



### INSIDE:

President's Address .....1/3/8

Save the Date:  
MAVRC's Fall Convention &  
110th Anniversary Celebration ...2

A Possible Collaborative Effort  
With WCRA .....4

The Passing of a Court Reporting  
Legend - Ervin G. Gross .....5

Announcing the Minnesota Award  
of Excellence .....6

Minnesota Award of Excellence  
Registration Form .....7

Celebration of Life of  
Jerry O'Connor .....8

Pro Bono .....9

MAVRC Spring Seminar  
Snapshots .....10~13

Mark Your Calendars  
110th Year Anniversary .....14

We Need Your Help!  
110th Year Anniversary .....15

Member Questionnaire  
Special Commemorative Issue..16

MAVRC Advertising Options .....17

MAVRC at Career Fairs.....18~21

Court Reporting  
Student Profile.....22

Congrats, Graduates .....23

Top Five Reasons to Become a  
STAR and Star Testimonials.24/25

MAVRC Summer Get-Together..26

Newsworthy Note From NCRA..27

Minnesota Agency Listings....28/29

Out-of-State Listings.....30

Promote Court Reporting  
Anoka Tech .....31

Upcoming Events.....32

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

I am writing this update from a refreshed perspective after spending some time on the beach for a special family reunion where I could reflect with laughter and tears as stories were shared of past accomplishments and failures, personal and professional, and looking forward to more laughter, less tears and feeling more empowered to tackle those tasks on my to-do list.

With that as a background, I will try to bring you up to speed on the many issues that have been getting the most attention of your Board since my last update. The biggest issue affecting the official reporters, and thereby affecting the freelance reporters in the end game, is Chief Justice Gildea's agenda to essentially degrade the integrity of the record by increasing the use of digital recording in the name of so-called "efficiency and cost savings."

MAVRC helped form a workgroup with official reporters around the state that, first, recommended the four steno reporters that Chief Justice Gildea and the Judicial Council allowed to be part of the Court Record Workgroup, which is otherwise made up of a District Court Judge from each of the ten Judicial Districts, a judge from the Minnesota District Judges Association, one Appellate Court Judge, Tammy Halonen from the Hennepin County CMR Unit, a District Court Administrator, with Retired Judge Ed Lynch appointed as the Committee Chairman. They requested the Teamsters, on behalf of the official reporters, choose one ER reporter, one steno, one realtime, one from the CMR



Sharon Steinbrecher

Unit in Hennepin County and one from out-state Minnesota. The MAVRC workgroup recommended Jill Garrison from the Second District, Rhonda Route from the First District, Dana Carmichael from the Fourth District, and Sara Borchardt from the Ninth District.

Our statewide workgroup has been monitoring the monthly Judicial Council meetings, as well as meeting monthly (after each monthly meeting of the Judicial Council Court Record Workgroup) to gather and share data from resources all over the U.S. that will help support the stenographic reporter and debunk whatever data the digital proponents bring to the Judicial Council. MAVRC has written letters to several bar associations to inform them of this initiative being led by the Chief Justice asking for their help as well. MAVRC is also seeking personal testimonials, anonymous or otherwise, from reporters

*(Continued on page 3)*

---

## 2016-2017 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

---

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

# Save the Date!

## October 6, 2017

### MAVRC'S Fall Convention & 110th Anniversary Celebration

MAVRC is very excited to announce that it will be offering software training at this year's fall convention! Stenograph and Eclipse software will be offering a half-day training session for all attending members. If a reporter is on a different software than CaseCatylst or Eclipse, we are planning something for them as well to receive CEUs during that time frame.

There will be a national speaker, Kathryn Sweeney, who will be giving her three-hour CRR Boot Camp presentation. It is a seminar which helps prepare candidates to take the realtime exam (and all certification exams), and also will give tips and tricks on what reporters can do with their writing and software to assist in passing online tests. Attendees will need their equipment for this presentation as well.

We are trying to give reporters the training and tools they need to stay on top of technology, especially in light of the issues we are dealing with in the official sector. Just because electronic recording doesn't affect every reporter or captioner yet, it doesn't mean they won't have to face it in the future. Now is the time to hone your skills and be the very best reporter you can be to ensure the life of our profession long after we have retired.

There will also be a jazz band and special evening events planned for our anniversary celebration this year. Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this one!

*(Continued from page 1)*

in Hennepin County, as well as from attorneys who have been denied an in-person steno reporter or received sub-par transcripts from digitally reported proceedings to present to the JC Court Record Workgroup.

