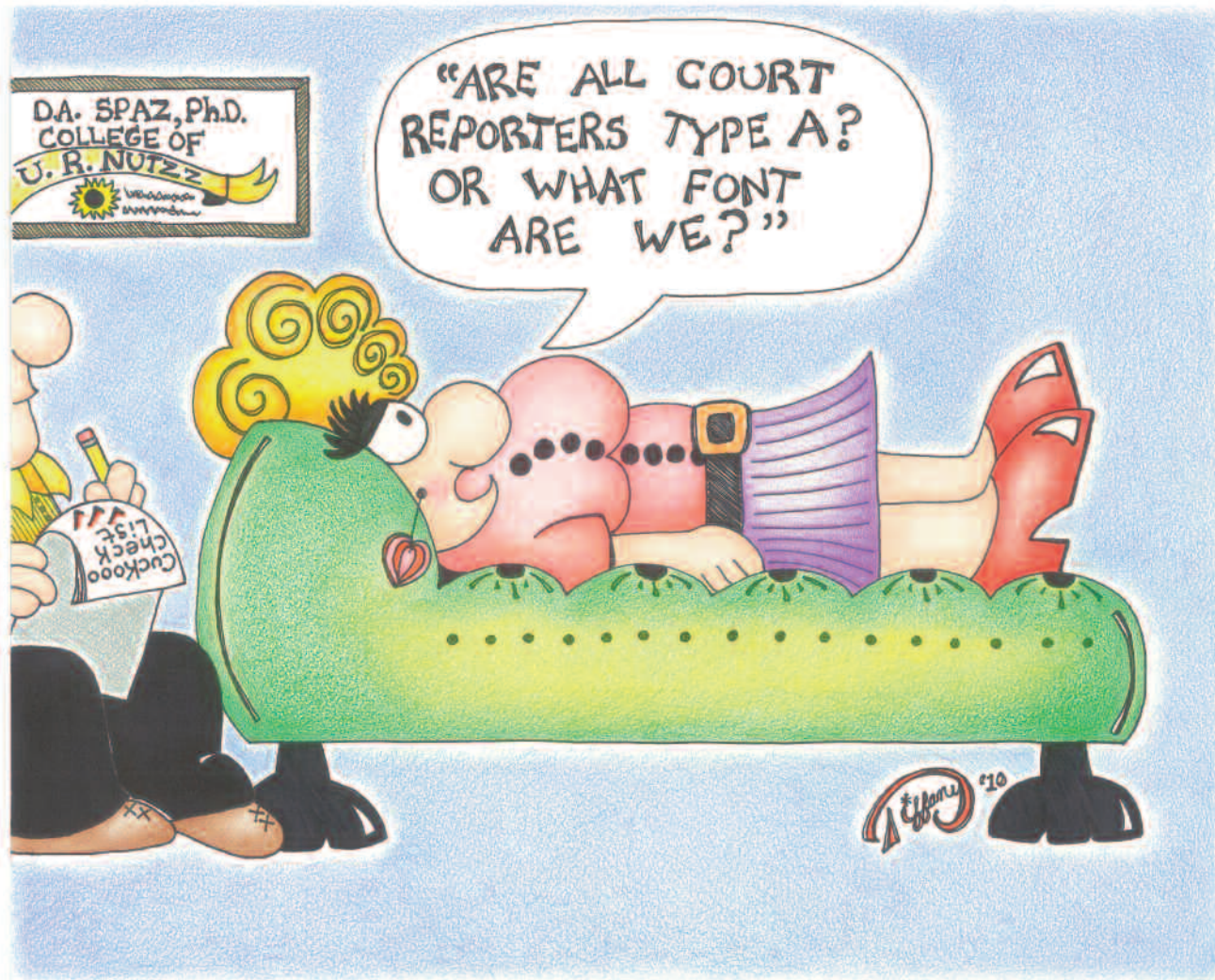


MCRA

PROGRESS

June 2010

The Missouri Court Reporters Association Quarterly



INSIDE

MCRA Board of Directorspg 3	MCRA Convention: All That Jazzpg 10-11
President's Messagepg 4	South St. Louis County Chamber
MCRA Newspg 5	Honors Local Educatorspg 12
Field Trip to St. Louis County Courtpg 6-8	MCRA Summer Board Meeting Minutes ...pg 22
Legislative Cookie Day at Capitol Hillpg 9	MCRA Membership Applicationpg 26

MCRA PROGRESS

Issues Published:

March, June, August, December

Deadline for submitting information to Progress for the AUGUST 2010 issue: **July 16, 2010, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Send Submissions to:

Marian Rein
MCRA Editor
Phone: (314) 807-1323
E-mail: Marian@charter.net

Statements and opinions expressed in editorials and articles are not necessarily those of MCRA. Publication of advertising does not imply endorsement of products/services or statements made concerning them.

Got a Question? Start with INFO LINES MCRA Support and Assistance

MCRA Websitemocra.wildapricot.org
Address Changes	Gayle Wambolt (816) 716-2784
CCR Testing Information	Maggie Burch (573) 751-7342
Continuing Education	Rachelle Sobaski (417) 522-4506
Convention 2010	Shana Crane (636) 244-0453
Distinguished Service Award	Bo Kriegshauser (888) 433-6756
Legislative Affairs	Randy Dunn 636-940-0926
Long-Range Planning	Joanne Martin (314) 622-4359
NCRA Member Services	Toll Free (800) 272-6272
NVRA Member Services	(601) 582-4345
Progress Publication	Marian Rein (314) 781-3620
Progress Advertising	Gail Conaway (816) 769-2758
RPR Testing Info (East)	Debbie Kriegshauser (314) 244-7449
Student Mentoring	Dawn McTeer (314) 580-6103

MCRA PROGRESS ADVERTISING

MISSOURI COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

RATES

For Sale	\$ 15
Business Card	\$ 30
1/4 Page	\$ 40
1/2 Page	\$ 70
Full Page	\$120

FORMAT

All advertisements should have camera-ready art or a digital ad that can be e-mailed or sent on a CD. Ads need to be 300 dpi and use either a JPG, TIFF or PDF file format.

ADVERTISEMENT ORDER – CHECK AD STYLE

For Sale (\$15)	_____
Business Card (\$30)	_____
1/4 Page (\$40)	_____
1/2 Page (\$70)	_____
Full Page \$120)	_____
15% discount on all ads that run for one year (4 consecutive issues) and paid in full.	

FOR FURTHER INFO, CONTACT GAIL CONAWAY AT
gailconaway989@msn.com (816) 769-2758.

Company or Individual Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Contact Name

Contact Phone #

Contact E-Mail

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO MISSOURI COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION AND MAILED TO:

Ms. Gail Conaway
13808 NE 187th St.
Holt, MO 64048

Missouri Court Reporters Association 2009-2010 Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

TIFFANY M. THOMPSON, CCR
1312-6 Southwest Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Division of Workers' Compensation
Ofc: 573-526-3881
Fax: 573-751-2012
Res: 573-619-7506
ynaffit07@yahoo.com
tiffany.thompson@labor.mo.gov

PRESIDENT-ELECT

DAWN McTEER, RPR, CCR, CSR (IL)
6419 Quincy
St. Louis, MO 63109
(22nd Judicial Circuit, St. Louis City)
Court: 314-622-4312
Res: 314-352-6103
Cell: 314-580-6103
verb8m@sbcglobal.net

VICE PRESIDENT

GAIL M. CONAWAY, CVR, CCR
13808 NE 187th St.
Holt, MO 64048
(43rd Judicial Circuit: Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, & Livingston Counties)
Court: 816-539-3732
Res: 816-320-3283
Cell: 816-769-2758
Gail.Conaway@courts.mo.gov

SECRETARY

GAYLE WAMBOLT, RMR, CRR, CCR
5423 NW Foxhill Rd.
Parkville, MO 64152
(16th Judicial Circuit, Jackson County)
Court: 816-881-4513
Res: 816-584-1031
Cell: 816-716-2784
mgwambolt@yahoo.com
Gayle.Wambolt@courts.mo.gov

TREASURER

LISA M. HENNON, RPR, CCR
19th Judicial Circuit, Div. IV
P.O. Box 1870
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(19th Judicial Circuit, Cole Cty.)
Court: 573-634-9194
Cell: 573-291-1290
Res: 573-659-3609
Lisa.Hennon@courts.mo.gov

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

FAITH A. OLLIGES, RDR, CRR, CCR
802 Carman Oaks Ct.
Ballwin, MO 63021
Gore Perry Reporting & Video
Ofc: 314-241-6750
Res: 636-227-9243
Cell: 314-277-6488
folliges@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT, REGION I

