



Mission

To serve the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened Communities

Purpose

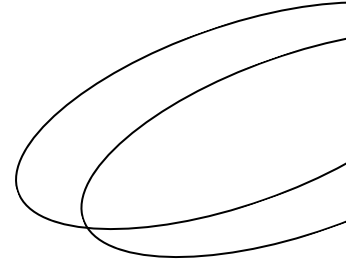
To meet individuals' needs for education, guidance, support, and socialization

Vision

To promote effective open communication within our communities



Monthly Newsletter



TO OUR JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY...



A Message from President Elzbieta Kaminski!



Greetings from Elzbieta Kaminski!

First of all, I want to recognize Bregitt Endicott as my editor. Give her a wave! As you know, the difference between old and new school technology changes daily. One blinks, and technology is getting better and better. Bregitt Endicott is knowledgeable about website design. I am going to learn from her one step at a time. If you wish to keep up with technology tools, the Jacksonville Public Library provides free help. Please look up "Technology Help/Jacksonville Public Library" at jaxpl.org. They will provide an interpreter upon request.

I'm sitting here with a cup of coffee, looking outside at the sunshine on my face. I haven't seen snow here lately. Will we get one or two more snowstorms coming up? I hope so, because it's so beautiful how Mother Nature works. Pause and breathe - when was the last time you made a snowman? Baked cookies? Watched favorite movies? Snuggled with animals? Don't forget the Super Bowl event at JCCD too.

As you see in this photo and others, these ladies embrace the old days, like going to the Deaf Club. That is what JCCD is all about. We all had so much fun relaxing together. The next month's event will be March Madness on March 16, 2024.

For April and May 2024 events, parents of children, what kinds of activities do you suggest for the kids to participate in? Here is the link to share your suggestions: [link] Meanwhile, enjoy the month of February to the fullest with kindness, compassion, and loved ones.

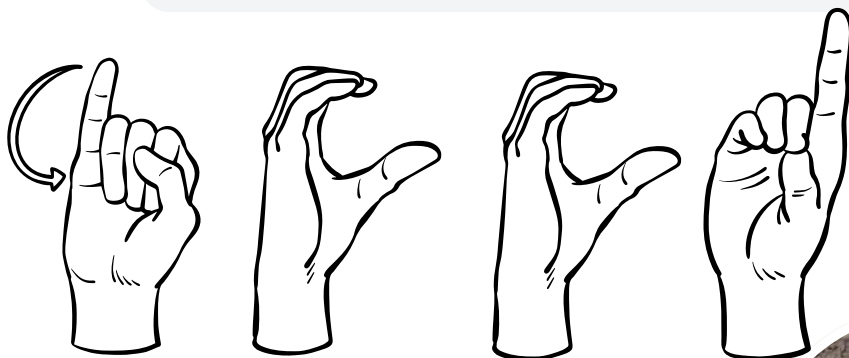
Warm regards, Elzbieta Kaminski

Interview with Former JCCD Members



Janet Pyers

- **1970:** Janet Pyers moved to Jacksonville to work as an educator at the Illinois School for the Deaf after graduating from Gallaudet College (now Gallaudet University)
- **1971:** She was a member of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf (NFSD) in Washington, D.C. while a Gallaudet student. She transferred membership to Jacksonville NFSD Div #88 after Bob Anderson and Pete Wahl convinced the organization to allow women to join.
- **1979:** NFSD Div #88 Jacksonville started a major fundraising drive to create a center for the deaf with a \$5,000 donation.
- **1985 to Present:** She served as an officer for JCCD in various roles including president, treasurer, board member, and on committees like kitchen, social, and archivist.
- Received 4 awards from JCCD: 1990 Dedicated Service Award, 1991 Outstanding Service Award, and President's Awards in 1995 and 2015.
- Loves JCCD for the opportunity to socialize, meet people, and participate in activities.
- Hopes JCCD remains alive and attracts more membership, especially younger people.



Ellen moved to Jacksonville from Mt. Olive and Chicago in 1981. She worked as a janitor at JCCD every week for 2 years. JCCD paid her \$50 a month. She obtained a new job at City Hall in 1987 and quit the JCCD janitor position. She continues to assist with fundraising for JCCD through events such as crazy bowling games, Halloween and Valentine's parties, and flea markets. She has been a JCCD member since the completion of the building.



