



### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By Laura Pelletier

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Dear MAVRC Members:

First, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Laura Pelletier. I have been a long-time member of MAVRC. I've always worked as a freelance reporter, working with Herbert Peterson & Associates and the late Jim Woitalla as my mentor. I later started my own firm, working under the name of Pelletier & Associates for the last 21 years. As I write my first President's letter, we are also experiencing our first snowfall of the year. How ironic.

As 2020 comes to a close, let's all reflect back to March of this year when our world was turned upside down with the words *COVID-19* or *coronavirus*. And, no, you cannot catch it from drinking Corona beer. We have come a long way since then, navigating Zoom, Webex, GoToMeeting, or whatever platform you needed to learn. One thing is for sure, all court reporters, freelance, official and closed captioners, can adapt to any situation that is thrown at us. And I applaud all of you for navigating this pandemic.

We also are facing a challenging time in our profession. Jennifer Sati is doing a wonderful job at Anoka Technical College, with 23 students signed up for the Judicial Reporting program. However, we need to do more to promote our profession. We need YOU to get involved and promote YOUR wonderful profession. Please consider volunteering on the board, asking what you can do to help promote court reporting.

We held our first virtual conference this fall, and I hope you found it enlightening and came away with something from each session and learned something new. This



Laura Pelletier

may be the new way for conferences to be held.

Also, check out our new website. It has been revamped and looks amazing. You will be able to renew your annual MAVRC membership right from our website. No more waiting for your renewal form to come in the mail.

In closing, please take time for yourself. With everything going on around us, and the struggles we are facing in our day-to-day lives, please map out time for yourself. I cannot stress enough the importance of exercise, nutrition and enjoying a quiet moment. This profession can be isolating. Reach out to a fellow court reporter; no one knows better than a fellow colleague on what challenges we all face. ■

## 2020-2021 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Laura Pelletier (763) 421-2025 <a href="mailto:lpelletier@comcast.net">lpelletier@comcast.net</a>
<b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b>	RandiAnn Harvey (320) 679-6407 <a href="mailto:randiannharvey@hotmail.com">randiannharvey@hotmail.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT-OFFICIAL</b>	Elisa Kukuk (320) 591-1509 <a href="mailto:ekukuk228@yahoo.com">ekukuk228@yahoo.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT-FREELANCE</b>	Christine Clark (952) 250-4030 <a href="mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com">chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Lynzie Zempel (218) 393-1975 <a href="mailto:lynzie.zempel@gmail.com">lynzie.zempel@gmail.com</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	Adrienne Conzemius (651) 213-8681 <a href="mailto:conzemius1012@gmail.com">conzemius1012@gmail.com</a>
<b>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE A (Freelance)</b>	S. Ryan Ziegler (612) 219-6207 <a href="mailto:srziegler@gmail.com">srziegler@gmail.com</a>
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<b>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Freelance)</b>	Deanna Oaks (858) 231-0383 <a href="mailto:oaksdeanna@gmail.com">oaksdeanna@gmail.com</a>
<b>DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE B (Official)</b>	Sarah Anderson (763) 760-6783 <a href="mailto:sarah.l.anderson22134@gmail.com">sarah.l.anderson22134@gmail.com</a>
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b>	Debbie Peterson (952) 496-8223 <a href="mailto:debpeterson@nuveramail.net">debpeterson@nuveramail.net</a>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</b>	Jolene Carrow (507) 532-0676 <a href="http://www.mavrc.org">www.mavrc.org</a> <a href="mailto:jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com">jcarrow_mavrc@hotmail.com</a>

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

By Jolene Carrow

**H**ave you renewed your MAVRC membership for 2021? Renewal forms are due by December 31, 2020, if you wish to take advantage of a \$20 discount in membership dues.

This year you have the option to pay your dues online at [www.mavrc.org](http://www.mavrc.org). Please take the time to fill out the 2020 membership renewal form completely. MAVRC would like to keep your information current in its database. If your form is not filled out completely, MAVRC will be unable to communicate with you in a direct and timely manner. Email addresses change frequently; and by keeping MAVRC informed of your current email address, you will be able to receive News Flashes that are sent to MAVRC members. If you change your home address, MAVRC needs to have your change of address so you can continue to receive mailings. If you switch jobs or change employers, MAVRC would like to have that information in its database to be better able to serve its members. There are times when MAVRC needs to notify its members on short notice of changes in the profession that could affect your job; and this can only be done in a direct, timely, and efficient manner if your current information is in MAVRC's database.

If you need a membership renewal form, the form is now available online on the MAVRC website, [www.mavrc.org](http://www.mavrc.org), or you can contact Administrative Assistant Jolene Carrow at (507) 532-0676. MAVRC is *your* professional association. With your help and support, this organization functions. Encourage your colleagues to take a look at our website and become a member this year.

Throughout the coming year, if any of your information changes, please notify MAVRC so you can continue to receive all the benefits of being a MAVRC member. By taking the time to fill out the membership renewal form completely and returning it by December 31, 2020, you will take advantage of the full member benefits.

*Jolene Carrow is the administrative assistant for MAVRC and is a freelance reporter from Marshall, Minnesota.* ■



## PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

**T**he MAVRC Publications Committee is looking for volunteers to help prepare and issue our association's quarterly MINNE-strokes publication.

If you are looking to volunteer your time and become more involved with MAVRC, we encourage you to consider lending your time and talents to the Publications Committee.



Here are some responsibilities and duties of the Publications Committee:

- Network with reporters from around the state.
- Collaborate and communicate with the members of the Publications Committee in producing the quarterly publication.
- Maintain regular contact with MAVRC board members to keep up to date on the 'Who's Who' in the state and any issues reporters are facing.