The JC Court Record Workgroup has now met three times, and presentations have been made thus far by Hennepin County's manager of the CMR model, Tammy Halonen; an ER reporter from the Fifth District; Jennifer Sati, the court reporting and captioning program director from Anoka Tech; one of the CMR unit reporters, who is a steno reporter; a group presentation given by Jill Garrison, Rhonda Route and Sara Borchardt, with a realtime demonstration given by Debbie Peterson and her First District Judge, Judge Wilton, and their law clerk, wherein the judges on the workgroup were all provided with a realtime feed via CaseViewNet. For some judges from out-state districts, this was the first time they had seen realtime since they did not have a steno reporter, which provided a great opportunity for our steno reporters on the JC Court Record Workgroup to showcase the benefits of a steno reporter. Then a software guru from Stenograph presented on our behalf, as well focusing on the technology and the security of the Cloud and explaining the AudioSync features. **Thank you** to all who have taken part in this effort, particularly for those who had the stressful task of presenting before the Judicial Council Workgroup on behalf of our profession.

There have been other issues affecting the official court reporters this year as well before the legislature. With the help and guidance of Joel Carlson, our lobbyist, we were successful in stopping some pivotal language changes in the statute relating to court reporters. We also testified before the House and Senate to provide some explanation of the

official court reporter's transcript ramifications when the County Attorneys Association brought a bill forward to be relieved of the requirement to provide transcripts of dash cam footage when used as trial exhibits.

Governor Dayton signed a proclamation recognizing Court Reporting and Caption Week earlier this year, and MAVRC took part in an exhibition on February 15 at Anoka Tech where we presented live demonstrations showcasing the variety of occupations that make up our fantastic profession. We had a number of judges attend from different counties and also a representative of State Court Administration. There were several prospective students, who had the opportunity to speak with working official and freelance reporters as well as several CART and broadcast captioners. Rachel Erickson provided realtime of some of the presentations, and the many guests were excited to tour the on-site captioning suite that Anoka Tech uses in their program. **Thank you** to all our members who volunteered their time and energy to help with this event.

We have also added some new tabs on our website to help keep our membership informed as issues present themselves. We have included a "Hot Topics" tab where people can post questions or concerns they may have regarding things that are happening in the profession. We have also added a "Career Advancement" tab, where we will have information available about testing and certifications, how-to's on promoting our profession, etc. Our Technology Committee is working to enhance our Facebook presence as well. We also have posters promoting our profession available to any member who would like to post one or more in their own courthouses or high-visibility areas in their community or local schools.

Just contact me and I will make arrangements to get them to you.

We just held our spring seminar, where our sessions covered transitioning into CART and broadcast captioning, investing for retirement, an enlightening, but frightening, active shooter presentation, and a session on how to attract students to our profession with suggestions on how to speak at career fairs or approaching local high schools with brochures and posters showcasing our profession. Joel Carlson talked about what was happening at the legislature, and Jill Garrison and I followed up with a town hall type meeting where we addressed the issues with the Judicial Council in an open forum. **Thank you** to Brandi and Monica for all the work you did in lining up speakers and the caterers, and **thank you** to everyone else who helped make this seminar a success!

Several of our members have been presenting at career fairs at high schools throughout the metro, and Rachel Erickson and Jane Schleusner attended the MN School Counselor's Conference for the second year in a row, where they were able to reach a huge group. **Thank you**, Rachel and Jane, for doing that!

Our fall seminar and 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Court Reporting will be October 6-7 at the Embassy Suites Airport location. We have several great presenters lined up already and are working hard to fill the remaining open spots. We also are bringing back the Award of Excellence to coincide with our fall seminar; details on that to follow. On that Friday evening, there will be a fun celebration, so plan to stay and enjoy the entertainment and time to catch up with friends and colleagues! Watch for more information coming your way.

As I have said in the past, there is  
*(Continued on Page 8)*

# A POSSIBLE COLLABORATIVE EFFORT WITH WCRA

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

Following the recent MAVRC spring seminar, a group of reporters got together at Buona Sera in Champlin for dinner and to have a preliminary discussion exploring the possibility of MAVRC combining forces with the Wisconsin Court Reporters Association on future conventions.

Given the time and expense involved in planning and holding annual conventions, the MAVRC Board of Directors felt it would be prudent to look into the advantages and disadvantages of working together

with WCRA on their 2018 fall convention being held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Some of the advantages discussed were being able to afford higher-caliber or national speakers, a lessening of the work load for each state association, a reduction in costs for the NCRA representative to attend, increased networking opportunities, the ability for the two boards to work together on current issues, and the possibility of working with Stenograph to provide more specialized training. The main disadvantages discussed were the added distance MAVRC members

would have to drive in order to attend and how that would impact attendance as well as revenue to MAVRC.

In order to better assess whether to pursue this collaborative effort, a survey will be sent out asking for membership input on the matter.

*Jackie Young is a freelance reporter from Delano, Minnesota, and serves as Past President of the MAVRC Board of Directors.*



Left side, front to back: Rachel Erickson, Sharon Steinbrecher, Sandy Burch, Monica Christensen  
Right side, front to back: Jackie Young, Sheri Piontek (WCRA President), Jennifer Sati, and Karen Wolson (Stenograph).

# THE PASSING OF A COURT REPORTING LEGEND - ERVIN G. GROSS

MAVRC has recently learned of the death of Ervin Gross. Erv passed away on April 25, 2017, due to complications of Alzheimer's disease.

