



# MINNE-strokes

Minnesota Court Reporters: On and Off the Record

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## President's Address



By RandiAnn C. Harvey, RDR, CRR, CRC, AE

The 2022 NCRA Convention was in Orlando, Florida, this year, and I was able to attend. Although the price was a hit to the pocketbook, I believe it was worth it, and I plan to attend next year's convention in Houston, Texas, and maybe even enter a speed contest (got to aim high, right?).

Flying in on Wednesday, I was able to attend that night the National Congress of State Associations reception, where I had a relaxing time meeting other state association liaisons and board members.



(Cont'd on page 2)

## President's Address (cont'd from page 1)



Thursday I was free until 2 p.m., so I took an Uber to a local outlet mall and did a little fun shopping. Then it was time for the NCSA annual meeting where legislative issues across the country were discussed. Jocelyn Moore, NCRA's Director of Government Relations, presented on the Advocacy Center that NCRA has implemented, which is an amazing grassroots networking campaign software that can target legislative issues that negatively impact the court reporting profession. They were able to defeat a bill in Illinois within hours of sending out hundreds of letters to legislators through this software. It's pretty cool stuff.

<https://www.ncra.org/home/get-involved/advocacy/advocacy-action-center>

Thursday night was the Expo Hall reception where I enjoyed some delicious appetizers while mingling and visiting various booths. The Political Action Committee's booth was a raffle fundraiser, and MAVRC donated a very Minnesota-looking basket graciously put together by Lynzie Zempel. This year the raffle drew more contributors than in the past and raised more than \$4,400, exceeding previous PAC raffles.



Friday, Saturday, and Sunday were filled with various classes. My favorites:

Don't Make Us Say We Told You So, by Stefanie R. Allison, RPR, of Nebraska, in which she laid out the organized efforts of the reporters in her state that fought against their Supreme Court who was instituting changes affecting the integrity of the record by making it easier for a courtroom recorder and an outside transcriptionist to prepare the record. Hmm... sound familiar?

Anissa R. Nierenberger, RPR, CRR, CRC, CRI, had a presentation called "Stop the BS; Resolving Boundaries and Stacking." She is an energetic and creative speaker, and I plan to take some of her classes in the future.

TECH Talk by Mike Hensley, RDR, was great! He talked about apps and devices that he thought were helpful to the profession. I'd really like to get the Anker PowerConf H700 headset that he suggested. It's comfortable, wireless, and has a stand that recharges it. I'll just need to figure out how to use it with my Zoom audio setup.

Overall, it was quite enjoyable meeting reporters from different states, and I recommend going if you ever get the chance. Don't wait too long, though, or you'll be old like me and unable to stay up for the main events 😊.



# 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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218.393.1975  
lynzie@zempelreporting.com

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VACANT

## SECRETARY

Jennifer Sharp  
612.309.8459  
jennysharplynn@yahoo.com

## TREASURER

S. Ryan Ziegler  
612.219.6207  
srziegler@gmail.com

## DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A (Official)

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970.488.0789  
shelby.delta@gmail.com

## DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A (Freelance)

Jeanna Zunker  
320.760.4561  
jeannazunker@gmail.com

## DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Official)

Rhonda Franken  
507.271.3453  
rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us

## DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Freelance)

Deanna Oaks  
858.231.0383  
oaksdeanna@gmail.com

## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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320.679.6400  
randiann.harvey@courts.state.mn.us

## EX-OFFICIO STUDENT MEMBER

Elizabeth Peterson



## *Bylaw Changes to the Board of Directors*

**Amendments to MAVRC's Constitution and Bylaws were passed at the annual business meeting.**

**Among other changes, the amendments eliminated the President-Elect position and combined the Vice President positions into one. The Board hopes to alternate the role of VP between a freelancer and an official whenever possible. These changes were proposed to align the Board with current membership size and participation.**

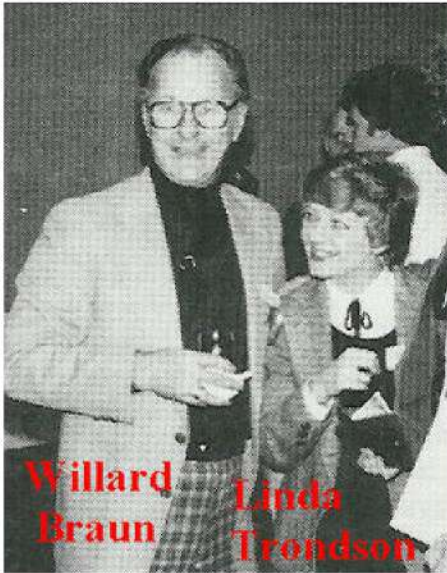
## **WE NEED YOU!**

**We are still in need of a Vice President, ideally an official reporter who is willing to serve for three years: one as VP, one as President, and one as Immediate Past President.**

**Meetings are held the first Wednesday evening of every month by Zoom. Time commitment varies depending on what committees you choose to be on and what is happening in the association.**

