



# THE SILENT SPOTLIGHT

Vol. 2 No. 1

For and about the deaf in Utah

June 1978

## Editor's Note

In setting up the Services to the Deaf Office in Salt Lake City in 1965, the Utah Board of Education took a positive step forward in identifying a need and making services available in an accessible manner with staff capable of communicating with the deaf.

In the thirteen years the department has been in existence, the deaf unit has grown to three offices staffed by a director, four counselors and an interpreter for the deaf. The rapport, the specialized knowledge of deafness and the ability to communicate by speech, sign language or, in rare cases, very basic gestures, has been such that it is a rare deaf person who hasn't availed himself of a varied range of services -- referrals to agencies for financial aid, hearing aid evaluations, marriage counseling, sign language classes, speech therapy, job training, and a host of other services too numerous to mention.

The deaf populace is a segment of the population that suffers not only inability to hear, but also inability to communicate their needs effectively. The two handicaps, if not compounded by other physical or mental handicaps, do make it difficult for deaf individuals to make clear just what they need. And the Services to the Deaf Office is the answer to that need.

Counselors in these three office have also been good-will ambassadors, opening up opportunities for the deaf. Sign language classes have been given at businesses, governmental agencies and hospitals, so that staff members in turn can work with or serve the deaf; jobs have been opened up to the deaf, removing barriers that had kept them in low paying jobs. These counselors have also given talks to civic groups, enlightening them of the unique problems of a silent minority.

Now, in a swift motion after some months of discussion, the Utah Board of Education has voted to break up the Services to the Deaf Office. The implications are far-reaching. Dr. Robert Sanderson, director of the deaf unit, will be placed in another position, and the counselors will answer to district supervisors in Provo, SLC and Ogden. The district supervisors do not possess the understanding, training and ability to deal with the deaf and their problems. No longer will the deaf be able to find appropriate services through a counselor trained to serve the deaf. Conversely, the skills and knowledge built over the years by these counselors will go down the drain.

The Utah Services to the Deaf Office is one looked on by other states as an effective model of services. While a few complaints have risen to the surface, they are far outnumbered by the many individuals who have benefited from the easy accessibility of services. It would

not be expected that such a model would be put out of existence on the basis of a few complaints. We understand the reluctance of hearing impaired people whose main mode of communication is speech. There are general counselors who can work with these individuals who wish to use speech only.

Breaking up the deaf unit will not accomplish positive results. It can only do harm and create justifiable frustration to deaf people and parents who seek help for their hearing impaired children. We have yet to see how such a reorganization -- nay, it is destruction -- could improve delivery of services to meet the unique needs of the hearing impaired children and adults.

The Utah Board of Education should have never taken this backward step. We urge each member of this board to take the time to talk to deaf people and ask them how they feel about the Services to the Deaf Office. Remember, this office arose as the result of a need. It is the deaf taxpayers who stand to lose from this move -- and they, too, vote in elections. -vgp

### TTY Repair Service

TTY owners can breathe a sigh of relief now that the Utah Board of Education has put Norman Williams, TTY repairman, on the payroll as of July 1, 1978. The grant which paid for his salary and TTY expenses was to run out at the end of June. The UAD sought financing to continue the same arrangement that had preceded the last three years.

The Utah Board of Education made a wise decision in this matter. By providing a TTY repairman for this state, the board has ensured that the deaf can maintain the lifeline to their community -- the TTY. More businesses, organizations and other places serving the public are now installing TTYS for the convenience of the deaf. -vgp

### Ruling on Penny Williams

The Penny Williams case came up in the Utah Board of Education agenda last week. The members heard a report from a panel of three certified hearing officers and arguments from lawyers of Penny Williams and of the Jordan School District.

The report, which the board accepted, backs up the Jordan School District decision not to provide an interpreter. Attached to the report were recommendations that Penny receive additional time for speech therapy, and that her progress be closely watched to decide on the need of an interpreter later in secondary school.

The case has been based on provisions of Public Law 94-142, which covers education of all handicapped students. -vgp

### Wedding Bells

May 12 -- Shannon Moyes to Rodney Anderson of Ogden, in the Ogden LDS Temple, with reception following in the White House. Shannon is secretary at the Ogden Services to the Deaf Office.

### Obituaries

April 23 -- Amelia (Millie) Lamb Robison, 92, of Morgan. Mrs. Robison was a sister of Elsie Hertell of SLC.

