



Established 1909
Incorporated 1913
www.wsad.org

The mission of the Washington State Association of the Deaf is to promote, protect and preserve the rights and quality of life of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the state of Washington.

In this Issue:

Deaf Teen Leadership.....	1
Welcome Notes.....	2
President's Corner	3
Board Retreat.....	4, 5
ODHH	6
NAD.....	7
WA Relay Workshop.....	8
Conference Registration	9
Hotel Information	10
Through Deaf Eyes.....	11
WSAD Membership	12

The Evergreen News

SPRING 2007

Deaf Teen Leadership Camp kicks off

by Howie Seago, Camp Director

"It was the best camp I have ever attended."

"I learned how to solve problems and strive for success."

"I loved all the group learning activities and how to think and be a leader."

"I don't feel like I have to struggle to communicate for once!"

"Wow, it's so great to have new friends!"

"I had such a good experience, I can't wait to go again next summer!"

Quotes above are from Deaf high school campers who attended the 2006 DTL Camp.



Deaf Teen Leadership Camp (DTL Camp) was established in the summer of 2006 through the combined efforts of Howie Seago, Carol Carrothers, and Mat Lyons under the sponsorship of Washington Student Leadership, a program of the Association of Washington School Principals. Along with Howie, Carol, and Mat, other staff members included Dan Brubaker, WSAD Board Member Gerardo DiPietro, Mae Sellars, Matt Stefano, Lori Seago, and Jessica DeWitt.

Financial support was provided by WSAD, WSD, ODHH, WSDS, and the Child Hearing League.

During the weeklong camp at The Cispus Learning Center, workshops and activities were conducted on leadership skills, personal and group awareness, assertiveness, and effective communication. Students also participated in an outdoor challenge course emphasizing team building, problem solving, and self confidence.

The seeds of greater self esteem, and the realization of their leadership potential and responsibility to make a difference in their community have been sowed among these students and hopefully will blossom in the future.

"(She) came home a different girl....a young lady really," said one parent of her daughter. "We see her using the tools she learned all the time... We've seen her make the right choices and stand up for what she believes is the right thing to do."

The next DTL Camp will be held June 29 – July 3, 2007. For more information, please contact Howie Seago at hseago@psesd.org or tty/voice: 425.917.7847.



Board Members

President

Char Parsley
3427 W 7th Ave.
Spokane, WA 99224
509-838-3770
president@wsad.org

Internal Vice President

Leila Petersen
4634 NE 201st PI
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155
206-364-3560
ivp@wsad.org

External Vice President

Jan Humphrey
1414 Dexter Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98109
206-632-7200
evp@wsad.org

Secretary

Wayne Sinclair
240 14th St.
Blaine WA 98230
TTY 360-306-5731
VP 604-444-4444
VP 24.17.165.192
secretary@wsad.org

Treasurer

Lester R. Morris
13503 80th Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98178
PH: 425-793-0035
VP: 425-333-5555
treasurer@wsad.org

Members-At-Large

Vijay Advani - Everett
Gary Courie - Tumwater
Dan Danielson - Selah
Gerardo DiPietro - Seattle
Blaine LeMieux - Vancouver
Maria Schulz - Bellingham

NAD Delegate

Julia Petersen

Endowment Fund Trustees

Larry Petersen - 2 yrs
Bob Dixon - 4 yrs
Larry Schoenberg - 6 yrs
Steven Houghland - 8 yrs
Char Parsley, President

2007 Convention Chair

Maria Schulz
4626 Celia Way #202
Bellingham, WA 98226
conference@wsad.org

From the Communication Committee

Again, I must recognize my Communication Committee for their 200% commitment to the development of effective communication amongst WSAD members. I have never seen such a hard working committee! On some nights, they met until midnight to get through the agenda since it is often difficult to schedule other meetings due to members' work, family, and social commitments. Not only that, they have done a great deal of project work between the meetings. Luckily current technology such as videophones, instant messaging and email keeps us aligned and able to provide support and encouragement to one another. Also personally I enjoy learning from the committee, I may just become tech savvy someday!

