

WINTER 2016
VOLUME 19 NUMBER 4

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

INSIDE:

President's Address	1/2
Welcome New Members	2
Save the Date! Spring Seminar	3
Day In, Day Out as an Official Court Reporter!	4/5
Pro Bono	5
2016-2017 MAVRC Board of Directors.....	6
Be the Person to Make a Difference.....	7
MAVRC Board Member Profile.....	8-9/11
Thank You to MAVRC's Outgoing Board Members.....	10/11
MAVRC 2016 Fall Convention Snapshots	12-16
Thanks for Your Support - MAVRC's Silent Auction.....	17
In Memoriam - James "Jim" Voitalla	18
In Memoriam - Maureen Rooney	19
Veterans History Project	20
Willard I. Braun - Outstanding Student of the Year Award.....	21
Court Reporting Student Profile.....	22
MAVRC Annual Pizza Party at Anoka Tech.....	23
Minnesota Agency Listings....	24/25
Out-of-State Listings.....	26
Promote Court Reporting.....	27

Happy fall!

The leaves are falling, the temperatures are turning colder, my beloved Chicago Cubs won the World Series, and I am getting ready for my first board meeting as President of MAVRC. I am excited although a bit apprehensive, but I know that with the guidance of Jackie Young, our Past President, and the rest of our very qualified board members, I will be able to work hard for you in protecting and promoting our profession.

We have some real hard work ahead of us with the numbers of reporters in our midst retiring and the lack of trained reporters to step into their shoes. To address that, we are launching a new venture in conjunction with the Realtime Reporting and Captioning Awareness Ad Hoc Committee headed by Jennifer Sati, who is the Program Chair of the Judicial Reporting/Broadcast Captioning Program at Anoka Technical College. We will focus on calling on Minnesota high school career counselors to get our profession highlighted for high school students to look at when thinking about vital and lucrative career options, particularly ones that do not require a traditional four-year college degree and the costs associated with that.

Just like I will rely on my board, the MAVRC Board of Directors relies on its members to move our mission forward through committee involvement, and I would invite you to consider serving on one of our many committees, as well as volunteering to help with this effort



Sharon Steinbrecher

to contact our high school counselors and drop off the marketing materials that we will make available. Also consider taking part in one of several career fairs that MAVRC has been and will continue to be involved with throughout the state and volunteer to showcase our profession. Whether you are an official, a freelancer or a CART or broadcast captioner, you all have something to offer to this conversation. The board can't do it alone. We need your help. If each member would be willing to contact one school in their neighborhood, we could cover a lot of ground. I hope you will consider taking part in this venture. We will have more information coming to you in the next few months, so stay tuned!

As we approach our 110th Anniversary, we are planning some special events for our fall seminar, and we will form a special committee to work on that.

2016-2017 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

(Continued from Page 1)

Tickle your memories and think about contributing pictures or stories of past MAVRC moments. We welcome any other ideas you may have to make this an event to remember, and please consider helping out on this committee or wherever you can!

I come into this year of service with a lot of energy and a lot of ambition for a productive year. I can't stress enough how important it is to promote our profession everywhere you go and to everyone you meet. We are a very talented bunch of people with a unique skill set that still provides the best-voice-to-text technology available. A lot of people are totally unaware of the work that we do and how we do it. It is up to all of us to educate them. We are an association of many. We need you all.

Yay Cubs! ■

**WELCOME
NEW MAVRC MEMBERS**

**Alexis Jensen, Freelance
St. Paul Park, MN**

**Ryan Judge, Student
Excelsior, MN**

**Allison McCarthy, Student
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota**

**Sandra Young-Porter, Student
Eden Prairie, MN**

**Kelley Riley, Student
New Hope, MN**

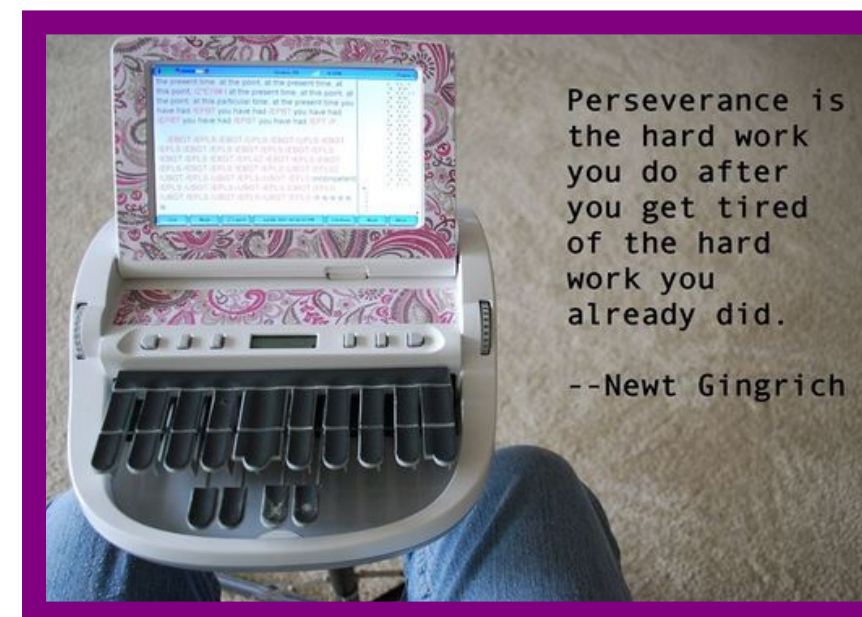
Save the Date!