While many of us were not personally familiar with Erv, he played an integral role in the court reporting world from the late 1940s to the early 1990s. In addition to helping establish Ray J. Lerschen & Associates, he was very active in the Minnesota Reporters Association (MSRA) as well as the National Shorthand Reporters Association, now known as the National Court Reporters Association.

Erv first began service with MSRA as a board member in the late 1960s and eventually served as its president in 1975. Concurrent with and following his service with MSRA, Erv contributed his talents to NSRA for a considerable number of years, eventually becoming president from 1981-1982. During his time on the NSRA Board, Erv spent a great deal of his time fighting the threat of electronic recording, which helped solidify stenographic reporting as the preferred choice for making the record. Throughout his career, Erv was highly respected among his court reporting peers and many others in the legal field due to his exemplary standards of leadership and an undying personal commitment to achieving excellence as a court reporter. We thank you, Erv, for your service. May you rest in peace.

*Jackie Young*  
*Freelance Reporter*

\*\*\*\*\*

It was a sad day for me, and for many court reporters throughout the country, to learn of Erv's passing on April 25th. He was very well respected in the court reporting and legal communities, especially in Minnesota.

Erv was actually one of the last pen writers in Minnesota. Through his years of service in both state and national court reporting associations, he spent a great deal of his time and energy fighting the threat of electronic recording.

Erv loved life. Not only was he a great family man, but Erv enjoyed his Lerschen family, too. He made yearly trips up north fishing with fellow colleagues, as well as attending court reporting conventions throughout the state and nationally.

It was Erv who hired me on at Lerschen. He was not only a mentor to me but to all the reporters he worked with. He, along with the other partners, built an amazing court reporting firm.

We salute you, Erv, for a life well lived and for all your contributions to the profession you loved so much. You will truly be missed.

*Hart Erickson*  
*Freelance Reporter*

\*\*\*\*\*

Ray Lerschen & Associates was formed in September of 1959 by Ray Lerschen, Jack Penman, and Erv Gross. Initially, it was Ray's name that the attorneys knew, but there is no doubt in my mind that Erv was the business partner. When I joined the firm as their first machine writer in the latter part of September, I soon learned that Erv was the one to talk to if I had any questions. He had the mind and the personality behind the firm's growth as a successful reporting service, not only in Minnesota but throughout the United States.

Our yearly fishing trips started in 1960 with Ray and Jack to Boy Lake.



*Ervin Gross*

After a couple of years, we upgraded to Lac des Mille Lacs in Canada. It was usually over the Memorial Day weekend except for one or two fall expeditions to a different Canadian lake. Ray wasn't interested in the long trip so it was Jack, Erv, Noel, and myself. Lac des Mille Lacs is a huge lake with many bays. After the first two years of fishing with a guide, we bought a tent and would camp out on an island a few miles away. The fishing was incredible, as was our time together away from reporting.

Erv and I became good friends, as did our wives. We played golf and attended state conventions together. When Erv became president of the Minnesota Court Reporters Association, the convention was set up for Madden's Resort on Gull Lake. He put me in charge unofficially of sports and recreation.

Erv Gross was a man of many talents. He was well respected by all who knew him. I was glad to call him my friend.

Rest in Peace, Erv.

*Don Hessburg*  
*Retired Reporter* ■

# *Announcement*



*On August 26, 2017,  
MAVRC will be offering the  
Minnesota Award of Excellence!*

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

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

## *Skill Requirements:*

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



# MINNESOTA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE REGISTRATION FORM

**Saturday, August 26 @ 9:00 a.m.**  
**Anoka Technical Institute**  
**1355 West Highway 10, Anoka**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT CERTIFICATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Registration fee:** \$75 \_\_\_\_\_

**MAVRC Membership Dues:** \$120 \_\_\_\_\_

**(If not currently a member)**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Registrations must be postmarked by: **Monday, August 21, 2017**

**Please mail to:**

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

*(Continued from Page 3)*

no time like the present to talk to your family, friends, clients, judges, and school counselors about the court reporting and captioning profession. The one thing that is pointedly obvious when attending a career fair is the amazement when someone sees the realtime feed on the screen and realizes that there is a person who is making that possible. Consider visiting your child's school or the school in your neighborhood and talk to the career counselor about our profession or volunteer to do a demonstration to a class or participate in a career fair. I had the opportunity recently to show off my realtime to a group of Girl Scouts who were visiting the courthouse in Anoka. This was the first time they had ever seen a court reporter and, of course, they were in awe of the steno machine itself and really got excited when they would see their name come out on the screen! The parents and troop leaders were also very interested and had many questions. Seize those

opportunities!

We also just held Law Day in the Tenth Judicial District. We had realtime going on during mock trials as well as realtime being shown during a question and answer session with several of our judges and the public. Again, there were many questions asked about court reporting and why tape recording and voice recognition had not taken over our profession. These are perfect opportunities to educate the public about the superior technology we bring to the courtrooms and conference rooms and stadiums and classrooms and peoples' living rooms! Take every opportunity that presents itself. Be your biggest cheerleader!

