



MINNE-strokes

Minnesota Court Reporters: On and Off the Record

FALL 2017
VOLUME 20 NUMBER 3

INSIDE:

- Congrats - New NCRA Certification.....2
- President's Address3
- A Day in the Life of a Freelance Reporter4
- Four Reporters Walk Into a Bar ...4
- MAVRC at the Minnesota State Bar Association Convention5
- Announcing the Minnesota Award of Excellence6
- Minnesota Award of Excellence Registration Form7
- Profile of a Board Member8
- Congratulations Jackie Young.....9
- Pro Bono9
- MAVRC 2017 Fall Convention Info 10-12
- MAVRC 2017 Fall Convention Registration 13
- Mark Your Calendars 110th Year Anniversary14
- We Need Your Help! 110th Year Anniversary15
- Member Questionnaire Special Commemorative Issue..16
- MAVRC Advertising Options17
- MAVRC Board of Directors 2017-2018 Slate of Nominees...18
- She's a Jolly Good Fellow 19
- NCSA 2017 Meeting During NCRA Convention - Las Vegas 20-21
- The Five-Year Question22
- Congrats, Graduates.....23
- Retired...or Planning to Soon.....23
- Minnesota Agency Listings.. 24-25
- Out-of-State Listings.....26
- Promote Court Reporting.....27
- Upcoming Events.....28

It's Time to Celebrate!



As part of the 2017 Fall Convention,
MAVRC will be celebrating
110 years of court reporting in Minnesota!

Be a part of this momentous event and help
us commemorate the numerous accomplishments
Minnesota reporters have achieved
through the decades.

The celebration will take place on
Friday, October 6, 2017, at the
Embassy Suites Hotel-Airport Location
starting at 7 p.m.

Additional information on this event can be
found on Pages 14-16.

Minnesota Association of Verbatim
Reporters & Captioners

2016-2017 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	Sharon Steinbrecher (763) 323-5931 ss.prc@hotmail.com
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Sandy Burch (952) 440-3886 sburch@integritycr.com
VICE PRESIDENT-OFFICIAL	Rachel Erickson (320) 469-0642 rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT-FREELANCE	Brandi Bigalke (612) 708-2650 brandibigalke@yahoo.com
SECRETARY	Dana Anderson-Linnell (763) 391-7373 danaverbatim@comcast.net
TREASURER	Denise Rothfork (320) 310-1709 denise.rothfork@courts.state.mn.us
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A	Jolynn Graham (763) 493-4478 jgreporting@comcast.net
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A	Darla Delich Mustar (218) 259-7553 ddmustar@yahoo.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B	Merilee Johnson (952) 944-1848 msjreporter@outlook.com
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B	Danna Frazier Nelson (763) 422-7443 danna.fraziernelson@courts.state.mn.us
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Jackie Young (763) 972-3453 rite2jackie@frontiernet.net
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Jolene Carrow (507) 532-0676 www.mavrc.org jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com

CONGRATS - NEW NCRA CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to
Christa Reeser,
RPR, CRR, CRC,
Coon Rapids, Minnesota,
for passing the CRC
(Certified Realtime
Captioners) exam
in the spring of 2017.



Check out
MAVRC's website @
www.mavrc.org
and Facebook page @
<http://www.facebook.com/MAVRC/>

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

As I thought about what I wanted to say in my last update as President of MAVRC, I found myself thinking back over my career and where it began, where it has taken me, and what goals I still want to reach. I think of all the tests – during court reporting school, Illinois CSR, RPR, CM (which I still need to pass the Q & A) and then trying to pass the CRR and the CBC/CCP (known now as the CRC). I won't tell you how many times I have tried to pass those skill tests, but let's just suffice it to say I may hold the record for most tries! I read a quote somewhere that said, "An accomplishment starts with the decision to try." I am sure a court reporter wrote that! Those are great words to keep in mind as we travel through the ups and downs of this profession.

What motivates you? We, as a profession, need to stay motivated to strive to be the best we can be and keep up with the technology that is out there to make our jobs easier and stay ahead of the "alternative methods" that some of our adversaries would like to see take our place in the courtrooms across the country in the name of "efficiency" and "budget savings."