Our current projects are to implement an electronic database and Paypal system that would allow members to make online payments for conferences or membership fees. Speaking of membership, we are excited to have Larry Schoenberg, WSAD's newly created position of Membership Coordinator, join our committee. Meanwhile, I am asking for your patience with our development as it may take time to "perfect" it. Please feel free to submit your updated mailing or email addresses. Don't hesitate to email me any feedback or ideas on improving our newsletter, website and E-notification. Your input is our guide. Your membership and participation is always welcome so feel free to contact the officers.

WSADly yours,
Julia Petersen
Communication Committee Chair
ccc@wsad.org



Buy Conference
Tickets Online!
WE HAVE PAYPAL
www.WSAD.org

A Note from the Editor

In the age of computers, e-notifications, emails, and websites, a newsletter can sometimes seem quaint especially one that is published two or three times a year.

However, I believe, and I hope you will agree, that there is always a place for WSAD's newsletter. It records history. It's something you can show to funders or prospective WSAD members during recruitment. You can read it over coffee.

A newsletter is also a visual medium where you can see old familiar faces and names. Then of course, there is the thrill of seeing your name in print that an email can't quite replicate.

Let us never forget, this newsletter is yours. While we're fortunate to have a communication committee to oversee the newsletter thus far, it is now time for The Evergreen News to form its own newsletter team.

This is a call to arms to



those of you who seem to know everything first, who like to discuss both heavy and light topics alike, those who love to take pictures, write, discuss, debate, ponder...we need you. Join us!

If you're interested in joining the Newsletter Committee please contact the editor Crystal Green by email, NL@wsad.org

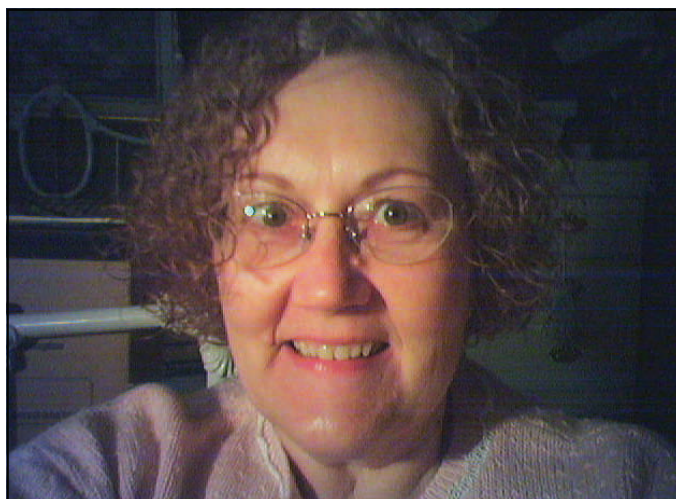
President's Corner

Greetings to everyone! Many exciting things have been going on within WSAD that it is hard to decide where to begin. I do think that I need to salute all those wonderful volunteers who have been hard at work trying to bring WSAD into the present via technology, upgrading bylaws, ensuring that the upcoming conference is a successful one and also I want to thank each person for giving up their time to WSAD.

The Board: The board is still very busy! There have been several meetings taking place with various committees run by some board members. We have found that the current technology has been a tremendous assistance when trying to conduct business on behalf of WSAD. Some business is conducted through email, other business through the videophone, and still others through pagers. What a wonderful age we are in! This reduces a lot of traveling for some of us who live in other parts of the state, especially in the wintertime when driving can be treacherous.

WSAD Administrative Code Notebook: We have been working on the policies and procedures notebook which will be called the WSAD Administrative Code Notebook that will include job descriptions for each board position that are not in the bylaws to ensure that each officer knows what needs to be done within that position. For example, under the President's job description, there is one part that explains how the President communicates to NAD the officer information and things like that. Also included in this notebook is a copy of current bylaws and policies such as how communication will occur within the organization and items like that. There are also forms that the organization uses. Other stuff is included as well and once the work is done, the board will have an opportunity to vote to approve of it. Once it is approved, then a copy shall be given to each officer in the executive committee. This way everyone will be on the same page and have a clear understanding of what is involved in being a board member.

