



Region 9 of the National Association for Interpretation
Northern Nevada, Northern California, Hawaii and Guam

Fall 2010

NAI Restructure Discussions Continue

The conversation to restructure NAI is continuing. A proposed set of streamlined bylaws and organizational structure have gone forward to the Board, a core set of reviewers and to the Regional Leadership Council (RLC) and Section Leadership Council (SLC). Discussions are ongoing and are building on information obtained through surveys and focus group calls held over the past year.

The primary issues identified are:

- Recognizing that NAI is a national and international organization, maintaining our mission, vision and core values
- Maintaining member participation in the selection of national board members
- Creating a stronger national board with the skills to address the issues that affect interpreters and the national organization
- Allowing successful regions and sections to continue to operate while releasing those that are not delivering strong and reliable member services
- Providing an equal set of member services to all members
- Focusing on the skill sets needed by professional interpreters
- Creating a flexible structure that allows for networking and training at all levels and locales without the restraints associated with geographic or topical boundaries
- Communicating the importance of and science behind the profession to our constituents and administrators of our various organizations.

The task force will continue to revise the draft to incorporate input from the Board, core reviewers, RLC and SLC. We hope to have the draft available on the NAI website in mid-September.

For more information, check the NAI website or contact any of the task force members:

Amy Lethbridge: lethbridgeathome@aol.com

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Director's Note

Greetings! Today is Labor Day! The end of summer is what many people say...or is it?! The warm days continue and the interp staff will be just as busy next week as we were each week in the summer, as we get ready for school programs to begin. So...what does it mean when we say summer is coming to a close? Is it just the season or do the needs of the park change? I say, Both! I mentioned to my supervisor just today that I am not only an interp—sharing this amazing park, the natural and cultural story—but I am an event planner. Yes, I have learned how to manage events that bring in 1500 visitors to our smaller events where we host a handful of visiting dignitaries. Event Planner! In fact, I think I could run any wedding planner into the rest home with the work Park People do. Every day and every event is a little different, with different uniforms or costumes, or different food being represented, all with different requests made to our staff and our many volunteers. From planning the position of the port-a-potty to the needs of the caterers to where and how to receive the helicopter flying in, to the presentation itself. Every event brings a new plan, new ideas, and all must be done with a smile! From one event to the next...

As people who are somehow involved in the many parks and organizations that NAI serves, we are all working hard to cover the many events with staff shortages while keeping the current programs moving forward. Someone said to me recently, "are we being saved?" and my response is "NO". Parks do not need to be SAVED—the staff work hard to keep things moving—we need SUPPORT. Support is different from being saved. Our programs and projects continue...our motivations remain...our will to come to work and protect and provide programs is still strong. We do not need to be saved. We are not falling over the cliff—but it is important to feel supported by our departments and our visitors and our "support staff". We all need support...not saved. So, keep moving and motivated...keep event planning...and find ways to support each other.

What is new with NAI and Region 9? Well, hopefully you will all be attending the National Workshop in Las Vegas—we are so close—and, having missed our regional workshop, I am really feeling the need to bond with you all. Please join us in Vegas! Read more about this on the NAI website. Support your professionalism!

Many of you should be applying for the scholarships...so why do we only receive a small handful? Please learn more about this in the newsletter or the website. Save a few dollars by applying. The money is there, so please use this resource. Support your pocket book! Thank you to Sara Howlett, Pat Clark-Gray, and the scholarship committee for this good work.

We also continue to offer grants for park programs and projects. Again, the money is there—support your work and your park, and use this grant money to build upon your current resources. Emily Jacobs and her team look forward to supporting you.

NAI is looking at restructuring! Learn more in this newsletter. Because of this restructuring, we are not holding elections this fall. Nancy Rogers, our Election Chair, has mentioned that after the November Board Meeting, we should have some more answers about elections. If you are interested in running, all positions will be available: Director, Deputy Director, Secretary and Treasurer.

Hawaii members—we are listening. I will be asking NAI to accept Hawaii as a Chapter to Region 9. I will be working toward this idea as several members from Hawaii have expressed interest. The restructuring process may hold this up some...however, it is very important for Hawaii to be heard.

Please, everyone, think of ideas for our Spring Workshop. If you would like to host the Region 9 Spring Workshop, or have ideas for an innovative workshop, now is the time to share them. You will have a strong support team to work with—members who will help in guidance and planning details. You can do this. We are here to support you!

Nicole continues as a strong Student Leader. If you are a student and would like to offer some support to Nicole, please contact her. John A. Dell'Oso, Deputy Director; Marianne Emmendorfer, Treasurer; and Sara Skinner continue to do a terrific job for Region 9. Mary Loan continues to create a wonderful newsletter. Our webmaster, Jennifer Stockton, always awaits your ideas and submissions.

We continue to have a strong core to Region 9. We have been silent, but working hard at our jobs this spring and summer. I think back to the past Board members—and the active people who have, in the past, kept this Region moving—and to all of our current team, and I am truly blessed to have been a part of this work. They all worked hard, with support from so many. I want to thank them all—and thank all the current board members and chairs to all our committees.

With Gratitude...Robin Joy, Region 9 Director, Trailblazer

California State Parks Training Calendar

The second half of the 2010-2011 Training Schedule has been posted in online at:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=26354

We are thrilled that so many of our Interpretation courses have made it on the schedule for the second half, we really need you to submit requests for them in order to preserve their place on the schedule.

Courses are open to Non-Department employees, information is available at:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=21763

The deadline to submit training requests for the second half is January 1st, 2011.

