

WVAD Quarter News



"News brought to you by the West Virginia Association of the Deaf organization."

Volume 41, No. 1

Winter 2020

WVAD's Post-Conference Retreat by Laura Crowder

On October 5th, 2019, WVAD hosted their first post-conference retreat at the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living (NWVCIL) in Morgantown, WV. WVAD felt it was important for the Board members to have a good head start and to help them review the information that the Board needed to know, refresh on, and/or learn about. The Board was refreshed on communication, knowledge, creativity, time management, and organization priorities.

WVAD Board invited three knowledgeable deaf facilitators from Maryland to provide the training on various topics. We started off with Ice Breaker – The Shield which gave us an opportunity to learn more about ourselves. Then we had a refresh on the topic, diversity. We learned that the term diversity does not mean just the color of skin but our background, education, religion, and where we came from. WVAD serves different kinds of people in the State of West Virginia and we must be open minded with different perspectives. The Board then learned about different approaches and methods to recruit new



L-R: Vikki Porter, Scott Hottle, Laura Crowder, Sylvia Mick, Jacob Leffler, Tamara Deem, Gloria Hollen, Christopher Mick, and Kirsten Poston.

members and volunteers for the organization. In the afternoon, the Board developed a communication plan and organization priorities. The facilitators also provided training on organization structure and legislative process.

The Board felt that we needed to have this retreat to help us develop leadership and teamwork skills. The Board members were excited and motivated to learn how to develop good ([See Post-Conference... on page 11](#))

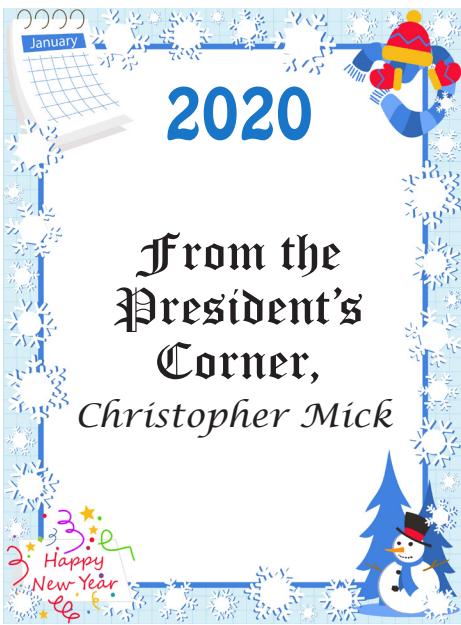


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From the President's Corner, Christopher Mick

Welcome to our winter newsletter!

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and hope that year 2020 will be good to all of us.

The WVAD Board had it's first retreat in Morgantown, WV, on October 5, 2019, after the conference to help the board start fresh for the next 2 years. We had three knowledgeable facilitators from Maryland that came and presented at the retreat.

WVAD Secretary Tami Deem and I went to the National Leadership Training Conference (NLTC) at Little Rock, Arkansas, on October 17-19, 2019. We learned a lot at the conference. Please see the summary of our trip on page 5.

WVAD held their 8th annual Christmas party at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Clarksburg, WV. The party was a success with 59 people in attendance. We had a lot of prizes to give away and we also had a silent auction to help raise funds so we can send two WVAD delegates to the National Association of the Deaf Conference in Chicago, Illinois, this summer. I want to thank those who volunteered at the Christmas party. We appreciated the help. Also want to thank donors for donating baskets and items for our raffle and silent



auction. See Christmas party story and photos on page 15.

Our Legislative Chair John Burdette is now working with the LEAD-K team, getting the bill ready to submit to 2020 Legislative session. We hope the bill will pass this year.

WVAD has set up a Bylaws Committee team. They will be working on updating the Bylaws and plan to create a Board Policy Manual as well in the next 2 years. They will have it ready before the next WVAD conference in August 2021.

A quick reminder for those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 19 for membership form), please send the form and payment to our Membership Coordinator, Jimmy Harrison. WVAD accepts debit and credit cards for membership fees, etc. We are currently accepting Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, and PayPal. You may also pay through Cash Square apps but you need to contact Jimmy (contact info is on the membership form) to make payment arrangements. If you are not a member of WVAD, please join.

Please encourage your friends, colleagues, and relatives to join WVAD too! Ongoing involvement and contributions from WVAD

PUBLICATION INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING RATES

The WVAD *Quarter News* newsletter is a publication of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., published four times a year (January, April, July, October). Free subscription with paid dues. All advertisements must be paid in advance. The WVAD *Quarter News* reserves the right to reject any advertisement. Make checks payable to **WVAD**. Send ads with payment and any news to Tamera Deem.

Full Page, 7 5/8" x 10" \$100.00
Half Page, 7 5/8" x 5" \$60.00

members, friends, and supporters make it possible for WVAD to provide a broad range of advocacy efforts to protect the civil rights of deaf and hard-of-hearing West Virginians. For more information, please visit our WVAD website at www.wvad.org or WV Association of the Deaf page on Facebook for any information about WVAD.

On behalf of the WVAD Board, we wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year! May fortune and good health always be with you. We would also like to thank you for your continuous support this past year for our organization!

Warmly,

Christopher T. Mick

WVAD President





WVAD Board Minutes

Date: October 13, 2019

Location: Sorenson Videophone

WVAD Board Meeting Held via Sorenson Videophone, October 13, 2019

West Virginia Association of the Deaf's Mission Statement:

The West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., (WVAD) operated by, of, for the Deaf Community, advocates, and promotes to improve the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing individuals including but not limited to deaf-blind individuals, parents of deaf children, interpreters, late-deafened adults, and children of deaf adults.

Members Present: Christopher Mick, Gloria Hollen, Tami Deem, Veronda Harrison, Sylvia Mick, Scott Hottle, and Laura Crowder.