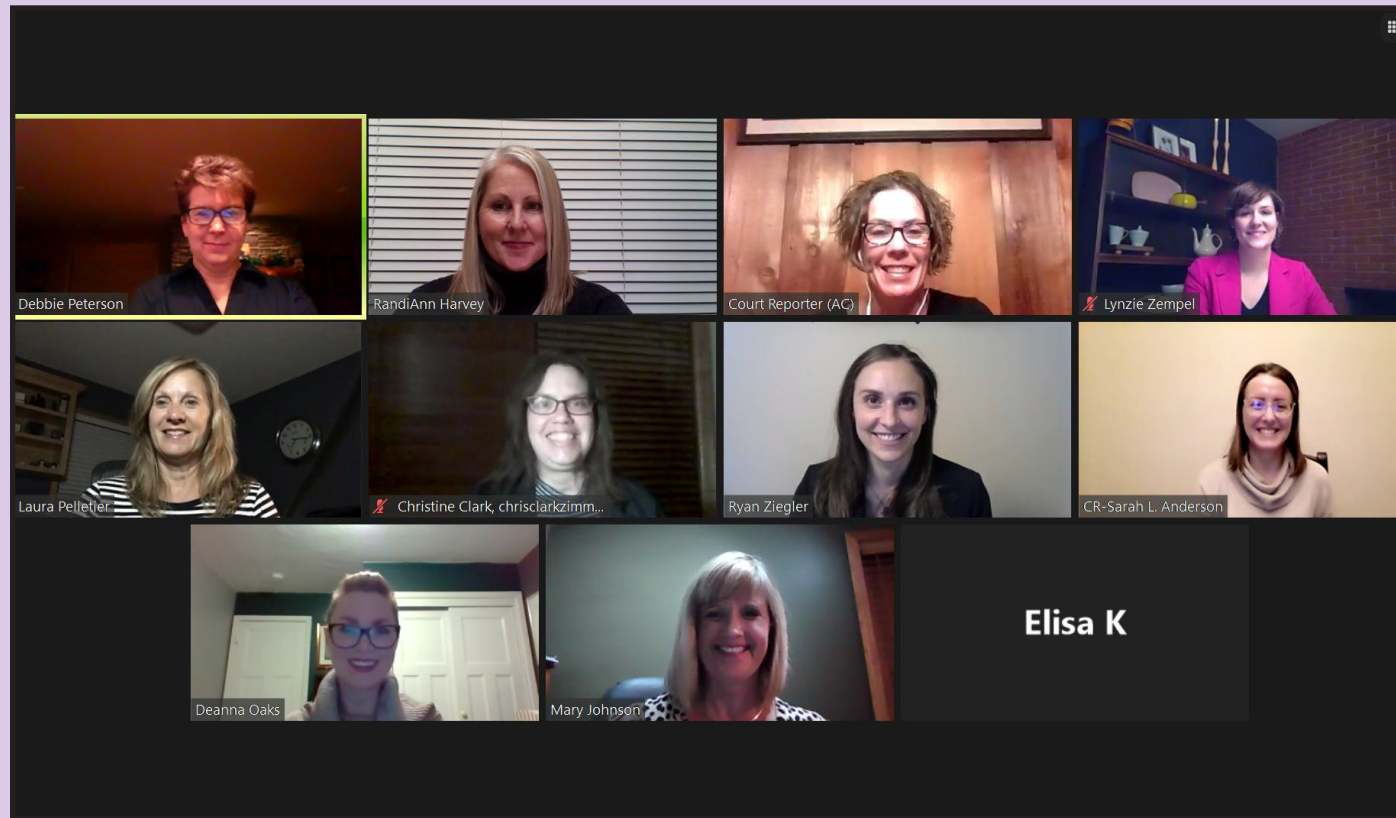
- Consider ideas for articles both self-sourced and from members and board members.
- Review and proofread submitted materials for content, as requested by the editor. Edit all submissions for length, clarity, consistency, style, and proper grammar and spelling as needed.
- Remind contributors about submitting articles to MINNE-strokes and to distribute all of the necessary submission information.



If this committee seems like a good fit for you, please contact the editor, Rhonda Franken, at [rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us)



# 2020-2021 MAVRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



*The 2020-2021 MAVRC Board Members at a virtual Zoom meeting*  
 Top Row: Debbie Peterson, RandiAnn Harvey, Adrienne Conzemius, Lynzie Zempel  
 Middle Row: Laura Pelletier, Christine Clark, Ryan Ziegler, Sarah Anderson  
 Bottom Row: Deanna Oaks, Mary Johnson (not pictured, Elisa Kukuk)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>President</b><br/>                 Laura Pelletier<br/>                 763-421-2025<br/> <a href="mailto:ljpelletier@comcast.net">ljpelletier@comcast.net</a></p>                                     | <p><b>President-Elect</b><br/>                 RandiAnn Harvey<br/>                 320-679-6407<br/> <a href="mailto:randiannharvey@hotmail.com">randiannharvey@hotmail.com</a></p>   | <p><b>Immediate Past President</b><br/>                 Debbie Peterson<br/>                 952-496-8223<br/> <a href="mailto:debpeterson@nuveramail.net">debpeterson@nuveramail.net</a></p> |
| <p><b>Vice President-Freelance</b><br/>                 Christine Clark<br/>                 952-250-4030<br/> <a href="mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com">chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com</a></p>                    | <p><b>Vice President-Official</b><br/>                 Elisa Kukuk<br/>                 320-591-1509<br/> <a href="mailto:ekukuk228@yahoo.com">ekukuk228@yahoo.com</a></p>             | <p><b>Treasurer</b><br/>                 Adrienne Conzemius<br/>                 651-213-7010<br/> <a href="mailto:conzemius1012@gmail.com">conzemius1012@gmail.com</a></p>                   |
| <p><b>Secretary</b><br/>                 Lynzie Zempel<br/>                 218-393-1975<br/> <a href="mailto:lynzie.zempel@gmail.com">lynzie.zempel@gmail.com</a></p>                                       | <p><b>Director-at-Large A (Official)</b><br/>                 Mary Johnson<br/>                 952-496-8219<br/> <a href="mailto:pmjjjohnson@gmail.com">pmjjjohnson@gmail.com</a></p> | <p><b>Director-at-Large A (Freelance)</b><br/>                 S. Ryan Ziegler<br/>                 612-219-6207<br/> <a href="mailto:srziegler@gmail.com">srziegler@gmail.com</a></p>        |
| <p><b>Director-at-Large B (Official)</b><br/>                 Sarah Anderson<br/>                 763-760-6783<br/> <a href="mailto:sarah.l.anderson22134@gmail.com">sarah.l.anderson22134@gmail.com</a></p> | <p><b>Director-at-Large B (Freelance)</b><br/>                 Deanna Oaks<br/>                 858-231-0383<br/> <a href="mailto:oaksdeanna@gmail.com">oaksdeanna@gmail.com</a></p>   |   |

