HAPPY THANKSGIVING from the WVAD!

WVAD hosted biennial Picnic

The Picnic Day held at Sutton Lake in Sutton, WV on Saturday, August 2, 2009. More pictures of picnic can be seen on page 3.

OCT, NOV & DEC

DECEMBER 1, 2008

Santa Clause will delivers before December 25.
West Virginia Division
of
Rehabilitation Services

December 9, 2008

@ 3 p.m.
at Fairmont State University
Ruth Ann Musick Library, Room MMA
Fairmont, WV

WVDRS Town Hall: Deaf and Hard of Hearing people are highly encourage attending to hands out your concerns!

Presenters: Barbara King & Patricia Shingleton

Snack Provided by
West Virginia Association of the Deaf

For More Information:
Douglas Evans, 866-696-0987 VP
or
Ruby Losh, 866-629-8157 VP
TOWN HALL UPDATE & UPCOMING MEETING

I want to share with everyone about our town hall meetings that we had already hosted along with ASL Films. Our first town hall meeting was hosted at Romney, WV on September 25, 2008, we had about 10 people attended the town hall meeting. We showed ASL Films “Wrong Game” and we had a good turnout for the ASL Films, 50 people showed up for the film.

Second town hall meeting was at Parkersburg, WV on October 18, 2008, we had a very disappointing number showing up for both town hall meeting and ASL Film. Only 7 people showed up to the town hall meeting, out of that 7 people, only one was deaf; the rest were hearing people. We were excited to be showing a brand new ASL Films “Legend of the Mountain Man” for first time in West Virginia; only 13 people attended the film. That was very disappointing number.

Our next town hall meeting and ASL Films showing “Legend of the Mountain Man” will be at Fairmont, WV on March 7, 2009.

From those two town halls and its disappointing numbers. I am asking you all to please tell your friends, family, anyone you know to attend our meetings. I have heard some comments about meeting as boring, what WVAD is, and what it can do? I highly encourage you to attend and support your State. We need people’s help to move WVAD into new direction. Our goals and dreams for WVAD and the communities in West Virginia are very high but we can’t move until we have members, non-members behind us. That was the purpose for having the meeting so we can see what you need and WVAD can HELP. We are hoping to host several workshops throughout the years, but as of right now, we have to keep it on hold until we can get better feedback from people in West Virginia and also for those who resides outside of WV and still loyal to WV.

Also, we are enclosing the email, our secretary, Liz Leisure sent out after Parkersburg’s town hall meeting, she expressed the feelings that all Board felt.  Robyn Evans, Town Hall Coordina-

MESSAGE FROM THE WVAD SECRETARY

I wanted to write and tell you all about the town hall that I went to last Saturday on October 18, 2008, in Parkersburg, WV. Even though there were a small number of deaf people, few interpreters, and few hearing ASL students that came to the town hall, we all had a great time. I am very proud of Robyn Evans because she did a wonderful job giving a presentation about the WVAD and WVAVRS. After the town hall and some really good refreshments (cookies, chips, pizza and sodas). John Burdette showed an ASL film about “the Legend of the Mountain Man” which was sponsored by Sprint Relay. I really enjoyed watching that film. It was so good that, most of the time, I could not take my eyes off the screen. The film was signed by all deaf actors (it was not closed captioned nor voiced) and it was worth $10.00 to see it. I recommend that everyone see it. If you would like to see the film, I would suggest that you contact Robyn Evans by emailing her at trustee1@wvad.org or calling her via VP at 866-696-0987 to find out when and where the next town hall and ASL film will be held.
Pierpont Community & Technical College
American Sign Language Communication Program &
Interpreter Training Program

Invites you to

Audism Unveiled

December 2, 2008
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Fairmont State University, Fairmont, WV
Ruth Ann Musick Library, Room MMB