June Happenings

- Saturday, 10th -- The Sportsmen's Club plans a Children's Day. Contact Jerry Roach for information.
- Sunday, 11th -- The UAD Board of Directors will meet at the UBE Building, 250 E. 5th S., SLC. Contact Ned Wheeler or Robert Sanderson for the time the meeting begins.
- Thursday, 15th -- GSACD will hold its meeting in the USD Multipurpose Room in Ogden, beginning 7:00 pm.
- Saturday, 24th -- South Ogden Park on 39th Street, about a block and a half east of Washington Blvd., is the site of GSACD's Family Day. Friends gather at 2:00 pm for reacquaintance; games for all ages will begin an hour later. An hamburger fry will start at 6:00 pm. Ken Kinner is the chairman.
- Thursday, 29th -- Sportsmen's Club will have a dinner, with the movie, "Deliverance" at the USD Multipurpose Room in Ogden.
- Friday, 30th -- Valley Ward at 760 E. 700 S. in SLC will show "The Other Side of the Mountain".

Rattles 'n' Powder

- April 19 -- Edward and Richard, twin sons of Robert & Helen Potter of Taylorsville.
- April 23 -- Nicole Kay, daughter of Becky & Mark Clark of Roy. Kay Curtis, Roy and Leon Curtis, Tucson, are grandparents.
- April 23 -- Allison, daughter of Gerald & Cheryl Travis of Clearfield. Gerald was formerly a counselor at the Ogden Branch for the Deaf.
- May 3 -- Virgil Virl, son of Marvin & Melissa Hanson of Provo.

Hospital Rounds

- April 4 -- An emergency appendectomy was done on Nancy, wife of Craig Opheikens, in the Gresham Community Hospital in Oregon.
- May 1 -- Florence Averill was at the LDS Hospital for surgery on her toe. She is home and doing well.
- May 13 -- Torn ligaments laid Jim Hilber up for a few days. He had been carrying a multi-handicapped child on his back on an outing and somehow missed his footing.
- May 16 -- Leon Curtis had cataract surgery on one of his eyes at a Tucson hospital in Arizona.
- May 17 -- John Glassett was hospitalized in the intensive care unit at Cottonwood Hospital for an heart attack.
- May -- Friends of Wayne Bennett will want to know that he has been in a Los Angeles hospital with cancer. His wife has taken over his teaching duties at a seminary until the close of the school year.

Wanderlust

By car Beth Jensen and her daughter Barbara went to San Francisco, where Barbara attended a computer school for five days. In the evenings both took in the sights of the Golden Gate city. They went on to the Los Angeles area with its Marine World, Universal Studios, Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm. They wound up the last leg of their trip with a night at Las Vegas and brought home fruit from St. George.

Steve, the oldest son of Stanley & Charlene O'Neil, took six weeks training at Lackland AFB, Texas. He is taking airplane mechanic classes and is enlisted in the service for four years.

George & Dora Laramie stayed with their friends, the Emil Ladners in Berkeley, while attending a regional conference for deaf Catholics in the area in early May. They enjoyed seeing their friends again.

On the same trip, Gladys Wenger, with the Laramies, stopped in Reno and San Francisco and visited friends and relatives.

Ned and Edith Wheeler were in San Jose, Ca. to be with their late son's family for grandson Gregory's baptism. They spent several days with relatives in the area before returning home.

Robert, son of Gloria Barney, left on May 20 for his mission call at Holbrook, Az. He was honored at a farewell party at his church.

Pete & Sally Green with their friends, the Berrys, toured Lake Powell at the end of April and visited Navajo Mountains and Rainbow Bridge. They would love to go back.

Visitors to Our Segoe Lily State

Marion & Earl Malloy of Santa Clara, Ca. spent a week in late april visiting relatives in Salt Lake City. They also visited their son who is a BYU student at Provo.

Transplanting Roots

A postcard from Richard Finan gave the information that he had arrived in Zanesville, Oh. to visit his mother. He was to leave the next morning to drive to Washington, DC to check out opportunities.

Ed Fisher, director of the USD Seminary, will take his family with him to Salem, Or. where he has been assigned by the LDS Church. His new position as director of special education for the seminary of the LDS Church will cover the deaf, blind, mentally retarded and juvenile delinquent, as well as prisoners. Ed has expressed appreciation of the friendship of the deaf, saying that the success of the USD Seminary came as the result of support and kindness of the deaf in Ogden.

Wheels, Wheels

Kenneth & Ilene Kinner -- 1977 Chevrolet Caprice, beige  
Gene Stewart -- 1978 BMW (Bavarian Motor Works, a German company),  
beige (Ed: it's more like cream!)

