

**Nineteenth Triennial Convention  
May 20-21, 1960  
Prudential Federal Savings and Loan Plaza, Salt Lake City**

The nineteenth triennial convention was held in the new Prudential Federal Savings and Loan Association Auditorium during May 20-21, 1960 (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1963, p. 13).

Dr. David Peikoff, president of the Canadian Association of the Deaf and vice president of the National Association of the Deaf, was the guest speaker. He spoke on the necessity for closer cooperation among various state associations of the deaf and the

National Association of the Deaf. He delivered an inspirational talk and before, after and in between times kept his audience in stitches with an endless repertoire of anecdotes and jokes (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1963, p. 13).

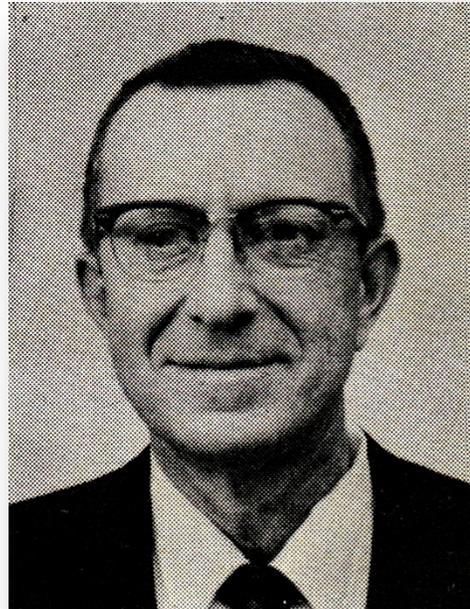


**Dr. David Peikoff The Salt Lake Tribune, May 6, 1959**

Robert G. Sanderson, as newly elected UAD president, vigorously opposed a proposal to ask for \$600 federal income tax exemption because of their deafness. He declared that they are not second-class citizens. He also said that the deaf of Utah are proud of their ability to compete economically with normal hearing persons, and want no federal handouts that would give them an unfair advantage or reduce them to the status of welfare recipients. He insisted on pulling their own weight and paying the same taxes that hurt everybody else (The Ogden Standard Examiner, June 2, 1960; The Salt Lake Tribune, May 29, 1960).

Robert W. Tegeder, who soon became superintendent of the Utah School for the Deaf, reported that in the entire state of Utah there is not one single deaf person who is unemployed, among those who are actively seeking employment. He said if it were not for the Utah School for the Deaf, the 163 deaf students would be strong candidates for the relief rolls. The deaf population was very proud of the fact they were self-supporting. Superintendent Tegeder said with proper training, job opportunities for deaf people were practically unlimited (The Ogden Standard Examiner, April 7, 1960).

Robert G. Sanderson was elected a member of the executive board of the National Association of the Deaf. At the time, he was the Utah's only representative at the national convention at Dallas, Texas, July 3 to 9, 1960 and was accompanied by his wife, Mary (The Sun Chronicle, August 18, 1960). Little did the Utah Deaf community realize the impact he had in the state of Utah as well as at the national level?



Robert G. Sanderson  
The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1963

### **The Problems Facing the Deaf Population**

In spring 1961, UAD questioned inviting parents to join the association. UAD believed that the association would be advantageous to the community as a whole, not just for the deaf and their families alone. The purpose of the invitation was to focus on the necessity for finding mutual areas of agreement and enlarging upon the following three developments:

- The hearing aids were starting to improve. Deaf people with better hearing aids will have the opportunity to interact with hearing people.

- The percentage of those who became deaf later started to decrease while the percentage of those who were born deaf started to increase. In Utah by 1961, half the adventitiously deaf students at Utah School for the Deaf acquired a good language foundation prior to losing their hearing. The congenitally deaf, on the other hand, were increasing and their language development was affected.
- The proportion of deaf people with multiple disabilities was increasing.

As can be seen, these facts indicated an increase in the problems facing the deaf population. Because of deaf leaders' experiences, UAD felt that they were capable of fighting against ignorance, misrepresentation and over-simplification of their problems.

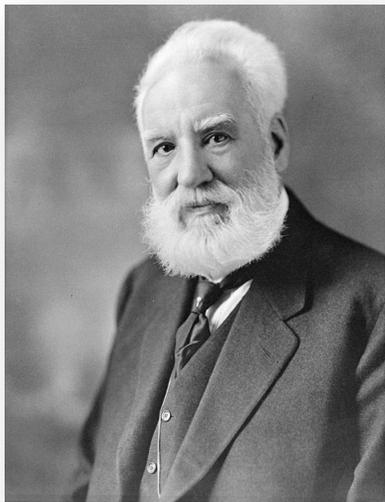
In the past, the Utah Deaf community leaned heavily on hard of hearing people who learned their language before utilizing hearing aids, and those who had lost their hearing later had acquired good oral speech. UAD predicted in the future there would be fewer such people and more with people with multiple disabilities to complicate the picture (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1961, p. 2).

For this reason, UAD would need help and they understood that parents have the motivation to extend such help, that the deaf adults would be in a position to help parents appreciate the significance of deafness and the problems their children would inevitably face as adults (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1961, p. 2).