MAVRC'S Annual Spring Seminar

April 22, 2017

Anoka Technical College
Anoka, Minnesota

Watch for further information!



**Check out
MAVRC's
website
www.mavrc.org**

DAY IN, DAY OUT AS AN OFFICIAL REPORTER!

By Laura O'Driscoll, RPR, CRR

Instead of writing a day in the life of an official court reporter, I am going to write what it's like just to be an official court reporter, the reason being too many different things happen to me throughout a week's time it's impossible to pick one particular day. One week I'm in a criminal sexual conduct trial and then the next we move on to the arraignment calendar with the jailbirds and then a plethora of hearings that include prostitution, family law, wrongful death, drive-by shooting/ attempted murder cases and drug deals gone bad. I've seen so many different things and people in the last 11 years as an official court reporter that it's made me have faith in humanity and also lose faith in humanity all at the same time.

Because we're all court reporters, I've decided I'm not going to write about our profession and the technicalities of it. We all know what we do every day on our machines and do it well. I write real-time for my judge every day, and she appreciates it, but that's not what I am going to write about or what stands out about my job. Instead I am going to open the eyes to the psychological and emotional side of being a court reporter in the official world and courtroom.

I started reporting as a freelancer back in 1991 and just had my 25-year anniversary of being a court reporter. I spent the first 14 years of my career as a freelancer and the last 11 as an official. The freelance/deposition world is quite different than court work. I remember my *very first day* on the job working in court. I walked right into picking a jury for a 1st degree criminal sexual conduct jury trial. Jury voir dire took all day long and potential jurors were questioned privately and revealed things that had happened to them in their lives that they have never told a

single soul. The trial started with tears rolling down the cheeks of a victimized young girl to a convicted man whipping off his belt at the deputies swearing as he was taken into custody, starting a confinement period that would go on for the next 10 years. I couldn't believe my eyes or what I was experiencing. What happened to the good 'ol personal injury depositions or the construction litigation I was used to? Is this real life? People actually live through this and/or do these things to other human beings? This was an incredibly emotional experience, one I will never, ever forget. And that's when I realized that the official world was going to be different...in fact, very, very different than the freelance world.

I never expected this job to end up being as emotional as it is. In good ways and in bad. Drug addiction is so widespread and all around us, and I never had one clue it existed in what I will call a circle of naiveté and innocence surrounding me. I've seen people plead guilty to stealing from their grandmother to buy drugs and I've seen a drug-addicted individual going through a withdrawal literally flip the counsel table six feet in front of me as he was being arraigned. Phones and papers and desks went flying and deputies tackled him to the ground as he started on his path to charging the bench. I've watched a mother cry uncontrollably as she testifies about her son laying in her arms after being killed in a car accident as she happened upon the scene (not a dry eye in the courtroom, including mine). I've watched a gang member get physical after a guilty verdict and I've watched the eyes of a convicted man who assaulted his infant child, knowing in my heart he was guilty just by seeing the evil look in his eyes. After the verdict was read, I remember walking back to chambers with my equipment,

and the tears started rolling down my cheeks. My judge asked me, "Are you okay?" And I replied, "No, I'm not." Real human beings living a life of destruction, their world falling apart. That's when you go home and hug your kids. Your family. Your world.

The good side....well, I had the privilege of being a CART reporter for a deaf juror during a jury trial. I sat in the jury box right next to her, and because of me, she was able to participate as a juror. It was scary for me (I'm real-time certified, but not an actual CART reporter), but after it was done, and I knew I did a good job and truly in my heart knew I helped this woman, I felt amazing and very proud to be a court reporter.

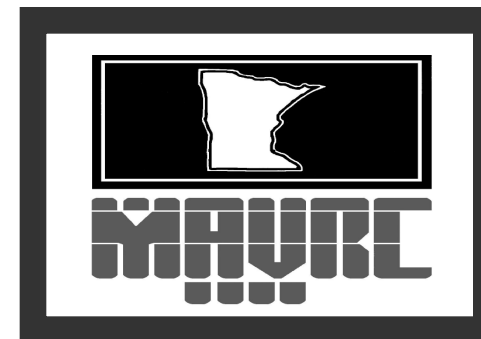
Other good things....well, you get your favorites and cheer for your favorites. The judge I work for is the drug court judge, and I love seeing the success stories of my favorites. Because it's a more personalized setting in the courtroom, you are able to encourage and interact with them. And it's really great to see the smiles of a drug addict live through another week of staying clean because it's such a huge success for them in their life. You become a cheerleader inside your heart. And adoptions. I love adoptions, especially ones that start out bad as a CHIPS case and end up with the children getting adopted and going to the most loving home and literally being saved by angels without even knowing it.

