



1

SignWriting Literature Project

[Writing World Literature in the Sign Languages of the World](http://www.SignWriting.org/literature)
<http://www.SignWriting.org/literature>

The SignWriting Literature Project began in December 2006. The purpose of the project is to publish SignWriting Literature in 2007. The project will support further development of SignPuddle and SignBank software, the printing of books in American Sign Language, and the forming of a Deaf editing committee, called the Deaf Action Committee for SignWriting (the DAC). See Number 21 and 22 in this report, for information on literature that will be published in 2007.



2

SignWriting Videos on Google

<http://www.SignWriting.org/video>
<http://www.Harkle.com>

In March, 2006, four SignWriting videos were uploaded onto the Google Video web site, giving the general public the opportunity to view the videos free of charge directly on the web. The video-file preparation for the web-upload took skill, and could not have happened without the help of Board member James Short, founder of Harkle.com, a search engine for finding captioned media on the web. SignWriting videos are listed on Harkle.com. On Google, the videos have been viewed over 30,000 times from March 2006 to January 27, 2007!



3

SignPuddle Online v1.0 SignText Reference Manual

<http://www.SignBank.org/signpuddle>

2006 was the year when SignPuddle replaced SignWriter as the official program for creating SignWriting literature. Documents are created with SignText, a feature of SignPuddle. In 2006, Valerie Sutton wrote the first SignText Reference Manual, teaching how to create SignWriting documents. Within just a few months, the SignText Manual was translated into French by Anne-Claude Prélaz Girod, into Norwegian by Ingvild Roald, and into German by Stefan Wöhrmann. Thank you, to you all, for this gift!

4

PocketPuddle™ Development

<http://www.signwriting.org/shop/shop01.html#Software>

In 2006, Steve Slevinski worked on SignPuddle 1.5, a new version of SignPuddle software that will be installed on a USB Flash Drive, called a PocketPuddle™.

The PocketPuddle is portable, not dependent on an internet connection. It is handy for those who work on different computers, plugging into the USB port on Windows or Macintosh. Target release date: March, 2007. There will be choices of different dictionary plug-ins, plus software updates on the web.



5

SignBank 8.5

<http://www.signbank.org/downloads/>

FileMaker programmer Todd Duell created the **Document-Maker Database** in SignBank in 2006, for printing SignWriting Literature. SignBank now works with FileMaker Pro 8.5. SignPuddle Online can be opened inside SignBank.

Steve Slevinski and Todd Duell worked together in 2006 to coordinate SignBank and SignPuddle. SignPuddle 2.0 (not yet available) will be able to export data to SignBank 8.5. This will speed up new data entry into SignBank.

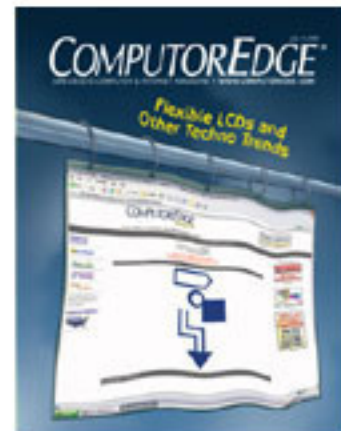


6

ComputerEdge Magazine Article

<http://www.signwriting.org/archive/docs4/sw0352-US-ComputerEdge-SignBank.pdf>

The article "**Writing Sign Language On Your Computer**", by Valerie Sutton, was published in ComputerEdge Magazine, July 14, 2006. The article discusses SignBank software in FileMaker Pro 8.5, and mentions that SignPuddle works with SignBank. ComputerEdge Magazine is a free weekly publication distributed nationwide in bookstores, and on the internet.



SignWriting® Year-End Report 2006

...Important Events Around The World...



7

Private WebPuddle v1.0

<http://www.signwriting.org/shop/shop01.html#Software>

In 2006, private WebPuddles became available...

Purchase your own SignPuddle web space just for your private SignWriting data entry, for one year. Your space will always be there for you, whenever you access the web with a private password. Your WebPuddle can be automatically renewed every year.



8

SignPuddle Workstation v1.0

<http://www.signwriting.org/shop/shop01.html#Software>

In 2006, SignPuddle Workstations became available...

Turn one computer into a full SignPuddle workstation. Enjoy the full power of a SignPuddle server on one computer. Run SignPuddle off the web, for your own private projects.



9

SignPuddle Server v1.0

<http://www.signwriting.org/shop/shop01.html#Software>

In 2006, SignPuddle Servers became available...

Computer networks can run a SignPuddle Server, for private SignWriting projects, for ongoing Sign Language research, and for document and dictionary creation by multiple users. Great for schools and research labs.

10

Lucinda Batch, A Sign of The Times

www.signwriting.org/archive/docs4/sw0341-US-RanchCoastMag-July06.pdf

Ranch & Coast Magazine,
July 2006, p. 136-137
www.ranchandcoast.com

Article about Lucinda O'Grady Batch, her Deaf childhood, and how Lucinda used SignWriting to remember her own children's signs, and for her research work at Salk Institute years ago.