I remember taking my first realtime class – and yes, I have taken a lot of classes and boot camps, always trying to improve my skills. I started with transcripts that looked like a video game with all the conflict choices to the point where I now write realtime every day in court and do CART as a part-time job. I have to admit that my motivation was sometimes fueled by fear – fear that I would be replaced by ER – and I wanted to make sure my skills kept me employed. As a teenager, I watched my dad, who worked as a typesetter at a large printing firm in Chicago, deal with the threat of

computerized technology as the job he had worked at his whole adult life was changing in the way it was done. I remember sitting at the dinner table and hearing him talk about his friends and co-workers who got "let go" in the face of this new technology because they weren't needed any longer. My dad was one of the lucky ones that kept his job and was retrained on the new equipment and proved himself to be a value to the company and worked there until he retired. Maybe that's where my motivation comes from to stay current and continue to strive to be the best I can be. The big difference I see is that where technological breakthroughs have made great improvements in many areas, ER or digital recording as an alternative to realtime steno reporting is not one of those "improvements," but is actually technologically moving backwards. ER and digital recording cannot provide the speech-to-text delivery that a realtime reporter can provide; and we, as a profession, need to stay on top of our game and continue to educate those that think otherwise.

Working with the MAVRC Board has been an eye-opening and rewarding experience. I have learned a lot about the legislative process by attending the NCRA Legislative Boot Camp, which prepared me to appear before our state legislation and speak to them about issues affecting the official reporters in regard to dash cam and body cam transcripts and about statute language that would have taken out all references to "steno" reporters, in what I saw as a step towards the push of State Court Administration's agenda to use more digital recording as an alternative means to taking and maintaining the court record. It has opened my eyes to the huge amount of work it takes to put on a state seminar, from finding a



Sharon Steinbrecher

proper venue, to planning and securing presenters that will meet the requirements of NCRA for earning CEU's, to lining up the volunteers to help make it a success. We have some awesome members who help with these tasks and more. We have generous members who take time from their own jobs to set up their equipment at a job fair and demonstrate their realtime skills to high school students or represent MAVRC at Minnesota Bar Association events to remind members of the legal community that steno reporting is the gold standard.

I have met many more reporters through MAVRC than I ever would have through my day-to-day work at the courthouse in Anoka, and that has really been the best part of this experience. We have so many talented reporters in our state, whether they are freelancers or officials, CART or broadcast captioners, teachers or firm owners. We are an awesome group of professionals, and I am honored to have been able to serve as President of our Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners.

Thank you for your support this past year!

Sharon Steinbrecher
MAVRC President ■

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FREELANCE REPORTER

By Sandy Burch, RPR, CRR

“Which day?” That’s the first thought that came to mind when the Publications Committee asked if I would write an article for the MINNE-strokes newsletter titled “A Day in the Life of a Freelance Court Reporter.”

How can I write an article about a day in the life of a freelance court reporter when every day is different?

The reality of freelance reporting is we are consistently busy and backlogged with transcripts and, yet, we spend much of our work week at home. While our calendars may be slow, we get things done around the house that were put on the back burner in the meantime. Now, we are swamped with getting those projects done before more work comes on the calendar. It’s a cycle.

Life balance is a constant battle as a freelance court reporter. When I think I have my calendar under control, something happens, whether it’s that call for a last-

minute expedite or maybe it’s the kid who needs me to bring that old couch up to their apartment at school and it’s important it happen today since “I’m home.” So, balancing is a constant battle.

While it would be very hard to outline a “typical” day for me, I will say that my early mornings are routine. I get up at 4:00 a.m. I grab a cup of coffee, throw on my gym clothes, walk the dog, feed the animals, then sit down and spend about 20 minutes of time in prayer. I head out the door at 5:15 a.m. to attend a powerlifting class at the gym. I’m back home around 6:30 a.m. I take a shower, get ready for the day, and either head out the door for a deposition or into my home office to start my day.

What works best for me is getting prayer and gym time first thing in the morning or they simply won’t happen that day. Otherwise, it would not be unusual for my husband to walk in the door after a long day of work and me realizing I’m still in my pajamas

at 7:00 p.m. Following a routine, despite unpredictable court reporting days, is what keeps me balanced.

I have been freelancing since 1987 and I love it. I would never want to work in a setting where I am at an office each day with set hours, five days a week. I enjoy the flexibility of having days off during the week where I’m able to meet a friend for lunch, go to that dental appointment, or work on a home project. People always talk about how they can’t wait until the weekend, and I’ve never been that person. I love my job, so weekends are simply two days I know I won’t have depositions on the books.

So, when a friend asks if I’m free during the day to get together for lunch, I think to myself, “Which day?”

Sandy Burch is a freelance reporter from Lakeville, Minnesota, and serves on MAVRC’s Board of Directors as President-Elect. ■

FOUR REPORTERS WALK INTO A BAR...

By Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

On June 22, MAVRC held a summer get-together at Punch Bowl Social in St. Louis Park. Unfortunately, only four of us were able to attend – Brandi Bigalke, Maria Weinbeck, Deanna Oaks, and myself. While some people would call that a bust, I call that an opportunity.