Communication Committee: The WSAD Communications Committee and the chairperson, Julia Petersen, deserve hands up wave for their hard work to develop policies and procedures for the communication committee, chairperson of this committee and three categories (webmaster, newsletter editor and e-notifier). There have been glitches, but things are moving along



nicely. It is anticipated that within the next three months, all should be well put together and put to good use.

Director: Len Aron, the director, has done a

marvelous job the last three months to assist WSAD in trying to identify funders. What he has found out is that until we have a strategic plan set up, funders will not provide funding. So we had our first retreat on Jan. 27 which was a lot of fun. Everyone enjoyed the brainstorming that went on that day. The second retreat to finalize our strategic plans was held on Feb. 24. After that, Len will have various people around the state review

the plan and get their feedback. Once that is done, the board will then vote to approve of the strategic plan to be presented to the members at the Conference in June. Hands Wave to Len!

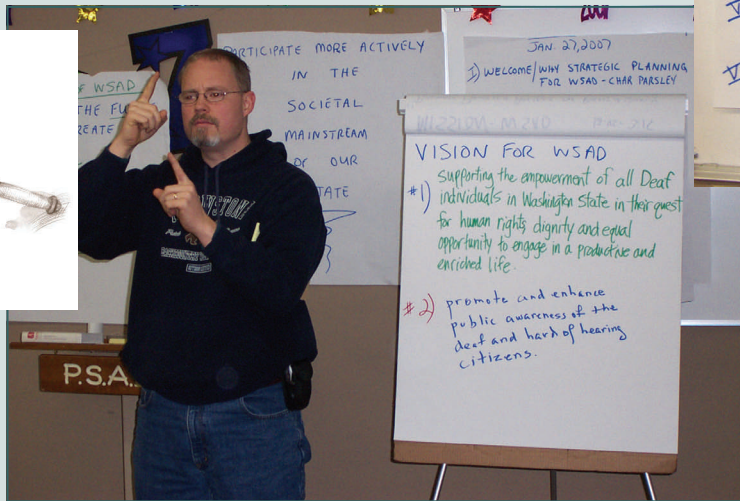
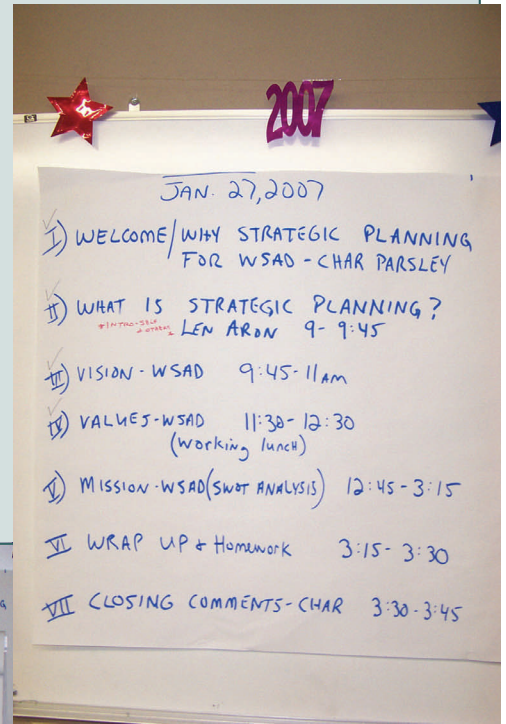
Other: WSAD is now waiting for OSPI to present the State Educational Interpreters Council bill to the Legislature approve the recommendations of the community to ensure best avenues to ensure quality of educational interpreters in the public schools for the deaf children. **(Update: Bill did not make it to legislature.)**

There are also many other things that WSAD has been very busy with such as making changes to the bylaws to better reflect the current organization. The ultimate goal of WSAD is to ensure that this organization truly represents the needs of the deaf citizens of WA State.