SHANA CRANE, CCR
818 Aston Way Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63368
(22nd Judicial Circuit, St. Louis City)
Ofc: 314-622-4666
Res: 636-244-0453
slcrane1@yahoo.com
Shana.Crane@courts.mo.gov

VICE PRESIDENT, REGION II

ROZANN BRANCATO, RPR, CCR
Jackson County Courthouse,
Division 17, 308 W. Kansas
Independence, Missouri 64050
(16th Judicial Circuit, Jackson County)
Court: 816-881-4517
Fax: 816-881-4693
Res: 816-468-6777
Rozann.Brancato@courts.mo.gov

VICE PRESIDENT, REGION III

JULIA A. HUNT, RDR, CRR, CCR
6501 Chelan Dr.
Columbia, MO 65203
(13th Judicial Circuit: Boone and Callaway Counties)
Court: 573-886-4052
Cell: 573-777-0830
huntjuliaa@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT, REGION IV

RACHELLE M. SOBASKI, CCR
1109 Sleepy Hollow
Nixa, MO 65714
(31st Judicial Circuit, Greene Cty.)
Court: 417-868-4096
Res: 417-725-0742
Cell: 417-522-4506
Rachelle.Sobaski@courts.mo.gov

VICE PRESIDENT, REGION V

SANDY R. STEWART, CVR, CCR (MO, AR)
P.O. Box 191
Portageville, MO 63873
Ofc: 573-379-2455
Fax: 573-379-3080
sandyrstewart@sbcglobal.net

From the Editor

Dear MCRA Members,

Those of you who are familiar with St. Louis history know that jazz music has played a vital role in this town. While a lot has changed in the music world, both nationally and right here in St. Louis, jazz music in St. Louis is still thriving.

This year, MCRA's convention will be held in St. Louis and is titled, "All That Jazz." While you're here, enjoying convention, you might consider spending a little time with other members, hitting some of the St. Louis jazz hot spots. What a great way to mix members while having a great time.

Don't forget to register for convention early this year. Members of the convention committee are working very hard to put it all together, and the earlier that members register, the easier it is on everyone.

I hope that you will all take time to enjoy yourselves this summer. There is no time like the present!

Kindly,

Marian Rein



President's Message

you've personally served in any capacity on the board, you know there is much to learn. We are lucky to have such a wonderful group this year, eager to learn and work hard for you. After rescheduling our winter board meeting twice, due to weather and family issues, we were able to convene after the Leprechauns came and went on March 24 and had a

reporting jobs. I would like to take this opportunity to, once again, ask each and every member of MCRA to reach out to court reporter non-members and explain the importance of membership and what MCRA does for them. There has never been a more crucial time in court reporting to band together, get involved, and support the association that is supporting and protecting our careers.

I could ramble on and on about all the exciting things that are happening within MCRA and throughout Missouri, but I will let you read the articles contained herein. We have a new 2010-2011 slate of officers, legislative-cookie and student fieldtrip reports, convention information, and much more in this issue. I want to thank you again for the support and energy each and every one of you lend to MCRA and thank you for the opportunity and trust you've bestowed upon me to be involved with such a superior group of people!

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you at MCRA's 65th Convention in October!

Sincerely,

Tiffany M. Thompson
MCRA President 2009-2010

very productive meeting at the Boone County Courthouse in Columbia. Our summer board meeting will be held at our 2010 convention site, Crowne Plaza in Clayton, on June 26. All members are allowed to attend board meetings and the board welcomes your attendance.

The convention committee has a FANTASTIC convention planned for us October 1-2, including a legislative bootcamp, informative and interesting seminars, and a murder mystery theater that will even earn CEU's! Please mark your calendars and plan on joining your fellow court reporters for this convention. Convention will be both fun and beneficial to the only association and entity, MCRA, who is paying a lobbyist and fighting for Missouri court

Hello, fellow MCRA members! What a joy this time of year is with sunny days, green grass – and the end of the Legislative Session! All great things for us this year. We, as court reporters, have much to be thankful for and much to prepare for in the upcoming year. But for now, let us celebrate and enjoy the hard work of our members, legislative committee, and our topnotch lobbyist, David Klarich!

As was the case in the past year, we have been faced with new challenges and situations that haven't occurred before. As always with MCRA, the strength and knowledge of our board of directors and membership has made us more aware than ever that nothing is insurmountable. Our board is comprised of many new faces this year and if



NEWS

MCRA

Greetings from Region IV

by Rachele Sobaski

We've had a few changes occur within the last couple months. Tracie Brumley left the employ of the Greene County Courthouse to pursue other avenues and Marilyn Dulaban replaced her. Also Margie Bell who worked at Work Comp came to work for Judge Jones over in the Juvenile Department and will also serve as the swing reporter. So we wish Tracie great success and welcome Margie onboard.

I attended the winter board meeting in Columbia, Missouri, at the Boone County Courthouse on March 27, 2010 in which we had a great

turnout. A lot of topics were discussed including the upcoming MCRA convention to be held in Clayton, Missouri, at the Crowne Plaza, October 1 & 2, so reserve those dates because it's going to be a good time and we need as much participation as we can get.

Just last week we had the privilege of having a student by the name of Melanie Bisignano, who is currently attending AIB in Des Moines, come do part of her internship here at our courthouse in an official capacity, so she was able to get a taste of criminal as well as civil. She was very delightful as well as very professional in all aspects and we wish her the best of luck in her endeavors. Maybe she'll decide she likes the area and relocate here. We hope more students will decide to intern in Greene County.

I've recently gotten to be a Taste of Home fanatic, subscribing to all kinds of magazines and searching and trying out different recipes. When we have a family get-together, my husband will say, "What are we having?" And I'll reply, "Oh, I'm trying something new." Most of the time it turns out okay.

With spring here and summer just around the corner and because we're all trying to watch our calorie intake and eat healthy and light, I found a recipe that I would like to share.

Avocado Chicken Salad

Ingredients

1 medium ripe avocado, peeled and cubed
2 Tbsp. lemon juice divided
2 cups cubed cooked chicken
2 cups seedless red grapes, halved
1 medium tart apple, chopped
1 cup chopped celery
¼ cup mayonnaise
½ cup chopped walnuts, toasted
½ tsp. ground ginger
Lettuce leaves, optional

Directions

In a small bowl, toss avocado with 1 tablespoon lemon juice, set aside. In a large bowl, combine the chicken, grapes, apple, celery, mayonnaise, walnuts, ginger and remaining lemon juice. Stir in avocado. Serve on lettuce-lined plates if desired or in pita bread or on crackers or just by itself. Yummy!

Region I Annual Meeting

by Shana Crane

Region I's annual business meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at Hacienda Restaurant on Manchester. Please RSVP to Shana Crane, Region I VP, at slcrane1@yahoo.com if you plan on attending. We hope to see you there!

Region III Meeting

by Julia Hunt

Our annual meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2010 at Panera Bread, 2226 Missouri Blvd., Jefferson City.

Items to be discussed are budget concerns, region updates, possible public relations opportunities and other miscellaneous items. We should conclude by noon so that you still have the majority of your weekend to spend as you'd like.

If there's anything anyone would like to add to the agenda, let me know via email at huntjuliaa@hotmail.com or please feel free to call me at (573) 777-0830.

The CCR test dates for 2010

October 15-16, 2010

Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City



NEWS

MCRA

The IRT Field Trip

by Laurie Andreski, STLCC-IRT169 (Theory 1) student

Although the Information Reporting field trip was designed to give students a look behind the scenes, what I took from the day was inspiration. While the trial was interesting to watch, the lunch delicious to eat and the walk through the jail fascinating – as well as a little apprehensive – the stories from the court reporters and instructors made the biggest impression on me.

Our Day in Court

by Sarah McMillan, STLCC IRT170 (Theory 2) student

What a difference a day makes. The life of a court reporter continues to reveal itself to all of us as we practice every day, always “trusting the process.” This week we got a glimpse into the life of a reporter working in the Circuit Court of St. Louis County. Our day began when our eager, awestruck gang of students descended upon the courthouse. Once gathered, we all lined up and made it through the courthouse security without a hitch. We then proceeded upstairs to find the courtroom in which we would watch our trial. The MCRA committee, which hosted us, started out by giving us a preview of what our day would bring, along with lots of encouraging thoughts and, as always, assuring us that if we ever need any help, they are there.