**MAVRC has a strong voice and an important role in supporting steno reporters throughout the state. If you are interested in serving as VP, please contact the Board at [MAVRC@MAVRC.org](mailto:MAVRC@MAVRC.org).**





Willard  
Braun Linda  
Trondson

From the

# Archives



Bill and Shirley Braun

By Rhonda Franken, RMR

In 1983 the **Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award** was established by the Executive Board of the court reporter state association, then called Minnesota Shorthand Reporters Association. In honor of Willard I. Braun's outstanding contributions to the development of excellence in court reporting education, the Minnesota Shorthand Reporters Association (MSRA), soon to be Minnesota Court Reporters Association (MCRA) at its annual convention on October 13, 1984, presented the first "Student of the Year Award" plaques to one recipient of each court reporting program in the state of Minnesota – six at the time! Henceforth, at each fall convention, the chosen recipients are presented the award, which recognizes students in the state of Minnesota who excel both academically and in machine skills. The student's attitude, deportment, motivation, self-discipline, attendance, punctuality, and quality of work are also all taken into consideration. Willard Braun was co-founder of the Northern Technical School of Business and was one of the pioneers in utilizing CAT technology.

In 1993, with the purpose to make the award more meaningful, the Association decided to conduct the Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award differently. For the 10 years prior there were three nominees per program at each school and then there would be one student selected as the award winner from each program. Beginning in 1993, the Association asked for just one nominee from each program and then selected one overall winner for the award, which was presented at the fall conference.

When I began my research to compile the list of recipients for the Student of the Year Award, I had no idea what a big project it would become and of the interesting and valuable history lesson that I would get in the process! I was reminded of the change of name of the Minnesota court reporter association (initially from Minnesota Shorthand Reporters Association to Minnesota Court Reporters Association); the split into two separate associations in 1985, MCRA for official reporters and MFCRA – Minnesota Freelance Court Reporters Association – for the freelancers; and then, of course, the merger of the aforementioned two associations in 1998, with the newly merged association being named the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners (MAVRC). I was also reminded of the number of schools dwindling down from as many as nine programs to no school programs from approximately 2001-2003, until the inception of Anoka Technical College's court reporting program in August of 2003.

I reached out to several reporters to compile the recipient list, and I hit a dead end for two of the years as far as finding recipients – 1985 and 1997. I'm left wondering if there were no recipients those years due to reorganization, separation, and merging. Obviously in the 2001-2004 time frame there were no recipients due to there not being a single court reporting program in any school from 2001-2003 to be able to nominate an upper-speed student.

The following is the list of recipients from the inception through 2022, along with a few historical comments:

**Willard I. Braun**

**Outstanding Student of the Year Awards**



**1983** - MSRA (Minnesota Shorthand Reporters Association) establishes the Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award. The membership votes to change the name from MSRA to Minnesota Court Reporters Association (MCRA), effective January 1, 1985.

**1984** (listed in the Winter '84-'85 edition, printed in January '85)

- Kari Prafke – Jackson AVTI
- Laurie Smith – University of Minnesota, Crookston
- Shelley McKee – St. Cloud Business College
- Sherri Flagg – Minnesota School of Business
- Jeanine Knoll – Northern Technical School of Business, Day School
- Deborah Maves – Northern Technical School of Business, Night School

**1985** – Could not locate the Winter '85-'86 edition to determine recipients, if any, this year. Of note is that not only did the membership vote to change the name from MSRA to Minnesota Court Reporters Association (MCRA) effective January 1, 1985, but also on January 26, 1985, 11 freelance court reporters from around the state met and formally organized the Minnesota Freelance Court Reporters Association (MFCRA), thus resulting in the separation of freelance and official reporters into two separate organizations. This could lead me to believe there were no recipients in 1985 due to the changes that took place that year.

**1986** (listed in the Winter '86-'87 edition, printed in January '87)

- Sue Poole – Southwestern Vo-Tech, Jackson
- Rena Amundson - University of Minnesota, Crookston
- Cheri Harworth – St. Cloud Business College
- Sandra Anklam – Minnesota School of Business, ITT
- Marsha DuMez – Northern Technical School of Business, Day School
- Jane Sukke – Northern Technical School of Business, Night School

**1987** (listed in the Winter '87-'88 edition, printed in January '88)

- Connie Wilson – Rasmussen Business College (Northern Tech), Night School
- Mary Cooper – Rasmussen Business College (Northern Tech), Day School
- Kimberly Hanson – Southwestern Vocational Technical Institute, Jackson
- Shirley Paradis – St. Cloud Business College
- Eleanor E. Liptak – ITT Technical Institute of Minnesota (Minnesota School of Business)
- Angie Foss – University of Minnesota, Crookston



1988 (listed in the Winter '88-'89 edition, printed in January '89)

Amy Stoltenberg – Southwestern Technical Institute, Jackson

Nancy Roden – University of Minnesota, Crookston

Kristi Liebl – St. Cloud Business College

Cheryl Wallet – Minnesota School of Business

Jacob Schaff – Rasmussen Business College, Day School

Joan M. Zachman (Huebner) – Rasmussen Business College, Night School

1989 (listed in the Winter '89-'90 edition, printed in January '90)