Char Parsley
President

*See the website for
continuous updates.
Go to www.wsad.org*

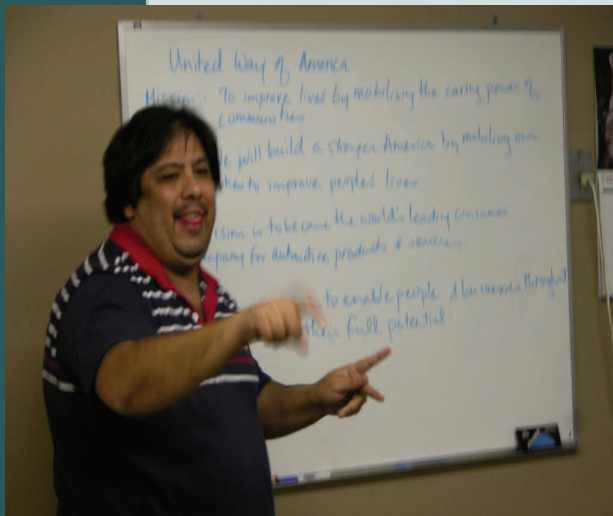
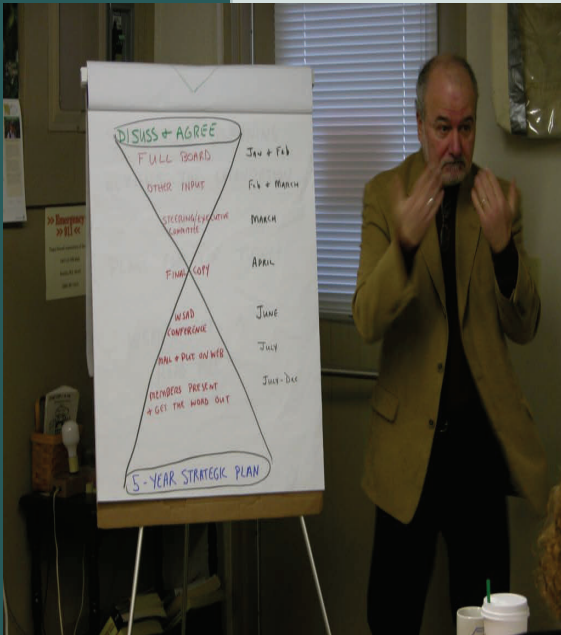
Board Retreat 2007



WSAD's Board Retreat took place on January 27, 2007



Photos from the Mentor& Mentee Retreat



photos by Lester Morris

Endowment Fund Update

As of December 31, 2006, the total account of WSAD Endowment Fund is \$193,876.37.



A Perspective of WSAD-ODHH Relations

by Eric Raff, Director, ODHH

It is an honor to be invited and a pleasure to write an article for the WSAD newsletter. I cannot stress enough the importance of getting involved with state associations of the deaf that are torch-bearers in advocating for our deaf rights. Without them, I would not be able to use American Sign Language, drive a car, marry my deaf wife and assert my legal rights to access services and employment opportunities.

State associations are a vehicle for the deaf person's personal and professional growth. As one of the few who spearheaded the Kentucky Association of the Deaf (KAD) Task Force on the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD), the efforts resulted in KSD educational reforms.

As a board member and committee chair, reports were submitted to the Indiana Association of the Deaf with recommendations on governance of the IAD as well as the Indiana Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. These experiences gave me the knowledge, experience and appreciation of the state associations' roles.

Personally, I envision state associations' roles to be:

- preservation of Deaf Culture and American Sign Language and tolerance for other communication methods;
- empowerment of a Deaf community; and
- advocacy to improve access to effective communication.

Today, I'm proud to be a supporting member of WSAD as well as Hearing Loss Association of Washington (HLA-WA),

Washington State Deaf Blind Citizens (WSDBC) and Washington State Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (WSRID). As Director of the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, I appreciate the value and importance of maintaining strong relations with a diversity of membership-driven organizations with shared interests. ODHH rely upon them to advocate for legal rights and to advocate passage of ODHH/DSHS-sponsored legislation through the legislative process. This doctrine guides me in ensuring each organization has an ex-officio representative on the ODHH advisory committee.