# BE THE PERSON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>AUDITING COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Christine Clark</b><br/> <a href="mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com">chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Works with the treasurer in reviewing the financial records of the Association.</p>  | <p><b>CART/CLOSED CAPTIONING</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Mary Johnson</b><br/> <a href="mailto:pmjjjohnson@gmail.com">pmjjjohnson@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Handles issues affecting CART providers and broadcast captioners.</p>  |
| <p><b>CAREER ADVANCEMENT</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Lynzie Zempel</b><br/> <a href="mailto:lynzie.zempel@gmail.com">lynzie.zempel@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Assists in the coordination and facilitation of the various NCRA certifications.</p>   | <p><b>CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: S.Ryan Ziegler</b><br/> <a href="mailto:srziegler@gmail.com">srziegler@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Reviews and suggests necessary changes to the bylaws of the Association.</p>  |
| <p><b>CONTINUING EDUCATION</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Debbie Peterson</b><br/> <a href="mailto:debpeterson@nuveramail.net">debpeterson@nuveramail.net</a><br/>                 Helps plan educational seminars and/or educational opportunities for reporters and students.</p>   | <p><b>ETHICS COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Laura Pelletier</b><br/> <a href="mailto:ljpelletier@comcast.net">ljpelletier@comcast.net</a><br/>                 Helps promote and monitors ethics among court reporters.</p>  |
| <p><b>FREELANCE COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Laura Pelletier</b><br/> <a href="mailto:ljpelletier@comcast.net">ljpelletier@comcast.net</a><br/>                 Deals with issues affecting court reporters in the freelance field.</p>   | <p><b>FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Lynzie Zempel</b><br/> <a href="mailto:lynzie.zempel@gmail.com">lynzie.zempel@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Helps raise funds for the Association.</p>   |
| <p><b>LEGISLATIVE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Laura Pelletier</b><br/> <a href="mailto:ljpelletier@comcast.net">ljpelletier@comcast.net</a><br/>                 Acts as a liaison on behalf of both official and freelance reporters with the state legislature, judicial districts, SCA's Office, and others.</p> | <p><b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Christine Clark</b><br/> <a href="mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com">chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Works to increase the membership of the Association and assists in developing an annual membership directory.</p> |
| <p><b>OFFICIAL COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Mary Johnson</b><br/> <a href="mailto:pmjjjohnson@gmail.com">pmjjjohnson@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Deals with issues affecting official court reporters.</p>   | <p><b>PRO BONO COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Christine Clark</b><br/> <a href="mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com">chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Facilitates court reporting services to low-income people..</p>   |
| <p><b>PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Deanna Oaks</b><br/> <a href="mailto:oaksdeanna@gmail.com">oaksdeanna@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Prepares and issues the official publication of the Association.</p>   | <p><b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Lynzie Zempel</b><br/> <a href="mailto:lynzie.zempel@gmail.com">lynzie.zempel@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Represents MAVRC in forming relations with legal associations to further the interests of the Association.</p>            |
| <p><b>STUDENT INTERNSHIPS/SCHOOL LIAISON</b><br/> <b>Board Liaisons: Debbie Peterson</b><br/> <a href="mailto:debpeterson@nuveramail.net">debpeterson@nuveramail.net</a><br/>                 Assists with student internships and administers a mentoring program.</p>   | <p><b>TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE</b><br/> <b>Board Liaison: Mary Johnson</b><br/> <a href="mailto:pmjjjohnson@gmail.com">pmjjjohnson@gmail.com</a><br/>                 Stays abreast of technological advances in the court reporting field.</p>  |

# MAVRC'S FIRST VIRTUAL BUSINESS MEETING

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

It is doubtful anyone would dispute that the year 2020 has been unlike any other year in our recent history, largely in part due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the widespread social unrest experienced throughout the country. And the year has brought about many unforeseen changes and challenges to each and every one of us, both in our daily lives and in our professional careers. We have seen a number of firsts in our profession; namely, Zoom and other remote means of taking depositions becoming commonplace; Plexiglas everywhere in the courtrooms; a complete shutdown of the judicial system for a period of time; and witnesses/attorneys wearing face masks, the mere sight of which makes every court reporter groan as they realize that what would have likely been a fairly simple deposition now has the potential of becoming a nightmare that we probably only experienced in our dreams.

But, rest assured, all was not lost, and reporters, attorneys, judges, and everyone else quickly learned to adapt to what some refer to as the “new normal” and forged on ahead with our lives; albeit somewhat reluctantly at times. MAVRC was no exception to the ups and downs caused by the pandemic, and for the first time ever our spring seminar was cancelled. While many of us had the belief that life would eventually return to normal by the summertime, that unfortunately did not materialize. The changing of the season to fall brought more of the “new normal,” and MAVRC was forced to hold its annual business meeting/fall convention via Zoom rather than being able to get together in person.

Despite the challenges of holding a multi-person Zoom teleconference call, Outgoing President Debbie Peterson successfully moderated MAVRC's

2020 annual business meeting, and MAVRC's new officers and directors were installed for the upcoming 2020-2021 year. The following is an unofficial draft of the minutes of that meeting:

Call to order by President Peterson at 8:40 a.m.

Members in attendance included Laura Pelletier, Jackie Young, RandiAnn Harvey, Debbie Peterson, Adrienne Conzemius, Sharon Steinbrecher, Sheryl Anderson, Shelby Brown, Jolene Carrow, Jennifer Sati, Joanne Ertl, Brandi Bigalke, Emily Deutsch (Student), Jeanna Zunker, Mary Johnson, Jan Lund, Tammy Mathwig, Ryan Ziegler, Christine Clark, Nancy Utke, Kari Opsal, Glenda Kaufman, Deanna Oaks, Lisa Thorsgaard, Glenda Kaufman, Rhonda Route, and Laurie Dame.

President Peterson thanked everyone for their commitment to MAVRC this past year, noting that MAVRC was unable to hold its 2020 spring seminar due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that NCRA cancelled their annual boot camp and leadership training for this year.

Treasurer's Report: As of September 30, the balance in MAVRC's checking and money market accounts respectively were \$4,336.44 and \$14,393.14. Treasurer Conzemius stated she compared 2019's balances last year at this time with 2020 and that MAVRC is showing a decrease of around \$9,300 in revenue, which is related to the lack of a spring seminar and fall convention.

**A motion was made by Christine Clark/seconded by Laura Pelletier to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion passed**

## unanimously by the Board.

Student-of-the-Year Presentation: Jennifer Sati presented the Willard I. Braun Student of the Year award to Shelby Brown. Jennifer reported that Anoka Technical College has 23 new students in their theory class, which is a big uptick over the past couple of years, and she credits it to NCRA'S A to Z Program for generating an increased interest in court reporting. In addition, the judicial reporting program has recently begun partnering with South Dakota in offering a remote program.

Presentation of Plaque to Outgoing President Peterson: Former President Bigalke presented Debbie Peterson with a plaque acknowledging her dedication and efforts as MAVRC's President in 2019-2020.

