



# Colorado Court Reporters Association

CCRA's Spring Seminar & Annual Business Meeting on 25-Apr-09 See pgs. 6 & 7



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### CCRA RAMBLINGS

P.O. Box 271327, Littleton, Co. 80127-0023  
 303.933.0577 ~ fax 303.933.0588 ~ [www.ccra.info](http://www.ccra.info)



**RAMBLINGS NEWSLETTER**

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGES:**

EDITOR ~ Lisa Kelly  
303/832-5966  
[lisabouleykelly@cs.com](mailto:lisabouleykelly@cs.com)

ASSISTANT EDITOR ~ Sylvia Noneff  
303/751-5688  
[snoneff@comcast.net](mailto:snoneff@comcast.net)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ~ Judi Ericson  
P.O. Box 271327  
Littleton, Co. 80127  
303/933-0577 ~ fax 303/933-0588  
[ccra@frii.com](mailto:ccra@frii.com)

**DEADLINES FOR COPY/ADS FOR UPCOMING ISSUES:**

- JUNE 5 ~ SUMMER 2009
- SEPTEMBER 5 ~ FALL 2009
- DECEMBER 5 ~ WINTER 2009

*Are you an author?* Submit articles that you write and would like to have considered for publication in **RAMBLINGS**.

For information regarding **Articles**, please contact Lisa Kelly, Editor, at 303/832-5966 or [lisabouleykelly@cs.com](mailto:lisabouleykelly@cs.com).

For information regarding **Advertising**, please contact Judi Ericson at 303/933-0577 or [ccra@frii.com](mailto:ccra@frii.com).

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**OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

President Joyce E. Martin  
303/649-6284  
[joycem19@comcast.net](mailto:joycem19@comcast.net)

Vice- President Pat Graves  
719/481-9834  
[pat.graves@captionfirst.com](mailto:pat.graves@captionfirst.com)

Secretary/ Treasurer Kathy Davis  
303/295-3376  
[kathyd@attorneyservice.com](mailto:kathyd@attorneyservice.com)

Directors: Linda Koenig  
[lindakoenig11@comcast.net](mailto:lindakoenig11@comcast.net)  
Kirstin O'Malley  
[komalley@speakeasy.net](mailto:komalley@speakeasy.net)  
Erin Valenti  
[eev2133@yahoo.com](mailto:eev2133@yahoo.com)  
Debra Zoetewey  
[zoetewey@comcast.net](mailto:zoetewey@comcast.net)

Alternate Director Lisa Kelly  
[lisabouleykelly@cs.com](mailto:lisabouleykelly@cs.com)

Past President Elaine Javernick  
[javernick@comcast.net](mailto:javernick@comcast.net)

NCRA Board Jason Meadors  
[jason@reporterworks.com](mailto:jason@reporterworks.com)

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**Next Issue ~ Copy / Ads Due: June 5, 2009**

AD Size	Dimensions	Rate
Full Page	7 1/2" X 10"	\$125.00
Half Page	7 1/2" X 5"	\$75.00
Half Page	3 5/8" X 10	\$75.00
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Littleton, Colorado 80127-0023

## President's Message

### Joyce E. Martin, RPR

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Since this is my last President's Message, I want to highlight a few of our accomplishments, thank my Board of Directors for their commitment and dedication this past year, and lastly, I hope to inspire and encourage all of you to become engaged in your association, the Colorado Court Reporters Association.

#### Highlights:

First order of business was hiring **Betsy Clark Murray** back as CCRA's Lobbyist. Betsy has lobbied on behalf of the reporters in this State for 20-plus years, and we were fortunate to get her back on board. With the budget crisis that has plagued our country, including Colorado, we felt confident that Betsy would serve and represent our interests well during the 2009 Legislative Session.

In September, we were able to conduct interviews and write the stories of **World War II veterans** for the Veterans History Project. These WWII veterans were aboard the USS Wasp when it was attacked by the Japanese.

They held their 36<sup>th</sup> Reunion at the Stapleton Radisson on Saturday, September 13. Channel 9 News was there to film the interviewing of one of the veterans. Because of the reporters and students who volunteered their time to capture their interesting and emotional stories, it was a huge success.

In October, CCRA held its fall seminar at the Inverness Hotel and Conference Center. **Sylvia Noneff** worked tirelessly and spent countless hours finding the perfect venue and speakers for what turned out to be a fun, informative, and successful seminar.

Your Board voted on and approved a contract to have our **Web site** redesigned and hosted by a local Web site hosting company. We will

now have the ability to make our own changes and updates to the Web site. I now have a newly profound and deep respect for **Jeniffer Aloysius**, who single-handedly designed and hosted our original Web site for many years. We have a plethora of information under the Resources tab located on our home page (mostly information Jen had included on our original Web site). Be sure to watch NCRA's PBS video on the court reporting and captioning profession. You can explore our new Web site at [www.ccra.info](http://www.ccra.info).

Congratulations to **Jason Meadors** for his recent nomination for the Secretary/Treasurer position at NCRA. He has a daunting task ahead of him, especially during these times of economic uncertainty. We are so fortunate to have Jason representing us at the national level!

