

Louisiana Association of the Deaf, Inc  
48<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference  
May 31-June 1, 2013  
Double Tree Hotel, Kenner, Louisiana

Yours, Mine, and Ours!

May 31, 2013

President Thelma Covello called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. to start the Board Meeting.

Open ceremony, pledged by John Kenny Davis.

Silent moments to honor former long time Board Mr. Randall Pippins Sr., Melvin Royer's wife, Sheila and many loved who has passed. Also for soldiers at the war and occurred in Oklahoma.

Roll Call:

Officers- President Thelma Covello, Vice President Hazel Pauline Wood, Secretary Michelli Hanks-LeFors, Treasurer David LeFors. Members At Large- John Kenny Davis, Cindy Robillard, and Daryl Argrave

Chapter Representatives: Judith Perrodin, LADBC; Larry Robillard, AAD; Dustin Cutrer, DTO; Floyd Perrodin, NOBDA; Melvin Royer, LAAD.

Absentee: Dawn Melendez, LRID

Parliamentary Mr. Andy Lange

Chairperson of Conference: David LeFors and Asst. Chairperson Mr. Richard Fraychineaud. Many thanks to LAD members to be willing give their time to volunteer to serve for this conference.

Approved of a 2011 of 47<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference minute, John Kenny Davis (Judith Perrodin). PASSED

**Board Meeting:**

**President's Report:**

- \*Welcome everybody to 2013 LAD 48th Biennial Conference, this is beginning of general board meeting. 59 members are present in this meeting room. 95 have registered.
- \*Explanation of role of model in position of LAD Board, Chapters.
- \*LAD's help in any way we can, with your support for Deaf community, leadership and who need a civil as we are working closer with legislatures as, we, LAD, continuing stand.
- \*Without LAD, there will be no Deaf school, no Deaf community – we cherish and depending on LAD.
- \*Reported to have a constitution in bylaws from old bylaws.

bylaws committee (new) met several times to try to make our bylaws a better one to please not one person but several members. We looked back at the 2009 bylaws, and it was simple. Unfortunately, in 2011 we received 30 proposals, and we couldn't finish all at the conference in Alexandria. There was supposed to be a special meeting after the conference to complete all, but it never happened. So the bylaws' committee decided to have a special meeting, only about the bylaws, at Lafayette. Of this year, we received another 24 proposals. Around 45 members met last April 27 for almost seven hours, and we still couldn't finish all. So this time we hope to complete all in three hours tomorrow.

In the year of 2007, it was moved, seconded and carried that the conference fee be \$100 each registrar to be effective in 2009. To have a conference free for everyone is unrealistic. It would mean no banquet, no guest speaker, no entertainment, possibly no parliamentarian. It would easily cost LAD between \$6,000 to \$8,000 to have a conference. We need the fees to help defray the cost of the conference. If this is the case, we may have to increase the membership fees.

Speaking as the chairperson of LAD Bingo, I have repeatedly told the board that we cannot depend on Bingo anymore. We are not getting richer from it because of dwindling numbers of players. There were some days that we were at loss... For example, last Tuesday, May 28, only 69 players showed up we had a loss of \$690.00. So to say that we are getting richer from Bingo is false. Not only does LAD have that problem; other hearing organizations are having that same problem. We didn't have any Bingo sessions last August, September and October because of the change of location. Plus we suspected that the new casino, L'Auberge has something to do with it. We have to be frugal and probably may need to have some fund raising projects. So don't take Bingo for granted. Speaking of Bingo, we now have nine (9) deaf workers who is the majority of the workers per session.

I went to NAD conference as an alternate delegate for Gallaudet University Alumni Association at Louisville, Ky. last summer. GUAA did not cover any of my expense, and I want to make clear to some of you that I paid for the conference fees, hotel, traveling and meals from my pocket. Nothing, not even one red cent, from LAD. Anyway, people still talked about NAD in New Orleans in 2008. They said it was still one of the best conferences they have attended.

The last two years were a tumultuous one because of personal conflicts, and we need to stop that for the sake of LAD and the people of Louisiana. It had not been a "Yours, Mine and Ours" so let's start that on June 1, 2013.

Thank you,  
Pauline

#### Secretary's Report:

\*Please correct my mistakes that I typed: the "What LAD did the last Three Years," please forgive and correct the error - "Three" to "TWO."