Visitors Present: None.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held via Sorenson Videophone. President Chris Mick called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting held on August 8, 2019, were sent via e-mail. It was corrected and approved via video-phone and e-mail. The minutes of the meeting was published in the Fall 2019 WVAD newsletter.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report:

Financial report from August 8, 2019 to October 12, 2019: Balance in checking account – \$1,567.95; balance in savings account – \$3,567.00; Mingo County Fund: \$14,552.87; WVAD Conference Fund – \$6,105.80; Deaf Youth Program – \$478.00; Education Fund – \$283.15; Certificate of Deposit – \$7,000.00. The board accepted the report as read. CARRIED

President Chris Mick's Report:

- On August 13th, 2019, April and Scott Hottle e-mailed President Chris Mick about going to the interim meeting at the West Virginia State Capitol on September 23-24, 2019. Chris responded that he wanted to focus on the WVAD retreat first before proceeding with other tasks.
- WVAD Board members Chris Mick, Sylvia Mick, Veronda Harrison, and Tami Deem went to

"Deaf Night at the Power" minor league baseball game at Charleston, WV, on August 30, 2019, to set up a table to represent the WVAD organization. West Virginia Power team wore special American Sign Language-styled jerseys during the game, which were auctioned off on the Live-Source app throughout the night. They also provided interpreters at the ballpark. The proceeds of the ASL jerseys were split between four non-profit organizations that were at the ball game.

- WVAD Board members Chris Mick, Sylvia Mick, Tami Deem, and Laura Crowder attended the Hands and Voice picnic on September 28, 2019, at Sutton, WV, to represent the WVAD organization. The Board had a table set up for the event.
- WVAD had its first post-conference retreat on October 5, 2019, at Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living (NWVCIL) in Morgantown, WV. Three knowledgeable deaf facilitators from Maryland came and hosted our retreat. This retreat started out with Ice Breaker – The Shield, Diversity Training, Membership/Volunteer Recruitment, Communication Plan, Organization Structure, Legislative Training, and Organization Priorities. This year the Board decided to have five top priorities that we will focus on for the next two years. They are (1) education, (2) branding/marketing, (3) interpreting issues, (4) accessibility, and (5) collaboration with others.

Vice President Gloria Hollen's Report:

Nothing to report.

Secretary Tami Deem's Report:

Jacob Leffler said that he would be glad to come back to West Virginia to give the board a Parliament training session or whatever we want for the next level of the retreat. Secretary Tami Deem asked the NWVCIL Executive (See Board Minutes on page 4)

(Board Minutes from page 3)

Director if we can have future meetings there and she said yea probably so but she would be retiring on October 14, 2019, and to ask the next Executive Director. She said that it shouldn't be a problem for us to host future meetings in their building.

Trustees' Report:

Trustee Laura Crowder said that Secretary Tami Deem asked her to write a retreat story for the next newsletter. Tami asked Trustee Scott Hottle to send the retreat photo for the newsletter. Laura said that it was suggested that she go to National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference in Chicago, IL, next summer. Trustees Scott Hottle and Sylvia Mick have nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor's Report:

Deadline for the next newsletter is December 20, 2019.

Membership Coordinator Jimmy Harrison's Report:

At the last board meeting, there were 142 members. Currently there are 145 members. Membership Coordinator Jimmy Harrison sent out reminder letters to former members (from January 2019 to present) to let them know it was time to renew their membership.

Legislative Advocate Antonia Vaughan's Report:

No report.

Education Advocate April Hottle's Report:

No report.

Fundraising Veronda Harrison's Report:

Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

- Vice President Gloria Hollen motioned to make a vlog, to announce what committees WVAD has and to ask if anyone is interested to be involved in any of the committees. Treasurer Veronda Harrison seconded. CARRIED
- Secretary Tami Deem motioned to sell pepperoni rolls at the Christmas

party. Funds will go towards NAD conference fundraiser so we can send two delegates to the conference in July 2020. Trustee Scott Hottle seconded. CARRIED

- Vice President Gloria Hollen took over the floor and President Chris Mick motioned to help Treasurer Veronda Harrison buy Christmas gifts for the Christmas party. Secretary Tami Deem seconded. FAILED
- Treasurer Veronda Harrison motioned that WVAD buy a 50-inch Smart TV. Vice President Gloria Hollen seconded. Secretary Tami Deem amended that the TV can be either 50 inches or 55 inches wide. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. CARRIED
- Trustee Scott Hottle motioned that WVAD buy a tablet for Christmas gift. Trustee Laura Crowder seconded. CARRIED
- Secretary Tami Deem motioned to have a silent auction at the Christmas party. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. CARRIED
- Treasurer Veronda Harrison motioned to have silent auction funds go towards the NAD conference fundraiser. Secretary Tami Deem seconded. CARRIED
- Secretary Tami Deem motioned to have spaghetti dinner in the spring to raise money for NAD conference. Treasurer Veronda Harrison seconded. CARRIED
- Vice President Gloria Hollen took the floor from President Chris Mick. President Chris Mick motioned to host WVAD picnic, inviting Seek the World Calvin Young to kick off the WVAD Conference in 2021. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. CARRIED
- Vice President Gloria Hollen motioned to select a chairperson for different committees that's mentioned in the Bylaws. Trustee Scott Hottle seconded. CARRIED
- Trustee Scott Hottle motioned for WVAD to write a letter to Mary Anne Clendenin to show support from WVAD that Marshall University should enforce deaf educators to take ASL Proficiency Interviews. Vice President Gloria Hollen seconded. CARRIED
- Trustee Laura Crowder made a motion to make a vlog about WVAD

to try to attract younger generation to our organization. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. Vice President Gloria Hollen took the floor from President Chris Mick. President Chris Mick wants to amend Laura's motion that each board do short vlogs and put them together as one vlog. CARRIED

- Vice President Gloria Hollen made a motion to have another retreat soon. Trustee Laura Crowder seconded. Treasurer Veronda Harrison amended Gloria's motion to have the retreat in 2020. CARRIED
- Secretary Tami Deem motioned to have the next board meeting in January 2020. Vice President Gloria Hollen seconded. Gloria amended to schedule four meetings ahead of time. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. FAILED
- Treasurer Veronda Harrison motioned that WVAD Board buy calendars as gifts to give to attendees at the Christmas party. Trustee Sylvia Mick seconded. CARRIED
- Secretary Tami Deem motioned to close new business. Trustee Scott Hottle seconded. CARRIED

New business closed.