Once the trial was to begin, we sat and listened and watched, as only eager students will do. The trial began with the prosecution’s opening statement followed by the defense’s chance to present its case. Although the defense could have delayed their opening statement, they moved forward and drew us a picture of their case. What struck me about these

What I noticed most was the bond between the court reporters and instructors. I saw a lot of hugs and heard a lot of encouraging words shared between them. Although they came from varied backgrounds, they all seemed genuinely happy to see each other and to pull for each other in their respective jobs. Watching them made me hope that maybe one day they will be asking me how my

two stories was how different their approaches were with the jury. The defense recanted its case with a great deal of emotion and almost theatrics at times, while the prosecution stayed levelheaded with a “just the facts will be enough” approach. During the mid-morning recess, we had the privilege of the judge addressing our class after all other parties left the courtroom. He spoke mainly about the value of the court reporter’s job and how much respect he had for his own reporter. Apparently, they had been together for over 20 years. He also illustrated throughout the morning’s trial his respect for her job and made sure that she was always able to hear the proceeding and was doing well.

After a delicious lunch provided by a MCRA and one reporter’s family’s catering company, we went over en masse to the Justice Center



Students from South Tech High School as well as STLCC and some committee members on April 13 at the St. Louis County Courthouse.

career is going. The day inspired me not only in career choice, but that the organization is one I am excited to be actively involved in. I want to not only be a court reporter, but to also one day make a difference in the profession. I aspire to motivate and encourage other students the way my instructor and the court reporters who attended the field trip have done for me.

(jail) where criminals are housed either waiting for trial, bond or their sentence to be served. It was fascinating to be walked through the process of what happens to someone who is charged with a crime. We saw it all and were led in three groups throughout the prison with an officer of the facility. Finally, the hospitality of all the people who made our day possible really struck me. They were all so supportive of us as students. I think all of us are grateful and look forward to the day when we will be certified court reporters.

Thanks again to all who made our day possible.



Student Affairs Committee March planning meeting for the field trip.



Field Trip Reflections

by Jessica Troha, STLCC-IR4 student

“Tomorrow is going to be great; I am going to trial and to jail.” These are the words I spoke to my family the night before I was going to the St. Louis County Courthouse and the St. Louis County Justice Center. The Missouri Court Reporters Association, Student Affairs Committee, had organized a field trip for students studying to become court reporters. I started the court reporting program a year and a half ago at Meramec College. During this time, I have realized that self-motivation and a positive attitude are crucial for my success as a student. I feel that my experience during this field trip has increased my passion, enthusiasm, and motivation toward becoming a court reporter.

The first memorable moment of this day was when I walked into an empty courtroom. It was only occupied by the members of this field trip. As I looked around the courtroom, it occurred to me that many students, like myself, are working hard to be in a courtroom on a day-to-day basis, yet this is the first time I have been in one. While we were in the courtroom, we were greeted by Deborah McLaughlin, a member of the Student Affairs Committee. Deborah gave a short introduction and explained the day’s events. Soon after, the students had an opportunity to ask the attending court reporters any questions we had. I recall, before Deborah McLaughlin could finish her sentence, students were raising their hands to ask questions.

Following this introduction, we entered a courtroom where the attorneys were preparing for trial. After we stood up for the judge to enter, the judge addressed the jury and began the trial. During this time, I tried to watch everything that was happening. I would listen for a cough to see if I could still hear the person speaking. I would listen for different names, addresses, and numbers. I would visualize myself typing



every word spoken. Although it was too fast for me, I was convinced that if I work hard, I will soon become an active reporter. During a break in the trial, the judge and court reporter took time to talk with us and answer any questions we had. This part of the day was incredible; I had observed the respect and value they had in regards to their job and one another. At this point, I had never been more thrilled to be a student in the court reporting profession. Soon after, we attended lunch and had the opportunity to have casual conversation with active reporters. These reporters were truly passionate about their career; they went above and beyond to create a comfortable atmosphere and talk about their profession.

After lunch we were given the opportunity to tour the St. Louis Justice Center. When we entered the jail, the guard described what must be done after someone is arrested and before they officially enter the jail. As the guard did this, we saw many people that had recently been arrested. We continued the tour by viewing different levels of the jail. We observed an area that held female prisoners, and we observed the maximum security level. Many students seemed to enjoy this and asked as many questions as possible. It was interesting to understand the process of how a county jail functions. When our tour of the St. Louis Justice Center concluded, our field trip ended as well. As I drove home, I was reflecting on

the day’s events and how it pertains to my future. I can honestly say that this field trip created a new level of devotion, motivation, passion, and respect in me as a student and future court reporter.

MCRA's Exciting New Website is in business!



The Missouri Court Reporters has a new website! It features an interactive map where those that want to can have their information input into it to locate you as a court reporter in your area.

Also with this site, the members are able to update their own personal information to keep everyone updated.

There will be many other new features that I am still learning. I am really looking forward to everyone seeing and using our new website.

-Gail Conaway



A Trip Into Justice: No Cake Walk

by Adrian Howe, South Technical High School Student
Kathleen Saunders, B.S., CRI – Teacher

The students of South Technical High School's Broadcast Captioning and Court Reporting class attended the annual MCRA Student Affairs' fieldtrip on April 13, 2010. At the St. Louis County Courthouse, we were joined by Dr. Ziegler and her adult learners from St. Louis Community College's Information Reporting Technology classes. It was interesting and fun to meet our future classmates.

An exciting day began as we made our way through security to find Judge Hartenbach's courtroom and witness an actual trial. It was fascinating to watch the Circuit Court Reporter for Division 14, Ms. Sally Peat, writing a verbatim transcript of the proceedings. We were amazed that she didn't seem to move at all or seem "stressed" like students can be when we're testing.

We were all paying close attention to learn about the court reporter's role and the preparation that is necessary to become a professional court reporter when Ms. Peat and Judge Hartenbach addressed the students. Many questions were posed, and we all believed the judge and reporter were honest and forthright with their answers.

After the trial, we were treated to a delicious lunch, courtesy of MCRA and Russo's Catering Company. Following lunch, both South Tech students and those from St. Louis Community College crossed the sky bridge to reach the Buzz Westfall Justice Center building.

While some students were

excited to go on the tour, others seemed a little apprehensive; however, South Tech students learned a lot about the jail's system. For example, we quickly learned that the tour was not to be a "cake walk."

Captain Kraemer, our tour guide, was necessarily strict about procedures such as the safest places to walk and stand in the hallways of the jail. Nametags were carefully placed in plain view of the cameras so that students wouldn't be confused with prisoners and vice-versa.

A moment of tension happened when one of our student's realized her name tag had fallen off during our walking tour, so we had to backtrack as a group to find it. It was quickly recovered, and to the relief of all, there were no more incidents. Why all the worry over a simple name tag? Because what if an accomplice or a prisoner found it and pretended to be a touring visitor? It could lead to an escape! Luckily, the tag was safely retrieved and all was well.

According to Captain Kraemer, these types of precautions must be taken to keep inmates secure and visitors safe. Despite the rules and regulations, the field trip went without a hitch.

At the conclusion of our tour, a group photo was taken as a memento to the MCRA Student Affairs Committee, and as a souvenir to students, to help us to reach our future career goals. A great time was had by all!

Cookin' with MCRA

An "Impossibly" Delicious Breakfast for Dad

by Judy Schuman



Father's Day or any day, this breakfast treat is simple to prepare and is always a hit. Years ago, Bisquick published a collection of yummy, easy, "Impossible" recipes that have withstood the test of time. Here is my version of their classic breakfast quiche. When served with a fresh fruit cup and freshly-squeezed orange juice, this tasty dish makes a delicious and memorable meal.

- 8 slices of cooked, crispy bacon, crumbled or
- 3/4 cup finely-diced ham (or, use both)
- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup Bisquick
- 4 eggs
- Salt and pepper to taste

There are many options that can be used to suit the palate of your diners: mushrooms, diced green pepper and cheese mixtures. Use your imagination.

Spray a deep-dish pie plate with cooking spray. Sprinkle bacon and/or ham, cheese and onion (and any other extras) evenly over the bottom of the pie plate. Place remaining ingredients in a blender. Blend on high for one minute. Pour into pie plate. Bake for 50 to 55 minutes at 350 degrees. Test for doneness using a knife inserted into the center of the dish. Serve warm.



Legislative Cookie Day at the Capitol

by Kathy Foley

On April 14, several of the Missouri Court Reporters met in the halls of Jefferson City. We started out the morning at Panera dividing up all the cookies in containers to give to legislators. Attached to each container was a thank you from MCRA. Once we got to the Capitol building, we divided up and reached out to as many legislators as possible. We were specifically targeting Budget Committee members and Judicial Committee members. It was very nice to be going into representative and senate offices just checking in and not needing their vote on an issue. We iterated that we had no issues on the table this year, but wanted to thank them for support in years past and looked forward to working together in future years. Several of the staff members remembered us from years past. It is nice to know that we've made some positive contacts. Everyone was grateful to take the cookies, espe-

cially since they came with no strings attached.