Under those circumstances, UAD agreed to put aside arguments over methods of communication and focus on the necessity of communication. No matter how well educated deaf people are, the problems that plague them today will continue to trouble them tomorrow. UAD emphasized the importance of awareness of these problems and the willingness to incorporate their solution will ensure that deaf people can continue to take their place as self-supporting, well-adjusted members of society instead of being viewed for the need of rehabilitation (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1961, p. 2).

## Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf

For several years, UAD retained its membership in the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, which was established in 1890. One day, UAD discovered in its brochure, “The Legacy of Dr. Bell,” the organization listed its members as “teachers of the deaf and speech and hearing therapists; parents of deaf children; hard of hearing adults; social workers and physicians, and hearing aid dealers and manufacturers. It was noticed that deaf adults were absent from the list (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1961, p. 2-3).



Alexander Graham Bell  
Source: Wikipedia

Although deaf adults were the product of Alexander Graham Bell Association (AGB)’s rehabilitation efforts, they were in agreement with its objectives of promoting the teaching of speech and lip-reading. However, they questioned its methods as well as emphasis of oralism. Their opinions varied. The only one opinion that stood was that they were concerned about AGB’s single-minded preoccupation with oralism. They did not support the idea of the oral schools for the deaf focus on first a lesson in speech and lip-reading and second a lesson in arithmetic or geography or science, which in turn affected academic potentials when the oral method become inadequate or when a child demonstrated little or no ability for oral instruction. Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf urged that exposure to sign language might weaken the motivation to acquire oral speech while the experience of deaf adults pointed out that pure oral method frequently dulled the motivation to learn. Deaf adults agreed that the acquisition of oral speech and a general education must be concurrent. They felt that the key was not speech, but language. Without an adequate language foundation, there can be no satisfactory communication and the child’s educational progress will be delayed (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1961, p. 2-3).

In winter 1961, USD faced a proposed operational budget cut by Utah Governor George D. Clyde. USD was already the victim of years of neglected vocational training and with the budget cut, it could harm USD's efforts to give students an adequate preparation for life – a life which promised to grow ever more competitive as technological advances puts a premium on skilled workers, unless Utah faced up to its responsibilities. Past graduates had proved that every dollar invested in the education of the deaf would be repaid with tax when entering the working world. UAD warned that the false economy practiced could multiply the problems later (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1961, p.1).

During the summer of 1962, UAD president Robert G. Sanderson appointed W. Richard Brubaker as chairman of the new UAD Traffic Safety Committee. He was responsible for planning, organizing and executing an aggressive campaign to make deaf drivers of Utah the safest drivers in the world. Richard Brubaker stated, "Our record as a whole may be good, but if just one deaf person is involved in or injured in a traffic accident, it reflects upon all of us as drivers." He worked in cooperation with the Utah Safety Council and with the traffic departments of Salt Lake City and Ogden Police. It was his goal to get the accident rate among deaf drivers down to zero and keep it there. He believed that if deaf people could statistically show a zero accident rate, then insurance companies, which at the time refused to insure them, might have a change of heart (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1962, p. 6).



**W. Richard Brubaker**  
**The UAD Bulletin, Spring**  
**1963**

While Robert Sanderson served as UAD president, he wrote an article entitled, "Community Service for the Deaf." He explained the importance of community service, as follows:

“The deaf ordinarily seldom have the opportunity to participate in community service of the type that we associate with the Jaycees, the Rotarians, the Kiwanis, and various other organizations such as the Community Chest, United Fund. Yet we owe our community some service, for it is only service that we give freely and voluntarily that counts on that last great scorecard.

I have personally tried community service with the Jaycees, and, even with fair speech, (and lousy lipreading) it was not easy. To be very frank, even though I participated in some projects, even to getting out and digging post holes for street signs in my town, the great fellowship with others that is a part of the service is something that I missed. The communication barrier is simply too great. But I valued the experience, and I learned much.

For the deaf, the greatest opportunity for community service is right within their own organizations: The UAD, the UACD, the Frat, the NAD and the U-O. Here, among our own kind, we plan and carry out ambitious projects; we fight and haggle, eventually compromise, and still remain friends while we work on behalf of the deaf. For some there is criticism, for others, praise. Yet the greatest reward of all goes to he who can, with clear conscience and calm heart, say, “I have done my part, and have done my best.”

The President’s Service Award was given to those members who completed an assigned task, which was, in the president’s opinion, helpful to the UAD. Other awards will follow from time to time, when earned.

The members of the board, many of whom worked very hard on our projects, receive no award. The reason? You members expect your elected officers to work and to do their best. They realized that in accepting their positions. But the rank and file who pitch in and help when asked – they are the salt of the earth and deserve recognition for their efforts.

He who would serve quickly finds that it is a rough road. There are those who honestly differ with the leadership, and earn respect with their opposition; and there are those who criticize for the sake of criticism, or to hear themselves talk. All through the conflicts of personalities and idea, whoever, we must and do remain friends.” – R.G.S. (Sanderson, *UAD Bulletin*, Spring 1961, p. 6).

In that case, Robert Sanderson was obviously walking the talk, not just talking the talk. At the time, he served within various organizations such as Utah Association of the Deaf and National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, Ogden Division No. 127. He was also a member of the Utah Athletic Club of the Deaf, Ogden Elks, No. 179, Ogden Engineers Club and the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 1 & 5).

