



## ***KAD HIGHLIGHTS***

### ***July 1909***

The first KAD convention was held at North Riverside Park in Wichita. A meeting followed and Homer E. Grace (now the Rev. Homer E. Grace, DD) made a motion to elect Emmette W. Simpson the temporary Chairman. Iona A. Tate was elected as the Secretary and William E. Wait as the Treasurer. A Committee of three, J.J. Dold, Homer Grace and Ison P. Haworth, formed to draw up the constitution and by-laws, which were patterned after the Constitution and By-Laws of the Illinois Association of the Deaf. The purpose of the Kansas Association of the Deaf was "to promote the physical, moral, social and educational welfare of the deaf persons of Kansas, to establish home for the blind, aged and infirm deaf people of Kansas." The organization was incorporated on January 25, 1910.

### ***August 1911***

The second convention was held at the Coliseum in Leavenworth. Four committees were established: Enrollment, Necrology, Nominations, and Resolutions. The KAD voted to become affiliated with the National Association of the Deaf.

### ***July 1914***

One hundred and sixteen participants attended the third convention at the Fraternal Hall in Kansas City. The Association established a Home Fund to establish a home for aged, deaf, blind and infirm.

### ***August 1917***

The fourth convention was held at the public library in Topeka. Due to World War I, several officers were absent and the meeting was short.

### ***September 1920***

Sixty-seven participants attended the fifth convention at the public library in Wichita. The enthusiasm returned after the war when the Association brought fourth several worthwhile motions. Among the motions passed were: 1) To employ more of manual and less of the oral method at the School for the Deaf in Olathe; 2) To request KSD to revive its school publication, the Kansas Star, so the students could benefit from the printing trade and the alumni could be kept in touch with the school; 3) To have KSD establish an agricultural class at the farm of the school so the students could have some farm knowledge after graduation; 4) To have KSD establish a military training program for its students.

### ***September 1923***

The sixth convention was held at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. There were 184 active and 20 associate members.

### ***September 1926***

The seventh convention was held at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe.

### ***September 1929***

The ninth convention was held at Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. The convention was not held during the Great Depression and during the time Kansas was faced with years of drought, grasshopper swarms, and great dust storms. As a result the Association did not meet until the year 1936. Funds had been acquired through the administration of Governor Alf London.

### ***August 1940***

The tenth convention was scheduled at Olathe in 1939, but the political situation at the school forced the convention to be postponed until 1940 when the KAD finally met in late August.

### ***May 1947***

The eleventh convention was hold at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. Due to World War II, the KAD did not meet until 1946. However the polio epidemic was so severe that a large gathering of people (364) was not advisable, so the convention was put off until 1947. One of the noteworthy changes at this meeting was to have future conventions held at different cities instead of having it repeatedly at the school.

### ***May 1950***

The twelfth convention was held at the Broadview Hotel in Wichita. A letter was received from Dr. Powrie V. Doctor, a native Kansan and a professor at Gallaudet College (University) in Washington, D.C., suggesting that a plaque honoring the late Phillip A. Emery, the Founder of the Kansas School for the Deaf, be presented to the new primary building being built which had been named in his honor. Those attending the convention accepted the suggestion. The Home Fund was dissolved, with the money being transferred to the Emergency Fund. William Marra presently headed the museum project. A committee of three, Mary Ross, Willis Ayers and William Marra, was established to revise the KAD Constitution and By-Laws, which had not been changed since 1909.

### *August 1953*

The thirteenth convention was held at the Wareham Hotel in Manhattan. The treasury showed a large increase over the past years of the Association's existence. Most of the credit for the increase went to William Marra, who with others, collected old newspapers, magazines, etc. and sold them for cash which was turned over to the KAD treasury. Dr. Powrie V. Doctor wrote a letter to the convention suggesting that three more people be immortalized at the Kansas School for the Deaf; Mrs. Phillip Emery, wife of the founder of the school and the first teacher and matron at the school; Dr. Arthur Roberts, the late Grand President of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf and a former teacher at the school; Mr. Luther "Dummy" Taylor, an alumni of the school and the coach who promoted clean sportsmanship at the school. He was also a pitcher for the New York Giants baseball team from 1900 to 1908. The convention accepted the suggestion and the plaques were being prepared in honor of them when the new buildings were ready to be built at the school. The convention also voted to present honorary life membership to Dr. Powrie Doctor for his interest in the deaf of Kansas and his assistance to the Association. The Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee gave its report and minor changes in the object of the Association and the establishment of the four membership categories were accepted.