It was an opportunity for four reporters – a freelancer, a federal

reporter, a district court official reporter, and a student – to talk about our lives and our profession in general and the issues that we are facing in Minnesota. Maria offered to share a video that she was part of creating at her courthouse that highlighted the importance of a realtime court reporter with testimonials from a judge and law clerk, lawyers, court staff as well as a certified court interpreter. (We are in the process of getting that video

under our “Hot Topics” tab on our website.) Thanks, Maria!

The evening ended up doing just what it was meant to do – bring MAVRC members together for a bit of fun, a little food, and the chance to foster new friendships and/or professional relationships. Thanks, Brandi, for arranging it!

Sharon Steinbrecher serves as MAVRC’s President. ■

MAVRC AT THE MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

MAVRC recently attended the Minnesota State Bar Association's annual convention held at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Bloomington, Minnesota. This is part of MAVRC's continual effort to help promote the court reporting and realtime captioning profession. It was reassuring to hear feedback from attorneys who valued having a live court reporter in the courtroom as well as the skills we offer, such as realtime, courtroom management, and timely transcripts. We were also approached by several individuals who knew of prospective students who were interested in entering the field of court reporting. We demonstrated live realtime and informed attorneys of the current issues that may have an impact on the court record in Minnesota in the future. A huge thank you to the court reporters who volunteered their time to help run the booth! Sandy Burch (freelance), Rachel Erickson (official), Hart Erickson (freelance), Lynne Krenz (official), Jennifer Sati (judicial reporting instructor at Anoka Technical College), and Debbie Peterson (official.) ■



(Above L to R) Rachel Erickson, Hart Erickson and Lynne Krenz.

(Below) Jennifer Sati and Debbie Peterson



(Left) Sandy Burch

Announcement



*On October 5, 2017,
MAVRC will be offering the
Minnesota Award of Excellence!*

*This certification is unique to Minnesota
and has not been offered in 20-plus years.
It is a step above the RMR and is a
highly coveted award.*

*The winner(s) of this award
will be announced during
MAVRC's 110th Celebration
held on Friday, October 6th.*

Skill Requirements:

- Literary, 210 words per minute for five minutes
- Jury Charge, 250 words per minute for five minutes
- Testimony (two-voice), 270 words per minute for five minutes
- A grade of 95 percent on each section is required to pass.



MINNESOTA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Thursday, October 5 @ 12:30 p.m.
Anoka Technical Institute
1355 West Highway 10, Anoka

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CURRENT CERTIFICATIONS: _____

*****Must be a MAVRC member in good standing*****

Registration fee: \$50 _____

MAVRC Membership Dues: \$120 _____

(If not currently a member)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Registrations must be postmarked by: **Monday, October 2, 2017**

Please mail to:

MAVRC
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN 56258

PROFILE OF A BOARD MEMBER

By Denise Rothfork, RPR

MAVRC Q: What is your name?

A: Denise (Christman) Rothfork

MAVRC Q: Where did you go to court reporting school and when did you graduate?

A: I attended St. Cloud Business College, NKA Rasmussen College, and graduated in 1990.

MAVRC Q: Any particular people who have influenced you in choosing court reporting as a career or helped you during your career?

A: My typing teacher in high school, Mr. Olson, encouraged me to give court reporting a try because typing came pretty natural to me. I didn't decide to pursue it until after a year at St. Cloud State University and then enrolled that following summer.

MAVRC Q: Where have you worked since graduating and what type of work do you do now?

A: I was fortunate to have landed a position shortly after graduating right in St. Cloud at Central MN Reporters doing freelance work. I worked there for Bill Priglmeier from 1990 to 1996 when I decided to branch off and work on my own, continuing in the freelance world. In 2005 I started as an official in a job-share position for the Seventh District in Benton County, only two miles from home. In 2012 I went full-time as an official for the Seventh District with Judge Leonard Weiler who's currently chambered in Morrison County.

MAVRC Q: What type of steno machine and court reporting software do you use?

A: Still using the Smartwriter machine that I purchased back in 1990. Yes, I still use the paper notes! ☺ I am currently using CaseCatalyst.

MAVRC Q: Do you have any tips for other reporters about work habits or routines?

A: If people are speaking too fast or are not loud enough, SPEAK UP! Remember you are only human and they will understand!



Denise Rothfork

MAVRC Q: Are you a member of the National Court Reporters Association? If so, what credentials have you earned through NCRA and how do you earn your continuing education credits?

A: I have been a member of NCRA since 1993 and attained my RPR in 1997. I've acquired my credits mainly by attending seminars but have also done several telephone conferences and read a few of their approved books.

MAVRC Q: Do you recall when you joined MAVRC or approximately how long you've been a member?

A: I've been a member of MAVRC since 1997.

MAVRC Q: When did you become a board member of MAVRC and when does your current term end?