Thanks to all those who took time off from their jobs to come down and support us and put a face to the court reporting field. Extra thanks to Joanne Martin for loaning us her husband, Denny. He's an honorary court reporter! He talked to legislators and lugged things around for us. What a great supporter!

Special thanks to all those who donated cookies. Diana Taylor, really love the chocolate chips! Most of them made it to legislators. Thanks to many others who also baked or donated cash so that we could purchase cookies. We had a great variety.

It was a day spent building goodwill, which we can always use in working with our legislators. Again, it was nice to see our representatives and senators and remind them of what we do and how we are a vital part of the judicial process.





2010 MCRA Convention

All That Jazz

Faith Olliges, 2010 Convention Co Chair

The Region I convention committee is finalizing plans for the 2010 MCRA Convention, October 1 and 2, here in St. Louis and carrying the theme, "All That Jazz." We're very excited about our venue in beautiful Clayton, the St. Louis County seat.

Our convention hotel is beautiful, and its many amenities include a free airport shuttle, a free state-of-the-art LifeFitness Center, complimentary high speed and wireless Internet, indoor pool, and free parking. For kids, there's a kid friendly arcade where all play free. Free shuttle services are provided to local area shopping and restaurants. The hotel is also blocks away from the St. Louis Metrolink, our light rail transit system which will link you with many area attractions.

At Kansas City last year, Candis Bradshaw presented two seminars for us. She is animated and energetic, and our KC attendees, myself included, couldn't get enough of her, so much so that our Region I committee has decided to bring her back this year.

This year Candis will be offering two seminars on Friday and one on Saturday. In her first seminar, she will be covering technogadgets, including digital recorders, microphones, wireless technology, and great research websites. In a seminar I wish I had had long ago, she will teach us how to back up our data before we have a breakdown, covering the ins and outs of safe and secure backup, online backups, and how to perform automatic backups with various programs. We'll start out on a light note Saturday when we will explore the basics of social networking sites such as Facebook and LinkedIn and Twitter, ways to use these sites as well as networking etiquette rules.

Since we have all learned a hard lesson about how politics can affect court reporting, our new lobbyist, David Klarich, has agreed to give a seminar for us. David is a former state senator and representative and has an astounding amount of knowledge when it comes to the operations of the legislature. He'll be sharing some insights with us that will help us as we learn to deal with the new politics of our profession.

Diana Taylor and Angie Culler will be providing some hands on advocacy training. Now, more than ever, it is imperative that reporters take a more active role in educating key players and policy makers about the critical role court reporters play in the legal area. Not only will you be better prepared to address your professional interests, but you can transfer the skills you learn to other areas of interest you might have.

Last, but not least, we have planned a murder mystery dinner for Friday evening. We will be problem solving and team building in addition to having an incredibly fun experience.

We look forward to seeing everyone in October.



MCRA 2010 Convention

All That Jazz

October 1-2, 2010

Crowne Plaza, St. Louis-Clayton

7750 Carondelet Avenue • (314)726-5400

Friday, October 1, 2010

CCR	NVRA	NCRA	SESSION
			10 am–12 pm 12 pm–5 pm 12 pm–6 pm 1:15–1:30 pm
1.5	1.5	1.5	1:30 pm–3 pm 3 pm–3:30 pm
1.5	1.5	1.5	3:30 pm–5 pm
3.0	3.0	3.0	6:30 pm–9:30 pm

Pre-Convention Board Meeting
Registration Desk Open
Exhibitor Area Open
Welcome & Introduction
Discovering Treasures of the Digital Realm (Candis Bradshaw)
BREAK
Back Up Your Data – Before You have a Breakdown (Candis Bradshaw)
Murder Mystery Dinner (Jest Mysteries)

Saturday, October 2, 2010

CCR	NVRA	NCRA	SESSION
			8 am–12 pm 8 am
1.5	1.5	1.5	8 am–3:30 pm 8:30 am–10 am 10–10:15 am
1.5	1.5	1.5	10:15–11:45 am 12–1:30 pm
1.5	1.5	1.5	1:45–3:15 pm 3:15–3:30 pm
1.5	1.5	1.5	3:30–5 pm 5 pm

Registration Desk Open
Continental Breakfast
Exhibitor Area Open
Basics of Social Networking Sites (Candis Bradshaw)
BREAK
Politics 101 (David Klarich)
MCRA Luncheon & Business Meeting
Advocacy and YOU! Part 1 (Diana Taylor/Angie Culler)
BREAK
Advocacy and YOU! Part 2 (Diana Taylor/Angie Culler)
Convention Wrap-up; Evaluation Sheets; Closing Remarks

Sunday, October 3, 2010

	9 am–11 am	Post-Convention Board Meeting
--	------------	-------------------------------

CEUs pending approval through NCRA and NVRA.



South St. Louis County Chamber Honors Local Educators

The end of the school year culminates in a variety of celebrations of success for local students. For two SSD teachers, this year also ended with a celebration of their efforts.

The South County Chamber of Commerce recognized SSD teachers Kate Saunders and Donna Schultz as the Technical Education Teacher of the Year and Special Education Teacher of the Year, respec-

tively, for south St. Louis County.

Saunders, who teaches Broadcast Captioning and Court Reporting at South Technical High School, was selected for her commitment to students and to advancing the profession of court reporting. The program at South Technical follows the National Court Reporters Association curriculum — training students in real-time translation and computer-aided

transcription.

Schultz is a Communication Arts special education teacher at Oakville Sr. High and also coaches special education and general education teachers on academic strategies at four middle schools in Mehlville. She was selected for her innovative approaches to education, collaborative efforts with partner district staff and for her commitment to continuous improvement.

“She strives to overcome challenges and never accepts average. She inspires those around her to aim higher,” Melissa Wilson, Schultz’s supervisor, said.

Since 1957, Special School District has provided special education services in St. Louis County and operates two technical high schools. It educates nearly 27,000 students at 265 sites in 23 school districts in St. Louis County.

2010-2011 MCRA Slate of Officers

by Faith Olliges

The Nominating Committee would like to submit the following nominees for election to the MCRA Board of Directors.

President:
Joanne Martin

President Elect:
Dawn McTeer

Vice President:
Rozann Brancato

Treasurer:
Lisa Hennon

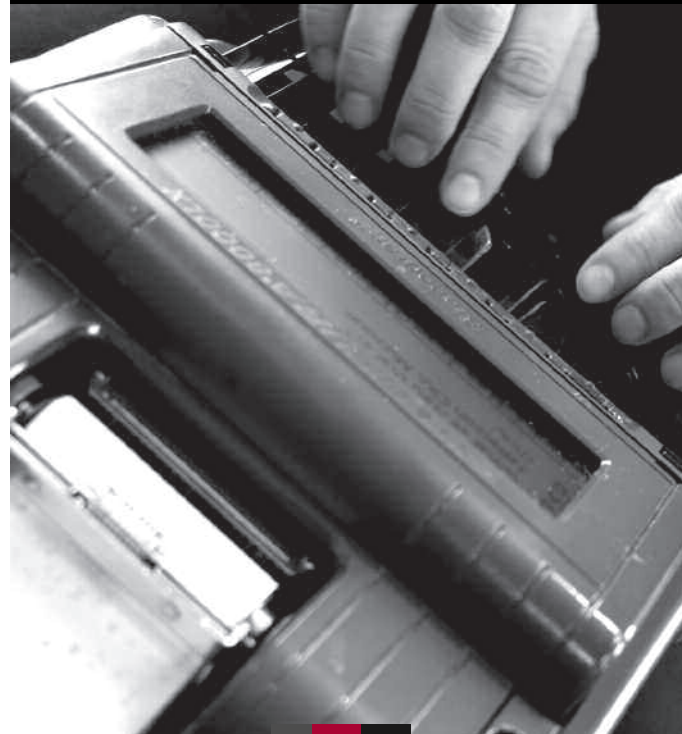
Secretary:
Gayle Wambolt

The election will be held at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 2, 2010, during the MCRA Convention

at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located in Clayton, Missouri.

Anyone wishing to be nominated from the floor or anyone wishing to make a nomination from the floor for an officer position must notify the President in writing of the person who will be nominated and the position they are being nominated for at least 15 days prior to the Annual Meeting. A nomination for President Elect made from the floor at the Annual Meeting may be made only for a person then serving as an officer or member of the Board of Directors.

QUALIFIED COURT REPORTERS...



WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU.

GUARANTEED WEEKLY DIRECT DEPOSIT COMPENSATION

IN HOUSE PRODUCTION

HEALTH BENEFITS AT GROUP RATES

CONTINUING EDUCATION

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES

WIDE VARIETY OF DEPOSITIONS

HIGH DEMAND FOR REAL-TIME,

ROUGH ASCII & EXPEDITE ABILITY

WE HAVE OPENINGS THROUGHOUT MISSOURI,
ILLINOIS, KANSAS AND ARKANSAS.



