

# INSIGHTS

## INDIANA CHAPTER OF THE REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF



**Are you planning** on taking the NIC Written and/or Performance exam in the near future? ICRID is putting together an efficient way to study and prepare. Stay tuned!

**Have you thought about joining the board?** This September, 4 positions will be opening up: president, vice-president, MAL 3 & MAL 4. Consider running yourself or nominate someone you feel is worthy of the position.



We are all looking forward to warmer weather, right? Summer is a great time to brush up on one's skills and go "conferencing". RID's *Lead Together 2017* conference in SLC is July 20-24 and the Indiana Deaf Educators & Educational Interpreter Conference is June 26-27. Another way that we can improve ourselves is to sign up to take the NIC or the EIPA if you haven't already. Summer tends to be a little slower for many interpreters so it's a perfect time for these activities. Other events include *The Small Business Protection* workshop in May, LTC is hosting two workshops, one in May and another in June and RAPS will be taking place as well. The ICRID board is excited about the next few months as there will be much to do. We are bringing back the "annual picnic" this July which will be a lot of fun. If you haven't tried RAPS yet, now would be a great time to start. Happy almost Summer!



## President's Ponderings

In 2013, I went to the ICRID annual business meeting not knowing what it was that the board ICRID did. They needed someone to serve in the member-at-large position and I was encouraged to *go for it*. I had never even been in a leadership role within the interpreting field—what could I offer? My time and energy, doing whatever was needed to help ICRID succeed, was what I had to offer. Every leader has to start somewhere, so I went for it.

I briefly served as a member-at-large followed by vice president and, for the last three and a half years, the president. I went from not knowing a lot about ICRID and being on the board to running the board. As I went along, I learned the *ins* and *outs* of ICRID, had the opportunity to work with other affiliate chapters in leadership, and was able to meet interpreters from all over the state. I was faced with challenges that seemed to have no good answer and I knew not everyone would like the outcome or decision, but I always kept ICRID's best interest in mind and acted on that. With the hard work of the board and with more members joining, ICRID now can provide more professional development opportunities as well as the ability to support fellow organizations within the interpreting and Deaf communities. ICRID has certainly improved over the last four years as shown by our increased membership numbers and financial stability. This is no small feat.

That being said, it is time for me to step down as president and focus on my family. My time serving on the board has been a great learning experience. I have thoroughly enjoyed working for and with all of you. I will be passing the baton on to the next leader of ICRID at the business meeting on September 23, 2017. The treasurer, vice president, and members at large 3 and 4 positions will be up for election. Those currently serving are stepping down. With all of the successes in the past four years, why does ICRID's future seem so uncertain? Who will be the ones to step in and help lead ICRID forward? My call to the membership is to think of people who may be worthy of these positions and encourage them to serve. Sometimes all it takes is a nudge from a trusted colleague to start something great!

To successfully run a member-driven organization takes the *active* help of all of the membership. *Active* membership means more than simply paying your dues once a year. *We all have to do our part in helping the organization continue running smoothly.* If we do not get involved and give back to the organization, it will *not* be able to sustain itself. The board has taken on a lot of the load these past four years, and it has been exhausting. I have pleaded for people to get involved and still the committees are largely vacant and the *work* of the committees and running the entire organization has fallen on the shoulders of the board. Without volunteers to step up and help serve, we are unable to sustain the momentum we have built.

Lack of member involvement is not something that is only impacting Indiana--it is a nationwide problem that RID President Melvin Walker addressed in his [two-part article in the Views](#). *Members* are what drive the direction and progress of the organization, both on the national and state level. We need passionate, active, engaged members who, with small contributions, can make a HUGE impact on the interpreting and Deaf communities in Indiana. President Walker spoke about "Monday morning quarterbacks" and how it is easy to say what you would do *after* the fact, but I challenge all of you to get in the game and make a difference here and now! Be part of the change and improvement to our profession instead of merely watching it happen from the sidelines.

What can you offer ICRID? How will you help drive ICRID forward, and ultimately, RID? Please consider stepping up and becoming involved within ICRID. What skill or talent can you share with the organization and the interpreting community as a whole? Are you good with numbers and banking? Consider serving as the treasurer.

If you enjoy planning events, consider serving as vice president. Are you good with helping with a variety of tasks? If so, consider a member-at-large position. If you enjoy being a leader and working alongside your peers to create relationships with fellow organizations, consider serving as president. *There is a place for everyone!*

There are many ways to get involved, from putting stamps on cards that go out to the membership to serving on the board. There are numerous committees that members can be involved with including: Annual Conference, Awards and Scholarships, Bylaws, Educational Interpreters, Historical, Professional Development, Membership, CMP Sponsor, Ways and Means, ICRID R.A.P.S., Newsletter, Social Media, and Website. We *cannot* just sit back and ask 5-8 people to do everything that is needed to run ICRID. As John Heywood said, "Many hands make light work." No matter what your talents are or the amount of time and energy you can give, there is a task that everyone can help with. I encourage you to look at the committee and board descriptions found on the ICRID [website](#) and see where you can best give of your time and talents to help ICRID continue toward its full potential. We all have a stake in ICRID and we all have the responsibility to help support it. I look forward to seeing how ICRID grows when we all give a little bit.

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**RAPS**

**SMALL BUSINESS PROTECTION &  
RETIREMENT PLANS**

**MENTOR & MENTEE NETWORKING/  
AC**

**RID CONFERENCE**

**LTC HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO  
KNOW?**

**WISRID PRESENTS AMBER  
GALLOWAY-GALLEGO**

**BOARD MEETING MAY 20**

**LTC MENTAL HEALTH  
INTERPRETING**

**DEAF EDUCATORS & ED.  
INTERPRETERS CONFERENCE**

# Slip of the Sign: Mental Health Stigma Free "Pledges"

By The Last Hiccup on July 30, 2015



After watching sort of public service announcement [PSA] coordinated by Deaf Women United about *Mental Health Stigma Free Pledge*, one of the biggest struggles coming out of the Deaf community is one that received only modest notice: Not enough awareness in understanding mental health stigma and that is something we need to start over and be more responsible about it. [READ MORE.....](#) (Video link: [Mental Health Stigma Free Pledge](#))

## The Hidden History of Martha's Vineyard Sign Language

*How a deaf utopia was uncovered in the 1970s.*

BY NATALIE ZARRELLI MAY 04, 2016

Looking across Martha's Vineyard, 1897. (Photo: Internet Archive/Public Domain)



In 1979 in the town of Chilmark, on Martha's Vineyard, Joan Poole Nash sat across from her great-grandmother Emily Howland Poole, surrounded by a team of linguists and a video camera. "Do you remember the signs for rain or snow?" In response her great-grandmother moved her hands, which were recorded on grainy, black-and-white-tape.

The old woman continued...[READ MORE....](#)

