

# MINNE-strokes

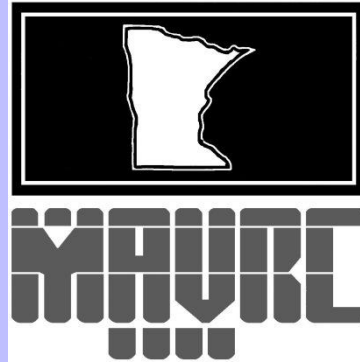


Minnesota Court Reporters: On and Off the Record

SPRING 2017  
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## 2017



# Seminar

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

Anoka Technical College  
1355 West Highway 10  
Anoka, MN 55303

**Seminar Program and  
Registration Info on pages 6 & 7**



**Minnesota Association of Verbatim  
Reporters & Captioners**

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## 2016 END-OF-THE-YEAR TREASURER'S REPORT

Prepared by Jolene Carrow/Approved by Denise Rothfork

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

#### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning balance	\$ 5,916.83
Deposits	49,021.00
Expenses	48,359.38
Balance	\$ 6,578.45

#### SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 42,488.92
Deposits	49,384.65
Earned Interest	47.72
Withdrawals (to checking)	49,021.00
Transfer to Checking	2,970.00
Balance	\$ 39,930.29

### Breakdown of Income & Expenses:

#### Administration:

Deposits	\$ --
Expenses	16,100.08

#### Fundraising:

Deposits	2,340.00
Expenses	711.00

#### Membership:

Deposits	22,440.00
Expenses	309.88

#### Spring Seminar:

Deposits	10,325.00
Expenses	2,615.95

#### Fall Seminar:

Deposits	11,120.00
Expenses	9,944.32

#### Newsletter:

Deposits	1,500.00
Expenses	--

#### NCRA/NCSA:

Deposits	--
Expenses	1,615.06

#### Technology: (Website)

Deposits	--
Expenses	500.50

#### Legislative:

Deposits	275.00
Expenses	14,250.40

#### Public Relations:

Deposits	--
Expenses	1,845.73

#### Student Relations

Deposits	905.00
Expenses	466.46

#### Miscellaneous:

Deposits	479.65
Expenses	--

# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

MAVRC has had a busy year so far. Not only has our Continuing Education Committee planned a super Spring Seminar, which will be held on April 22 at Anoka Technical College and provide .70 CEU's, they are well on their way to having the Fall Convention sewn up, where we will also be celebrating our 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of court reporting in Minnesota. We have a special anniversary committee that has been planning lots of special events during our fall convention, which will be held on October 6-7 at the Embassy Suites Minneapolis Airport. I don't want to steal all their thunder, but suffice it to say that they have some fun things planned, including bringing back the Award of Excellence. You won't want to miss it!

There is also an issue that we have been monitoring that deals with official reporters in Minnesota. We were made aware in November that the Minnesota Judicial Council had added an item to its agenda entitled "Special Topic: Innovations in the Court Record," and thereafter formed a workgroup to explore cost effective and efficient ways to create and maintain the court record, including the following: Ensure judicial branch control of the court record; examine if changes should be made in the manner in which transcripts are created; and develop priorities for which court proceedings should be created by an in-person and /or realtime court reporter and those to be created through digital recording.

This workgroup will make recommendations to the full Judicial Council in December of this year, and the Council will then vote on the proposal. The makeup of this workgroup is one judge from each of the ten judicial districts; one appellate court judge, one judge from the Minnesota District Judge's Association, five court

reporters – one realtime steno, one steno, one ER, one Court Reporter Unit court reporter, and one out-state reporter (as requested by the Judicial Council), five district court administrators or managers, and a chair to be appointed by the Chief Justice.

The first meeting of the Judicial Council workgroup is February 23, and this issue will remain an agenda item each month the Judicial Council meets. There has been a MAVRC member in attendance at the Judicial Council meetings since November, and we will continue to attend to monitor any action taken on this matter. The Teamsters, which represents the official reporters in Minnesota, is also attending the meetings and following this issue.

