

ASL NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 4

Summer 2010

News & Changes in the Peralta District

Any students who purchased the Spring 2010 AC Transit Easy Pass can continue to use it through the summer. It remains valid until the fall semester begins (through August 27).

If you are looking forward to renting your textbooks in the fall, please note that although the rental fee may be paid by any of the methods accepted at the bookstore, a credit card number will have to be on file for each renter. If the book is not returned, the card will be charged the remaining amount. Students will also need to show a **state issued ID** to be able to rent. More information about the program will be coming soon from the bookstore.

Beginning with this summer session, a new fee will be added to the accounts of all students registering for credit classes. All students registered in at least one course earning credit will be charged a \$14 fee for student health services. During fall and spring semesters, the fee will be \$17. The fee covers primary care medical visits, reproductive health, dental cleaning and exams, mental health counseling, financial and legal counseling, Medi-Cal and Healthy Families enrollment. All services are available at the Laney College Student Center.

From the details provided so far, no one is exempt

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Summer at Yosemite in Sign

By Nancy Cayton, ASL Department Staff

Yosemite National Park is a place of many firsts in the national park system. It had the first uniformed female ranger in 1917, Claire Marie Hodges. In 1920, Yosemite began the first nature guide service to help park visitors understand the natural and cultural history of the area. And in 1923, perhaps a less noticeable first, was establishing the first cooperating association in any national park. It is now known as the Yosemite Association.

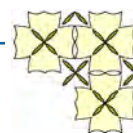
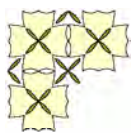
Yosemite has also pioneered another service that has flown under the radar of many visitors: sign language interpreting every summer. Piloted during the 1979 summer season, the position was made into a permanent ranger job, the Deaf Services Coordinator, and has continued every summer since. So far, Yosemite is the only national park to establish and maintain a dedicated staff position to the operate an ongoing Deaf Services Program.

Through the 1970s, the park service was working on making parks more accessible and educating the employees about disability. In the late 1970s Donna Pritchett, a quadriplegic wheelchair user with a visual impairment, was the Disabled Access Coordinator at Yosemite.



Yosemite ranger using the TTY in the visitor center. Photo provided by Yosemite Research Library

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Non-Credit class registration information starts here!

Please note that the classes listed on this page are non-credit. Students WILL NOT receive grades on their transcripts. See registration information below. These classes are designed to provide a taste of our curriculum to those planning to enter the program in the fall. Classes meet once a week. Credit earning classes are listed on page four.

ASL FOR THE NOVICE

An introduction to American Sign Language. Through the development of spatial skills, basic vocabulary and useful grammar structures, students will engage in simple conversations about everyday situations. **No previous signing experience necessary.**

Class #	Time	Day	Start Date	# Meetings	Location	Instructor
30860	10:00-11:50 am	Wednesday	6/23/10	5	Rm. 226	Galindez
30959	6:30-8:20 pm	Monday*	6/21/10	5	Rm. 226	Prinz

*Note that Monday, July 5 is a holiday.

ASL CONVERSATION II

Conversation skills at the intermediate level will be worked on. How to discuss current events will also be introduced. The class can be helpful in overcoming anxiety about having conversations with Deaf people in the community. **Prerequisite:** Completion of two semesters of ASL.

Class #	Time	Day	Start Date	# Meetings	Location	Instructor
30970	7:00-8:50 pm	Wednesday	6/23/10	5	Rm. 226	R. Galindez

VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT II

In addition to improving students' vocabulary, this class will also clear up commonly misunderstood and misused signs, discuss selection of appropriate signs for conceptual accuracy and clarify tense. **Prerequisite:** completion of three or more semesters of ASL.

Class #	Time	Day	Start Date	# Meetings	Location	Instructor
30971	7:00-8:50 pm	Thursday	6/24/10	5	Rm. 226	R. Galindez

How To Enroll

Please read the registration information on this page and the next before enrolling. Course descriptions and skill prerequisite requirements can help you select classes. Instructor bios are also available to assist in your selection. If you are having difficulty determining which course to take or need other assistance, please Nancy Cayton at (510) 981-2872 voice, (866) 971-1994 VP, or ncayton@peralta.edu.

The classes on this page are non-credit classes. Unlike credit classes, you will not receive units, you will not receive a grade, and registration is done directly through the American Sign Language Office. Credit classes are listed on page 4.

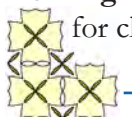
Registration & Payment: If paid by June 7, the cost for classes listed here is \$70. After June 7 the cost is

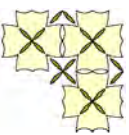
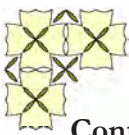
\$75. Mail or bring your fees and completed registration form (on page 3) to: ASL Department, Berkeley City College, 2050 Center Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 (room 562). Please use check, money order, or cash. **We can not accept credit cards for these classes.** Make checks payable to "Berkeley City College."

Please note: there are no prorated fees. Financial aid and fee waivers will not pay for non-credit courses. High school and younger students may enroll but must pay the full class fee.

Refund Policy: All refund requests must be made in writing and received before June 14. All refunds, except for cancelled or full classes, are less a \$15 processing fee. **Absolutely no refunds after June 14.**

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Confirmation of Enrollment: Confirmations will be sent by e-mail if an e-mail address is provided. Alternatively, they can be mailed if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided with registration.

Full/Cancelled Classes: If you register for a class that is full or cancelled, you will be contacted to arrange for another class or receive a refund. Classes may be cancelled if the minimum number of registered students is not achieved by June 14. Refunds will be mailed and may take up to 30 days to process.

Returned Check Policy: If your check is returned because of insufficient funds in your account, a service charge will be levied.

Summer Instructors

Ramona Galindez: Galindez is a New York City native who attended the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at the Rochester Institute of Technology. At NTID, she studied architecture and printing production. In 1988 she relocated to Berkeley. Galindez has worked at BCC since 1989 as a tutor and instructor. During the summers Ramona has frequently attended the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, where she has taught ASL for over 15 years.

