



# MINNE-strokes



Minnesota Court Reporters: On and Off the Record

SPRING 2016  
VOLUME 19 NUMBER 1

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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SAVE THE DATE: April 23, 2016

## MAVRC'S Spring Seminar

will be held at  
**Anoka Technical College**  
**Anoka, Minnesota**

Featured speakers are  
Ed and Nancy Vallaro

**Watch for Registration Info  
Coming Soon!**



Minnesota Association of Verbatim  
Reporters & Captioners

## 2015-2016 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## 2015 END-OF-THE-YEAR TREASURER'S REPORT

*Prepared by Jolene Carrow/Approved by Melissa Keute*

### Year-end balances in MAVRC's accounts:

#### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning balance	\$ 2,382.11
Deposits	56,470.00
Misc. Deposit	2,970.00
Expenses	52,935.28
Balance	\$ 5,916.83

#### SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 45,738.24
Deposits	50,195.07
Earned Interest	55.61
Withdrawals (to checking)	56,470.00
Expenses	--
Balance	\$ 42,488.92

### Breakdown of Income & Expenses:

#### Administration:

Deposits	\$ 79.09
Expenses	16,292.64

#### Fundraising:

Deposits	2,366.05
Expenses	2,062.05

#### Membership:

Deposits	17,520.00
Expenses	268.17

#### Spring Seminar:

Deposits	8,465.00
Expenses	2,109.58

#### Fall Seminar:

Deposits	18,445.93
Expenses	17,499.83

#### Newsletter:

Deposits	1,550.00
Expenses	--

#### Certification:

Deposits	654.00
Expenses	--

#### Technology: (Website)

Deposits	50.00
Expenses	733.38

#### Legislative:

Deposits	175.00
Expenses	12,600.00

#### Public Relations:

Deposits	--
Expenses	1,000.00

#### Student Relations

Deposits	890.00
Expenses	369.63

#### Miscellaneous:

Deposits	--
Expenses	--

# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - YOUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

**G**reetings!

First off, I would like to thank all of you for renewing and/or joining MAVRC this year. Your membership is highly valued since it allows MAVRC to exist and play an active role in promoting and protecting our profession! While MAVRC is dedicated to advancing the interests of stenographic court reporters, we cannot do it without you. Individual reporters must continue to build relationships with court administration, judges, and attorneys. This relationship building provides us with numerous opportunities to educate the current and future decision-makers about the advantages stenographic court reporters have over alternative forms of making the record.

In order to remain strong on all fronts going into the future, not only must we promote stenographic reporting to nonreporters, we must also help spread the word about MAVRC to other working reporters and students. As part of MAVRC's continued quest to attract new members and promote our association, I would encourage all of you, if you know of a nonmember, to please take a few minutes of your time to acquaint them with the benefits we offer. Share our membership form with them. Encourage them to attend one of our seminars so they can widen their opportunities for learning and networking. Tell them about our website and Tech Tips Tuesday e-mails.

The positive little things you do to promote MAVRC truly can make a difference and are an integral part of our success, for it is through our unified voice that we are able to have the greatest impact. Protect your interests by promoting our profession,

but don't stop there! Stay informed, stay educated, become certified, and be a champion and leader of your profession by serving on MAVRC's Board of Directors or one of its committees!

In addition to positive PR, every business or association, large or small, needs a competitive advantage to distinguish itself from the competition. Court reporters are not exempt from this basic principle! Without a competitive advantage, your business has no unique method of attracting and/or retaining customers. In our case, not only do we compete with one another to a certain extent, we are also in competition with alternative methods of making the record; i.e., digital/electronic recording, speech-to-text technology and, lest we forget, other forms of artificial intelligence are looming ever closer on the horizon. Gaining a competitive advantage basically takes strategic planning, having an awareness of new technologies, utilizing those technologies, and making an investment in the marketing of your skills. It also involves analyzing your business's strengths and those of your competition and then coming up with ways to take advantage of those factors.

