



The Deaf Reader

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¹If you have any issues regarding this newsletter, please contact the Director, Editor, or Co-Editor at TheDeafReader@gamil.com.

President's Message

Happy National Deaf History Month

Written by: Dawn Watts *Translated by:* Megan Anderson-Christian

<https://youtu.be/zQG3YTdT2JI>



Hello! I want to share my feelings of inspiration and tell you all, Happy National Deaf History Month. I am really excited to see our congresswoman Joyce Betty of the 3rd District (this includes the Columbus region) support the recommendation to change the dates of National Deaf History Month. This will be presented to the National Association of the Deaf. Hopefully, the new dates will be recognized as soon as possible.

Ohio Alliance Organization and Skip Burgquist brought us together for a meeting last month. I look forward to continuing our monthly meetings. If you are interested in partaking in our meetings feel free to contact me. You are always welcome, email at ohiocdc2016@gmail.com

I would like to honor the Ohio Department of Health. They reached out and invited us to their conference, focusing on a variety of disabilities. They invited myself, other deaf individuals, people who are deaf-blind, and a variety of other people with diverse disabilities. This included individuals who required wheelchairs, have Cerebral Palsy, and more. They brought us together to discuss how disasters such as weather emergencies and flooding impact us. Their goal is to develop solutions so people with disabilities are not left out. Seeing the effort that the staff put into the event was jaw-dropping and they really learned from us! Hopefully, in the future, they will have plans that are based on really listening to us. This could assist organizations such as FEMA as well. This is very exciting and such an honor.

Lastly, During the month of April, our board has agreed to honor a volunteer with a cash reward. After discussing it with the board we chose our "Volunteer of the Year," Debbie Brown. She has truly earned this recognition as our Volunteer of the Year. We look forward to continuing our work together.

Working together,

Dawn K Watts

First Annual Volunteer Award to Debbie Brown

Written by: Dawn K Watts & Juanita Hall

On Thursday, April 7th, 2022, Debbie Brown was SURPRISED to be given a special award by the president of Ohio Citizen for Deaf Culture (OCDC), Dawn Watts, for being the Volunteer of the Year. Debbie was very happy and surprised by this special award. She expressed much gratitude and warmly said this award touched her deeply. She appreciates all that she has learned and how much she has grown since joined OCDC two years ago. Upon receiving her award, she said:

“When I first joined this group, I had no confidence at all. I felt awkward and scared. I didn’t know what I was supposed to do. I went to various people involved with OCDC for assistance as they willingly gave me feedback, and encouragement, and told me to think positively. They told me that I will build confidence. At that time, I kept denying that I could build confidence and do well. Now looking back, I realized that I *did* build confidence! I was involved primarily in two different things: the children’s art contest and Ohio Deaf History Month (ODHM). With ODHM, I helped the five different Ohio regional representatives by encouraging them to support their local libraries by including ODHM in their local branches. From these experiences, I learned a lot and built confidence. I still have a long way to go but I am so much better now compared to two years ago. Lastly, I want to thank all the OCDC board officers and members for helping me through this and for your patience with me. It was an awesome and good experience to work with OCDC. Nothing can replace this. Thank you so much!”



Charles “Chuck” Williams Message

Written by: Charles “Chuck” Williams

I wanted to begin by thanking all of you for your support and good wishes during my recovery. As you have probably heard, at the end of last year I had a life-changing experience. What began as a stubbed toe led to an infection that did not clear up. By mid-January, I decided to have my left leg amputated below the knee to avoid the infection from spreading further. I really had no choice, If the infection continued to spread I could have died.

I am thankful for each day. I am going through rehabilitation and will be getting a prosthetic leg. I am eager to learn how to walk with it. Your cards, phone calls, and Zoom meetings have kept me stay connected with many of you and CDC activities.

I want to encourage you to continue doing the exciting and important work you have planned throughout our state. We Deaf people have been advocating, educating, and promoting Deaf culture for so many decades; and we aren't stopping now!

I look forward to collaborating with you on future events and hope all of you are taking care of yourselves in order to carry on.

Stay in touch!

Chuck



**Join our Ohio Citizens for Deaf
Cultures Facebook Page! 🗣️**



Photo Credit: Creative Commons Public License

I Lost 3 Years of My Passion: Popular Deaf School Principal Gets His Job Back

Written by: David Simons

The TRUTH at Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind came out. Thank you, Mr. Theodore Sakai, Esq., an independent arbitrator. Shame on the abusive department of education, aka the d-o-e. (They do not deserve the capitalization of DOE nor its respect). Did they understand and practice the meaning of ALOHA CARES? d.o.e.'s blanket auto-response to everything around Dr. Ramos was/is/will always be, "Cannot respond due to personnel matter." This translates easily as "cannot respond due to personal "bias" matter!" Now the world sees how vulgar the d.o.e. operated without due process.

Who suffered dearly, our Deaf Keiki's. This severely divided the Deaf communities. This especial affected Dr. Angel Ramos. He endured 3 years of discriminative persecution by Rochelle Mahoe, on 3 levels of discrimination:

1. AUDISM (oppression on the ability to hear and speak)
2. RACISM (oppression of Latin origin)
3. AGEISM (oppression on the elder status)

Why do we have to EDUCATE the board of education? When they are supposed to educate us. Worst of all, we paid the d.o.e. via our taxes and in return, they discriminate against us. Today is 2022, not 1922.

The d.o.e.'s disgusting egoism has permeated the education of the beautiful Hawaiian islands. They HAVE ZERO (or maybe a pretentious) understanding of American Sign Language (ASL) and DEAF education, which requires a vastly different understanding and skill set, in order to rehabilitate hundreds of Deaf students' language acquisition. The majority of Hawaiian Deaf students suffer from language deprivation! It is like removing the operating system of your computer. What will happen to your computer? No explanation was necessary.

Thus it requires more sign language therapy. Not god damned speech therapy, when a student does not have the language to comprehend how to improve her/his speech.

I am not against speech therapy, however if a child does not have language it is simply abusing the language-less child with parrot speech. S/he simply needs a visual language to build the language that was denied within the first 5 years of their life.

American Deaf people are being diagnosed with having an average reading/english level of a 3rd grader. That is not surprising when their teachers have a 3rd-grade level of American Sign Language - clearly relative. Therefore we need to hire more Deaf teachers of color. They are the smartest and most capable of understanding what a Deaf Hawaiian child endures. This would be extremely beneficial in meeting their language and academic needs. Period!

The language-deprived children are often victims of myopic educators who think they know everything about educating the Deaf. Nope! First of all, are they fluent in American Sign Language? None of them! So it is MUCH EASIER for them to choose oralism, in other words, oppression of Signed Language. It is also easier for them to FORCE children to FIT their preferred language of spoken English. They also fail when they deny the education of parents with a NEWBORN Deaf child, the ability to provide their child with acquirable language on day one. Parents are responsible for their child's language acquisition.

Any educator with a basic degree would understand this - a child's first five years are considered to be the critical period (CP.) That is when a child's window of language acquisition opens. The child is like a sponge and can absorb ANY language. At least one language, then the Keoki can pick up any other language once their first language is richly absorbed.

This mismanagement at the d.o.e is not only affecting this Deaf school but ALL schools of Hawai'i! And do you happen to see nepotism taking place? Japanese females at the helm, steering the d.o.e....hmmm? We need multiculturalism to provide a

broader and fair perspective in our education systems!

No wonder we experienced this “PEARL HARBOR” against the HSDB and Deaf communities in August 2019...

FACT: The d.o.e. hosted Deaf education advisory workgroup meetings without the participation of HSDB administrators or any deaf community participation. Dr. Ramos eloquently stated- its as if “ The d.o.e. were hosting a Hawaiian education advisory workgroup without the presence of any Hawaiians”!