Introduction of Slate of Officers: Debbie Peterson introduced the following directors/officers for 2020-2021:

President – Laura Pelletier  
President-Elect – RandiAnn Harvey  
Vice President (Official) – OPEN  
Vice President (Freelance) – Christine Clark  
Secretary – Lynzie Zempel  
Treasurer – Adrienne Conzemius  
Director-at-Large A (Official) – Mary Johnson (second year of term)  
Director-at-Law A (Freelance) – Ryan Ziegler (first year of two-year term)

Remaining on the Board are Debbie Peterson as Immediate Past President, Deanna Oaks as Director-at-Large B (Freelance), and Director-at-Large B (Official) Sarah Anderson.

President Peterson called for any additional nominations from the floor. None were received.

*(continued on page 7)*

*(continued from page 7)*

**A motion was made by Christine Clark, seconded by Mary Johnson, to approve the 2020-2021 MAVRC Slate of Nominees. Motion passed unanimously.**

The installation of new officers/directors was performed by Jennifer Sati.

Outgoing President Peterson thanked Jennifer Sati for installing the directors/officers and for all her great work at Anoka Technical College. President Peterson also thanked the outgoing and incoming directors and officers for their service on the MAVRC Board and MAVRC's Publications Committee for their

outstanding work on the newsletter through the years.

President Peterson congratulated Emily Deutsch for receiving a \$500 Council on Approved Student Education (CASE) scholarship through NCRA.

Address by Incoming President Laura Pelletier: Laura gave a brief summary of her work history, noting that she is an owner and practicing reporter of her freelance business. Laura stated MAVRC remains a strong association and one that is dedicated to helping protect the interests of freelance and official stenographic reporters as well as broadcast captioners, and that in order to remain strong, it will be necessary to increase membership in

MAVRC and recruit more students to the program at Anoka.

Adjournment: **A motion was made by Laurie Dame, seconded by Christine Clark, to adjourn the 2020 annual business meeting of MAVRC at 9:15 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.** ■



# MAVRC 2020 VIRTUAL FALL CONVENTION - PROJECT STENO

By Rhonda Route, RPR

The MAVRC fall seminar was yet another online remote “gathering” for us dedicated court reporters to educate ourselves with more knowledge and info to be the best reporters we can be! The seminar was brought to us by Project Steno with MAVRC and other state associations. We had great speakers, as usual.

Ed Varallo, RMR, CRR, FAPR, Board Member – Project Steno. Ed taught us how to streamline our writing and how to create briefs that we can actually remember in order to help our realtime come up cleaner. He is always fun to listen to with his wealth of knowledge and years of experience!

Nancy Varallo, RDR, CRR, FAPR, Executive Director – Project Steno. Nancy talked about how we can market ourselves differently and better in today's world. Court reporters are in short supply throughout the United States. She shared with us some

strategies on how to market ourselves and gave us some fresh ideas on how to build bright futures for ourselves and the profession.

Glyn Poage, RDR, CRR, FAPR, Treasurer – Project Steno. Glyn spoke to us about how Project Steno has been trying to recruit the next generation of stenographic reporters through high school programs in Texas and Massachusetts. Project Steno has the info and tools you will need to start an introductory basic training and beginning machine shorthand theory high school class. This is a great way to bring awareness to your local high school!

Nativa Wood, RDR, CMRS, Board Member – Project Steno. Nativa (Tiva) informed us of Project Steno's free-of-charge Basic Training introduction to stenographic writing. It's a six-session program. She explained how the program works, including the use of Realtime Coach.

She also emphasized the need for enthusiastic volunteers as instructors. Please contact Project Steno for more info.

All in all, it was a great seminar! It was well done and was very motivational and inspiring. My biggest takeaway was to continue to spread the word of the huge demand and need for stenographic reporters. Talk to your local high schools to attend career fairs, as well as personally talking to high school kids about our profession of court reporting! If you have time, please get involved with our local court reporting school, Anoka Tech, our state association, MAVRC, and also Project Steno to continue to encourage “the next generation” of court reporters!

*Rhonda L. Route is an official reporter in Minnesota's First Judicial District.* ■



## MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER

Following the close of MAVRC's annual business meeting, reporters across Minnesota and the United States logged into a virtual convention hosted by Project Steno entitled "Creating a Bright Future." The first session entitled "Make Your Life Easier," was hosted by legendary steno writer Ed Varallo. Ed has been a court reporter for the past 56 years, is a six-time NCRA National Speed Champion, is a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters, and has been the recipient of two Distinguished Service Awards; one from the Massachusetts Court Reporters Association in 1994, and the other from NCRA in 2007. To coin a phrase, when Ed speaks, one should listen, particularly as it relates to improving your steno skills.



Ed Varallo

According to Ed, writing shorthand is all about pattern recognitions and families of briefs. A family of briefs is any sequence of words you encounter in your work that you can identify as a recurring pattern. These are often referred to as phrases. Two of the main goals of being a stenographic reporter should be writing accurately and writing short. If one implements even a small fraction of Ed's shorthand suggestions, you will find yourself writing more accurately and, as a result, faster; oftentimes with a lot less effort and wear and tear on your hands.

The logic behind writing short is threefold: (a) align your style of writing to the way your brain actually processes words; (b) reduce the number of strokes your fingers must rapidly execute, thus producing clean notes; and (c) reduce the physical strain on your hands, your arms, and body, which will then allow you to enjoy a long-lasting, pain-free career.

Ed's recommendations for designing briefs that can be easily remembered is to be consistent in your approach to briefing and to distinguish between long and short vowels. Rule No. 1 is to keep your briefs skeletal. In other words, only use as many keys as necessary. Here are some examples: approximately = P-L, business = -BS, confidential = K-FL, diagnosis = D-GS, effective = T-F, reliable = R-BL, standard of practice = ST-P, standard of living = ST-L, and standard of care = ST-K.

Rule No. 2: Clip-on briefs. Design a brief by adding a single letter (or sometimes two) in front of your regular outline for a given word in order to create another word or phrase. Examples: return = RURN, tax return = TRURN, arrest = RAEFT, cardiac arrest = KRAEFT, record = RORD, back on the record = BRORD, books and records = BRORDZ, square feet = SFAOET, square footage = SFAOJ, office = OFS, branch office = BROFS, doctor's office = DROFS, phone = FOEN, and cell phone = SFOEN. The trick to clip-on briefs is to recognize the words as phrases rather than separate words.

Clip-on briefs also work well when applied to the end of a word. Consider implementing the following: pickup = PUP, pickup truck = PUPT, caller = KAURL, caller ID

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

= KAURLD, hyper = HAOIRP, hypertension = HAOIRPT, and hyperactivity disorder = HAOIRPD.