As we all know, building and maintaining a successful business, especially in these competitive and cost-cutting times, is a challenge. As reporters, one vital way we can set ourselves apart from our competitors is by keeping up with the latest technology and then cultivating new skills. Similar to other professions, the future of court reporting and the future of technology are inextricably intertwined. In our case, we have a



*Jackie Young*

tremendous edge over digital/electronic recording with the use of realtime technology. Let's take advantage of it to the full extent possible! Court reporters that specialize in realtime are able to deliver their product faster without the loss of quality. By enabling attorneys and judges to do their work faster, court reporters and realtime technology make the entire judicial system more efficient, which, in turn, saves money and provides some job security.

With more and more pressure being exerted by various forces to cut costs, now is not the time to sit back and allow others to steal our market share. To be successful, we will need to continuously maintain our competitive advantage through innovative technology and creative marketing. In other words, we need to always be learning new skills and new products to stay on the cutting edge of our field.

Let MAVRC be a part of your competitive advantage! MAVRC  
*(Continued on Page 4)*


*(Continued from Page 3)*

routinely offers speakers at its spring seminars and fall conventions that have expertise in our field and are knowledgeable about technology. This, in turn, allows you to get new ideas for promoting your business and allows you to see what others in our industry are doing. You also get to meet some really fabulous people, so there is nothing to lose but plenty to gain.

Whether you survive and prosper through the existing technological changes in our profession is something only you can decide. You must take responsibility for educating yourself! To that end, I hope you can join us at MAVRC's Spring Seminar being held on April 23 at the Anoka Technical College. We are extremely fortunate to have Ed and Nancy Varallo presenting at our spring seminar. Both are exemplary realtime writers and they have a tremendous amount of knowledge to share that will help you succeed and make your job easier.

Don't get left behind in the technology explosion. Advancing our profession begins with your choice to utilize realtime technology. To quote High Point University President Nido Qubein, "For the timid, change is frightening; for the comfortable, change is threatening; but for the confident, change is opportunity." In order to grow and achieve what you have never achieved before, you must become someone you have never been before. Choose to become the person you were meant to be. Let your talents shine through, for when you do, you inspire others to do the same. Where you end up will be determined by what you do every day. Don't let opportunities pass you by. Start developing your competitive advantage today!

*Jackie Young is a freelance reporter from Delano, Minnesota. ■*



**Many THANKS to the  
following reporters  
who sponsored students  
in furtherance of  
education and training:**

Jan Ballman, Tracy Bennett,  
Sandra Burch, Carol Bille Danielson,  
Jane Doby, Joanne Ertl, Elizabeth Gangl,  
Jolynn Graham, Aimee Goldberg,  
Gary Hermes, Joanie Huebner,  
Merilee Johnson, Norman Mark,  
Beverly Rojas, Jane Schleusner,  
Darla Mustar, Shari Majeski,  
Danna Frazier Nelson,  
Lisa Richardson, Heather Schuetz,  
Angie Sundell



**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.*



# PROFILE OF A BOARD MEMBER

By Rachel Erickson

My name is Rachel Erickson and I have been on the MAVRC board for three years now. I am a contract CART captioner and freelance reporter with Paradigm Reporting. One of my favorite things I enjoy doing on the board is advocating our profession, whether it's to a class full of 9<sup>th</sup> graders, patients in the waiting room before starting a medical job, my friends, and even an Uber driver who was curious about the court reporting profession.



*Rachel Erickson*

I'd have to say, though, that recently there was a huge success for the judicial reporting program and students at Anoka Technical College. On Thursday, January 28, Jennifer Sati gave a 45-minute presentation at Anoka Technical College at a committee luncheon. The committee members consisted of the President of Anoka Tech, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Vice President of Administration and Finance, STEP Director of Career and Technical Education, as well as several other community members.

While Jennifer spoke, I wrote realtime, which was displayed on a projector screen and also streamed to two iPads, which the committee was able to pass around. About ten minutes into the presentation, one of the members asked how I was writing so fast, and I held up my writer, which he was very excited to see because he initially thought I had been typing really fast on my computer keyboard.