Kelly Krzyska: Hailing from Kansas City, Missouri, Krzyska earned a B.A. in American Sign Language Studies from Gallaudet University and an M.A. in Deaf Education & ASL from Western Maryland College. She has taught ASL at the University of Minnesota and worked as an ASL Specialist at the Metro Deaf School in St. Paul, Minnesota. Currently she has in a similar position at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont. She loves dogs, travel, photography and art.

Elizabeth Prinz: Better known to everyone as Betty Ann, she has taught thousands of students in her 25+ year career. She has been an instructor at BCC and San Francisco State for over 15 years. In addition to teaching Prinz is a consultant for the docents at the Oakland Art Museum, member of the DEAF Media Board of Directors, and does catering on the side. 🐾🐾

American Sign Language Department Non-Credit Registration Form

Read registration information prior to completing this form. Please write clearly. Use one form per person.

Name: _____
last first

Student I.D. _____
or social security #

Date of birth: _____

Address _____

city state zip code

Phone (_____) _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Title: _____ Class # _____

Title: _____ Class # _____

TOTAL FEES: \$_____

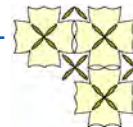
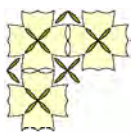
Berkeley City College Library Summer Session Hours

The Library will close between May 28 and June 20.

June 21-July 29 the library will be open
Monday-Thursday,
10:00 am-3:00 pm.

Be sure to get your
BCC I.D. card
to use library
resources and to
check out materials.





Summer Credit Classes in the ASL Department

Please note that the two courses listed on this page are for credit. Follow registration information on this page. Both courses require previous knowledge of ASL.

Session is June 21-July 31. July 5 is a holiday.

Classifiers I, ASL 200A, 2 Units

2 hours lecture. Prerequisite: ASL 50 or ASL 50A; or Corequisite: ASL 50B.

Introduction to the visual-gestural aspects of American Sign Language through the use of Classifiers.

Section B1, Class # 30778, Instructor: K. Krzyska
Lecture: 6:30-9:20 pm, Mon & Wed; BCC room 223. Class begins Monday, 6/21/10

Fingerspelling & Numbers I, ASL 202A, 1 Unit

0.5 hours lecture, 1.5 lab. Prerequisite: ASL 50 or ASL 50B. Corequisite: ASL 51 or ASL 51B.

Introduction to numerical and fingerspelling systems in American Sign Language.

Section B1L, Class #30780, Instructor: K. Krzyska
Lecture: 6:30-7:50 pm Tues & Thurs and
Lab: 8:00-9:20 pm Tues & Thurs; BCC room 223.
Class begins Tuesday, 6/22/10.

Registration Information

New or returning students (have not attended a Peralta college in the last year):

1. Complete a Peralta application form.
2. Complete assessment & orientation if necessary.
3. Enroll.

Admission applications are online at www.peralta.edu. If you do not have access to a computer with internet, you can use the computers at BCC, outside the admissions office. Office hours: Mon & Tues 8 am-7 pm; Wed-Fri 8 am-4:30 pm. The college is closed on the following holidays: 5/14, 5/31 & 7/5. Applications may also be completed at other Peralta campuses. Enrollment begins as early as May 3. The admissions office often offers longer hours right before a new term. Check their schedule for days and times.

Continuing students: You may enroll via the internet through the Passport system on or after your enrollment appointment date. You should receive an appointment via your Peralta e-mail account by April 4. You can also find it in your Student Center under "enrollment appointment." Appointments begin April 12 for those with priority enrollment. All others may begin enrolling as early as April 14.

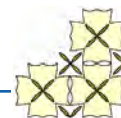
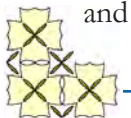
High School Students: After completing the application form online, high school students entering 10th grade or above enroll in-person at the admissions office using a concurrent enrollment form. No tuition fees are charged for in-state residents. Students below the 10th grade must meet with the Vice President of Student Services for permission to enroll.

All Students: Fee: \$26 per unit for California residents. Financial aid and fee-waivers will cover the cost of credit courses for qualified students. Contact the financial aid office if you need further information: 981-2807, bcc-finaid@peralta.edu, or check information at <http://berkeley.peralta.edu/apps/comm.asp?§1=10058>. Payment should be made at the time enrollment

is completed and may be by check, cash, or credit. Out of state residents pay \$216 per unit and international students pay \$222 per unit. See note above for high school student fees. Community college fees are subject to change by the California State Legislature.

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and will want accommodations for a course, contact the Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities office (PSSD) office prior to the start of the term via (510) 981-2812 voice or cmasse@peralta.edu.



Events & Announcements

Three Free Places to Park Your Bicycle in Downtown Berkeley.

1. BCC Bike Room. Enter the building through the main doors and take the elevator on your left down to the ground floor. Do not bring bikes up or down on the stairs. 2. Across the street from BCC at the City Garage. **Also FREE vehicle parking for people with disabilities available here.** 3. Inside the Downtown Berkeley BART station. The Bike Station is at the south end. (510) 548-7433 or www.bikestation.org.

Information about local Deaf events is available at DCARA's web site, www.dcara.org and click on "events". One-time and on-going events are listed as well as a captioned movie finder.

Monthly Pizza Night. 1st Thursday of every month at Pizza Patio in Fremont. Starts at 6 pm. For more info contact Mitchel at either whazzzzup17@aol.com or whazzzzup17@gmail.com. Open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and ASL students.

ASL COFFEE SOCIALS

Alameda. 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month, 10 am. High Street Station, 1303 High Street. For more information: MaureenMcFall@mac.com

Berkeley. 2nd Friday of the month, 7-10 pm. Royal Grounds Coffee & Tea, 2409 Shattuck Avenue. For more info contact Daniel at pah_daniel@aol.com or Pam at pmbrawl@aol.com.

Dublin. 3rd Friday night of the month. 3 of their baristas sign. Starbucks, 7197 Village Pkwy., corner of Village Pkwy. & Amador Valley Blvd. www.deafcoffee.com/html/california/dublin.html

San Francisco #1. 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, 6:05-9:05 pm. Starbucks at 2727 Mariposa Street, near KQED. For more information: sanfransclub@gmail.com.