Today, changing demographic trends require new strategic thinking to ensure the survival of the state associations throughout the country. Due to school enrollment trends declining at state schools for the deaf and increasing at mainstreamed programs in local school districts as well as leaders retiring and youth needing guidance, new approaches must be considered if state associations of the deaf are to survive. When WSAD interim executive director, Leonard Aron met with me to discuss how ODHH-WSAD can better work together and align two different organization strategic plans, I shared with him a few thoughts for WSAD consideration:

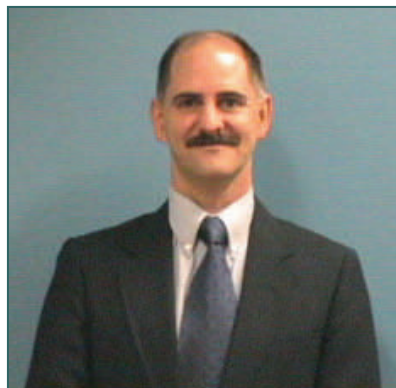
- Initiate a membership drive
- Provide training on advocacy and the legislative process
- Partner with others to establish a youth leadership camp

Whether these suggestions are

incorporated into the WSAD strategic plan, it is crucial for you as a member of WSAD to become actively involved, recruit friends and colleagues to join WSAD, become familiar with the tools of advocacy and the legislative process and develop & hone your skills as leaders, either as a mentor or emerging leader.

I'd like to acknowledge and applaud President Char Parsley and the board for their leadership to strengthen WSAD through the establishment of a Board mentorship program that brought younger adults into the folds, creation of a director position and establishment of a quality-oriented 'Communications' committee.

I believe both WSAD and ODHH are on the right path to grow together, strengthen the communities and defend the legal rights accorded to us as humans who simply want access to effective communication and the right to self-determination. I am confident and optimistic that this can be achieved in this 21st century and together we can remove barriers in all socio-economic aspects of our daily lives.



The Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Washington Relay proudly announce that the Washington Relay Captioned Telephone (CapTel) Service will be available beginning April 1, 2007. For further information, please go to the following web address: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/hrsa/odhh/indez.shtml>

NAD Keeping an Eye on Idaho and Oregon



The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) is keeping an eye on two situations involving schools for the deaf. The NAD sent a letter to the president of the Idaho State Board of Education protesting the proposal to close the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind because, "...such closure would be contrary to the best interests of deaf

and hard of hearing students in Idaho and be contrary to tenants of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)."

The NAD also sent a letter to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction in Salem, Oregon, expressing concern over the dismissal of the director of the Oregon School for the Deaf.

A Letter from Nancy J. Bloch, NAD

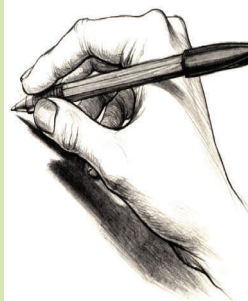
Dear State Association Presidents,

A "State Leaders' Summit on Deaf Education" will be held in Columbia, Maryland, May 7-9, 2007. The Summit was developed in connection with the National Agenda, a plan to improve outcomes of deaf and hard of hearing children nationally. States have organized teams of educational leaders—parents, educational administrators, representatives from schools for the deaf, and other stakeholders—to engage in educational reform in their states based on the National Agenda. The leadership teams come together annually at the Summit to share information with other states and continue the movement forward.

Educational leadership teams benefit from diverse membership. I encourage you or your representative to join your state leadership team and participate in the Summit. To join your state leadership team, contact the superintendent at your state's school for the deaf or your state department of education.

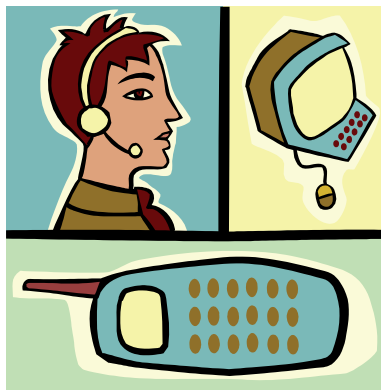
For more information on the Summit, National Agenda, or state education reform, please go to <http://ndepnow.org/summit/summit07.htm>.

Nancy J. Bloch
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of the Deaf
8630 Fenton Street, Suite 820
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3819
Visit us at www.nad.org
Together, We Move Forward!





**Is proud to present an informative workshop with
Washington State Association of the Deaf**



*Come and learn more about the latest technology that is
being used to enhance the relay service experience.*

When: May 17, 2007
Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Where: Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Avenue
Bellingham, Wa. 98227

*Refreshments will be served.