### *August 1956*

The fourteenth convention was held at the Jayhawk Hotel in Topeka. A motion was made to have the KAD pay half of the cost of new flagpole for Hubbard Field, the athletic field at KSD. Maurice Hubbard, son of the late Paul Hubbard, in whose honor the field was named, was to take care of the other half of the expense. For their wonderful service to the KAD, Mr. William Marra and Mr. Stanley D. Roth were awarded life membership of the Association.

### *August 1959*

The Golden Jubilee Convention (KAD's 50th Year) was held in Wichita. Since the other state associations for the deaf had voted for the right to claim an additional exemption of \$600.00 on Federal income tax because of deafness, KAD discussed the issue and turned it down because the members felt that to accept the exemption challenged their deaf pride.

### *August 1962*

The sixteenth convention was held at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. Since the convention had been meeting every three years, a motion was made to meet every two years. After considerable discussion, it passed. The convention was then to meet next in 1964. Another action was the changes in the By-Laws Amendments. The duties of the first and second vice presidents were amended to make these offices more meaningful. As amended, the first vice president was to be in charge of future revisions or amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws; the second vice president was to be in charge of publicity.

### *August 1964*

The seventeenth convention was held at the Baker Hotel in Hutchinson. This convention was the first to be held biennially. The resolution thanking and encouraging WIBW-TV of Topeka, which was among the first TV stations in the nation to use visual warning tornado warning, was presented at the convention and accepted.

### *August 1966*

The eighteenth convention was held in Kansas City. The scholarship to students of the KSD was brought up from the 1964 convention as part of the old business to be discussed. It was controversial and the motion failed. The Arts and Special Interest Committee was established; it was to encourage people to show off their artistic abilities at future conventions.

### *July 1968*

The nineteenth convention was held at the Ramada Inn Motel in Topeka. The Association had been involved, along with seven other surrounding state associations, in investigating the possibility of establishing Senior Deaf Citizen Housing Corp. in Oklahoma. The members accepted a resolution that they can be encouraged to donate their inner ear to the National Bone Bank after death by making a will.

### *August 1970*

The twentieth convention was held at the Broadway Hotel in Wichita. At the business meeting, travel expenses to and from board meetings was initiated in order to boost interests among the members to run for offices. The convention endorsed the involvement of Kansas Roundtable of Organizations Serving Hearing Impaired (KROSHI). The name "Necrology Committee" was changed to "Statistics and Registry Committee" in order to broaden its record keeping of deaf people. A motion was made to hold the KAD Biennial meeting in odd years so as not to conflict with the NAD Convention, which meets biennially on even years.

### *July 1971*

The twenty-first convention was held at the Glenwood Manor Motel in Overland Park. Since the NAD was buying a building for their headquarter in Silver Spring, Maryland, it sent a letter to the associations asking for loans at 6% interest. A motion was then was made to loan the NAD \$1,000.00 and it passed.

### *June 1973*

The twenty-second convention was held at Ramada Inn in Topeka. At this convention a proposal of amending president-elected was made into the By-Laws, a resolution was passed that the KAD does not recognize RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf) as a duly authorized organization to send interpreters to the legal proceedings in the state for the deaf in courts.

### *August 1975*

The twenty-third convention was held at Hilton Inn in Salina. First biennial KAD picnic was proposed and passed with Manhattan's being the first to host it the following year.

### *May 1977*

The twenty-fourth convention was held at Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. The Olathe Club of the Deaf hosted its convention. KAD donated 6 TTYs to KSD. It also donated \$800.00 to buy equipment for the Student Center. KAD voted to drop the position of President-elect.

### *August 1979*

The twenty-fifth convention was held at the Holidome in Hutchinson. The association had signed a contract with the United Deaf Services. Division of Heritage Publishing Company in North Little Rock, Arkansas, to print KAD's official program book, which was distributed at the convention. This was the first time that the convention had access

to the complete and informative book. The association received \$1,000.00 as part of the agreement. Heritage wanted to sign a contract with the association to publish the program book every year, but the convention found that was not feasible and but agreed to publish every two years. It was put on hold until the executive board worked out more details with the publisher.

### *August 1981*

The twenty-sixth convention was held at the Holiday Inn Plaza in Wichita. His family, according to his will to the association, established Frank LaRosh Scholarship. The first KSD graduate to receive was Lloyd High from Tonganoxie for his vocational training in Salina. The first Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant was shown during this convention. Lori Winter was the winner of the pageant.

### *August 1983*

The twenty-seventh convention was held at the Holidome in Lawrence. The Topeka Association of the Deaf hosted its convention. KSD ALMANAC was published. It contained athletic records of the school and names of all graduates (up to 1982). KAD passed a resolution to praise KCTV5 for starting close captioning of its news in Kansas City area. KAD donated \$500.00 to NAD for NAD TV access to help NAD convince CBS to make closed captioned TV more readily available. The Kansas Legislature had established the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired (KCDHI) with state funding in 1982. This was due to the efforts of KROSHI, in conjunction with KAD.

