in Charleston, West Virginia for 26 years. After Veronda became pregnant, they bought and moved into their first home in Hurricane, West Virginia. Veronda quit her job because it was too hot to work in the laundry room during the pregnancy. Then their first son, Dalton, was born. Shortly thereafter, she got pregnant again and had a second son named Jason. Veronda is a "handy woman" as she can fix things around the house. She also likes to do crafts and home canning. Jimmy likes to hunt, watch football and NASCAR races. Of interest, without Veronda and Jimmy knowing about it, each had thought and decided on getting a pop-up camper for their anniversary gift. They were surprised to learn that they thought of the same gift. Will they be thinking of a same gift for their 50th anniversary?

Obituaries

Kathleen (Gum) Russell

Kathleen (Gum) Russell, age 94, of Brookline, Pennsylvania, and Forest Hills, Pennsylvania, has passed away on Thursday, July 6, 2006. She was the wife of the late Paul B. Gum and Leonard Russell. She was the loving mother of Paul B. Gum, Jr. and Verla Majocha. Survivors include five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Kathleen was a long-time member of the Pittsburgh Association of the Deaf and the Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf. The Memorial Service was held on Sunday, July 30, 2006.

According to Delores Pyles, Kathleen Russell was from Dixie, West Virginia, and attended Kendall School. Kathleen's first husband, Paul B. Gum, attended the WVSD in 1914. Paul was President of WVAD and used to work for Charleston Daily Mail. Their son, Paul B., Jr., and his wife, Jean, camped last winter at the Sundance Lakes R.V. Resort in Port Richey, Florida, where Delores and Roy Pyles have spent for the past ten years during the winter months.

Shirley Eldon Smith

Shirley Eldon Smith, 71, of Hancock Street, Moundsville, WV, died Thursday, September 28, 2006, at Wheeling Hospital Medical Park, Wheeling. He was born November 8, 1934 in Harrisonburg, PA, the son of the late Kenner C. Smith and Helen Foutty Westfall. He was a retired Lab Technician with the WV Division of Highways, a member of Wheeling Association of the Deaf and WV Association of the Deaf. Survivors include a sister, Evelyn Baxter of TN, three nieces, a nephew, and several great-nieces and great-nephews. Services were held at Grisell Funeral Homes in Moundsville, WV and interment was in Sequatchie Valley Memorial Gardens, Jasper, TN.

Margaret G. (McClung) Simmons

Margaret G. (McClung) Simmons, 80, of Frankford, passed away on Saturday, August 12, 2006, at her residence in Frankford, following a short illness. She was born on May 29, 1926, and was of the Protestant faith, an avid quilter, a homemaker and a lifelong resident of Greenbrier County. She was a student for a short time at WVSD. Her husband, Robert Simmons, and three brothers, Bill, Harry, and Garland McClung preceded her in death. Survivors include two sons, Bernard (Bernie) Simmons of Lewisburg, and Garland Simmons of Florida; one brother, Todd McClung of White Sulphur Spring; and four grandchildren, and one great-grandson. Services were held August 16, 2006 at the Roseward Cemetery with the Reverends Leroy Crane and Robert Lee James officiating. Family suggested that donations of sympathy be made to the Greenbrier County Animal Shelter (304-645-4775 for more information).

Ollie Barbara Hamblin

Ollie Barbara Hamblin, 70, of Institute, West Virginia, passed from this life on Wednesday, October 11, 2006. She was the third child born to Miriam and Adolph P. Hamblin, Sr., founder of the Biology Department at WV State College. At age two, it was discovered Ollie was deaf. She was taken to Galesburg, Illinois, to live with her grandmother, who took her to boarding school, The Illinois School for the Deaf at Jacksonville, Illinois. In the 10th grade, Ollie returned to live with her family in Institute and attend the Institute Deaf and Blind School. She graduated from the WVSD. At WV State College as a special student, Ollie studied art under Della Brown Taylor. She was prolific in sculpture, painting and crafts and had a showing at the Public Library in Charleston. Ollie processed through the Laundry Program at the WV Rehabilitation Center and in 1980 was employed at CAMC Laundry until her retirement in June 2006. Ollie was a Christian believer and was baptized at St. James Episcopal Church May 1, 1994. She was taken to Thomas Memorial Hospital Thursday, October 5, in a diabetic coma and failed to recover after heart complications. Survivors include two sisters, Caroline Tucker of Virginia, Ethel Andrews of Institute and several nieces, nephews, and friends. Services were held October 15, 2006, at St. James Episcopal Church. She was cremated. The family requested that contributions be sent to the WVSU Foundation, 200 Erickson Alumni Center, Institute, West Virginia 25112.

