Hi Everyone,

Remember that NVAD is having its annual Holiday Party on Saturday, December 7, 2019, at the Amphora Restaurant in Vienna, VA. More details are in the flyer which is included in this issue.

NVAD held its election for new officers for the 2020 term on November 2, 2019. I was reelected as president. I truly appreciate your allowing me to continue for a third term as your president. The other officers are: Jamie Berke, vice president; Danielle Thompson-Ochoa, secretary; Robert Goodwin, treasurer; and three members at large, Heather Kendrick, Jeanne Lavelle, and Nancy Rarus.

The next general meeting of NVAD will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at NVRC. The new officers will be sworn in at that meeting. Hope to see you all there!

Joan Corley, our membership director, reminded us at the November 2 meeting that it is time to renew our membership dues for 2020. The membership form is included in this issue. She is also sending out a reminder email with the membership form attached.

The minutes from the November 2, 2019, meeting will be sent out in December. Please take time to read the minutes before the meeting and send any suggestions for corrections or changes to Nancy Rarus at nbrarus@gmail.com. These will be her last minutes as secretary. If there are questions about the minutes, I will show the portion in question, but not the whole thing. We want to allow time for a real business meeting and real issues.

I apologize for the cancellation of the tour of the Maryland Horse Rescue farm that was to take place on November 9. They are moving to a new location and realized they could not handle tours until the move is complete. They will let us know when they are once again able to give tours.

One last thing, but not the least important: Please make sure that everyone feels welcome at NVAD meetings. NVAD is here for everyone in the deaf community of Northern Virginia, and visitors, too.

Have a wonderful, happy, and safe holiday season!

Melanie Williams
President, NVAD
NVAD Holiday Party
Saturday, December 7, 2019
3:00PM
Amphora Restaurant
377 Maple Ave
Vienna, VA 22180
http://amphoragroup.com/

Gift Card of $20.00 for Exchange Game

Please RSVP for head count by December 5, and if any questions, contact Jeanne at JALavelle@cox.net
VP 571-350-8029 or text 571-331-7937
Come on and join us!
1. We need to finish by noon today. NVRC has a snowman making craft class starting at 1:00 p.m.
2. The minutes were sent out October 14 for you all to read. We will only vote on whether or not to accept them.
3. The social committee chair is now Jamie Berke, with Jeremy Smith assisting. The co-chairs of the 75th Anniversary planning committee are Danielle Thompson-Ochoa and Nancy Rarus.
4. The election for NVAD officers and board for 2020 will be held today after new business.
5. We need to decide about the Holiday Party on December 7? I apologize for forgetting to bring this up at the September meeting. NVRC has its annual meeting that morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Do we want the party here at NVRC or at a restaurant?
6. No childcare today. We can only provide childcare if we get specific requests for it.
7. The VAD Conference was held September 20-21 at VSDB in Staunton. I will report on this as NVAD representative.
8. Laurie Dowling’s award lunch for her selection as VAD’s Deaf Mother of the Year was very nice. It was held at Ozzie’s in Fairfax Corner. Her husband Tom and two daughters Kara and Ashley were there. Nancy Rarus was the emcee. Thanks to Pat Beech for organizing the event and to Donna Graff-Viall for presenting the award.
9. Patricia Raswant’s presentation on Audism that was supposed to be given on October 19 was cancelled due to logistics complications. Wendy Batkin is now working with Patricia to try to set up a workshop on audism at NOVA. (NVCC). Possibly in spring 2020. NVAD members will be invited.
10. NVRC Gala will be held December 14, 2019. (Showed information on the screen)
11. We NEED to start working on the NVAD brochure and history. I want the brochures to be ready to pass out at NVRC’s Celebrate Communication in the spring of 2020 and nice copies of the history to give to attendees at NVAD’s 75th Anniversary Celebration. I have asked Steve Williams to follow up on what’s happening with these.
12. Thanks once again to Pat Beech, Joan Corley, and Donna Graff-Viall for their tremendous help with the October newsletter.
Highlights of Reports at NVAD’s Membership Meeting on Nov 2, 2019

**Vice President.** Jamie Berke reported that NVAD Facebook page and Northern Virginia Deaf Community Facebook groups had moderate increases. She also shared her ideas for membership growth: Have booths at events like Fall for Fairfax, Springfest in Fairfax, and deaf events (Deafopia or Gallaudet Homecoming). Have at least one summer social event (ice cream, swim, etc.). She is now chair of the Social Committee and hopes to have a chocolate festival again in February/March, maybe a pumpkin-flavored foods festival in fall 2020. There are plans to offer free open captioned movies for kids once every 3 months and a winter Lego/Duplo event.