## **Junior National Association of the Deaf Launched**

In the summer of 1962, A Junior National Association of the Deaf was launched at Utah School for the Deaf to give young youths an opportunity to be future leaders in the Utah Deaf community (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1962, p. 1).

### **1960 – 1963**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>President</b>         | Robert G. Sanderson   |
| <b>Vice President</b>    | Gladys B. Wenger  |
| <b>Secretary</b>         | Eugene W. Petersen  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>         | G. Leon Curtis  |
| <b>Chairman</b>          | Ned C. Wheeler  |
| <b>Board Members</b>     | Joseph B. Burnett<br>Kenneth L. Kinner<br>Robert J. Welsh<br>John (Jack) F. White<br>John W. Glassett<br>Arthur W. Wenger |
| <b>Board of Trustees</b> | Dora B. Laramie<br>Gladys B. Wenger<br>Donald L. Jensen   |

---

### **Twentieth Biennial Convention Name changed from “of” to “for” June 28-29, 1963 Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City**

Under the leadership of Robert G. Sanderson, on January 12, 1963, a special general meeting was called where deaf leaders debated the distinction between “of” and “for”. It was viewed that the word “of” tends to isolate deaf people. People would think associations of the deaf as social clubs restricted to deaf people. The word “for,” on the other hand, was an invitation for hearing people to join the association. It was a suggested service, a consideration for others, something they could take an interest in and lend their support (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 2).

UAD advocated changing the association's name because twenty-five years ago half the students at Utah School for the Deaf (USD) were adventitiously deaf children who had acquired a good language foundation, now act as the "voice of the deaf." By 1963, most of the students at USD were congenially deaf and the number of students with multiple disabilities had increased (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1961, p. 2).



**G. Leon Curtis, UAD President The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963**

Because of the demographic changes among the population of deaf students at the Utah School for the Deaf and the need of UAD to open its doors in cooperation with those hearing people who were willing and able to assist, it was voted to change the name of the association to Utah Association FOR the Deaf for the purpose of accepting people with normal hearing as active members, with the right to vote and hold office, subject only to the requirement that members of the executive committee must

be fluent in sign language and finger-spelling (UAD Bulletin, Summer 1963, p. 13). A few hearing individuals like Gene Stewart and Beth Ann Stewart Campbell joined UAD. Utah is the first to break tradition with the change in name from "of" to "for." The name changed from "of" to "for" – the State of Utah approved it February 26, 1964.

In voting to accept hearing people as active members, Utah Association for the Deaf followed in the footsteps of the National Association of the Deaf and several associations, but Utah was the first to break tradition with the change in name from "of" to "for." UAD felt the action was long overdue. As James H. Galloway, superintendent of the Rochester School for the Deaf, pointed out: "To achieve effective social action the deaf will...have to drop the deadly idea that the deaf person lives in a world of his own.

For the deaf person does not, never has and never will live in a world of his own” (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 2).

In another action, the members voted to hold conventions every two years instead of every three years (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 6). The twentieth triennial convention of June 1963 was arranged by G. Leon Curtis, and held at the Empire Room Hotel in Salt Lake City. Members of the convention committee, Gladys Wenger, Kenneth L. Kinner and Richard Brubaker assisted him arranging the event (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 7).

Business sessions were held in that hotel with registration opening at 5 PM, Friday, June 28, 1963. The banquet and dance was held in the Lafayette Ballroom (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 7).

Tickets for the banquet and dance were \$4 each and could be reserved by contacting any convention committee member. John Rock and his Royal Family of Magic entertained during the intermission. New board directors met to select executive officers and set operating procedures (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1963, p. 15).

The convention featured the two following speakers:

Utah otologist Dr. David A. Dolowitz, of the University of Utah School of Medicine, gave a talk on the Deafness Research Foundation Temporal Bone Bank. UAD helped publicize the Temporal Bone Bank Program and stands ready to assist people wishing to pledge their temporal bones to help doctors with research, which may help others to hear (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 4).



**Gladys (Burnham) Wenger, a  
member of the 1963 UAD  
Convention committee  
The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963**

E. LaMar Buckner, of Buckner Insurance Counselors of Ogden and past president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, spoke on the subject of insurance for the deaf. He covered the areas as life, accident, fire, and automobile insurance. The

particular area of interest was those deaf drivers who had trouble with their insurance coverage (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963, p. 4).



**W. Richard Brubaker, a member of the 1963 UAD Convention committee  
The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963**

As stated in the Fall 1963 issue of the UAD Bulletin, Robert Sanderson, former UAD president, looked to the future where UAD still faced many unsolved problems, on both national and local levels. He listed the problems that needed to be solved and urged the new board of directors to act firmly and wisely, with much discussion, on them.

Among the problems Robert Sanderson listed the following as quoted from the Fall 1963 issue of the UAD Bulletin:

**Social Services:**

We are working toward the solution of some of our most vexing problems in the area of social work. The deaf have been excluded from services available to the hearing because of the communication barrier. Progress has been made, and we hope shortly to make some significant announcements.

**Rehabilitation:**

Nearly all of the deaf are acquainted with the efforts of the State of Utah to handle this problem; yet one of the most basic needs has been neglected: That of having in the state service someone who is trained in the psychology of deafness as well as in the art of communication with the deaf in the sign language. We must work continually to make the State see this and meet it.