At the same time as the Judicial Council has been meeting and addressing this issue, MAVRC has organized a workgroup made up of officials from around the State, MAVRC members as well as non-members, that has been meeting monthly to prepare counterpoints to any proposals brought forth that would affect the steno reporters working as official reporters in the State of Minnesota. We plan to be the "feet on the ground" and do the groundwork for the five reporters on the Judicial Council workgroup as we navigate yet another challenge to the stenographic record in our courtrooms. We have been through a similar study like this in 2009, with the result being that each district could decide the way they wanted to create the court record. I can say with certainty that we have many advocates among our judges who appreciate the value of a stenographic and realtime record, and it appears that most of the judges realize that a digital record is not satisfactory. Even Hennepin County, who was the county



*Sharon Steinbrecher*

that went to the Central Monitoring Room model and CourtSmart, has been hiring graduates from Anoka Tech, who are stenos and are realtime trained.

Our Court Reporter Awareness Committee (also known as the Certification and Testing Committee) is busy with their effort to attract students to our profession. We just hosted our Court Reporting and Captioning Exhibition at Anoka Tech during Court Reporter and Captioning Week, where we showcased all aspects of the court reporting profession. We have several career fairs scheduled where we will have realtime reporters and/or students present to show off our profession. We will be including a "how to" session on promoting our profession at our spring seminar.

We have posters available from MAVRC and Anoka Tech has brochures available for distribution to high school career counselors, and we invite everyone to get involved in this outreach initiative. If every member would contact a career counselor at their local high school, think how much ground we could cover! We need to ensure that there are reporters to step into the shoes of those that are approaching retirement age.

*(Continued on Page 11)*

# MAVRC BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

By Darla Delich Mustar, RPR

**MAVRC Q: What is your name?**

A: Darla Delich Mustar

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

A: I attended the Minnesota School of Business in downtown Minneapolis and I graduated in 1989.

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

A: I actually chose this career after seeing a commercial on TV about 34 years ago. I was always interested in secretarial-type work but wanted something a little more, so court reporting seemed like a good fit. Laurie Dame is a veteran official at the courthouse where I am now, and she has always been full of helpful advice. Even in the past, when I was a freelancer and did per diem court work, I felt I could always approach her with any questions about the ins and outs of the profession.

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

A: I freelanced for five years in the metro area before moving back to my hometown area. I continued to freelance “up north” for 19 years before becoming an official in Grand Rapids in 2013.

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

A: I have a Mira writer and I use Case Catalytic software.

**MAVRC Q: Do you produce your work all on your own or do you use scopists or proofreaders?**

A: I produce my own transcripts, but I do use a proofreader. I like the idea of using another set of eyes for a final review. And she’s always available and willing to meet any deadlines that I am under! I am grateful to have her! And, plus, she’s my sister!

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

A: Get your rest! There’s nothing worse than having a full day in the courtroom when you’re not fully rested and on top of your game. It’s crazy how our fingers and brains rely on each other! And, also, procrastination is not a friend to any of us. Those transcript deadlines have a funny way of sneaking up on you. It’s too easy to say, “I’ll do it tomorrow” when you’re tired. I try to peck away a little every day on my transcripts.

**MAVRC Q: Do you have a few favorite briefs to share?**

A: I have many floating around in my brain. I’m not really one to write them down. I create them “on the fly” all the time, as I’m sure everyone does. But I sure do enjoy reading through the ones that get posted in this newsletter!

**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: Yes, I have been a member of



*Darla Delich Mustar*

NCRA since 1990 and have my RPR credentials. I get most of my CE credits through attending MAVRC seminars and also 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District employee seminars.

**MAVRC Q: Have you attended any NCRA conventions, boot camps, seminars? If so, how was that experience for you and would you recommend it to other reporters?**

A: I have not attended any NCRC conventions, although they look like a great experience! Maybe when my kids are older, I will have the chance to do more of that. I have attended several MAVRC seminars where NCRA reps have been in attendance and spoken to our group. I enjoy the seminar experiences and collaborating with other reporters. It seems we don’t get enough opportunity to do that sort of thing in the midst of our busy lives.

**MAVRC Q: Do you recall when you joined MAVRC or approximately how long you’ve**

**been a member?**

A: I have been a member of MAVRC since its inception. Before that, I was a member of the Minnesota Freelance Court Reporters Association (MFCRA).