Obituaries cont.

Mose J. Vance

Mose J. Vance, 65, of Martinsburg, West Virginia, went to be with the Lord Sunday, October 22, 2006, at his residence. He was born October 15, 1941, in Harts, WV, to the late App and Hildred Vance. He was a student at WVSD from 1948 until his graduation in 1962. Survivors include his wife, Audrey Lowe Vance, two daughters, Belinda Vance and Mollie Malatt, of Martinsburg; five grandchildren; and many brothers and sisters. A memorial service was held and Mose was cremated.

Max Pyles

Max Pyles, of Pasadena, MD, passed away on November 20, 2006. He graduated from the West Virginia School for the Deaf in 1953, and is in the WVa Hall of Fame for Athletics. Born on February 21, 1933, in Keyser WV, he later moved to Maryland where he worked for the News American for 28 years, and NSA for 11 years. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Carolyn M. Pyles, four children and nine grandchildren. He was loved by all for his great sense of humor, hard work ethic and love of family. Max will be dearly missed.

Seth Michael Bennett

Seth Michael Bennett, infant son of Russell and Barbara (Bonaventura) Bennett of Dallas, WV, died Saturday, November 18, 2006 in Ruby Memorial Hospital, Morgantown, WV. Seth was born September 20, 2006, and baptized Catholic. In addition to his parents, his sister, Tierra Bennett; maternal grandmother, Betty Bonaventura; maternal grandparents, Anthony and Corrine Bonaventura; paternal grandmother, Eula Bennett; and several aunts, uncles and cousins, survive Seth. Services were held Wednesday, November 22, 2006 at Altmeyer Funeral Home, Wheeling, WV and interment was in Mount View Cemetery, Dallas, WV. The family suggested that memorial contributions be made to WV Children's Hospital – N.I.C.U., P. O. Box 8200, Morgantown, WV 26506.

(Editor's notes: Anthony Bonaventura was a WVSD alumnus.)



**West Virginia Association of the Deaf
May 19, 2006
Embassy Suites – Room 230
Charleston, WV**

Present: Douglas Evans, John Burdette, Jimmy Harrison, Liz Leisure Robyn Evans, David Weldrick, and Worthy Devericks

Committee Members: Linda Phillips and Caryn Keller

Visitors: Lois Devericks, Holly Palmer, Regina Jenkins, Roy Forman, Shiloh Thompson, April Hottle, Scott Hottle, and friend

The regular meeting of WVAD was held in the conference room of the Embassy Suites on Saturday, May 19, 2006, at 1:20 p.m. President Doug Evans presided with Secretary Liz Leisure present.

The minutes of the previous meeting, March 11, 2006, were approved as read.

The treasurer (Jimmy Harrison) gave the financial reports. He reported a balance of \$3,820.27 in the checking account; \$10,399.65 in the savings account; \$12,000.00 in the CD accounts; \$16,131.60 in the Mingo County Fund Account and \$493.45 in the Miss WV Deaf Pageant Fund as of May 18, 2006. The report was accepted as given.

The treasurer also reported that WVAD has 191 members on the current list.

President Douglas Evans received a copy of the letter from Annette Carey, Low Incidence Coordinator with the WV State Board of Education, to April Hottle dated April 3, 2006, concerning educational interpreters.

President Evans met with Barbara Fish, Board Member of the WV Department of Education, on April 24, 2006, at the Parkersburg Public Library, along with Caryn Keller, Liz Leisure, and Linda Phillips, to discuss the educational interpreters and fitness program issues.

He received a letter from the United States Senator Robert Byrd dated April 26, 2006 in response to our sympathy card on the loss of his beloved wife.

He received an e-mail from Jack Cooper, Liaison of NAD State Association Committee, regarding attendance to the State Association President Dinner on

Wednesday, June 28, 2006, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the cost of 45 dollars.

He attended the WVCDHH board meeting in Charleston, WV, on May 11, 2006, with Liz Leisure and Linda Phillips.

He discussed some concerns about deaf people's safety with police when pulled over for traffic citations.

Vice-President John Burdette reported that Troy Osborne from Greenbrier County graduated from Gallaudet University on May 12, 2006. WVAD gives \$100 Charles Weiner Award to Gallaudet graduates from West Virginia.

There was no secretary report at this time.

There was no trustee report.