Our Angel isn’t alone. Currently, there are six other principals and school leaders being arbitrarily yanked out due to “PERSONAL” bias (not personnel) reasons again and again. Who knows how many good school leaders are being kept out and bad ones are being kept in the school systems.

Now it is the time for Deaf leaders to implement the ASLPI (American Sign Language Proficiency Interview) to filter out the evil tenured employees who have zero or minimal ASL skills at the HSDB campus. Those incompetent employees have simply parked at HSDB to collect their hefty paychecks and eventually comfortable retirement checks, at the expense of depriving a culturally and language-rich environment at the HSDB campus.

FACT: Around 70% of Deaf children live in a home that does not use sign language. Thus it is of the utmost importance to have Deaf culture and ASL rich environments at Hawaii School for the Deaf and the Blind. That means we need to interview both Deaf and hearing employees who possess more than an intermediate ASL level and teachers must have at least 4th to 5th level on the ASLPI. Level 5 being the highest possible score. You can see the ASLPI link below.

How come the Hawai’i department of education FAILED to think and implement this economical academic approach to help Deaf Keikis succeed and convert them into profitable tax-paying citizens? Clearly, it is Hawai’i Doubtment of Education! Shame! I pity them.

Buck the d.o.e.!

We need to recognize and applaud a few of the true Deaf teachers who are loyal to the best interest of the Deaf children at HSDB during these challenging 3 years:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| *Colleen Cidade - the soul mother of HSDB | Tom Graham |
| Brien Nakamoto | Steve Laracuenta |
| Joshua Smith | Darlene Ewan |
| Jonathan Reynolds | |

We owe the future to our Deaf students because THEY ARE OUR FUTURE!

Any questions or concerns, please let me know. Thank you for reading this.

My heart goes out to Dr. Angel M. Ramos who steadfastly stood up to the oppressive and nepotistic idiots at Hawaii's Department of Education, for the Deaf students of Hawai’i.

Thank you Angel for being our Angel!

https://www.civilbeat.org/2022/03/i-lost-3-years-of-my-passion-popular-deaf-school-principal-gets-his-job-back/?fbclid=IwAR1E22c5kj7G8FpJMAuheminECFTmNqVt_TH42CZ8kFelX0dn60q5RRgId4

Deaf Hard of Hearing Consumers Advocacy Network

Written by: Arthur Roehrig

A few days ago, I moved to Westerville, Ohio from Silver Spring, Maryland. I am involved with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumer Advocacy Network (DHHCAN) as a Representative for the American Association of the DeafBlind. We meet on the first week of the month via zoom.

DHHCAN, established in 1993, serves as the national coalition of organizations representing the interests of deaf and/or hard-of-hearing citizens in public policy and legislative issues relating to rights, quality of life, equal access, and self-representation. DHHCAN also provides a forum for proactive discussion on issues of importance and movement toward universal, barrier-free access with an emphasis on quality, certification, and standards. Member organizations are:

- Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AGBell)
- American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB)
- American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (ADARA)
- Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA)
- American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC)
- Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization (CPADO)
- Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD)
- Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD)
- Deaf Seniors of America (DSA)
- Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA)
- National Association of the Deaf (NAD)
- National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA)
- National Deaf Business Institute (NDBI)
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
- Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI)
- USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF)

On April 6, 2022, we met and learned that the DeafLEAD provides a great ASL access to disaster assistance hotline. Lookup for more information. <https://deaflead.com>

The Laurent Clerc Stamp Project

Written by: Laurent Holt (5th great grandson of Laurent Clerc)



The Laurent Clerc Stamp Project

The Sel e of Support (SOS)

The American Sign Language that Laurent and his students began to develop in 1817 is a beautiful visual language! Seeking innovative ways to represent our support for a Laurent Clerc Stamp and catch the eye of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee we have developed the SOS (Sel e of Support). Please consider lending your SOS to our growing stamp campaign!

Directions:

- Take a selfie, making Laurent Clerc's name sign.
- Send the photo to thelaurentclercstampproject@gmail.com or you can post it on Laurent Clerc Who?

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/64625327737>

- We will add the text, store it for our future application and we will send you a copy!
- Tell your family and friends to send a SOS too!

Thank you!

For more information about our project or to learn how you can get involved, please contact Laurent Clerc Holt at

thelaurentclercstampproject@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page...**Laurent Clerc Who?**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/64625327737>

Deaf Grassroots Movement (DGM)-Ohio

Written by: Linda Adams, Cheryl Prusinski, and Vincent Sabino

March 29, 2022,

Dear Mr. Steele,

We are in receipt of your email dated March 21, 2022. In your email, you requested that we wait until the dust settles and after the Board prepares a formal search. Delaying a conversation with your stakeholders and community may have a detrimental impact on public trust, transparency and engagement. We strongly feel that we need to meet and discuss this matter as soon as possible.

Deaf Service Center (DSC) has valued and honored the community's involvement and support through the years. DSC promotes a vision where "communication happens." While, DSC has staunchly upheld core values of communication access and empowerment with Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing for over thirty years, we do not feel you are responding to our concerns nor fully understand the complexity of the issues that you and the Board are dealing with at this time. Presently, the community and stakeholders are unaware of any actions or decisions you may have at this time nor did they have any opportunity to offer input. Since we have not been able to meet with you, we have invested our time to:

- Meet with funders of DSC
- Meet with donors of DSC
- Meet with state agencies stakeholders
- Gather support from the local Deaf Community stakeholders
- Engage with former DSC Board members and/or employees
- Gather support from local and statewide Deaf Associations
- Gather local and national media resources Gather support from the local hearing and disability communities and stakeholders
- Work with consultants to develop strategies and action plans for agency transformation and community engagement.
- Identify potential candidates for interim CEO
- Continue public protests

As you can see, we are well connected and our outreach has been very successful to date. You have received letters from some of the partners listed above. Our expectation remains the same. We request that the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing and DeafDisabled community will be part of the decision-making process impacting the future of DSC and our lives. It is our desire to work with you and the Board directly.

We are very passionate and invested in DSC's future. We will continue our public protests until we have a face to face meeting. We will continue to be transparent and keep DSC informed of our efforts. We hope that you acknowledge and respect our Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing and DeafDisabled community's goal and desire to preserve our treasured agency from further downfall.

The Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing and DeafDisabled community stakeholders, donors, funders, regulatory authorities, consumers, and community supporters are waiting for direction from us. We would like to make a mutual statement that outlines a clear path forward.

Please note that this will be our final request to meet with you. If we do not have a response by April 1, 2022, we will continue our work with the stakeholders, communities, funders, donors, media, and regulating authorities to develop an action plan that will best serve the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing and DeafDisabled community. With our partners listed above, we will focus our energy on services away from DSC. Our preference is to make DSC stronger with your support. Please respond with a date, time and place and we will meet with you.

We look forward to meeting with you and begin planning for a smooth transition!

Respectfully,

The Deaf Grassroots Movement- Core Team

Linda Adams

Cheryl Prusinski

Vincent Sabino

Update

Written by: Linda Adams, Cheryl Prusinski, and Vincent Sabino

April 3, 2022

We want to give you an update regarding DSC and what happened since the protest on Tuesday. Linda, Viince, and I met with two people from OOD: Rick Schanz, Chief Legal Counsel and Greg Dormer, Deputy Director of Bureau of Services for Visually Impaired. OOD-Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities formerly called Rehabilitation Services Commission. BVR is under OOD. The Community Centers for the Deaf (CCDs) in the state of Ohio receive funds from OOD.

With the help of a friend, OOD contacted us via email. We responded and agreed to meet last Friday at 3 pm on Zoom. We shared with them everything what happened with DSC. They were not aware of John's termination. They tried to get answers from DSC and felt that the answers were vague. We shared that DSC consumers are not getting services and the agency has closed their doors. They wrote down everything we reported and said they will investigate.

