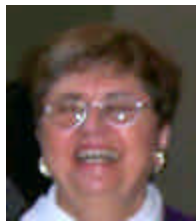


ALDA-GS News

Summer 2006

President's Corner



Dear ALDA friends,

This has been a spring and summer of ups and downs for me. The first BIG [↑] was our meeting on April first at the East Brunswick Library when I was installed as your new President. No April fool! It really happened! This was followed with my tripping and falling down a step on a tile floor and breaking my arm and shoulder[↓]. Bummer. In June I was ordained as a deacon in the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Newark.[↑] Yea! The following week, while carrying the Gospel in church, my arm broke again in the same bone.[↓] Currently I am doing physical therapy to return function to my arm. →

I want to tell you about a special meeting I attended in May. This meeting has been discussed on our list serve, but I'd like now to clarify and correct some assumptions about it. I was the only ALDA member there, so I want to share my thoughts. The meeting was arranged by Lila Taylor, who is the Senior Chair of the NJ Association of the Deaf and is also the Deaf outreach specialist at DAWN Center for Independent Living.

Contrary to the information on our listserv, Lila does both these jobs as a volunteer. Lila and I serve together on the NJ State Independent Living Council. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of a senior citizen housing project. This is not intended for assisted living or nursing home needs, but for those who can live independently in their own apartments. A presentation was made by Cardinal Capital Management, who has built such a project in Milwaukee.

Cardinal wanted to tell us about what they have done and to hear from the approximately 25 people attending what they hope to see happen in NJ. By law, such apartments must be open to deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened and deaf-blind people. Cardinal explained the many services or devices in each apartment and the buildings for the safety of the residents.

One attendee asked if hard of hearing or late-deafened people would be interested in living with neighbors who communicate mostly with sign language. That is a valid question that always arises when we discuss mixing the needs of various communication skills.

As I sat in the meeting I realized this is an opportunity for all of us to think and work together on how to plan a safe living environment for ourselves and others. Those of us who read the listserv see many comments about the need of all hearing-loss groups working together in strength.

There will be a community forum about this in the fall. I hope ALDA members will consider attending and offering their ideas and learning from the ideas of others. The meeting time and place haven't been determined, but you can contact Lila Taylor and ask that she keep you posted. ltaylor@dawncil.org

cont. pg. 3

ALDA-GS

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Garden State

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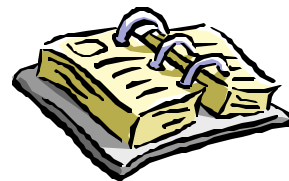
We welcome advertisements, articles, and
information.

**E-mailed articles preferred, no faxes
please.**

Other submissions must be clearly written or
typed and sent to:

Editor, ALDA-GS
3 Tamarack Farm Lane,
Califon, NJ 07830-3415

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are
not necessarily those of the organization.
Each article has been written from an
individual member's viewpoint.



CALENDAR

ALDA-NJ PARTY

October 14 2 PM
At the home of Jeff Coppola, Saddle Brook



ALDA-GS FALL WORKSHOP

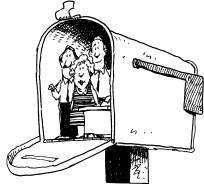
E. Brunswick Library
details to follow

**Deadline for
Fall Issue:
Oct. 15th.**



Welcome New Member

Frances McLean,
Fort Lee



Letters

Dear Scholarship Committee,
I wanted to say thank you for choosing me to receive the ALDA-GS college scholarship! I really appreciate it a lot and the ALDA-GS scholarship will help me achieve my dream of becoming a social worker!

Sincerely,
Talia Shenise Hill

Dear Deaf and Hard of Hearing people,

I am writing to introduce myself. I am the new Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach Consultant for the Center of Independent Living of South Jersey.

I am here to assist you with your needs. It is my job to coordinate services to fit your needs.

I do this by providing the four Core Services: Information and Referrals, Peer Support, Advocacy Individuals and System (legal, social, medical, educational and recreational issues) and Independent Living Skills Training

I am available every Monday to Thursday from 10AM to 3:30 (lunch break 12 to 12:30).

It is my pleasure to be able to assist you with your needs. Please feel free to contact me via ttd, fax or e-mail, or relay to make an appointment,

TTD: 856-853-7602

Fax: 856-853-1466

E-Mail: CILSJ@aol.com

I look forward to working with you and assisting your needs.