### **Peddling:**

Peddlers are a continuing problem. Our efforts should be not aimed merely at suppression, but at assisting them with those problems that led them into the peddling racket. This is a complex matter, and its solution awaits attack on many fronts.

### **Discrimination against the deaf in employment:**

There are still many employers who will not hire the deaf. They must be educated into understanding that the deaf are an asset to any business, not a liability; but that they are human, too.

### **Insurance:**

We must continue our efforts to persuade large insurance companies to change their blanket industrial policies which discriminate against deaf people. Personnel managers will not hire deaf people when it means the liability insurance premiums will be increased to the point that what a deaf person produces will not pay the difference.

We must also continue ... to accept the deaf as normal risks.

### **Education:**

Better education of the deaf is the only answer to the displacement of the deaf by automation. The slowness of oral methods of training is a double handicap nowadays, when deaf people must overcome both a time disadvantage in the beginning of their education, and the need to absorb vastly more knowledge and technology in order to compete effectively in today's competitive labor market.

### **Industrial Surveys**

There is a need for a survey of all industries in the Intermountain area to determine which ones will accept the qualified deaf person, and which ones are forbidden by insurance regulations from hiring the deaf people. Such a survey might have the effect of opening up hitherto unknown sources of employment.



**Kenneth L. Kinner, a member of  
the 1963 UAD Convention  
committee  
The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1963**

## **Adult Education**

Whether or not there is a demand for adult education classes, and whether the deaf adults will cooperate, is something that must be determined.

We have another, and somewhat of a family problem. Many of our young deaf people show no interest at all in UAD. I believe that it is up to each one of the older folks to meet and challenge their young friends to do their share, and carry part of the load. You must stress that today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders (we hope), so they had better start learning the ropes right now. They can learn how by attending with their ears pinned back several times. And if they are not quitters or gutless wonders, maybe they can show the stuff it takes to become leaders (p. 5).

Robert Sanderson heard much criticism of the UAD activities, but the Utah Deaf community critics apparently were afraid to stand up in a meeting and be seen, where open and fair debate can quickly show who is right and wrong (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 5).

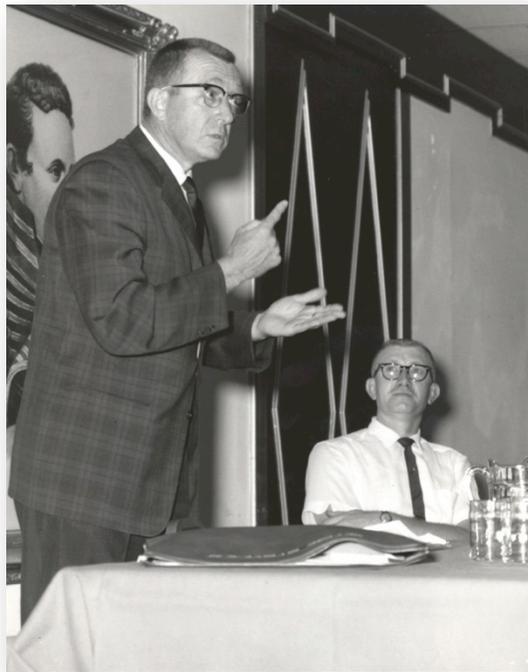
By all means, Sanderson urged the youth to learn something about community service and something about supporting their organizations all the way. He bluntly stated the youth seemed to have developed a very poor philosophy of life. He pointed out they received a free education at school. Their food and lodging at Utah School for the Deaf were free. Often they received a free college education. When they entered the real world, apparently they thought they would also be able to get a free job and free money from Vocational Rehabilitation. Because they neglected to pay their UAD membership dues, Dr. Sanderson perceived that they received everything so easy that they came to expect free service, too, from their UAD officers rather than being in a "membership" organization (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, 5).

At the convention, Sanderson outlined some of the problems facing the UAD and pointed out that "to avoid painful decision is to stagnate." He challenged the young people to prepare themselves, for nobody else is going to help us unless we surrender our independence to them (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 5).

## **Robert G. Sanderson Becomes the 17<sup>th</sup> President of the National Association of the Deaf**

In summer 1964, Arthur W. Wenger, Utah delegate to the 1964 National Association of the Deaf convention, nominated and spoke for Robert G. Sanderson, past UAD president who was running for president of the National Association of the Deaf (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1964, p. 1).

Robert G. Sanderson was considered a gutsy guy who dared to challenge the 18-year reign of the NAD presidency of Bryon B. Burnes, an icon in the eyes of many deaf people. During the debate, he outlined some of the problems facing the national organization and changes, which were to be made. Robert Sanderson said, "I have learned that it is true: No man stands alone." With those words, he made a strong plea for support both through the state associations and individual contributions, and answered questions from the floor. As a result, he won the election and became the 17<sup>th</sup> president of NAD (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1964, p. 1.).



**Robert G. Sanderson is running for president at the 1964 National Association of the Deaf Conference**

Deaf Utahns were so proud to gain recognition for Utah when Sanderson was elected president. A congratulatory dinner was given in the Ramada Inn on July 30, 1964. He gave highlights of his election to the office of president, an honor that he appreciated (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1964, p. 1.).