Katie Scheetz, Director of Ohio CCDs, is on vacation. When she returns, Rick said she will be the contact person. We let them know the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Deaf BIPOC, Deaf LGBTQI community and leaders are on standby, ready to work with them and be involved.



Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures

Ohio Friends of Library Deaf Action

February 24, 2022

Dear Alice L.

Hagemeyer,

I hope this letter finds you in excellent health and safety. On behalf of the Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Board and the community stakeholders, we sincerely appreciate and recognize your energy contributed to the Deaf community by fighting to acknowledge that the National Deaf History Month - March 13 to April 15 annually was very crucial.

On February 7, 2022, OCDC Legislative Director Andrew Knox and I had the opportunity to sit down with the NAD President, Melissa Hawk, and NAD Regional Midwest Kevin Ryan at the table to discuss the concerns, facts, and feedback. However, the President made it very clear that—the decision was based on the feedback from the NAD Deaf Culture and History Section (DCHS) and various stakeholders, including from organizations that represent marginalized communities within the Deaf Community. The NAD mission efforts to dismantle racism within the community, especially with BIPOC Deaf people. During the conversation, we agreed that we would be moving forward with the NAD decision on National Deaf History Month from April 1st to April 30th annually. We will be working closely with US Congresswoman Beatty’s Legislative assistant Nicholas Smanko to ensure we are all moving forward to make National Deaf History Month finally celebrate to thrive and recognize the rich history and culture in the Deaf community.

On behalf of the Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Board and the American Library Association are still recognize National Deaf History Month date will remain same on March 13 to April 15th annually; therefore, we can continue by preserving the rich history and cultures in the Deaf community and while we will continue to recognize the importance of the BIPOC Deaf people.

Respectfully,

Andrew Knox, OCDC Legislative

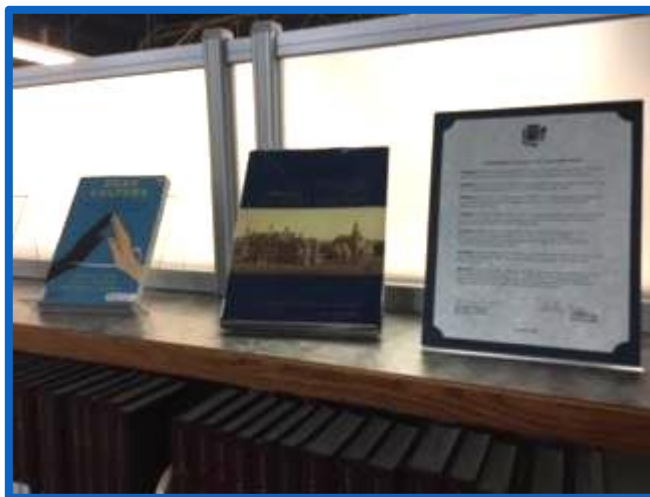
Director Dawil Kwatus, OCDC President

Ohio Deaf History Month at the State Library of Ohio

Written by: Debbie Brown, Photos credit by Debbie Brown

Ohio State Library of Ohio

I just wanted to inform you that the State Library of Ohio has a display for Ohio Deaf History Month. We appreciate them participating in the celebration of Ohio Deaf History Month from March 13 to April 15.



Ohio Deaf History Month at Upper Arlington Public Library

Written by: Debbie Brown, ODHM Chairperson

Upper Arlington Public Library Displays

I just wanted to inform you that Christine Minx had a display set up for Ohio's Deaf History Month. Christine is the Marketing and Community Relations Manager for the Upper Arlington Public Library in Columbus, Ohio. They have a selection of kids and adult books in their Adult Department and they have posters displayed in their vestibule where people enter and exit. We appreciate the Upper Arlington Library's participation in Ohio's Deaf History Month celebration.



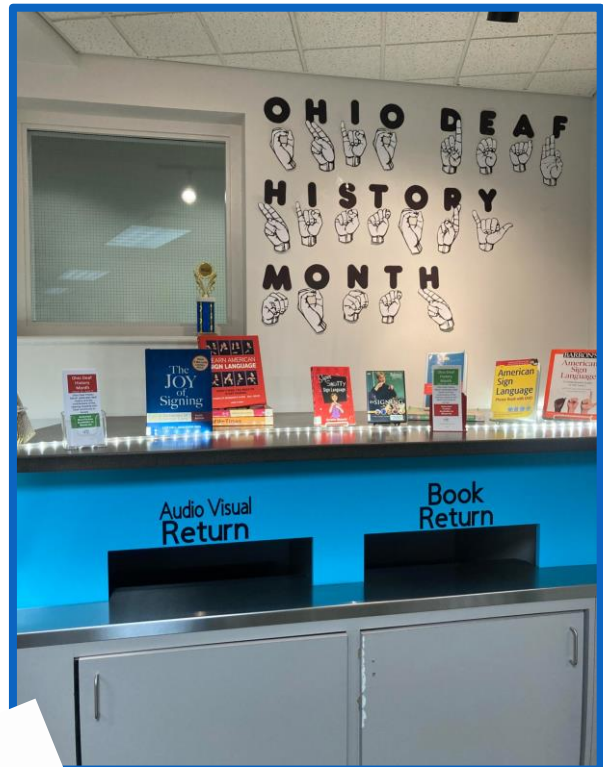
Photos credit by Debbie Brown

Ohio's Deaf History Month Library Displays

Written by: Angie Potosky, Northeast Representative #2

Willoughby Public Library and Mentor Public Library

I am excited to inform you that two local libraries in Lake County have displayed their Ohio Deaf History Month. at the Willoughby Public Library and Mentor Public Library.



Photos credit by Angie Potosky



Photos credit by Google Images

Jack R. Gannon

Written by: Paul Wernsing

I would like to share with you Jack Gannon's book, *Deaf Heritage: a Narrative History of Deaf America*. “It is a comprehensive account of the deaf in the United States since the founding of the [American School for the Deaf](#) in 1817. *Deaf Heritage* is considered a classic and cornerstone of Deaf cultural history” (Jack R. Gannon, 2022., para. 6). While he was at Gallaudet University, he mentioned to me that he was planning to write this book. Big Bingo, A great idea occurred to me! I didn't tell him my plan. A few days later while I was still living in Cincinnati, I went to the Cincinnati Historical Society and did some research on the first National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Convention in 1880. The convention was written about in Cincinnati, Ohio newspapers.

A librarian guided me to the newspaper archives in the basement! It was unbelievable to see old newspapers everywhere! They were laid down on many tables but the old newspaper odor was strong from being stored there for many years. After she showed me the basement, she said to me "Good luck". I had no idea what she was talking about.

My guess was that these old newspapers were not organized very well due to their many tears. They were so fragile and brittle.

Then, I started reading some very interesting articles from past dates. Wow! It felt like walking through a time tunnel back to the really old days. It took me several hours to find the correct month and year in newspapers where the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Convention took place. Bingo again! I finally found what I was looking for. I think there were four or five newspaper companies that printed about the NAD Convention including its building. I dragged all those old newspapers to the copy machine on the first floor. My goodness, it was wonderful to finally get some fresh air! I took all of the copies and mailed them to him the next day.



After his book was published, I met him on campus while traveling for business. I told him about the copies of 1880 newspapers. Immediately, he recalled it along with my letter. He was very grateful that it helped him write his book. About one year later, all of the old newspapers were

gone from that library basement due to fire codes. Each old newspaper was photographed in microfilms. Jack was a fine educated gentleman. His name is well known to the Deaf community. God blessed him.