We are a talented bunch of professionals! Officials: write realtime for your judges. If you aren't comfortable doing that yet, at least write realtime for yourself until you are. The best way to improve your writing is to see where you need to make changes. Also, by doing that, it

provides an opportunity to show others around you what the professional reporter does. Instead of keeping the "mystery of the little machine" alive, we need to show off to everyone the amazing skill set we possess and what services we provide.

We are also exploring some changes to increase the attendance at our seminars. We will be sending out a survey to the membership in an attempt to gather some data to help guide us in our future plans. Watch for that to come your way!

It has indeed been a busy and challenging year thus far. I am refreshed and ready to continue working with our wonderful MAVRC Board to represent the interests of all of you, using the experiences gleaned from past challenges to move forward in keeping our profession strong in Minnesota, but I need you all to do your part as well!

Have a great summer, and I hope to see you all at the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Fall Seminar October 6-7!

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE OF JERRY O'CONNOR

On Sunday, June 25, 2017, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., there will be a celebration of life for Jerry O'Connor. The event will be at Rockwoods in Otsego, Minnesota.

Friends and family are invited for drinks, hors d'oeuvres and awesome piano music by Bennie Weinbeck.

Jerry O'Connor was an official reporter in Wisconsin and Minnesota and also spent the end of his reporting career as a reporting instructor at several institutions. His wife, Barb O'Connor, is an official reporter in Sherburne County and has also worked in Hennepin and Anoka Counties.

Even though there will be a notice placed in the Star Tribune at a later date, please feel free to share this invitation with others who knew Jerry.



## **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.*



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

# **PRO BONO**

**Kudos to  
Christine Clark and  
Elizabeth Gangl  
for volunteering to provide  
pro bono 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  
Suite B304*

*St. Paul, MN 55102*

*Phone: 651-266-5170*

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

# MAVRC SPRING SEMINAR SNAPSHOTS



*MAVRC members listening to panel facilitator Sharon Steinbrecher and CART/Captioner panel members Janell Gruber, Merilee Johnson and Mary Krawiecki.*



*Panel Members Janell Gruber and Merilee Johnson*



*Panel Member Mary Krawiecki*



*In attendance at the spring seminar were (L to R) Jill Garrison, Monica Christensen, Jeanna Zunker and Janell Gruber, all former MAVRC Board of Director presidents.*



*Shari Majeski and Stenograph Representative Karen Wolson*



*Denise Rothfork with Jolynn Graham, who is displaying the purse that was raffled off.*



*MAVRC Lobbyist Joel Carlson*

**MAVRC Spring Seminar  
Door Prizes/Silent Auction**

Door Prizes - MAVRC Water Bottles  
 Jeanna Zunker  
 Susan Weinger  
 Kathleen Columbus  
 Kelley Riley

Door Prizes - Donated by Stenograph  
 \$25 VISA Gift Card - Christine Clark  
 \$25 VISA Gift Card - Rachel Erickson  
 Catalyst Training - Kelley Riley

MAVRC Purse Raffle - Kathy Hanson

MAVRC 50/50 Raffle - Joanne Ertl

Trader Joe's Gift Card - Donated by Mill City Video  
 Janell Gruber

Two Soccer Tickets - Donated by Paradigm  
 Kelley Riley

# MAVRC SPRING SEMINAR SNAPSHOTS



*Court Reporting & Captioning Awareness Panel Members  
Brandi Bigalke, Jennifer Sati and Rachel Erickson*



*Victoria Dudeck and Kelly Robinson*



*Cheri Anderson, Sherlyn Anderson and Michelle Jorgenson*



*Diane Kennedy and Deanna Oaks*



*Sarah Colberg, Allison McCarthy and Diane Shelton*



*Glenda Kaufman and Sandy Burch*



*Denise Drill, Joanne Ertl and Ruth Holdvogt*



*Cynthia Shellum and  
Maria Tweed*



*(L to R): Jayne Seward, Kara  
Solheid, Nancy Gisch and Andrea  
Tungland Heairet*



*Active Shooter Presenter  
Deputy Christopher Beck*



*Jennifer Sati, and Ryan Ziegler*

# 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 - 343th 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**





MINNESOTA  
ASSOCIATION OF VERBATIM  
REPORTERS & CAPTIONERS

P.O. Box 375  
Marshall, Minnesota 56258

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

E-mail: jcarrow\_mavrc@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

MAVRC  
P.O. Box 375  
Marshall, MN 56258

Or you can e-mail your business card, in JPEG format, to [jolene.carrow@gmail.com](mailto:jolene.carrow@gmail.com). Then mail this form along with payment to the above address. To be included in the Fall, 2017 issue, your ad and payment must be received by **July 20, 2017**.

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

[www.mavrc.org](http://www.mavrc.org)

# HELP PROMOTE OUR PROFESSION - ATTEND A CAREER FAIR

In an effort to increase awareness about the profession of court reporting and captioning, MAVRC has partnered with court reporters around the state to attend as many high school career fairs as possible. We have been fairly successful in attending career fairs in the metro, but we need more volunteers to attend career fairs in Greater Minnesota.