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

A: I am a new MAVRC board member. I was sworn in at the 2016 fall convention. I believe my term will be for two years.

**MAVRC Q: How often does the board meet and do you meet in person or somehow electronically?**

A: I believe the board meetings are monthly. I have participated by phone thus far. I wish I was closer to the metro so I could attend in person. Some of the meetings get pretty fun!

**MAVRC Q: What are some of the current issues the board is working on?**

A: We are busy planning the 2017 seminars right now. The fall seminar is a big anniversary celebration, so there's a lot to plan. There are also the issues with the Judicial Council and SCAO regarding possible changes to the way the court record is taken and preserved, so there is a group focused on working with that issue.

**MAVRC Q: Have you helped out or supported MAVRC by volunteering in any other positions in the past or volunteered your time for MAVRC in other ways?**

A: This is my first time volunteering with MAVRC.

**MAVRC Q: On a more personal note, what's your hometown and where do you live now?**

A: I was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and raised in Bovey, Minnesota. I attended Greenway High School, Itasca Community College and MSB. I now live in Coleraine, Minnesota...a small town about five miles outside of Grand Rapids.

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

A: I am married and have twin girls who are 12. My husband is a middle school math teacher. And we have a Cocker Spaniel named Duncan. My girls are pretty involved in extra-curricular activities outside of school (Awana youth group, gymnastics, volleyball, basketball, fastpitch softball, skating.) We all enjoy the water in the summertime - swimming, fishing, boating - and snowmobiling in the wintertime! The girls and I also love country music and going to concerts!

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

A: I actually just watched "My Cousin Vinny" again last week while we were on vacation. That movie is always good for some courtroom humor. (What's a "yute"?) My girls

had never seen it and thought it was great!

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

A: Our family recently spent a week in Florida between Christmas and New Year's. We enjoyed some beautiful weather and took a dip in the Gulf! It was the first time flying for the girls, so that was fun for all of us!

**MAVRC Q: How do you balance your work and your home life?**

A: Home life? What home life? We're on the go quite a bit between work, school and girls' activities, so any down time we have at home is appreciated.

**MAVRC Q: Anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself?**

A: I enjoy the judge that I work for very much. She and I have a lot in common and find something to laugh about every day. It makes the difficult days in the courtroom a little easier. I find being a court reporter challenging some days but also very rewarding. I am grateful for the opportunity and hope we can keep this career alive and well for future generations!

## 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.*



# MAVRC 2017 SPRING SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Registrations: \$150 \_\_\_\_\_  
{postmarked by 4/10/17}

Student Registration: \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

MAVRC Professional Membership: \$120 \_\_\_\_\_ (if not already a current member)

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 will be: Pizzas, salad & veggies - something for everyone

**Registrations must be postmarked by: Friday, April 10, 2017**

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** A full refund will be made if your cancellation is received on or before April 10, 2017. If your cancellation is received after April 10, 2017, a \$75.00 administrative fee will be deducted. No refunds for no-shows. Questions? Contact MAVRC at [info@mvrc.org](mailto:info@mvrc.org).



Mail registration form and your payment to:  
MAVRC  
P.O. Box 375  
Marshall, MN 56258

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

# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FEDERAL REPORTER

By Carla Bebault, RMR, CRR, FCRR

When I was asked to write an article about my daily life, I thought to myself, “What’s different in my daily life than that of a state official reporter?” I think the answer is not too much, but I decided to outline my day and then ask my colleagues here in St. Paul and Minneapolis to weigh in, as we each work for judges with different idiosyncrasies and expectations.

My day begins early, at 4:30 a.m. to be exact. Those of you who know me know that I’m a running fanatic, and I rise and shine to meet my running group at the Hudson YMCA each morning at 5:00. Most days we run for an hour (yes, even in the winter) or do a weight lifting class, and then I am on the road to St. Paul arriving at the courthouse at about 6:30. Because I pack my bag the night before, I go to the gym/locker room in the courthouse to get ready for work. I’ve learned this trick to help me avoid the morning traffic and construction delays. I am pretty much at my desk at 7:00 or 7:15. This gives me time to review e-mail and get ready for the day’s cases.