MIDWESTLITIGATION.COM

DEBORAH C. WEAVER, PRESIDENT

NEW OFFICE NOW OPEN

SPRINGFIELD, IL
2021 TIMBERBROOK DRIVE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
217-787-6167

Saint Louis, Missouri Cape Girardeau, Missouri
Springfield, Missouri Overland Park, Kansas
Jefferson City, Missouri Columbia, Missouri
Kansas City, Missouri Rolla, Missouri
Springfield, Illinois

800.280.3376

contact: mgaal@midwestlitigation.com

WANT LOWER HEALTH INSURANCE RATES?

Self-employed or Uninsured?
WE CAN HELP YOU!

Superior Health Plans Agency

MYRON ZOLKEWSKY

Free Quote - No Obligation
800.925.8193 | logan57907@msn.com
WWW.YOURINSURANCECOACH.COM



The Ups & Downs of Closed Captioning

The following article, by sports columnist Bill Reilly, appeared in the December 28, 2010 issue of *ESPN The Magazine*. The caption under a photo with the article read, "Ndamukong Suh is not a name that a stenographer ever wants to hear." Amen to that. -Susanne Moon

I like bars. I like sports. I like watching sports in bars. This is a topic my wife could discuss with you at length. But I couldn't fully enjoy this hobby if it weren't for an invention more miraculous than even boneless teriyaki chicken wings: closed captioning.

Closed captioning, or, as many closed captioners spell it, CLOTHES CAP SHUNNING, is what stenographers type onto the bottom of your screen, moving faster than a double-parked meth freak, when you press "CC" on your remote.

These people are generally very good at their jobs, but sports announcers spew between 150 and 200 words per minute, and most stenographers were French majors at Swarthmore, so mistakes are made.

I've seen HALL OF FAME LINE-BACKER DICK BUTT KISS, and Atlanta Brave Chipper Jones come up to BAT RYE HANDED. (I wonder if Babe Ruth ever did that?) I've watched MIKE PIZZA and MIKE PIZZERIA. I've seen a thousand FIELD GOLDS and a few hundred torn INTERIOR CRUCIAL LIGAMENTS, some belonging to members of the Alabama RIMS AND TIDE.

Good athletes compete for THE GOLD MEDDLE (as does Redskins owner Daniel Snyder), and bad athletes are JUST OUT OF SINK. Quick-release quarterbacks GET IT OFTEN-TIMES (and, here, I believe the subject is Tom Brady).

The point is I ghoulishly relish captioning mistakes. Also, my mouth relishes beer. No surprise that a very easy column hit me like an angry wife's 3-iron: what if I spent the entire weekend in bars seeing how many captioning goofs I could catch?

God, I love this job.

FRIDAY

We must be vigilant in our quest, so we started early — 3 p.m. PST, just about when Michael Wilbon of PTI issued this statement about soccer, according to the captioner: I EXPECT TO WATCH THE WORLD COUPLE ALL MONTH. (Exactly which channel will that be on again?)

Then there were these:

Jim Hill, Channel 2, LA: Tiger was found SHOELESS AND SNOWING. (Actually, the snowing came later, during the cover-up.)

Lingerie football (hey, we said we'd be vigilant!), Channel 32, LA: HANDOFF TO THE LOVE SIDE. Also, a second and eight became THE SECOND THEY ATE.

On Channel 9, LA: David Beckham is from YOUR UP (but not from CROW ATE YA).

TIGER WAS FOUND SHOELESS AND SNOWING.

SATURDAY

The 8 a.m. SportsCenter captioner identified Cavs forward Jamario Moon as GENTLEMAN MARIO MOON. (Perhaps they're in a book club together.) On ESPNU, Alabama receiver Julio Jones came out JEWEL I DON'T JONES. And on Channel 7 in LA, Clemson running back C.J. Spiller's 4 TDs were sure to get him his IN-FLIGHT TO THE HEISMAN TROPHY DINNER. (Useful new word: Invite + free ticket = in-flight!)

CC fun fact: The first closed-captioning message on TV, produced in the 1970s by Bill Kastner of Texas Instruments, was FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY, STING LIKE A BEE.

Okay, so Saturday was a slow day.

SUNDAY

One of the delicious moments for those of us captivated by captions is the three seconds between an announcer's saying something ear-twisting and the captioner's typing it. On *ESPN's The Sports Reporters*, host John Saunders said, "The best player I saw yesterday was [Nebraska's monster defensive tackle] Ndamukong Suh [pronounced en-DOM-ah-ken SOO]."

I could almost hear the captioner gasp, cough and whimper. But, bless his or her heart, it was one valiant attempt: INCOME CONGRESS SUE (an idea, I think, we can all agree on).

CC fun fact: Real-time captioners for the National Captioning Institute can clock 300 words per minute. They average 7,000 words an hour, which is a carpal tunnel-inducing 14,000 keystrokes every 60 minutes.

On the Fox NFL pregame show, the Colts were the FIRST TEAM TO CLENCH ITS DIVISION. (Don't ask.) And Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said his team would UNLEASH HOWL IN DECEMBER. (Poor dog gets off the leash only once a month?)

And that was about it. Remember, the point here was not to show all the mistakes the captioners make as they translate hundreds of thousands of live sports-TV words. The point was for me to drink many, many Coronas on an expense account.

Anyone complains, and I unleash Howl.



WE'RE HAPPY TO NETWORK

If you require court reporting and litigation services in the St. Louis metro area, we will take great care of you.

- We have a large staff of experienced, certified court reporters and legal video specialists
- Conference rooms equipped with worldwide video conferencing at our Downtown St. Louis and St. Charles County offices
- Local and web-capable realtime reporting
- LiveNote™, Summation™ and RealLegal™
- Full service video department
- Comprehensive trial presentation services

Our team is fast, friendly, precise, and always on-time. Please let us know if we can be of service.



GOREPERRY
REPORTING & VIDEO

Serving Missouri and Southern Illinois since 1927

515 Olive Street, Suite 700 • St. Louis, MO 63101

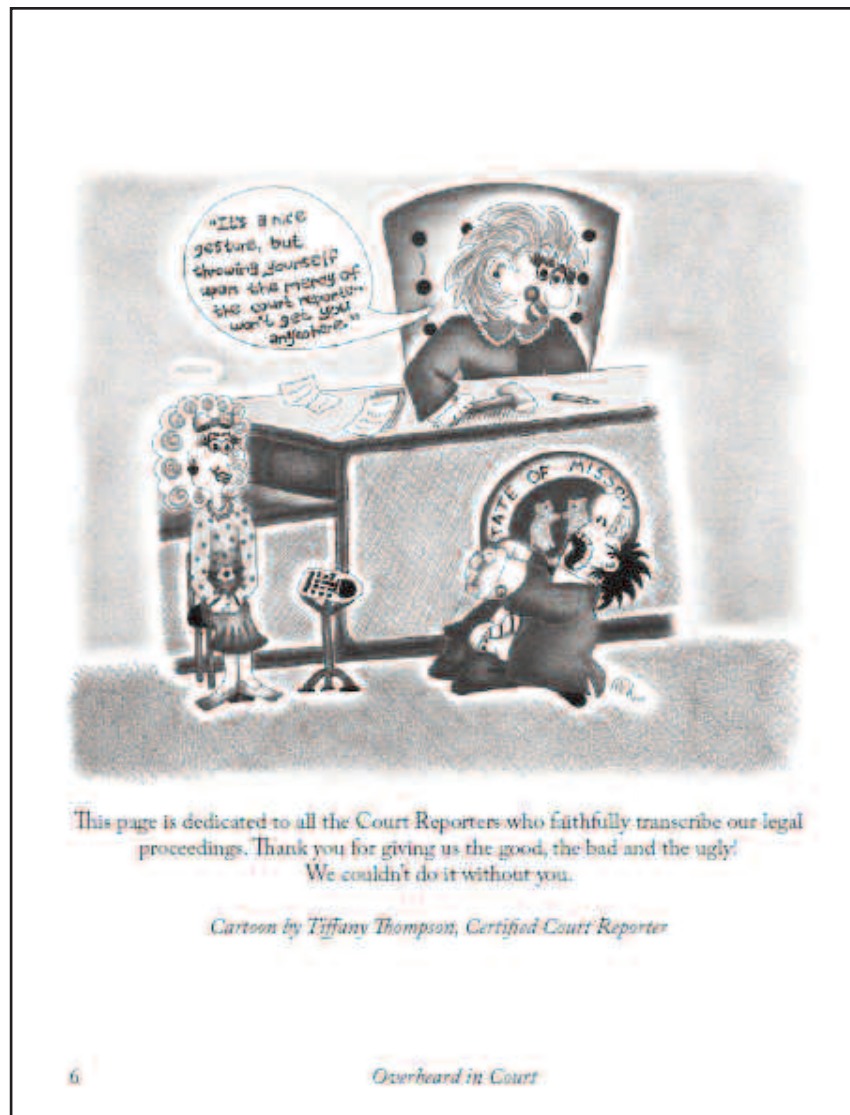
1-800-878-6750 • Fax: 314-241-5070

Email: schedule@goreperry.com • www.goreperry.com



Overheard in Court

by Tiffany M. Thompson



As president of MCRA, I receive many calls, running the gamut of subject matters. Occasionally, you come across some fun as well, as was the case a couple of months ago. Judge Missy Medary of Corpus Christi, Texas, called me at my office regarding a new website, <http://overheardincourt.com/>, which a group of Texas judges were launching in memory and honor of a well-liked Texas judge who passed away. The website was created to show the humorous side of court, and Judge Medary was contacting states to tell about it and ask for participation and input by individual submissions or funny court quips and testimony excerpts. They have an ongoing contest to reward funny or interesting submissions with \$100 and \$150 Visa