Yours Sincerely,
Kamna Singh
Deaf/HOH Outreach Consultant

Editor's Note: for more information about the Centers for Independent Living in NJ, see pages 6.

Pres. Msg. cont.

ALDA-GS has no plans for a summer event this year. The board feels that the ALDA-NJ pool party in Califon should keep everyone happy, even if we can't take credit for it.

We are considering possible topics for our Fall Workshop. We are thinking of inviting Judy Ginsberg, who is the expert on the new and valuable communication systems to update us on the latest equipment and /or having part of the workshop focus on how to make lemonade out of a lemon of an investment. Another good thought that has been offered is to offer a workshop that will teach us how to reach out to others who may be hurting because of hearing loss.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to let me know his or her thoughts about other possible workshop topics. Do it soon, so we will have time to line up speakers.

Peace,
Sheila

REACHING THE PUBLIC ABOUT HEARING AWARENESS

In the Spring issue of this newsletter, I told you about Carol Granaldi's outreach workshop held at the Plumstead Library.

I thought it would be a great thing if more of us did that through our own individual local libraries, but my mind boggled at the thought of how to put it all together.

I asked Carol about the "how-to's and she promised to write a step-by-step information article for our next issue.

Stand by for that!

We have been trying for years to reach those who don't know where to turn when their hearing begins to fail, and this just might be an effective way to reach them.

I look forward to learning more from Carol about library outreach and to sharing her method with all of you.

ALDA-GS Family News



Congratulations and all best wishes to **Lori Heir** and Jacob Messing on their engagement. Jacob and Lori have long been admirers of everything Disney, especially Mickey Mouse. Jacob made sure Mickey was there to witness the big “popping the question” moment and to rejoice with them.

Lori says, “He signed the proposal and I, of course, cried tears of joy and said, ‘yes.’ Mickey hugged us about 20 times and everyone waiting in line around us also was in tears.”

Lori and Jacob plan to wed in the spring of ‘07. It’s not yet clear if Mickey will be best man.

We wish you both everlasting happiness!

Sheila Shuford was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Newark, on June 2nd, 2006. She is only the second deaf ordained Episcopal Deacon in America.

Becoming a Deacon in the Episcopal Church requires much study, dedication and commitment. Sheila had to overcome the barriers presented by her deafness, insisting on and getting interpreters in classes and in other situations during her internship.

Sheila is already bringing comfort to deaf patients at Greystone Psychiatric Hospital and serving as a Deacon at St. James’ Episcopal Church in Hackettstown. This is a wonderful church with interpreted services each Sunday. She is involved with bringing the needs of the hearing loss community to the greater church.

She also works with schools, clubs, and scouts teaching deaf awareness. She is a member of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark’s Bethsaida Team, whose goal is to make churches throughout the Diocese accessible for all people.



Way to go, Sheila!

Nancy Kingsley has been appointed editor-in-chief of the *ALDA News*, beginning with the spring 2006 issue of the quarterly publication. She is well-suited to the task, having extensive experience in editing publications, including *The ALDA Reader* and technical documents, and writing medical articles . Nancy is a past president of ALDA-Garden State and serves as the coordinator of ALDA-NJ.

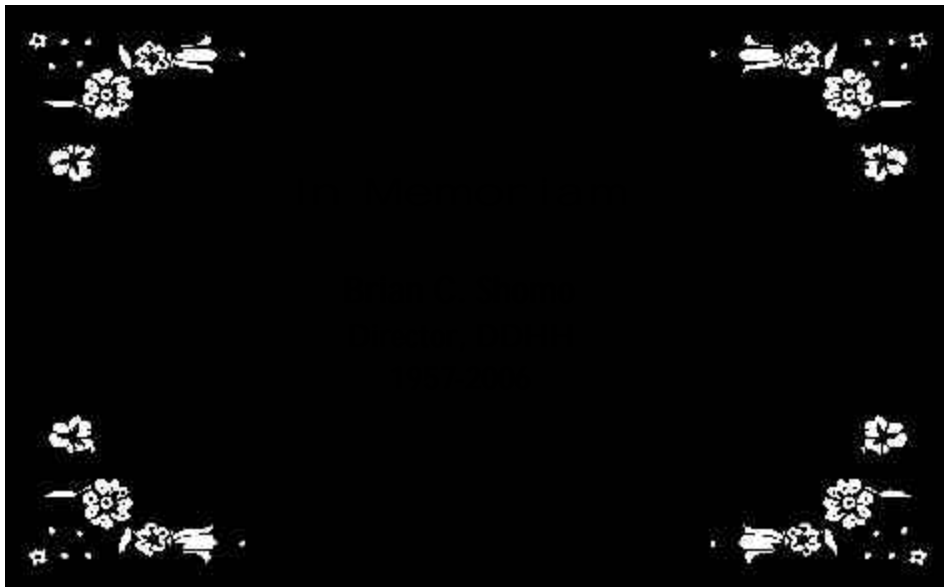
The *ALDA News* is distributed to all members of ALDA, Inc. Nancy welcomes contributions about any topic of interest to late-deafened people.