I believe I am the only reporter who works for a judge who is regularly on the record at 8:00 a.m., which is why my early morning routine works for me (that, and the fact I am an empty-nester!). I can go into the online docket, CM/ECF, to look at the cases we will be hearing that day and have time to prepare a job dictionary and/or look at the particulars of a motion hearing. Many of my colleagues provide realtime to their judge for every hearing so they must prep for every hearing. I am not so diligent since I usually only do realtime for

myself, unless covering for a co-worker. It’s always a good idea to know the basics of what I’m stepping into, so I look at the file. All the court reporters’ offices are on the first floor of the courthouse in St. Paul, but the courtrooms and judges’ chambers are located on the third, sixth and seventh floors, so there is a bit of jostling of equipment to get set up each day.

In the St. Paul Federal Court there are five judges and four magistrate judges and four court reporters. Although each of us is technically assigned to a particular judge, we cover the magistrate judge hearings (in lieu of digital recording) where there is a pro se litigant, a criminal motion, a dispositive civil motion, or a case where a transcript is frequently requested. We also need to cover one of the senior judges who does not employ a full-time reporter. The same is true for our Minneapolis courthouse where there are six judges and three magistrate judges and six court reporters. And of course we cover for each other during vacations, illnesses, and appointments, occasionally trekking across the river between the two cities. Oftentimes our larger trials will require daily transcripts. This involves everybody working as a team. These trials can go on for four to eight weeks and one or two reporters handling it can get exhausted. We work together to cover these when they arise, with the Minneapolis reporters working mainly in Minneapolis and St. Paul reporters covering in St. Paul, but this often necessitates coverage of magistrate judge hearings by one group to help out the other.

My trial days with Judge Kyle run 9:00 to 4:30, with an hour and 15 minutes for lunch, and a 20-

minute break mid-morning and mid-afternoon. He is rigid about the trial schedule, which I appreciate! Sometimes we will have an 8:00 motion hearing before starting trial, or a short criminal proceeding during the noon hour. Most of our motion hearings will last about an hour. This is not the case for many of my colleagues who work for judges who hear motions for days on end. Judge Kyle is a senior judge and able to decide which type of cases he will hear. He has taken himself off of patent cases, which tend to generate long, drawn-out motion hearings, and MDL cases (multiple district litigation) which tend to do the same. I know some of my colleagues often have to request a break on motion hearings that are still going after 2 plus hours. They can be very difficult terminology and brutally fast!

I would estimate that 60-70 percent of our court proceedings ultimately need to be transcribed, and we are allowed to work on transcripts during the work day in our offices. I have a nifty treadmill desk in my office I use when proofreading and sometimes while editing, to try to get away from sitting so much. We are also required to transcribe the digital audio recordings from our magistrate judge courtrooms if a transcript is requested. This involves listening to the CD and re-writing it, then editing as you would a normal transcript. All original transcripts must be filed electronically on CM/ECF and, as we move to becoming a paperless society, most transcripts are e-mailed to attorneys in electronic format. As of January 1, all orders for transcripts must also be filed electronically on the docket. The jury is out, so to speak, on how this transition will work but we are hoping for the best.



The District of Minnesota also has courthouses in Duluth and Fergus Falls, and rents space in the state courthouse in Bemidji. Judge Kyle frequently holds court in Duluth, so I am required to travel for work maybe once or twice a month. Chief Judge Tunheim regularly hears cases in Fergus Falls, so the same is true for my colleague Kristine. The other judges seem to travel north a little less frequently, but if they go, we must go with them.

One of the major differences between state court and federal court that I remember becoming aware of when I transferred in here is the amount of time devoted to each case in federal court. It seems that there are more resources to deal with "bigger" cases. Another difference that I became painfully aware of is the amount of paperwork that we are required to compile and submit to the Administrative Office in Washington, DC. There are reports for transcript orders and time spent in court and on each activity of our day, for travel time, you name it! Sometimes the paperwork seems endless, especially after each quarter when there are yet additional forms to sum up the prior three months!

All in all, we have a great team of individuals who work well together at the District of Minnesota.