San Francisco #2. Every Thursday 6-8:30 pm. ASL Cafe by Project Insight. Moscone Recreation Center, 1800 Chestnut Street. For more information, including changes, cancellations, moves, etc.: contactpi@sfgov.org or www.projectinsight.org.

San Francisco #3. Deaf LGBT. 1st Friday of the month, 6-8 pm. Cafe Flore, 2298 Market Street, San Francisco (across from LookOut). For more information go to <http://rlsdbayarea.googlepages.com/calendar>. All hearing and deaf LGBTIQ and straight folks are welcome.

Santa Clara. 3rd Friday of the month, 8:30-11:30 pm. Starbucks at 3605 El Camino Real. For more information:

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The Deaf Subject in Philately

By Kenneth S. Rothschild

“*P*hilately?!?!? What is philately?”

Simply put, “philately” means “stamp collecting.” There is a statement in philatelic circles that stamps are “mini messengers of history.” This makes sense, because a postage stamp, although a small piece of paper, can convey a lot of information. Seeing a particular stamp may make one want to know the stamp subject’s to find out why the stamp was issued.

The stamp could commemorate a notable anniversary of an event, honor a person, celebrate an event, or whatever else the country’s stamp policy dictates. For example, in the United States, no stamp can be issued to honor a living person. Only deceased people can qualify, starting five years after her/his death, except for a recently deceased United States president, who can be honored on the next birthday anniversary after her/his death.



For more information on how new stamps are selected in the United States, go to the United States Postal Service’s Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee Web page: www.usps.com/communications/organization/csac.htm.

Who am I? I am a renowned philatelist who specializes in stamps from all over the world that pertain to deafness; I am Deaf, and it is a natural thing for me to concentrate on this exciting topic.

American Deaf History in the Era Before Stamps Were Issued

Let us go to the days of the stampless letters. In this example, you will see a February 2, 1831, post-marked letter addressed to the Rev. Thomas H. Gallaudet. This was 16 years before the first postage stamps were issued in the United States. It is simply addressed “Hartford, Conn.,” without a street address. In that time, that was sufficient information

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michelyn85@aol.com.

Santa Rosa. Meets every Sunday at 10 am at Aroma Roasters at Railroad Square on 4th Street.

Vallejo. 1st Wednesday of the month, 7-11 pm. Starbucks at 400 Lincoln Road East. Contact: tatobud@sbcglobal.net

ASL MEETUP GROUPS

Berkeley. www.meetup.com/Berkeley-ASL-Meetup/

San Francisco. 2nd Friday of the month, sometimes more often. Various locations (usually close to BART). <http://asl.meetup.com/294/>

Tri-Valley. 1st Friday of the month. Meeting locations will be changing each month. <http://asl.meetup.com/tri-valley-asl-group/>

Oakland Deaf Church. Sunday services at 3 pm and Bible study every Wednesday at 6 pm. Location is Harvest Fellowship Church, 620 42nd Street, Oakland. For more information: <http://parked4christ.org>.

Vallejo Bible Church of the Deaf. Sunday services at 10:45 am and Bible study 2nd & 4th Fridays of the month at 7:30 pm. 448 Carolina Street, Vallejo. For more information: vallejodeafchurch@yahoo.com.

Deaf Youth Camp of Color Volunteers Needed. Volunteer positions are camp staff, volunteers & interns. The first-ever Deaf Youth Camp of Color will be held at Camp Taloali in Stayton, Oregon on June 13-27. DYCC will take place immediately prior to the National Deaf People of Color Conference II (entry below). For more information/application packet, go to www.dycc.org.

Hands On Travel 2011 tours. Small group tours in ASL. March 25-April 7 & October 15-30: Bella Italia; May 13-27: The Delights of France; June 7-20: Ireland; August 25-September 10: Russia, Finland & the Baltic States; September 19-30: Germany. For more information go to www.handsontvl.com

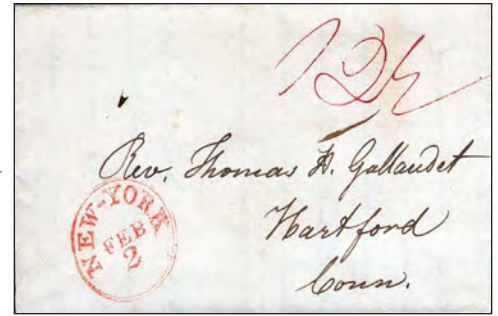
Jerry L. Adams "Keep Your Eyes on the Prize" Scholarship. Up to four continuing BCC students will be selected for \$500 awards and up to two graduating students who are planning to enroll at a four-year college or university in fall 2010 will be selected for \$2,000 awards. To be eligible students must be currently enrolled in at least 6 semester units at BCC (graduating students may have completed their course-work in the previous fall term); have completed a minimum of 12 units at BCC (semester units completed must include either MATH 48 UW, 248, 250, 251, 253 or an

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for delivery.

The letter was from the newly formed New York University asking Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet to be on their faculty.



What was most interesting about the letter was the last paragraph on the second page:

an immediate attempt with the legislature at Albany for the laying of some foundation for a department for common school instruction, & are desirous of your assistance there. The present appears to me a peculiarly favorable time to make a movement on that important subject.

I hope, for my own gratification & benefit, to see you here speedily; & am confident that you can not present yourself too early to the gentlemen of the University. Dr. M. intimates to me that several distinguished professors &c. have already placed their names on the list of applicants for stations in the new institution.

The truly melancholy and affecting deaths of our dear friends Dr. C. & Alice I cannot speak of, even to you, in terms that would do justice to my feelings. The event is one of the most solemn warnings I have ever rec'd to do the work what Providence has laid before me with zeal & energy.

Yours truly, Thos. H. Cogswell

*Remember me to
Mr. H. & Mrs. D.*

"The truly melancholy and affecting deaths of our dear friends Dr. C. & Alice I cannot speak of, even to you, in terms that would do justice to my feelings — the event is one of the most solemn warnings I have ever rec'd to do the work what, Providence had laid before me with zeal & energy."

