

Nancy Romero
ASL Interpreter & ASL Writer
Founding Editor, SignWriter Newspaper
Translator & Writer of Complete New Testament in ASL
Founder of ASLGospel.org, Writer for ASL Wikipedia

Nancy Fray-Woo-Romero is second oldest of 6 children, and grew up in Downey, California. Her father was an Internist, physicist, and concert pianist; her mother is a former Delta Airlines stewardess. Nancy trained in medical assisting and classical ballet, and danced in Disneyland's Electrical Parades and also as a Disney Costumed Character. It was at a ballet class in 1975 that Nancy met Valerie Sutton, guest instructor, and became interested in Sutton DanceWriting. She earned a Teaching Certificate in DanceWriting, and notated dances of many choreographers as well as assisting with Valerie Sutton's publications of DanceWriting. Nancy received a Bachelor's Degree in Dance from Calif. State University Long Beach, and later an A.A. degree in Interpreting for the Deaf at San Diego Mesa College. Nancy became a Certified Interpreter through the National Association of the Deaf (N.A.D.), and received a Lifetime Community Colleges Teaching Credential in Special Education. Her pioneering work with SignWriting earned her a place in the Cambridge Who's Who of Women (1985, 1986).

Nancy was formerly a flight attendant with Pacific Southwest Airlines, studying ASL during her time off. As the Founding Editor, Nancy expanded the newsletter "The SignWriter" into a 12-page newspaper -- the first of its kind to have articles written in both spoken language and signed languages. The newspaper was sent to 40 countries, and though each issue was written by hand, "The SignWriter" continued for 4 years. Nancy was married to Jeff Woo, and they have one son Garret. After this

marriage sadly ended, Nancy became a single mother, working as a Monorail Tour Guide at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Whenever Deaf guests were present, Nancy would interpret as well as narrate the tours. During one spring day in 1994, Nancy was selected to accompany the President of the United States and his family (President Clinton, Hillary, Chelsea) on their 1 1/2 hour photo safari tour.

Nancy later remarried & moved to Poway, CA. There she accepted a challenge by her neighbor and took up martial arts, becoming a First Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do in 2006. Having the ease and stretch of ballet with the artistic movements of karate was a natural combination; she placed in several competitions in southern California, and also notated some of the ATA (American Tae Kwon Do) forms in SportsWriting.

When the SignPuddle Online became available in 2004 (a program for SignWriting on the internet), Nancy began translating portions of Scripture into written ASL. After Tyndale Publishers granted permission to translate the entire New Testament in the New Living Translation into written ASL, Nancy made this her goal: to translate the entire New Testament from written English to written ASL. Lucinda (Cindy) O'Grady-Batch-Farnady was the editor for the first Gospel translated into written ASL -- the Gospel According to John.

Reverend Ron Dettloff, pastor of the Shores Deaf Church in Michigan, now uses Nancy's translations in their Sunday and Wednesday services. Although they haven't met, Pastor Ron and Nancy know each other's signing styles by reading their signed documents.

Nancy developed a dictionary, called the ASL Bible Dictionary, written in SignWriting in SignPuddle Online. She developed a way to translate quickly from English to ASL using her specialized dictionary. This lead to two major accomplishments in 2014...

- 1. Nancy completed all 27 books of the New Testament in written ASL in the summer of 2014. It took a decade to translate and write the entire New Testament in written ASL, from 2004 to 2014.
- 2. Nancy wrote 48 articles for the ASL Wikipedia project.

Because of her dictionary development, combined with SignPuddle software, her translations are providing reading materials for thousands of SignWriting users around the world.