Rule No. 3: The family of briefs concept. By listening to words in context or as phrases and not just as unrelated words, you will easily be able to identify groupings of words that are ideal for briefing. When devising a family of briefs based on a target word, make sure to focus on phrases you will actually encounter in your work. Examples include: office = OFS, back office = BOFS, branch office = BROFS, central office = STROFS, corporate office = KPOFS, doctor's office = DROFS, dentist's office = DOFS, and post office = POEFS. When incorporating new briefs into your writing, be sure to focus on a few at a time rather than dozens and verify that they do not conflict with other words you may have in your database.

To help you get started incorporating more briefs into your writing, you should be on the lookout for words and phrases that occur specifically in your regular work and brief them even if they are easy to write out. Frequency of occurrence is the reason to brief and not the perceived difficulty of writing out a multisyllabic word or phrase. Remember, the rationale for using briefs is to reduce the physical strain of writing machine shorthand day after day, year after year, and to promote the writing of clean notes, which in turn translates into good realtime writing.

Jackie Young is a freelance reporter from Delano, Minnesota, and a member of the Publications Committee. ■

## REPORTER JOB OPENINGS IN MINNESOTA

In an effort to notify the MAVRC membership of steno reporter job openings in Minnesota, please notify [Rhonda.Franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Rhonda.Franken@courts.state.mn.us) or [Jolene.Carrow@gmail.com](mailto:Jolene.Carrow@gmail.com) if you have a reporter position to post in our newsletter.



The following is a link to the Minnesota Judicial Branch website that lists open official court reporter positions in the Minnesota Judicial Districts. This website is updated as positions open.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mncourts>. In the "Search" box, type: "Court reporters."

Officialships offer a desirable salary range; a great benefits package, with employer retirement contribution (6.25% of salary), basic life insurance (annual salary match); and additional optional benefits are available. In addition, there's paid leave for holidays, floating holidays, vacation and sick leave, as well as travel reimbursement. ■

**MAVRC'S  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY  
HOLIDAY SEASON**

## PROFILE OF A BOARD MEMBER

By Deanna Oaks, RPR

MAVRC Q: What is your name?

A: Deanna Oaks.

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

A: Bryan University online; 2018.

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

A: No one in particular.

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

A: I have freelanced for the duration of my career, including some per diem work with courts throughout the state.

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

A: I have a Luminex, and I use CaseCATalyst.

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

A: I mostly do my own work, but now that I have been in the profession for a while, I will surely use a scopist.

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

A: Attend as many conventions and meetings with other reporters as possible. They are invaluable to your experience.

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

A: I like squishing briefs into phrases. Things like *who, what, and when* can all be squished with *said, did, saw*, etc. It's also helpful for me to tuck *of*. I do *a number of*: NUFRM and *a number of the*: NUFRTM; I do *some of* and *a few of*: SMOF, FUF, and adding the "T" adds *the* to the end. These patterns are innumerable and incredibly helpful in reducing your strokes.

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: I have been a member since I was a student, and I have earned my RPR. Their conventions are great ways to earn CEUs, and they are so helpful in streamlining your writing and production.

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 attend as many as possible, and in addition to gaining education and hacks, it's a great tool to meet other peers and network among the profession.

MAVRC Q: Do you recall when you



Deanna Oaks

joined MAVRC or approximately how long you've been a member?

A: I joined MAVRC in 2017 when I moved to MN.

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

A: I was appointed in 2019 and my term is up in 2021 and I hope to stay on the board.

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

A: We meet every six weeks or so, and due to the pandemic, we are meeting via Zoom, which is very convenient. MAVRC Q: What are some of the current issues the board is working

on?

A: Updating the new website is the most exciting issue we are working on. We will be transitioning to an online platform for registration and other events, which will be much easier for many people to join and access.

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

A: This is my first position volunteering time with MAVRC, but I have done work with scholars and students in the past.

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

A: I'm from San Diego, and I live in Minneapolis now.

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

A: Most of my family is spread across the country, but I have made a couple great friends in my time here. I met Lynzie, a fellow board member, at a MAVRC convention and we have been good friends

ever since. I love reading and enjoy book clubs and social gatherings. My partner and I like to host events, but with the pandemic and the current climate, our social events are nonexistent. I have two dogs which are perhaps my favorite thing in the world. I would love to own a farm and rescue animals from all over.

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

A: I'm reading the Harry Potter series (I'm on book three, *The Prisoner of Azkaban*) and *Shadow of the Fox*, which are both fantasy books and that's a little out of my norm; my favorite is historical fiction. I have two more books on deck for respective book clubs: *Talking to Strangers* and *Separation Anxiety*. I treasure the holiday season, and once October is here I watch all sorts of spooky family movies like *The Ghost Busters*, *Hocus Pocus*, and the animated *Hotel Transylvania* movies. I love to go to the theater, and particularly musicals, and I really miss it. My favorite is probably *Aladdin*, although there are so many it's hard to really choose.

MAVRC Q: Any places you've traveled to, either for work or play?  
A: I have visited Mexico numerous times because of my proximity to

it, living in San Diego, and I have been to quite a few places in the US, although there is so much more to experience! I have been to Europe only once and cannot wait to get to travel again!

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

A: Luckily, as a freelancer, my time is spent working primarily at home, especially with the introduction of Zoom depositions, which is so great but can also be challenging when it comes to time management. I generally try to set myself a schedule in terms of what is due when and allow myself enough time to get my responsibilities accomplished.

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

A: I love court reporting! It was a constant struggle for me to get through school, but now that I am a professional, I thank myself every day for never giving up. It is incredibly rewarding, distinguished, flexible, lucrative -- basically everything that most of us want from our career. To all the students, please do not give up!

## 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.*



## THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

By Jackie Young, RPR, DSA

Being a volunteer allows someone to genuinely make a difference in an organization, and throughout the years MAVRC has been blessed with countless volunteers who care deeply about our association and who have inspired many others to give generously of their time.

MAVRC would like to thank both Brandi Bigalke and Tammy Mathwig for the invaluable work they have done for the court reporting profession during their time on the MAVRC Board of Directors. Their ideas, positive energy, and commitment have helped further MAVRC's efforts to keep stenographic reporting the gold standard that lawyers and judges can rely on.

Being a volunteer is a demanding task, so thank you for your commitment to the success of MAVRC, for committing so much of your time, energy, and efforts to it. Volunteers like you are truly appreciated and help make our professional lives so much better.



*Brandi Bigalke*  
Brandi served as MAVRC's Vice President-Freelance, President Elect, President, and Immediate Past President.



*Tammy Mathwig*  
Tammy served as Director-at-Large A Freelance and on the Pro Bono Committee.