Collaborating Hands

DEAF • ELDERS • LEADERS • YOUTHS



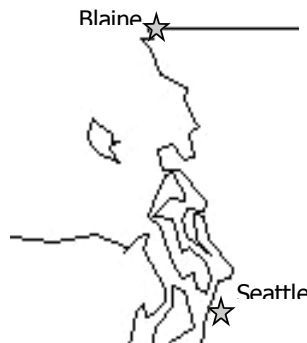
49th Biennial WSAD Conference

June 8-10, 2007

Semiahmoo Resort | Golf | Spa

Blaine, Washington

Latitude 49°



Conference Agenda

Friday, June 8

PRESENTERS

Eric Raff, Todd Reeves, Carol Carrothers

PERFORMER

Deaf Magician, Samuel Ruiz Jr.

Saturday, June 9

Workshop/Meeting

Lunch/Presenter

Workshop/Meeting

Banquet/Performance

PERFORMER: Masala Dance Performers

Sunday, June 10

Meeting

Detailed schedule will be posted on www.wsad.org.
With regrets, WSAD will not provide SSP/Interpreters.

Semiahmoo Resort | Golf | Spa

9565 Semiahmoo Parkway

Blaine, Washington 98230

www.semiahmoo.com

800.770.7992

Hotel@semiahmoo.com

Single & Double Occupancy

Classic View: \$139.00

Water View: \$159.00

*Extra \$20 per night for 3rd & 4th person
(Taxes not included)*

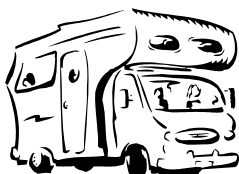
Reservations can be made on-line at www.semiahmoo.com.

Cut-off date is May 8, 2007 for the guest room block.

Reserve NOW! Will fill up fast!

To receive group rate, use our Group ID number:

2670GJ



RV in Blaine Area

Birch Bay RV Resort (5.4 mi.) 360.371.7922

Beachside RV Park (6.2 mi.) 360.371.5962

Birch Bay State Park (7.7 mi.) 800.226.7688

Larrabee State Park (25 mi.)
In Bellingham 360.676.2094



2007 WSAD Conference

www.wsad.org

conference@wsad.org



2007 WSAD Conference Registration Form

June 8-10, 2007 • Semiahmoo Resort | Golf | Spa • Blaine, Washington

Participant Information

Please print—Limit two registrants.

_____		_____	
First\Last Name		(2) First\Last Name	
_____		_____	
Email (Required if you have one.)		Email (Required if you have one.)	
_____		_____	
Address		City	
_____	_____	_____	_____
State/Province	Zip	Telephone	TTY VP V

2. Registration Information

Conference Combo Fees *PRICES SLASHED*

Regular Combo (postmarked by 5/10):	\$115.00	\$135.00	X _____ = \$ _____
Late Bird Combo (postmarked by 5/24):	\$125.00	\$150.00	X _____ = \$ _____
At Door:	See Individual fees		

Individual Fees

Registration Fee (required—non-refundable)	\$15.00	X _____ = \$ _____
Friday Night Reception	\$25.00	X _____ = \$ _____
Saturday Lunch (not available after 5/24)	\$35.00	X _____ = \$ _____
Saturday Banquet (not available after 5/24)	\$50.00	X _____ = \$ _____
Entertainment (after banquet)	\$25.00	X _____ = \$ _____

Banquet Menu Chicken Salmon Vegetarian
write number for the following entrée(s)

Childcare Fees for children under age 12

Childcare during WSAD events ****Must request by 5/24**** \$25.00 per child X _____ = \$ _____
More info contact Julia Petersen: childcare@wsad.org

Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund requests must be made to the registration coordinator in writing via fax, mail or email and postmarked by May 10, 2007. Phone cancellations are not accepted. All refund checks will be mailed approximately 3 weeks **after** the Conference. \$30.00 service charge will be applied to all non-sufficient funds/returned checks.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER MAY 10, 2007.

3. Method of Payment (Payment must accompany registration or the form will be returned to you.)

Check or money order payable to: *2007 WSAD Conference*
mail to: 2007 WSAD Conference, 4626 Celia Way, Unit #202, Bellingham, WA 98226
No Personal Checks Accepted After May 24, 2007.