Do you live in Duluth? Do you live in Rochester? How about St. Cloud or Bemidji? If so, we need your enthusiasm in connecting with middle school and high school students (or anyone looking for a career change!) You can contact Rachel Erickson at [Rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com) for brochures, a template email to send to the school career counselor, and ideas on how to present in a classroom or set up at a career fair.

## Anoka- Hennepin High School Career Fair Anoka, MN February 24th



*(Above L to R): Caitlin Albrecht and Jennifer Sati*

Jennifer Sati, Caitlin Albrecht and Sharon Steinbrecher attended the Anoka Hennepin Career Fair on February 24, 2017, and shared their skills and experiences with high school students.



*(Left L to R): Caitlin Albrecht and Sharon Steinbrecher*

---

# MAVRC AT CAREER FAIRS

---



*Rachel Erickson demonstrated to high school students how the steno machine captures the written word.*

## **Hastings High School Career Fair Hastings, MN March 2nd**

This is one of the many career fairs MAVRC attended this past year. Hastings High School hosted the career fair that was attended by nine high schools and 1,800 students.

Reporters were Rachel Erickson, Tracy Dougherty, and Mandy Woods, official reporters in Hastings. Thanks to Rhonda Route for arranging this event for MAVRC to attend.

The turnout was great, and students were thrilled to see their very own words being instantly captioned right in front of them!



*Rachel Erickson showcased the career of being a steno reporter to students at Hastings.*

# MAVRC AT CAREER FAIRS

(Below); The monitor display setup at the Student Leadership Conference

## Student Leadership Conference Crowne Plaza Hotel Plymouth, MN April 25th



Caitlin Albrecht displaying realtime on a monitor



(Above L to R): Rachel Erickson and Caitlin Albrecht



Brochures and demo writer (& candy if permitted)

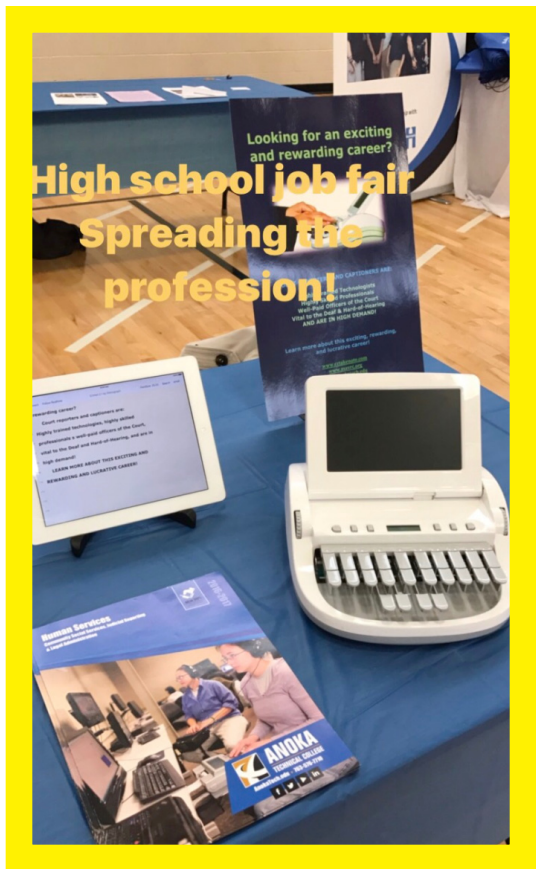
### Other Career Fairs MAVRC Attended:

February 2 - Jefferson High School,  
Bloomington & Longfellow Alternative  
School, Minneapolis - *Rachel Erickson*

February 16 - Stillwater High School –  
*Megan Stumm*

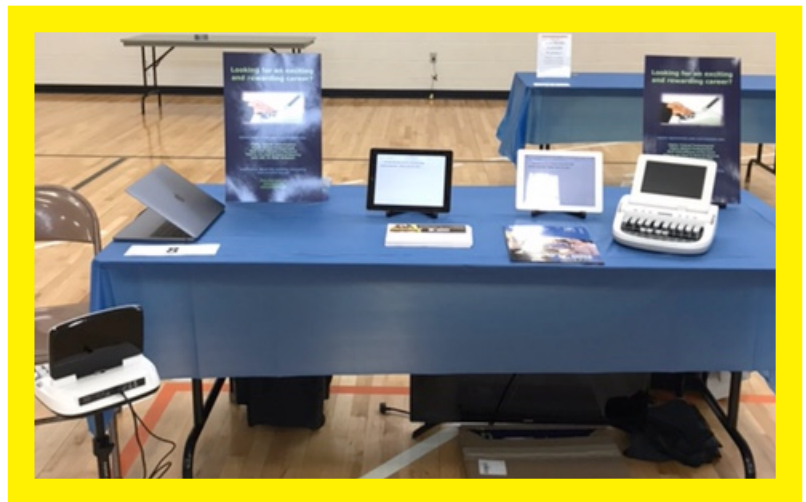
Elk River Schools – *Katrina Hendrickson*