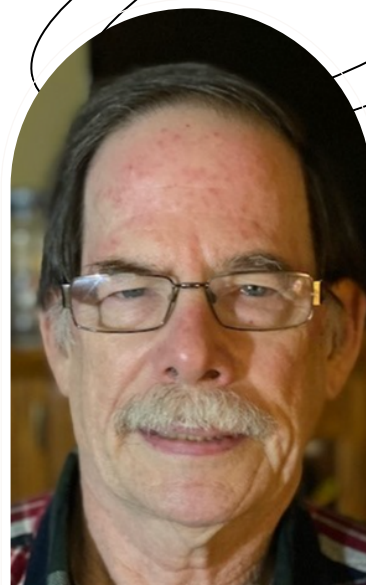
Ellen Thing

History & Interesting Facts about JCCD

We were concerned about preserving JCCD's history because only a few of us who are still alive and have been JCCD members since its inception in 1985 - like Paula Chance, Jeannie Jones, Mary Anderson, and Janet Pyers - remember the circumstances during that time.

We were fortunate that our past President Deloris Summers started preserving JCCD's papers and asked Janet Pyers to collect them. Janet is qualified because she was tutored by her dad on their family tree while growing up. She is also one of the archivists for the Illinois School for the Deaf Alumni Museum. Additionally, she was part of the team developing a book about ISD history and created a PowerPoint presentation for the Illinois Association of the Deaf.

I was asked to write an article for the JCCD Newsletter. I did some groundwork by organizing information about the Jacksonville Community Deaf Senior (JCDS) group. Janet had some JCCD papers at our house, and I was told there were more papers in the JCCD shed. I checked, and indeed found more documents. I have just begun collecting the historical information.



Paul Pyers



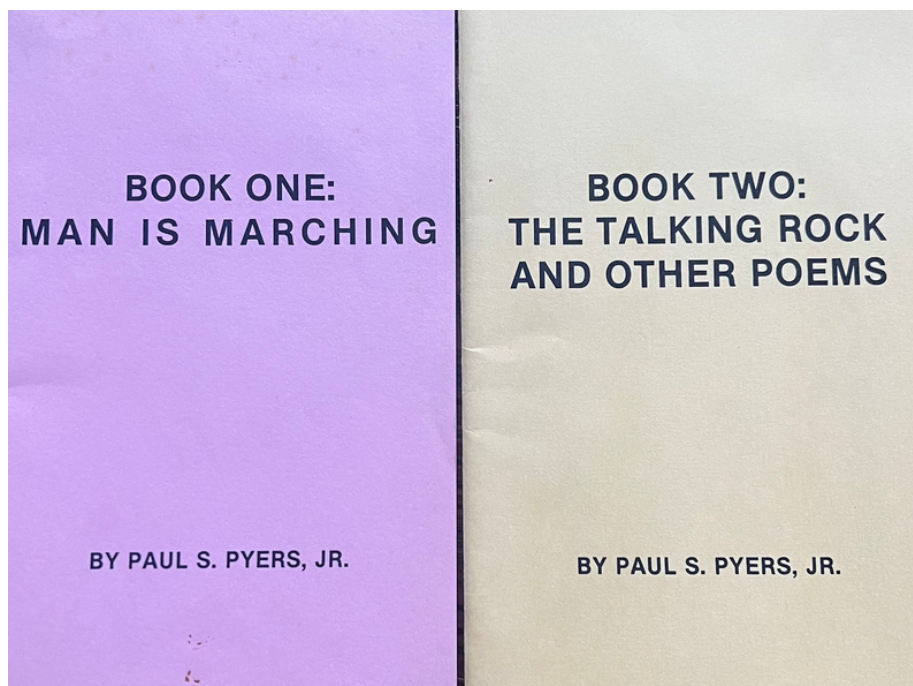
One interesting fact is that there are discrepancies between what the JCCD leaders have told us since the founding of JCCD in 1985 and what we have found in written information.