Sarah Haler – Southwestern Technical College, Jackson

Brenda Barrows – University of Minnesota, Crookston

Janet Henry – St. Cloud Business College

Mary Jo LeGrand – Minnesota School of Business

Monica Aumann (Moriarty) – Northern Tech, Day School, Rasmussen Business College

Teresa Flagg – Northern Tech – Night School, Rasmussen Business College

1990 (listed in the Winter '90-'91 edition, printed in January '91)

Laura Erickson – Southwestern Technical College, Jackson

Kathy Diaz – University of Minnesota, Crookston

Michael Minnerath – St. Cloud Business College

Christine Grover – Minnesota School of Business

Vallerie Paulson – Rasmussen Business College, Day School

Jacqueline Kaupaun – Rasmussen Business College, Night School

1991 (listed in the Winter '91-'92 edition, printed in January '92)

Nicole L. Howe – Southwestern Technical College, Jackson

Penelope J. Campbell – St. Cloud Business College

Enith Darling – Minnesota School of Business, Day School

Leah Gabrielson – Minnesota School of Business, Night School

Cathleen S. Farrell – Rasmussen Business College, Minnetonka, Day School

Dawn Boe – Rasmussen Business College, Minnetonka, Night School

Sandra Kellner – Rasmussen Business College, Eagan, Day School

Jean Hassenfritz – Rasmussen Business College, Eagan, Night School

1992 (listed in the Winter '92-'93 edition, printed in January '93)

Jill Erwin – Southwestern Technical College, Jackson

Kim Altenburg – University of Minnesota, Crookston

Heather Bartz – St. Cloud Business College

Tricia Romstad – Minnesota School of Business, Day School

Jamie M. Sadar – Minnesota School of Business, Night School

Anne Sager – Rasmussen Business College, Minnetonka, Day School

Lori Weisenburger - Rasmussen Business College, Minnetonka, Night School

Dona LaPlante – Rasmussen Business College, Eagan, Day School

Mary Piehl – Rasmussen Business College, Eagan, Night School

**\*\*\* This is when the award was changed to one recipient only \*\*\***

1993 (listed in the Winter '93-'94 edition, printed in February '94)  
Stacey LeAnn Ripley – school unknown

1994 (listed in the Winter '94-'95 edition, printed in February '95)  
Laurie Holets – school unknown

1995  
Marlene Halloway (Poole) – Rasmussen Business College, Night School

1996  
Maria Steer – school unknown, only record of Maria as the recipient

1997 – **No recipient determined or found. Of note is that the merger of MCRA and MFCRA is approved and the merger becomes effective January 1, 1998, with the new association being named the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners. Representatives of both MCRA and MFCRA met in the 1996-1997 time frame to discuss the merging of the two associations. This could lead me to believe that there was not a nomination and recipient of the award due to the impending merger.**

1998 – (MAVRC's first Student of the Year Award)  
Diane Kallinen – school unknown, but my recollection is that Minnesota was down to just one or two court reporting schools during this time frame, possibly Minnesota School of Business or Rasmussen.

1999  
Jennie Ferderer – school unknown. See above for 1998.

2000  
Christa Block - Rasmussen, Day School

2001 through Aug. of 2003. **Of note is that there were no school programs for court reporting and no award was given until the fall of 2005. In August of 2003 Anoka Tech opened its doors to court reporting students.**