I welcome any questions officials may have regarding how we handle a particular situation here. Please feel free to e-mail me at

Carla\_bebault@mnd.uscourts.gov. ■

**Check out  
MAVRC's  
website  
[www.mavrc.org](http://www.mavrc.org)**

# PRO BONO

**Kudos to  
Sherlyn Anderson  
Carol Danielson Bille  
Sandy Burch  
Jolynn Graham  
Jan Lund and  
Jackie Young  
for performing pro bono  
reporting services.**

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

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

***25 West Seventh Street  
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***Phone: 651-266-5170***

***[Jean.whelen@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Jean.whelen@courts.state.mn.us)***

# NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR COURT REPORTING STUDENTS

By Jan Ballman, RPR, CRMS, CMR

*(The following was originally published on Paradigm Reporting & Captioning's Court Reporting Blog.)*

A few short weeks ago, Paradigm had the pleasure of stopping in on the court reporting and captioning program at Anoka Technical College and providing lunch for the hungry students preparing to test. At that time, I shared five suggestions for New Year's resolutions. Because these resolutions could be applied by and beneficial to more than just students, I decided to turn them into our December blog!



*(Right) Jan Ballman*

1) **BECOME MEMBERS.** If you aren't already members of both the National Court Reporters Association and the Minnesota Association of Verbatim Reporters & Captioners, join in 2017! Membership in one's national and state professional associations comes with many benefits. First



*Court Reporting and Captioning Students at Anoka Tech*

and foremost, it keeps you in-the-know and engaged in your chosen profession. Read their publications. Book practice to them while learning more about the issues of the day. Discuss those issues with fellow students. Paradigm created a policy in 2016 to accept only student interns who are members of both associations. I guess it goes without saying, but I will state for emphasis that Paradigm only hires new graduates who are dual members, because, to me, if a student hasn't made these memberships a priority, it tells me something very important. As well, Paradigm wanted to add to the list of benefits received by students with their memberships. And let's not overlook the flip side—how important your memberships are to both the state and national associations. Students are the future of court reporting and captioning, but the time to become a member isn't in the future—it's right

now.

2) **BECOME INVOLVED.** If you want to really set yourself apart from the crowd, take a bold step and get involved in your state association. I assure of this: They need you, and your service will be greatly appreciated and beneficial. But, likely, you will actually gain more professional benefit from serving your association than you will give. You will become engaged at a very intimate level with various aspects of the profession about which you currently know little or nothing. You will learn a ton. You will expand your sphere of reach and influence. You will make new lifetime friends. You will rub elbows with your state's leaders. Your voice will be heard. It's all good! They need you and you need them. It's a no-brainer of a win-win.

3) **BECOME FRIENDS.** At Anoka Tech, the student body has

the opportunity to take advantage of learning in a brick-and-mortar environment versus an online course. This makes it much easier to leverage the power of each other. Who else in this world, besides another court reporter or reporting student, understands the crazy world of court reporting school? Who else gets that not passing a speed test isn't the same as "failing"? Or that just because you're in school for a full year, it doesn't necessarily equate to going from a freshman to a sophomore. This is called commiseration, and it allows you to lift up your cohort when they need encouragement—and they, you. It helps you know you're "not the only one" when you're struggling or feeling frustrated or stuck. And minimizing those feelings that overcome every reporting student is truly HUGE. So reach out in 2017 and pull together a group of like-minded, positive-thinking students and let the commiserating begin! If you already have a cohort, consider inviting a new student or two into it.

4) **BECOME LEADERS.** Where people choose to sit in a classroom or seminar tells me a lot about them. Leaders sit in front. You all should be fighting for those seats in the front rows! Why? Well, sure, you can see and hear better, and that alone should be reason enough. But the front is where it's at! The front is where the

engagement is! That's how you get noticed! Ask questions when given the chance. I am totally amazed when someone listens to a speaker and has not the first question. Raise your hand and answer questions when someone poses a question to the group. Raise your hand when someone needs a volunteer. This is what leadership looks like! So step up in 2017 to start building up the confidence and experience you will need to become one of tomorrow's leaders!

5) **BECOME (MORE) POSITIVE.** We all know the famous saying, "Whether you think you can or you think you can't...you're right!" The mind is a powerful thing... and so is the mouth. So in 2017, think and speak with positivity! Remember: Like attracts like. And you definitely want to attract to yourself other positive students who **THINK THEY CAN** and who will remind you that you can too when you start thinking you can't.