Relationships with the attorneys - prosecutors, public defenders, private attorneys - it's great working with these people on a regular basis. Of course you have your good lawyers and not-so-good lawyers. And good witnesses. I love hearing the testimony

of a great witness in trial. Some of the best expert witnesses in the country testify in our courtroom and I enjoy the privilege of taking down that testimony, my two favorites so far being a meningitis expert and a prostitution expert. Very, very different spectrums. All in the life of an official.

Lastly, I love the relationship created with my judge, Judge Kathy Wallace, and her court assistant Becky Brandt. In the official world, an incredibly strong bond like no other is created "in chambers" because you not only live through these experiences with these people but you talk about them *every single day*. And that makes being an official court reporter good. Really, really good.

Laura O'Driscoll is an official reporter for the Honorable Kathy Wallace in the Third Judicial District, Olmsted County, Rochester, Minnesota.



PRO BONO

Kudos to
Jolynn Graham
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
Suite B304
St. Paul, MN 55102

Phone: 651-266-5170

Jean.whelen@courts.state.mn.us

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.

2016-2017 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following stenographic reporters were elected as directors and officers on the MAVRC Board of Directors for 2016 – 2017:



(L to R) Sandra Burch, President Elect; Rachel Erickson, Vice President - Official; Sharon Steinbrecher, President; Jackie Young, Immediate Past President; Brandi Bigalke, Vice President - Freelance; Darla Delich Mustar, Director-at-Large A (Official); Denise Rothfork, Treasurer. Missing from picture are Dana Anderson-Linnell, Secretary; Jolynn Graham, Director-at-Large A (Freelance); Danna Frazier Nelson, Director-at-Large B (Official) and Merilee Johnson, Director-at-Large B (Freelance).

<p>President Sharon Steinbrecher 763-323-5931 ss.prc@hotmail.com</p>	<p>President-Elect Sandra Burch 952-440-3886 sburch@integritycr.com</p>	<p>Immediate Past President Jackie Young 763-972-3453 rite2jackie@frontiernet.net</p>
<p>Vice President-Freelance Brandi Bigalke 612-708-2650 brandibigalke@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Vice President-Official Rachel Erickson 320-469-0642 rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com</p>	<p>Treasurer Denise Rothfork 320-310-1709 rothforkrptg@aol.com</p>
<p>Secretary Dana Anderson-Linnell 763-391-7373 danaverbatim@comcast.net</p>	<p>Director-at-Large A (Official) Darla Delich Mustar 218-259-7553 ddmustar@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Director-at-Large A (Freelance) Jolynn Graham 763-493-4478 jgreporting@comcast.net</p>
<p>Director-at-Large B (Official) Danna Frazier Nelson 763-422-7443</p>	<p>Director-at-Large B (Freelance) Merilee Johnson 952-944-1848</p>	

BE THE PERSON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Help MAVRC make a positive impact and volunteer for one of the following committees:

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Jackie Young
rite2jackie@frontiernet.net

Works with the treasurer in reviewing the financial records of the Association.

CERTIFICATION AND TESTING

Board Liaison: Rachel Erickson
rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com

Assists in the coordination and facilitation of the various NCRA certifications.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Board Liaison: Brandi Bigalke
brandibigalke@yahoo.com

Helps plan educational seminars and/or educational opportunities for reporters and students.

FREELANCE COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Sandra Burch
sburch@integritycr.com

Deals with issues affecting court reporters in the freelance field.

LEGISLATIVE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Board Liaison: Sharon Steinbrecher
ss.prc@hotmail.com

Acts as alison on behalf of both official and freelance reporters with the state legislature, judicial district, SCA's office, and others.

OFFICIAL COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Sharon Steinbrecher
sharon.steinbrecher@courts.state.mn.us

Deals with issues affecting official court reporters.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Darla Delich Mustar
ddmustar@yahoo.com

Prepares and issues the official publication of the Association.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS/SCHOOL LIAISON

Board Liaisons: Rachel Erickson
rachel.c.erickson@gmail.com

Assists with student internships and administers a mentoring program.

CART/CLOSED CAPTIONING

Board Liaison: Sharon Steinbrecher
ss.prc@hotmail.com

Handles issues affecting CART providers and broadcast captioners.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Board Liaison: Jackie Young
rite2jackie@frontiernet.net

Reviews and suggests necessary changes to the bylaws of the Association.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Danna Frazier Nelson
dannafraziernelson@gmail.com

Helps promote and monitors ethics among court reporters.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Denise Rothfork
rothforkrptg@aol.com

Helps raise funds for the Association.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Jolynn Graham
jgreporting@comcast.net

Works to increase the membership of the Association and develops an annual membership directory.

PRO BONO COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Jolynn Graham
jgreporting@comcast.net

Facilitates court reporting services to indigents.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Board Liaison: Jackie Young
rite2jackie@frontiernet.net

Represents MAVRC in forming relations with legal associations to further the interests of the Association.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Merilee Johnson
msjreporter@gmail.com

Stays abreast of technological advances in the court reporting field.