1:00 pm—2:30 pm: Film
2:30 pm—4:00 pm: Panel

Admission: FREE

For More Information
Ruby Losh or April Starks
304.367.4022 TTY/VP 304.367.4252 VOICE
Ruby.Losh@Pierpont.edu or April.Starks@Pierpont.edu

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Heard of Hearing

THEIR NEXT MEETING HAS NOT BEEN SET YET, HOWEVER, WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE WVAD OCT, NOV AND DEC 2008 NEWSLETTER.
# 2009 Conference Combo Rates

**W V A D**

37th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

at

Mineral Wells Comfort Suites

AUGUST 6—8, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Bird Combo Rates:</th>
<th>Combo 1</th>
<th>Combo 2</th>
<th>On The Floor</th>
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<tr>
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<th>Saturday Night</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Senior Citizen Member (55 &amp; Up)</td>
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<td>Student (12—18)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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</table>

NOTICE: The fill-in registration form will be in Oct, Nov, & Dec 08 newsletter. Remember, the Santa Clause will delivers the newsletter before December 25th that is if you are a good boy/girl this year, not NAUGHTY.....
HOTEL RESERVATION for the WVAD's 37th Biennial Conference

Conference Attendees:

To reserve your room for your staying during the conference August 6-8, 2009, you may send your request via e-mail to Tammy McClung at tmcclung@intlind.com or mail to:

Comfort Suites
Attn: Tammy McClung
167 Elizabeth Pike
Mineral Wells, WV 26150

The room rate for all rooms (King Size and Double Beds) is $79.00 per night. Make sure you write down which room and how many nights you desire to reserve. In addition, be aware that there is no smoking rooms at all, however, there is nice smoking designation area for Smoker's convenience.

If you need more information, you may call Linda Eckhart via VP
For Immediate Release

July 10, 2008

New local dialing procedure is on the way

Beginning July 26, 2008, West Virginia telephone users should start preparing for the introduction of the 681 area code by getting accustomed to dialing 10 digits for local calls (area code + 7—digit telephone number). Starting on that date, calls will be completed regardless of whether the old or new dialing procedure is used. However, this new local dialing procedure (10—digits) must be used starting February 28, 2009, by everyone in West Virginia. Customers subscribing for new service in West Virginia may receive the new 681 area code after March 28, 2009.

In addition to changing their dialing procedure, customers are encouraged to begin re-programming their automatic dialing equipment, including life safety systems, fax machines, internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services and similar functions. Customers are also urged to check with their security or alarm companies to ensure that their systems are programmed to correctly implement the new dialing pattern.

It is important to remember that a local call will still be a local call regardless of the area code. After the new area code is assigned, your next door neighbor could potentially have a different area code than you. However, whatever is a local call to you now, will remain the same after the switch.

The procedure for dialing long distance calls will not change. Continue to dial a 1 plus the appropriate area code, then the telephone number. Also the way you dial special service numbers will not change. You can continue to dial only three digits to call 211, 411, 711, 811 and 911.

The 681 area code is being added to West Virginia because of the possible exhaustion of available numbers in the 304 area code. An overlay is the addition of another area code (681) to the same geographic region as an existing area code (304). An overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code or telephone number. If you currently have a telephone number with the 304 area code, your telephone number will not change.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Service Commission at 1-800-344-5113 or accessing the website, www.psc.state.wv.us and clicking “10-Digit Dialing.”
BlackBerry Sales from Sprint Relay Store!

ORDER ONLINE at: www.sprintrelaystore.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>You Pay Today</th>
<th>Sprint Mail-in Rebate</th>
<th>FINAL COST</th>
<th>Car Adapter Included</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BlackBerry Curve 8330 (Red &amp; Titanium)</td>
<td>$199.99</td>
<td>-$100.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BlackBerry 8830</td>
<td>$319.99</td>
<td>-$100.00</td>
<td>$219.99</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*THIS OFFER IS NOT VALID AT ANY RETAIL STORES OR SPRINT.COM WEBSITE.