Next board meeting will be held via Sorenson Videophone or Zoom© on January 26, 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tamera Deem
Secretary



National Leadership Training Conference at Little Rock, Arkansas

President Chris Mick's Story

On behalf of WV Association of the Deaf (WVAD), Tami Deem and I traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas, to attend NAD's Leadership Training Conference on October 17, 2019. There were 25 workshops offered. We selected the workshops that fit our goals within WVAD. We learned a lot from the workshops that we attended.

I went to 6 different workshops: 3 workshops on Friday (October 18, 2019): (1) Grow Your Organization: Recruit and Retain Your Members, (2) Emotional Intelligence of Effective Leaders, and (3) The Many Ways to Enjoy Fundraising! First workshop – I learned about different ways to grow the organization by making it more appealing to more people so that we can draw more people to want to join and be involved; also how to keep your members in your organization. Second workshop – I learned that not all leaders are equally effective in inspiring others to collaborate as a team and the key to be a good leader depend on emotional intelligence. Third workshop – I learned about different ways to fundraise for our organization and how to make it fun, the proper way to raise money and how to properly thank your donors.

Friday evening I attended the caucus meeting. The topic was on Technology. The attendees shared ideas and input on technology and issues in this meeting.

On Saturday (October 19, 2019), I attended 3 workshops: (1) The Best Ways to Host an Organization Business Meeting, (2) The Best Ways to Run a Board Meeting, and (3) Managing Your Organization's Money. First workshop – I learned how to run the conference business meetings the right way and to make it flow smoothly from start to end. Second workshop – This workshop showed me the best way to run a board meeting, focusing on steps that are useful in structuring meetings ahead of time and how to open the meeting, discuss each issue in a constructive way, complete all necessary items, and bring the meeting to a close with everyone satisfied. Third workshop – this workshop showed me how to handle the organization's money the right

way and the best ways to handle money that comes in and goes out.

After the workshops, I attended NAD's Region 1 meeting to talk about problems the deaf and hard of hearing community face. We also selected the most issues that need to be worked on by NAD so that we can bring it to the table at NAD's Biennial Conference in Chicago on July 2020. NAD will then decide which issues will be selected as their priorities to work on for years 2020-2022.

On Saturday evening, Arkansas Association of the Deaf hosted "Deaf Night Out" at Fassler Hall (a German Inspired Beer Hall and Pub) to enjoy the last night of the conference.

I want to thank WVAD for sponsoring Tami Deem and I to go to this important conference.

Secretary Tami Deem's Story

WVAD sent President Chris Mick and I to Little Rock, Arkansas, on October 17, 2019, to attend NAD's (National Association of the Deaf) Leadership Training Conference (NLTC). There were 25 workshops offered. We selected the workshops that fit our goals within WVAD. We learned a lot from the workshops that we attended.

I attended 3 different workshops on Friday (October 18, 2019): (1) Legislative and Advocacy Updates, (2) Create Awesome and Accessible Videos, and (3) The Many Ways to Enjoy Fundraising!

The first workshop was very interesting. NAD shared which state laws have been passed such as LEAD-K, Deaf Child Bill of Rights, deaf mental health rights, interpreter licensure, open captioned movie theater requirements, deaf and hard of hearing commission creation, and changing the terminology in all state laws to "deaf and hard of hearing." NAD is working with states on how to write a good bill for interpreter licensure. They also have several model bills on their website that we can use for our states.

NAD shared their upcoming projects which include interactive website, family resources/ASL resources, and more targeted trainings for State Associations/affiliates and education advocates. NAD is working on a big project on their website. They are collecting

what info is available for each state. The map will have a drop down box for the state you would click on and it would show what resources are available in that state. They are also making a list of places where parents or families can find out where ASL classes are available within each state.

NAD is working on offering training webinars. It is cheaper for them to do webinars than to travel and give training. They also developed education curriculum videos on YouTube. NAD wants to do a webinar on collaboration as well (how to collaborate with other agencies).

They shared with us information about DNA genetics testing that would cure deafness and hearing loss which could occur within the next 5 years. For more information, check out these websites: www.akouos.com, www.hearinghealthfoundation.org, <http://www.entcolumbia.org/world-s-first-gene-therapy-trial-hearing-loss>, and https://www.ted.com/talks/david_r_liu_can_we_cure_genetic_diseases_by_re-writing_dna

World Health Organization (WHO) found out that there's information on the internet on how to modify DNA genetics and told them to stop because they need to discuss and look into bioethics. NAD has a bioethics expert that keeps up to date on what's going on with this new technology and gets updated info on bioethics. NAD said that they need to make a vlog on bioethics to explain it better in depth. They want you to let them know if you know of any deaf scientists that have a degree in biometrics, biology, etc., to get them in touch with NAD so they can develop a relationship with them and have them keep NAD aware of what's going on with biometrics.

The second workshop showed us how to make your vlogs/videos accessible and how to caption them. One tip they shared was to make the vlog in YouTube and save it to a file. Also save your caption file (SRT file). Then upload that video to Facebook or any social media platform. Do not copy and paste from YouTube to a social media platform because the quality would not be as good. You can force captions ([See National Leadership... on page 6](#))

(National Leadership... from page 5)

to be on in YouTube settings. Facebook does not have that force captions option. Make your videos simple and get the content across. Also use hashtags for search engines to find your videos easier. Do videos in horizontal view (landscape) not portrait. Make sure videos are muted so that background noise does not pick up in your videos. If you want information on how to do this, please contact me or Laura Crowder (our WVAD trustee). We will be happy to help you and send you the PDF file from NAD on this workshop.

The third workshop was about fundraising. The objective of fundraising is to raise money for your organization and network with people, not to raise awareness about your organization. Different types of fundraising can be annual events, auctions, restaurants, products, raffles/drawings, run/walk, and appeal letters. Be creative when fundraising! We can also do fundraisers at tea parties, costume contests, silent auction at an event, social media campaign, and local restaurant/bar. Invite "VIP" to "work" at your event and make them feel valued. Engage when you are fundraising by listening, sharing, and communicating with people and donors. Show appreciation while fundraising. Always thank your donors! Thank them at least 7 TIMES! Celebrate success!