MAVRC BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

By Brandi Bigalke, RPR

MAVRC Q: What is your name?

A: BRANDISE NOEL BIGALKE, but I go by “Brandi”

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

A: Rasmussen Business School, Minnetonka, graduated in Spring of ‘99

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

A: I met Merilee Johnson my first day of court reporting school in theory. Merilee has become somewhat of my reporting “guardian angel,” encouraging me to become better and better as a reporter. She leads by example, and I’m fortunate to have her as a close friend.

Also, Shirley and Gina were my instructors in CR school, and they were wonderful. I didn’t realize how great they were at the time, but looking back on it, it takes a special type of person to teach this challenging program.

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

A: I have always been a freelance reporter. Mostly in Minnesota. I tried CR in Florida and lasted about eight months, I think. We are fortunate in MN to have generally good reporting work.

MAVRC Q: What type of steno machine and court reporting

software do you use?

A: I’m on Case Cat, latest version, and have the Luminex writer, which I love!

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

A: I use a scopist full-time, sometimes two, and occasionally a proofreader when I am really busy. I have for the majority of my career. I believe in having two sets of eyes on my work.

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

A: Using a scopist has really helped me enjoy this profession. Also taking care of your body. Humans were not constructed to sit all day.

Also I think THE single best thing that has helped me be more productive is Brief It. Every single job it is there to lend a helping hand. Keeping up to date with software and equipment is so important. As a new reporter, I didn’t always stay up to date and I’d have so much catching up to do once I updated again. I find it more productive to stay up to date with the latest technology. It’s money well spent when it’s making my writing better and putting out better rough transcripts. My scopists notice as well.

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

A: I just recently purchased Ed Varallo’s writing steno book that is filled with all kinds of great briefs and phrases and theories. I’ve been going through and putting them all in my dictionary so during jobs if that phrase or word comes up, it comes up in Brief



Brandi Bigalke

It, even though I may not remember it. I’m already seeing the benefits of this.

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 am a member. I have my RPR and RSA. I am currently working towards my CRR. To earn my CE credits, I go to National and STAR conventions each year.

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 attended National now for the last four years, I believe. I always have some great takeaways from the seminars at National. The main reason I go is for networking purposes and growing my business. I am a bit of a CR geek, meaning I love meeting reporters from all over and talking court reporting. Yes, I highly recommend going! It keeps you motivated and up to date in this profession.

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

A: I believe I’ve been a member for three or four years now.

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

A: I just began my term as VP of Freelance this fall, 2016

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

A: I’m still learning how often the board meets and all that goes along with being a board member. I know people have attended in person and on the phone.

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

A: One of the biggest issues we have been focusing on is bringing awareness to the court reporting profession. Looking into the near future, we MUST grow the number of reporters so we don’t face issues with job security. For instance, there will be approximately 5,500 job openings nationally in the next three years and only approximately 3,200 students currently enrolled in a CR

program. We all know that not every student will finish school. That leaves a very large demand, and if we don’t have people to fill those positions, I fear technology will become an even bigger competitor of ours as a profession. I know as current working reporters, we worry about job security and/or having enough work and we may not want to educate people about us. But looking into the future, that way of thinking will backfire on us if we don’t take action now. Members can expect to hear a lot more about this in the near future and we are asking for everyone’s help, for the sake of our profession.

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: I am also on the MAVRC Technology Committee and on the CR Awareness Task Force (not sure if that’s official title of committee) that is headed up by Jennifer Sati

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

A: I’m from the suburbs of Minneapolis and currently live in the Lakes area in Minneapolis

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

A: I am a new aunt to a beautiful little boy who lives in St. Cloud. I try to spend time with my family as much as possible. I enjoy traveling immensely and am planning a trip to Europe in the spring with my boyfriend. I have a dog named Guinness who is the “apple of my eye.” I enjoy going out and eating good food, seeing movies,

seeing theater, dance and music of all kinds, going to museums, going to black tie events such as charities and fashion shows.

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: Went to Certain Women with my father on Sunday, and it was the worst movie I’ve seen in a long time. LOL. I enjoy reading as well. I am currently reading about the life of Coco Chanel and how she built the infamous empire that it now is. I have been reading a lot of books on women in business and women success stories this year. It keeps me motivated.

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

A: France, Tahiti, Hawaii, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Canada and all over the States. That is all for pleasure. I’d really love to travel more for work, and international reporting is on my vision board.

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

A: Using a scopist! Also, forcing myself to walk away from the computer and run to a class or walk around the lake. It takes about an hour to do either and it keeps me sane. I like to work as much as possible so sometimes this can be very challenging. I’ve even been known to put it in my calendar as an appointment so that time is accounted for.

(Continued on Page 11)

THANK YOU TO MAVRC'S OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

MAVRC would like to thank the following individuals for the time and effort they exerted during their tenure on the MAVRC Board of Directors:

MELISSA KEUTE

MAVRC had the privilege of having Melissa as our treasurer since the fall of 2013. Due to commitments with her family, Melissa begrudgingly stepped down off the Board this fall.