**2021 Court Reporting  
& Captioning Week**  
February 6-13

## JURY TRIAL PANDEMIC BRIEFS

By Caroline Nyberg, RPR, CRR, CRC

KO\*EF - COVID  
 KO\*EFD - COVID-19  
 PAUK - pandemic  
 OUB - outbreak  
 C\*DZ - CDC  
 C-DZ - Center for Disease Control  
 KAFK - comfortable taking off your mask  
 TAFK - take off your mask  
 TA\*FK - task  
 SO\*ED - social distancing  
 SO\*EG - social distancing  
 FOF - fever of 100.4  
 FOFD - fever of 100.4 degrees  
 FOFR - fever of 100.4 or higher  
 LOM - loss of taste or smell  
 SAOM - Zoom  
 ZAOERG - Zoom hearing

VAOZ - via Zoom  
 VAOM - via Zoom  
 BAOM - by Zoom  
 HAURBG - handwashing  
 SNAOIZ - sanitize  
 SNAOIG - sanitizing  
 HAOIG - hand sanitizing  
 BRAIM - breakroom  
 BRAIMS - breakrooms  
 BROUM - breakout room  
 LOEBS - lobbies  
 H\*N - hand sanitizer  
 H\*NZ - hand sanitizing stations

*Caroline Nyberg is a reporter for the Hon. Jody L Winters, First Judicial District, McLeod County.*



### MAVRC is looking for your input...

What would you like to see in future issues of MINNE-strokes?

Do you have brief forms to share?

Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond in the reporting profession and should be featured in MINNE-strokes?

Do you have a topic that interests you and you would like to see an article written about this topic?

Do you know a reporter who has humorous stories and would like to share them with the membership?

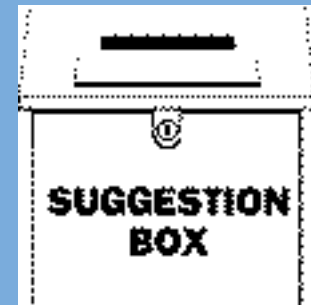
Do you know a judge or a lawyer who would like to write an article for MAVRC's MINNE-strokes?

Are you willing to write an article?

Please send your suggestions to:

MAVRC  
 PO Box 375  
 Marshall, MN 56258

or [rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:rhonda.franken@courts.state.mn.us)



# ZOOM TIPS

By 1st District Official Reporters

Before every Zoom hearing starts, Mandy Woods’ judge verbally goes over the following instructions. She also puts these instructions in the Chat window. These are useful tips for anyone hosting.

## ZOOM REMOTE HEARINGS

- Unmute your microphone (located on the bottom left of screen)
- Parties/Attorneys are prohibited from recording of this proceeding
- Turn on video (located on the bottom left of the screen)
- Limit background noise
- Sit close to the microphone and speak slowly and clearly
- Only one person talks at a time
- Mute yourself if you are not speaking
- If at any time you cannot hear, please wave your hands or use the chat function to let us know you cannot hear.



\*\*\*\*\*

### Zoom technical issues and troubleshooting by court reporter and tech whiz Tim McGowan:

**Black Screen:** People are reporting that their Zoom screen sometimes goes black, though they can still hear. A possible solution: When it happens, hold down an Alt key on your keyboard and tap the F key to restore/maximize the Zoom window. This forces Windows to redraw the screen and may help “jiggle the handle.” For preference, use a different computer or tablet, as the issue seems to be related to video drivers. When a participant starts sharing their screen, Zoom will normally jump to a full-screen display. If you suspect that the Zoom blackout is related to the screen-sharing feature, try running Zoom at full screen all the time.

**Echo/Feedback:** Feedback is caused by two microphones being in the same room, or a microphone too close to the speakers. Two people on two devices may be in the same room as long as only one microphone is unmuted – and as long as they’re both close enough to the microphone to be heard when speaking. Echo can be caused by sound bouncing off a hard surface. This happens especially with smartphones propped up over a table: the speakers and microphone are on the bottom of the device, and the audio bounces off the table and reflects directly into the mic. Turning the phone upside down usually helps, or request that the participant use a headset, ear buds, or a similar solution.

**Mic stops working:** Occasionally Zoom will discern that you no longer want to use your microphone. It’s unclear why it happens. Try choosing a different mic on your system, if you have one, and then choosing the one you prefer to use. Click on the caret (^) next to the Mute/Unmute button. In the Select a Microphone section, choose a different mic; there are always at least two: a real mic, and “Same as System.” Click an unchecked mic, and then go back through the steps to check the one you prefer to use. One report suggests this doesn’t always work, however.

### Zoom problem-solving by Tim McGowan:

**Screen space/fatigue:** You may want to turn off self-view. **Just don’t forget that you can still be seen.** Rather than turning off your camera, you may want to create more space for others’ video by turning off your personal display from

your camera. Some people report fatigue caused by seeing themselves on the screen all the time, and this allegedly helps too. Right-click on your video box and choose Hide Self View. There are two possible ways currently to undo this: move your mouse to the top right of the Zoom window. If you see Show Self View, click on that. Otherwise, click on the View button and then choose Show Self View.

**One party, two devices:** For you or for participants, if the video on the computer or tablet works, for instance, but not the audio, then use that video but also call in. A feature of Zoom lets the host or cohost merge a phone call with the caller’s video frame. The merge feature is not available if Zoom senses that the video device has also connected to audio.

**Also:** In one situation, we had a caller connect, but they still couldn’t be heard. I had her call my cell phone, I went to speakerphone, and it worked for that limited hearing.

**Signing – Spotlight parties:** First-generation iPads, for instance, cannot pin video feeds. And they can display only a limited number of video squares at a time. By default, Zoom makes sure the current person speaking is shown on screen. This feature makes it hard to conduct sign interpreting, as the current speaker gets shown on screen rather than the silent signer.

The host can right-click on the signers’ frames and, depending on the version of Zoom, choose to Spotlight one or more video feeds. If the sign interpreter and the client are the largest feeds on the screen, they will be able to communicate much more effectively.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Zoom-related parentheticals:

Lastly, some suggested parentheticals to use when technology fails us; i.e., audio cuts out, bad reception, etc.:

For periodic issues:

(Faulty video/audio.)

(Unreportable due to technical issues during remote hearings.)

(WHEREUPON, due to COVID-19 and the implementation of several different technologies, this portion of the hearing was indiscernible due to the audio/video connection.)

(Indiscernible/unreportable telephonic/remote record due to coronavirus pandemic.)

(Interruption of the Zoom transmission.) Suggested brief: BLUB or BL\*UB.