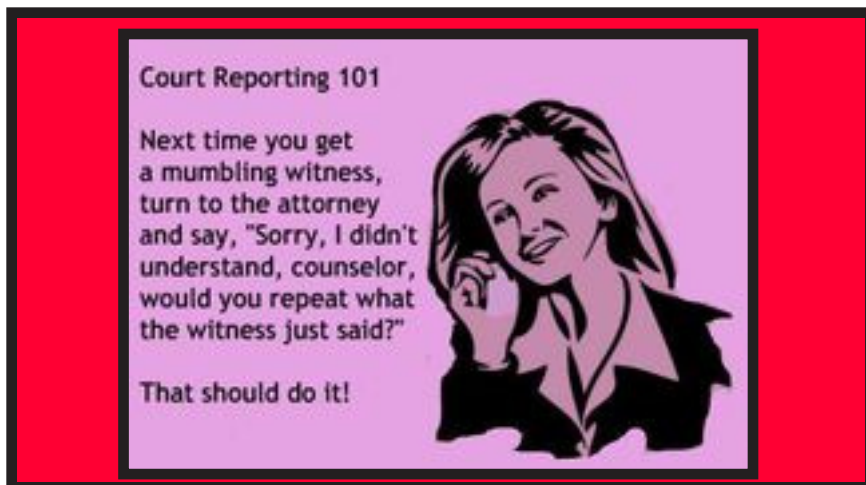
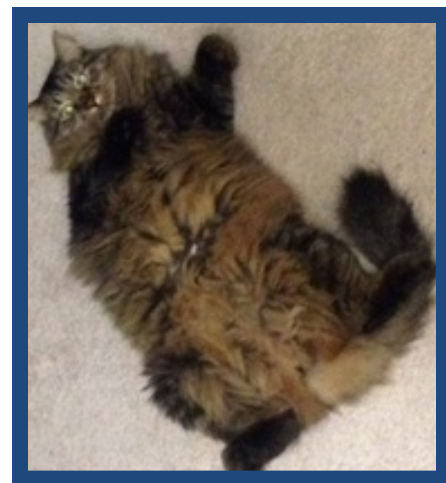
The purpose of this presentation was to demonstrate what court reporters and captioners do as well as reiterate how valuable the Anoka Tech judicial reporting program is, especially because we are one of the few court reporting schools open in the Midwest. The presentation was well-received by the committee members. About two hours after the presentation, the Dean of Anoka Tech had decided to allocate a very generous amount of money towards the judicial reporting program, of which Jennifer immediately purchased several brand new student writers for the students! This is a huge success!!!

Over the next couple months, I will be demonstrating realtime for several high schools in the metro area, including a group of girl scouts at Hamline University on February 20. Interacting with students and teaching them about this awesome career is probably one

of my most favorite things to do, and it only fuels my drive for this profession even more!

Lastly, I am looking forward to May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, where Jennifer Sati, Jane Schleusner, and I plan to hold a court reporting exhibit at the Minnesota Counselors State Association Annual Conference in Brainerd, Minnesota. I was told that there are usually up to 600 counselors that attend, which will be a gold-mine event for spreading the word about Court Reporting and Captioning.

And, I almost forgot! I live in Bloomington with my sweetheart Ben and our loveable, hilarious maine coon, Moose. ■



# PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

On November 21, a historic meeting was held with a number of MAVRC's past presidents. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a variety of topics related to court reporting and MAVRC. The group looked at possible ways relations can be improved with court administration, they examined potential improvements that can be made to MAVRC's seminars and conventions, they considered different avenues that can be pursued to raise awareness among nonmembers of the benefits and services that MAVRC offers, and they discussed different creative methods that can be implemented for increasing membership numbers and membership value.

The general consensus at the meeting was that MAVRC is unfortunately limited in what it can directly do to improve relations with court administration. The group felt that the next best alternative, however, is to turn to our members and encourage all of you to engage

in what may best be described as a grassroots campaign to help raise awareness of the benefits that stenographic court reporters bring to the overall judicial system. This is becoming ever more important as we are once again seeing efforts in different states across the United States to do away with stenographic reporters in the court system and replace them with electronic recording. If we want to continue to remain relevant within the legal system, it is imperative that reporters continue to embrace the latest technology as well as assume the role of an advocate in order to bring positive attention to our profession, which, at the same time, builds a wider recognition and appreciation of stenographic court reporting.