To one not versed in Deaf history, this paragraph will not make much sense. But those familiar with Deaf history may know that Dr. Mason Cogswell died on Dec. 17, 1830, and his daughter, Alice —

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equivalent course with a final grade of "C" or better within the Peralta district); have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50; be pursuing an AA/AS degree or certificate of achievement; demonstrate financial need (applicants must have completed the 2009-10 FAFSA in advance). Additionally, applicants must provide two letters of recommendation and write an essay of 500 words. See Jennifer Lenahan in Room 261 for the application and return completed applications to her. The deadline is April 30.

The Peralta Association of Chicano/Latinos de Aztlan (PACLA) Scholarships. Each campus in the Peralta District will select one student to receive a \$1,000 scholarship, with an additional \$1,000 to be awarded to one single parent within the District. The criteria for each scholarship is: minimum G.P.A. of 3.0, enrolled in at least 12 units, completed at least 24 units at the time of application, experience working in the community/school assisting others, completed over 50% of units at the college that you will apply to, and low income. Preference will be given, but not limited to AB540 Students. Additional criteria for the Maria Ofelia Vargas Scholarship: Must be a single parent; no requirement of number of units at any particular PCCD campus. Pick up applications from Jennifer Lenahan in room 261 at BCC and return completed applications to her by May 5. Note that all winners must attend a reception in their honor on May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Film "Gerald". April 17, 1:00 pm. Deaf Community Center (DCC), 1550 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro. Film in ASL with English subtitles. Admission: \$11. Net proceeds go to DCARA programs and services. Tickets/info by e-mail: info@dcara.org; by VP: (510) 343-6670. From the director of "Mountain Man" (ASLfilms.com).

Local Mother Father Deaf Day. April 24. "Bridging Deaf/Hearing Worlds in Our Families" for Deaf Parents, CODA/KODA children, and anyone interested in the experiences of integrating Deaf and Hearing worlds. Cost: \$15/adult; \$8/child if pre-registered by April 21st, contact: Millie Stansfield at gdmamillie@yahoo.com. Or pay at the door: adult half or full day: \$10/\$20; child: \$10. NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED. This event is sponsored by the California School for the Deaf; Deaf Counseling, Advocacy and Referral Agency; Deaf-Hope; Gallaudet University Regional Center at Ohlone College; Double Pride; Half-n-Half; Phi Kappa Zeta-Omega Chapter; and Bay Area CODAs as a fundraiser for the CODA 2010 conference.

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heartbroken over her father's death — died on December 30. Knowing this information helps to clarify the meaning of the paragraph for the reader. This document should be preserved with other historical items for posterity.

The Deaf Subject on U.S. Stamps and Related Materials

In 1854, a town to the southeast of Indianapolis was established in honor of Gallaudet. Below is an envelope postmarked in 1879 from that town, which does not exist anymore.



There have been stamps honoring personages connected with the Deaf world, such as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Alva Edison, Samuel F.B. Morse, Juilette Gordon Low, Helen Adams Keller and others, to name a few.

The first American-issued stamp reflecting the Deaf subject was issued on June 10, 1983. It was a 20-cent stamp honoring Gallaudet, a founder of the first school for the deaf in America, the American School for the Deaf.

An outdoor ceremony was held before a large audience on the grounds of the school in West Hartford, Connecticut. This very meaningful occasion brought together many important people. U.S. Postmaster General William F. Bolger was there to dedicate the stamp in the presence of many Gallaudet family members, including Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet III, as well as Gallaudet College President Edward C. Merrill Jr., American School for the Deaf Executive Director Winfield McChord Jr., and yours truly as the chairman of the THG Stamp



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National Mother, Father Deaf Day. April 25. Celebrated annually on the last Sunday of April as an opportunity for all children of Deaf parents (CODAs) to acknowledge their parents' contribution to their lives. For more information go to www.coda-international.org.

2nd National Council of Hispano Deaf & Hard of Hearing Conference. April 29-May 1. Chicago, Illinois. For info: www.nchdhh.org

3rd Annual National Sign Language & Interpreting Conference. April 30-May 1. Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California (across from Disneyland). \$150/day. For more information: www.ohsoez.com

Family Connection Program's Club Saturday. May 22, July 24, August 28, September 25, October 23 & December 18, 9 am to 12 noon. To promote family bonding time, ASL conversational skill development, Deaf culture awareness, socialization skills, and FUN! For deaf and hearing parents with deaf, hard-of-hearing, and late deafened children. Hearing siblings welcome and hearing children of deaf parents. Grandparents and friends also welcome. Activities include ASL games, special guest speakers, parent forums, ASL storytellers and more. Deaf Community Center (DCC), 1550 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro. Cost: children under 12 are free, others \$5/person. Refreshments will be provided. For more information: Deborah O'Willow at (510) 343-6671 VP or deborah.owillow@dcara.org.

DCARA part of San Leandro City-Wide Garage Sale. May 15, 8 am-3 pm. Deaf Community Center (DCC), 1550 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro. DCARA will sell books, videos, office furniture, computers, TVs & more. You can stop by and browse, donate items in good condition, or set up your own booth at DCC. For more information: Brian Martinez at brian.martinez@dcara.org or (510) 343-6664 VP.

13th World Deaf Magicians Festival. May 23-30. Cattolica, Italy. In cooperation with the Society of World Deaf Magicians and supported by the Italian Society of the Deaf (ENS). For info: www.2010wdmf.com/index.html

Hearing Loss Association of America Conference. June 17-20. Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This organization was formerly known as Self Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH). www.hearingloss.org.

National Alliance of Black Interpreters (NAOBI) Biennial Conference. June 24-27. Phoenix, Arizona. www.naobi.org/2010. For Northern California chapter information

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Committee. The issuance of this stamp was the culmination of the efforts of many individuals and organizations since 1951.

Fast-forward 10 years, when not one, but two Deaf stamps came out! On September 20, 1993, a *se-tenant* (a philatelic term, from French, meaning two or more different stamps joined together) 29-cent



stamp pair was issued at the Starlight Bowl in Burbank, California, which recognizes

Deaf communication. One stamp shows the "I Love You" sign, and the other, a mother signing "I Love You" to her baby.