Friday evening I attended one of the caucus meetings. The topic was on Education. The attendees shared ideas, concerns, and issues the states are facing regarding education for deaf and hard of hearing children. Some of them shared their life experience and frustrations they face in trying to get a teaching job because of the Praxis exams that teachers have to pass first before getting a teaching job. A lot of deaf teachers who are certified to teach cannot pass the Praxis tests. We want NAD to work on a special Praxis test designed for deaf teachers only. This explains why there's a shortage on deaf teachers for deaf and hard of hearing children.

On Saturday (October 19, 2019), I attended 3 workshops: (1) Developing and Retaining Passionate Boards/Committees, (2) Encouraging Youth for Success!, and (3) Instilling Advocacy Skills in Deaf Youth.

Developing and Retaining Passionate Boards/Committees workshop was very interesting and engaging as well. Every organization struggles with finding and retaining dedicated and strong individuals to serve as Board members as well as on committees. Many people today are busy with work, family, and other priorities so it is difficult to recruit the right people who have the expertise, necessary skills, the available time, and the committed drive to serve on our organizations.

We all have the same common goals and concerns: have a strong sense of community and leadership, concerned about shrinking organizations, changing landscape of state associations, board/committee aversion/turnover, looking for ways to develop/retain talent, acquire new self-learning skills/knowledge, and grow winning boards/committees.

Passion starts with you! Passion creates energy, vision, ignition, influence, and potential. We learned that passionate leaders take the time to communicate with others, provides clear and concise expectations in a supportive (and fun) environment, strongly believes in the organization itself, takes the time to learn about people's interests and what inspires them, recognizes and thanks board/committee members for their contributions. Passionate leadership is what you make of it in your own style by inspiring and motivating your board and committees to do their very best for others.

YouTube video for October 18, 2019: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x17RSYKBH50&t=10s>.

The second workshop was about Encouraging Youth for Success! Everyone knows that young people are our future but are we doing enough to ensure a strong future? Sometimes it is difficult for different generations to communicate so NAD shared the best way to bridge this generational gap. NAD suggested that we invite Jr. NAD chapter to our organization meetings, establish metro Jr. NAD chapters, have Jr. NAD pages (volunteers) at our conferences, connect with Jr. NAD advisors and ask them if we can come to their meetings, collaborate events and fundraisers, connect with the selected Jr. NAD delegate in our state. They recommend that we encourage our mem-

bers' deaf children to apply for Youth Leadership Camp (YLC); invest in our youth by financing their YLC tuition; invite YLC alumni to our conferences, meetings, and events; ask YLC alumni to give a workshop, presentation, or take part on a panel; ask them to lead a Youth Day for our organization. They also recommend that we host Youth Ambassador Program (YAP) within our organization with a private interview and pitch competition. Contact local high schools and universities and invite deaf/hard of hearing students to participate in the YAP. For more information on YLC and YAP, please visit the NAD website: www.nad.org. We must invest in deaf youth and our future!

The third workshop: Instilling Advocacy Skills in Deaf Youth. Advocacy is not inherited, it must be taught. We, as deaf people, are all too familiar with having to advocate for our own basic civil rights including communication access. What about deaf youth? Many are mainstreamed and may not receive information or training necessary to self-advocate when they go to college or university, or when they seek jobs, or simply getting access at their doctor's office or at conferences or events. Even deaf students from deaf schools may not get the self-advocacy training they need, given that most deaf schools are more accessible than the world at large. Our organization can be the key to making sure deaf youth gain the skills and knowledge they need to be effective advocates for their own civil rights.

Common barriers are lack of role models, few or no peers with healthy identities, quality of language access, appeasing access gatekeepers, dominant cultural views. Encourage connection with deaf peers (afterschool and summer programs, summer camps like YLC, and others), social events, deaf club events for deaf youth, support local organizations in hosting events open to all deaf youth.

Instilling Advocacy: Role Models. Expose to role models in schools such as push for deaf staff hires, encourage deaf staff to sponsor activity and advertise to deaf students, create 1:1 opportunities for deaf staff with students. Encourage deaf community involvement.

Instilling Advocacy: Support Networks. Encourage discussing advocacy
(See National Leadership... on page 7)

(National Leadership... from page 6)
challenges with their peers and deaf adults such as community events, social media, online forums, Jr. NAD chapter. Listen to and validate their concerns. Provide tools to describe challenges in a clear and constructive way.

There are resources on advocacy (national organizations, state-level organizations, local organizations, local events such as fairs/expos, deaf-run media outlets). Don't assume families have received even basic info!

After the workshops, we attended NAD's Region 1 meeting to talk about problems the deaf and hard of hearing community face. The topics were

Access, Education, Employment, Mental Health and Health, and Technology. We also selected the most issues from those five categories that need to be worked on by NAD so that we can bring it to the table at NAD's Biennial Conference in Chicago July 2020. NAD will then decide which issues will be selected as their priorities to work on for years 2020-2022.

On Saturday evening, Arkansas Association of the Deaf hosted "Deaf Night Out" at Fassler Hall (a German Inspired Beer Hall and Pub) to give us the opportunity to network and socialize with others the last night of the conference.

I want to thank WVAD for sending Chris and I to the NLTC conference to bring back information, tools, and knowledge that we learned at the conference for our organization and the deaf community.

YouTube video for October 19, 2019: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3Za0HMUJMM>.

The next National Leadership Training Conference will be at Albuquerque, New Mexico, on September 23-25, 2021.

If you have any questions or want more information, please feel free to contact me or Chris through Facebook messenger. Our contact info is on www.wvad.org and on page 12. 





DIRECTIONS:

Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



BLIZZARD



COLD

DRIFT

FLURRY

FROSTY

FROZEN



ICE CRYSTAL

ICE SKATE



ICEBERG



IT'S SNOW TIME!