Photo Credit: Google Images

Jack R. Gannon. (2022, March 25) In *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_R._Gannon

“All About Deaf Kids Fair” in Cincinnati, Ohio

Written by: Pam Blair

There's something magical about the All About Deaf Kids Fair. It's special to have an entire day with FULL ACCESS for all our Deaf and Hard of Hearing family members. It's also quite a treat to have a Deaf Host, Deaf Entertainers, and Deaf Storytellers. It's also fun to have activities, games, or crafts at each table for the families to enjoy together. All this adds up to what you will find when you attend the All About Deaf Kids Fair.

The fair originally started about 15 years ago when Sonia Grindstaff, a school interpreter met with Deaf Institute's Family Ministry Representative, Pam Eubanks. Sonia was determined to find a way to help connect her deaf student with his family, and other families with deaf members like his. She saw his isolation and loneliness. Sonia and Pam together brainstormed and came up with the All About Deaf Kids Fair. The first fair totaled about 50 people with a few scattered tables for games and crafts. This was a huge success. Everyone had a fantastic time, learned, and made connections.



The fair has continued to grow and change a little each year! This year we topped out at 200 + people! While it has changed some, the purpose remains the same: To encourage families with Deaf/HoH and Hearing members to interact TOGETHER through fun games, activities, crafts, and stories. The Fair gives a model for parents to learn and communicate with their child(ren) through positive shared experiences. We focus on literacy and give opportunities for parents to watch Deaf Storytellers read a story to the children in ASL. This is a great opportunity for modeling and learning. We have Deaf entertainers during lunchtime to give a small introduction to Deaf Culture. We have Deaf mentors and

role models to encourage the younger ones.

We invite various organizations to have a table at the fair. These include Museum Center, Police and Fire Dept, Libraries, Churches, Schools, ASL clubs, and so many more. Each table has information to share that may be particularly helpful to the parents, but they also bring along fun activities for the kids to make the day memorable. The kids always go home with a full bag of goodies/ treats and loot they gathered. As they leave, the children get to pick out a free toy from GE Gifts of Hope.



We do the entire event with volunteers and donations from a very small budget. Lunch is generously provided by LaRosa's Pizza. Amazing, yummy desserts are provided by Busken Bakery, plus several other sponsors who donate other things like

water, bags, and monetary gifts. It's not flashy but it's a whole LOT of FUN!!!! Focusing on the Family, Deaf Community, and their unique needs makes this a great event!

A few of my favorite scenes from the fair this year were a little boy copying the signs of the storyteller. A Deaf-Blind man was able to have full access at the fair and shared his Deaf/Blind ministry at one of the tables. A grandma and her granddaughter laughing and playing together. Many friends reunited, and new friendships were made. Parents learn ASL signs and use them for the first time. Parents and their kids were connecting. Child of Deaf Adults (CODA)s played with Deaf and Hearing kids. I saw a LOT of laughter. Hugs. Connections. I saw Deaf Kids in Community, no longer isolated and alone.



During lunch, Deaf Institute announced its name change to Deaf Streetlight and showed its new logo! Bryan and Pam Eubanks retired after more than 30 years of faithful service to the Deaf. Will Dickmann, our first DEAF Director, Pam Blair, Family Ministry Representative, and

Veronica Matthews, our dedicated administrative assistant, all join the Deaf Institute around the year 2021? With all these changes, the heart of the ministry remains. The mission of Deaf Streetlight is to connect Deaf individuals with the community, families, Jesus, and his church. There is no question, the All About Deaf Kids Fair did exactly that. This is what makes the All About Deaf Kids Fair is so magical!



Photos Credit by Tricia Deutch

Children’s Drawing Art Contest

Written by: Debbie Brown

Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures (OCDC) sponsored the 2nd Annual Children’s Drawing Art Contest 2022 in celebration of Ohio Deaf History Month (ODHM) from March 13 to April 15.

Dawn Watts the President of OCDC and Debbie Brown ODHM Chairperson met with the judges on March 10th to select the winners of the art contest. The judges were: Bonnie Sandy, Brenda Schrader, Tom Schlupe, and Willis Cook.

The judges selected the following students:

K-2nd Grade Groups:

1st place winner was Madeleine Fry, 7 years old, 1st grade from ClearFork Elementary School in Bellville, Ohio

2nd place was Matthew Fry, 7 years old, 1st grade from ClearFork Elementary School in Bellville, Ohio

3rd place was Kinleigh Martin, 7 years old, 1st grade from JC Sommers Elementary School in Grove City, Ohio

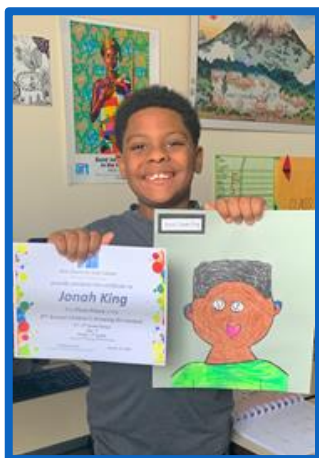
3rd-5th Grade Groups:

1st place winner was Jonah King, 9 years old, 3rd grade from TPS Spring Elementary School in Toledo, Ohio

2nd place was Abrielle Dura, 10 years old, 4th grade from Highland Elementary School in Sylvania, Ohio

6th-8th Grade Groups:

1st place winner was Skanda Ravindra, 13 years old



We congratulate all the students who participated in the art contest. They did an amazing job doing their artwork. For our fundraiser, all of the 1st place winner pictures are printed in the notecards. We want to say many thank you for making this event so successful.

DeafBlind Struggles with Lack of Tactile Interpreters

Written by translator Megan Anderson (ASL Shirley Rybarski)

<https://youtu.be/5Bxf34ovACk>

Hello, my name is Shirley Rybarski. I have been struggling with TIA (Transient ischemic attacks.) I went to my family doctor and he referred me to a specialist. I told the specialist office they would need to request an interpreter one week in advance for my upcoming appointment. I also told them I needed a tactile interpreter because I am Deaf-Blind. I asked them if they could accommodate me, and they assured me they could. The day of my



appointment came and sure enough, they did not have an interpreter for me. They later called and informed me that they could use a Video Relay Interpreter (VRI). I told them that that would not work and canceled my appointment. Being Deaf-blind I require a tactile interpreter, not VRI. I wrote a letter to the office explaining my situation and they agreed to reschedule with a tactile interpreter. The office later had to cancel the appointment because they could not find a tactile interpreter. I called an ADA lawyer (with Deaf Service Center's support) to help me with this tactile interpreter case. I keep being denied interpreters and having my appointments canceled. I called in again and she was very rude to me by saying "NO" and hung up. I called my

family doctor and explained the situation to him. They wrote and sent another letter to the same doctor's office. They finally agreed to set up an appointment with a tactile interpreter, however, I have to wait may until May 31st. I have been struggling with TIA since March of 2021, it's been one year. I need to be very careful and should be going to other doctor's appointments as well. But I guess waiting until May 31st will be fine.

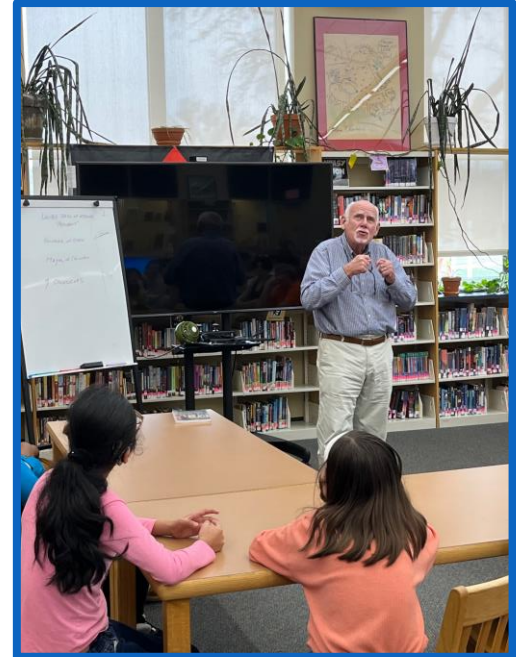
Photo Credit: Google Images

A Special Guest Deaf Author: Kevin J. Nolan, Sr.