giftcards as prizes, which I was the happy recipient of in the first go-round. Take what we see and hear every day and join in the fun yourself! Judge Medary and I have become great friends and colleagues (in real life and via Facebook), and her group asked me several weeks ago if they could use one of my cartoons she had seen on Facebook in the book they are publishing by the same name, *Overheard in Court*, dedicating an entire page to thanking court reporters for all we do for them. I was happy to oblige and also get free PR for court reporters. It's nice to be appreciated and acknowledged. The book is set for release in June and we will have it on our website for purchase. I'm not receiv-

ing any proceeds from the book, but Judge Medary said that MCRA could keep \$5 of every book sold through MCRA for an MCRA fundraiser. They have asked me to fully illustrate the next book they publish, which we will be working on in the near future. I just wanted to share this fun news with everyone. Oftentimes, the nature of our job and economy in general are stressful, so I find it a relief to be able to lighten things up and laugh and smile whenever possible. As stressful as our jobs can become, when you really think about it, we have one of the most incredible jobs in the world, a study in human nature. As Judge Medary put on our dedication page, we see "the good, the bad, and the ugly".



Non-Surgical Treatment for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

by Rozann Brancato

As court reporters, we all have heard about Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and some of us have had our own firsthand experience. It is estimated that there are 800,000 people each year that have surgery for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is when the median nerve which runs through our forearm to our hand is compressed by swelling tissue in the wrist that surrounds the median nerve in the carpal tunnel which is a small passageway in the wrist. This compression, of course, causes a tingling and numbness sensation in your fingers that can also radiate up your arms. This painful sensation occurs sometimes at night, but often can occur during the repetitive use of the hands. An EMG, electromyography is conducted on your fingers and wrists to detect the severity of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. There are various treatments for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome which can vary from hand orthotics to wear day or night to prevent the wrists from bending which can help the inflammation. Oral anti-inflammatory medication is another mode of treatment. Cortisone injections into the wrist to reduce inflammation. Acupuncture, physical therapy treatment, and usually as a last resort surgery to release the compression of the median nerve. There is a fairly new treatment called Cold Laser Therapy that has been in use and successful in carpal

tunnel patients. This treatment was first introduced in 1990, and was approved by the FDA in 2002. There has been a 12-year study conducted, with two blind studies done and over 4 million dollars spent. There has been a 72-percent success rate with the use of the Cold Laser Therapy. The ML830 is the first FDA laser approval in the world for nonsurgical treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome. There are 5,000 treatment clinics around the US that use this Cold Laser Therapy treatment for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and can be found at www.ML830.com under Find a Doctor. This Cold Laser Therapy treatment is delivered through a wand-like device that administers a low intensity or low-level laser light placed over the wrists and other affected areas on your hand. This Cold Laser Therapy is also used to treat many other areas of our body, such as elbows, feet, shoulder, knees and many others parts. There is no sensation — no pain. The procedure is not very time-consuming. The ML830 laser is what is known by FDA standards as a Class-3B laser. It uses 830 nanometers at 90 milliwatts of power. This is the only laser with the wavelength and power to do this. This laser wavelength gets two-inches deep into the tissue causing vasodilation effect in the microcapillary bed, dialing up the arterial blood

flow. This procedure basically removes the edema out of the soft tissue, is then absorbed into the venous system and then is emptied into our lymphatic system which is then dispelled through our bodily excretions. So, carpal tunnel sufferers, there may be an alternative treatment before you decide on a surgical procedure.

Calling all MCRA Members!

PROGRESS belongs to you, and we need YOU to help make it great! Please send us articles and information of interest to other court reporters. And we would love to hear what you've been up to! Send us a note and share your stories with other members. The DEADLINE for the August 2010 issue of Progress is July 16, NO EXCEPTIONS. Please email your submissions to Marian Rein at maran@charter.net.



Word List for Child Enticement Cases via the Internet

Word:	Suggested brief:	Word:	Suggested brief:
algorithm(s)	GR*IT(S)	Morpheus	
BearShare	BAIRB	.mpg	M-P
binary		MySpace	
C: drive		NIST	
centralize(d)	STRALZ/-D	Nestopia	
CenturyTel	SNEL or SERNT	omg	OMG
chat room(s)	KHAOUM(Z)	obscene	OBS or OBZ
child porn	KHAOIP	offline	OFL
child pornography	KHAOIPG	online	ONL
cryptanalytic	KRIK or KRIP/TIK	peer-to-peer	
D: drive		P2P	
decentralized		Phex	
decoy child	DAOEK	porn	POERN
disseminate	SDEM or DIFM	porno	
download	DLOED or DOUNL	pornography	PORNG or POERG or
encrypted		POERNG	
encryption		pop up/pop-up(s)	
EXIF	SKIF	proprietary	PROT
emoticon(s)		pubescent	PAOUBT
Gnutella	NAOUT	prepubescent	PRAOUBT or PRAOEBT
hash function		prepubescence	PRAOUBS or PRAOEBBS
Hex Editor		r@ygold	
hexadecimal		RCCEEG	
ICAC		server	SR-FR or SR*FR
indecent exposure	DAOEFPL	sexual misconduct	SMUK
instant message	STAJ	sex offender	S-F
instant messenger	STAJ/-R or STARJ	sex offense	SKENS
internet crime(s)	NAOIM(Z)	sexual offense	SK*ENS
Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force		sexual predator	S*EP
.jpg J-P		Shareaza (file sharing)	
Knoppix		SHAvalue	
lol LOL		SHA1 or SHA-1	
LimeWire	LAOIRM	smiley face	SFAIS or SMAIS
Mcafee	MAK/FAOE	spyware	
malware		ultrapeer	*UP or ULT/PAOER
Mediacom	MAO*EK	ultrapeers	*UPS or ULT/PAOERS
metadata		web cam	
Mid-Missouri Internet Crimes Task Force		web caming	
molest	PL*ES or MOELS	Yahoo	YAU
molestation	PL*ES/-GS or MOELGS	Yahoo Instant Messenger	YAUJ
more likely than not	MORK	Yahoo Messenger	YAUM

PohlmanUSA.com
Court Reporting

Toll-free
877.421.0099

*Be part of a
flourishing
agency.*

PohlmanUSA Court Reporting is always looking for professional, certified reporters across the country.