Linda Phillips, Co-Pageant Director, reported that she and Caryn Keller have been meeting off and on since March 2006 updating the pageant forms, trying to come up with some new ideas to raise money for the Deaf Pageant Fund, and keeping in contact with Miss Deaf WV Holly Palmer. They have met with Holly once in person in Clarksburg. They also thought about starting a new Junior Miss Deaf WV beginning age 5 to 10 and age 11 to 16. They bought a new display board which will be used for the first time at the Deaf Tech Fair tomorrow. They are going to Palm Springs, California, on June 26-July 4, 2006, to attend the NAD Conference.

Workshop Committee Report:

John Burdette reported that he was not able to set up a workshop in the southern part of the state on Medicare Plan D because of difficulty in getting a hold of the man to schedule a date before the May 15, 2006 deadline.

Robyn Evans reported on the workshop on the northern part of the state. There were only six attendees in the morning Diabetic workshop. Robert Andrews was to give the CPR workshop in the afternoon but with only three attendees, it was decided to cancel and reschedule for September 8, 2006.

2007 WVAD Conference Committee Report:

Jimmy Harrison, Chairperson, reported that to date, their committee has raised about \$1,000.00 selling the pizza kits and Easter eggs and \$1,600.00 for the glass lights.

There was a fifteen minutes recess started at 2:40 p.m.

Unfinished Business:

The discussion about the WV State Fair was not held because the deadline for exhibit application was April 28, 2006.

New Business:

Jimmy Harrison moved that WVAD pay for delegates' meal expenses at the NAD conference. Motion was passed. Robyn moved to amend by adding that we pay one bill for all food to eat in the suite. The amendment was withdrawn. John moved to amend by paying each officer per diem. The amendment was passed.

Jimmy Harrison moved that WVAD pay Douglas Evans to attend the State Association President's Dinner. The motion was passed.

Robyn Evans moved that WVAD pay the Valedictorian at West Virginia School for the Deaf \$50. The motion failed.

Robyn Evans moved that WVAD schedule two board meetings in advance. Motion was passed. Jimmy Harrison moved to amend by adding to have the meetings on August 6, 2006, and November 11, 2006. Motion was withdrawn.

Worthy Devericks moved to amend by changing the date from November 11, 2006, to October 6, 2006, during the weekend of Alumni Homecoming and keep the August 6, 2006 date. The motion was passed.

Jimmy Harrison moved that we have the board meeting at South Branch Motel in Romney on October 6, 2006, providing that there will be no charge for using a meeting room. The meeting on August 6, 2006, will be in Summersville but the location will be announced at a later date. The motion was passed.

John Burdette moved that WVAD President write a letter of support to either the Board of Trustee of Galaudet or FSA regarding Jane Fernandes. The motion was passed.

Liz Leisure moved that WVAD pay Caryn Keller for her design work on our displays and logos for our business cards and letterheads. The motion was passed. Jimmy Harrison moved to amend by adding to pay Caryn \$1,000.00 for the work; \$500 first payment now and \$500 second payment at a later date. The amendment was passed.

Jimmy Harrison moved that WVAD discuss the 2007 Conference Combo Fee. The motion was passed. The fee for the conference will be as follows: \$36.00 first combo (3 door prize tickets); \$45 second combo (2 door prize tickets) and \$60 third combo (1 door prize ticket). Jimmy Harrison moved to reconsider the motion by increasing the above combo rates to \$45.00, \$65.00, and \$75.00 respectively for members only and the rest of the rates for non-members and senior citizens will be determined at a later date. The motion to increase the rates as stated and to determine the rest of the rates passed.

Worthy Devericks moved that WVAD develop a new safety card for deaf drivers in West Virginia. President Doug Evans appointed John Burdette to be chairperson of the Deaf Drivers Safety Committee.

Roy Forman made an announcement about the Deaf Tech Fair that will be held May 20, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Charleston Civic Center. He also named two new WVCDHH board members: James Ennis and Marty Blakely. They replaced Jimmy Harrison and Delores Pyles.

Caryn Keller announced that on Saturday, June 17, 2006, there will be a Multicultural Fair at City Park in Parkersburg, WV.

Scott Hottle talked about the Content Standards for American Sign Language Committee (CSO) that was recently established by the WV State Board of Education. He and two other deaf members, Marty Blakely and Mary Ennis Kessler, are on the committee, to comment on certification requirements to teach ASL.

April Hottle talked about the WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Board Meeting that she attended on May 11, 2006. She also talked about her concern that all educational interpreter positions filled by uncertified interpreters. She feels that the positions should be advertised nationwide at ITP programs, colleges and universities.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Liz Leisure, Secretary



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PROOFREADER

Liz Leisure

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West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.

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