By the time Sanderson became president on January 1, 1965, he moved the NAD headquarters from Berkeley, California to Washington, D.C. He continued to live and work in Utah where he devoted himself to serving his term as NAD president and advancing the cause of the deaf on both state and national levels from 1964 to 1968 (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1964, p. 1).

Robert Sanderson probably won the election because the NAD delegates supported his NAD headquarters' relocation. During the NAD convention in July 1-7, 1962, Bryon B. Burnes, NAD president stated his belief that moving the NAD to Washington, D.C. might result in losing their identity as a separate organization of and



**New NAD President, Robert G. Sanderson and his wife, Mary, center, receive congratulations at a dinner in the Ramada Inn July 30, 1964. On left are Kay and G. Leon Curtis. At right are Arthur Wenger, Edith and Ned Wheeler**  
**The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1964**

for the deaf. He also stated his objective as a home office of the NAD with a full-time staff. Dr. Sanderson apparently didn't agree with President Burnes. While Dr. Sanderson was the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, a

probable fight on the motion to move the NAD

to Washington, D.C. threatened to stalemate the convention. The Ways and Means Committee succeeded in having adopted a substitute motion to establish a branch office of the NAD in Washington, D.C. to be staffed by a liaison officer familiar with the deaf (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1962, p. 1).

When Robert Sanderson became NAD president, he had accomplished his goal to move the NAD headquarters to Washington, D.C. and this office is still run in that area nowadays.

### **The UAD Successfully Inaugurates Adult Education Classes for the Deaf**

1964 was a quiet year for the UAD and the people it served, but it was also a year of progress. The UAD successfully inaugurated adult education classes for the deaf. This program was a cooperative

project involving the Utah Association for the Deaf, the Community Services Council, Salt Lake Area, and the Salt Lake City Adult Evening School (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p.1).



**Joseph B. Burnett, instructor, pause at start of lesson in family legal problems. Attendance has average nearly 40, with many making the 80-mile round trip from Ogden each week to participant  
The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964**

The initial class in Family Legal Problems was taught by Joseph B. Burnett, UAD chairman. His class at

West High School in Salt Lake City attracted nearly 40 people. He was the first deaf instructor of the adult education program (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 1).

Not only that, UAD sponsored a program which included cooking schools, a traffic school, a political seminar, a fishing derby, amateur nights and several captioned films for the deaf. UAD also continued to cooperate with the United Organizations to arrange the social calendar to avoid conflict among the other organizations' events (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 1).

The response to the adult education program far exceeded expectations and made a very favorable impression on educational leaders. The pilot classes in English for deaf adults were eventually added on Thursday evenings at the school taught by deaf instructors, Edith Wheeler and Pat Stone. The speech conversation class taught by Patricia Francis under direction of the University of Utah Speech and Hearing Department for deaf adults with functional, but deteriorating oral speech, was also added. It was hoped a permanent program to meet their accessibility needs would be launched (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 1).

In the meantime, UAD was working on requesting funds from the 1965 Utah State Legislature to set up an office for counseling and referral services under the wing of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, which later led to the establishment of the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Taylorsville, Utah (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 2).

Over the years, the nature of UAD transformed from its laid-back manner to advocating impacted issues and later providing services. It was reported that many deaf people neglected to pay their UAD membership dues. UAD changed its role to a “service” rather than a “membership” organization where UAD continued to serve all deaf people in Utah to the best of their ability (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964, p. 2).

### 1963 – 1965

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>President</b>          | G. Leon Curtis      |
| <b>Vice President</b>     | Ned C. Wheeler      |
| <b>Secretary</b>          | Eugene W. Petersen  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>          | W. Richard Brubaker |
| <b>Chairman</b>           | Joseph B. Burnett   |
| <br>                      |                     |
| <b>Board of Directors</b> | Glen W. Ross        |
|                           | Peter M. Green      |
|                           | Jerry W. Westberg   |
|                           | Kenneth L. Kinner   |
|                           | Robert G. Sanderson |
|                           | C. Roy Cochran      |

**Twenty-First Biennial Convention  
June 18-20, 1965  
Ben Lomond Hotel, Ogden**

The twenty-first biennial convention was held at the Ben Lomond Hotel in Ogden



**Larry W. Blake, left, accepts the first UAD Award from President G. Leon Curtis at the 21th Biennial Convention of the Utah Association of the Deaf. Dixie Lee Nasfell is an interpreter for the ceremony. The award, a beautifully engraved silver tray, is presented to Blake in appreciation for his efforts in behalf of the deaf people in Utah  
The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965**

on June 18-20, 1965. The convention featured several distinguished guests and the first presentation of the UAD Award. The award was given to Larry W. Blake in appreciation of his work as chairman of the Community Services Council study committee, which studied the problems of deaf adults, and succeeded in getting an appropriation from the State Legislature to set up services for those “forgotten people” (The

UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5). This study later led to the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

A quiet Friday evening business session was followed by the best program of skits seen in these parts in many, many years. Celia May Laramie and Renee Hallett

teamed to impersonate a girl making up for a date. Celia May also performed a clever pantomime, "The Farmer and the Rooster." Roy Cochran and Rodney Walker put on zany skit around a barber chair and a farce, "Mail Order Bride," sent everybody home laughing. Principals were Kenneth Kinner, Leon Curtis, Joseph Burnett, Lavern Burnett, Jack Peterson and Cleo Peterson (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5).