Word Search



Q	X	Z	J	E	X	Z	V	D	M	W	H	J	D	H	A	S	I	J	D		
V	F	B	T	A	X	G	S	E	P	K	T	V	Z	B	D	H	N	A	W		
Y	Z	B	G	R	S	N	O	W	B	A	N	K	A	G	P	O	X	E	I		
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ICICLE

SLIPPERY

IGLOO

SNOW FORT

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PACK

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PLOW

SNOWBOARD

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SHOVEL

STICKY

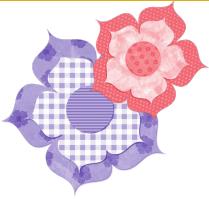
SKI

SUB-ZERO

SLED

WHITE





Please join the
West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
in our annual celebration of

West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day

On February 12, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the
State Capitol — Senate Side of the Upper Rotunda
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Charleston, WV 25305

West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day has been created to promote awareness of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. Join us for networking opportunities with exhibitors from various agencies, Deaf associations and other community resources focusing on services for people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind.

We hope to see you there!



West Virginia Commission for
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



If you are interested in exhibiting or have any questions,
please contact Sarah Lowther at Sarah.B.Lowther@wv.gov

Directions:

If you are coming from the north (I-79 and I-77), take I-64 East (toward Beckley) at the I-64 junction. If you are coming from the east or southeast (turnpike area), stay on I-64 West.

From locations west of Charleston, stay on I-64 East.

In Charleston, take the State Capitol – Greenbrier Street exit (Exit 99). The gold dome can be seen from the exit. Turn onto Greenbrier Street (Route 114), in the direction of the Capitol Building.

You may park in the 4-hour meter lots near the employee parking garage.

Shuttle During Legislative Session:

The shuttle will operate every 10-15 minutes, departing Laidley Field at 7:00 a.m. through 5:30 p.m., when the shuttle leaves Building 5 for its final daily run.

Visitors are urged to use the Laidley Field visitor parking area or the metered parking spaces in lot at the Piedmont Road entrance when doing business at the State Capitol Complex. The shuttle service is provided free of charge.



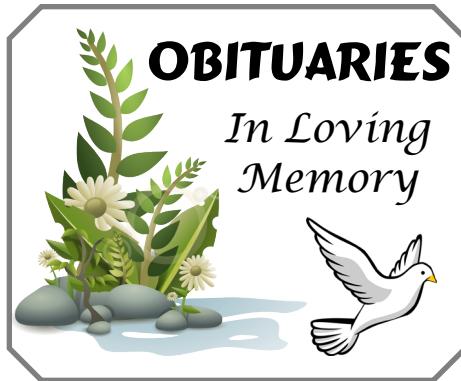
CAROLYN HOTT

Carolyn "Cookie" Hott of Vanderlip, WV, died peacefully at home, early Wednesday, November 6, 2019, she was 73 years old.

Cookie is the daughter of the late Ralph Nickelson and Naomi Peer Nickelson. She is also preceded in death by a brother, Teddy Davis, and a sister, Dolores Wolford. Cookie is survived by her husband of 32 years, John W. Hott; her son, Sam Hott (wife Tina) of Mineral, VA; her daughter, Yvonne "Von" Sions (husband Leonard) of Romney, WV; a brother, Jimmy Davis of Augusta, WV; two sisters, Janice Lofton of Pennsylvania and Frances Davis of Minnesota; eight grandchildren (Monica Soto, Shawna Campbell, Megan Chapman, David Sions, Desiree' Simms, Jeremy Hott, Tyler Howard, and Samantha Hott). She is also survived by 9 great-grandchildren and last, but certainly not least, an adored little pooch named Buddy.

Cookie was born and raised in Augusta, WV, and graduated with the class of 1964 from Romney High. She immediately went to work and many will remember her from her time spent at 7-Eleven and the Big T restaurant. In the mid 90's, Cookie went to work for the West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind as a houseparent. She did this until she retired, or at least tried to. She kept going back and was a regular fixture around the school until she was diagnosed with cancer in April 2019, and she finally did retire.

Cookie never met a stranger and had a way about her of making everyone feel welcome and wanted. She loved to laugh and tease and was quite good at it. If she liked you, chances are good you knew it by how much she picked on you – always with a hug and a smile.



Chances are good if you saw Cookie, you also saw John, they were always together. Cookie loved home stuff; gardening, cooking, canning, and making a comfortable, warm and inviting place to be. Her immeasurable love for her children and grandchildren lives in the hearts of all and she will leave an empty spot.

Friends were received on Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Shaffer Funeral Home where funeral services were at 2:00 p.m. Interment followed at Ebenezer Cemetery, Mt. Top, Romney, WV.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of The Panhandle, 278 N. High St., Romney, WV 26757.

Inquiries may be directed to Shaffer Funeral Home, 304-822-3511. See link: http://shafferfuneral.com/obituary/carolyn-cookie-hott/?sfns=mo&fbclid=IwAR0Jn4YyaXaHsU2n3XtvZ_pjzZrjHv1cL6XOP-GLJlniCW0vWgfFH350FUDs.



*Rest in
Peace*



BETTY MAE LOY

Betty Mae Barnes Loy, born July 31, 1932, passed away on December 7, 2019, from a heart attack due to congestive heart failure (CHF). She left this world as she lived, with beauty, strength, and grace, holding her daughter's hand. Betty struggled with CHF in recent months, but continued to live independently until the final months of her life. Although a difficult journey, it gave her precious time to reflect on the wonderful life she lived and the people that touched her over her 87 years in Hampshire County. Once she entered her Golden Years, she became known affectionately as Ms. Betty in a community that watched over her, making sure to lift her up and tidy her hair when she stumbled. She remarked many times in recent months that she had a great life and very much missed her husband.

Betty was an extremely hard worker, working until age 80. She built a successful life, despite being the third of eight children born into poverty in a home with dirty floors and abusive parents. She began working at age seven, scrubbing floors for the Parkers in Burlington. Eventually Madeline Blue took her under her wing, and Betty was hired by John at the Ben Franklin five and dime variety store in Romney, WV. She had no transportation so she walked to the end of Bear Wallow Hollow and hitched a ride with one of her life-long friends, Elsie Mathias Rupp. Elsie suggested that she give a young, handsome blue-eyed heartbreaker named Gary, who drove a black Ford Galaxie, a chance at dating her. The rest was history. They celebrated 60 years of marriage prior to his death in 2014.