\*\*\*Suggested brief forms for above include files:

FAULT/FAULT, TEK/TEK, TPOEN/TPOEN, RAOEMT/RAOEMT, T\*EK/T\*EK – you get the idea.

Parenthetical to include at the start of a transcript: (This hearing/proceeding was held during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and is subject to the limitations of remote technology, including but not limited to, cell phone/computer Wi-Fi/data connection, signal reception, video/audio signal interference, signal interruptions, and other restrictions and limitations associated with remote court reporting via telephone/cell phone/speakerphone and/or videoconferencing.) ■





# How To Use An Apostrophe



By Rhonda Franken, RMR

As court reporters, we're all familiar with the typical, correct uses of the apostrophe (and the incorrect uses - you know, the ones that non-court reporters misuse on Christmas cards and the like). First, to brush up on some standard rules for the apostrophe, and some of the misuses:

Showing "contractions," i.e., where letters have been omitted from words to contract two words into one. For example: *was not* to *wasn't*, the apostrophe is placed where the *o* is missing in *was not*. Other examples: *it's* (*it is*), *can't* (*cannot*), *rock 'n' roll* (*and*). Commonly misused: *your* and *you're*. *Your* implies possession, while *you're* is a contraction of *you are*.

Indicating "possession," i.e., that something belongs to someone or something. For example: *John's report*, *my dog's bone*. To show possession with a singular noun, add an apostrophe plus the letter *s* as in the example above. To show plural possession, simply put an apostrophe after the *s*. For example: *The boys' bikes*. For nouns that end in *s*, some add only an apostrophe after the *s*, and others add an apostrophe + *s*. For example: *Mr. Jones' wife*, or *Mr. Jones's wife*. The best advice is to choose a formula and stay consistent. In addition, in the last example, care must be taken to place the apostrophe outside the word in question. For instance, it wouldn't be *Mr. Jone's wife*.

Another rule that is misused: Do not use an apostrophe + *s* to make a regular noun plural. For example: *The Andersons are coming over tonight*. Incorrect usage would be: *The Anderson's are coming over tonight*, since it's plural and not possessive. Referring back to the Christmas cards, I often see: *Happy Holiday from the Anderson's*. However, the correct spelling would be: *Happy Holidays from the Andersons*. If it was actually possessive as in *the Andersons' home*, the apostrophe, of course, would come after the *s*, since it is plural possessive.

The list could go on and on; but here's a couple more commonly used rules for apostrophes, along with some misuses; the first of which are called time expressions, also known as temporal expressions or inanimate possessives: Examples of apostrophes with time expressions or temporal expressions include: *one year's insurance*, *two days' leave*, *three days' jail*, *three days' credit*. When it is one measure of time (e.g., *a day*, *one week*), the apostrophe goes before the *s* (e.g., *a day's pay*, *one week's vacation*). When it is more than one measure of time (for example, *two days*, *five weeks*), it goes after the *s* (e.g., *two days' pay*, *five weeks' vacation*). As to why you use the possessive at all? It's because *five days' notice*, for example, is an alternative to *notice of five days*; or *three days' jail*, for example, is an alternative to *three days in jail*. In other words, like using an apostrophe where a letter is missing, an apostrophe is used where a word is missing. Or another way to put it, apostrophes are used in phrases where the time period (as in *two days*) modifies a noun (as in *jail*); but not, for example, in *three weeks old* or *nine months pregnant*, where the time period (*three weeks*) modifies an adjective (*old*) or *two days served*, where the time period (*two days*) modifies a verb (*served*). The vast majority of these expressions are time expressions, but some relate to value and distance. For example, *10 pounds' worth of potatoes*, *a stone's throw away*.

And lastly, one more rule, which is commonly misused, in regard to shortened or abbreviated decades. Although there are differing policies for the use of apostrophes with abbreviated or shortened decades, the preferred or most common one is to replace the numbers omitted in the century with an apostrophe and add an *s* at the end of the

number. Never put the apostrophe before or after the *s*. For example, *the '70s*. This would follow the rule to put the apostrophe where the numbers are missing, as in 1970, and add an *s* since it is in the plural.

To add to that, the plurals for capital letters and numbers used as nouns are not formed with apostrophes. For example: *She consulted with three M.D.s* (not *M.D.'s*). *She learned her ABCs*. *It was in the 1990s*. However, use apostrophes with capital and lower case letters and numbers when the meaning would be unclear otherwise. For example: *My a's look like u's*. (Or *My A's look like U's*.) *Please dot your I's*. (You don't mean Is.)

*Rhonda Franken is an official reporter in the First Judicial District, Goodhue County, and a member of the MAVRC Publications Committee.* ■

## A TO Z INTRO TO STENO NEEDS YOU!



MAVRC and Anoka Technical College are looking for volunteers to help instruct the spring A to Z Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand class (DiscoverSteno). This is tentatively set to be held April 5 through May 10. Classes are held on Monday evenings via Zoom.

If you are thinking of something to do for the court reporting profession, this is a great opportunity to reach out to potential students. If you are thinking of mentoring a student, this would be a fabulous opportunity to meet potential new students.

If you are interested, please contact one of the following:

Debbie Peterson @ [debpeterson@nuveramail.net](mailto:debpeterson@nuveramail.net)

Sharon Steinbrecher @ [ss.prc@hotmail.com](mailto:ss.prc@hotmail.com)

Jennifer Sati @ [jsati@anokatech.edu](mailto:jsati@anokatech.edu)

## 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. ■

## PRO BONO

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

**Christine Clark**  
MAVRC's Pro Bono Coordinator

**Phone: 952.250.4030**

[chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com](mailto:chrisclarkzimm@gmail.com)

## PRO BONO

Kudos to  
**Jan  
Lund**  
for volunteering to  
provide pro bono  
services.

MAVRC welcomes  
your brief forms  
to publish in our  
newsletter.

Please forward to  
MINNE-strokes  
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## REPORTER HUMOR

Next time you get a  
mumbling witness, turn  
to the attorney and say,  
"Sorry, I didn't  
understand, counselor,  
would you repeat what  
the witness just said?"

That should do it!





## STUDENT PROFILE

By Amanda Doherty

**Name:** Amanda Doherty (Sati)

**School:** Anoka Technical College

**Speed:** 180

**Hometown:** Dayton, MN

**Tell us a little about yourself.** There's a lot going on in my life right now! I just recently got married in June. My husband and I bought a house in September, and we move in December. We have two cats. Prior to starting the court reporting program at Anoka Tech, I taught high school biology for eight years. I also coached gymnastics. I went to Gustavus Adolphus College for my undergrad and have my master's in teaching from Hamline University. Outside of school, I love to play volleyball. I also play the flute and piano.