All purchases must be made through Sprint Relay Store or authorized Sprint Relay representative.

May require up to a $35 activation fee/line, credit approval & deposit. $200 early termination fee/line applies. Phone Offer: Offer ends 11/01/08. While supplies last. Taxes excluded. No cash back. Requires activation at the time of purchase. Sprint Mail-in Rebate: Requires purchase & activation by 11/01/08. Line must be active 30 consecutive days. Rebate form must be postmarked by 11/15/08. Allow 10 to 14 weeks for rebate. Upgrade: Existing customers in good standing with service on the same device for more than 22 consecutive months currently activated on a service plan of $25.99 or higher may be eligible. See www.sprintrelaystore.com/rebate for details. Other Terms: Coverage not available everywhere. Offers not available in all markets/retail locations or for all phones/networks. Pricing, offer terms, fees & features may vary for existing customers not eligible for upgrade. Other restrictions apply. (c)2008 Sprint. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>BlackBerry Curve 8530™</th>
<th>BlackBerry 8830™</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Navigation</td>
<td>Trackball</td>
<td>Trackball</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMS</td>
<td>Yes, unlimited</td>
<td>Yes, unlimited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Push Email Capability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>64 MB</td>
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<td>Expansion Memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plays Video from Memory</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Built-in Camera</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Built-in Video Camcorder</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Network Speed</td>
<td>EVDO Rev 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sprint TV*</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone as modem</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bluetooth Technology</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speakerphone</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Attachments</td>
<td>Yes, text &amp; graphical</td>
<td>Yes, text &amp; graphical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustable Font Size</td>
<td>Yes, on all programs up to 14 points</td>
<td>Yes, on all programs up to 14 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instant Messaging (IM)</td>
<td>Yes, downloadable</td>
<td>Yes, downloadable</td>
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<tr>
<td>IM with “D” Delivery and “R” Read Indicators</td>
<td>Yes, BlackBerry Messenger</td>
<td>Yes, BlackBerry Messenger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing Aid</td>
<td>Yes, text &amp; graphical</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Compatible Rating</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Google Maps</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, MAPI/T4</td>
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<td>TeleNav</td>
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<td>Uses built-in GPS hardware*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ready for International**</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Additional monthly charge may apply.
**WorldWide BlackBerry Email and Web International Data Roaming Plan is required.
Mission Statement
The Silent Adventures Program is designed to provide a sensitive outdoor environment experience that recognizes deaf culture and maximizes communication to reduce feelings of isolation and sensory deprivation by encouraging individual growth and providing personal guidance.

Program Description
Silent Adventures consists of a six day outdoor recreation experience traveling to many of the best natural areas in WV including: Coopers Rock State Forest, Seneca Rocks, Black Water Falls, Smoke Hole Caverns, and the New River Gorge.

Activities
Outdoor recreation activities include camping, sleeping outdoors, hiking, rock climbing, caving and white water rafting. All activities are beginner friendly and incorporate a strong sense of safety and risk management.

Around the camp fire, the group will address many issues high school and college students face during their college years, including freshman transition, academic success, social development, and promoting healthy life styles. Discussion topics will be specifically focused on the special needs of the deaf and hard of hearing.

Program Goals
This program is focused on supporting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to build their self-esteem and self-confidence, and develop problem solving, communication, and goal setting skills.

A highly qualified staff of faculty, sign language interpreters, and student leaders from Fairmont State University will challenge and provide support to the participants during this week long wilderness adventure. Participants will learn how to work together, explore their surroundings, and discover new ways of tackling problems.

Contact Information:
Silentadventures@fairmontstate.edu
Stephenie Jaggie: Sign language Interpreter/Coordinator
(304) 367-4073v or (304) 367-4072vp
Matthew Schmück: Assistant to Dean for Outdoor Programming and Outreach
(304) 367-4984
welcomes you to our
Town Hall

When: March 7, 2009
Where: Fairmont State University
1201 Locust Avenue
Ruth Ann Musick Library, Multi Media A
Fairmont, WV 26554
Time: 1:00 to 4:00 PM
Cost: FREE

Refreshments will be provided.