We already knew that Alvin Eades was the one who donated a portion of the land to JCCD - with the condition that we could keep the land after 40 years. We were told that he was a shopping mall magnate and had a person with a developmentally disabled daughter enter the Alvin Eades Center for Women. However, our present research and information turn out differently.

I had an interview with Paula Chance about the JCCD deed, which tells us that we couldn't keep the land. I will talk more about this issue next time. The AI (Artificial Intelligence) through Microsoft: Copilot and the Jacksonville Source (June 12, 2023) said that Alvin was the grandfather of the Deaf resident, established a foundation to donate money to support our town's hospital, symphony, and library, and owned trucking, coal, and oil companies.

If you have questions but are afraid to ask, feel free to do so.

Paul Pyers is the author of two enchanting poetry collections. His books, "Book one: Man Is Marching" and "Book Two: The Talking Rock And Other Poems". Paul Pyers invites readers on a profound journey of introspection and inspiration.



BIOGRAPHY

Paul Stanley Pyers, Jr. was born with sensory-neural loss of hearing. That was 35 years ago in the 4th month of the year in Ohio. His parents, along with his few years older sister who is married and has two teenaged children, now reside in Texas. His formal education was St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, Missouri and Marian High School in Bellaire, Texas. He got his B. A. degree in History from Gallaudet College of Washington, D. C. and M. Ed. in Deaf Education from Western Maryland College of Westminster, Maryland. Paul started work as a mail handler in Washington, D. C. and for the next nine years was a teacher for the deaf in Houston Independent Public School, Baltimore City Public Schools and Charleston Junior High in Charleston, Illinois. He is currently employed in Illinois School for the Deaf as a dorm recreational worker for Transition Program. The poet is married two years ago and he has two children; both he and his deaf wife, Janet Anderson, are living in Jacksonville, Illinois.

6/15/80



INTRODUCTION for Poems of Paul Pyers, Jr.
By Leonard P. Siger

These are poems of a deaf man, and they are intended to be read as such. The urge for beauty and the quest for a language in which to express that yearning, accordingly, are intertwined. They should not be separated. There is also here a kind of search for language through the experience of beauty - which is unusual. In the midst of this effort one has an overwhelming sense of a great pressure to achieve selfhood.

Though the language is often poetically rough-hewn, it is always philosophically sensitive. There is at the best moments in these writings an intense consciousness of the life inside the things of nature. This lively sense of internal existences shows in a description of the effect of spring warmth on "the tributaries of our body-selves." When the uncanny perceptive ability crosses paths with the search for beauty and language, it produces "an expression of flowers." And its accompaniment is rarefied sense of communication that is appropriate to poetry, as when he writes

Communication is when

We sit down

And watch a flower.

There is a great deal of understandable concern in these pages with body and soul and their interrelationships. More than concern we find a near compulsion to get mastery over the internal "that lies glowingly between the physical and non-physical worlds." At the high pulsating moments the poet displays deep knowledge of the "ravages of psychic fires." At low brooding times he knows the pain of the "monotonous wedge of fate." But at all times the poetical existences are stripped clean like the sculptor Ciacometti's essential men.

THE SNOW DUNE

Driving a car
 One day on a snowy night.
 The lights
 Shine blazingly on a high beam
 Poking, stabbing in the dark
 As if one is interluding
 The sacred stillness
 Of a while-washed road.

Peeking through the stalactite-stalagmite view,
 The windows of both sides of the car
 Are covered with frosty breath. One spells
 Across a barren treeless land;
 The snow dune rests
 With a wonder-ous (s)beach-less shore.

The temperature is bitterly low.
 The high winds blow
 The drifts of the snow.
 The mass particles move slowly
 As if alive
 When the creepy fog
 Scurries them along to hide.

THE SNOW

The weather is playing a havoc game
 Like a child's play
 A treat or foul game
 Of Peek-a-Boo.

The temperature fluctuates
 Between above or below thirty degrees
 Whether we have a freeze or wet weather
 Like a yo-yo game.

It confronts the weatherperson
 Such precious man
 With the technological know-how
 With the aid of scanned satellite
 And wisdom of factual experience.