2005  
Heather Malmquist – Anoka Tech

2007  
Diane Zwack – Anoka Tech

2009  
Anna Duce – Anoka Tech

2011  
Colleen Maloney – Anoka Tech



2006  
Shelby Goerner – Anoka Tech

2008  
Rallista Rohloff – Anoka Tech

2010  
Sarah "Ryan" Ziegler – Anoka Tech

2012  
Sarah Anderson – Anoka Tech

2013

Sue Roberts – Anoka Tech

2015

Sarah Colberg – Anoka Tech

2017

Callie Sajdera – Anoka Tech

2019

Amanda Leitzke – Anoka Tech

2021

Gabriela Cortes – Anoka Tech

2014

Brittany Blesener – Anoka Tech

2016

Kelley Riley – Anoka Tech

2018

Valerie Riske – Anoka Tech

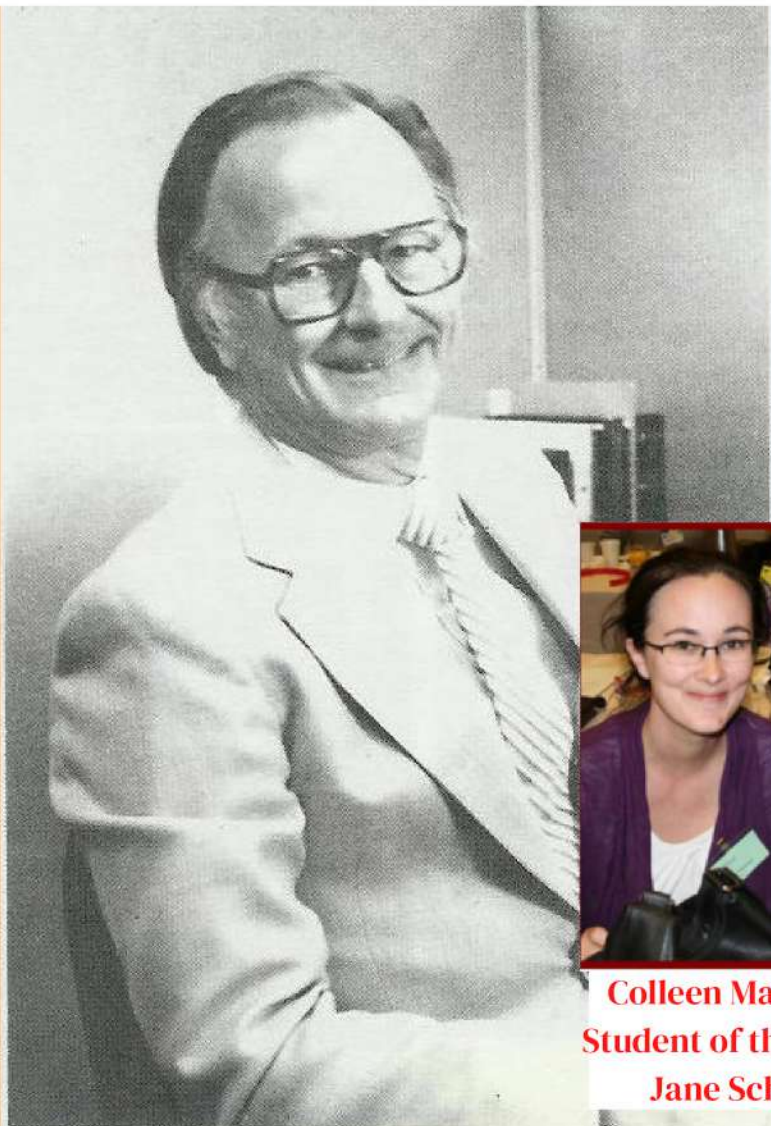
2020

Shelby Brown – Anoka Tech

2022

Blythe Warwas – Anoka Tech

I'd like to thank Karen Lebens, Jackie Young, Jen Sati, Ryan Ziegler, and Angie Sundell for your assistance in putting this list together. For the MAVRC archives, please let Rhonda Franken know at ([Rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us)) if you see any errors, omissions or additions for this list.



**Willard Braun**



**Jennifer Sati (left) with Shelby Goerner, MAVRC's 2006 Student of the Year**



**Colleen Maloney (2011 Student of the Year) with Jane Schleusner**



**Gabriela Cortes (2021 Student of the Year)**



# Realtime/Captioning Classes at Anoka Tech

Professional & Workforce Training



EDUCATION • SKILLS • RESULTS

Professional &  
Organizational Development

## Realtime/Captioning Continuing Education

Two valuable and interactive classes being offered to help you reach your stenographic realtime and captioning professional goals!



### Realtime Principles

Improve your stenographic realtime writing skills to meet your personal goals, whether it's new career opportunities, writing cleaner on jobs to reduce edit time, passing the CRR and CRC, or simply to challenge yourself.

- Weekly realtime evals with detailed feedback and tips on how to improve writing
- Weekly discussion on realtime principles and live practice
- Access to drills and practice material using an online learning forum
- Realtime accuracy
- Prefixes/suffixes
- Word boundaries
- Dictionary building

*Dates: September 22 - November 10, 2022  
Thursdays, 6-8:00 p.m. (CST) via Zoom*

### CART/Captioning Technology

Learn the technology, layout styles, and software features used in CART (on-site and remote) and Broadcast Captioning.

- Captioning functions (scripting, music notes, etc.)
- Encoders (including sending your captions to an iCap encoder)
- Realtime streaming platforms, such as StreamText and ICapApp
- Display layouts and speaker IDs
- Familiarity with captioning content, including live dictation and dictionary building
- Modules on sports, news, city council, and entertainment captioning

*Dates: January 19 - March 9, 2023  
Thursdays, 6-8:00 p.m. (CST) via Zoom*

**Tuition:** \$300 each or save \$100 by registering for both courses

**Instructor: Jennifer Sati, RMR, CRR, CRC, CRI**  
Bringing more than 25 years of realtime CART and captioning expertise to you!

- For questions, contact Jennifer at  
JSati@anokatech.edu or 763-576-4064

\*These courses are for stenographic writers who are currently writing at 225 wpm.

Visit [www.ProWorkTraining.com](http://www.ProWorkTraining.com) or contact Laura Cleveland at LCleveland@anokatech.edu or 763-576-4079 to register.

**Join Us!**

Explore Captioning and Stenographic Reporting  
Anoka Technical College will be offering a

**Judicial Reporting/Captioning  
Virtual Information Session  
and NCRA "A to Z Intro to Steno" Class**

**Tuesday, Oct. 4 • 6 pm**

<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/93214297692>

Meeting ID: 932 1429 7692

(FREE Intro to Steno course starts following the info session and runs for six weeks)

Find out more about stenographic career opportunities, meet industry leaders  
and program graduates, and see the technology used in the field.