**Secretary.** Nancy Rarus reported on the 75th Anniversary: She and Danielle Thompson-Ochoa are chairs. More people needed for the committee. Needs suggestions for speaker. Suggested having socials after each general meeting. Reported on Deaf Seniors Stay Connected! progress. Need names and contact information if possible of seniors who are homebound or in nursing/assisted living programs.

**Treasurer.** Robert Goodwin reported: Beginning balance as of September 1 is $11,828.71. Annual payment to State Corporation Commission (SCC) has been made for 2020. Due to our small size, we will not file IRS Form 1023 (Recognition of Exemption under 501c3).

**Awards Committee.** Jill Moebus reported there will be an awards ceremony in June 2020.

**Lectures/Tours.** Two reports.
- Tom Dowling reported that Dr. Mark Leekoff, a deaf neurologist, accepted our invitation to give a speech at one of NVAD’s general meeting or a dinner on a Saturday evening. The subject will be his experience in the medicine field and health and wellness. He is a NOVA native, graduated from Woodson High School, and helped a deaf team in the competition for Academic Bowl sponsored by Gallaudet University. He needs a few dates from NVAD so he can fit the speech into his schedule.
- Peggy and Paul Daniels shared details of the Maryland Horse Rescue tour in Mt Airy, MD next Saturday, November 9. Sign-up sheet on the table. Participants must sign a waiver form. An interpreter has been set up. Time is 10:00 a.m. to around 11:00-12:00.

(continued on page 5)
Legislative. Tom Dowling reported on Virginia Board for Professional and Occupational Regulation (BPOR)’s proposal for licensure for sign language interpreters. He attended a board meeting as a consumer activist last Monday in Richmond. The board approved a study on whether interpreters should be certified by BPOR based on their skill in a specialized field.

Membership Coordinator. Joan Corley reminded us that we need to renew our membership in January 2020. If we use PayPal or Square, be sure to include this information on the NVAD membership form so she can keep track of membership.

Stock Committee. Gary Viall reported two balances as of September 12, 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Balance</th>
<th>(accounts)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Account #1</td>
<td>$59,709.81</td>
<td>(2 accounts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account #2</td>
<td>$77,164.56</td>
<td>(21 accounts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$136,874.37</td>
<td>(increase of $3,714.90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined balance</td>
<td>$137,940.83</td>
<td>increase of $1,066.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(89 accounts)

Growth from 3/1/10 to 11/01/19:

$137,940.83 - 11/01/19
$46,063.78 - 3/01/10
$91,877.05 - increase in value

NVAD Representative: Melanie Williams reported the following:

1. VAD Biannual Conference held September 20-21 at VSDB in Staunton. 48 members registered, approximately 20 visitors.
2. New VAD officers:
   a. MaryRose Gonzalez—president
   b. Rachel Bavister—vice president
   c. Jeanne Lavelle—secretary
   d. Jay Spraker—treasurer

3. Richmond Deaf Resource Center planning group (RDRC) met twice at VDDHH to consider establishing a Deaf community center in Richmond Metropolitan area like Utah’s. Long term goal. Group consists of RCD, GRCVAD, VAD, ASL Champs, and Deaf Seniors of Richmond.

4. VAD to sponsor Michelle Long at NLTC in Little Rock, AR, Oct. 17-20. Video was played of her thanking VAD for the opportunity.

5. Sarah Ellis and Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE) received Federal grant to set up shelter/counseling for Deaf victims of domestic violence. Sarah will call on VAD and others to get together in October to get services up and running. Daphne Cox asked that we also contact Deaf Women United and NAD for inclusion and assistance.

6. Award Chair Daphne Cox asked for approval to thank Delegate Robert (Bob) Thomas for sponsoring legislation to change wording from hearing-impaired to Deaf (HB 2137).

7. NAD’s Golden Hand Award was presented to VAD T-Shirt Committee for over 20 years of commitment and hard work selling T-shirts to spread awareness of deafness and ASL. See October 2019 eNVADer for more information.

8. Blue Ridge Chapter will hold 2020 Mini-Conference in Roanoke, VA.
Pictures from NVAD’s Membership Meeting on November 2, 2019

Melanie Williams
President

Jamie Berke
Vice-President

Nancy Rarus
Secretary
Tom Dowling talks about Dr. Mark Leekoff (deaf neurologist), who will give a presentation.

Paul & Peggy Daniels talked about the Maryland Horse Rescue tour, planned for November 9. Peggy asked for a count.

Gary Viall
Stocks Committee

Eileen McCartin
NVRC Executive Director

Joan Corley
Memberships
Pictures from NVAD’s Membership Meeting on November 2, 2019
(continued from page 8)

On November 2, Northern Virginia Association of the Deaf (NVAD) held an election of officers for 2020. The officers are: Melanie Williams, president; Jamie Berke, vice president; Danielle Thompson-Ochoa, secretary; Robert Goodwin, treasurer; Heather Kendrick, member-at-large; Jeanne Lavelle, member-at-large; and Nancy Rarus, member-at-large.