Melissa graduated from Anoka Technical College in 2012 and accepted a position as a freelance reporter shortly thereafter. In June of 2013, she accepted an officialship in Benton County for the Honorable Robert Raupp.

In addition to her treasurer duties, Melissa also helped out on MAVRC's Membership Committee and Fundraising Committee. Melissa's attention to details relating to MAVRC's finances will be sorely missed, but we have the good fortune of her remaining on MAVRC's Fundraising Committee and can look forward to seeing her at future MAVRC events.



SARAH (GOEBEL) FISHER

Sarah joined the MAVRC Board of Directors in the fall of 2013 as a Director-at-Large A Official. Sarah is also a recent graduate from Anoka Technical College. Upon graduation, she accepted an officialship position in Bemidji, Minnesota. After working with Judge Schluchter for a year and a half, Sarah relocated closer to the Twin Cities and took a position in Dakota County.

Sarah left the Board this fall in order to spend more time with her one-year-old daughter and husband. While on the Board, Sarah helped out on MAVRC's Ethics Committee. It is Sarah's desire at some point in the future to rejoin the Board and continuing serving her fellow reporters.



MONICA CHRISTENSEN



One would be hard pressed to find someone with the unwavering commitment and dedication to MAVRC that Monica Christensen has displayed for well over a decade. Monica's first service on the Board came about in the fall of 1999, when she enthusiastically accepted the challenge of serving as MAVRC's President-Elect. She then served her first term as MAVRC's President from 2000-2001. Monica then went off the Board in the fall of 2002, but quickly came back

on in the fall of 2003, serving as Director-at-Large B for one year. Monica did not stop there, however, and moved up to Vice President-Official in 2004, President-Elect in 2005, and then commenced her second term as President in the fall of 2006.

After leaving the Board in the fall of 2008, Monica went on a three-year hiatus from serving in an official capacity for MAVRC, but she apparently had a hidden desire to set a modern-day record for time served on MAVRC's Board of Directors, because in the fall of 2011, without hesitating, she again answered the call to duty, agreeing to come back on the Board as Vice President-Official. Within a couple of years, Monica graciously again consented to move up to the position of President-Elect, and then assumed the presidency for a modern-day, recording-setting third term in the fall of 2014.

In addition to her positions on the Board, Monica also served in various capacities on MAVRC's Certification and Testing Committee, Continuing Education Committee, Official Committee, Professional Development Committee, Nominations Committee, and Technology Committee. In her spare time, when she wasn't spending time volunteering for MAVRC, working in the courtroom, or being with her son and husband, Monica somehow managed to serve as a union steward off and on through the years for Local 320, representing the official court reporters in the Ninth Judicial District.

Commitment to a cause is demonstrated in a number of different ways, and over the years Monica has gone over and above what the normal person would do. Her personal dedication to raising the standards of our profession and fostering respect of stenographic court reporting within the court system will continue to shine for years to come.

(Continued from Page 9)

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

A: I just really appreciate and love this profession. Now that I'm starting my stint on the board, and going to National and seeing and meeting people in our profession, I have a new appreciation for how important it is to get involved and lend a hand. I know I want court reporting to be around long after I'm gone, so I am passionate about spreading the word. I hope other reporters will do the same. I am volunteering for the Veteran's History Program this month for the first time, and I'm really excited about that. ■



MAVRC 2016 FALL CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



*Sandy Burch
President-Elect*

**MAVRC
Board Members
installed at
Annual
Business Meeting**

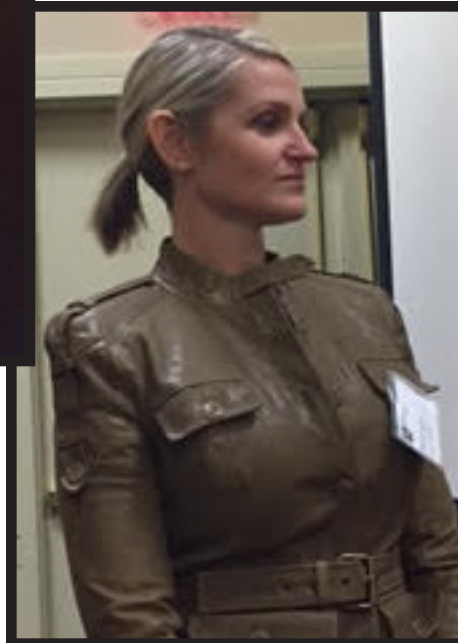
*Below: Newly Installed
MAVRC President
Sharon Steinbrecher*



*Darla Mustar
Director-at-Large A (Official)*



*Denise Rothfork
Treasurer*



*Brandi Bigalke
Vice President - Freelance*

MAVRC 2016 FALL CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



*(L-R) Rachel Erickson and
Student-of-the-Year Kelley Riley*



Attendees at the Fall Convention



*The attendees enjoying a fabulous buffet
while watching a private screening of the
Marc Greenberg film "For the Record".*



*Jackie Young is proudly displaying her
plaque for serving as MAVRC's
2015-2016 President.*



*Kristin Anderson speaking at the
2016 Annual Business Meeting.*



Joanne Ertl, Glenda Kaufman and Ed Johnson

MAVRC 2016 FALL CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



(L-R) Sandy Burch and Jackie Young relax after Friday's convention sessions.