11

ASL Notepad by Pass It On Services

<http://www.passitonservices.org/>

Stuart Thiessen and Philippe Gallant of **Pass It On Services** in Des Moines, Iowa, designed a notepad written in American Sign Language in SignWriting, which was distributed at the NAD Conference in the summer of 2006. The ASL notepads made quite a hit! People enjoyed reading the little notes. It served an important purpose, showing Deaf people that written ASL can be useful in our daily lives..



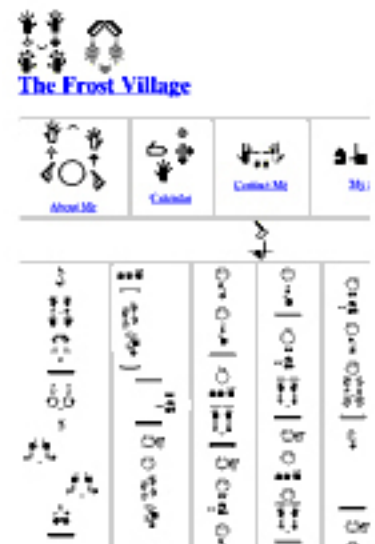
12

Frost Village Website in ASL

<http://www.frostvillage.com/>

Deaf interpreter Adam Frost created the first web site that was really written in ASL, using SignText...Really fun to read it!!

Hope this will be the wave of the future...Web sites written in different signed languages...





13

SignWriting Presentation at NAD Conference, July 2, 2006

<http://www.signwriting.org/deaf/deaf14.html>

Stuart Thiessen and Philippe "Philip" Gallant of **Pass It On Services** in Des Moines, Iowa, gave an excellent presentation on SignWriting at the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference in Palm Desert, California.



14

SignWriting Exhibit Table at NAD Conference, June 29-July 3

<http://www.signwriting.org/deaf/deaf14.html>

Adam Frost, Valerie Sutton and later Kelly Jo Boal sat behind the SignWriting Exhibit Table at the NAD Conference, while passers by looked at the literature and asked questions about SignWriting...The charts showing the symbols really helped to explain SignWriting to some who didn't realize that ASL can be written...

Stuart, Philippe, and other friends stopped by the table and it was great to meet old friends!



15

The ESWO European SignWriting Organization

<http://eswo.eu/>

The ESWO posted their first web site, and arranged two workshops in 2006. At the 1st European SignWriting Symposium, that took place at Kasterlinden School, Brussels, in 2005, it was decided there that there should be a provisional board for the ESWO, which will carry out further workshops and develop the constitution for the ESWO. In 2006, the provisional board included Ingvild Roald (Norway), Lucyna Dlugolecka (Poland), Shane Gilchrist O'hEorpa (Belfast), and Trevor Jenkins, UK.

ESWO

 European

 Sign-

 Writing

 Organisation

16

SignWriting Workshop, Prague Czech Republic, September 17-18

<http://www.signwriting.org/czech/>

<http://sw.ruce.cz/>

The first SignWriting Workshop in the Czech Republic took place in Prague, the 17th-18th of September, 2006, at the Czech Union of the Deaf. The workshop was presented by two Deaf teachers: Lucyna Dlugolecka from Poland, and Jan Fikejs from the Czech Republic. 24 people attended including 16 from the Czech Republic, 2 from Slovakia, 2 from Slovenia, 1 from Romania, 1 from Moldavia and 2 from Ireland. The workshop was presented in partnership with the ESWO (European SignWriting Organisation) and CUN Praha (Czech Union of the Deaf).

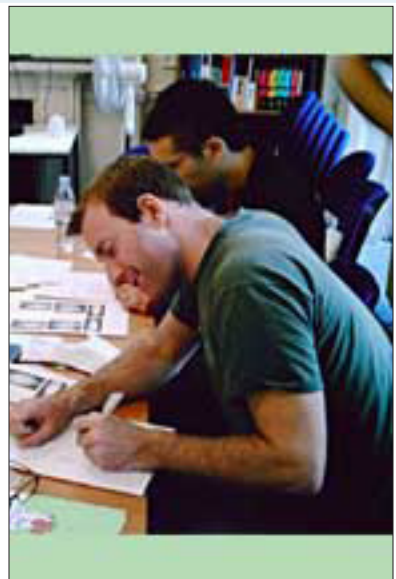


17

SignWriting Workshop, London, UK, October 27-29, 2006

<http://www.signwriting.org/europe/europe01.html>

The workshop took place at the University College London, DCAL (Deafness, Cognition & Language Research Center) October 27-29, 2006. Many thanks to DCAL director, Professor Bencie Woll, for providing the space for the workshop in the DCAL library. The workshop was directed by the ESWO (the European SignWriting Organisation) and was lead by SignWriting trainers Ingvild Roald (Norway), Lucyna Dlugolecka (Poland) and Shane Gilchrist O'hEorpa (Belfast).