Paradigm wishes all students a Happy New Year and all the best in 2017!

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

*(Continued from Page 3)*

I would like to close with this: We just finished celebrating Court Reporting and Captioning Week, where we were recognized for the jobs we perform on a daily basis. We are an integral part of the judicial system as guardians of the record. We provide an unbiased, verbatim record of the proceedings that preserve a person's constitutional rights. We are the reasons that people who are deaf and hard of hearing can receive their education in a classroom and enjoy a sporting event or convention or church service through CART captioning and broadcast captioning. There are not a lot of people with the skills we have. Let's be proud of what we do! We must also remember that we are representing our profession on every job we go to. Every satisfied client or consumer is an advocate for our profession. It is up to all of us to keep our profession strong!

I hope to see you all on April 22! ■

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).

## WELCOME NEW MAVRC MEMBERS

Victoria Dudeck, Official, Brainerd, MN

George Manke, Official, Stillwater, MN

# CELEBRATING NATIONAL COURT REPORTER & CAPTIONING WEEK

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

Reporters' dedication and passion for court reporting were once again on display this year during the fifth annual celebration of National Court Reporting & Captioning Week. Reporters across the country held a wide range of activities designed to increase public awareness of court reporting and to promote the many career opportunities that are available within this career field.

Here in Minnesota, MAVRC once again partnered with the Anoka Technical College's Realtime Reporting & Captioning Awareness Committee. The committee's hard work focused on hosting a court reporting and captioning exhibition that was held at the college on February 15. 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.

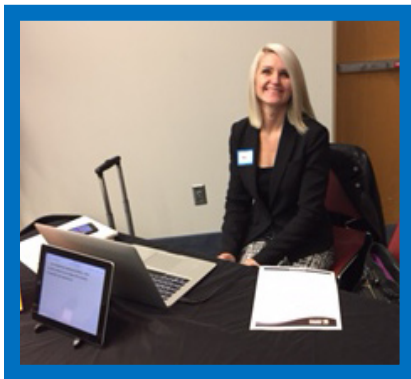
Visitors to the school were able to hear about the court reporting and captioning program at the school, tour the captioning lab, see the work that numerous reporters have done over the years to preserve American veterans' war stories, and learn how the stenographic profession has evolved from the days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

Also helping to recognize court reporters throughout the state was Governor Mark Dayton, who issued

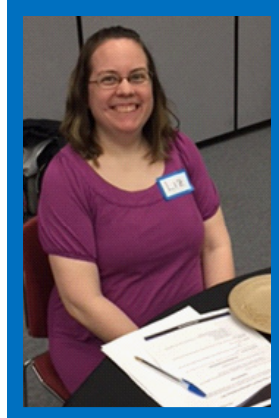
an official proclamation declaring the week of February 11-18 as Court Reporting & Captioning Week here in Minnesota.

MAVRC would like to thank the following reporters and students for volunteering to help out with this event: Natasha Anderson, Kristi Arntzen, Brandi Bigalke, Brittney Blesener, Rachel Erickson, Emily Hutcheson, Mary Krawiecki, Danna Frazier-Nelson, Deb Longley, Tammy Mathwig, Britney Ollanketo, Debbie Peterson, Lisa Richardson, Callie Sajdera, Jennifer Sati, Jane Schleusner, Sharon Steinbrecher, Megan Stumm, Jackie Young, Crystal Ziebarth and several student volunteers.

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



*Brandi Bigalke demonstrating her realtime skills*



*Freelance reporter Elizabeth Lundquist*



*(L to R) Anoka Tech theory students Bridget Kelly, Amanda Leitzke, Tiffany Eshleman and Ranae Donnay*



## 2017 Court Reporting & Captioning Week

# February 11-18

# CELEBRATING NATIONAL COURT REPORTER & CAPTIONING WEEK



*Mary Krawiecki headed up the captioning exhibition table.*



*Jane Schleusner, Instructor at Anoka Technical College*



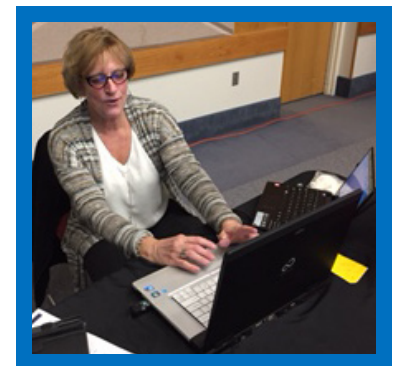
*Natasha Anderson and Emily Hutcheson, Anoka Tech students, helped at the registration table*