# MAVRC AT CAREER FAIRS



*Brandi Bigalke and Callie Sajdera (160's student) were in attendance at the St. Louis Park High School Career Fair.*

## **St. Louis Park High School Career Fair St. Louis Park, MN April 26th**



## **Minnesota School Counselors Association Conference Madden's Resort Brainerd, MN April 30 and May 1**



*Rachel Erickson (pictured above) and Jane Schleusner attended the Minnesota School Counselors Association Conference on behalf of MAVRC and Anoka Technical College on April 30 and May 1, 2017.*

# COURT REPORTING STUDENT PROFILE

By Jamie Ward

**Name:** Jamie Ward

**School:** Anoka Technical College

**Speed:** 140

**Hometown:** Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Now I currently live in East Bethel, Minnesota.

**Tell us a little about yourself.** I have two kids, a five-year-old and a three-year-old. I am married and I have a LuLa Roe business that I run from my home. I used to work for a transportation company for 10 years before I became a stay-at-home mom and a court reporting student.

**What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting?** My mom, who is the manager at Benchmark Reporting, had mentioned it to me, and she thought it would be a career path that I would like. I liked the idea of all the stories that we would hear and I enjoy typing in general, so I thought I'd give it a shot.

**What area of reporting interests you the most at this time: Official, freelance, or captioning/CART?**  
I am interested in going into freelance.

**What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?** The most challenging and rewarding thing for me has been learning how to correct grammar and punctuation. I was always curious on how to do it correctly. Learning all of the rules and formatting has been a challenge for me, but I am proud of how far I have come and that is very rewarding to me.

**Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you?** I do not personally know any working reporters, but I have met a lot of reporters through the state and national associations. They are all so supportive and positive for students, which is a great influence for me and for other students. I am also influenced by my instructors who put all their time and effort to shape me into the best reporter I can be.

**If you had an hour of free time, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)?** If I had an hour of free time, I would try to spend it with some friends or family just to catch up.

**What is your favorite band or type of music?** I love all types of music ranging from classical music to country to rock. My absolute favorite band is called Shinedown.

**What is your favorite food or restaurant?** I love all food, but if I had to pick, my favorite would be Mexican food. I don't have one favorite restaurant. I like all of them. They are all great!

**Where is a place you would like to visit?** A place that I would like to visit is Italy and be able to ride a gondola, which is a flat-bottomed boat.

**The last book you read?** The last book I read was the The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini.

**The last movie you watched?** The last movie I watched was called The Shack.



*Jamie Ward*

---

## CONGRATS, GRADUATE

---



### Tammy Mathwig

I woke up on Tuesday, passed my last test, and graduated. Before I went to bed Tuesday night, I had a job. My first depo was scheduled for Friday. In true freelance court reporter fashion, it cancelled. So in essence, I graduated, got a job, and got laid off all in the same week. Now I guess it's time to retire.

All kidding aside, I'm so happy to have graduated and to start this new journey in my life. I plan to be a freelance court reporter. I am going to be working with Advantage Court Reporting. I am both excited and nervous to take my first depo.

MAVRC  
would also  
like to  
congratulate  
recent  
Anoka Tech  
graduates  
Hollie Selley,  
Crystal  
Shackelton and  
Joan O'Connor.

## RETIRED ... OR PLANNING TO SOON?

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

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

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

---

# TOP FIVE REASONS TO BECOME A “STAR”

By Merilee Johnson, RDR, CRR, CRC, RSA

This past March STAR held its spring conference, STARtech 2017.

What is STAR? STAR is different than any other organization or convention as it has evolved from a Stenograph User’s Group into an organization that focuses on networking, technology, firm owners and Case CATalyst trainings. It’s a place for court reporters, students, captioners, agencies, and firm owners to network. It is a place to be motivated by those who love the profession as much as we do. It’s a place to learn from big names in the industry. It’s a place that teaches us to amplify our own strengths. It’s a place to learn, build relationships, and grow your career.

Some say STAR has been one of our profession’s best-kept secrets, but the reality is STAR is for everyone. Regardless if you’re a Case CATalyst user or not, there are growing opportunities for all.

Here are the Top 5 things I love about STAR:

## **Seminars Worth Attending**

There are two tracks offered at STAR conventions. One is software related and one is business related. If you’re wanting to learn more about your software, STAR offers three days of Case CATalyst training. Learn from Head Trainer, Cindi Lynch, what’s new with the software, editing tricks you may not be aware of, how to improve your audio, how to use your software for a better realtime feed, and so much more. Every session is different and every year Cindi provides new material.

If you’re more interested in

developing your business and personal brand, you can attend the business track. These seminars vary from how to promote yourself, how to network, how to market, how to be more efficient in your daily operations (as a reporter or a firm owner). The topics are endless!