Pictured on left:
Front Row: Jamie Berke and Robert Goodwin
Back Row: Jeanne Lavelle, Melanie Williams, and Nancy Rarus

Pam Gannon (NVRC Board Member) and Cathleen Potosky (NVRC Volunteer) hosted a SNOWMAN Craft Making class on November 2. All materials were provided to assemble snowmen using beautiful glass vases and jars. Four members of Happy Hands attended: Pat Beech, Jill Moebus, Nancy Rarus, and Melanie Williams.

At the NVAD meeting on November 2, Jeanne Lavelle, VAD President, presented a certificate to Tom Dowling for the “Golden Hand Award”, an NAD award presented to the ASL T-Shirt Committee at the VAD Conference on September 21. Pictured on the left are Jeanne and Tom.

Pictured on right:
ASL T-Shirt committee
[Steve Williams, Jill Moebus, Tom Dowling, and Donna & Gary Viall]
Hello NVAD Members,

I am a long-time supporter of the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC). I am reaching out to you to share my thoughts about the importance of supporting NVRC’s 30th Anniversary Gala and Showcase on Saturday, December 14, 2019.

Many of you know how important NVRC is for our deaf and hard of hearing communities. Without NVRC, we would not have a place to meet, and we would lose the resources that make a difference for many individuals and organizations. NVRC helps to educate others about deaf culture and hearing loss, especially people who lose their hearing for one reason or another.

I encourage all members of NVAD to consider supporting the Gala and invite all their friends from around Virginia and even Maryland and the District of Columbia to join us. We really need the organization to stay around for a long time and we want it to grow much bigger than it is now. If the entire deaf community comes around to show NVRC its support in a big fashion… that will make a very strong statement, especially to government officials, to increase funding for NVRC.

Be sure to get involved in the silent auction! Funds raised will help NVRC to continue providing support to a diverse range of people, including the deaf, deaf-blind, late-deafened, hard of hearing, deaf senior citizens, parents with deaf and hard of hearing children, children of deaf and hard of hearing parents, educators, sign language teachers and students, hearing aid users, people with cochlear implants, people with tinnitus, and people with auditory processing disorders.

Please refer to the flyer included on page 11 in this newsletter for more information. Hope to see you there!

Thank you so much for your support.

Joe Duarte
NVRC CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & TALENT SHOWCASE

Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center
3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA

Saturday, December 14, 2019
6PM to 10PM

A celebration of 30 years of service, outreach, education, advocacy, and the artistic talents of the community

Come enjoy an elegant, memorable evening of cocktails, dining, bidding on silent auction items, and enjoying entertainment by deaf and hard of hearing talent!

Tentative Program

6:00 - 7:00  Cocktail Hour
           Silent Auction Opens
7:15 - 8:15  Seated Dinner
8:15 - 9:00  Talent Showcase
9:30        Silent Auction Closes
10:00       Event Ends

Deadline to purchase tickets at $125 is December 6.
Any tickets available after this date will be $150.00 each.
No tickets after December 11.

Attire: Black Tie Optional

RESERVATION FORM

I would like to reserve ________ seats for the Gala at $125.00 each  $ ______________
I would like to donate to sponsor a ticket for a parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child to attend the Gala: $ ______________
I am unable to attend, however I have enclosed my contribution of $ ______________

Name(s) ________________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________________________
Contact info (Phone & Email) _____________________________________________________________________

For any dietary restrictions, please email cduarte@nvrc.org at least seven days prior to the event.
Please enclose a check and return to: NVRC 3951 Pender Drive, Suite 130, Fairfax, VA 22030

A portion of your ticket cost will be tax deductible and all proceeds will benefit NVRC.
## Membership Application

**YEAR:**

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### Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$10.00</th>
<th>$25.00</th>
<th>$30.00</th>
<th>$40.00</th>
<th>Other $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please make your check or money order payable to NVAD and mail with membership form to: NVAD Membership Coordinator

3951 Pender Drive, Suite 130, Fairfax, VA 22030

For online payments: [https://paypal.me/nvad1945](https://paypal.me/nvad1945)

For credit card payments, meet the NVAD Treasurer at NVAD General Meetings/events.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

NVAD at [nvadevents@gmail.com](mailto:nvadevents@gmail.com)

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**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY:**

**STATE:**

**ZIP:**

**EMAIL:**

**VP:**

**TEXT:**

**TOTAL:** $________

Visit our website: [http://www.vad.org/nvad.html](http://www.vad.org/nvad.html)

Thank you for your support!