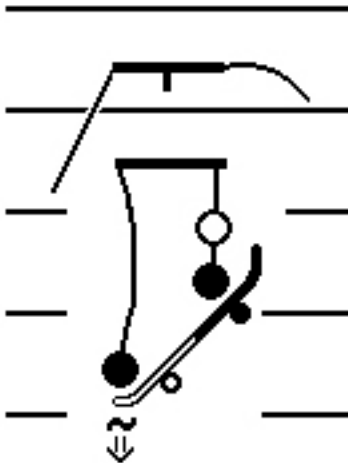


18

SignWriting Workshop, Vienna Austria, October, 2006

<http://www.signwriting.org/germany/germany.html>

Stefan Woehrmann traveled to Vienna, Austria to teach SignWriting to a school for the Deaf there. Sixteen Deaf Sign Language instructors, teachers, and students were introduced to the basics. They learned how to use SignPuddle. Stefan is the author of the SignWriting Handbook in German and German Sign Language, which is now sold in the SignWriting Shop on the web: <http://www.signwriting.org/shop/shop03.html>



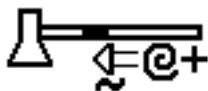
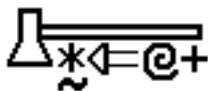
19

Writing Skateboarding Moves in Sutton SportsWriting

<http://www.movementwriting.org/sports/skateboarding/>

<http://www.movementwriting.org/sports/skateboarding/ollie/>

In 2006, Mark Guerrero in California, came across Sutton Movement Writing on the web and became interested in writing skateboarding tricks using the Sutton system. Valerie Sutton added Skateboarding symbols to the International Movement Writing Alphabet (the IMWA), creating the first SportsWriting Puddle (<http://www.signbank.org/signpuddle/sports>). A new SportsWriting web area was created on MovementWriting.org. Mark notated a series of new skateboarding tricks as illustrations for his new book about Skateboarding.



20

Writing Gesture for Scientific Studies in Sutton Movement Writing

<http://www.movementwriting.org/science/>

Harald Bentz Høgseth, a researcher at The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway asked Valerie Sutton to write the movements of Norwegian craftsmen, cutting a log with an axe. The project is entitled: "The craftsman's language". The study focuses on the language of craftsmanship lodged in archaeological timber and extant wooden buildings in Norway. Valerie developed ways of writing body movement with axes, and recorded the dance-like rhythmic movements of lifting the axe and then cutting the log. Visit the above site to read the Movement Writing.

21

SignWriting Religious Literature Bible Translations Around The World

<http://www.signwriting.org/library/religion.html>

Ronald Dettloff at the Shores Deaf Church in Michigan is writing King James Bible passages in ASL in SignWriting. The King James documents are posted on The SignBible Site: <http://cyberjer.com/signbibl/>, postmaster Jerry Spillman.

Tyndale Publishers granted us permission to write the New Living Translation (NLT) of the Bible in ASL. Nancy Romero, interpreter, started the large task of writing the full Gospel according to John. John Chapters 1 and 14 are complete.

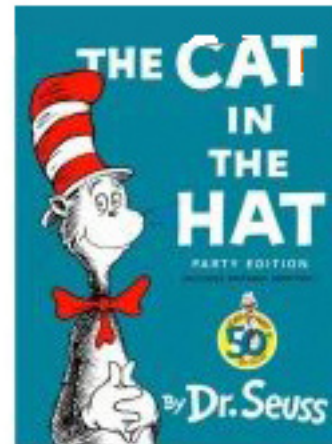


22

SignWriting Children's Literature Cat In The Hat and Mother Goose!

<http://www.signwriting.org/library/children>

Cherie Wren, a staff interpreter at the Georgia School For The Deaf, started to write a series of children's stories in SignWriting in American Sign Language in 2006. Literature is needed for reading material for the Deaf children in the school. Using SignText software, Cherie wrote Jack and Jill, Little Miss Muffet, Chickaboom, Hickory Dickory Dock, and started the big job of translating the Cat in the Hat into ASL. Permission was granted by Dr. Seuss Enterprises to post the Cat-In-The-Hat translation on the web.



23

Georgia School for the Deaf Proposal to Teach Deaf Children

<http://www.signwriting.org/usa/georgia/>

Staff interpreter Cherie Wren and teacher Donna Duff, at the Georgia School for the Deaf, wrote a proposal to the school administration in 2006, suggesting that perhaps SignWriting might help ASL-signing Deaf children learn to read and write their second language, English. Cherie wrote a fascinating treatise on research that has already proven that bilingual children need a written form for both of their languages, before true fluency can be achieved in their second language. In 2007, SignWriting will be presented on an experimental basis at the Georgia School for the Deaf, once a week, to all ages.



Jack & Jill