\*Brought some of the donation letters who have requested recently passed the weeks - we couldn't able to contribute to any funds due of fiscal year has ended. We are going to give the remains to this meeting to have you, LAD members to decide to contribute.

\*Pleasure to work with our LAD Board throughout of two years. It is not easy position as Secretary to follow up with everyone's need plus being a mother of four. I put my

Also, President Thelma gave out an explanation the rules of the meeting – please act like adult. No interrupts. Don't use any mobile during meeting; if it is important, please leave this room. Talk one a time, please use card – Red/Yellow/Green for Bylaws and must sign every session today and tomorrow.

\*NAD is a federal level; LAD is a state level as organization in this local state under NAD. We have been working to assist NAD for who need a help. Whenever you filed complains to NAD, it will take a while to processing for them to take one by one. Many different things or reason, we cannot jump the conclusion, for instance, closed caption as we have issues, same as for an interpreter provided and available for all and each.

\*NAD, in Louisville, Kentucky – Got many complimentary of our LAD polo and V shaped T-shirt with LAD Logo on back and front. Brief Diversity Training, Parliamentary Procedure Reviews. Closed Captioning – Click NAD website by Survey – Highly recommend to answer survey in website. Baseball – open ceremony.

Congratulations to Oklahoma, Miss Maryland 1<sup>st</sup>, and Kansas 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner up. Witness Agreement will be held in Sydney, Australia on 16-18<sup>th</sup> of October this year, 2013.

RIT won College Bowl. Silent Auction. YLC fundraising – they are asking for fund to support. Ambassador will change, as they will no longer accept miss pageant.

Approximately 7,000 members of NAD – but they would like to have a goal to reach 10,000 NAD members. Come and join! NAD new president is Mr. Chris Wagner, Vice President Melissa Draganac-Hawk, Secretary Kirsten Poston, and Treasurer Phillippe Montalette. NAD Region III cover: Louisiana, Ark, Fla, GA, Miss, NC, OK, P.R, S.C., Tenn, TX and Virgin Island– Mr. Christopher Patterson and Larry Evans are representative of Region III for NAD. NAD 2014 will be held in Atlanta, Georgia – you can check their updating feed, events, upcoming conference by look at website – [www.nad.org/Atlanta](http://www.nad.org/Atlanta). Deaf Festival is an amazing.

\*Mrs. Hazel Pauline Wood is a Bingo Chair as since Mr. Huey Barbin have to leaving his position due of his health. Bingo has moved to new building.

\*NLTC will be held in Nebraska in 2013.

David LeFors (Cindy Robillard) moved to approved all three minutes. PASSED

\*We always have support youth, since “LAD are very rich” have you says. Even so, this doesn't mean we are not very flexible with budgets to meet every One's needs, we were unable to cover it ALL. The important majority to support youth who are most needed. We are much cautioned and carefully with LAD money by donation, charity from golf sponsored by Classic Golf, and Bingo. We trust our treasurer who is the responsibility with budgets to every fund.

\*Many thanks to our parliamentarian Mr. Andy Lange to be present with us today to ceremony our 48th Biennial Conference.

\*Many thanks to our committees to make this happen – Our Executive Secretary Mrs. Kathy Stewart. In addition, many thanks to our Chairperson Mr. David LeFors and Assist Chairperson Mr. Richard Fraychineaud; volunteers – Mrs. Iris Fraychineaud, Mr. Arthur Porter, and Ms. Randi Welborn as our photographer.

#### Vice President's Report:

\*DSA – certified to LAD from DSA, back to LAD office.

\*It takes only 17 muscles to make a smile and 47 muscles to stay mad.

\* It's was almost a year ago when the board selected me to be the vice president of LAD, and it had been the most difficult year for me as an officer of LAD. The 2012-2013

priority to last as I vowed to LAD as secretary as my first priority for two years. After this coming election new officer, my loyalty for LAD still remains. It has placed a special in my heart entirely.

#### Treasurer's Reports:

It's been wild for two years as treasurer. I have learned very much, most of all by myself. When I came to the office at first day, home office is very clean and EMPTY. I checked the files – it is also empty. I simply see a laptop on the desk, with just few months report. I got bills from Shredding Company, it has got paid for.

I asked President's approval to allow me to have some training on QuickBooks. Board approved. I looked \$120 dollars for a new CPA, found one near LAD home office.