In order to help raise awareness of the technological benefits stenographic reporting provides, the group felt that MAVRC could have more interaction with the Minnesota Bar Association and other lawyer associations by being an exhibitor at their annual conventions, providing

realtime demonstrations showcasing our technology either at our booth or during some of their continuing education sessions, and then handing out flash drives with CaseViewNet and Bridge on them to help acquaint them with the latest realtime software. Potential outreach to law schools, participating in mock trials, and promoting National Court Reporting & Captioning Week were also discussed as ways that MAVRC can increase the visibility of the court reporting profession.

Overall, the meeting was a success and helped fortify the direction our association should pursue as we head into the future. The bottom line, however, is that the success or failure of our organization lies in the motivation, enthusiasm and commitment of our members. With your help, our profession will remain strong and we will continue to meet the challenges of our day.

*Jackie Young is the 2015-2016 MAVRC President. ■*



FRONT (L-R) Carla Bebault, Jeanna Zunker, Jan Ballman, Joann Ertl, Karen Lebens, and Sandy Burch.  
BACK: (L-R) Jackie Young, Jim Voitalla, Debbie Peterson, Neil Johnson, and Hart Erickson



# PARADIGM'S 2015 COURT REPORTER OF THE YEAR

By Jan Ballman RPR, CMRS, DSA

**M**AVRC Secretary Dana Anderson-Linnell was honored with Paradigm Reporting & Captioning's "2015 Court Reporter of the Year" Award, presented by Paradigm President Jan Ballman at the firm's annual holiday party held at The Walker Art Center on Saturday, January 9, 2016.

"I was proud and excited to announce Dana as the 2015 recipient of what has now become a much-anticipated and peer-appreciated recognition within Paradigm. Dana stood out to me in 2015 amongst our team of 30 super-fabulous full-time court reporters and captioners for a number of reasons. First of all, I love her spunk; that "go-getter" in her. Dana brings to work with her every day a high-energy and a deep drive to please the client. As such, she proves to be, year-in and year-out, one of our very top rainmakers. Secondly, Dana rocks what we call "the Paradigm brand." She looks and acts and executes like the high-end professional she is. As well, I love the collaborator in her. Dana frequently stops into my office with client and case intel coupled with ideas for ways in which we can add value. Her

ears are always to the ground and her antennae up, and because of this, Dana has great awareness around what clients need, and she is quick to adopt and often even initiate action of her own volition to make sure she



*Dana Anderson-Linnell*

exceeds client expectations. Dana is constantly being complimented by her teammates who work with her as to how organized, thorough and generous she is in terms of sharing case information and important details that will make their jobs easier as they work together on various cases. But

one of Dana's qualities that I admire and appreciate the most, and in my experience has been fairly hard to find, is her distance vision. In contrast that to short-term vision where one looks only at dynamics or a situation from the aspect of "what will I gain or not gain from this job today?" versus the long view Dana takes by seeing the value in the long run of a little extra short-term effort... or even pain. Dana is one of my go-to reporters whenever we have something difficult or challenging to cover. Not only is she totally capable of reporting whatever assignment we have on the court reporting calendar, she is always willing to be on the team that "gets done what needs to get done." It's hard to put into words how much that is appreciated. Said another way, Dana personifies what every firm owner wants in a court reporter: Capability, dependability, reliability, confidence, and passion for delivering excellence and exceeding expectations."

*Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, DSA, is the owner of Paradigm Reporting & Captioning. ■*

## Save the Date!

### MAVRC'S Spring Seminar - April 23, 2016

Anoka Technical College, Anoka, Minnesota

Feature Session: Nancy and Ed Varallo

# COURTROOM BRIEFS

Submitted by Laura O'Driscoll, RPR, CRR

## Probation:

Intentional and inexcusable	INZ
Clear and convincing	KLINZ
Violate	V-LT
Probation officer	PROFR
Voluntarily, intelligently & accurately	VELT

## Pleas:

Preliminary breath test	PLEGT
Field sobriety test(s)	FAOEBT(S)
I will accept	AOEUP
Factual basis	FAEUBS
You don't have to plead guilty	UNLT

## Sentencing:

Credit for time served	KREFRBD
Community work service	KMORK
Severity level	SLEFL
Criminal history point(s)	KROINT(S)
Chemical dependency	KHEMD
Chemical dependency evaluation	KHEMZ
Stay of imposition	STIM
Stay of execution	STAOIGS
Stay of adjudication	S*OE

*Laura O'Driscoll is an official reporter in Rochester, Minnesota, Olmsted County.*



MAVRC welcomes  
your brief forms  
to publish in our  
newsletter.

Please forward to  
Minne-strokes Editor  
Angie Sundell at  
[angiesundell@gmail.com](mailto:angiesundell@gmail.com).

***If you are interested in providing  
pro bono reporting services,  
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# TECHNOLOGY CORNER - SHODAN

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

Over the years, everything that is digital has become cheaper, faster, and more efficient, including webcams. These devices have become so commonplace that there are now cameras in most homes and businesses. Unfortunately, most of these cheap little cameras have no security and most consumers, unfortunately, fail to appreciate the consequences of purchasing insecure or easily hackable Internet of Things (IoT) devices. As a result of this false sense of security and in an effort to save money, manufacturers have not bothered to equip these devices with any security protocols or passwords.

Criminals and hackers, on the other hand, are always on the prowl and spend inordinate amounts of time looking for ways to invade your privacy. With the creation of the Shodan search engine, things have gotten much easier for them. Shodan was launched in 2013 and promotes itself as a search engine to be used to find IoT connected devices around the world. Unlike a Google search, which crawls the web looking for websites, Shodan navigates the Internet's back channels looking for unprotected servers, webcams, printers, routers, security cameras, and other devices that are connected to the Internet. It can also locate traffic lights, home heating systems, control systems for gas stations, water plants, power grids, nuclear power plants, and fetal heart monitors, etc. It runs 24/7 and collects information on about 500 million connected devices and services each month.

If you are interested in receiving the information collected by Shodan, and many hackers are, you can sign up on their website to conduct searches of your IoT devices and receive 10

results without an account and 50 results with an account. If you want to see everything Shodan has to offer, the company requires more information about what you are hoping to achieve as well as a payment. While security professionals, academic researchers and law enforcement agencies were once the primary users of Shodan due to its technical nature, that is slowly changing as a result of a new feature that allows users to easily browse vulnerable webcams and security camera feeds along with their location.

Cyber criminals have been known to use Shodan as a starting point to learn as much about you as possible. They do not stop there, however. To avoid detection, hackers or cyber criminals will typically employ botnets, large numbers of virus-infected computers, to utilize Shodan. They have posted webcam feeds of children sleeping, schools, banks, kitchens and garages from all over the world. Pretty much any location where you would expect to see a webcam, there's an unsecured video feed that they can watch, which

means that if you have an unprotected webcam or security camera, the hackers could be watching you in realtime.

To help protect your privacy, make sure you do not use "admin" as your user name or the device's default password or something as simple as "1234" as your password. You should also only purchase devices that have built-in security measures. Just make sure you set up a password before connecting your device to the Internet. The United States Federal Trade Commission has also started prosecuting companies that do not reasonably secure their networks, products, and services, which may prompt more manufacturers to incorporate security measures into their devices. The most foolproof solution, however, is simply not to connect any unsecure device to the Internet.