Such insane weather
 As if it pauses to decide.
 Only Mr. Frost,
 Our imaginable expert,
 Decides whether we have
 Snow, sleet, ice, rain
 To surprises us
 With delight-ful glee.

Only if we come to grips
 With manageable knowledge
 To welcome
 The maintained
 The insane weather cycle
 Into
 The varied spice of weather.

Unlocking Visual Treasures: Dive into Our Newest Photos!



Jacksonville PKZ Alumni sisters celebrated PKZ's 139th birthday at Magnia. Don't miss the must-try French toast at Magnia!



Leading the charge...
For the last slice! 🍕🏈



Gals just wanna have puns...
And touchdowns! 🏈🎉



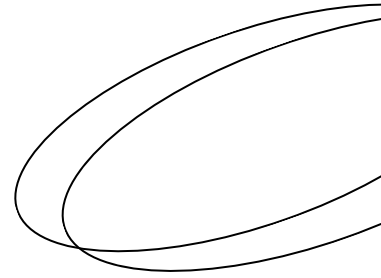
Bringing the heat to the
Super Bowl beat! 🏈🔥



Diving into snacks like
we're diving for touchdowns! 🏈🍔



JCCD Super Bowl Final



1st quarter SF-0 KC-0

Pam Vanmeter \$75

Diamond \$5

Marion Dramin

Lori Brennan

Tara Cook

Tara Cook

2nd quarter SF-10 KC-3

Charles Wolford \$125

Diamond \$5

Jesse Hayes

Erica Lowry

Ellen Thing

Catie Sims

3rd quarter SF-10 KC-13

Greg Lowry \$200

Diamond \$5

Tara Cook

Curtis Braun

Wayne Kester

Dave Cook

4th quarter SF-19 KC-19

Tara Cook \$270

Diamond \$5

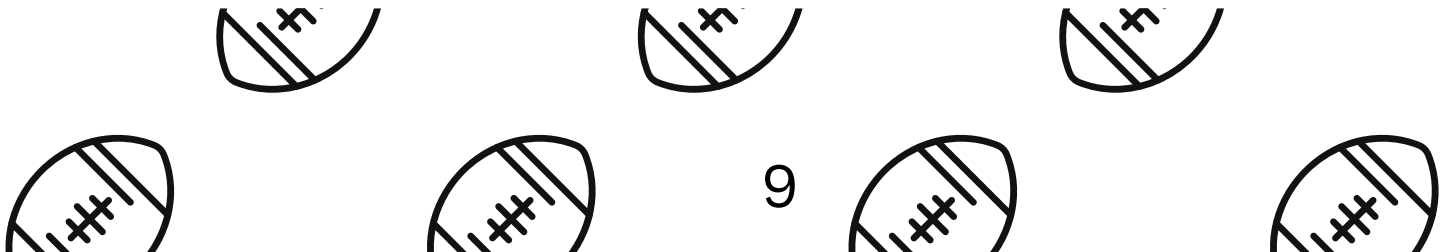
Bob Dramin

Lori Brennan

Linda Kuhn

Pam VanMeter

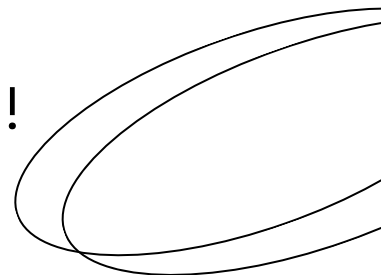
\$250 in profit was allocated to the soda refrigerator, which has been paid off. Later, I will organize March Madness, NBA Finals, and World Series pools to further fundraising efforts for JCCD ADA - Elzbieta





185th Super Bowl Winners

Congratulations to all winners !