(L-R) JoAnn Ertl, Ruth Schroeder, and Cheryle Doss enjoying themselves during the social event.



(L-R) Ed Johnson, Rachel Erickson Sharon Steinbrecher and Myrina Kleinschmidt were among a number of reporters who gathered for a fun-filled social event following the last speaker on Friday.



(L-R) Melissa Keute, Denise Rothfork, and Kim Morey reveling in the humor being shared among a group of reporters during a rather entertaining game of "Cards Against Humanity."



Ed Johnson entertaining the group during a highly imaginative game of "Cards Against Humanity." Also pictured are (L-R) Myrina Kleinschmidt, JoAnn Ertl, and Ruth Schroeder.



MAVRC 2016 FALL CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



(L-R) Former President Jill Garrison and Immediate Past President Monica Christensen sharing a few humorous comments.



Reporters Rachel Erickson and Hart Erickson enjoy pre-convention dinner on Thursday evening at Pinstripes.



(L-R) Jolene Carrow, MAVRC's Administrative Assistant, and Carla Beault, a former president of MAVRC, relaxing at the social event following the end of Friday's session.



(L-R) Kim Morey and Judy Wunderlich share a photo op!



(L-R) Jackie Young, Ed Johnson, Rachel Erickson and Sharon Steinbrecher enjoying themselves during the social event.

MAVRC 2016 FALL CONVENTION SNAPSHOTS



A memory board honoring and remembering Jim Weitalla was displayed during the 2016 annual MAVRC Fall Convention.



Joel Carlson, MAVRC's Lobbyist, spoke to the group about the past legislative session and the upcoming 2016 presidential race and its impacts on state and local races.



Rachel Erickson stands proudly beside the new MAVRC sign in which she, as a reporter, is featured



Kristin Anderson and Jackie Young

Thanks for Your Support MAVRC'S SILENT AUCTION

A big thank you to everyone who donated items to MAVRC's silent auction and a big thank you to all who participated!!!
Because of you, MAVRC's silent auction was a success!

DONATED BY:

1st Judicial District

7th Judicial District

7th Judicial District

10th Judicial District

3 Squares

Monica Christensen

Mill City Video

Danna Frazier Nelson

Paradigm

Paul and Nancy Utke

Karen Wolson - Stenograph

Karen Wolson

Worth Business Equipment

ITEM:

Target Gift Card
Target Gift Card
Target Gift Card

Adult Game Basket

Kids Game Basket

Coffee Lover Delight

Restaurant Certificate
Restaurant Certificate
Restaurant Certificate

Take a Chance
Barbeque Galore
Oink Oink

Vikings Chairs

Handmade Quilt

Vikings Tickets & Shirt

Wine

Milano Handbag

Case Catalyst Training

Steno Maintenance

WON BY:

Debbie Peterson
Denise Rothfork
Jackie Young

Jennifer Sati

Judy Wunderlich

Melissa Keute

Cheryle Doss
Sharon Steinbrecher
Sharon Steinbrecher

Ruth Schroeder
Jackie Young
Carla Bebault

Denise Rothfork

Tracy Bennett

Brittany Blesener

Cheryl Seeman

Melissa Keute

Joanne Ertl

Sharon Steinbrecher

IN MEMORIAM - JAMES "JIM" WOITALLA

JUNE 25, 1958 - AUGUST 12, 2016



MAVRC, in conjunction with Jim Weitalla's family, held a candle vigil on Friday evening at the conclusion of the day's events in remembrance of Jim.

(Right) Members of Jim's family lit candles and joined MAVRC members in remembering their family member.



(Bottom) Past and current Anoka Tech students gathered with lit candles in remembrance of Jim, their former instructor.



REMEMBERING MAUREEN ROONEY

DECEMBER 16, 1952 - SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

*"A little tribute, small and tender,
just to say we still remember."*

Following a courageous 10-year battle with cancer, Maureen succumbed to the disease on Friday, September 16. For those of us who had the opportunity to know Maureen, what stood out about her was her dedication to the court reporting profession, her love for the English language, and her undying spirit of adventure.

After graduating from Northern Technical School of Business at the age of 27, Maureen soon thereafter headed to a tropical paradise, also known as Hawaii, where she worked as a freelance reporter in Kona on the Big Island. Maureen worked in Hawaii for eight years and was also involved in an international mission organization called Youth with a Mission. During that time she gave birth to her son, Eddie, who was later involved in a life-threatening car accident. Following his several-year recovery, Maureen then moved back to North Branch, Minnesota, to be with her family and friends. Once again established in Minnesota, Maureen continued working as a freelance reporter until she became ill in 2006.