The Saturday business sessions failed to provide any fireworks as member generally expressed satisfaction with the way the UAD was going. The only heat generated was from a spirited condemnation of deaf peddlers (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5).

During the Saturday luncheon, Dr. Ray L. Jones, director of the Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf at San Fernando Valley State College, gave a talk on the Leadership Training Program and experiments which eventually might make it possible for deaf people to use telephones (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5).

The banquet on Saturday evening was highlighted by the award to Larry W. Blake and Robert K. Ward. Mr. Ward, of the Utah Community Services Council, discussed the problem of poverty - its definition, extent, causes and results (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5).



**Robert J. Welsh**  
**The Utah Eagle, April 1955**

Robert J. Welsh, an Utahn currently an instructor at the International Typographical Union Training Center at Colorado Springs, brought greetings from the Colorado Association of the Deaf and gave a short talk on automation and its implications for the deaf (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 1 & 5).

G. Leon Curtis reflected on his two-year term as UAD president and shared six major projects that UAD had sponsored from 1963 to 1965, as follows:

First, the cooking school – the ladies learned a few more tricks for Christmas. Vida White won first prize in the cooking contest.

Second, with the help of the Utah Fish and Game Commission, they had a fishing derby at the Weber County Memorial Park on the South Fork of Ogden River.

Third, UAD was able to learn more about politics. A political seminar was set up and speakers from both parties pointed out their views.

Fourth, UAD set up adult education classes for the deaf. Joseph Burnett was the first instructor; then nine weeks later, it was continued with two classes in English with Edith Wheeler and Pat Stone as instructors. It was successful.

Fifth, UAD managed to get the State Legislature to put some money in the Department of Public Instruction for the benefit of the deaf adults. With the cooperation of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, a counselor who will know how to use sign language will assist the deaf adults who have some kinds of problems such as marriage, financial, personal, work or job problems and so forth [Robert G. Sanderson was hired for this position on November 16, 1965].

Sixth, the UAD Bulletin was going strong as ever. G. Leon Curtis said, “The Bulletin is our best weapon. As the saying goes: “The pen is mightier than the sword.” UAD faced two problems. One was automation, as some deaf workers will be laid off. They had no chance to progress because of no skills. Some will work on low incomes. Due to these problems, peddling has increased and was getting worse. The second



1965 UAD Convention

problem was to get a home for the aged deaf. The biggest problem was money.

Curtis said the other problem was oral and shared his view that it was a pain in the neck. He said, "All we can do for the present is wait. Time will tell. But I can assure you that we are all on our toes watching for things that are not favorable and we will fight for the things that we believe are right"

He said, "With our new counselor, many problems can and will be solved. There will be a program to help the deaf meet automation. There will be more educational programs for the deaf. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation can and will support sending select deaf adults to a school in Michigan where they have a special program under the direction of the Michigan Association for Better Hearing. And through the work of the National Association for the Deaf there will be more possibilities for the Deaf" (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 2 & 6).

Lastly, Curtis reminded the Utah Deaf community what Utah Association for the Deaf had been doing and emphasized that UAD must carry on to meet any obstacles which might cross their path. He pointed out that the UAD is a must to work out the



Eugene W. Petersen, UAD president

problems of the deaf and that this association was the organization where outstanding people will confer because it was the representative of the deaf people in the state of Utah. He asked the community to continue to support UAD in every effort they can give. This situation with National Association of the Deaf was the same. He also asked them to support NAD likewise (Curtis, The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965, p. 6).

Under the leadership of Eugene W. Petersen, UAD realized that many deaf people had valid reasons for not joining the association. In an effort to clear the air, UAD listed 20 of the most-often voiced statements and attempted to explain the association's

position. UAD wanted to emphasize: The UAD is a service organization dedicated to helping all deaf people in Utah, whether they are members or not (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1965, p. 2 & 3). See appendix A of Eugene W. Peterson’s “20 Reasons for Not Belonging to the Utah Association for the Deaf” article – The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1965, p. 2 & 3.

In order to comprehend the struggle of both National Association of the Deaf (NAD) and Utah Association for the Deaf (UAD) to get the Deaf community’s support, see appendix B of the “Straight Answers To Pointed Questions” article. Robert G. Sanderson, president of the National Association of the Deaf and the Utah State Coordinator of Service for the Deaf Adults, and Eugene W. Petersen, president of the Utah Association for the Deaf and editor of the UAD Bulletin, discussed the impact of new services for the deaf adults and the impact on both associations. The questions were by Petersen and the answers were by Sanderson. – The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 2 & 7.

**1965 – 1967**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>President</b>          | Eugene W. Petersen   |
| <b>Vice President</b>     | Ned C. Wheeler   |
| <b>Secretary</b>          | G. Leon Curtis   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>          | W. Richard Brubaker  |
| <b>Chairman</b>           | Joseph B. Burnett  |
| <b>Board of Directors</b> | Kenneth L. Kinner<br>George L. Laramie<br>Jerry W. Westberg<br>C. Roy Cochran<br>Peter M. Green<br>Keith C. Nelson |
| <b>Board of Trustees</b>  | Donald L. Jensen<br>Dora B. Laramie<br>Gladys B. Wenger (New)  |

---

**Twenty-Second Biennial Convention**  
**June 23-25, 1967**  
**Ramada Inn, Salt Lake City**

Under the chairmanship of Richard Brubaker, the twenty-second biennial convention was held at Ramada Inn in Salt Lake City June 23-25, 1967 (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1).