Swap/Sell Corner

A 1977 Toyota truck with 12,000 miles on it is available for sale at \$4,000. Call Gloria Barney at TTY 773-8107, Roy, if you are interested.

A wooden TTY cover is for sale at \$10.00 Contact Markley Wilkin at TTY 266-8963, Taylorsville.

TTY Jottings

Changes of phone numbers in the Utah TTY Directory:

Gene Balzer	266-8963	Taylorsville
Bruce Van Kampen	621-4952	Ogden
Rollin & Lois Jones	968-5678	Salt Lake City

The TTY Repair Shop no longer provides delivery service for TTY paper rolls or ribbons only. If you need a new roll or ribbon, contact Norman Williams at his home or whenever you see him.

When leaving a message with the TTY answering service (located at the TTY Repair Shop, SLC; the Platt home, Ogden; and the Baldwin home, Bountiful), please leave the following information along with your message: your first and last names, time and date of your call. This will enable you to get better service.

The Herb Towers Murray Plumbing Co. has installed a TTY in his shop for the convenience of the deaf. The number to call is 266-3529. Richard Whitehead, an employee of the company, is an interpreter and can go out on calls to your home.

News of Note

A sign language class has recently been set up at St. Benedict's Hospital in Ogden. Medical terms, communication at all levels and psychology of deafness will be mixed in with the sign language lessons.

The UO met recently and wishes to announce a few changes in the UO calendar for the second half of this year. Mark your calendar now:

Remove:	September 23	GSACD Trapshoot
Add:	August 5	UACD Bowling Outing
	September 22	UACD Annual General Meeting
	November 11	Catholic Volleyball Tournament

A group of SLC senior citizens, including about ten deaf persons, took a bus tour to Promontory Point on May 10. An enactment of the "Marriage of the Rails" was staged that day.

Celia May Baldwin, Kenneth Merrill and Dennis Platt have been certified as field representatives by the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf. These three, along with Ned Wheeler who has been certified for some years, are fully qualified to discuss life insurance. Insurance premiums with the NFSD are lower than those of most hearing insurance companies; drop in on one of them if you would like to find out more about insurance.

Ned Wheeler has resigned from the UAD board of directors as member and chairman of the board, effective June 11. Ned has been a member of the board since its incorporation in 1956, and a chairman of the board for all but six years.

The statistics given in last month's Spotlight for the UACD bowling were actually for the second half of the bowling season. The statistics given below are the final figures for the entire season: Top team, Pete's Four (Lila West, Mary Gines, Peter Green, and Roy Milburn). High average, D. Wardell, 171; Jo Keelel, 139. High game, G. Laramie, 238; R. Haws, 208. High series, R. Milburn, 574; C. Gavros, 508. Hcp high game, G. Ross, 273; L. West, 254. Hcp high series, J. Westberg, 688; R. Davidson, 653. Most improved average trophies went to Norman Williams and Fawn Broyles, 11 pins. The bowling team voted to retain the same officers for the 1978-1979 bowling league: Eugene Plumby, president; LaRue Ross, vice president, and Donna Lee Westberg, secretary.

Glen Ross and his son Ron, in a team effort, won the championship at the Cottonwood King Pins League. Glen's team at the Bonwood Lanes won the second half of the year so Glen certainly has had a good year.

#### Honors...Awards...Appointments...Retirements

Rodney W. Walker officially retired from Asarco (American Smelting and Refining Company) on February 28. He had been with the company since February 26, 1940 as a statistician. A retirement dinner party was given on the 18th by his co-workers. Georgia was in attendance, as were their sons and daughters-in-law. Earl, a 25 year retired employee of Asarco, and Elaine Smith were also present. A lovely gold wrist watch plus \$60.00 in certificates were presented.

The Ogden International Association of Parents of the Deaf gave Art Dignan a desk set as a remembrance of his being chosen 1978 Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Art is a total communication teacher at the Ogden campus.

Two USD staff members, Mrs. Jean Welling and Mrs. Dorothea Lamb, are retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Welling has taught for 22 years while Mrs. Lamb has been with the infirmary the past 26 years. A reception at USD was held in their honor.

Elaine Smith and Ottrie Schwab were honored in April for their 20 years with Litton Co. Elaine was the first woman to be hired by the company.

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Deadline for July issue: June 15. This is an early deadline to permit the editor to go on vacation. Contact your area reporter or the editor, Val Platt, 112 W. 5150 S., Ogden, Ut. 84403 -- TTY 399-3028.

Subscription Rate: \$3.50 a year. Advertising (flyer) insertion rate has now been raised to \$20.00 per insertion, effective with the July issue. See editor for more information.