## **Meet Stenograph**

Have you ever wanted to meet the people behind Stenograph? At STAR you have an opportunity to meet and interact with the president of Stenograph. Have a question about your writer or software? Get the answer directly from those who created them. At STAR you have the unique opportunity to have direct conversations with the software developers who developed Case CATalyst and Stenograph writers. You have open access to ask Cindi Lynch, the head trainer of Stenograph, any Case CATalyst question you have!

## **Discounts**

Becoming a member of STAR has its perks. All STAR members receive a discount on all Stenograph products (including your support contract), as well as 10 percent off Pengad products. If you take advantage of the Stenograph discounts, your membership is essentially free!

## **They feed you!**

Because STAR believes that the best way to learn is on a full stomach, they keep you well fed at conventions (and it’s included in your registration fee!). Between sessions, STAR creates an atmosphere conducive to a comfortable social setting. Nothing’s forced. Whether it’s a small snack between seminars or a sit-down meal, STAR venues create an intimate environment where conversations are shared over a

drink or a meal with other reporters, vendors, and firm owners.

## **The Networking and Social Gatherings**

We all know networking is key to growing. STAR integrates networking opportunities into the schedule, ranging from the infamous STAR Lounge, to arranged dinners to attend, STAR Talks (their take on TED talks), and just leaving time between sessions to have valuable conversations. Conversations at STAR rarely end at STAR. STAR creates an atmosphere where you don’t feel alone. I guarantee if you attend STARtech (in the spring) or STARcon (in the fall), you will walk away with new connections and continued conversations.

STAR listens to what attendees want and cater each convention to quench those requests. It’s impossible to walk away without learning something and feeling energized.

If you are interested in learning more about STAR and/or becoming a member, go to [www.STARonline.org](http://www.STARonline.org).

Are you interested in receiving a personalized Case CATalyst training session? Join STAR by October 1<sup>st</sup>, use my name as a referral, and you will be entered in a drawing for a free hour of Case CATalyst training!

Good luck and I look forward to seeing you at STAR!

*Merilee Johnson is Director of Reporter Relations with Paradigm Reporting and Captioning and a Certified Independent Training Agent with Stenograph.*



# STAR TESTIMONIALS

Want more feedback? Check out the following testimonials from other STAR attendees.

*“As a firm owner, my STAR membership over the past 15 years has proven to be invaluable. The relationships I’ve made in addition to the curriculum that is laser-focused on day-to-day agency issues has been key to growing Paradigm.”*

Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, DSA-MN  
President and CEO of Paradigm Reporting & Captioning

*“The #1 weapon in a reporter’s arsenal is great writing and using your software to its maximum potential. The #2 business necessity is networking with colleagues. STAR provides those values and so much more. Just the “Breakfast to Die For” makes every STAR convention an unmissable event!”*

Debbie Dibble, RDR, CRR, CRC, RSA  
CART Provider, Closed Captioner, Freelance Reporter  
NCRA Board of Directors

*“One of the things I attribute the success I have enjoyed in my reporting career is to my STAR membership. Not only do I get amazing discounts on Stenograph and Pengad products, STAR seminars cannot be beat! With two tracks (either relevant and interesting reporter content or learning to be more proficient on my Case CATalyst software), I can’t lose! And I love the ability to network with other reporters, as well as national firm owners, in a venue that isn’t so big that they will forget me the next day. STAR has it all!”*

Lisa Knight, RDR, CRR, RSA, FAPR  
STAR Board of Directors

*“CATalyst training with either a training agent or with me is always a quality experience and a good investment of your time and money, regardless of whether it occurs one-on-one or in a group, in person or remote, at a Stenograph-sponsored workshop, at a state association break-out or at NCRA or STAR. My opinion and personal experience is that one major added benefit of taking training at a STAR conference is that you’re surrounded by top quality peers who are there to learn; who really want the information being presented; they’re not just there to get their CEUs. STAR colleagues really add to your experience by asking relevant questions that lead to genuinely helpful, practical answers you can immediately use.”*

Cindi Lynch,  
Stenograph Training Program Manager

*“I became a member of STAR this past year and attended the STARcon convention in Phoenix, Arizona, in October. This was my first-ever convention on a national level and I was blown away. I learned SO much and met so many great people that were all extremely friendly and welcoming. This is an amazing place to network and also a great opportunity to receive top-notch software training from Stenograph’s Case CATalyster trainer, Cindi Lynch. STAR offers a number of great member benefits, including Stenograph discounts! I highly recommend it.”*

Christa Reeser, RPR, CRR  
Official Court Reporter



**YOU ARE INVITED TO  
MAVRC'S  
SUMMER GET-TOGETHER**



**Thursday, June 22, 2017  
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**PUNCH BOWL SOCIAL  
ST. LOUIS PARK - WEST END  
11691 PARK PLACE BOULEVARD  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55416**

**[www.punchbowlsocial.com](http://www.punchbowlsocial.com)**

**Please RSVP to Brandi Bigalke at:  
[bnbreporter@gmail.com](mailto:bnbreporter@gmail.com)**

---

## Newsworthy Note from NCRA

Attention: Candidates who passed the Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR) test prior to 2011

Prior to November, 2011, the CBC, CCP, and CRR Skills Tests were the same - five minutes of literary matter at 180 wpm. In November, 2011, the CRR changed to a two-voice testimony test at 200 wpm. Anyone who passed the CRR prior to November, 2011, does not need to take the CBC and/or CCP and/or CRC (Certified Realtime Captioner) Skills Test because they are the same test format. Anyone who passed the CRR on or after November, 2011, will need to take the CRC Skills Test, CRC workshop, and pass the written exam to become CRC certified.