The convention provided a new setting for an old routine where old friends and new friends got together to reminisce, argue, and relax while attending to the necessary business to hear reports, make plans for the coming two years, and enjoy topnotch entertainment (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1).



**Victor H. Galloway**  
**The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer, 1967**

Victor H. Galloway from Arizona was a guest speaker at the banquet. He was a new face to Utah, but a well-known figure on the national scene. Upon graduation from Gallaudet College, he obtained a successful career as an engineer. He was active in various organizations. In 1965, he resigned his job to participate in the Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf at San

Fernando Valley State College, where he earned his master's degree. Although Mr. Galloway could obtain many high-salaried positions in engineering fields, he decided he would get more satisfaction advocating for other deaf people (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1).

UAD showed an exciting film entitled, "Silent World, Muffled World." The film was produced by the Deafness Research Foundation. It not only had captions, it featured deaf characters, including Robert G. Sanderson, and a fascinating look inside the living

human ear as a surgeon performed an operation using a microscope (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1).

Saturday's business included the all-important election of a new board of directors, in whose hands the association's interests would be entrusted for the next two years (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1).



1967 UAD Convention

The following banquet, a dance was held where everybody had the opportunity to "feel" the music.

Ronald Perkins' popular parents closed the convention on a swinging note (The UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967, p. 1)

### **Peddler Warning Blankets State of Utah**

UAD still resented deaf peddlers and imposters because of misguided sympathy.



Members of the UAD Board of Directors: l.to r, front: Kenneth L. Kinner, G. Leon Curtis, Joseph Burnett, Priscilla Burdett, Dennis Platt. Back row: l. to r. Roy Cochran, George Laramie, W. Richard Brubaker, Robert G. Sanderson, Ned C. Wheeler and Spencer C. Hind.

The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1967

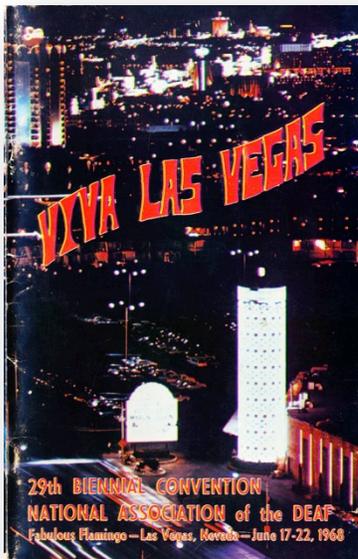
They were still around selling worthless trinkets or alphabet cards in the state of Utah. In order to save the Utah Deaf community reputation, UAD tried to put halt to it. Over 1,000 warning letters about deaf peddlers and imposters

were mailed to every restaurant, drive-in café, tavern, bowling alley, drive-in theater and department store, drug store, chamber of commerce, newspaper and police department in Utah. The printing was done by students at the USD. Postage was paid by UAD (The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1967, p. 2).

For more information about the services of UAD and what the association had done for the Utah Deaf community, see appendix C of President Eugene W. Petersen’s “22<sup>nd</sup> Convention of the UAD” article – The UAD Bulletin, vol. 5, no. 1, Winter 1967, p. 4.

### **The 1968 National Association of the Deaf Convention**

The Utah Association for the Deaf made the bid and “won” the 1968 convention of the National Association of the Deaf convention. It was held in Las Vegas, Nevada with Utah as the sponsor under the direction of the NAD itself. The NAD had decided on



Las Vegas instead of Salt Lake City because past conventions had been limited to states with enough manpower and resources to take charge of arrangements, with proceeds divided 50-50 between the sponsoring state associations. Besides, the NAD Board wanted more control over the convention and Las Vegas offered the best convention facilities in the country. Under this arrangement, the UAD officially turned over control of the convention to the NAD (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966, p. 1; The UAD Bulletin, Winter 1967, p. 2).

Utah however had the honor of being the host of the 29<sup>th</sup> National Association of the Deaf convention in Las Vegas on June 17-22, 1968, and it was a great success. Credit for this success went to two well-known Utahns, Robert G. Sanderson, as president and

chairman of the convention meetings and Ned C. Wheeler, as chairman of the weeklong convention (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1968, p. 4).

During the convention, Robert Sanderson became the first NAD president emeritus to have a position on the Board of Directors. He was given the full rights and privileges as a board member. It was felt the each past president of the NAD should be retained on the board to

utilize the knowledge and experience gained during his term as president (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1968, p. 8).