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**VISIT:** [anokatech.edu/ProgramsCourses/AdminMgmt/JudicialReporting](http://anokatech.edu/ProgramsCourses/AdminMgmt/JudicialReporting) *OR*

**CONTACT:** Faculty member, Jennifer Sati  
email: [JSati@anokatech.edu](mailto:JSati@anokatech.edu)  
phone: 763-576-4064



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**KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD MAKE  
A GREAT COURT REPORTER?**

## MAVRC Mission Statement:

The mission of Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners (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.

# Thank you to our outgoing Board Members!

Sarah Anderson has served on the Board  
as a Director since 2019.

Laura Pelletier has served on the Board since 2018,  
including as Vice President, President-Elect,  
President, and Immediate Past President.

Lisa Wurtinger has served on the Board as Secretary since 2021.



## Pro Bono

*Kudos to Christine Clark, RPR, for  
providing pro bono services.*

*If you are interested in providing pro  
bono reporting services, contact:  
Christine Clark, MAVRC's Pro Bono  
Coordinator. Phone: 952.250.4030  
chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com*

# NCRA Conference 2022: Orlando

Rebekah Bishop Kerfeld, RPR, CRR

Hi! My name is Rebekah Bishop Kerfeld. I've been a court reporter for 11 years now, and I was the lucky reporter from the Tenth chosen to attend the 2022 NCRA conference in Orlando. Somehow, I won the drawing, which was shocking to me because I never win anything. Not even bingo. I've always wanted to attend one of these conferences, but they're usually a bit out of my budget. I'm thankful to finally have been able to go and to be able to share my experience with you.

I arrived in Orlando the evening of Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. The next day was registration and the business meeting. At the business meeting, former NCRA President Debbie Dibble stepped down and handed the baton over to now-President Jason Meadors.



In the evening, I attended the opening reception. I was able to chat with Jennifer Sati, Amanda Doherty, RandiAnn Harvey, and I also met Anoka Tech student, Rebekah Rademacher. She also goes by Bekah, which is pretty cool. I rarely meet other people with the same spelling as me, and an aspiring court reporter at that! At the opening reception, I also met Greta Pederson and Meredith Seymour from Wisconsin. Meredith

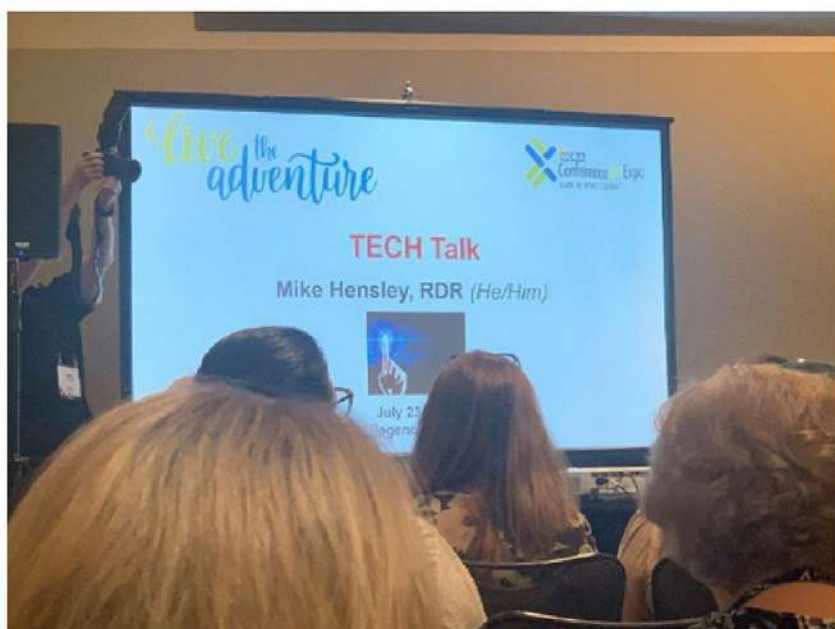
Continued on page 13

is the President of the Wisconsin Court Reporters Association, and Greta is the President-Elect.

Stenograph was one of the vendors at the reception, and they had a tripod on display that adjusts so you can write while standing! This has been added to my Christmas list.

The next day, Friday, it was time to learn. I attended a few seminars, but my favorite was Terminate Transcript Turmoil 2, taught by Anissa Nierenberger. She stresses that better realtime = easier editing. I learned about her "SADA" concept, which stands for:

- S – Search for untranslates
- A – Ask yourself, "What is this supposed to be? Can it be anything else?"
- D – Define the SINGLE untrans by itself
- A – Add with surrounding outlines if needed



Saturday was another day of seminars, and my favorite was definitely TECH Talk, taught by Mike Hensley. My Christmas list really expanded during this one. When I proofread my transcripts, I usually print them out because it's just so much easier to do it on paper. However, I feel very wasteful, and it can get expensive going through so much paper. Mike told us that there is a screen

protector for iPads called Paperlike. This screen protector feels like you're writing on paper on your iPad with your stylus! You can download the app iAnnotate, and boom! No more proofing on paper.