Written by Dawn Watts

Kevin Nolan, Sr arrived in Columbus on Tuesday, March 22 in the morning and he gave his presentation to students at the Ohio School for the Deaf in the afternoon. The next day, we drove to Bowling Green State University for ASL classes. On Thursday morning, he met deaf senior citizens at the Columbus Colony Housing 2. Many people purchased his book. Then, Friday, March 25, Kevin stopped at the Apple Store where Andrew Knox worked. Kevin gave some words of

wisdom to Andrew on how to be a good US President in the future.





Photos Credit: Dawn Watts

He is the author of the book, *From Obstacles to Political Victory*. More information about his book may be found at this website: <https://www.savorywords.com/product/from-obstacles-to-political-victory/>

Cleveland Clinic Volunteer Work

Written by: Angie Potosky

I have been volunteering with Cleveland Clinic Foundation Hospital (CCF) for the past 2 1/2 years as a Deaf consultant/volunteer. Why did I become one? I was concerned about ASL interpreting services during COVID-19. When I had pinkeye, I could not go to the doctor's office, instead, we had a virtual conference. I thought it was cool to have the interpreter present there. I contacted CCF and I wanted to help. Did you know that CCF has its own ASL interpreting services? This interpreting service is provided to all Deaf patients and their Deaf companions at all CCF campuses, 24/7, 7 days a week. Both video remote interpreters (VRI) and on-site interpreters are accessible.

We provide training for the caregivers about how to get interpreting services at all campuses. We train the caregivers to speak directly to patients, hand medical documents to patients, and eye contact with patients. ASL-certified interpreters wear a clear mask.

A placard for Deaf patients can be found on the CCF website. It helps to communicate with the front desk when you arrive and let them know your need for an interpreter or special assistance.

Our main goal is to ensure Deaf patients and their Deaf companions can access healthcare equally. If you are interested, go ahead and check out this website for more information.

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/patients/information/language-access-services>

If you have any problems or questions, please email me at Angizza8@gmail.com.



Photo Credit: Google Images

Book Review of *My Journey Through Four Worlds: Growing Up in the Japanese, Deaf, Hearing, and American Worlds* By Ronald Hirano

Written by: Lee Ann Tang *Reprint Permission by* Lee Ann Tang

Documentation of most major events in the history of the United States of America have rarely mentioned any Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals. The chances of finding representation of Asians and Asian-Americans with their deafness being spotlighted in such works is typically even slimmer, and their own works in any form of the medium are often not highlighted. It is unusual for Deaf Asians to share their life experiences, thus I am delighted for Ronald Hirano. This is the third book that he has written and published. His first book is “*The Life Story of Mother Delight Rice and Her Children: The First Teacher of the Deaf in the Philippines.*” However, this was the very first time he was able to concentrate on writing his autobiography—one of the reasons why this book is so valuable.

We learn much through the eyes of an extraordinary person named Ronald Hirano, who identifies himself as a Deaf Japanese-American and a *Nikkei*, meaning an American of Japanese ancestry (p. xix). He was born in the Bay Area in California. He grew up on a fortunate path that gave him numerous opportunities so he could reach his life’s fullest potential. He could not emphasize enough that American Sign Language, through providing language access and direct communication, unlocked his world to the life of what being Deaf meant to him. He has expressed that this is all indebted to his late adoptive mother, Delight Rice. She was the most renowned because she established the Philippines School for the Deaf in 1907; she was mentioned as an honorary contributor to Deaf communities in Ohio, the Philippines, and California (Bay Area).

As Ronald shares about various historical events, his journey unfolds as he faces racial discrimination, audism, and inequity. Nonetheless, he also shared his joyfulness as he navigated in between four spaces— his hearing Japanese family, the Deaf Institute, the hearing environment, and the signing community. He recalled countless remarkable memories in spite of unfortunate events. He is witty and optimistic, his character amazes many.

Rarely have I read a book that includes chronological phases from early age to retirement. This book is nearly a century of storytelling and shows his love for traveling and Deaf communities around the world. Ronald is a man of multiple skills and has much wisdom about life. Here is one of his mottos: “*Who is your boss? Your body, not your brain!*” (p. 107). He often shares that quote because of his rich experiences in serving various Deaf

communities as a volunteer for years. Well, this gives us all something to digest about what we aim for, identifying our interests, passions, skills, and ways to contribute to a community that we want to invest in.

As I read his composition, I wanted him to share a little bit about what his relationship with his Hard of Hearing brother was like on the personal level and gather his thoughts about the war years. I am kind of curious about his viewpoint on the Asian signing community and anti-Asian hate crimes during his youth, for example, what things have changed over time and what the Asian signing community was like in the past. Overall, this book is constructed well with a neat timeline, covers many Deaf- and Asian-related historical incidents, and includes a lot of photos. I firmly believe it would be a great addition to K-12 curriculums. It is also suitable for the high school and college levels in Asian and Deaf literature courses.

On a separate note, I had the wonderful opportunity to meet and chat with this living legend at a virtual collaborative event on FaceBook. “*Book Talk with Ronald Hirano and LeeAnn [sic] Tang*” took place on January 8, 2022. This event was hosted by two Asian Deaf organizations, Bay Area Asian Deaf Association (BAADA) and Southern California Asian Deaf Association (SCADA). I was humbled and honored to interview him and I learned some words of wisdom from him. I am astounded that he is soon entering his nineties and he appears to be very healthy. Moreover, he still writes!

Reference:

Delight Rice (1883-1964). KODAheart. (2017, March 18). Retrieved March 6, 2022, from <http://kodaheart.com/delight-rice/>.



Photo Credit: Google Images

Black Deaf Advocates

July 16, 2022,

Underground Railroad BKA Agler Freedom House
2828 Sunbury Road, Columbus Ohio



Antines “NuNu” Davis lives in Baltimore, Maryland, and is a big fan of the Ravens football team! She spent a good amount of her childhood in Baltimore, MD until in 1989, she moved to Minnesota for a while. She discovered her potential through performing and signing in ASL. She won the first black title of Miss Deaf Minnesota pageant in 1991. She moved back to Maryland. She attended and graduated from Maryland School for the Deaf. She enrolled at Gallaudet University and transferred to Bible College in Minneapolis, MN with a degree in Deaf Studies. She has been involved with many different activities and organizations with Deaf community. I am so proud to be a black person, my heart goes out to people and children of color. She travels around the country performing in BLACK ASL.

She will provide a workshop on how to run in the meeting with bylaws, speak out with positive words and be yourself as a black person.

Bring your brown bag for lunch and BDA will provide water bottles Come and join us!

12 noon to 4 pm

ONLY BLACK People \$5.00 each donation will go to the Agler Freedom House for renovation fund.

Contact to Kimberly Savage, President BBDA at kimberlysavage64@gmail.com

Erie Silent Club

ECCCD

3044 West 26th st, Erie Pa 16506

69th Annual Beach Party Weekend!

August 5th & 6th

All are WELCOME!!

Friday, August 5th

CLUBHOUSE OPENS AT 6PM

\$15.00 per person (incl) Food

Dingo - \$5.00 at 7pm

Door Prize GIVE AWAY at 9pm

Must be present to win

Saturday, August 6th - Beach & Club

Where: #10 Budny Beach

Presqueisle.org

Time: 10:00 am to 3:00pm

Saturday after Beach, Clubhouse opens 5pm. \$15.00 per person (incl food)

Raffle tickets, 50/50 and 15 Envelopes Dingo - \$5.00 at 7 pm

Door Prize GIVE AWAY begins at 9:00pm

Must be present to win

Chairperson - Frank Sobina Jr. VP: 814-707-4870 & ESC.Committee@gmail.com

Children under 15 are not permitted at club.