A: In 2015 I was the vice-president (official) and switched to the treasurer position in 2016 and will continue on as treasurer for 2017.

MAVRC Q: Tell us about your family and friends, activities you do with them, your interests outside of work.

A: I reside in Foley, MN, where I was born and raised. I have four beautiful children: Morgan, 23; Mariah, 19; Mitchell, 18; and Michael, 15. I'm very involved in my kids' lives and their sports. Wrestling is the big thing in Foley and it sure keeps me busy through the winter months. I enjoy wine, trying new things, going to movies/shows, shopping, getting away with the girlfriends, wine, scrapbooking and baking. Did I mention wine?

MAVRC Q: Some other questions about what you do in your free time: What's a recent movie you've watched, a recent book you've read, a favorite restaurant?

A: Give me a romantic comedy any day! ☺

MAVRC Q: Any places you've traveled to, either for work or play?

A: I've traveled to a good number of states, but probably my favorite spot would be San Diego, California. I loved the atmosphere and weather! Of course, Mexico is great too! ■

**MAVRC
Mission
Statement**

*The mission of
MAVRC is to
promote the use
of stenographic
reporters to
capture the
record in
depositions
and courtrooms
and to provide
closed
captioning and
CART services.*

Congratulations to
Jackie Young
for being appointed
to NCRA's Committee of
Professional Ethics
for a three-year term
commencing
this fall.

MAVRC welcomes
your brief forms
to publish in our
newsletter.

Please forward to
Minne-strokes Editor
Angie Sundell at
angiesundell@gmail.com.

*If you are interested in providing
pro bono reporting services,
contact:*

**Jean Whalen, RDR, CRR
MAVRC's Pro Bono Coordinator
Juvenile and Family Justice
Center**

**25 West Seventh Street
Suite B304**

St. Paul, MN 55102

Phone: 651-266-5170

Jean.whelen@courts.state.mn.us

Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners

**2017 Fall Convention
&
110th Celebration**

October 6 - 7, 2017



**Embassy Suites Airport
7901 34th Ave South
Bloomington, MN 55425
952-854-1000
www.embassysuites3.hilton.com**

(1.30 CEU's applied for)

2017 MAVRC Fall Convention

Friday, October 6, 2017

8:00 – 8:30	REGISTRATION	
8:30-9:30	Joel Carlson, MAVRC Lobbyist - Legislative Update	.10
9:30 – 10:30	Shawn Fowland, Certified Personal Trainer – Get Moving!	.10
10:30 – 10:45	BREAK	
10:45 – 12:00	Mark Lanterman, Computer Forensics – Online Security	.15
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH	
1:00 – 2:30	Kathryn Sweeney, FAPR, RMR, CRR - CRR Bootcamp	.15

YOU WILL NEED YOUR EQUIPMENT for this session! Bring your steno machines, laptops and everything else you need to provide realtime for yourself.

2:30 – 2:45	BREAK	
2:45 – 4:15	CRR Bootcamp (continued)	.15
4:15 – 4:30	BREAK	
4:30 – 5:30	Max Curry, NCRA Director – Professional Practices	.10
5:30 - 7:00	BREAK/Set-up for Celebration	



7:00 – 11:00 MAVRC Anniversary Celebration, Wine Fundraiser and Four-Piece Jazz Band



2017 MAVRC Fall Convention Saturday, October 7, 2017

8:00 – 8:30	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:30 – 10:00	Software Training Breakout Sessions:	.15
SPEAKER 1:	Merilee Johnson, RDR, CRR, CBC, CCP, RSA – Case Catalyst	
SPEAKER 2:	Brenda Y. Rogers-Fiscus, CSR - Eclipse Trainer	
10:00 – 10:15	BREAK	
10:15 – 11:45	Software Training Breakouts – CONTINUED	.15
11:45 – 1:15	BUSINESS LUNCHEON/OFFICER INSTALLATION	
1:15 – 2:15	Sharon Steinbrecher, Moderator - Town Hall Meeting	.10
<p>Discussion on the pros and cons of merging the MAVRC fall conventions in the future with the Wisconsin Reporters Association state conventions. We will discuss having a combined MN-WI fall convention in Eau Claire, WI, in 2018, and a reciprocal joint convention in Minnesota in 2019.</p>		
2:15 – 2:30	BREAK	
2:30 – 4:00	Ben Theis, Skol Marketing – Social Media Overview	.15



2017 MAVRC FALL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Official _____ Freelance _____ CART _____ Captioner _____ NCRA ID: _____

NCRA Certifications: _____

SEMINAR FEES

Both Days (includes Friday night anniversary celebration): \$275 _____

Friday (includes celebration): \$175 _____ Saturday (seminars only): \$175 _____

Students or Retired – both days \$100 _____ Students or Retired – one day \$60 _____

Friday night anniversary celebration (only): \$30 _____

(Includes MAVRC members not attending convention sessions, students and retired members unless sitting at a sponsored table)

Nonmember Fee - \$120 _____

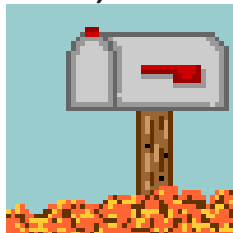
(Must be paid *in addition* to registration
if you are not a current MAVRC member.)