**What made you decide to pursue a career in court reporting?** My mom, Jennifer Sati. She has been my biggest supporter in everything I have done but especially in this. After teaching for eight years, I decided that I needed a change. I spent a year building up my resume and working in a lab; and when I didn't get into the grad school program that I applied to, I was lost. I was feeling down. It was then that my mom suggested I try court reporting. Looking back on my life, I realized that I *had* always been interested in it. In fact, I even tried learning theory when I was a freshman in college at Gustavus – but then I got a job over the summer and shifted my attention towards that. I always thought I would be a good stenographer, and so far that's proving to be true! I love everything about this career, and sometimes I wish I had made this decision right from the get-go. Life has a way of working out, though, and I am just happy I made it here.

**What area of reporting interests you the most at this time - official, freelance, or captioning/CART?** To be honest, they ALL interest me. I literally want to do all those things. I think I will start out as a freelancer; and eventually I would love to caption sporting events too, maybe Wild hockey games.

**What's been the most challenging or rewarding part of your schooling thus far?** The challenge of school is what makes this journey so rewarding. Moving up through speeds is hard, and it takes tons of perseverance and consistency. I really enjoy analyzing my writing and finding a system that works for me. I love coming up with new briefs. My 120s were by far the hardest speed for me, closely followed by my 160s.

**Do you know any working reporters or anyone that's been an influence to you?** Yes! First of all, my mom, Jennifer. Others include Deb Longley, who has been like a second mom to me my entire life; and Jane Schleusner, who has helped me work through the trenches of my speed classes. Callie Sajdera, my cousin, who graduated from the program a few years ago, and Shelby Lane, who recently graduated, have both helped me tremendously. Emily Kramm, Lisa Wurtinger,



Amanda (Sati) Doherty

(continued on page 19)

(continued from page 18)

and Elizabeth Tremmel, who all will be professional working reporters SOON, have been my biggest sources of support in school.

**If you had an hour of free time, what would you be doing (besides practicing on your steno)?** I would be outside in the sand playing volleyball, preferably in the sunshine.

**What is your favorite band or type of music?** My favorite bands are Incubus and alt-J. This question always trips me up because I like so many different kinds of music. I also enjoy Disney songs and classical music, especially Chopin.

**What is your favorite food or restaurant?** My favorite restaurant is Bar La Grassa in Minneapolis. Their orange gnocchi is the best thing I've ever eaten!

**Where is a place you would like to visit?** My husband and I never got to go on a honeymoon after we got married because of COVID-19; so if we ever get the chance, we would love to go to Ireland.

**The last book you read?** The last book I read (and wrote on my machine!) was *Small Great Things*, by Jodi Picoult. I am also working on *The Talent Code*, which has been recommended to me by a few people.

**The last movie you watched?** I don't watch movies anymore, really. I mostly watch TV series. We've recently watched *The Boys*, *Lovecraft Country*, *Doom Patrol*, and *The Sopranos*. We have had a lot of free time this year!

## WILLARD I. BRAUN STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

By Jennifer Sati, RMR, CRR, CBC, CCP, CRI

Congratulations to Shelby Brown, a now recent graduate from Anoka Tech, who was named this year's Willard I. Braun Outstanding Student of the Year! She was awarded this high designation because of her commitment to excellence in school. Shelby has worked hard to reach her goals, and it was evident even in theory how intent she was to succeed in school!

Her instructors carefully chose the following quote to be engraved on her plaque: "Success is where preparation and opportunity meet." - Bobby Unser

Shelby has been working as a freelance reporter since graduating, and she is actively pursuing her RPR. Her instructors see a flair of entrepreneurship in her style and have absolutely no doubt she will be successful working in any field of court reporting and captioning.

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 cofounder 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.

Jennifer Sati is an instructor at Anoka Technical College in Anoka, Minnesota. ■

# SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

By Jennifer Sati, RMR, CRR, CBC, CCP, CRI

The students and faculty from Anoka Technical College would like to extend a huge “thank you” to those firms who have sponsored scholarships and the individuals who have contributed in any way to the summer scholarships. JRBC students are required to attend school in the summer, and that is also the greatest time of financial need for most students.

With tremendous joy, here are the scholarship recipients for summer 2020:

**Jill Rainerson-Karnes Memorial Scholarship** - Two \$1,000 Scholarships  
Awarded to Crystal Joos and Greta Ellingson

**Paradigm Reporting & Captioning** - Two \$1,000 Scholarships  
Awarded to Jamie Ward and Shelby Brown



**James Weitalla Memorial Scholarship** - One \$1,000 Scholarship  
Awarded to Haley Hawkins

**Benchmark Reporting Agency** - One \$1,000 Scholarship  
Awarded to Melissa Vega



**Worldwide Litigation Services Scholarship** - One \$1,000 Scholarship  
Awarded to Erin Watson

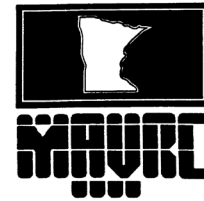
**Karen McCulloch** - One \$1,000 Scholarship  
Awarded to Emily Deutsch



If you would like to donate toward a scholarship, we frequently add donations to the Jim Weitalla and Jill Rainerson-Karnes scholarships, as those are wholly sustained by reporters, friends, and family who donate. A very special acknowledgement to the family and friends of Bob Riley for the recent donation to the student scholarships in memory of Bob. Through my years teaching at Anoka Tech, I have had a front-row seat to the huge heart reporters have and appreciate their deep desire to encourage and support our students.

Thank you for sharing in our recognition of our students and donors!

*Jennifer Sati is an instructor at Anoka Technical College in Anoka, Minnesota. ■*



MINNESOTA  
ASSOCIATION OF VERBATIM  
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Please circle your choice(s) for ad(s) to be published by MAVRC.

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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December  
31, 2020**

Reminder to submit your  
MAVRC application and dues

**February  
1, 2021**

Submissions deadline for  
MINNE-strokes Spring Edition

**February  
6-13, 2021**

National Court Reporting &  
Captioning Week



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

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

### **MAVRC MINNE-strokes STAFF**

**EDITOR:**

Rhonda Franken

**EDITORIAL STAFF:**

Crystal Joos  
Angie Sundell  
Jackie Young

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/  
ADVERTISING:**

Jolene Carrow  
[Jolene.Carrow@gmail.com](mailto:Jolene.Carrow@gmail.com)

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**To submit articles, send to:**

**Rhonda Franken**  
MAVRC Editor MINNE-strokes  
[Rhonda.Franken@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Rhonda.Franken@courts.state.mn.us)

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