Betty spent most of her career working as an executive secretary for the **(See Obituaries on page 11)**

(Obituaries from page 10)

Hampshire County Schools after graduating from Romney High in 1950 and taking continuing education classes. After 30 years, she finished this stage of her career at the Hampshire County Career Training Center and moved on to work as an aide and bus driver for the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind (WVSDB). She spent 25 more years working part-time at WVSDB. Over the years, Betty often remarked that she had the most wonderful bosses and co-workers.

Betty was a three-time cancer survivor who served as an inspiration to other survivors. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), Kirby Post 134, as her husband was a Navy veteran of the Korean War. She spent countless hours cheering on the West Virginia University (WVU) Mountaineers, working with her plants and flowers, reading, riding around the farm, thrifting, shopping, and interacting with her friends on Facebook. As those who knew her will certainly remember, Betty never shied away from expressing her opinions; even in her final days she was still affectionately called the Loy's Farm Administrator. Her valued insight will be sorely missed in life and business. As a final act of generosity, Betty donated her body to the WVU Human Gift Registry.

Betty is preceded in death by her husband, Gary R. Loy. She is survived by her daughter, Dr. Beth Loy with fiancé Samantha Hott, of Morgantown and her constant companion Madison. She left this world knowing that she

finally had grandchildren and knowing that she was loved by her granddaughters Kayla Nealis (Daniel), Morgan Ennis (Shane), Allyson Clower (Travis), and Alivia Hott. She was also aware that her great-grandchildren (Jaxson, Ripken, Josiah, and Andersyn) would carry on her memory, spirit, and love for laughter.

The family is grateful to all those who shared wonderful stories, sent prayers, and extended their hands to help care for her during her final days. The family also wishes to express sincere thanks to the staffs of the Job Accommodation Network at WVU and the Pierpont Center for the support they provided to the family during a difficult time.

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at the family farm on Ford Hill Road in Kirby, once warm weather arrives. In the meantime, if you feel as if Betty influenced your life in any way, donations in her name can be made to American Legion Auxiliary, c/o Linda Riggleman, Kirby Unit 134, 355 Timber Mountain Rd., Augusta, WV 26704. Donations will go to veterans and their family members to further their education. Betty's final resting place will be Mt. Zion Cemetery beside her husband and in-laws. See link: http://www.hampshireview.com/obituaries/article_987d1858-1ac3-11ea-85ba-171abe582d78.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=user-share&fbclid=IwAR2i0nnvnVGp3AWnRFQXMQ4MYZcu0lZ3OB7ca0AmgS2h0HZh7f39UCVVAx0.

(Post-Conference... from page 1)

communication relations, planning, and leadership skills.

At the retreat the Board chose five top priorities that we will focus on and are committed to work on them for the next two years. They are (1) education, (2) branding/marketing, (3) interpreting issues, (4) accessibility, and (5) collaboration with others. The Board chose those five issues because we felt that the priorities chosen impacted the deaf community the most. Education – we will be working on the LEAD-K bill, branding and marketing to spread awareness about our organization, interpreting issues that the deaf community faces in the State of West Virginia, and collaboration with others so that we can work with the state government and other organizations to improve the lives of the deaf citizens in the state.

The Board would like to thank the facilitators for coming to Morgantown, WV, to share their expertise and thank them for their time with us. We would also like to thank NWVCIL for allowing us to use their building for our retreat.

If anyone is interested in joining WVAD as a member, please fill out the membership form on page 19 or contact Jimmy Harrison, Membership Coordinator. His contact information is on the membership form. The organization is always looking for volunteers. If you want volunteer and contribute your time and expertise, please contact the WVAD President, Chris Mick, at mickwvad1921@gmail.com.



Happy Valentine's Day!



This is a West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) non-profit organization newsletter for our WVAD family and friends.

It is the purpose of WVAD Quarter News to be an informative communications newsletter by all WVAD members and non-members, addressing WVAD programs, activities, issues, and member interests. WVAD Quarter News strives to maintain a balance between program and general interest news. Contact the WVAD Quarter News editor at [WVAD Editor](#) concerning material appearing in WVAD Quarter News. WVAD Quarter News will publish materials submitted by anyone, subject to editorial review and approval. Please remember to send references of any outside sources you may use. Authors' names will be withheld from publication at their request. The views and opinions expressed by contributors to WVAD Quarter News are the authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of WVAD Quarter News.

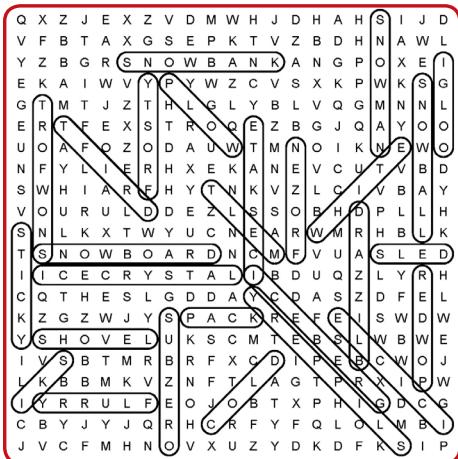
WVAD Quarter News

"News brought to you by the West Virginia Association of the Deaf organization."

<i>Editor:</i>	Tamera Deem
<i>President:</i>	Christopher Mick
<i>Vice President:</i>	Gloria Hollen
<i>Secretary:</i>	Tamera Deem
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Veronda Harrison
<i>Senior Trustee:</i>	Scott Hottle
<i>Trustee:</i>	Sylvia Mick
<i>Trustee:</i>	Laura Crowder

(Fun Page Answers from page 8)



IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Please look at your newsletter address label for expiration date that was highlighted and renew before expiration date.