Sponsor a Student: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (payable to **MAVRC**) \$ _____

Please send your registration and payment to:

MAVRC
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN 56258



DEADLINE: Must be postmarked by Friday, September 22, 2017

MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!!

On Friday, October 6 @ 7 p.m.,
MAVRC will be hosting a special celebration
commemorating 110 years of
court reporting in the state of Minnesota!



Activities occurring at the event include:

A live jazz band
Free appetizers
A cash bar
Wheel of Chance
Wine Cork FUNraiser
Historical display
and LOTS and LOTS of celebrating!

**This event will take place during the
2017 Fall Convention
at the**

Embassy Suites Hotel - Airport
7901 - 34th Avenue South
Bloomington, MN 55425
952-854-1000

www.embassysuites3.hilton.com

We Need Your Help!

Your sponsorship will enable MAVRC to invite representatives from the MN Bar Association, judges, court administration, and other organizations to be our special guests at this monumental event.

Table Sponsors:

In recognition of a \$300 donation, you will receive the following:

- Your own table at the celebration with up to seven guests of your choosing
 - A complimentary bottle of champagne at your table
- Complimentary wine glasses with a special logo commemorating the event
- A special table runner at your table with your name or the name of your business
 - Recognition on a special wall banner to be displayed during the celebration
- A free quarter page ad or business card ad in MAVRC's 110th Commemorative Newsletter

In recognition of a \$150 donation, you will receive the following:

- The ability to invite up to three guests of your choosing
 - A complimentary bottle of champagne at your table
- Complimentary wine glasses with a special logo commemorating the event
 - Your name or the name of your business on a special table runner
- Recognition on a special wall banner to be displayed during the celebration
- Acknowledgement of your donation in MAVRC's 110th Commemorative Newsletter

In recognition of a \$75 donation, you will receive the following:

- The ability to invite one other guest of your choosing
 - A complimentary bottle of champagne at your table
- Two complimentary wine glasses with a special logo commemorating the event
 - Recognition on a special wall banner to be displayed during the celebration
- Acknowledgement of your donation in MAVRC's 110th Commemorative Newsletter

Other donations being sought:

Tickets to sports events or other big ticket items to be auctioned off during the event, bottles of wine, gift cards, or gifts of money.

If you are able to contribute, please notify Jolene Carrow, MAVRC'S Administrative Assistant, at jolene.carrow@gmail.com

MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE



Please complete the following survey. Information in whole, or in part, will be included in MAVRC's Commemorative Celebration Edition of *MINNE-strokes* to be published later this year.

NAME: _____

HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

Where were you born? _____

Where did you attend court reporting school? _____

Where have you worked as a court reporter since graduation? _____

Why did you decide to become a court reporter? _____

Please share a court reporting memory with us. This could be a memorable case or a funny story about something court reporting related. _____

If you are an owner or a partner in a court reporting firm, please provide a brief history of your firm; i.e., date formed, original partners and/or owners, number of reporters, etc.

*Feel free to submit additional information on a separate piece of paper.

**Please submit a recent photo of yourself, along with this form, for inclusion
in the commemorative issue!**

MAVRC, P.O. Box 375, Marshall, MN 56258



MINNESOTA
ASSOCIATION OF VERBATIM
REPORTERS & CAPTIONERS

P.O. Box 375
Marshall, Minnesota 56258

Phone: (507) 532-0676
www.mavrc.org

E-mail: jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com

Advertising with MAVRC offers you an affordable opportunity to promote your business to local and out-of-state attorneys, paralegals, legal secretaries, videographers, and fellow court reporters about the variety of court reporting services you provide.

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, ads placed with MAVRC are published in full color under MAVRC's business listing section as well as in our quarterly newsletter, *Minne-strokes*. As an added bonus, your card ad will be featured prominently on MAVRC's homepage as part of our new business card rolling marquee. This enhanced feature is available to you at no additional cost if you elect to advertise with MAVRC for the entire year as long as your payment is received no later than April 26th. For those card ads received after April 26th of each year, there will be an additional \$40 charge to be included on the scrolling marquee.

Please circle your choice(s) for ad(s) to be published by MAVRC.