The Deaf Subject on Foreign Stamps



Modern deaf education originated in France, and in 1959 France recognized this with a stamp honoring Abbé Charles Michel de l'Épée, who founded and funded the world's first public school for the deaf in the 18th century.

The United Nations declared 1981 the International Year of Disabled Persons, and many countries issued stamps showing various disabilities. Some countries selected a Deaf theme, and below is an example from Great Britain.

You may note the absence of the words "Great Britain" on the stamp. This is because, beginning in 1840, it was the first country to use postage stamps. As a result, it has the honor of only showing the portrayal of the reigning king or queen as the country indicator without having the country name listed.



I chose this particular stamp because it shows the beauty of sign language, and it is especially interesting because it shows a two-handed manual alphabet: The word "deaf" is being spelled here.

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contact Erica West at evwl1002@gmail.com.

Deaf People of Color Conference. June 25-27. Portland, Oregon. People of ALL colors, races, ethnicities, religions, and cultural affiliations are welcome. www.deafpeopleofcolor.org

50th Biennial National Association of the Deaf Conference. July 6-10. Philadelphia Marriott (downtown). The theme of the conference is, "Celebrate Our Heritage. Invest in Our Future." More information at www.nad.org/philly/register.

Clamming Event at Dillon Beach. July 9-12. Some equipment for children to get clams will be provided. Extra equipment greatly APPRECIATED! Also provided old fashioned s'mores by the campfire at night. For information: www.calbass.org or svaccd.org.

International Congress on the Education of the Deaf. July 18-22. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. www.iced2010.com

USA Deaf Tennis Open. July 15-19. Las Vegas Hilton Tennis Center and Lorenzi Park Tennis Center, Las Vegas, Nevada. (Held prior to the Las Vegas Deaf Nation Expo; local Expo date in October). Events: men's singles & doubles, women's singles & doubles, mixed doubles, men's & women's over 35 singles. This event is sponsored by the USA Deaf Sports Federation & Deaf Nation. USADSF is the only national athletic association in the U. S. that coordinates the participation of American deaf and hard of hearing individuals in international sport competitions. www.usdeafsports.org

CODA 2010 Conference. July 22-25, Fremont, California. Conference of the organization Children of Deaf Adults. Come home to the birthplace of the CODA conference, a place to celebrate our parent(s), a place to celebrate together. www.coda-international.org.

Association of Late-Deafened Adults Conference (ALDA-con). September 1-5. Colorado Springs, Colorado. Registration by June 1 (non-member): \$279/after \$309. www.alda.org. Linda Drattell of DCARA is the president of this organization.

Intertribal Deaf Council: Sacred Circle Celebration. September 15-18. Chinook Winds, Lincoln City, Oregon. www.deafnative.com

Philately continued from page 8

Russia, as well as a few other countries, honored Konstantin E. Tsiolkovsky with some postage stamps. He is revered in Russia as the father of modern rocket science, and, yes, he is Deaf.



The stamp from Norway, (right)



issued to commemorate the Year of Child in 1979, does not explicitly show any Deaf connection, but if you go behind-the-scenes you will find that the painting shown on the stamp was created by Mathias Stoltenberg, a Deaf Norwegian

who lived 1799-1871.

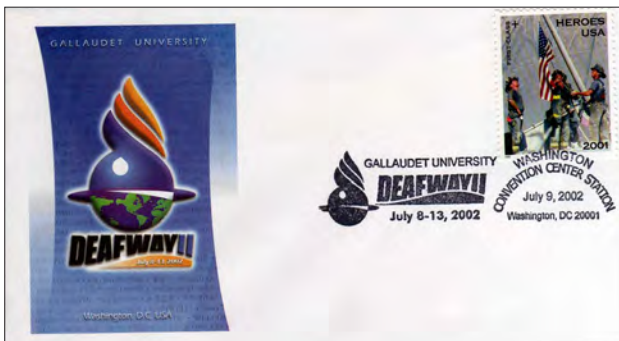
In 2002, Hungary issued a postcard commemorating the 200th anniversary of the school for the deaf in Vác, which was founded by András Cházár. Both sides of the card are shown below:



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Commemorating International Deaf Events

Other international events for the Deaf have been philately commemorated. The 1989 and 2002 Deaf Way events in Washington were recognized with postmarks:



Several World Federation of the Deaf Congresses were commemorated on postcards and stamps. Below is one from the 1991 Congress in Japan. If you look carefully, you will see the “I Love You” sign in the middle of the globe.



Taiwan honored the 2009 Deaflympics with two postage stamps:



Obtaining Stamps from Foreign Countries

If you are wondering about how I know about stamps from other countries, and how I can buy them, I have a network of philatelic friends in the U.S.A. and abroad. We share any information that may be relevant to our collecting interests. I also depend on philatelic publications and Internet forums/media to keep up to date.

I hope that you enjoyed reading this article as much as I did writing it and in developing my love for this hobby.

More information about the Deaf subject in philately, as well as Kenneth Rothschild and his collection, can be found:

“Philately,” by Kenneth Rothschild, *Gallaudet Encyclopedia of Deaf People and Deafness* by John V. Van Cleve, McGraw-Hill Professional; 1st edition, 1987.

“The Deaf Subject,” by Kenneth Rothschild, *Israel Philatelist Journal* (a publication of the Society of Israel Philatelists), October 2006.

Rothschild appears on the television show “Deaf Mosaic,” originally aired on Jan. 31, 1993, tape no. 809.

Articles about Rothschild appeared in the electronic publication *World Around You* in 1998 and 2006 (<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/WorldAroundYou/>):

An article about Rothschild also appears in the November 2004 issue of *SIGNews*, newspaper. 🙋🙋

News continued from page 1

from the fee except if “the student is dependent exclusively upon prayer for healing in accordance with the teachings for a bona fide religious sect, denomination, or organization” or the student is attending a community college under an approved apprenticeship training program. Look for more information on the Peralta Web site.

During the summer session we will also begin a pilot

program for use of the waiting list feature of our new Passport computer system. Many students have been asking for this feature and it will be in use for a limited number of classes in the math, English, and chemistry departments. It is expected that the waiting list feature will be available for all departments in the fall semester.