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MARKETING AND BRANDING EVENTS



WEST VIRGINIA
HANDS&
VOICES™

WVAD was invited to set up a table at the WV Hands and Voices 8th Annual Open House Picnic at Holly-Gray Park, Sutton, WV, on September 28, 2019. President Chris Mick, Trustee Laura Crowder, Secretary Tami Deem, and Trustee Sylvia Mick attended the event. Approximately 60 people came to the picnic. The picnic was a success and we had a great time meeting people and promoting our organization.

WVAD Quarter News, Winter 2020

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

WVAD Hillbilly Whittler T-Shirts For Sale

\$15.00 EACH

Plus \$5.00 for Shipping & Handling

Red Ring with Black Print



Blue Ring with Black Print



Royal Blue with White Print



Light Blue with Black Print



Proceeds will go towards the WVAD organization. If anyone is interested in purchasing a T-shirt, please contact Veronda Harrison (Treasurer) at 304-964-6025 Videophone or e-mail at verapple@aol.com. Feel free to let your family and friends know about this as they are welcome to purchase anything to support our organization.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS & AMAZON SMILE

Free & Easy Ways You Can Help...

Check out our trusted partners and after a quick signup process or app download, they will donate to our WV Association of the Deaf organization every time you complete your shopping at the grocery store or on line. Thank you for your support!



SUPPORT WVAD! IT'S AS EASY AS SWIPING
YOUR KROGER REWARDS CARD EACH TIME YOU SHOP!

West Virginia Association of the Deaf has partnered with Kroger's Community Reward Program! This is a program where our organization receives 0.5% donations from Kroger EVERY TIME you purchase groceries in ANY of their stores using your rewards card at no additional cost! Sign up is easy!

Simply register online at <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/> and choose West Virginia Association of the Deaf! Please share this with your family and friends!

Directions on How to Sign WVAD Up on Your Kroger Rewards Card

1. Go to <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>. Make sure you are registered on the Kroger website. If not, you will need to register so you can have an account with them.
2. Scroll down and click on **I'm a Customer**.
3. Select **Find an Organization**.
4. "Find an Organization" screen comes up. Type in **West Virginia Association of the Deaf**. Click on **Enroll** on the West Virginia Association of the Deaf box. Now you are all set! Thank you for supporting our organization!

If you need help with this, please contact Veronda Harrison at (304) 964-6025 or Tami Deem at (304) 212-2291.



**SUPPORT
WVAD!**



You shop. Amazon gives.

SUPPORT WVAD! AMAZON SMILE WILL GIVE
0.5% OF YOUR ELIGIBLE PURCHASES TO
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West Virginia Association of the Deaf has partnered with Amazon Smile Program! This is a program where our organization receives 0.5% donations from Amazon Smile EVERY TIME you shop on line at no additional cost! Sign up is easy! No need to re-register annually.

Here's how to donate:

- Log into Amazon Smile: <https://smile.amazon.com>. If you do not have an account with Amazon, set one up.
- When you are logged in, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to give to.
- Scroll down to "pick your own charitable organization" and type in West Virginia Association of the Deaf.
- Select West Virginia Association of the Deaf. You only have to do this once and you are set to go!

Just login to Amazon Smile every time you shop on line. Enjoy shopping on Amazon Smile! Please share this with your family and friends!

8th Annual WVAD Christmas Party

WVAD held its Eighth Annual Christmas party at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Clarksburg, WV, on November 30, 2019. Fifty-nine (59) people came from far and near. Everyone had a good time, meeting old and new friends.

The main dishes were provided by WVAD, which consisted of ham, baked creamy chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, yams, rolls, etc., plus covered dishes and desserts that people brought to complete our meal. Veronda Harrison, being the chef, and several volunteers were a big help in the kitchen and they cooked a wonderful meal for us. We also want to thank Bonnie Belle's Bakery from Clarksburg, WV, for donating cookies and cake and those who brought desserts and covered dishes. It was very much appreciated. Thanks

to those who pitched in, in the kitchen and helped with the clean up after the party.

We had an ugly sweater contest again this year. Eight (8) people participated in the contest and showcased their sweaters, shirts, and outfits. Winners of the ugly sweater contest went to Mary Myers (\$25), Sally Hubbard (\$15), and Sylvia Mick (\$10).

There were gift prizes and cash giveaways that included \$1027.50 (door prizes, cash prizes, ugly sweater contest cash prizes, Dingo). There were also gift cards and movie theater tickets that were given away. The gift prizes were travel alarm clock, alarm clock, I Love You spinner, Amazon Fire TV stick, ABC quilt, heated blanket, Amazon Fire HD 10 tablet (32 GB),

18V power drill, portable power jump starter, TV stand, and 55-inch TV with Roku built in.

We also had a silent auction that consisted of items and baskets that were donated by different businesses in Morgantown, WV. The funds raised will go towards sending a couple WVAD delegates to the NAD conference to be held in Chicago, Illinois, in July 2020.

We want to emphasize that the attendees are the ones who made the party a success for us and want to thank you for coming to our Christmas party. We look forward to seeing everyone again (both old and new faces) at our next Christmas party. The WVAD Board wants to wish you all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous new year! 🎉





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A-FM20-0710

West Virginia Relay Conference Captioning (RCC)

RCC is a free service for West Virginians who have a hearing loss to actively participate in conference calls or webinars on a laptop or mobile device with a high-speed Internet connection.

To book an event: westvirginiarcc.com

How RCC works:

1. Captioners connect via a conference bridge.
2. The captioner listens and captions via the conference bridge what is heard in real time.
3. RCC participants read captions via an Internet connection.