For information about contributing to or receiving the *ALDA News*, contact Nancy at kingsnan@aol.com



What's new with YOU?

We want to share in your life milestones. Send news of engagements, marriages, births, promotions, new jobs, new grandkids, and other significant events. They don't have to be happy ones for us to care. E-mailed pictures welcomed. Send an e-mail to Editor Elinore at: elinorebullock7@earthlink.net or mail a hard copy announcement to 3 Tamarack Farm Lane, Califon, NJ 07830-3415.





The New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council

...is a 17-member body appointed by the Governor which maximizes opportunities for people with disabilities through planning and advocacy. These roles were formalized in 1992 by amendments to the Federal Rehabilitation Act.

As a result, Governor Jim Florio transformed the former Independent Living Advisory Council into the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC). The SILC was established as a separate entity, in, but not of, the New Jersey Department of Labor in 1993.

The SILC membership represents the interests of New Jersey's cross disability population and, by law, a majority of the Council are people with disabilities.

For a complete listing of the SILC's in New Jersey, go to: <http://www.njsilc.org/list.html>.



ALDA-Freeport
invites you to attend the
**18th Annual International
ALDA Convention**
October 18-22nd
Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis, MO

Completely communication accessible

- Key Note Speakers
- Program for both consumers and professionals
- Exhibits Hall
- Entertainment

For more information, and for application form:
<http://www.alda-freeport.org/aldacon2006.htm>



GREAT ADVENTURE TICKETS SALES REPORT

By Tony Yuppa, Chair

We did well with our only fundraiser this year, considering the odds. We had two strikes against us: bad weather and a missing (and missed) ticket seller. We've done better, but we still did well.

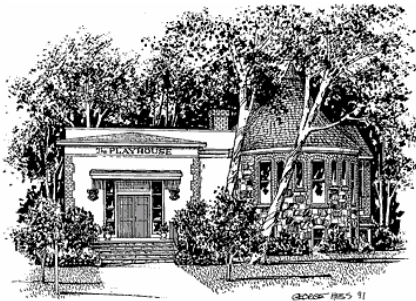
Many thanks to our energetic and innovative ticket sellers. Even my sister, Linda, got into the act this year! Linda, along with Lori Heir, Diane Limey, Jerry Barnhart, Scott Christern and I all returned to the fray, selling tickets, and braving rain. One of our best ticket sellers was unavailable this year, but we hope she will be back next year.

Ahem! I don't like to brag...well, yes I do! I sold the most tickets, 143! Wink, wink!

The heavy rain put a dampener on our window sales on Deaf Awareness Day. That was really too bad because several other organizations that usually compete with us were not eligible to participate because they had not met the ticket selling quota. We got a break, but the weather kept us from taking it. Spit happens!

Our profit came to \$1611.50. This more than paid for this year's scholarship award.

So long as our ticket sellers keep giving so much of themselves, ALDA-GS can continue to award scholarships to deaf students and to adults who want to obtain higher learning. It also enables us to finance our workshops. Thank you!



Summit Playhouse

A non-profit community theater
10 New England Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901
908-273-2192

At the ALDA-NJ pool party in Califon, I learned about the Summit Playhouse and its attempts to make their performances accessible to all. I have their brochure which shows the symbols for interpreters, for assistive devices and some other symbol with an ear, whose exact meaning escapes me, but it looks like it means it will help us. There is no mention of CART, which most of us hope for at the theater. I have e-mailed the president thanking her for the progress made so far and suggesting the addition of CART. I also asked that their website provide specific information regarding the dates of interpreted performances.

In the meantime, those of you who find the interpreters and/or assistive devices adequate, do GO! Visit their website for a schedule of upcoming performances.
[www. Summitplayhouse.org](http://www.Summitplayhouse.org)

Elinore