Large National Litigation
Annual Continuing Education Credit Seminars
Direct Deposit
Internal Support Staff
Flexible Schedule
Successful Internal Sales & Marketing Department

If you are a certified court reporter interested in applying, please contact: careers@PohlmanUSA.com

NOW OPEN!
Chicago, IL location



Missouri Court Reporters Association

Statement of Financial Position-Cash Basis, October 31, 2009

ASSETS
Current Assets
Cash in Bank-BCNB \$ 77,227.55
Certificate of Deposit 69,694.90
Cash in Bank-Region Accounts 3,295.88
Total Current Assets \$ 150,218.33
Fixed Assets
Equipment \$ 7,712.65
Accumulated Depreciation 7,712.65-
Total Assets \$ 150,318.33
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Liabilities
Net Assets \$ 126,859.52
Change in net assets 23,358.81
Total Net Assets \$ 150,218.33
Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$ 150,218.33

Statement of Activities and Net Assets-Cash Basis
For the Year Ended October 31, 2009

REVENUE
Membership Dues \$ 35,810.00
Convention 20,746.61
RPR/RMR/RDR/CLVS Test 126.00
Progress Publication 1,751.00
Interest 2,100.68
Merchandise 10.00
Fund Raising 5,792.00
Other Revenue 8,971.00
Total Revenue 75,307.29
GENERAL EXPENSES
Board & Regional 7,730.51
Convention 11,369.08
Progress Publication 7,920.45
Membership Directory/Bylaw 518.85
Legislative Representative 11,232.90
Accounting Services 7,612.66
Insurance 363.00
Other Expense 1,139.93
COMMITTEE EXPENSES
Fund-Raising Committee 1,753.55
Legislative Committee 582.52
Membership Committee 132.00
Public Relations Committee 1,409.43
Student Affairs Committee 183.60
Total Expenses 51,948.48
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS 23,358.81
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 126,859.52
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR 150,318.33



MCRA 2009 – 2010 COMMITTEES

AUDIT

Linda Dattilo, Chair
Sande Meyer
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

BUDGET & FINANCE

Mary Conway, Co-Chair
Angie Culler, Co-Chair
Lisa Hennon
Dawn McTeer
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

BYLAWS

Linda Dattilo, Chair
Carolyn Keeling
Diana Taylor
Faith Olliges, ex officio

CHIEF EXAMINER

EAST:
Debbie Kriegshauser
NCRA selection approval

CHIEF EXAMINER

WEST:
Irene Narvaez
NCRA selection approval

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Rachelle Sobaski

CONVENTION 2010

St. LOUIS
Shana Crane, Chair Region I
Deborah McLaughlin
Rhonda Laurentius
Linda Dattilo
Karen Rottmann
Jennifer Dunn
Dawn McTeer
Faith Olliges
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

DISTINGUISHED

SERVICE AWARD
Bo Kriegshauser, Chair
Jim Bouck
Mary Conway
Diana Taylor
Dennis Jaeger
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

EDITORS

Marian Rein, Progress Publication
Stephanie Prewitt, Membership
Directory
Gail Conaway, Advertising Specialist
Gail Conaway & Deborah McLaughlin,
Web site Directors

FUND RAISING

Gail Conaway, Chair
Betsy Gromowsky
Rozann Brancato
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

LEGISLATIVE

Randy Dunn, Co-Chair
Kathy Foley, Co-Chair
Joanne Martin
Linda Dattilo
Mary Conway
Cathi Boyd
Stephanie Prewitt
Brett Harrison
Diane Woods
Betsy Gromowsky
Angie Culler
Pat Manners
Faith Olliges
Dawn McTeer
Ginger Sommerer
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Joanne Martin, Chair
Cathi Boyd
Angie Culler
Linda Dattilo
Randy Dunn
Jennifer Dunn
Rhonda Laurentius
Deborah McLaughlin
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

NOMINATING

Faith Olliges, Past President
Region I, Vickie Pohlman Walker
Region II, Betsy Gromowsky
Region III, Diana Taylor
Region IV, Diane Woods
Region V, Sande Meyer

PAST PRESIDENTS

Faith Olliges
Angie Culler

Sandy Stewart
Patricia Manners
Rhonda Laurentius
Tammy Ballew
Deborah McLaughlin
Diana Taylor
Jennifer Dunn
Mary Conway

PUBLIC RELATIONS, EAST

Jennifer Dunn, Chair
Debbie McLaughlin
Rhonda Laurentius
Shana Crane
Melissa Schardan
Debbie Kriegshauser
Dawn McTeer
Faith Olliges
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

PUBLIC RELATIONS, WEST

Betsy Gromowsky, Chair
Angie Culler
Tracie Brumley
Lisa Hennon
Stephanie Prewitt
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

STUDENT AFFAIRS, EAST

Deb McLaughlin, Chair
Robin Cox
Rhonda Laurentius
Karen Rottmann
Karen Russo
Kathleen Saunders, South Technical
High School
Patty Ziegler, Ph.D., Meramec College,
St. Louis
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

STUDENT AFFAIRS, WEST

Gail Conaway, Chair
Sue Steen
Julie DelPercio
Lea Ann Moore
Cheryl Rickel
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio

STUDENT MENTORING

Dawn McTeer, Chair
Peggy Lange
Kathleen Saunders, South Technical
High School
Tiffany Thompson, ex-officio



MINUTES OF THE WINTER BOARD MEETING
AT THE BOONE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
MARCH 27, 2010

The Winter Board Meeting of the MCRA Board of Directors was called to order at 10:15 a.m. The Board members in attendance were: Tiffany Thompson, President; Dawn McTeer, President Elect; Faith Olliges, Immediate Past President; Lisa Hennon, Treasurer; Gayle Wambolt, Secretary; Shana Crane, Region I Vice President; Rozann Brancato, Region II Vice President; Julia Hunt, Region III Vice President; Rachelle Sobaski, Region IV Vice President; Sandy Stewart, Region V Vice President.

Members not present were: Gail Conaway, Vice President.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The NCRA Convention will be held on August 5 through 8, 2010, at the Hilton in Chicago, Illinois. Faith Olliges and Gail Conaway will attend.

The MCRA Convention will be held on October 1 and 2, 2010, at the Crowne Plaza in Clayton, Missouri. Cyndi Brasken is the new contact person for Crowne Plaza.

The CCR Test Date #1 will be held on April 16 and 17, 2010, at the Sheraton in Clayton, Missouri. The CCR Test Date #2 will be held on October 22 and 23, 2010, in Columbia, Missouri.

The Summer Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 26, 2010, at Crowne Plaza in Clayton, Missouri.

The Budget Meeting will be held in April. Date to be determined later.

The annual Cookie Blast will be held on April 14, 2010, in Jefferson City.

The OSCA Rules Meeting will

be held on April 16, 2010, in Jefferson City. Tiffany Thompson and Dawn McTeer will be in attendance.

The deadline to send in articles for Progress is May 1, 2010. Board members were encouraged to send in articles, pictures, etc.

The former MCRA website will be taken offline. There was a discussion about the possibility of creating a link from the old website to the new MCRA website.

There was a brief discussion about legislative updates.

President Tiffany Thompson asked the Board for their input on attending the Solo and Small Firm Conference being held on June 10 through 12, 2010, at Tan Tara, Lake of the Ozarks. Lisa Hennon made the suggestion the Board also look at attending the MACDL Conference in May and/or the MATA Conference in the fall.

RATIFICATION OF E-MAIL VOTES

President Tiffany Thompson called for a motion to ratify the following E-mail votes:

"Motion/Immediate Past President Faith Olliges: I make the motion that President Tiffany Thompson be authorized to make payment to Adams Pointe Conference Center the amount of \$6,001.32, which covers all food, facilities, and equipment rentals for our Annual Convention and Business Meeting held October 2-3, 2009."

"Motion/Immediate Past President Faith Olliges: I make the motion that President Tiffany Thompson be authorized to pay the outstanding invoice from Courtyard by Marriott

in the amount of \$685.94, which covers payment for the rooms of the NCRA representative, Candis Bradshaw, and the President's suite."

"Motion/Vice President Gail Conaway: I make a motion to acquire Wild Apricot for our new MCRA website at a cost of \$50 a month."

"Motion/Vice President Gail Conaway: I make a motion to pay for Wild Apricot annually in the amount of \$600, instead of monthly."

"Motion/Secretary Gayle Wambolt: I make a motion to approve the following applicant for membership: Susan O. Stevens, Active."

"Motion/Region I Vice President Shana Crane: I make a motion to approve the Pre-Convention Board Meeting minutes from the Annual Convention in Blue Springs, Missouri, October 2, 2009."

"Motion/Vice President Shana Crane: I make a motion to approve the Post-Convention Board Meeting minutes from the Annual Convention in Blue Springs, Missouri, October 2, 2009."

"Motion/President Elect Dawn McTeer: I move the Board authorize President Tiffany Thompson to pay charges for the publishing of 475 copies of the 2009 membership directory at a cost of \$5.90 per copy along with mailing costs of approximately \$2 per copy."



"Motion/Secretary Gayle Wambolt: I make a motion to approve the following applicant for membership: Stacy Roy, Active."

"Motion/Secretary Gayle Wambolt: I make a motion to approve the following applicants for membership: Ellen Stackle, Student; Michael Cummings, Student; Crystal K. Crawford, Student; Megan Girolami, Student; Paul Amlashi, Student; Niesha Corbin, Student; Tara Stadler, Student; Thomas Crowe, Student."

MOTION/PRESIDENT ELECT DAWN McTEER: I move to ratify the email votes.

MOTION SECONDED: There being no further discussion, President Tiffany Thompson called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT
President Elect Dawn McTeer informed the Board she had attended all of the Convention Planning Committee meetings and was preparing to be President next year.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT
No report given.

SECRETARY'S REPORT
President Tiffany Hughes called for a motion to approve Active and Student Membership Applications.