To learn more, visit:

- westvirginiarelay.com/rcc



Contact:

John Burdette
West Virginia Relay Outreach Specialist
john.w.burdette@sprint.com
Tel./VP: (304) 707-3209
westvirginiarelay.com/rcc

Features:

Conference calls:

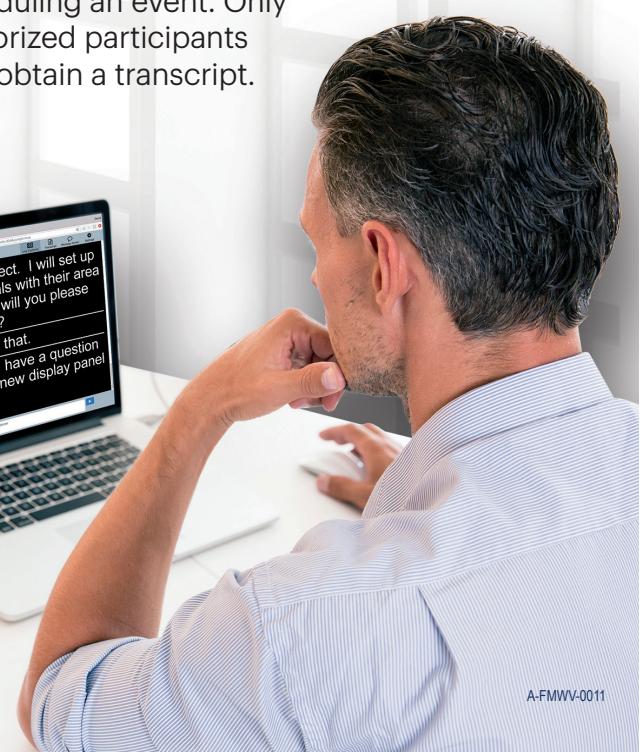
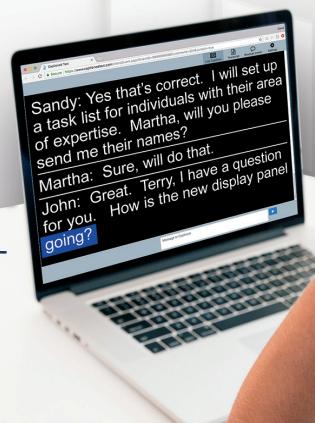
RCC participants receive captions through an internet browser on a computer or mobile device.

Webinars:

RCC participants receive captions through select webinar platforms, including Adobe Connect, Webex™ or via provided RCC link.

Transcripts (optional):

Transcripts must be requested while scheduling an event. Only authorized participants may obtain a transcript.



A-FMWV-0011

SPINACH LASAGNA ROLLS

(<https://www.skinnytaste.com/spinach-lasagna-rolls/>)

(Prep Time: 20 mins; Cook Time: 40 mins; Total Time: 1 hour; Yield: 9 rolls)

These easy spinach lasagna roll ups are totally delicious, perfect for entertaining or serving for week night meals. Freezer friendly.

2 cups homemade marinara sauce (see below for recipe) plus more for serving
10 oz package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed well
15 oz part skim ricotta cheese
9 Tablespoons (about 3 oz) part skim mozzarella cheese, shredded

9 uncooked lasagna noodles, wheat or gluten free
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 large egg
Kosher salt and fresh pepper

1. Preheat oven to 350 °F. Ladle about 1 cup sauce on the bottom of a 9x12 baking dish.
2. Cook noodles according to package directions, then drain.
3. Combine spinach, ricotta, Parmesan cheese, egg, 1/2 teaspoon salt and black pepper in a medium bowl and mix.
4. Place a piece of wax paper on the counter and lay out lasagna noodles. Make sure noodles are dry. Take 1/3 cup of ricotta mixture and spread evenly over noodle. Roll carefully and place seam side down onto the baking dish. Repeat with remaining noodles.
5. Ladle remaining sauce over the noodles and top each one with 1 Tablespoon mozzarella cheese. Put foil over baking dish and bake for 40 minutes, or until cheese melts.
6. To serve, ladle a little sauce on the plate and top with lasagna roll.



Homemade Marinara Sauce

This would also be great for baked pasta recipes, eggplant parmesan, french bread pizzas, or dipping sauce for zucchini sticks, mozzarella sticks, or anything you like to serve with sauce.

1 teaspoon olive oil
28 oz can crushed tomatoes
1 teaspoon oregano
Salt and fresh pepper to taste

2 cloves garlic, smashed
1 small bay leaf
2 Tablespoons chopped fresh basil

1. In a medium pot, heat olive oil over medium heat.
2. Add garlic and saute until golden, being careful not to burn.
3. Add crushed tomatoes, salt, pepper, oregano, and bay leaf. Stir and reduce heat to low.
4. Cover and let simmer for about 15 to 20 minutes.
5. Remove from heat and add fresh basil.



APPLE BREAD

(Submitted by Christie Sevigny)

1 can apple pie filling, mashed
1 box of yellow cake mix
4 eggs, slightly beaten

1 cup self rising flour
1 Tbsp cinnamon
1 medium chopped apple

1. Preheat oven to 325 °F. Spray 2 loaf pans with cooking spray or you can use cupcake liners.
2. Whisk all dry ingredients together. Add wet ingredients and fold in apples.
3. Pour in 2 greased loaf pans or cupcake pan. Sprinkle sugar and cinnamon on top.
4. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes. Cool and enjoy!





WVAD MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ New Renewal
Spouse's Name _____ New Renewal
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone No. _____ VP Voice Both
E-Mail Address _____

You

- Deaf
- Hard of Hearing
- Hearing
- Interpreter

Dues for You

- \$15 for 1 Year — Regular
- \$25 for 2 Years — Regular
- \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up)
- \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18)

Spouse

- Deaf
- Hard of Hearing
- Hearing
- Interpreter

Dues for Spouse

- \$15 for 1 Year — Regular
- \$25 for 2 Years — Regular
- \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up)
- \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18)

Yes! Here is my donation: \$_____

Yes! I want to donate to Deaf Youth Program: \$_____

Yes! I want to donate to Education Fund: \$_____

I want to be a WVAD volunteer.

Spouse wants to be a WVAD volunteer.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION: \$_____

Make money order or personal check payable to **WVAD** or complete the credit card information below:

Visa MasterCard Discover Card American Express

Name on Credit Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Credit Card Account No.: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail with membership application to:
West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.
Jimmy Harrison, WVAD Membership Coordinator
5 Cordoba Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526
Video Phone No.: 304-964-6025

Your membership fees and donations make it possible for WVAD to protect the collective interests of West Virginia's deaf and hard of hearing community through advocacy efforts with our policy makers.

JOIN WVAD TODAY!