	<u>ANNUAL RATE</u>	<u>PER/ISSUE RATE</u>				
Please circle issue(s) you wish ad to run						
Business Card Ad	\$100	\$35	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Quarter-Page Ad	\$250	\$80	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Half-Page Ad	\$350	\$100	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Full-Page Ad	\$500	\$150	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter

Please send this completed form, your payment and your business card to:

MAVRC
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN 56258

Or you can e-mail your business card, in JPEG format, to jolene.carrow@gmail.com. Then mail this form along with payment to the above address. To be included in the Winter 2017 issue, your ad and payment must be received by

October 20, 2017.

Questions may be addressed to MAVRC's Administrative Assistant, Jolene Carrow, at the e-mail address above or by calling her at (507) 532-0676. Thanks for your support!

www.mavrc.org

MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2017-2018

SLATE OF NOMINEES:

President – Sandy Burch

President-Elect (Official) – Rachel Erickson

Vice President Freelance – Brandi Bigalke

Vice President Official – Lynne Krenz

Treasurer – Denise Rothfork

Secretary – Dana Anderson-Linnell

Director-at-Large B (Freelance) – Merilee Johnson

Director-at-Large B (Official) – Leslie Carver

REMAINING ON THE BOARD:

Immediate Past President – Sharon Steinbrecher

Director-at-Large A – Jolynn Graham

Director-at-Large A – Darla Delich Mustar

***Nominations will be accepted up until the
time of the vote at the annual business meeting
on October 7, 2017.**

SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

(The following was originally published by Paradigm Reporting & Captioning and is reprinted with permission.)

Las Vegas, Nevada: Congratulations to Paradigm Reporting & Captioning's President & CEO Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, and now FAPR, on her induction as a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters as the 2017 Class at the National Court Reporters Association's Annual Convention.

Fellowship in the Academy of Professional Reporters is a national designation that peer-nominated and conferred upon persons with "outstanding and extraordinary qualifications and experience." It is one of the highest honors attainable in the court reporting profession.

Excerpt from NCRA press release: "Ballman has more than 36 years of experience as a court reporter. She served many years on the Minnesota Freelance Court Reporters Association and the Minnesota Court Reporter Association. She has also served on numerous NCRA committees and task forces, including the CEO Search Committee, Nominations Committee, Marketing Court Reporter Task Force, Firm Owners Community of Interest, and the Constitution & Bylaws Committee. Ballman is a past Trustee and Chair of the National Court Reporters Foundation. She holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) and Certified Manager of Reporting Services (CMRS)."



Jan Ballman (on left) is shown displaying her Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporter's Award at the 2017 National Court Reporters Association's Annual Convention. (Photo courtesy of NCRA.)

NCSA 2017 MEETING DURING NCRA CONVENTION - LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

By Sandy Burch, RPR, CRR

It was a privilege and an honor to be able to attend the NCSA meeting in Las Vegas during the national convention. It's always a great opportunity to meet other reporters from around the country who are serving on their state boards and who are facing many of the same issues we are facing in Minnesota.

The meeting started out talking about the Discover Steno A to Z program and encouraging everyone to get involved. NCRA recognizes there will be a shortage of court reporters in the next five years and we need to step up our efforts to encourage incoming students. So, for any reporter who is looking for an opportunity to volunteer to help our profession, please contact MAVRC to find out how you can help.

We then had an opportunity to

talk with the state leaders at our individual tables to discuss issues that are currently happening in our states and then present to the whole group what we discussed. The list of topics that were talked about included:

- The need for schools
- The shortage of court reporters
- Whether audio is considered work product
- Some states considering eliminating their state associations and what the impact would be
- Fundraising
- Social media – the uses of it, benefits, downfalls
- The issues the official reporters are dealing with involving electronic recordings
- State certifications for reporters

- How to increase membership at the local level
- Contracting

I can't stress enough how important it is for everyone to be involved and to be a part of both MAVRC and NCRA. As board members of MAVRC, we do as much as we can to know what the issues are that we are facing and to be at the forefront of dealing with them both locally and nationally.

Thank you to all the members of MAVRC. We appreciate you being a part of our organization and supporting the board members who go to the NCSA meetings and who are able to represent our state and who stay on top of understanding the issues affecting our profession.

Sandy Burch is a freelance reporter from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and serves on MAVRC's Board of Directors currently as President-Elect.