*Jackie Young is a freelance reporter from Delano, Minnesota.*

## Welcome New Members

Michelle Carey – Student  
Blaine, Minnesota

Deborah Foster – Official  
Stillwater, Minnesota

Martha Mckelvey – Student  
Scandia, Minnesota

Patsy Nelson – Freelance  
River Falls, Wisconsin

Jennifer Patterson – Student  
Roseville, Minnesota

Sadie Poehls – Student  
Woodbury, Minnesota

Mari Skalicky – Freelance  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Jamie Ward – Student  
East Bethel, Minnesota

Davis Wille – Student  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dawn Workman-Bounds – Freelance  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

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# MAVRC AND ANOKA TECHNICAL COLLEGE CELEBRATES NATIONAL REPORTING AND CAPTIONING WEEK

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By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA



## 2016 Court Reporting & Captioning Week FEBRUARY 14-20, 2016

Hundreds of court reporters across the country recently held a number of different events in celebration of National Court Reporting & Captioning Week. The events were part of NCRA's national awareness campaign highlighting the various contributions stenographic court reporters and captioners make to society and to showcase the state-of-the-art technology utilized by our profession. The events also helped promote the many career opportunities that are available within this career field and to encourage recent high school graduates to consider entering this profession.

2016 marked the fourth year court reporters have nationally celebrated the stenograph profession. Here in Minnesota, MAVRC once again partnered up with Anoka Technical College's Realtime Reporting & Captioning Awareness Committee, with preliminary planning for this week of celebration starting back in December. The main focus of this year's National Court Reporting & Captioning Week centered on a court reporting and captioning exhibition held at the college on February 16.

During the exhibition, booths showcasing judicial reporting, realtime reporting, broadcast captioning, and CART were manned by a number of volunteers, with live demonstrations being provided throughout the event. Visitors to the school were also able

to tour the captioning lab, see the work that numerous reporters have done over the years to preserve American veterans' war stories, and learn how the stenographic profession has evolved from the days of scribes chiseling in stone to modern-day court reporters utilizing innovative technology to provide instantaneous realtime to judges and attorneys.

To help make this event a huge success, over 13,000 postcards were sent out to recent high school graduates by Jennifer Sati, Program Director at Anoka Technical College; press releases were sent to a number of local media outlets; flyers were created and distributed statewide to judges, court administration, bar associations, deaf and hard-of-hearing organizations, and MAVRC members. Also helping to recognize court reporters throughout the state was Governor Mark Dayton, who issued an official proclamation declaring the week of February 14-20 as Court Reporting & Captioning Week here in Minnesota. This proclamation was distributed to all judges and court administration personnel throughout the state as well as being posted on the court's website.

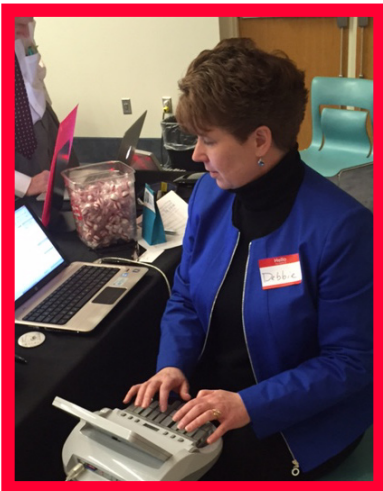
As part of a year-round awareness campaign here in Minnesota, posters highlighting stenographic court reporting and this career field were created and are currently on display in a number of courthouses and high schools

throughout the state. MAVRC Board members will also be taking time out of their busy days to appear at a number of career fairs at different high schools over the course of the next few months as well as appearing at the Minnesota High School Guidance Counselors convention in early May.

Distinguished guests at this year's event included the Honorable John Hoffman, Chief Judge of the Tenth Judicial District; the Honorable Stephen Halsey, Tenth Judicial District; the Honorable Michael Jesse, Seventh Judicial District; Michael Moriarity, District Administrator in the Tenth Judicial District; Mary Mitchell, court reporter and past state association president; Lisa Richardson, Minnesota's pioneer in broadcast captioning; Jim Woitalla, freelance reporter and instructor at ATC; and Jan Ballman, former MFCRA president and firm owner.