### *July 1985*

The twenty-eighth convention was held at the Glenwood Manor in Overland Park. The Missouri-Kansas Telecommunications for the deaf hosted its convention. This was the first time that a service organization took over as host. "DEAFinitely so" was published. It was a collection of news articles written by Fred Murphy for the Olathe Daily News.

### *August 1987*

The twenty-ninth convention was at the Ramada Inn in Wichita. Mid-Kansas TTY organizations hosted its convention. KAD called for 51% representation by the deaf on KCDHI board of directors. For the first time in KAD's history, KAD agreed to lend \$20,000 to Wichita Association of the Deaf to refinance mortgage on its WAD building. KAD agreed to donate six new Apple computers to KSD. KAD praised KAKE-TV in Wichita and KTKA-TV in Topeka for starting close captioning of their local news. Book 2: KSD was published in honor of KSD's 125th Anniversary.

### *August 1989*

The thirtieth convention was held at the Red Coach Inn in Salina. The Roadrunner Camper Association hosted its convention. The minutes were printed in the 1991 KAD Program Book. The Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant was resumed at this convention. Kristy Heustis was crowned as the 2nd Miss Deaf Kansas. "DEAFinitely so-Book 2" was published.

### ***October 1991***

The thirty-first convention was held at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe. Among the actions taken by the convention were changes to BY-Laws. These changes included the following: To ensure the association was qualified as exempt under Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code; To add a dissolution clause to Kansas Education Foundation; To require a representative from KAD to attend the Family Center Unit meetings at KUMC and to donate \$500.00; To ask the Kansas Legislature to propose that the State of Kansas recognize the Educational Bill of Rights for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children; To upgrade or establish the KAD Hall of Fame in the Marra Museum; To accept the purchase of one of three lots from Jim Silvers for up to \$50,000 from the general fund -- the property then to be deeded to KAD as a part of the proposed Deaf Cultural Center building; And to appoint a subcommittee to prepare a legislative bill relating to ASL in accredited schools in the state.

### ***July 1993***

The thirty-second convention was held at the Fort Hays State University in Hays. Actions taken by the convention included the following: Change in the By-Laws regarding delegation sent to the NAD convention which mandated that two delegates from KAD board and a third from the convention would represent KAD; KAD and KCDHH were to work jointly in asking the Kansas Corporation Commission to mandate that KRSI distribute free TTYs to qualified Deaf and Hard of Hearing users; KAD was to develop new convention guidelines for the 1997 convention; KAD was to approach the State VR to establish the position of State Coordinator for the Deaf and to hire a qualified person for that position; The State Board of Education was to establish minimum program standards for deaf and hard of hearing children; The State Board of Education to be required to continue its support of the philosophy of hiring qualified deaf professionals in various positions within KSD; And finally to request that the State Board of Education and the State Legislature not change the present status of KSD and its outstanding mission to serve normal deaf children.

### ***August 1995***

Two hundred and twenty five participants attended the thirty-third convention was held at the Holiday Inn West in Topeka. The Topeka Association of the Deaf's annual picnic, which was held 1994, was the kick off point for the fundraising event and for planning the convention. The Capital-Journal sent its reporter to interview KAD officers about issues facing the Deaf and Hard of Hearing concerning Vocational Rehabilitation Reform

and Telecommunications de-regulation bills. Four workshops were presented. Kansas Relay Service, Inc. had its luncheon and a business meeting. Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing had its board meeting and several reports were made. The Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant was held at the nearby Landon Middle School auditorium. There were only two contestants, Jessica Kirby and Katie Canfield. The event drew close to 200 with Wayne Munich doing as an emcee. Jessica Kirby was crowned as the 1995-1997 Miss Deaf Kansas. A wine and cheese reception was held at this convention sponsored by KRSI. Albert Carr gave two one-man skits, "Who Am I?" and "ON a First Date." The business meeting was held. After the election, there was a banquet. The president gave the KAD awards to the people who have worked hard to serve the Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers in the state of Kansas.