MAVRC President Sharon Steinbrecher addressing the group at the NCSA meeting



Members in attendance at the 2017 NCSA meeting in Las Vegas at the NCRA Convention

NCSA 2017 MEETING DURING NCRA CONVENTION - LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



*(Left to right) Sandy Burch,
Sharon Steinbrecher and
Brandi Bigalke*



*(Left to right)
Jennifer Sati, Brandi
Bigalke, Sharon
Steinbrecher share
and discuss concerns
from Minnesota with
reporters.*

*(Left to right) Sharon
Steinbrecher; Jennifer
Sati; Max Curry, NCRA
Director; Sandy Burch*



THE FIVE-YEAR QUESTION

By Lisa Knisley

(The following was originally published on Paradigm Reporting & Captioning's Court Reporting Blog and is reprinted with permission.)

If you had asked me five years ago where I saw myself now, I can guarantee you the answer would not have been, "Close to finishing court reporting school." At that time, I was working behind the bar of the same restaurant I had worked at for the previous nine years. Part of me thought I would work there for the next nine, or nineteen, years. Another part of me assumed I would find something that...that...that what? Therein laid the problem. So I started to think about what I would WANT from a job.

The one thing I knew for sure was that I didn't want a *job*, I wanted a *career*. Don't get me wrong, having a job is great. It has allowed me to do all sorts of things like eat and have a roof over my head. And while it's nice to know you can pay the bills, I wanted more. I wanted to feel challenged. I wanted to feel important. I wanted to learn a skill (I'd already done the "learning for learning's sake" college experience and all it got me was a piece of paper and years of slinging drinks). And I didn't want to be doing the same thing all day every day. Unfortunately, you can't put all those career options into Google and get an answer on what to do with your life.

Fortune, however, was on my side. My husband was working with a woman who was in the court reporting program at Anoka Tech. She would rave about it at work. He suggested I do a little research into what it was, exactly, that court reporters do. So I did. And as I did, I compared what I found to the list of things I was looking for in a career. Challenging? Check. Important? Check. A skill? Variety? Check and double check. It was official. I had found what I was going to do as a career.

Even after all the research, I didn't fully understand the profession until I started the program at Anoka Tech. I didn't realize the dedication and the commitment it takes to become a court reporter. I wasn't aware of the (much deserved) pride that court reporters have in their skill and the passion they have for the profession. It was inspirational.

Of course, no amount of inspiration makes court reporting school easy. I have had moments where I have questioned my ability to become a reporter. I have cried. I have had to stop myself from knocking my machine over in frustration like a child losing a board game. But I stuck it out, and now here I am. Nearly four years after starting school, I am nearing its completion. I am so excited to soon join the ranks of working court reporters! I can't wait to get certified and be able to sport some letters after my name. Most importantly, I am so glad that my answer to the question, "Where do you see yourself in five years?" is completely different now than it was five years ago.

Lisa Knisley is a Judicial Reporting student at Anoka Technical College and the 2017 Paradigm Student Scholarship recipient.



Lisa Knisley and Jan Ballman

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES

Jennifer Brama



As a new graduate, I'm eager to begin the job search. My goal is to work as an official reporter in Minnesota and continue to learn and grow as a court reporter!

Rachel Graham



I absolutely LOVE this profession! I'm so excited to start my career as a freelance reporter, and in the fall I will begin the captioning/CART program at Anoka Tech.

RETIRED ... OR PLANNING TO SOON?

Are you retired or retiring soon? Lucky YOU! Please keep in contact with MAVRC!

Did you know you can apply for "RETIRED LIFETIME" status with MAVRC? Your status will be changed in MAVRC's database to retired and you will keep up to date with what is happening in the organization and your profession. Best thing: It's free! Check out Article III – Membership, Section 4, Retired Lifetime Members, in MAVRC's Constitution and By-Laws for further information.

So MAVRC can stay in touch with you when you retire, email your contact information or any questions to Jolene.Carrow@gmail.com and your information will continue to be in MAVRC's database.

MINNESOTA AGENCY LISTINGS

SHERLYN M. ANDERSON
Registered Professional Reporter

ADVANCED REPORTING
...for service and quality

10170 44th Court NE
St. Michael, MN 55376

(763) 497-3495
Fax: (612) 677-3319
Cell: (612) 559-0502
email:advancedreporting@charter.net



CORBETT COURT REPORTING

Nanette J. Corbett, Registered Diplomate Reporter

2212 Hegberg Road, Duluth, Minnesota 55804-9630

Phone: 218-525-3515 Cell/Text: 218-390-5408

E-mail: nansoffice@gmail.com

tel 612.338.3376
fax 612.338.5226
toll free 800.873.3376
cell 612.247.9115

222 South Ninth Street

Suite 450

Minneapolis, MN 55402

egoldberg@benchmark-reporting.com

BENCHMARK
A Reporting Agency

Corinne Schieck
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER

Carney & Associates, Inc.

P.O. BOX 262
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA 55903

BUS. (507) 288-3558
1-800-367-8124
FAX. (507) 288-3557
carneyrpr@gmail.com



anywhere.
anytime.