Online payment is available on www.wsad.org

Questions? Registration Chair Tamara: registration@wsad.org
For conference information visit: www.wsad.org

Office Use ONLY: Date Rec'd _____ Amount Rec'd _____ Deposit Date _____

Through Deaf Eyes @ Your Library: A Recap

by Alice Hagemeyer

Approximately 275 people showed up at the beautiful Seattle Public Library last January 20 for an event, featuring clips from the first showing of "Through Deaf Eyes." It was well received and a thoughtful discussion followed. It is indeed an inspiring documentary filled with a wealth of information from the beginning of our American deaf history to modern times. This event was hosted by the LEAP (Library Equal Access Program) of the Library and cosponsored by the American Library Association and PBS.

Richard Jacobs, president of the Washington Chapter of Gallaudet University Alumni Association, attended the above event; he said he would encourage the deaf community to form group discussions on the film and its companion book, *Through Deaf Eyes*.

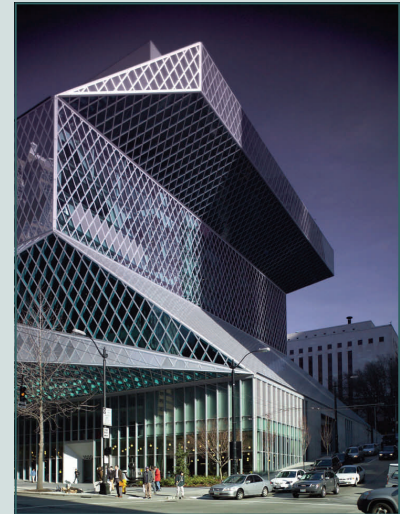
Karen Kenton, Executive Producer, invites the public library in the nation to host an event like the one in Seattle. Deaf-related organizations may form partnerships with them. Open captioned clip reels on DVD, discussion guides and other outreach materials are available at no charge to hosts, who are responsible

for planning logistics and access. She also will be happy to answer questions about this 2-hour documentary on the history of Deaf life in America, which will air nationally on PBS March 21 PM ET (8:00 PM on WNET) check local listing.

Ms. Kenton may be reached via email: kkenton@weta.com or phone: (703) 998-2433. Both the home video and the book are available at www.shopPBS.com or 1-800-531-4727. For those librarians wishing to review the film in advance please let her know.

Through Deaf Eyes is a production of WETA Washington, D.C. and Florentine Films / Hott Productions, in association with Gallaudet University. Major funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS, the Annenberg Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The FOLDA mission is to promote library access and quality resources for the deaf community regardless of where they live. Thus, FOLDA stresses the importance of the library to share deaf history with local



Seattle Public Library

communities across the country. People of all ages who are deaf or have hearing losses live everywhere and the public library everywhere will want to make such resources available to the public.

For more information, contact Alice L. Hagemeyer by email to folda86@aol.com or check out the website, www.folda.net

(Update: The second showing of *Through Deaf Eyes* was another success with over 200 people in attendance.)



"They are not a theory, but a condition, for they are first, last, and all the time the people of the eye."

-Geroge Veditz, President

NAD 1910

14519 112th Avenue NE
Kirkland, WA 98034



*The mission of
the Washington State Association of
the Deaf is to promote,
protect and preserve the rights and
quality of life of deaf and hard of
hearing individuals in the state of
Washington.*



WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

JOIN WSAD! Add YOUR voice with us!

Two more years to go before WSAD's 100 Year Anniversary.

RENEWAL AFFILIATE & MEMBER APPLICATION FOR 2007

Circle One:

Member \$15

Senior Citizen \$12

Affiliate \$15

Student (Under 18) \$8

Interpreter \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone/Video Phone # (stay confidential) _____

E-Mail: _____



CHOICE OF NEWSLETTER

Circle One:

Electronic Newsletter

Printed Mailing

MAKE A DONATION

General Fund _____ Endowment Fund _____ 20/20 _____ Member Fee _____ TOTAL _____

Make checks payable to WSAD and send to
Larry Schoenberg, WSAD Membership Coordinator