Saturday evening, my husband flew in with our ten-month-old, Willa. I had dinner with them, then bid them goodbye to attend the Member Recognition Gala. It was rock-n-roll themed, so it was fun to see everyone all dressed up. I was there for about an hour before the dancing started, which is one of my least favorite things, so I took that as my cue to leave.

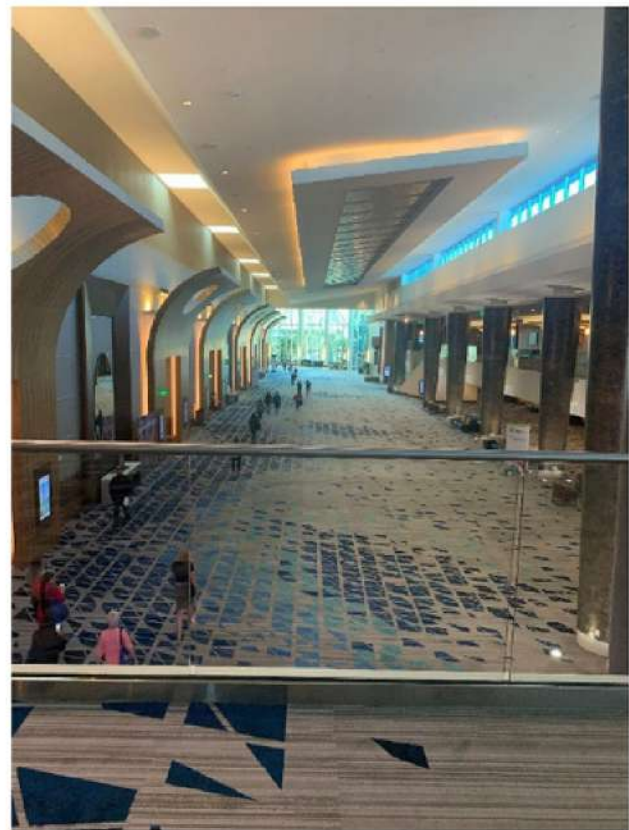
P.S. Check out that outfit! I know it's typewriters...but close enough!

On Sunday, I attended the class Solving the Mystery of the Quagmire of Voir Dire, presented by the Scire twins. They had some very helpful tips when it comes to writing numbers. For example:

- 2EU7 = 72
- 3EU8 = 83
- 2U = 22
- 8U = 88
- 1UD = 100
- 4UD = 400



All in all, it was a great experience. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet other court reporters and to collect those continuing education units. The only thing I would've changed is the temperature of Orlando in late July. 😊



## SPEAKER ID BRIEF FORMS

**REMEMBER, ONE STROKE designations - less chance for mistrokes!**

STKPWHR-FRBPLGTS  
STPHAO

SKWRAO  
EUFPLT or AOEUFPLT

EURBGS or AOEURBGS  
1234  
6789

PHR-FRPBLGTS  
TK-FRPBLGTS  
W-FRPBLGTS  
K-FRPBLGTS  
PW-FRPBLGTS  
KR-FRPBLGTS  
J-FRPBLGTS  
TPO-FRPBLGTS  
PR\*PBLG(S)

P-FRPBLGTS  
R-FRPBLGTS  
SR-FRPBLGTS or VO\*EUS  
EU-FRPBLGTS  
TP-FRPBLGTS  
PH-FRPBLGTS  
KH-FRPBLGTS or KHAO\*EULD  
TKPWRA-FRPBLGTS  
TKPWR0-FRPBLGTS  
TKPWA-FRPBLGTS or TKPWA\*D  
AU-FRPBLGTS  
SWO\*R  
TPO\*PL  
TPO\*F

THE COURT:

SPEAKER 1: (e.g. Plaintiff Attorney) or by location to far left, for example

SPEAKER 2:

SPEAKER 3: (e.g. Defense Attorney) or by location to far right, for example

SPEAKER 4:

SPEAKER 5:

SPEAKER 6:

PLAINTIFF: or THE PLAINTIFF:

DEFENDANT: or THE DEFENDANT:

WITNESS: or THE WITNESS:

CLERK: or THE CLERK:

BAILIFF: or THE BAILIFF:

COURT REPORTER:

JUROR:

FOREPERSON: or JURY FOREPERSON:

PROSPECTIVE JUROR(S):

PETITIONER: or THE PETITIONER:

RESPONDENT: or THE RESPONDENT:

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE:

INTERPRETER: or THE INTERPRETER:

FATHER: or THE FATHER:

MOTHER: or THE MOTHER:

CHILD: or THE CHILD:

GRANDFATHER: or THE GRANDFATHER:

GRANDMOTHER or THE GRANDMOTHER:

GUARDIAN AD LITEM:

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

SOCIAL WORKER:

FOSTER MOTHER:

FOSTER FATHER:



MAVRC welcomes your brief forms to publish in our newsletter. Please forward to Minne-strokes Editor Rhonda Franken at [rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us).