Cash Bar are being sold at club on Friday & Saturday.

RSVP Deadline July 22, 2022

Mail: Money Order only Payable to: ECCCD
ATTEN: 69th Annual Beach Party, P.O. Box 9428
Erie, Pa 16506
No Refund

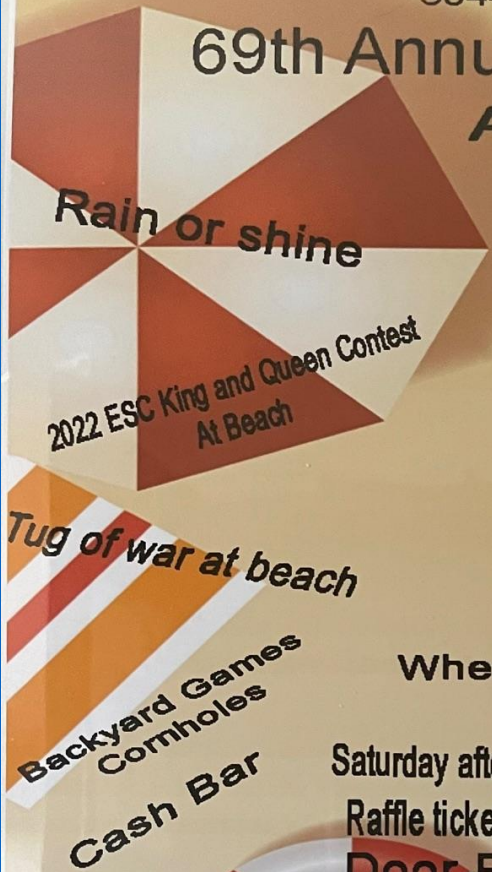
69th Annual Beach Party August 5 & 6, 2022

Name: _____ Guest: _____

Friday: ___ #person \$15.00 ea Saturday: ___ #person ea \$15.00 **Total: \$** _____

VP: _____ Email: _____

Come - See Friends, Meet new & old ones and Let's Have Fun!!



Matt & Jessica Fry Farmers in Mansfield, Ohio

Written by Jessica Fry

My name is Jessica Fry; I have two hearing parents who use sign language to communicate with me. I am complete Deaf, graduated from Upper Arlington Mainstream, attended and graduated from Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. I am also a Deaf Advocate in the deaf community. I support American Sign Language and I am very much involved in the Deaf Community.



Matt Fry has two hearing parents who use home sign language to communicate. Matt attended and graduated from Mansfield Senior High. Matt uses S.E.E. (Signing Exact English). Matt has been a farmer for a long time. He would sometimes come to the Deaf events.

Matt and I met at the Deaf Event – Cornhole. We dated and got married – We have two twins who are hearing CODA (Child of Deaf Adults.) We taught our twins American Sign Language and English. My twins are bilingual. Matt and I share two different cultures of language.

We have a good foundation for being successful Deaf

People. Coming into a small rural town with limited resources, we chose to continue to teach our children the value of Deaf Culture. I believe using American Sign Language as a primary language will benefit our children to interact with anyone. I hope there will be better resources and education to help my children thrive. My son's Teacher and Classroom are learning basic sign language. It has been great to start early in the education process to help my children learn the two different languages. Communication is the key to bridging the gap.



Dr. Steven Chough Legacy

Reprint permission

On November 16, 1985, Dr. Chough provided his presentation “Deaf Culture” to over 60 hearing and deaf people by Northwest Four-County Deaf and Hearing Friends at the Holiday Inn, in Napoleon, Ohio. His professional positions included Senior Psychiatric Social Worker at the Minnesota Department of Public Welfare, Deputy Director of the Mental Health and Deaf program at the St. Paul-Ramsey Medicare Center and Director of the Deaf Treatment Services at Michigan’s Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital. Then, he and his wife moved to Springfield, VA where he worked at Gallaudet University as Advisor for Freshman International Students Associate Professor. Gallaudet University will provide financial aid to international ELI undergraduate and graduate students. To honor his legacy. This scholarship will grow to help support the next generation of international Deaf leaders.



<https://www.forevermissed.com/skc/about>

Photo Credit: Google Images

Paul Wernsing said “Steven K. Chough caught me in flashback at Gally where he taught sociology. I remembered attended his seminar about his young man lived in South Korea during North and South Korea war very seriously in 1950's His deaf friend and Steve would walk around and chatted in sign language. The North Korean soldiers would arrested hearing South Koreans walking around where the enemy soldiers were. Well, the enemies saw two deafies in flying hands and arms in the air. The enenies knew deafies were dumb with no education. They never got arrested. Guess what? Both of them collected valuable information and put inside their minds what they saw in very slightly deep enemy territory. And walked back into hidden area through firing line into friendly territory which was South Korea territory. And reported the superior of the South Korea spy agency. What!!! He was a real South Korea spy agent. Believe it or not? Yes! Very interesting story God Blessed him for freedom for his people.”

Andrew Veith

Reprint permission by: Andrew Veith

Andrew Veith was born deaf and is a native signer. He obtained his studies from Delgado Community College, with a Certification of Technical Studies (CTS) focusing on ASL Studies and (Associate of Arts) A.A. in Interpreting, then completed his Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University. He has been working in a management level of employment since 2006. He has worked in different areas such as: account manager, clinical program manager, director, owner, and operations manager. He passed the Massachusetts State Screening (MCDHH) and is an Approved Deaf Interpreter. He is currently: consulting, teaching, mentoring ASL users and Interpreters, is an active Deaf Interpreter, contracts as a coordinator, and has worked in logistics, and Support Services for over 20 years.

He is very involved with the Deaf community and several organizations, including: the National Association of the Deaf, several State Association of the Deaf, and several State Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. He serves as a Board member for several state organizations. He serves on committees as a representative and advisory boards at local and state-level entities and nonprofit organizations.

He holds an SLPI: ASL Rating – Superior Plus/Superior (July 7, 2009), ASLPI 4 (December 5, 2018), and obtained an award from MSAD in 2015- The Laurent Clerc Service Award. This was in appreciation of his long-term commitment, involvement, and many contributions to Deaf Community.

On March 16, 2022, he provided a training called, “Strategic Training for non-profit organization to the OCDC Board members. If you are interested in having him present for your organization, contact him at andrew@defthands.info



Photo Credit: Google Images

Marker Dedication Ceremony William “Dummy” Hoy Houcktown, Ohio

This is a special dedication ceremony and article on William “Dummy” Hoy written by editor Don Steinman.

April 5, 2022, 3:30 pm Hannah Williams – Riverdale Local Schools - National Anthem
Doug Jenkins –**Sarah Sisser** –**Kyle Parke**

Master of Ceremonies/ Introduction of Guests/ Public Officials / Commendation Letters from Public Officials

Executive Director Hancock Historical Museum

University of Findlay, Professor of American Sign Language

Jerry Dannemiller - CMO, Ohio History Connection

Doug Cade – Hancock County Engineer – Introduction and Acknowledgement of Marker Sponsors

Mike DeWine – Governor – Keynote Address

Unveiling of Marker - Findlay Hancock Chamber Ambassadors (Joined by the Honorable Governor DeWine, Steve Sandy, Jerry Dannemiller)

Closing Song - *“Take me out to the Ballgame”* – Lead by Hannah Williams

Site Address: 16006 County Road 8, Findlay, Ohio 45840 (intersection of CR 8 and CR 26)

The following is from the Eagle Creek Historical Organization Newsletter "The ECHO EXAMINER"

ISSUE #18 - SUMMER 2006

Don Steinman is the Editor/ Author of the article Dummy Hoy of Houcktown, Ohio

“William Ellsworth Hoy is a unique story of a real man. He overcame obstacles and lived his dream. We think you will enjoy this story of the most famous person ever to come out of Houcktown.