Maureen joined the MAVRC Board of Directors in 1999 as Vice President-Freelance. After serving a year on the Board, Maureen moved up to the position of President-Elect, and then assumed the presidency in 2001. Maureen was well respected by her peers for her court reporting acuity, professionalism, and dedication to her life's work. During her tenure on the Board, she also served on MAVRC's Continuing Education Committee and helped coordinate a number of spring seminars and fall conventions. As one can imagine, coordinating a convention is no small feat, but Maureen enthusiastically and successfully fulfilled those duties.

Maureen is survived by her son Eddie; her mother Marjorie; brothers Pat, Tim, and Mike; and numerous friends. Her life was an inspiration, and in her short time here with us, she was able to make a difference in many people's lives. Her memory will always be cherished.

*There are some we meet in passing
and forget as soon as they go.
There are some we remember with pleasure
and feel honored and privileged to know.
You were that kind of person
who leaves beautiful memories behind.
While your physical presence is no longer,
your contributions to our lives
will always remain.*

In the fall of 2002 Maureen Rooney displayed the plaque she received in recognition of her service as MAVRC's President.

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

By: Sharon Steinbrecher, RPR

On Saturday, November 5, working reporters and students from the Anoka Technical College Judicial Reporting Program joined together to help preserve history for 12 veterans at Chandler Place Assisted Living in St. Anthony, MN, by interviewing and transcribing the stories of their military service.

These men and women served our country through times of wars and times of peace and on a variety of soils, and through the Veterans History Project, their oral histories will be preserved in the Library of Congress for future generations to look back and learn from.

Our thanks go to Jennifer Sati and Deb Longley for hosting this event.

Sharon Steinbrecher serves as President of the MAVRC Board of Directors and is an official reporter in Anoka County, Minnesota. ■



Reporter Brandi Bigalke (right) participates in her first experience with the Veterans History Project.



Reporter Debbie Peterson (left) is a participant at the Veterans History Project.



WILLARD I. BRAUN - OUTSTANDING STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

By Rachel Erickson

I am pleased to announce this year's recipient of the William I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award, **Kelley Riley**, at the 2016 MAVRC Fall Convention. Kelley was chosen to receive the William I. Braun Student of the Year Award because of her excellence and tenacity in her journey through court reporting school. Throughout her training she has been self-confident, determined, and goal focused! Kelley is currently a 225 wpm student. When she graduates, she will be an outstanding addition to the court reporting and captioning profession!

The Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year Award was established in 1983 by the Minnesota Shorthand Reporters Association in honor of Willard Braun's outstanding contributions to the development of excellence in court reporting education. Willard Braun was co-founder of the Northern Technical School of Business and was one of the pioneers in utilizing CAT technology.

The Willard I. Braun Student of the Year Award recognizes one outstanding court reporting student

in the state of Minnesota who has excelled both academically and in machine skills. The student's attitude, deportment, motivation, self-discipline, attendance, punctuality, and quality of work are all taken into consideration.

Rachel Erickson is an official reporter in Dakota County, Minnesota, and serves as Vice President Official on MAVRC's Board of Directors and is the board liaison for the student internship/school committee. ■



At the annual MAVRC business luncheon, Kelley Riley (left) is in attendance with other reporters and students and listening for the announcement of Outstanding Student of the Year.



Rachel Erickson (left) introducing Kelley Riley as MAVRC's 2016 Willard I. Braun Student of the Year

(L-R) Jennifer Sati, Program Coordinator at Anoka Technical College; Rachel Erickson, MAVRC; Kelley Riley, Student of the Year; and Kristen Anderson, NCRA Representative



Kelley Riley proudly displays the Outstanding Student of the Year plaque.

COURT REPORTING STUDENT PROFILE

By Britney Ollanketo

Name: Britney Ollanketo

School: Anoka Technical College

Speed: 100 wpm

Hometown: Ramsey, Minnesota

Tell us a little about yourself. I'm 22 years old working at a Social Security disability advocate firm. I've been in the program since August, 2015.

What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting? I was interested in the legal field but knew I didn't want to go to law school. I also like that there are different directions that I can take after I graduate from the program.

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

What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far? I went the entire summer semester without passing my first speed test. I was having a hard time balancing my work and social life with school and fell off the bandwagon until I made significant schedule changes for this fall. Now that I've passed some speed tests, I can't wait to keep moving forward in the program.

Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you? Sarah Anderson and Amy Lizotte. They've been so helpful and continue to encourage me to keep plugging away in school.

If you had an hour of free time, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)? Watching Netflix and scrolling through Pinterest.

What is your favorite band or type of music? Country

What is your favorite food or restaurant? Chipotle

Where is a place you would like to visit? Bali, Indonesia

The last book you read? [The Girl on the Train](#)

The last movie you watched? Titanic ■



Britney Ollanketo

MAVRC ANNUAL PIZZA PARTY AT ANOKA TECH

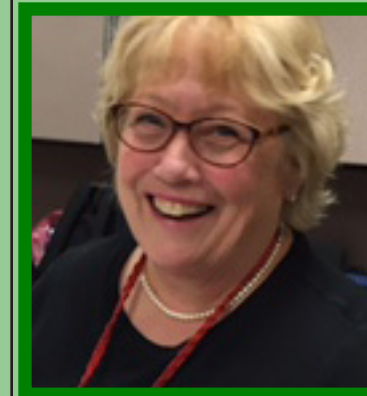
By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

On Thursday, September 22, MAVRC sponsored a pizza party for the students at Anoka Technical College. Following a delicious sampling of pizza, the students had the opportunity to converse with Rachel Erickson, Vice President-Official, and Jackie Young, President, along with NCRA Representative Kristin Anderson.