During the summer if you attempt to enroll in one of the designated courses and it is full, you will receive a message that says, “CLOSED - Wait Listed”. You will

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During that time, sign language interpreter Maureen Fitzgerald and her partner, Dale Dahl, who was Deaf and a quadriplegic wheelchair user, met Pritchett while on a camping trip and learned about her work. They also met Len McKenzie, the park's Chief Naturalist at the time, when he led a bird walk that Fitzgerald interpreted for Dahl.

Fitzgerald says of that experience, "One thing that was wonderful about Len is in that first bird walk where he had no warning that Dale and I were going to show up...he used a lot of imitation of the birds. I remember Len acting out how a robin checks out its surroundings."

A number of months later, McKenzie and the other Yosemite employees attended a disability awareness training which really made an impression on him. That training however, was not McKenzie's first experience with disability and accommodation. Early in his life he was influenced by his grandmother who had become deaf and wore a hearing aid, which in the 1940s and 50s was a large device that was strapped to the front of the body. In the early 1970s, McKenzie was instrumental in making the Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky, where he worked before coming to Yosemite, accessible to wheelchair users.

Thus, in the spring of 1979, when Dahl and Fitzgerald wrote a letter to Pritchett offering to work on access for Deaf visitors for a month that summer in exchange for a place to stay, McKenzie offered Fitzgerald a summer position to do that.

The Early Years

As a division chief, McKenzie had the authority to start a new program and he wanted to reach out to the Deaf community. He says, "It was a marriage of wanting to [provide accessibility] with the opportunity to provide it. Maureen was really the catalyst for that."

During that first summer, Fitzgerald worked as a Volunteer in Park (VIP), which provided a small stipend and a place to live. She contacted several Deaf people

involved in outdoor recreation to involve them in setting up the program. Mary Ellen Lentz, a camper and skier, offered advice on ways to set up the program that were sensitive to Deaf visitors, including suggesting a script for the visitor center slide show, how to publicize the program, and suggested signs for some of the park vocabulary. Dahl made multiple trips to the park during the summer and also provided guidance, such as suggesting posting a sign at the park's entrance stations publicizing that there were services available to Deaf visitors, as well as arranging a camping trip with five other Deaf people that summer.

Fitzgerald started working from scratch, incorporating the ideas of Lentz and Dahl with the goal of providing Deaf awareness for staff, setting up services for Deaf visitors, and publicizing the program. By the end of the season she had set up a TTY (teletype phone device), taught sign language to staff in three park locations, interpreted weekly scheduled ranger programs—as well as at other times when requested by visitors, worked at the visitor center desk, and prepared an information sheet on what was available for Deaf visitors in Yosemite. She also offered a weekly sign language class for hearing visitors called "Sign Language for Lunch."

Surprised that most people working at Yosemite had the impression that Deaf people didn't visit the park, Fitzgerald recorded the number of Deaf visitors that she met or that other employees encountered. By the end of season, 106 Deaf visitors were counted with



Maureen Fitzgerald (left) interpreting for ranger naturalist Eileen Berrey and Dale Dahl in 1979.

Photo provided by Maureen Fitzgerald.



Maureen Fitzgerald and Eileen Berrey.

Photo provided by Maureen Fitzgerald.

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219 contacts with staff, indicating that Deaf visitors had been coming to the park all along; they simply had been invisible to the employees. That summer a Deaf woman said of unexpectedly finding an interpreter available, “I can’t find words to tell you how very much I’ve enjoyed this.”

There was a lot of momentum at the end of the first summer and McKenzie made the position permanent one converting it into a seasonal ranger position known as the Deaf Services Coordinator. Since then, the Deaf Services Coordinator (DSC) has been the primary contact at Yosemite National Park for serving Deaf visitors.

Serving Deaf & Hearing People

The coordinator’s job is to facilitate opportunities for Deaf people to explore the park by providing interpreting services (including services for programs offered by park partners such as the Delaware North Company, Yosemite Institute, and the Yosemite Association), training park employees in Deaf/disability awareness, staffing the visitor center desk, as well as doing outreach to the Deaf community about visiting the park. Also as a ranger and naturalist, the DSC can create special programming for Deaf visitors, lead signing tours, or provide individualized services.

Typical Deaf visitors to the park include: Bay Area folks who come every year, visitors traveling through California, including those from other countries, and



Sarina Lambert in the visitor center. Note that the symbol on the sign indicating that an interpreter is on duty has changed. In the earlier photo above is a symbol for “hearing impaired.” This one is a representation of the sign for “interpret.”

Photo provided by Sarina Lambert.

day camps and similar types of groups for Deaf children. Some of the activities that have been interpreted are the valley tram tour, campfire programs, wilderness walks

and talks, evening star programs, and horseback rides.

Fitzgerald says of that summer, “I was really surprised at the support of the administration for the service because I have worked in a lot of public places, schools,



(left to right) Jennifer Jacobs and Sarina Lambert at the visitor center, signing “Yosemite”. In the foreground, the sign indicates that an interpreter is on duty.

Photo provided by the Yosemite Research Library

hospitals, and various different places and a lot of times there is a kind of a resentment where ‘we are doing this because we have to’ and ‘could you move over to the corner where you can’t really

be seen’ attitude...but the park service was so excited about this project that made it probably the best job I ever had. It was really gratifying to work there because of that.”

Fitzgerald moved on after two summers, but a number of interpreters have followed her as the DSC, most staying for a number of years including Jennifer Jacobs, Sarina Lambert, Nan Oswald, and Kara Stella.

Jacobs, an avid camper and backpacker took over after Fitzgerald and ended up meeting her husband and staying for 13 seasons. Some of what Jacobs added to the program includes getting the slide show and other audiovisual programs in the visitor center captioned, having TTYs installed at several pay phones throughout the park, obtaining a sign for the visitor center desk to indicate when an interpreter was on duty, training the patrol rangers (the park police) on working with Deaf people, and representing the park service at Deaf community events (in her ranger uniform) to let the community know about the interpreting services.