MAVRC would like to thank the following reporters and students for volunteering to help out with this event: Kristi Arntzen, Brandi Bigalke, Brittney Blesener, Hart Erickson, Rachel Erickson, Janell Gruber, Merilee Johnson, Deb Longley, Pat Mahon, Tammy Matwig, Mindi Oldenburg, Debbie Peterson, Lisa Richardson, Jennifer Sati, Jane Schleusner, Sharon Steinbrecher, Megan Stumm, and Jackie Young. ■





*Debbie Peterson*



*Janell Gruber*



*Jim Woitalla and Merilee Johnson*



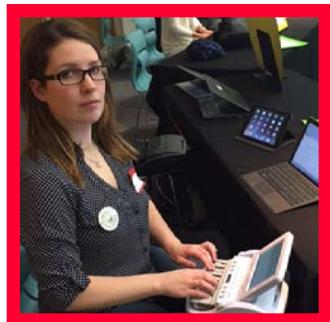
*Hart Erickson and Sandy Burch*



*Jennifer Sati and Jackie Young*



*Jennifer Sati explaining how broadcast captioning is performed*



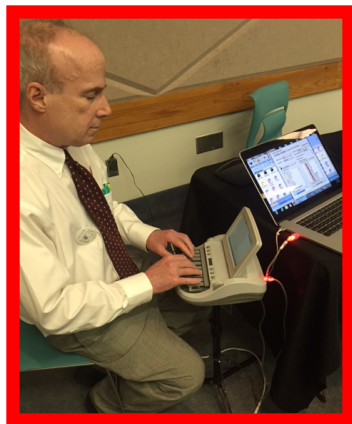
*Rachel Erickson*



*Colleen Maloney and Jamie Henderson*



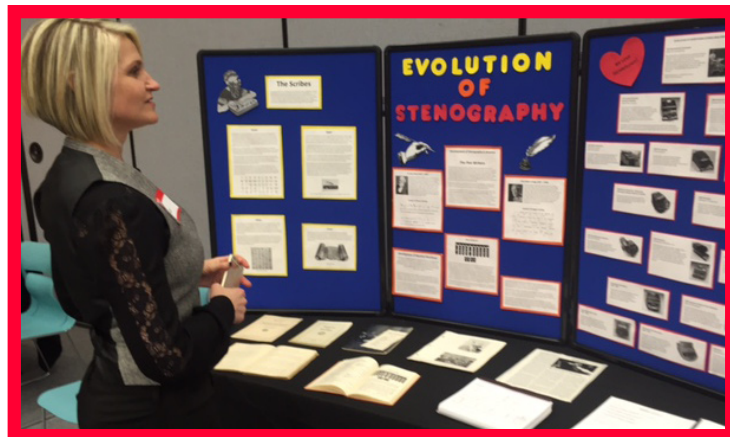
*Proclamation signed by Governor Dayton proclaiming February 14-20, 2016, as Court Reporting and Captioning Week*



*Pat Mahon*



*Britney Ollanketo and Callie Sajdera*



*Brandi Bigalke*





## REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Certifications: \_\_\_\_\_ Official \_\_\_\_ Freelance \_\_\_\_ Captioner/CART \_\_\_\_

NCRA ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: \$150 \_\_\_\_\_  
(postmarked by 4/15/16)

Student Registration: \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

MAVRC Professional Membership: \$120 \_\_\_\_\_

MAVRC Student Membership: \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

MAVRC Associate Membership: \$70 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fee must be paid in addition to the registration fee, if you are NOT currently a member of MAVRC or another NCRA-approved State Association in another state.

TOTAL (payable to MAVRC) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch Choice (please check one):

Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Registrations must be postmarked by: **Friday, April 15, 2016**

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** A full refund will be made if your cancellation is received on or before **April 15, 2016**. If your cancellation is received after April 15, 2016, a \$75.00 administrative fee will be deducted. No refunds for no-shows. Questions? Contact MAVRC at [info@mavrc.org](mailto:info@mavrc.org).

Mail registration form and your payment to:



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\*\*\*\*\*

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Comfort Suites, 6440 W. Highway 10, Ramsey, MN 763-323-4800

# COURT REPORTING STUDENT PROFILE

By Davis Wille

**Name:** Davis Wille

**School:** Anoka Tech

**Speed:** 120

**Hometown:** Nerstrand, MN

**Tell us a little about yourself.** I grew up in rural southern Minnesota, near the Northfield area, where I also ended up attending St. Olaf College. There I received a BA in English. Shortly after graduation I made the move to Minneapolis, where I currently reside. I have been working as an offline caption editor for CaptionMax since 2008, which is what first introduced me to the career landscape of captioning.