# Student Profile

## **Tell us a little about yourself.**

I've played music all my life, and it's been a driving force for getting me where I am today. I graduated from the University of South Dakota with my bachelor's degree in music in 2016 and my Master's degree in Music History in 2019. I am now an adjunct instructor for USD and teach music appreciation classes online. I also work at Starbucks and have a bit of an insane caffeine addiction. I live in Minneapolis with my twin sister, Kerstin, who is a PhD student at the U. of Minnesota. This all keeps me pretty busy, so my downtime is mostly spent relaxing – and practicing!

## **What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting?**

I was pursuing a PhD when the pandemic hit. I was deeply unhappy and wasn't sure I'd be able to find a stable, well-paying position in my field in the face of the current academic job market – not to mention I still had years left to finish the degree! I was depressed, watching a lot of television, and nitpicking the captions in the subtitles. After a particularly rough set of captions, I was convinced that I could do a better job. I got curious enough to look into how to get started writing captions and felt that this could be a good career move for me. I was ready to take the leap and leave my PhD. My sister was living in the Twin Cities already, so we got a place together and the rest is history!

## **What area of reporting interests you the most at this time- official, freelance, or captioning/CART?**

I still haven't quite made up my mind about where I want to be in my future career. I think something like captioning or freelancing that allows a more significant amount of variety and the ability to be working from home would be ideal for me, but I'm open to explore more opportunities as my schooling progresses.

## **What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?**

The hardest part has been just finding the time, especially to make yourself practice at the end of a long day. But it's been more than worth it to see myself improve and pass speed tests that once felt impossible.

## **Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you?**

I didn't know any reporters when I started, but the instructors have been a huge influence on me. I really look up to Jane Schleusner and love how much experience she has to share with us.

**Name: Alexis Tuttle**  
**School: Anoka Technical College**  
**Speed: 120s**  
**Hometown: Aurelia, IA**



*(cont'd on page 17)*



## Student Profile: Alexis Tuttle (cont'd from page 16)

### If you had an hour of freetime, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)?

You could probably find me on a walk around Lake of the Isles with an audiobook, spending time with my sister, cooking something up in the kitchen, or out grabbing a latte.

### What is your favorite band or type of music?

My favorite genres are indie/alternative rock, especially styles like shoegaze, emo, and post-hardcore. Some of my favorite groups are Balance and Composure, Gleemer, and La Dispute. I'm also a huge fan of American folk and have a bit of a Bob Dylan obsession.

### What is your favorite food or restaurant?

I love any and all Mexican food. I'll always swear that La Juanita's Taqueria is the best, and I make sure to stop by in Storm Lake, IA, any time I'm in the area visiting my family.

### Where is a place you would like to visit?

I have close friends that live in Las Vegas. I've had a few trips there, and I can't wait to go back again!

### The last book you read?

*The Violence* by Delilah S. Johnson

### The last movie you watched?

*Last Night in Soho*

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So MAVRC can stay in touch with you when you retire, email your contact information or any questions to [MAVRC@MAVRC.org](mailto:MAVRC@MAVRC.org), and your information will continue to be in MAVRC's database.

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# IFP Pilot Response Letter

In response to a presentation made to the Judicial Council, MAVRC provided the letter below. A vote to continue the pilot project was narrowly defeated.



MINNESOTA  
ASSOCIATION OF VERBATIM  
REPORTERS & CAPTIONERS

Judicial Council Members  
Re: IFP Transcript Pilot

September 7, 2022

The Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters and Captioners (MAVRC) is writing to you to respond to the IFP Transcript Pilot Report entitled "Supporting a Modern and Efficient Court System," that we hope you will consider. Because accuracy is first and foremost in making a reliable record and this IFP pilot project has negatively impacted the accuracy and timeliness of transcripts, MAVRC would respectfully recommend that the Judicial Council not extend the pilot project.

Attached as a separate document are counterpoints specific to the IFP report, along with a chart showing many inaccuracies, misspellings, and missing words in an outsourced IFP transcript that was only 44 pages and filed on March 9, 2022. Other transcripts that were outsourced during the course of the pilot were filed late, included off-the-record discussions, and even omitted 100 pages of trial testimony. What remedy does the Judicial Branch have if the transcription company causes delays or has omissions and inaccuracies in outsourced transcripts? What are the consequences to the litigants and the public if the official record is replete with errors and inaudibles?

The pilot creates a two-track system that provides unequal access to an accurate record. Those who can afford to pay get a complete, accurate record, and those who cannot get whatever can be salvaged from the audio by unknown transcriptionists. This is to the detriment of Minnesota's indigent litigants, those least likely to be able to protest or to help themselves. These litigants have only one chance in court. Their cases and appearances before the Bench cannot be treated as an opportunity to collect data and run an experiment which could put in jeopardy the most important things in their lives: their freedom, their children, their property, and their lives.