Jacobs became known as “the Yosemite interpreter,” and still meets people who know her from there. She experienced many memorable events, but one special memory stands out. A 10-year-old Deaf girl and her hearing parents went on a ranger walk along a creek with Jacobs as the interpreter. During the walk, the girl became very engaged. She caught an aquatic garter snake, helped the ranger along the walk, and

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asked and answered many questions. Toward the end of the walk, the girl's parents, who didn't sign, asked Jacobs, "Is she really asking all those questions? We didn't realize she was that smart!"

Unlike other "staff interpreter" type jobs, Yosemite interpreters must be in good shape to be able to go on the ranger walks and hikes and tolerate being out in all kinds of weather. It is also different from typical interpreting work because the interpreter gets to see the Deaf visitor with his or her family or friends. Whether they are Deaf parents with their children, hearing parents with Deaf children, several generations of a Deaf family, or adult friends traveling together, the interpreter gets a glimpse of them in the "context of their real lives," Sarina Lambert says.

One thing that interpreters at Yosemite share is a love for is the park and being in nature. Lambert says she took the job because she was "in love with Yosemite, [and] couldn't get enough of it as a visitor." In fact, even working seasonally wasn't enough, because "after the first two summers, I didn't want to go home when the season ended." Thus, in 1992 when she had the opportunity to stay year-round as a field ranger, she took the job, continuing to interpret as a collateral duty. Even after she stopped working in the deaf services program, she worked in the park for three more years in different capacities.

Kara Stella, a previous Vista ASL student (at that time, her last name was Murtey), says, "this job changed my life." Just after graduating from Ohlone College's Interpreter Training Program in 1998 she was selected to be an interpreting intern at Yosemite (a position only offered during those rare times Yosemite has some extra money). At that time she had never been to a national park before!

Like all seasonal employees, Stella was trained to be a naturalist. That training, plus living in the park made her fall in love with the natural world and helping others understand it. After that experience, she went back to school and earned a bachelor's of science degree in

natural resources planning and interpretation. (Note that "interpretation" in this case is about helping people to understand the natural environment.) After completing her degree, Stella was so excited to return as the DSC, she reported to work only one week after getting married!

It isn't just the dramatic views and working in nature that interpreters like or the fun of interpreting for people when they are happy and on vacation that draws interpreters to work in a position that earns dramatically less than what they could earn elsewhere. It is the satisfaction of helping people connect to the place they love. Lambert recalls, "I loved meeting Deaf

visitors from all over the world, loved being a representative and guide to a place that I felt so passionately about, and took particular pleasure in seeing those visitors who returned year after year."

Many hearing people see interpreters as a service only for Deaf people, but really interpreters serve both Deaf and hearing people

in any given situation. Ranger and naturalist Bob Roney, found himself to be the minority and the one in need of interpreting.

"There was a Deaf group who came up who wanted a guided trip for a whole afternoon. So, Jennifer [Jacobs] was the interpreter and I was the naturalist. We went up to the top of Sentinel Hill and by that time I had learned just a few words.

"Somehow, I got separated from Jennifer with about five Deaf people and they started asking me questions. I was at first kind of really frightened. I didn't know what I was going to say or how to you know [communicate], but somehow I was able to get the questions and answer them.

"I can remember I knew the sign for 'bugs' and talking about the bugs in the wood. And I knew 'fire' and [talked] about how fire burns the trees. I did that and pantomimed a lot and thought, 'God, if they half un-



In 1993 Sarina Lambert (left) was the DSC and Susannah Marriner also interpreted.

Photo provided by Sarina Lambert.

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derstand what I'm talking about they'll be OK.'

"It was really rewarding because at the end of the trip, when we caught back up to the interpreter, they were telling her all these stories about how the bugs eat the dead wood and the fire. They said, 'He was really good. He doesn't know sign for crap, but he sure can communicate.'

"So, I felt really good about that and it made me much more comfortable trying to communicate with deaf people."

Bea Worthen, who is Deaf and used to frequent Yosemite, says of the services, "While the visit would have been enjoyable anyway, having the interpreters over the years allowed me to learn so much more about the park and to be able to ask questions of the rangers." Worthen not only made trips with her own children, but later as an elementary school teacher in a mainstream program, brought her students to visit the park.

Dan Langholtz, another long-time, Deaf user of the park, says, "With a signing ranger at the park, I've returned to this park at least 10 times over the 29 years I've been living on the West Coast." The ranger has assisted with things such as helping find a tent site and trip planning, as well as to get answers to some bigger questions.

Quite a few years ago when returning from a three-month-long cross-country driving trip, Langholtz saw a set of sun-bleached bones near the California-Nevada border. He made a point of finding the interpreter when he arrived at Yosemite to help identify the bones. Jacobs was on duty and assisted Langholtz and an archeologist on staff make the identification. "This was one of several occasions where I feel fortunate being able to learn more about our planet" Langholtz observed.

Nan Oswald, an interpreter at Yosemite from 1999 to 2006, has lived in the area since 1984 and still interprets occasionally during the offseason since it is "in her backyard." She notes that Yosemite is commit-

ted to serving not only Deaf people, but those within the wider continuum of hearing loss. For example, in 2006, Mary Kline, the branch chief who oversees the program, obtained funding to purchase Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) for all the different areas of the park. Kline, whose father has a significant hearing loss, is also a former Vista ASL student, studying from 1992 to 1994.

More Than Nature Walks

While much of the work of the DSC is fun and enjoyable, the job can involve serious situations related to law enforcement, safety, and medical emergencies. As the only interpreter within at least an hour-and-a-half driving radius, the DSC has to handle everything that comes up, no matter what time of day or night.

Sarina Lambert was the interpreter on duty when a forest fire swept through the area on August 9, 1990. All roads from Yosemite Valley were closed, and 10,000 visitors and employees were trapped in the park. The fire, started two days earlier by a lightning strike, spread quickly because of high winds. It became a crown fire

and even jumped across the highway in at least one place, a big surprise to the firefighters because roads are generally considered firebreaks. All the possible exits from the valley were threatened by fires burning at or near the highway.

As Yosemite staff were being mobilized to deal with the emergency, Lambert received a call from the Yosemite Lodge, requesting assistance with Deaf visitors.

Among the throngs of displaced visitors trying to obtain a room for the night, she found a Deaf couple with two young children, who because they were unable to hear the announcements, had been standing in line for an hour, only to reach the desk and learn that they had been in the wrong line.