For More Info: Contact Robyn Evans
Trustee1@wvad.org or VP 304-623-4863.

Town Hall is for anyone, including members and non-member, deaf & blind, late-deafened, professional working with those population, family. We would love to hear your concerns and/or problems, and what WVAD can do to make some changes. Hope to see everyone there!

We will be showing ASL Film sponsored by Sprint Relay at 5:30 pm. More information is coming on that.
The courthouse eventually went to an automated heating system, but according to Gilmore, officials didn’t have the heart by that time to put Marshall out.

And so the man whom no one seemed to know much about continued to make his home in the basement of the courthouse, where he lived until he was recently placed in a nursing home for health reasons.

Sharon Link, clerk of the County Commission, said Marshall had cataracts and macular degeneration of the eyes.

“He was losing his eyesight,” said Link. “He knew his way around the courthouse but he got to where he didn’t even want to go outside.”

According to Gilmore, Marshall also had cancer — a mass on his lungs that was quickly growing.

“Because of his age and his health, surgery was never suggested,” said Gilmore.

Marshall’s life was simple, yet unique in many ways.

He lived most of his life within about a four or five block radius.

Judge Donald Cookman said Tuesday morning that it was a sad day for Romney.

“Marshall has been a fixture around here ever since I can remember,” Judge Cookman said. “I remember him from when I was a child. He’s been here when I come to the courthouse as a prosecuting attorney, and ever since I’ve been a judge on the bench.”

There are numerous stories floating around about Marshall and his many years at the courthouse.

A reliable source tells of a time a Mrs. Williams, who lived above the town of Romney, sent word for Marshall to come and trim her hedges.

Marshall was reportedly sitting on his bench outside the courthouse when he was presented with the request.

According to the source, Marshall’s response was, “Well, I expect I could if I can find the time.”

According to Gilmore, Marshall was a man with no cares, and no real responsibilities.

For the record, Marshall’s age will be recorded as 92.

His birth date will be put down as August 31, 1915.

But that information is simple for the sake of having some kind of a record, according to Gilmore.

“No one really knows how old Marshall was, or when he was really born,” said Gilmore.

According to Gilmore, being the first of 11 children, birth records weren’t necessarily kept at the courthouse.

“Family records were put down in the family Bible,” said Gilmore. “And no one knows what happened to (the Taylor’s) family Bible with all the records in it.”

But for the sake of making sure that Marshall was able to receive the Social Security, a designated birth date had to be established, according to Gilmore.

“And so, with the help of the clerk who keeps the records, we looked and found that the oldest man in Romney was a man with the last name of Hines.”

Gilmore said they knew that Marshall was older than Mr. Hines, so they picked a birthdate and gave it to Marshall.

Hampshire County Sheriff Nathan Sions said things will be different without Marshall being at the courthouse.

Very little is known about the man who has been a local icon for so long.

He passed away Tuesday morning at Hampshire Memorial’s Long-term Care Unit.

Marshall has one sister, Betty J. Taylor–Dailey–Ince of Windsor, Conn.

He is preceded in death by his brothers and sisters; Reginald Taylor Jr., Buck, Holmes, Charles and William Taylor, Evelyn Biggs, Sarah Hazel and Marian Taylor.

Marshall is survived by numerous nieces and nephews, who live in Maryland, Connecticut and New York.

“We offer many thanks to Sharon Link, a special lady who stood by him daily,” said Gilmore. “Romney will never be the same without Marshall sitting on the bench in front of the Romney Courthouse.”

Funeral arrangements were incomplete as of press time, but arrangements are under the direction of McKee Funeral Home in Romney.