Jacob Hoy and his wife Rebecca, were both born in Ohio and moved to Jackson Township, Hancock County, Ohio, where there was a large contingent of Hoy families living. Jacob was a farmer and in the 1863 Hancock County Atlas they owned 120 acres of land on the northeast side of Houcktown, starting at the main intersection. Jacob and Rebecca are known to have had six children. Boys born to this couple were Simon (1854), John F. (1855), Smith H. (1858), William Ellsworth (May 23, 1862), and one daughter, Ora E. born 1866. An infant son, born May 14, 1861, lived only eleven days.

Our story centers on William Ellsworth. At the age of two he was stricken with spinal meningitis, called brain disease back then. This disease left him deaf and unable to speak. He is listed as deaf on the 1870 census. At age

10, William was placed in the Ohio School for the Deaf in Columbus. Getting a late start in schooling, he still graduated at age 18 and was the class

valedictorian and learned the trade of a shoemaker while at the school.

After graduation he went back home to Houcktown to help his father on the family farm. Eventually he opened a shoe repair shop.

Hoy recalled that his father Jacob, gave his sister Ora a cow and a piano when she was eighteen. Each of his brothers, when they became twenty-one, received a suit of clothes, a buggy, harness, and saddle. When William reached twenty-one his father gave him only a suit, but promised him free board until he was twenty-four. His father considered him handicapped and thought he should live at home and pursue his occupation as a cobbler.

Farm boys in the 1880's played a lot of baseball, especially on weekends. Most towns had teams and they went around playing games. William was only 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighted roughly 150 pounds, but had a lot of ability and strength.

By 1885, he was an amateur playing on the town team. A Findlay man, ask him to play for his team in a game at Kenton. The team they played had a professional pitcher, and

Hoy got four hits. At this point in his life, he decided that playing baseball was more fun and had more of a future than shoe repair.

In 1886, hearing that the Milwaukee Brewers of the Northwestern League were looking for a catcher he ventured to Wisconsin and received a tryout and was offered a \$60 a month contract. Catching was a tough job as catcher's mitts were almost like catching barehanded. Confident in his talents, Hoy rejected the offer as an insult. Hearing that the nearby Oshkosh, Wisconsin team was looking for an outfielder, he asked for and received a tryout. Showcasing his talents, the Oshkosh team quickly offered him a contract for \$75 a month to play centerfield, which was his natural position. The Brewers, recognizing their mistake, quickly made an \$85 a month counter offer. Hoy, taking the pad and pencil, answered the Brewers, "I wouldn't play for you for a million a month."

In his first season at Oshkosh, he proved to be an excellent outfielder. His lightning speed and strong arm allowed him to play a shallow center field, taking away many base hits and shutting down any bids for extra bases. He batted left-handed and threw right-handed. His batting though, was a real problem. He hit only .219, as pitchers learned to quick pitch him since he was always looking back at the umpire trying to determine if the previous pitch was a ball or a strike.

During the 1887 season at Oshkosh, he had the third base coach signal him what the umpires call was and as he continued his brilliant fielding, his batting average increased 148 points to .367. His fine season

and his obvious ability and drive were noticed by the Washington Senators of the National League. Bill Hoy signed with the Senators after only two years in the minors and was ready for big league baseball. The kid from little Houcktown was now headed for the nation's capital.

What was professional baseball like during the late 1880's and 1890's? For many years there was only one umpire. If anyone got on base, the umpire would move behind the pitcher. The umpire could not watch everything and

sometimes, runners would not come close to hitting the bases. Also, the ball would become lopsided. As long as the ball did not leave the park, only one ball might be used for the whole game.

Hoy hit .274 for the 1888 Senators in 136 games and stole a league leading 82 bases. He also set several fielding records for the Senators. On June 19, 1888, he threw out three Indianapolis base runners at home plate from the outfield. The catcher that applied all three tags was the legendary Connie Mack, who would go on to own and manage the Philadelphia Athletics. Hoy was the first of only three outfielders in professional baseball to accomplish this feat. With the Senators in 1889 he hit .282 in 127 games.

In 1890, Hoy joined Buffalo of the Players League and played in 122 games, hitting .299. The league folded after only one year, Charlie Comiskey realized Hoy's talents and brought him to the American Association St. Louis Browns in 1890, hitting .288 in 139 games, led the league in walks with 119 and led the Browns with 136 runs scored. The American Association folded after one year

and Hoy, went back to the Senators hitting .279 in 1892 and .259 in 1893. Charlie Comiskey was now managing the National League Cincinnati Redlegs and purchased Hoy from the Senators and he became a fan favorite. In four seasons with Cincinnati, 1894-1897, he hit .312, .274, .296, and .290.

Hoy loved Cincinnati, and made his off-season home there. On October 26, 1898 he married a Cincinnati girl, Annie Marie Lowery, who was also deaf. The Hoy's had three children, and their son Carson became a Hamilton County lawyer, county prosecutor and judge. Carson's son Judson, became a Hamilton County lawyer, county recorder and a state representative. The Hoy's had a special doorbell at their home. The guests would pull a string, which released a lead ball that plummeted to the floor, making a heavy vibration, that signaled the Hoy's that someone was at the door.

For the 1898 and 1899 seasons Hoy played for Louisville Colonels of the National League. He had two good seasons hitting .318 and .306 as a regular. The Louisville team disbanded after the 1899 season and Hoy signed with the Chicago White Stockings who played as a minor league team in 1900.

In 1901 the American League was formed and the Chicago White Stockings, now the White Sox, became a charter member. Hoy played in 130 games, hitting .294. Clark Griffith managed the White Stockings and they won the American League pennant. Hoy had 45 assists from the outfield, which is believed to be a record for any league. On May 1, 1901 he hit a grand-slam homerun, the first ever hit in the American League.

Hoy returned to the Redlegs in 1902 for his last major league season. He hit .294 in 72 games, being released by the Redlegs on August 7, 1902. He would play minor league ball for Los Angeles of the Pacific Coast Winter League in 1902-1903 before hanging up his baseball shoes.

His nickname over the years was "Dummy" or sometimes "Amazing Dummy." The nickname never bothered Hoy and he actually preferred being called "Dummy Hoy."

The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball notes that William Ellsworth Hoy hit .291 in 1,792 major league games with six major league teams in 14 major league seasons. He collected 2,067 hits, stole 607 bases, averaging almost 45 stolen bases a season. While he was not a power hitter, he did hit 40 home runs, drove in 726 runs and scored

1,426 runs. He had a good eye, walking 1,004 times, and amazingly, struck out only 210 times or roughly 15 times a season. This is a remarkable stat as well as his 3,959 outfield putouts and 73 double plays.

In 1903, the 42 year-old Hoy bought a sixty acre dairy farm near Mount Healthy, Ohio on the outskirts of Cincinnati's northwest side. He owned and operated the farm for many years before selling it in 1924. He moved to Akron and worked for Goodyear as a personnel director for several hundred deaf workers. He coached the Goodyear Silents baseball club from 1919 to 1920, when the Akron "Deaf Colony", was at its peak and boasted outstanding sports clubs.

Dummy Hoy certainly left his mark on baseball. Coaches and umpires would signal

balls and strikes to him as early as 1887. This practice continued over the years when Hoy was batting. An umpire in 1905 started signaling all balls, strikes, and outs and gets credit for starting this practice, but he no doubt got the idea from Hoy.