This exception to use the CRR skills test history towards earning the CRC expires December 31, 2017. Any CRC candidate who has not fully earned the certification by December 31, 2017, will be required to pass the CRC skills exam regardless of prior testing history.

If you have any questions, contact NCRA.

# MINNESOTA AGENCY LISTINGS

**SHERLYN M. ANDERSON**  
Registered Professional Reporter

**ADVANCED REPORTING**  
...for service and quality

10170 44th Court NE  
St. Michael, MN 55376

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



**CORBETT COURT REPORTING**

Nanette J. Corbett, Registered Diplomate Reporter

2212 Hegberg Road, Duluth, Minnesota 55804-9630

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

E-mail: nansoffice@gmail.com

tel 612.338.3376  
fax 612.338.5226  
toll free 800.873.3376  
cell 612.247.9115

222 South Ninth Street

Suite 450

Minneapolis, MN 55402

egoldberg@benchmark-reporting.com

BENCHMARK  
A Reporting Agency

**Corinne Schieck**  
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER

**Carney & Associates, Inc.**

P.O. BOX 262  
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA 55903

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



anywhere.  
anytime.

**Patricia Carl | Chairman & CEO**  
pat@depointernational.com

800.591.9722



Home of SuperFast Transcripts!  
depo international  
worldwide deposition services

**JOLENE CARROW**  
Court Reporter

2864 - 290th Street  
Marshall, MN 56258

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

carrowjd@starpoint.net



**FACTS REPORTING, INC.**

FAST ACCURATE COMPUTERIZED TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE

**GLENDA L. KAUFMAN**  
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER

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

Tel: 763.566.7476 Fax: 763.566.1909

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

# MINNESOTA AGENCY LISTINGS

**SANDY BURCH**  
CERTIFIED REALTIME REPORTER  
INTEGRITY COURT REPORTING, INC.  
TEL: 952.440.3886 \* TOLL FREE: 800.731.1903  
7900 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE, SUITE 300  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55425  
SBURCH@INTEGRITYCR.COM

Laurie Webster, RPR



**Reporting Agency**  
A Full-Service Court Reporting Firm

1-800-334-3858

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

*Interested in having your card ad appear here?*

**Contact Jolene Carrow for details at (507) 532-0676 or [jcarrow\\_mavrc@hotmail.com](mailto:jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com)**

*Diane M. Wright*  
& ASSOCIATES, LTD.

Court Reporters devoted to superior quality and exemplary service  
Registered professional reporters • Complete litigation support  
Daily copy and expedited delivery

952-938-3055 • fax 952-935-8805 • [dwareporting@aol.com](mailto:dwareporting@aol.com)



Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS, FAPR  
President & CEO

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

Offices in Downtown:  
Minneapolis - St. Paul - Fargo

(612) 339-0545  
[paradigmreporting.com](http://paradigmreporting.com)  
[depos@paradigmreporting.com](mailto:depos@paradigmreporting.com)

**Young Court Reporting**  
Committed to Excellence



**Jackie Young**  
Registered Professional Reporter  
[youngreporting@yahoo.com](mailto:youngreporting@yahoo.com)

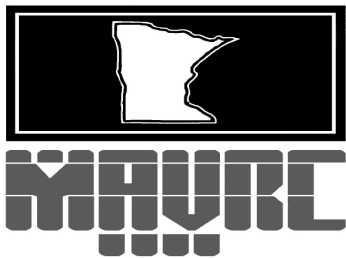
P.O. Box 466  
Delano, MN 55328

**763-639-9480**

## OUT-OF-STATE LISTINGS



A PARADIGM Company  
300 NP Ave  
Suite 201  
Fargo, ND 58102  
(701) 235-7571  
Fax (701) 293-3487  
www.normanemark.com



*Interested in having your  
card ad appear here?*

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

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

**Court Reporting as a Career???**

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

**Jennifer Sati**

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

**Want to help out  
a student?**

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

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

**WANTED...**

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

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



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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August  
10-13, 2017** NCRA Convention and Expo  
Las Vegas, NV

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

## MAVRC MINNE-*strokes* STAFF

**EDITOR:** Angie Sundell

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

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

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

MINNE-*strokes* is published quarterly.

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

**To submit articles, send to:**

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



### ***RECENTLY RELOCATED?***

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

Contact Jolene Carrow at [jcarrow\\_mavrc@hotmail.com](mailto:jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com) or (507) 532-0676.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER  
PUBLICATION  
DEADLINE**