\*CPA came to our home office and taught me few important things.

\*Got bills from old CPA, We have to pay \$2,520 and \$3,910 dollars.

\*Our new CPA only charged us \$1,500 for 2011 to 2012 tax 90 and EELT.

\*Magic Show was success event except one in Shreveport, lost profit.

\*Worked on Walker's case.

\*Tax and Money workshop by Schwarz Deaf Tax – Charles Sterling at Hilton Hotel in Baton Rouge.

\*NAD in Louisville, Kentucky

\*Financial Report in the program books.

\*Luis Ducos of Slidell and Chad Cormier of Abbeville were my auditor for 2011 and 2012. Both worked hard all afternoon to productively on Audit.

\*I have been doing all monthly reports from 2011-2013 with Mr. Nick Imme and Mr. Daryl Argrave, Mr. Dustin Cutrer, Mr. Chad Cormier.

\*When I start on yearly 2011 and 2012. I realized it was not an easy job. I cannot get all right numbers. I have struggled and gave up – contacted CPA. Thankfully, CPA came and helped me. CPA personal said Mr. John Kenny Davis' system is very basic, and it is not properly related to taxing. He made adjustments to match the numbers in 2010. Right now, it is officially corrected by CPA. I know it is not same as monthly and yearly.

\*I am open with questions – stocks, charitable and funds – I will try to do my best to answer your questions.

#### Members at Large' Reports:

John Kenny Davis – Since Mr. Randall Pippins Sr.'s seat was empty, I felt so honor to take his seat on November as I enjoyed to work with an amazing LAD Board.

Cindy Robillard and Daryl Argrave – No Report.

#### Chapter Representative Reports:

None.

#### Committee Reports:

None

#### Old Business:

\*Supported Kristy Andrus to Fortis College and received a Thank you letter from her.

\*Supported Troy Goss to New Orleans for National Black Deaf Advocates, Inc.

\*YLC, supported two students to Oregon for YLC.

\*LSD Graduation – We got an invitation and supported three students to contribute to cover their tuition expenses.

\*LAD ceiling fans – we already have it installed in a meeting room and in Executive Secretary office.

\*Utah Academic Bowl – four LSD students attended and came out 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 15 places. Want to say congratulation to them.

\*LSDAA – 160 anniversaries will be announcing soon.

\*ILEEAD – Kidz Kamp sent a letter to have us donation. LAD cannot able to contribute due of money funds already reached the limits in the fiscal year. Unfortunately, we already used a legal fund to youth fund – such as for Troy Goss and Graduations.

Closed Old Business by David LeFors (Cindy Robillard) PASSED

#### **New Business:**

LSCAD – Hazel Pauline Wood (Judith Perrodin) moved to accept new Chapter Representative – Lafayette Senior Citizen Association of the Deaf, Leslie Perrodin is new LSCAD representative to LAD. - PASSED

LRID Chapter Representative – Mary Smith (Bertin Smith) to moved to have Michelli Hanks-LeFors as LAD member to representative to LRID month of June only. We, LAD cover the trip, workshop and per diem. PASSED

Closed New Business by Hazel Pauline Wood (Cindy Robillard) – PASSED

#### **Good of Order:**

Chicot Park – same place will be held on July 6<sup>th</sup>.

August first of weekend – DTO will hosting at Circle Bowl for bowling tournaments.

DEAF Capitol will have a social event after the bowling.

John Kenny Davis – CDC will no long to using Catholic Church now on. Christopher King Parish Center, office by LSU – Mrs. Carol Montgomery and Mrs. Candi Latino are treasurer of CDC. Donald is a new Director as regional education – related with Deaf School.

They do have a special day for day students only.

Alecia Bergeron announces the date – Deaf Picnic will be held in West Baton Rouge, Community center on First Sunday in August. – It have a parking a lot, playground in back, Gym inside is huge than old Catholic Church. It is more in Port Allen especially but more of “West Baton Rouge”.

Melvin Royer – LAAD will be held picnic on June 9<sup>th</sup> – BBQ Steak, Hamburger.

NOBDA – National Black Deaf Advocates will be held at Sheraton on Canal Street – July. You can check on website - please come and support us and visit your old/new friends here.