Frederick C. Schreiber presenting gavel to new NAD president, Robert G. Sanderson, 1964  
Photo courtesy of Jerome D. Schein

### 1967 - 1969

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>President</b>          | G. Leon Curtis   |
| <b>Vice President</b>     | Joseph B. Burnett  |
| <b>Secretary</b>          | Priscilla J. Burdett   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>          | Dennis R. Platt  |
| <b>Chairman</b>           | Kenneth L. Kinner  |
| <br>                      |  |
| <b>Board of Directors</b> | Ned C. Wheeler<br>George L. Laramie<br>Robert G. Sanderson<br>C. Roy Cochran<br>Spencer C. Hind<br>W. Richard Brubaker |
| <br>                      |  |
| <b>Board of Trustees</b>  | Gladys B. Wenger    1 <sup>st</sup> Trustee<br>George L. Laramie    2 <sup>nd</sup> Trustee                            |

**Twenty-Third Biennial Convention  
June 27-28, 1969  
Ramada Inn, Salt Lake City**

The Utah Association for the Deaf hosted the twenty-third biennial convention at the Ramada Inn in Salt Lake City, Utah. The selection of the site was based on cost factors, available dates, and available services and parking (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1969, p. 1).



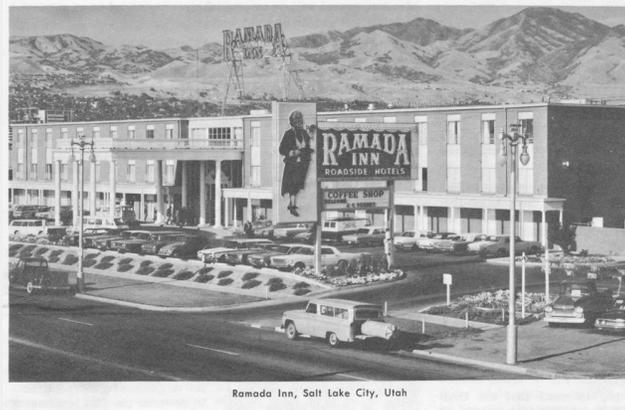
**George L. Laramie, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant  
Chairman of the 1969 UAD  
Convention  
The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1969**

The chairman of the convention was Robert G. Sanderson. Robert Bonnell of Salt Lake City and George Laramie, of Bountiful respectively, served as assistants to the chairman (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1969, p. 1).

President G. Leon Curtis started the opening ceremonies and the call to order. The workshop discussions began at the start of the convention on

Friday night to allow the members a chance to voice their feelings about certain matters. A captioned film was shown for those who did not wish to join in the workshop discussion (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1969, p. 1).

**UAD Schedules '69 Convention -**



**The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1969**

For the first time in the history of UAD conventions, the association held a popular workshop with roundtable conversations and discussions led by Robert Sanderson. The purpose of the roundtable was to bring means of communication among



**Robert L. Bonnell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant  
Chair of the 1969 UAD Convention  
The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1969**

all types of groups and collect their results (The UAD Bulletin, Spring 1969, p. 1). The workshop discussions began at the start of the convention on Friday night to allow the members a chance to voice their feelings about certain matters. People gathered to contribute their opinions and suggestions. While Sanderson took over the floor, he explained that the roundtable workshop was essentially to bring out feelings and ideas about various subjects such as UAD and its programs for the deaf; adult education; the Utah School for the Deaf: sign language versus oralism;

rehabilitation; welfare; financial needs; employment office; peddling; insurance on automobiles, and many other problems that face the deaf today (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1969, p. 9). The resolutions forthcoming from the Friday evening workshop sparked many lively discussions during the Saturday meeting (Platt, The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1969, p. 2).

The roundtable workshop proved to be effective in unleashing the “voice of the deaf.” New elected UAD president Dennis Platt stated that this successful experiment may well lead to other workshops set up by local or state associations. The goal of UAD was to continue to have workshops like



**UAD Convention attendees at dinner and dance**

this (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1969, p. 9).

President G. Leon Curtis said that for the past two years, UAD had been quite active and that UAD was fortunate to have such an outstanding board. Ned C. Wheeler, Robert G.

Sanderson, Joseph B. Burnett and George L. Laramie made up the board. He stated they served faithfully to the best of their ability to do what they believed was best for all the deaf in Utah. Curtis was proud to share that two of them served on the state level,

which was a great help to the Utah Deaf community – Robert G. Sanderson, counselor for the deaf in vocational rehabilitation and Ned C. Wheeler, a member of the Governor’s Advisory Board on education of the deaf (The UAD Bulletin, Summer 1969, p. 2).

By 1969, more insurance companies were willing to insure deaf drivers at regular rates (The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1969, p. 7).



**1969-1971 OFFICERS**  
Front row (left to right): Richard Brubaker, Valerie Platt, Joseph Burnett, Dennis Platt, Ned Wheeler. Back row, Robert Bonnell, Lloyd Perkins, David Mortensen, Robert Sanderson. Absent: George Laramie and Gene Stewart.

**The UAD Bulletin, Fall 1969**

1969 – 1971

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Chairman**

Dennis R. Platt  
Joseph B. Burnett  
Valerie G. Platt  
W. Richard Brubaker  
Ned C. Wheeler

**Board of Directors**

Robert G. Sanderson  
W. David Mortensen  
Robert L. Bonnell  
Gene D. Stewart  
Lloyd H. Perkins  
George L. Laramie

**Board of Trustees**

George L. Laramie 1<sup>st</sup> Trustee  
Dora B. Laramie 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee  
LaVerne P. Burnett 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustee



1969 UAD Convention – 1



1969 UAD Convention – 2