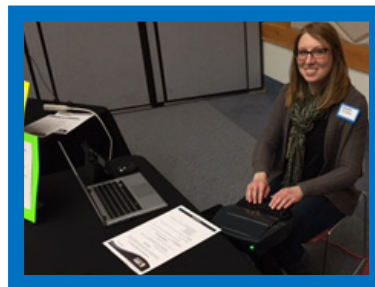
*Dynamic duo Rachel Erickson and Sharon Steinbrecher*



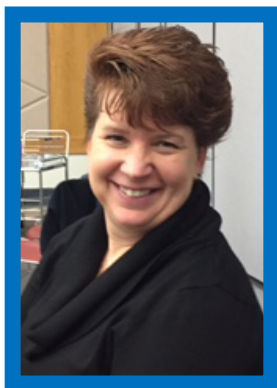
*Sandra Burch, MAVRC President-Elect*



*Lisa Richardson, Captioner Extraordinaire*



*Megan Stumm, CART Captioner*



*Debbie Peterson, former MAVRC President*



*Jennifer Sati, Court Reporting Program Director at Anoka Tech*



*Brittney Blesener, Crystal Ziebarth and Rachel Erickson*



*The Honorable Tad Jude, Judicial District Judge and former Minnesota State Legislator*

# 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](http://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 110<sup>th</sup> 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 110<sup>th</sup> 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 110<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**





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

Jan Ballman  
Tracy Bennett  
Carol Danielson Bille  
Cheryle Doss  
Hart Erickson  
Andrea Heairet  
Elizabeth Gangl  
Aimee Goldberg  
Jolynn Graham  
Glenda Kaufman  
Shari Majeski  
Caroline Nyberg  
Beverly Rojas  
Jane Schleusner  
Karen Skow  
Angie Sundell  
Tricia Weinberg  
S. Ryan Ziegler

# COURT REPORTING STUDENT PROFILE

By Natasha Anderson

**Name:** Natasha Anderson

**School:** Anoka Technical College

**Speed:** 200

**Hometown:** Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota

**Tell us a little about yourself:** I am a court reporting student who works two jobs, practices on her machine, then sleeps every day of the week.

**What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting?** Paralegal sounded boring and the school tour guide left me in Jane's room alone for two hours. She and Jen talked me into it!

**What area of reporting interests you the most at his time-official, freelance, or captioning/CART?** CART. I feel like it's more rewarding on a personal note and you can get closer with your clients on more of a friendship basis.