With the stakes so high, we ask why such a risk would be taken. The pilot results show a "savings" of \$58,857, but this figure does not include any estimate of the cost of staff time, which must have been substantial considering the request for a new, full-time employee. The last page of the presentation indicates that the estimated cost of extending the pilot would cost \$90,000, significantly more than the purported yearly savings.

MAVRC recommends that the Judicial Branch make a concerted effort to hire stenographic court reporters in order to truly have a "Modern and Efficient Court System" and to provide for the fair, open, and impartial administration of justice that the Branch seeks. Any continuation of this pilot runs directly opposed to the Branch's mission statement "to provide justice through a system that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies," with a vision that "the general public and those who use the court system will refer to it as accessible, fair, consistent, responsive, free of discrimination, independent, and well-managed."

Thank you for your time and consideration.

RandiAnn Harvey, RDR, CRR, CRC  
MAVRC President 2021-2022

Congratulations,  
New Graduate!



Erin R. Watson, recent graduate of the  
Judicial Reporting and Captioning program  
at Anoka Technical College.



Looking for a new position?



Check out

<https://www.mavrc.org/jobs>  
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Welcome, New Members!



Deborah Grebin  
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Matthias Poster  
Rhonda Route  
Kirsty Schouweiler  
Molly Sturgis  
Paula Weitnauer



# Tech Corner

The main USB port we think of when we think of “USB” is going to be **USB Type A**. That is the port we see the most on our laptops, desktops, hubs, car chargers, etc.

**USB Type B** is the one that is often referred to as “the printer cable,” and we see it the most on older steno machines, printers, and scanners. I almost never see it anywhere else.

**USB Type C** is the newest type becoming more and more universal and what you’ll see on most of your machines, especially if they’re newer. This port is most common on Android devices, but even Apple is moving towards the USB-C on some of their devices.

The **Minis** and the **Micros** are the little cables/ports you see for most of your random/odd household items, such as rechargeable hand warmers, rechargeable mice, rechargeable battery packs, etc. The ones I see the most are Mini B and Micro B.

**2.0 v. 3.0:** You will also often hear some USB A ports referred to as 2.0 and 3.0. Some laptops will advertise that they have at least one USB 3.0. This simply means it transfers data at a higher speed than a 2.0, but you’ll almost never notice a difference between the two except maybe when charging a device.

**Male v. Female:** You’ll also often hear ports/cables referred to as “male v. female.” The main way to remember is to think of it like actual body parts. The male end is the end that “sticks into something” and the female end is the end that “receives something.” Lol!

Sometimes you need the same end on both ends of the cable, which is when you’ll search something like “USB Type A Cable, Male to Male.” Most cables we use daily are male to female.



**SPECIFIC TO APPLE:** The lightning cord/port is specific to Apple. It’s a very flat, skinny end that is used on iPads and iPhones.



**SPECIFIC TO MICROSOFT SURFACE:** The thunderbolt cable/port is an odd-looking port we only see on a few Microsoft Surface laptops. It is also known as a Mini DisplayPort.



Ethernet cords are mostly used to provide an internet connection to a laptop from a local network. This type of connection usually provides a much faster connection than WiFi.



HDMI, DisplayPort, and VGA are the ports we see the most when hooking up to projectors and monitors to display something. HDMI is most popular.



## MINNE-strokes Publication Team

Editor: Rhonda Franken  
Designer: Ryan Ziegler  
Editorial Staff: Emily Lettner  
Angie Sundell  
Blythe Warwas

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To submit articles, send to:  
Rhonda Franken, Minne-strokes Editor  
Rhonda.Franken@courts.state.mn.us

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# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 320 UNION STEWARD LIST

---

## **BUSINESS AGENT**

Chad Orgon- corgon@teamsterslocal320.org

## **First District**

\* Shambrie Kiene- shambriekiene@gmail.com  
Lori Krenik- lorikrenik@gmail.com

## **Second District**

Jennifer Brama- Brama.Jennifer@gmail  
\* Jean Whalen- Jean.m.Whalen@gmail.com

## **Third District**

Jessica Berke- jessica.berke@outlook.com

## **Fourth District**

\* Dana Carmichael- carmichaeld@hotmail.com  
\* Andrea Parisian- mnparrothead@hotmail.com

## **Fifth District**

Leah Cornish- gustafson@hotmail.com  
Christian Pfeiffer- cwpfeiffer8@gmail.com

## **Sixth District**

(Non-Contact Person Only) Jen Wutz- bookwormwutz@gmail.com

## **Seventh District**

\* Amanda Salber- amandasalber@gmail.com  
Holli Zortman- holli.zortman@gmail.com

## **Eighth District**

Lisa Vosika- visalisa@tds.net  
\* Ashley Welz- ashleylange24@gmail.com

## **Ninth District**

Paula Weitnauer- paulawits@hotmail.com  
Victoria Dudeck- victoriadudeck@gmail.com

## **Tenth District**

(Non-Contact Person Only) Adrienne Conzemius- conzemius1012@gmail.com

\*: Steward is on Negotiating Team