Kara Stella (left) interpreting a nature walk.

Photo provided by Mary Kline.

They were frustrated and confused, and the lodge staff had been unable to understand what the family wanted. Once Lambert arrived, they were able to make their wishes known, get complete and accurate information, and put their name on the waiting list for lodging. Lambert also briefly instructed the lodge staff in the basics of communication with Deaf visitors. An hour later, the family was in a cabin for the night. Visitors were able to be evacuated the next day, though the park remained closed and the fire was not contained for another five days.

While much of the DSC's job stays the same year after year, technology has changed. Rye Zemelsky, last summer's DSC, has started the process to obtain a videophone (VP) for the deaf services office and set up public VP booths around the valley. This will be particularly useful since pagers and smart phones have limited, if any, service in Yosemite and surrounding areas. Other projects Zemelsky worked on that she hopes will be in place this year include posting a signed welcome/introduction to Yosemite on the park's Web

page and use of a new e-mail address so that people contacting the Deaf Services office can get a reply even during the offseason.

In 2008, the deaf services program was selected as the recipient of the National Park Service Programmatic Accessibility Achievement Award. The award is given to an individual or group responsible for the development, implementation, or improvement of programs and services within the National Park System that exemplify the concept of universal accessibility. 2009 marked 30 years of services to the Deaf community at Yosemite.

Although an award winning program, when there are budget cuts to the national parks, some within Yosemite have wanted to eliminate the DCS position and use the money to hire other kinds of employees. Fortunately, the branch chiefs have been strong advocates for the program. However, evidence that the Deaf community uses and values the service is always helpful. To express your support for the Deaf Services program, send a letter to Mary Kline, Yosemite National Park, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389. 🖐️🖐️

If You Are Planning a Visit



Yosemite is open 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, though some areas may be closed seasonally. Reservations for overnight lodging are strongly recommended.



Yosemite hotels, like all hotels, have a "deaf guest kit" available that includes a visual notification device to alert occupants to incoming telephone calls and door knocks, a vibrating alarm clock, and a TTY. All rooms have visual alarms connected to the building's emergency system, and those with TVs have closed captioning. There are also TTYs at the pay phone area of the hotels.



Deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors are eligible for the National Park Service's "Access Pass." The pass is free and is good for the holder's lifetime. It allows the pass holder, plus accompanying passengers, to enter national parks and other sites at no charge. This includes national parks, national monuments,

and other sites. The pass may provide a discount on other activities within the parks. Passes can be obtained at any national park with proof of eligibility. For more information about this program, go to www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm.



For summer 2010, Kara Stella will be on duty as the DSC, May 10-September 25. **While she is on duty** she can be contacted at kara_stella@nps.gov. Otherwise use yose_deaf_services@nps.gov. To reach the visitor center call (209) 372-4726 (TTY) or (209) 372-0645 voice. Interpreting services can be provided in the off-season with advance notice.



For all other information about Yosemite, go to www.nps.gov/yose.

have the option of joining the waiting list unless the list is full. If spots in the class become available, students on the waiting list will be added in the order they joined the list. However, being on the waiting list does not guarantee a place in the class.

Note that there are several factors that will prevent you from being added even if it is your turn on the waiting list. At the time that the computer attempts to enroll you, you must meet the class pre-requisites and other registration requirements, the additional class cannot conflict with other classes that you are already enrolled in, you cannot be enrolled in another section of the same class, the number of units you have must be under the maximum, and your record must be free of holds.

If the computer attempts to enroll you and cannot, you will be dropped from the waiting list. If you are successfully added to the class, you be notified via your Peralta e-mail account. Thus, it is important that you activate and monitor your account. Once added to a class, you must pay all fees at least two weeks before the start of the term. If payment is not made by the deadline, your enrollment will be cancelled (you will be removed from the class). If you are added after this deadline, you must pay your fees immediately.

Even for those who are not on a waiting list, you will have to pay your fees before the semester begins or your enrollment will be cancelled. For the summer session, you must pay your fees by June 6 and for the fall by August 9. If you enroll after these dates, you must pay immediately. If you owe fees from this or a previous term, you will not be allowed to enroll in any credit class until the fee is paid. The district office will be sending e-mail reminders about the approaching deadline. Again, be sure you activate and monitor your Peralta e-mail account.

In other news, the Interpreter Preparation Program at Ohlone College has extended it's deadline to apply for the fall semester. If you are interested in applying, go to www.ohlone.edu/instr/deafstudies/ipp/. The new deadline will be at the end of May with the exact date to be determined.

Deaf actress Marlee Marlin, famous for her Academy Award winning role in "Children of a Lesser God" and a recent "Dancing With the Stars" contestant is launching a new reality series on YouTube. The show is "My

Deaf Family" and features a family in Livermore. The parents, Leslie Firl and Bridgetta Bourne-Firl, are Deaf, as are two of their four children. The nine-minute pilot can be viewed at www.youtube.com/mydeaffamily. Brief articles about the show have appeared recently in the *Oakland Tribune* and the *Los Angeles Times*. 🙌🙌

Important dates during the summer

(9 week classes have different dates):

June 21	Classes begin this week
June 26	Last day to add credit classes
July 1	Last day to drop credit classes without a "W"
July 5	Holiday
July 6	Last day to drop credit classes and receive a refund
July 21	Last day to drop credit classes; "W" will appear on transcript
July 26-30	Final exams for credit classes
Aug 6	Holiday
Aug 23	First day of instruction for Fall 2010 term

Interested students can join the ASL listserv by sending an e-mail message containing your name, class that you are enrolled in, and instructor's name to bcc_vistaaslgroupp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. If you join, you will receive information about Deaf events, articles of interest, job announcements, etc. You can also post information, find other students to form a study group, have discussions, to name just a few options. Membership is limited to current or previous Vista/BCC ASL students.

Berkeley City College
American Sign Language Department
2050 Center Street
Berkeley, CA 94704



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News or comments may be directed to:
Nancy Cayton ncayton@peralta.edu
Berkeley City College
2050 Center Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 981-2872 voice (866) 971-1994 VP

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