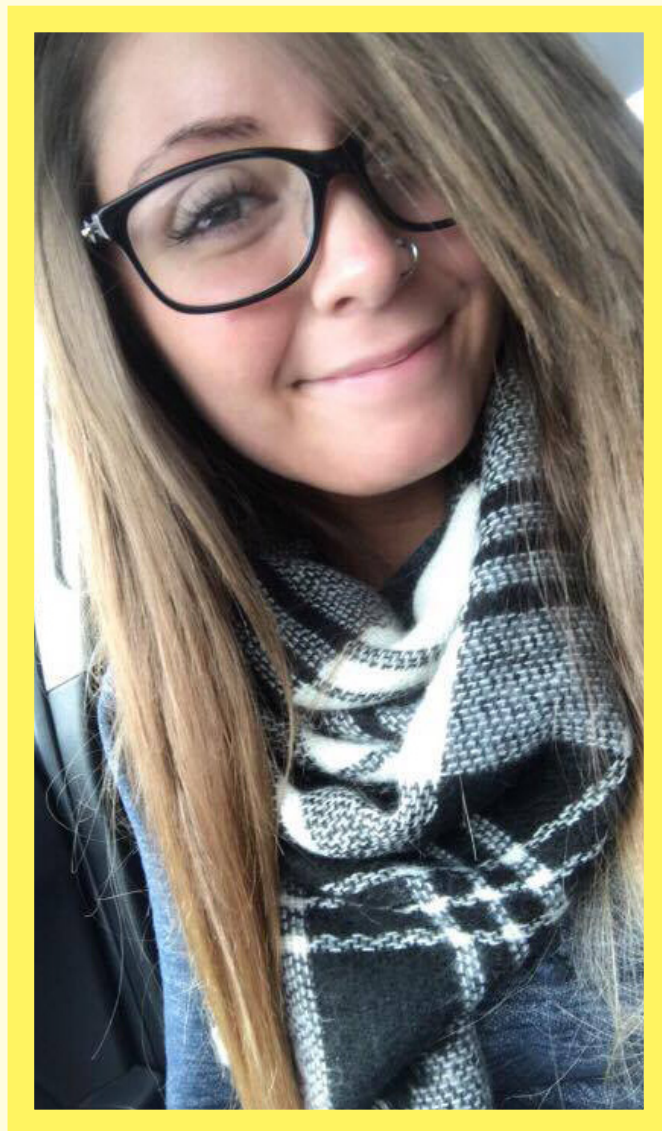
**What has been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?** Practicing every week is a challenge because of how much I work, but nothing is more rewarding than passing a speed test and seeing the improvement first hand.

**Do you know any working reporters or anyone what's been an influence on you?** Early on I started as a production assistant for Jane Doby. Working for her gave me tremendous experience, knowledge, and joy for this career.

**If you had an hour of free time, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)?** Free time? What's free time? If I do get some, I'm usually reading or sleeping.

**What is your favorite band or type of music?** I love every time of music except rap. Rap is pointless.

**What is your favorite food or restaurant?** I absolutely love tacos or spiral macaroni and cheese. I could live off of them both!



*Natasha Anderson*



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## CONGRATS, GRADUATES

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### **Kelley Riley**

My future plans are that I will be working as an Official Court Reporter in Minnesota. I also plan on preparing for and completing the RPR within the next year.

From there, I hope to become a voice for the court reporting field in regards to community outreach and informing the public about the importance of our profession



### **Allison McCarthy**

Graduating was a great achievement for me. I have been hired by Hennepin County. I am working on getting my RPR and CRR certifications as soon as I can.

Captioning is something I have always wanted to do, but I am very interested in federal court so that's a dream I have for the future.

I am just excited to be a working reporter and to see where my career takes me!

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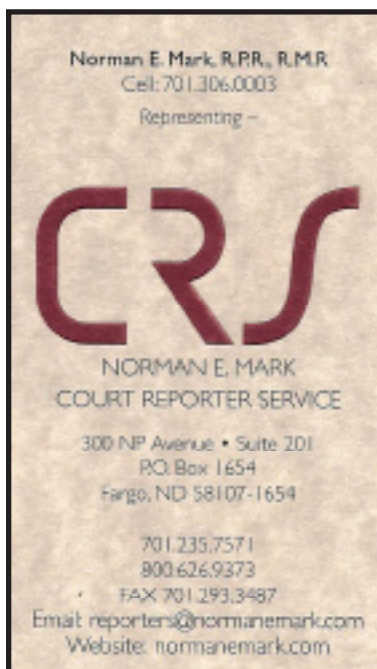
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## Court Reporting as a Career???

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)

Want to help out  
a student?

Send \$25.00  
indicating that  
you would like to  
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to:

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P.O. Box 375  
Marshall, MN  
56258

## WANTED...

Your extra steno paper, tapes, or  
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If you are willing to donate any of  
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Jennifer Sati at  
[JSati@anokatech.edu](mailto:JSati@anokatech.edu)



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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April  
22, 2017** MAVRC's Spring Seminar  
Anoka Technical College  
Anoka, MN
- October  
6, 2017** MAVRC's Fall Convention &  
110th Reporting Celebration  
Embassy Suites Hotel - Airport  
Bloomington, MN

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**To submit articles, send to:**

Angie Sundell  
MAVRC Editor MINNE-strokes  
[angiesundell@gmail.com](mailto:angiesundell@gmail.com)



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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](mailto:jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com) or (507) 532-0676.

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