Notice: As an editor, I followed up the website to find out the exact date when Marshall Taylor actual passed away and found additional information which is http://www.mckeefuneralhome.com/Obituaries/07-23MarshallTaylor.html. Mr. Taylor passed away on Tuesday, July 22, 2008.

NOTICE: Only one person passed way between July to September, 2008 for newsletter purpose. It was Finis C. Dickey, a husband of Lula McLung. His obituary will be put in Oct, Nov, and Dec 08 newsletter.
Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Executive Director has been posted and that the deadline for application is June 10.

He showed us the Ad that was designed and placed in the 2008 DIXIE Program Book.

He and Robyn attended the graduation at the West Virginia School for the Deaf on June 6 and presented the following gave checks to:

A check for $100.00 was given to Pamela Sue Thompson of Montrose, West Virginia. She is the Valedictorian of the Class of 2008. A check for $75.00 was given to Justin Allen Gregory of Chocorua, West Virginia. He is the Salutatorian of the Class of 2008. A check for $25.00 was given to Sarah Mae Abernathy. She is the most outstanding Senior of the Class of 2008. The following five seniors received free two-years WVAD membership cards: Pamela Thompson, Justin Gregory, Sarah Abernathy, Megan Cavender, and Gordon Redden.

He will be meeting with Roy Forman with the WVCDHH on June 9, at 10:00 a.m. and with the Public Service Commission at 2:00 p.m.

He received an e-mail from Clyde Swartz. He will be responding to the e-mail.

**Vice-President’s Report:**

Vice-President John Burdette has nothing to report at this time.

**Secretary’s Report:** Liz reported that she received and responded to Received three e-mails that were forwarded to her from the WVAD1930@wvad.org account e-mail.

Senior Trustee Worthy Devericks stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Robyn Evans stated that she has Senior Trustee Worthy Devericks has nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Robyn Evans has no report to give to the board at this time.

**Coordinators’ Report:**

John Burdette, Chairperson for DDLEOS: Chairperson Burdette stated that he is still working on the communication tips. He is also still working with Lt. Lynch on getting an approval for the script. He would like for deaf and hard of hearing people send him testimonies and/or stories about problems that they had with policemen during any traffic stops.

2008 State Fair - He tried to contact Roy Forman twice about sharing their booth with us at the 2008 State Fair. He still has not heard from Roy.

TTY Signs - President Douglas Evans will write a letter to the Department of Transportation cabinet Secretary about moving the TTY signs away from the rest areas ramps to the interstates where they can be better seen by the motorists.

**Liz Leisure**

Liability Insurance Policy: As mentioned in the previous board meeting, most state associations do not have liability insurance coverage for directors and officers. Liz feels it is risky not having coverage if something happens during any of our events.

Mingo County Scholarship Funds: Again, as mentioned in the previous board meeting, the board members need to read and approve the draft guidelines for scholarship.

**Budget Planning:** Liz checked on how much was profited from the 2003, 2005, and 2007 Conferences. It appeared that we have spent more money that we have profited. We need to look at the 2007 WVAD Conference Financial Report in order to plan the budget for the 2009 Conference.

**Veronda Harrison:**

Promotion: Veronda is still trying to locate the business that printed and/or added logos on our shirts. They moved without giving their new address and telephone number. Liz suggested that Veronda try locating the business by checking the www.411.com.

**Worthy Devericks:** No report.
MEETING MINUTES

Robyn Evans:

Workshops:

Robyn stated that she hasn’t worked with Mary Kesler on setting up workshops yet.

WVAVRS: Robyn worked as an exhibitor for the WVAVRS at the 2008 Deaf Tech Fair at the Charleston Civic Center. There were approximately 139 people in attendance. Many hearing people were interested in learning and asked questions about the video relay service. WVAD received a check from CDSVRS in the amount of $600 for the months of January, February, and March of 2008. We will be getting a check every month instead of every three months.