Patricia Carl | Chairman & CEO
pat@depointernational.com

800.591.9722



Home of SuperFast Transcripts!
depo international
worldwide deposition services

JOLENE CARROW
Court Reporter

2864 - 290th Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Ph: (507) 828-4408
Fax: (507) 532-0876

carrowjd@starpoint.net



FACTS REPORTING, INC.

FAST ACCURATE COMPUTERIZED TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE

GLENDA L. KAUFMAN
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER

12179 Undercliff Street N.W. • Minneapolis, MN 55433-6727

Tel: 763.566.7476 Fax: 763.566.1909

Toll Free: 888.567.7476 • E-mail: glenda@factsreporting.com

MINNESOTA AGENCY LISTINGS

SANDY BURCH
 CERTIFIED REALTIME REPORTER

INTEGRITY COURT REPORTING, INC.
 TEL: 952.440.3886 * TOLL FREE: 800.731.1903

7900 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE, SUITE 300
 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55425

SBURCH@INTEGRITYCR.COM

Laurie Webster, RPR



Reporting Agency
A Full-Service Court Reporting Firm

1-800-334-3858

P.O. Box 293
 Cloquet, MN 55720
 (218) 878-1882

*Interested in having your
 card ad appear here?*

**Contact Jolene Carrow for details
 at (507) 532-0676 or
 jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com**

Diane M. Wright
 & ASSOCIATES, LTD.

Court Reporters devoted to superior quality and exemplary service

Registered professional reporters • Complete litigation support
 Daily copy and expedited delivery

952-938-3055 • fax 952-935-8805 • dwareporting@aol.com



Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, FAPR
 President & CEO

Minnesota's largest, most highly-
 certified court reporting team.

Offices in Downtown:
 Minneapolis - St. Paul - Fargo

(612) 339-0545
 paradigmreporting.com
 depos@paradigmreporting.com

Young Court Reporting
 Committed to Excellence



Jackie Young
 Registered Professional Reporter
 youngreporting@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 466
 Delano, MN 55328

763-639-9480

OUT-OF-STATE LISTINGS



A PARADIGM Company

300 NP Ave
Suite 201
Fargo, ND 58102

(701) 235-7571
Fax (701) 293-3487
www.normanemark.com



*Interested in having your
card ad appear here?*

**Contact Jolene Carrow for details
at (507) 532-0676 or
jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com**

Statements of fact and opinion within this newsletter are the responsibility of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the officers or members of MAVRC. All advertisements are the sole responsibility of the advertiser alone and do not express the opinion or endorsement of MAVRC.

Court Reporting as a Career???

If you know someone who is interested in court reporting, closed captioning, or CART, the contact person at Anoka Technical is:

Jennifer Sati

JSati@anokatech.edu

Want to help out
a student?

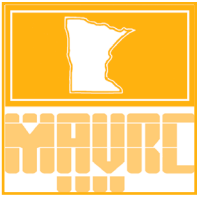
Send \$25.00
indicating that
you would like to
sponsor a student
to:

MAVRC
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN
56258

WANTED...

Your extra steno paper, tapes, or
old transcripts
for dictation material.

If you are willing to donate any of
these items to the students
at Anoka Tech, please contact:
Jennifer Sati at
JSati@anokatech.edu



**MINNESOTA
ASSOCIATION OF VERBATIM
REPORTERS & CAPTIONERS**
PO Box 375
Marshall, MN 56258



UPCOMING EVENTS

**October
6 -7, 2017** MAVRC's Fall Convention &
110th Reporting Celebration
Embassy Suites Hotel - Airport
Bloomington, MN



MAVRC MINNE-strokes STAFF

EDITOR: Angie Sundell

EDITORIAL STAFF: Nanette Corbett
Rhonda Franken
Brittney Ollanketo
Callie Sajdera
Jackie Young

ADVERTISING: Jolene Carrow
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN 56258

MINNE-strokes is the official publication of MAVRC, the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners.

MINNE-strokes is published quarterly.

Statements of fact and opinion within this newsletter are the responsibility of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the officers or members of MAVRC. All advertisements are the sole responsibility of the advertiser alone and do not express the opinion or endorsement of MAVRC. Articles submitted are subject to editorial revisions.

To submit articles, send to:

Angie Sundell
MAVRC Editor MINNE-strokes
angiesundell@gmail.com

RECENTLY RELOCATED?

Please keep us informed of any changes to your home, office, postal and/or e-mail addresses, as well as telephone and fax numbers. This will help to ensure that you will continue to receive *MINNE-strokes* and other important correspondence regarding your association and profession.

Contact Jolene Carrow at jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com or (507) 532-0676.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION
DEADLINE**