Closed the meeting – Hazel Pauline Wood (Michelli Hanks-LeFors)

#### **Session One:**

\*Mary Smith (Cindy Robillard) moved to support and accepted Treasurer’s report– whole from 2011 to 2013 – PASSED

\*LAD Delegates went to NAD to met Mrs. Nancy Bloch and Mr. Shane Feldman after we were told by former LAD Board, that NAD owed LAD \$5,500 from 2010 that NAD covered the expenses on Mr. Ed and Mrs. Pauline Wood as trip, delegate, registration and meal. Nevertheless, we received a letter from MOU by Mr. Shane Feldman stated that Mr. and Mrs. Wood agreed that NAD paid the expenses, there is no owe balance remains. We, LAD Board couldn't hold NAD's responsibility any of this.

\*Ratification and approved of three (3) minutes from August 2012, November 2012 and February 2013. It was pending since 2012 by Board want to revise repeatedly but not approved. David LeFors (Cindy Robillard) – PASSED

\*Hazel Pauline Wood brought the minutes from 2007 – in new business – “Pauline Wood (H. Moss) moved that conference fee be \$100 each register to be effective in 2009. - Carried. Just want to inform to LAD Members and Board that conference has effected and will remain charge register at \$100 or over.

\*Louis Cannon (Hansen Touchard) wants to motion to have Bylaws meeting to start at 8 a.m. instead 9 a.m. PASSED

Adjourned at 5:05pm

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### **Session TWO (Bylaws)**

At 8 a.m. Vice President announced the bylaws have cancelled. Due not follow the procedure, Bylaws Committees did not send the finalized bylaws ratification proposal to LAD Members within 30 days before conference. Bylaws cancelled till 2015.

### **Session Three (Old and New Business)**

At 10:10 a.m.

Quorum: 81

Cindy Robillard (Luis Ducos) moved David LeFors and Paul Winfree as Nominate Committees – PASSED

Louis Cannon (Alla Tarskyuk) moved before election of new officers that when there is more than two (2) officers at lowest number be eliminated and run off on top two (2). PASSED

Kenny John Davis (Richie Fraychieaud) amend we vote 3 – count the top 3 votes get to win with no run off. CARRIED

Walker Estes (Bobby Annis) propose to have LAD donation \$500 to ZVRS contribution to help the Deaf Families and people in Oklahoma Tornado. – PASSED

Lisa Potter Chase (Wendy Brinkman) proposes to move that LAD pay \$1,100 remaining the balance to send two (2) LSD students: Paige Watson and Kendall Charles to YLC on June 20 to July 17, 2013 – PASSED

Mary Smith (Bertin Smith) moved to appointed Michelli Hanks-LeFors as LAD Representative to LRID month of June only. Included expense (per Diem, travel and workshop). – PASSED

Floyd Perrodin (Shirley Delahoussaye) motion to redistribute the M. L. Stock inventory. Dustin Cutrer (Janie Powell) amended to have this referred to Investment/ Ways of Mean Committees – CARRIED

Lisa Chase Potter (Mary Smith) moved that LAD pay two (2) participants (students) \$400 each for the Jr. NAD conference on November 5-10, 2013.

Janie Powell (Michelli Hanks-LeFors) amended to expense on \$800 for ONLY two (2) participants (students), not the sponsor. CARRIED

#### **Session Four- Election**

3 p.m.

##### **President:**

Louis Cannon – WINNER  
Cindy Robillard  
Thelma Covello  
Floyd Perrodin

##### **Vice President:**

Walker Estes  
Cindy Robillard – WINNER  
Floyd Perrodin

##### **Secretary:**

Mary Smith  
Vice President Hazel Pauline Wood cast ballot for Mary Smith as the Secretary for 2013-2015 term.

##### **Treasurer:**

Lisa Chase Potter  
John Kenny Davis – WINNER

##### **Members at Large:**

Dave Imme – WINNER  
Larry Robillard  
Mary Breaux  
Alla Tarasyuk – WINNER  
Floyd Perrodin  
Cleve Cormier  
Richie Fraychineaud – WINNER  
Lisa Chase Potter

Generous sponsorship for the LAD conference was provided by the ZVRS, Sorenson, and Affiliated Blind of Louisiana.

Respectfully submitted by,

Michelli Hanks-LeFors,  
Secretary of 2011-2013  
Louisiana Association of the Deaf,