2008 Summer Picnic: Robyn reserved 20 sites at the Gerald R. Freeman Campground at Sutton Lake for the WVAD 2008 picnic. If a camper wants to reserve a campsite, he will have to submit his name to Robyn by July 1, 2008. Up to eight people can stay on each campsite. If a reservation is not made, the campsite will be taken on first-come, first serve basis. There is a charge for a visitor’s pass and it is three dollars.

Linda Eckhart:

2009 Biennial Conference – The conference will be held at the Comfort Suites in Mineral Wells, WV. Lodging is $75.00 per night.

Website Master:

Linda showed the website at the board meeting. She continues to update the website. She updated the interpreter directory and the deaf events. Everyone is encouraged to email her the updates at WVAD1930@wvad.org. Otherwise, they will not be posted on the website.

By-Laws: There is no new report.

There was a 20 minutes recess began at 4:25 p.m.

West Virginia Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Board (WVTRS) – WVAD Taskforce = Ruby Losh, Chairperson:

Ruby would like to have a representative from the following agencies to serve on the board:

* John Burdette, WVAD Representative
* Public Service Commission
* West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
* Division of Rehabilitation Services
* Self Help for the Hard of Hearing
* Visual Disorder
* Verizon
* Representative from each deaf club

Ruby talked about what issues she will be presenting at the Public Service Commission meeting tomorrow. She wants to set up a formal meeting with all the representatives to get the ball rolling and make the WVTRS official.

Monica Kelly – WVAD Advocate – Absent

Jimmy Harrison – 100th Anniversary – John Burdette spoke in Jimmy’s absence. He suggested to Jimmy that he interview the older WVAD members to get some history on WVAD.

Mary Kesler – American Sign Language Task Force (ASLTF) Robyn Evans spoke in Mary’s absence. Mary wanted to report three things: West Virginia Board of Education knows about the West Virginia Association of the Deaf ASL Task Force and that we are interested in setting up an ASL certification program. She contacted two colleges about setting up the certification program but she hasn’t received any response from them. She is going to try e-mail at least five other colleges and hopefully they will be interested in the same program. She will distribute the update/information she gathers from WVDE and colleges.

Caryn Keller (Linda Eckhart) Youth Program: No report.

Unfinished business: None

New Business:

Veronda Harrison moved that WVAD decides what to do with the money received from the WVAVRS. Linda moved that this motion be amended by changing the motion from “decides…to “put the money in the savings account and use the money as needed”. Amendment carried. The motion as amended carried.

Liz Leisure moved that WVAD discuss whether or not we should buy insurance coverage for our organization. Linda Eckhart moved that this motion be amended by asking Liz Leisure to contact State Farm to get rates/options for liability insurance coverage and/or causality. Then bring the information to the next board meeting. Amendment carried. The motion as amended passed.

Robyn Evans moved that we have a Town Hall/ASL Film. The motion passed. (Doug appointed Robyn to handle the town hall meetings/ASL film.

Robyn Evans moved that we discuss and plan the summer picnic. The motion passed.

Veronda Harrison moved that we discuss reimbursement for mileage. The motion passed.

Veronda Harrison moved that WVAD pay Doug and Robyn Evans for one night lodging in South Charleston including mileage. The motion passed.

Robyn Evans moved that we have next board meeting at Romney on Sunday, October 5, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. The motion passed.

John Burdette moved that we have the other board meeting in Lewisburg area on second Saturday on January 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. The motion passed.

There being no further business, by general consent, the President adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

WVAD BOARD MEETING

********************
Saturday, January 10, 2009
1:00 p.m. in Lewisburg, WV
Location will be announced on WVAD website: www.wvad.org
WVAD MEMBERSHIP FORM — JOIN NOW!!

- $15 for one year Regular
- $25 for two year Regular
- $20 for two year Senior Citizen (+55)
- $10 for two years Student (Age 12 to 18)
- $10 for two years for non-members who subscribe the WVAD Newsletters only.

○...Yes, here is my donation: $__________
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