MOTION/PRESIDENT ELECT DAWN MCTEER: I make a motion to approve Kim Mohling for student membership and Alicia Carter for active membership.

MOTION SECONDED: There being no further discussion, President Tiffany Thompson called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Treasurer Lisa Hennon presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. She reported there were balances of:

Checking Account \$90,356.80

Certificate of Deposit 10-31-2009 \$69,694.90

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Immediate Past President Faith Olliges recommended every Board member introduce themselves to their local representatives and get to know them.

Also advised the Board Deb McLaughlin would be coordinating the upcoming student seminar with a visit to the St. Louis County Courthouse and jail on April 13, 2010.

REGION I VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Region I Vice President Shana Crane informed the Board of the Region I Christmas party held on December 4, 2009, with about 20 members in attendance and also that she was working on speakers for the convention in October.

REGION II VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Region II Vice President Rozann Brancato informed the Board there was an opening in the 16th Judicial Circuit Court for an official court reporter.

REGION III VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Region III Vice President Julia Hunt informed the Board the Boone County Presiding Judge is retiring who had been a strong supporter of court reporters and also that there was a new judge in Cole County.

REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Region IV Vice President Rachelle Sobaski reported things were running smoothly in Greene County.

REGION V VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Region V Vice President Sandy Stewart reported Region V was having a meeting at the River Ridge Winery at the end of April.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a discussion regarding payment for Crowne Plaza and the parliamentarian at convention.

NEW BUSINESS

There was brief discussion regarding strategies for membership drives.

President Tiffany Thompson called for a motion authorizing the President to pay the day-to-day expenses.

MOTION/IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT FAITH OLLIGES: Move to authorize the President to pay the day-to-day expenses of the Association until the next meeting.

MOTION SECONDED: There being no further discussion, President Tiffany Thompson called for a vote on the motion. Unanimous aye. Motion carried.

The March 27, 2010, Winter Board Meeting was Adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Calling all MCRA Members!

PROGRESS belongs to you, and we need YOU to help make it great! Please send us articles and information of interest to other court reporters. And we would love to hear what you've been up to! Send us a note and share your stories with other members.

The DEADLINE for the August 2010 issue of Progress is July 16, NO EXCEPTIONS. Please email your submissions to Marian Rein at maran@charter.net.



Letter to MCRA

Friends and Colleagues:

I'm Jason Meadors, the current Secretary-Treasurer of NCRA and the Nominating Committee's selection to continue in that role.

It now appears that I will have opposition to retaining that office, based upon a particular member's dissatisfaction with perceived actions and attitudes of the entire NCRA Board and his expressed desire to hold an office he has not previously held. For a point-by-point address of those issues, feel free to go to my campaign page, <http://vote4jason.com>, and click on the "Issues" button.

The Secretary-Treasurer position carries specific fiduciary duties, and most importantly, you need to feel comfortable with how I carry out those duties. To give you that assurance, let me give you some highlights of my actions in this term. I have:

Scrutinized monthly balance sheets, asked for, and received explanations on various items.
Reviewed our duties under the Bylaws,
Presidential committee charges, and overarching legislation concerning association oversight.

Taken an active role in reviewing investment reports and held the investing consultants' feet to the fire (figuratively, but they might disagree with "figuratively") in terms of performance, allocation, and strategy. This is our money, and I want to make sure that we are getting the best return on our investment.

Reviewed the investment policy and ordered further review and revision of that document.

Chaired the meetings of the Finance and Audit Committees, inviting their full inquiry and analysis, and encouraging a team-building approach.

Interviewed and received a thorough briefing by the independent auditor. I'm pleased to report

that the audit had no items to report. 100 percent clean.

Actively engaged the independent auditor regarding operational efficiency.

With the Finance Committee, reviewed financial recommendations made by staff for forwarding to the full Board. The Board has so far approved all recommendations, another testament to both staff and your Finance Committee.

Remained in weekly continual contact with NCRA'S Finance Department to ensure that we keep a continual check on the pulse of our association's finances.

Promoted, through various communications both subtle and gross, a culture of thrift and financial responsibility.

I take my role as Secretary-Treasurer extremely seriously and feel that, as a steward of your association's finances, you deserve a person who is dealing with the realities that our profession and association face. I am honored to have this role and proud to be the watchdog of your finances.

If you have any other questions concerning how our peers feel about me, again, you are welcome to view <http://vote4jason.com> and click on the "Testimonials" link. My contact information is also listed if you'd like to talk to me directly. I welcome the opportunity to chat with you!

Thank you very much for selecting me for this position last year. I wanted to share with you some of my activities as your Secretary-Treasurer of NCRA, and I ask for your vote at the annual convention.

Jason Meadors, RPR, CRR



Lisa A. Herder Esq., Director of Business Development Midwest Litigation Services | Midwest Trial Services

When Deborah C. Weaver considers why she goes to work each day, she only has to think of business partner Kelly Willis. "What inspires me and gets me up every morning is what Kelly and I wanted to accomplish together," Weaver says of Willis, who died of breast cancer five years ago. "With her being gone, I still know she is there with me every day guiding me, helping me provide top-notch services to the legal community. That's our goal and I know that I have a job to fulfill."

Weaver is President of Midwest Litigation Services and Midwest Trial Services. The sister entities evolved from, Taylor & Associates, the enterprise Weaver, then a court reporter, purchased in 1985. The dual operation, which offers services from preparing courtroom presentations to document scanning to video work to Court reporting, began acquiring other firms in 1998. It now employs 40 people and has eight offices across Missouri. Its St. Louis headquarters is housed in an historic firehouse on 11th Street built in the mid-19th century as the first African-American Methodist church west of the Mississippi. Weaver's company also has one office in Illinois.

Mary Gaal, operations manager", says Weaver is an energetic blend of high standards and caring personal attention. "She's very driven, but more so than that she's interested in the legal community, the furthering of court reporting and our ability to provide services to the client," says Gaal, who has worked with Weaver for a decade. "This is her vision, and she's worked very hard to make it come true."

Weaver has found a receptive audience for her vision. She was named the St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Business Woman in 2001, the Small Business Administration's Small Business Person of the Year in 2002 and has been profiled by local and national media. Two years ago, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis honored her with its Community Service Award.

"I have a responsibility to make sure that my clients, have received the services that they have requested in a quality and timely manner and to make sure my employees have a good, positive place to work," says Weaver, who often participates in pro bono work for area bar associations and others in the legal community. "Those are all important things to me."

If she treats her employees like family, that may be because some of them are. Weaver is a St. Louis native who now lives in Columbia, Ill., with husband Bob Dear. Of her six children, four work for the company. Her oldest son manages the Kansas City office. Weaver says 90 percent of the company's business comes from the legal arena.

"It's a very demanding field, but it's one that has given back to me, and my company wouldn't be where it is today without the support of the legal community," she says. "It's made all the difference in the world."

Reprinted with permission of Missouri Lawyers Media



MCRA Membership Application

Please select one: New Active Member: \$95
 New Associate, Student, & General Member: \$35

Payment method: Check No. _____
 Visa/MasterCard No. _____ Exp. Date: _____

Membership Status applying for (circle 1): Active • Associate • Student • General Retired
 (see page 14 for description of each status)

Type of Reporter (circle): Official • Freelance • Federal • Public Service • Workers' Comp
 Admin. Hearing Commission • Other (specify): _____
 Student (school): _____ Graduation Date: _____

Reporting method (circle 1): Stenotype • Stenomask

Reporting Experience (years and months): _____

Current Certifications/Designations (circle all that apply): CSR (MO) CCR (MO) RPR RMR RDR
 CRR CVR CVR-CM CLVS PSSC Other: _____

Attach a copy of each certificate if applying for new membership

Transcript Production Method: Please list the brand of software/equipment you currently use to produce transcripts (example: Case Catalyst, ProCat, SpeechCAT, MS Word, Work Perfect):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephones: Ofc: _____ Res: _____
 Fax: _____ Email: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Address of Employment: _____

Which address for mail (circle 1): Home Office

Membership Category. Please select one:

- **Active Member: \$95** (Four Progress quarterly newsletters and your 2009 Membership Directory will be mailed to you. Online services will be provided at www.mocra.org)
- **Associate, Student, and General Member: \$35** (Four Progress quarterly newsletters and your 2009 Membership Directory will be mailed to you.)

Mail this application form and copies of all professional certifications with credit card information or check made payable to MCRA, to
 Gayle Wambolt, MCRA Secretary
 5423 NW Foxhill Rd.
 Parkville, MO 64152

Missouri Court Reporters
Association

Faith Olliges
802 Carman Oaks Ct.
Manchester, MO 63021

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS MO
Permit No. 2828