1st quarter
Richard Lewis (\$400)

Diamond \$50
 Vanessa Capozzi
 Ellen Thing
 Tonya Logsdon
 Steve McLeod

2nd quarter
Suzy Wallace (\$600)

Diamond \$50
 Becky Prill
 Janice Birchall
 Melvin Long
 David Letkiewicz

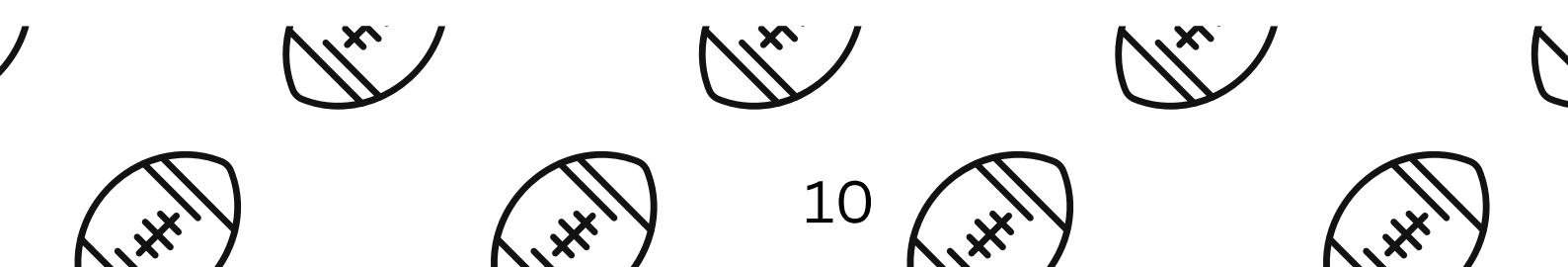
3rd quarter
Linda Green (\$850)

Diamond \$50
 Ruben Pacho
 Tara Cook
 JCCD
 Carol LeGrand

4th quarter
Becky Prill (\$1,100)

Diamond \$50
 Vanessa Capozzi
 Elaine Cady
 Angela Botz
 Tonya Logsdon

Grand total - \$3,750.00 in giveaway prizes to all winners. The 185th Super Bowl pool profit is \$1,250.00 from selling 100 boxes at \$50.00 each for a total of \$5,000.00.





Tiger Den Super Bowl

#2 | Feb 2024



**1st quarter - Vicki Smith
(\$200)**

Diamond \$25

James Luttrell
James Luttrell
Janet Pyers
Scott Friedman

**2nd quarter- Teddy Hall
(\$300)**

Diamond winners \$25

Greg Lowry
Linda Kuhn
Patricia Hoyt
Susan Weiss

**3rd quarter - Randy
Shearburn (\$400)**

Diamond \$25

Scott Friedman
Greg Lowry
Tonya Lodgson
Janet Pyers

**4th quarter - Lori
Brennan (\$500)**

Diamond \$35

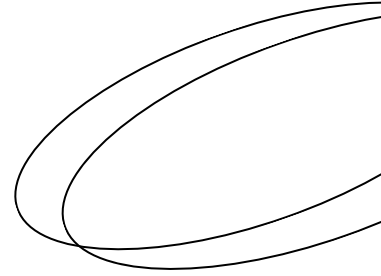
John Riordan
Bob Dramin
Willie Smith Jr.
Jerry Glenn

Grand total - \$1,400.00 in giveaway prizes to all winners. The Diamond winners' money is \$440. The Tiger Den pool profit is \$600 from selling 100 boxes at \$25.00 each for a total of \$2,500.00.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month



- Andrew Foster, born in 1925, was the first Black deaf person to graduate from Gallaudet University. He later became a renowned educator and leader in the Deaf community.



- The National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA) was founded in 1982 to promote the advancement of Black deaf people in the United States. It continues to be a vital organization addressing the needs and concerns of the Black Deaf community.



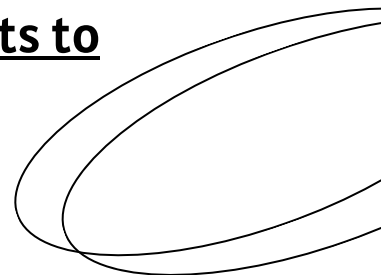
- #BlackLivesMatter was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's murderer. Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation, Inc. is a global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.