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

During the fall of 2014, Jennifer Sati visited our offices in Minneapolis, giving a brief presentation and pitch to join the JRBC program at Anoka. Jennifer was very convincing, and intrigued me right from the get-go. Ready to take on a new challenge in my life, I enrolled shortly thereafter.



*Davis Wille*

**What area of reporting interests you the most at this time - official, freelance, or captioning/CART?** Right now I'm fairly open to all possibilities. Having the background in closed captioning is what first brought me to the program; but after learning more about what official, freelance, and CART has to offer, they seem like exciting new worlds.

**What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?** It's been extremely rewarding to actually see the positive results of all my practice hours. It's certainly been stressful at times - especially when passing a speed level, just to have my ego bruised at the bottom of the next - but I've found that putting my faith in the instructors and trusting their experiences is what's ultimately going to get me through the program quickly. They haven't led me astray yet!

**Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you?** Kristi Arntzen. We were coworkers while she was going through the course and planted the seed that it might be something to eventually consider. Merilee Johnson is also my mentor, and I couldn't have asked for a better cheerleader. She's incredibly supportive.

**If you had an hour of free time, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)?** Outside of my already hectic schedule, I somehow make time to play guitar in a band. We practice weekly, as well as play the occasional show around various Twin Cities venues. We're called Nature Shows; check us out!

**What is your favorite band or type of music?** I enjoy a wide range of genres but tend to gravitate towards alternative rock and hip-hop. Radiohead probably takes the "favorite band" slot.

**What is your favorite food or restaurant?** Black Sheep Pizza or Sen Yai Sen Lek. Minneapolis has too many excellent restaurant options.

**Where is a place you would like to visit?** Iceland. The idea of having enough free time to travel sounds like a dream right now.

**The last book you read?** *Going Clear*

**The last movie you watched?** *Ex Machina* ■



# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATE!

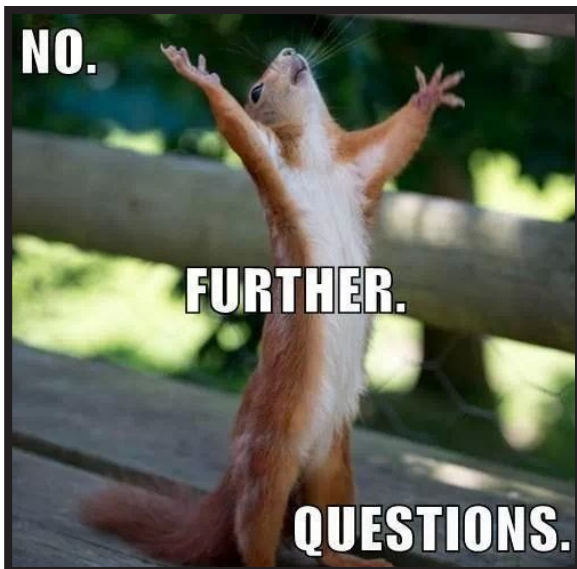
By Sara Borchardt

Within a few weeks of graduating from court reporting school, I was offered a freelance job working within Minnesota's Ninth Judicial District. Soon thereafter, I moved up to Bemidji to fill-in for court reporters who go on vacation. I also work with and take depositions for Jacobson Reporting around Northern Minnesota.

Taking the Realtime Principles class from Anoka Tech online helps keep my accuracy up. In the future I would like to provide CART and eventually start captioning. Basically, I want to experience every piece of the reporting field I can while spreading the word of this wonderful career!



Sara Borchardt



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## 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](mailto:JSati@anokatech.edu)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### March

20-22, 2016 NCRA Boot Camp

### April

23, 2016 MAVRC Spring Seminar  
(Featuring Nancy & Ed Varallo)  
Anoka Technical College  
Anoka, Minnesota

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