### *July 1997*

The 34<sup>th</sup> Biennial KAD Convention was held in Wichita on July 24-27, 1997. The headquarters was at Harvey Hotel. The convention attracted 211 registrants. A record-breaking 31 exhibition booths provided informative to registrants. Eight workshops were held on Friday, July 25 and they were quite popular and drew huge audience. The workshop conducted were: ASL Literature; Interpreting Public Schools; Telecommunication Access Program; Basic Financial Planning; Concepts; Adventures in Community Based Programs for the Deaf; Going through Your Way; MCE in Educational Setting and the Basis of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Approvals made by the convention: (1) a committee was to be set up and be given responsibility to ensure that all future conventions be given helping with the Arts and Crafts Program. Also, that Silent Auctions of arts and crafts should be held with the proceeds going to a worthy cause. (2) To amend the percentage breakdown on profit form Modern Captioned Movie showings are evenly divided between the Deaf Cultural Center and the hosting organizations as long as captioned movies are shown. (3) To request that the Kansas State Board of Education add wording to the Deaf Education Standards to include that Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in Individual Education Plan meetings be given information about Deaf Education programs at local schools and the Kansas School for the Deaf. (4) Parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students over 12 years old shall be given the right to choose deaf education programs at either a regular school program or at KSD in an IEP process. (5) To increase the LaRosh scholarship from \$500.00 a year per winner to \$1000.00. (6) KAD to take lead in establishing a "Blue Ribbon" task force to review the education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth-related issues and to review teacher certification requirements.

Since the convention, KAD was involved in the passage of the Newborn infant Hearing Screening Act with a committee from KCDHH. KAD has been working with Kansas Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc to set up a process in referring Deaf and Hard of Hearing People to proper legal help. We also have established a legal Defense fund which helps pay for particular interpreting fees for legal cases for eligible clients and to

refer them to state agencies dealing with employment discrimination. KAD sponsored political rallies at various local deaf club picnics during the summer of 1998.

### ***July 1999***

The 35<sup>th</sup> biennial KAD conference was held at Holiday Inn in Olathe on July 22-25, 1999. A total of 304 people participated in the event. The conference was jointly hosted by Kansas Educational Foundation of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KEF) and Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD).

The roundtable meeting was held for the first time in KAD's history. Over 100 participants attended to discuss various areas of Deaf's rights, education, interpreter service, 911 emergency services, and Legal Aid Service.

Four workshops were presented: (1) S.T.A.R. (Education with deaf children by Nancy Eades, (2) Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing by Rebecca Rosenthal, Executive Director, (3) ADA updates and changes by Tom Kober, NAD Region II Board member and (4) Y2K—Get ready for January 1, 2000 by Andy Lange of Alabama.

Important issues were brought up during the business meeting: (1) Changes in the By-Laws from "convention" to "conference" and revise the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President's position as chair of KAD Public Relations.

Major accomplishments from the conference (a) Establishment of education/interpreter task force committee; (b) Affiliation Organization Task Force Committee; (c) KAD to work with ASL Access; (d) KAD rally and Political Picnic during the next summer of 2000; (e) Established Youth Program, JrKAD and first state-wide JrKAD Conference on November 6, 1999.

KAD received a state association award "exception Advocacy, Program and Service from National Association of the Deaf in July, 2000.

### ***July 2001***

36<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference was held in Salina Holiday Inn on July 19-22, 2001, hosted by Salina Association of the Deaf. 180 people attended the conference.

More changes in the KAD by-Laws: changes in affiliation to KAD which allows representatives from each local deaf club to attend and participate on the Executive Board but not have voting right; changes two board member's duties to serve on financial committee and publicity committee.

New business brought up during the meeting were (a) establish Deaf Education as standing committee; (b) start an E-Group E-mail for Kansas Deaf roundtable under an Internet provider; (c) KAD to approve the guidelines for affiliates. Chapters and organization members; (d) KAD to set up a memorial investment for Senior Citizens to

meet the wishes of donors for a certain purpose; (e) to establish a \$500.00 scholarship for Miss Deaf Kansas at the pageant.

### *July 2003*

KAD has grown to over 400 members in 2003 making it one of the top 10 State Associations in the country in term of membership. The adjoining State Associations have an average of 150 members each. President Jack Cooper has done a great job in reaching out to deaf people across Kansas. Under 1st VP Leonard Hall, KAD has been successful in hosting a bi-annual Political Rally/Picnic and co-hosting political rallies with several local deaf organizations, including Emporia, Salina, Topeka, and Wichita over the past six years. Each political rally attached several candidates for U.S. Congress, state offices (attorney general, secretary of state, commissioner of insurance, state treasurer, state representatives and state senate) and a large number of deaf and hard of hearing people with local newspaper coverage. KAD voted to send out newsletter by E-newsletter or email and many local deaf and hard of hearing people. Under 2nd VP Bonnie Goben, KAD set up its web page site at [www.KSKAD.org](http://www.KSKAD.org) for the public to use. The highlight of the 2003 conference was the excitement in getting ready for the 47th Annual National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference that was held in Kansas City, Missouri and hosted by KAD in 2004. Over 1,500 people from across the country attended the week long NAD Conference. KAD/NAD host committee with 30 members was chaired by Mary Hughes and did an outstanding job with the NAD Conference.