BLACK LIVES MATTER





Black History Month: Two Engaging Events to Explore and Celebrate



THE ANDREW FOSTER SERIES

**BLACK DEAF HISTORY:
AND WHY WE ARE NOT SAVED**




<https://gu.live/Rdurg>

PRESENTED BY
LINDSAY DUNN

FEBRUARY 26, 2024
TIME: 11 AM – 12:30 PM
ZOOM WEBINAR



For more information, please
contact: cbds@gallaudet.edu



1. REGISTER HERE by entering your name and email address.
2. You will receive an email after you register with the link.
3. Save that link until February 26th.
4. February 26th: Enjoy learning!





Black History Month: Two Engaging Events to Explore and Celebrate



How to be an ally for Black/Brown Interpreters?
 Feb. 28th 7pm -9pm ET
 Presented by: DeAnna Swope

Presenter Bio: DeAnna Swope
 DeAnna Swope is a Deaf Georgian native and considers herself a jill of all trades. DeAnna used to work in the substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence field. DeAnna was the former program director of BRIDGES, the first domestic violence program in GA for 4 years before moving on to Activating Change as a senior program associate. DeAnna has given presentations on trauma, domestic violence, and mental health over the years. DeAnna graduated with a BA in social and criminal justice as well as an MA in public administration from Ashford University. She's happily married with 5 children and 1 adorable granddaughter.

Workshop Description -
 How to be an ally for Black/Brown interpreters is designed to promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the interpreting profession. The key components of the workshop include allyship understanding, cultural competence, recognition of bias and microaggressions, intersectionality, advocacy, and support; building inclusive environments; effective communication and collaboration; resources and continued learning; interactive activities and discussion; and action plan.

Educational Objectives:

1. Study historical and current issues related to racial disparities in interpretation.
2. Support initiatives that promote the inclusion of interpreters from underrepresented backgrounds in interpreting.
3. Engage in self-reflection and seek feedback from Black/Brown colleagues to improve cultural awareness.
4. Recognize and address microaggressions and biases in the workplace that may affect Black/Brown interpreters.

This workshop will be held in ASL. Requests for interpreters, or other accommodations must be requested to Arazely Moreno at arazely.moreno@purple.us by 2/21/2024.

Target Audience: Interpreters in any fields.
 The link for the virtual workshop will be sent upon registration.

This is a free workshop sponsored by Purple VRS. Register HERE!

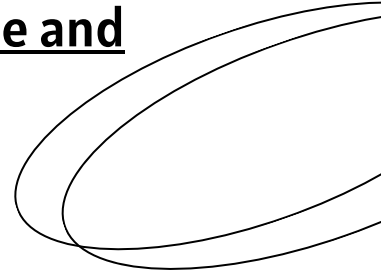
1. REGISTER HERE by entering your name and email address.
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Laughing Circles: A Playful Blend of A Game and Comics



Comics



FEBRUARY

G O H D N U O R G T E V O L C
W T C T C I D E R P H P L C U
O S E T A L O C O H C R P Y P
N W O D A H S A C N L E R H I
A A E W H W E Y N C F S R N D
A R R O W S N R M C L I R O C
M N F T P T I Y A D O D G T C
D A W R E H T A E W W E S G A
W L I R L H N R M L E N N N G
A N I L H S E E Y T R T E I D
G P H N C N L C D T S S W H S
U T L N C I A A N G T R P S A
Y N I I L O V R A T N D T A A
D H A I A G L D C N H T N W D
G D O N N P V N O O T H I L H



- | | | |
|---------|------------|------------|
| Spring | Shadow | Weather |
| Mail | Myth | Flowers |
| Card | Cupid | Washington |
| Lincoln | Presidents | Arrow |
| Predict | Chocolate | Valentine |
| Candy | Love | Groundhog |

TONE DEAF COMICS



Hands Waving to New Boards!



From right to left: President: Elzbieta Kaminski, Vice President: Lori Brennan, Secretary: Lisa Dramin, Treasurer: John Brennan, Board members: Missing Tara Cook, Barb Riordan, Linda Kuhn, Gregory Lowry, Becky Prill

Contact Information: jccdpresident@jccd.org



Hello, my name is Bregitt Endicott. Thank you so much for entrusting me with the roles of editor and webmaster for JCCD. I am committed to providing you with the best service by sharing and researching information. I look forward to connecting with you through this newsletter.

Bregitt Endicott ✧