Hoy played with the great Honus Wagner at Louisville, Connie Mack at Washington and Buffalo, Fred Clarke at Louisville, Sam "Wahoo" Crawford at Cincinnati, and played for Charlie Comiskey in Cincinnati and Clark Griffith in Chicago. All of these men have two things in common, first that they are all in the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown and secondly, their life was touched by William Ellsworth Hoy. Former teammate Tommy Leach notes that when he and Hoy went after a ball Hoy would give out a screeching sound and Leach knew he had the ball. These men knew Hoy and what he had accomplished. Pound for pound Hoy was a fierce competitor and given his handicap, had a remarkable career.

Does he belong in the Baseball Hall of Fame? His statistics are better than or as good as many players from his era that are in the hall. Yet, the veterans committee continues to pass him over. He is in the Hall of Fame for many people, his family, his teammates, managers, and certainly the deaf community. Hoy is still a hero for the deaf, as he was able to break down the barriers between the hearing and the hearing-

impaired, in a time that society was less accepting of the handicapped. He succeeded in the hearing world and showed that deaf people can make it in the real world. There are 25 million hearing impaired Americans in this country today.

Here are some Hoy honors. He is in the following Halls of Fame: Cincinnati Reds, Ohio Baseball, Hancock County Sports, Louisville (KY) Colonels, Ohio School for the Deaf, American Athletic Association for the Deaf, Stars in Their Time, and is in the Baseball Reliquary Shrine of Eternals. If you are lucky enough, you can find an old baseball card of Hoy such as the "Old Judge" cigarette cards. Or maybe you might be able to find a copy of the book "Dummy Hoy" by Matthew S. Moore.

In times of steroid and drug use in major league baseball, owners with egos to match their money, and players that are more concerned about how much they make than anything else, Hoy stands out as a real man, much bigger than his 5 foot 5 inch stature.

In October 1961 at the age of 99, William Ellsworth "Dummy" Hoy threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the third game of the World Series in Cincinnati. He would not make it to 100, dying on December 15, 1961 of a stroke. He had hoped to live to 100 but he still lived to be the oldest major league baseball player ever.

Special thanks to Marker Sponsors and Event Contributors:

Ohio History Connection

William G. Pomeroy Foundation Jackson Township Trustees County Engineer Doug Cade

Eagle Creek Historical Organization Sheriff Mike Heldman

Hancock Historical Museum Findlay - Hancock Chamber of Commerce University of Findlay

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

“Take me out to the ball game,

Take me out with the crowd.

Buy me some peanuts and cracker jack,

I don't care if I never get back,

Let me root, root, root for the home
team,

If they don't win it's a shame.

For it's one, two, three strikes, you're
out,

At the old ball game.”

(Steinman, 2006)

Photo Credit: Kim Jump, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities



Reference

Steinman, D. (2006, Summer). Dummy Hoy of Houcktown, Ohio. *The ECHO EXAMINER*, (issue #18).

The Need for More Deaf Teachers/Educators

Written by Anthony Coy-Gonzalez

We know there are great benefits of Deaf students having Deaf teachers like them. This year, as the 2022 Ohio Teacher Fellow, at the Ohio Department of Education, I have focused on trying to grow the Deaf educator pipeline.

Ohio Deaf Educators Rising

Educators Rising is a national program that helps middle and high school students explore careers in education. Last fall, the Ohio School for the Deaf was awarded a grant from the Ohio Department of Education to start the only Deaf chapter in the United States. Angela Moore and Anthony Coy-Gonzalez of OSD host monthly sessions with high school Deaf students in Ohio, bring in guest Deaf presenters, explore various careers in schools (teachers, aides, nurses, technology, counseling, etc.). In March, we brought 11 Deaf students to the state conference for Educators Rising at Capital University with 800 other Ohio students. Students presented to others about Deaf Education, culture, and ASL and won 5th place for their chapter display. In April, we will take students to shadow classrooms/careers and travel to Kent State University to learn about programs, financial aid, and how to receive accommodations. We have a total of 13 members and look forward to growing this next year with schools across Ohio!

Teacher Licensure Accessibility for Deaf Candidates

I have been working with 36 state schools for the Deaf to conduct a survey about teacher exam accessibility, accommodations, and recommendations. 94% of the administrators participating had experiences of qualified Deaf teacher candidates who would be great teachers, but could not pass the exams, with many believing test bias/barriers were the cause. I have ongoing meetings with a group of OSD teachers/staff and leaders in the Ohio Department of Education to explore ways to improve teacher licensure accessibility for Deaf candidates (requirements, accommodations, or alternatives). This report will be made available in the coming months.

Rising Teachers of Ohio Scholarship Fund

The Rising Teachers of Ohio Scholarship Fund was established to provide scholarship awards annually to two graduates of an Ohio high school or comparable program who enroll in a college or university majoring in education, one graduate who is Deaf/HH, and one graduate who is Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Color. Donations can be made to Muskingum County Community Foundation: <https://www.mccf.org/Community-Foundation/Funds/Details/383/The-Rising-Teachers-of-Ohio-Scholarship-Fund>

More News

- SIGNFEST “Our Evolving Deaf World” on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 1 pm at Ohio School for the Deaf’s gymnasium. Free and open to the public.
- National American Sign Language Day on April 15, 2022
- 2022 RID Region III Conference at Greater Columbus Center, Columbus, OH on June 16-19, 2022
<https://sites.goggle.com/ocrid.org/2022-r3-conference/home>
- Ohio Alliance Organization meeting every once a month on third Thursday at 6 pm by Skip Bergquist, Faciltior Contact by email at ohiocdc2016@gmail.com.
- ASL Caregiver Training at Gallaudet University this coming summer.
https://www.gallaudet.edu/continuing-and-online-education/online-learning/caregiver-training/?fbclid=IwAR3kJX3hLc_4qtaMZdXSzFyC-jWNxgFN5PWYUkCB1Wp_83brJWF3HIHC0-0
- Kyle McKay, Photographer with Dawn Watts at the Crown Hotel for the Ohio Department of Health Conference on March 5, 2022. He has his own business, photography. If you need a photographer, contact him at kylemckay007@gmail.com and phone number 614 657 7914



Upcoming Events

Next *The Deaf Reader*
Newsletter Vol. 3
July 2022



Photo Credit: Google Images

Contact Information

The Deaf Reader

Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures
(OCDC) website:

<https://www.ocdclibrary.org/>

OCDC email:

thedeafreader@gmail.com

OCDC mailing address:

P.O. Box 917
Worthington, Ohio 43085 0917

Standing Committees

Ohio Deaf History Month (March 13 to April 15th)

Debbie Brown (Chairperson)

Ohio Deaf Culture Digital Library Task Force

Ohio Alliance Organizations (Professional)

Librarian for Deaf

Ben Gulyas

Deaf Mentor Program

Marsha Moore (Chairperson)

Specialist DeafBlind

Donna Schultz

Bylaws

Kimberly Savage

The Deaf Reader Newsletter

Dawn Watts, Juanita Hall, and Megan Anderson Christian

HR Resolution 224 National Deaf History Month Chairperson

Andrew Knox

WE STRIVE FOR ALL
LIBRARIES MADE
ACCESSIBLE TO ALL THE
DEAF COMMUNITIES IN
OHIO STATE

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Northeast 2 Representatives Chuck Williams, Angie Potosky, and Regis Gilchrist

Ashland, Ashtabula, Carroll, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Harrison, Holmes, Huron, Jefferson, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Wayne

Southwest 3 Representative Paul Wearing

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Central 4 Representative Tim McNutt

Coshocton, Delaware, Licking, Fayette, Fairfield, Franklin, Knox, Marion, Madison, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Union

Southeast 5 Representative Chris Cooley

Athens, Belmont, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington

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