Kristin shared some of her experiences with the students about being a federal reporter in Texas as well as Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri. Kristin encouraged the students to work hard to complete their training and emphasized the advantages that realtime reporting offers to the legal profession. Rachel gave an enthusiastic talk about how, as a former student of Anoka Tech, she was able to secure a job following graduation performing CART and then shared her experiences with her transition into an officialship. The benefits of belonging to the national and state court reporting associations were also shared with the students, and a free student membership in both NCRA and MAVRC were given away to two lucky students.



Attendees at the MAVRC annual pizza party at Anoka Tech



(Left) Anoka Tech Instructor Jane Schleusner



NCRA Rep Kristen Anderson speaks with students at the gathering

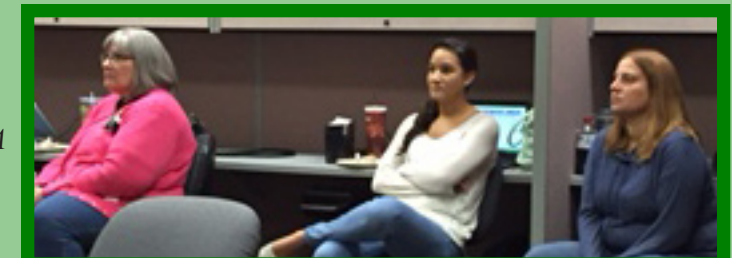


Kevin Klein and Jackie Young



NCRA Rep Kristen Anderson and Jennifer Sati

Reporting students at Anoka Tech listening to NCRA Rep sharing information with them



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

JOLENE CARROW
Court Reporter

2864 - 290th Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Ph: (507) 828-4408
Fax: (507) 532-0678

ccarrowjd@starpoint.net



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



HERBERT L. PETERSON
& ASSOCIATES
Registered Professional Reporters

Compressed Transcripts
e-transcripts
Realtime/LiveNote
Videotaped Depositions
www.hpaprofessionals.com

115 Marsh Run I
11900 Wayzata Boulevard West
Minnetonka, MN 55305
Phone (952) 543-6910
Fax (952) 543-6911

*Interested in having your
card ad appear here?*

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



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

ERICKSON REPORTING, INC.

HART ERICKSON
COURT REPORTER

2902 KEATING CIRCLE PHONE: 952-890-0265
BURNSVILLE, MN 55337 CELL: 612-799-0266
EMAIL: ecr0202@comcast.net FAX: 952-426-2265

Laurie Webster, RPR

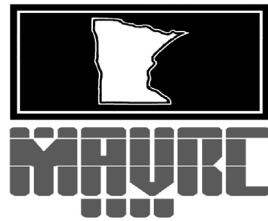


Reporting Agency

A Full-Service Court
Reporting Firm

1-800-334-3858

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



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

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



Paradigm Reporting & Captioning

Jan Ballman, RPR, CMRS
President

Minnesota's largest, most highly
certified reporting team.

Downtown Minneapolis
1400 Rand Tower
527 Marquette Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612-339-0545

Downtown St. Paul
Walsh & Gaertner Building
24 East Fourth Street, Suite 110
St. Paul, MN 55101
651-789-6299

* www.paradigmreporting.com • depos@paradigmreporting.com •

Young Court Reporting

Committed to Excellence




Jackie Young
Registered Professional Reporter
youngreporting@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 466
Delano, MN 55328

763-639-9480

OUT-OF-STATE LISTINGS

Norman E. Mark, R.P.R., R.M.R.
Cell: 701.306.0003
Representing -



NORMAN E. MARK
COURT REPORTER SERVICE

300 NP Avenue • Suite 201
P.O. Box 1654
Fargo, ND 58107-1654

701.235.7571
800.626.9373
FAX 701.293.3487
Email: reporters@normanemark.com
Website: 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.

PROMOTE COURT REPORTING

Court Reporting as a Career???

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

Jennifer Sati

JSati@anokatech.edu

Want to help out
a student?

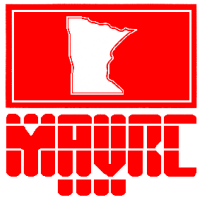
Send \$25.00
indicating that
you would like to
sponsor a student
to:

MAVRC
P.O. Box 375
Marshall, MN
56258

WANTED...

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

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



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



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 31, 2016 Have you renewed your MAVRC membership?

February 11-18, 2017 National Court Reporting & Captioning Week

April 22, 2017 MAVRC's Spring Seminar
Anoka Technical College
Anoka, MN



**NEXT NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION
DEADLINE**



RECENTLY RELOCATED?

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

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