

Press Release

The Virginia Association of the Deaf will have its 56th biennial conference at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center July 23-26. A variety of events are scheduled, among them the Saturday banquet commemorating the founding of the Virginia Association of the Deaf 125 years ago in Chapel Hall on the campus of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind. The banquet will be followed by Keith Wann's Show "Dangers of ASL". Also featured is the Miss Deaf Virginia Pageant with five contestants competing for the crown of Miss Deaf Virginia on Friday. There will be exhibits by state agencies, vendors and video relay centers.

The conference will kick off with a catered supper by Botali's at the American Frontier Museum on Thursday. Then there will be a general meeting Friday morning to go over reports by officers and committees.

Six workshop sessions are slated for Friday afternoon, including Dave Frank of Kramer Financial who will talk about "The Building Blocks of a Successful Financial Plan"; Officer Lisa Klein of Staunton Police Department about "Scams Used Against the Elderly"; Greg Propp, Professor at University of Virginia about "ADA, Your Rights and Self-Advocacy"; Donna Drake of VRSCA about "VRSCA Belongs to You – What you Need to Know"; Rebecca Joyce, Shenandoah Valley Project Impact & CERT Coordinator about "Emergency Preparedness" and lastly Kevin Johnson at Sorenson about "Direct VP and 10-Digit Numbers".

On Saturday morning there will be a general meeting and election of officers, and in the afternoon there will be an interpreted tour of Staunton by trolley, and another interpreted tour at the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum.

For more information, contact Don Kraus at 540-885-5796 or by e-mail dfkraus@yahoo.com. More information is also posted on www.VAD.org