Program Title	Start Date	End Date	Location	Training Specialist
Basic Interpretation for Guides and Interpreters Group 5	01/16/11	01/21/11	Marconi Conference Center	Sara Skinner
Volunteer Management Group 22	01/23/11	01/27/11	Los Angeles	Dave Galanti
Training for District Interpreters Group 6	02/13/11	02/18/11	Marconi Conference Center	Sara Skinner
Camp Host Administration	02/14/11	02/17/11	Lake Perris SRA	Dave Galanti
Partnership Skill Building Group 16	03/09/11	03/13/11	Mott Training Center	Sara Skinner
Natural Resources Interpretation Group 4	03/27/11	04/01/11	Mott Training Center	Sara Skinner
Interpreting Recreation Areas Group 3	04/10/11	04/15/11	Mott Training Center	Sara Skinner
Coastal Redwood Ecology Group 2 (<i>Tentative Dates</i>)	04/17/11	04/22/11	TBD	Sara Skinner

Please feel free to contact me for more information. **Sara M. Skinner**

Westwinds is published four times a year by Region 9 of the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). All members of NAI in Northern Nevada, Northern California, Hawaii and Guam receive this newsletter as part of their membership.

Please send all changes of address to the National Office:

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 P.O. Box 2246
 Fort Collins, CO 80522
 888-900-8283
membership@interpnet.com



Announcement!

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

January 10-14, 2011

The Natural Resources Communication Workshop, sponsored by the Western Section of The Wildlife Society, is designed to help natural resource workers more effectively communicate with general as well as technical audiences through personal presentations using good visual aids. The workshop focuses on the use of computer-generated images created with Microsoft's PowerPoint software. The workshop is practical-oriented and enhances participants' communication skills in planning, preparing, presenting, and evaluating presentations. Since many of the problems in natural resources management are people-oriented, more effective communication can significantly improve many management programs.

Workshop Content:

1. Discussion topics include:
 - Planning: communication principles, audience analysis, graphic design
 - Preparing: creating computer-generated graphics, photographic composition, rehearsal tips
 - Presenting: equipment setup, speaking tips, dealing with difficult audiences
 - Evaluating: evaluation of performance
2. Each participant will bring a selection of computer-generated images (ex., graphics created with PowerPoint or other presentation software programs) for organization into an illustrated talk.
3. Each participant will prepare graphics (titles, graphs, charts, maps, cartoons, etc.) to be used in their presentations.
4. Each participant will give a 5- and 15-minute presentation (which will include graphics prepared during the workshop). These presentations will be evaluated by the class and the instructors.

Instructor: Dr. Jon K. Hooper, Professor, Calif. State Univ., Chico (Certified Wildlife Biologist, Certified Interpretive Trainer, Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology, 35 years teaching communication workshops around the country)

Location: California State University, Chico (90 miles north of Sacramento)

University Credit: Participants receive 1-unit CSUC Continuing Education credit; the workshop is worth 32 hours of continuing wildlife education credit through The Wildlife Society's Professional Development Program (Category II).

Application Procedure: The initial deadline for applications is October 29, 2010 (Friday). Late applications are accepted (such applicants will become participants if the workshop is not yet full; otherwise, they will be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations). The registration fee is \$749. The workshop is limited to 16 participants. Since more applicants usually apply than there are spaces available, the registration fee is not due until an applicant has been officially accepted into the workshop (this occurs shortly after the October 29 deadline).

Since the workshop has a limited capacity, all applicants will be contacted after October 29, 2010 to notify them if they have been accepted. Instructions on paying the registration fee will be provided at that time. Payment must be received before applicants will be fully registered. Failure to make timely payment will result in alternate applicants being selected.

To apply, send a letter, fax, or email describing: (1) your current position within your agency or organization, (2) how you will use the training, (3) any special reasons why you feel you should be chosen as a participant, and (4) if you already have official agency/organization approval to attend. In your application, include your address, phone number, fax number, and email. To apply or for more information, write or call:

Dr. Jon K. Hooper
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 California State University, Chico
 Chico, CA 95929-0560
 (530) 898-5811 or 898-6408
 fax: (530) 898-6557 e-mail: jhooper@csuchico.edu

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FLASH!!! Participants in the 2011 workshop will not only learn professional tips for using PowerPoint, but also will gain exposure to Photoshop Elements (digital photo editing and cataloging software).

Region 9 Mini Grants—New Deadline!

The new deadline for applications for the Region 9 Mini Grants is November 1, 2010!

Region 9 is giving away mini grants to help fund projects that promote enthusiasm to learn more about the natural and/or cultural environment. This application is due November 1, 2010, with a \$250 maximum. For more information, check online at www.nairegions.org/9/Grants.html.

Region 9 is on Facebook!

Don't forget to join the Region 9 group on Facebook! You can link to it directly from our Region 9 NAI website: www.nairegions.org/9/ You can find out all kinds of things about Region 9 and it's members. Check it out today!

Students: Apply now for a Free NAI membership

For the second time this year, student memberships are available for free, thanks to a generous donations by an NAI member. Steve Dimse has donated funds for 20 full-time students who are not yet members of NAI to become members. If you know a student who would benefit from NAI membership, please direct him or her to apply at www.interpnet.com/membership/student_scholar_form.shtml.

Certification Scholarships Available

NAI is offering eight \$250 scholarships for professional-level certification training courses to be held this year. Download the "Certification Scholarship Application" at www.interpnet.com/certification/administrative.shtml. Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and must be used in one year.

**Deadlines for submission to the next issue
of
Westwinds:
October 15th!**

Please send all materials you would like to share with your fellow Region 9
NAI members to:
mloan18@yahoo.com

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