#### Thank You:

... to **Deb Zoetewey**, who chaired the Officials committee. Deb contacted and ultimately organized a list of Official reporters in each of our districts to be CCRA representatives. This was implemented to ensure that every Official in Colorado would be informed of issues affecting their profession and also as a means to disseminate information to all the Official reporters, when necessary.

... to **Kirstin O'Malley** and **Sherri Meadors**, who co-chaired the Student committee at Denver Academy of Court Reporting. They continued the mentoring program by making sure there were reporters matched up to every student who wanted a mentor. Kirstin also distributed the sponsorships that CCRA gives to students who have volunteered for CCRA. These sponsorships are awarded to the students for attendance at the Spring and Fall Seminars.

... to **Linda Koenig**, who chaired the Pro Bono committee. Linda guaranteed that there were reporters to cover every pro bono request that

came into CCRA. She continually updated her contact list of reporters and ensured that all parties adhered to the pro bono guidelines.

... to **Kathy Davis** who chaired the Freelance Committee and who did a marvelous job emceeding the Freelance-sponsored Luncheon at Cinzzetti's in February. In the past, this luncheon has been hosted for the freelance community only. It is now a Freelance-sponsored luncheon and is open to everyone, including the Officials and CART and Captioning professions. The luncheon serves as a fun and informal atmosphere for networking opportunities while also hearing about current reporting issues at the local and national levels.

... to **Lisa Kelly**, who served as the RAMBLINGS newsletter Editor, which is not an easy task to take on during your first year on the board!

... to **Erin Valenti** and **Lisa Kelly**, who have worked hard to provide us an exciting and motivational Spring Symposium. The Green Gables Country Club should prove to be a beautiful and serene location. Don't miss out on the opportunity to network and get your .6 CEUs while relaxing and enjoying the excellent speakers they have planned on April 25<sup>th</sup>!

... to **Pat Graves**, who chaired our Legislative Committee. Pat has continually worked with Betsy Clark Murray, our lobbyist, on the issues potentially affecting the court officials in Colorado. Pat also attended NCRA's Legislative Boot Camp in February to better equip all of us on how to effectively lobby on any and all issues pertaining to our court reporting profession.

... to **Elaine Javernick**, Past President, who also chaired the Ethics and Nominating Committees. Elaine not only kept me on track with presidential duties and deadlines, but

*(President's Message continued from pg.3)*  
also, in her capacity as Past-President, she was a tremendous support for me during the last year.

. . . .to **Judi Ericson**, for her quiet and calm demeanor while working as our Executive Director. Judi is the glue which holds our association together. In addition to the many duties and responsibilities she has, she also keeps us apprised of upcoming deadlines, puts the RAMBLINGS together, gets our mailings out on time, publishes the Membership Directory, as well as making sure everyone is on task for each of our seminars.

#### **Inspiration and Encouragement:**

This has been the year of massive budget cuts across our nation with the resulting elimination of court officials in Utah, and ER battles being fought in many states, including California and Iowa. Earlier this year, I sent a

letter out to the Officials suggesting that now more than ever is the time to re-evaluate what we do as official court reporters. Are we value-added employees? Now is the time to write realtime to our judges and attorneys, and to get our appeals and other transcripts completed on time. We must conduct ourselves professionally and courteously and continue to educate everyone on the importance of our jobs as guardians of the record. We have the only technology available to convert speech to text simultaneously, and we must embrace that technology now.

During my incoming presidential speech last April, I quoted **Theodore Roosevelt**. He said, "*Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve*

*conditions within his sphere.*" I strongly encourage all of you to get involved in your association, encourage others to join and become involved, so that we may all continue to improve and advance the reporting profession in Colorado. Consider volunteering to serve on the many committees we have, being a mentor to a student or a new reporter, volunteering for pro bono jobs, helping with our seminar committees, or writing and submitting articles to the RAMBLINGS newsletter.

There is an old American proverb which says, *Even the smallest pebble dropped in a silent pond moves the entire pond.* Consider being that smallest pebble in Colorado by making a difference in our profession. It has truly been an honor and privilege representing you as your 2008-2009 President.

## **CCRA's 2009 Spring Symposium at Green Gables Country Club, April 25<sup>th</sup> Lisa Kelly and Erin Valenti, Seminar Co-Chairs**

### **DEAR FELLOW REPORTERS:**

We are very excited to be holding our Spring Symposium at Green Gables Country Club this year!! We have a new venue and are looking forward to being in a beautiful and tranquil setting.

*We have a fabulous lineup of speakers:*

The **Having a Mind for Realtime** workshop is intended to help us all with productive thinking in a positive direction as we move toward our realtime goals.

The **Living Positively – Health and Wellness for Today's Busy Reporter** seminar is designed to help us focus on positive behaviors that will enhance our professional lives, as well as bring a sense of calm to our personal lives.

The **Style Matters, Building a Professional Wardrobe is Serious Business** presentation is designed to help us understand the importance a professional wardrobe can play in our lives and help us improve our wardrobes on a budget.

The **Personal Safety and Defense** seminar will help us heighten our awareness of our own personal safety and learn how to keep ourselves safe in all the environments we encounter.

Please join us!! We hope to have a day to focus on **YOU** and what will make your life more rewarding!!

Please contact **Erin at 970-690-6693** or **Lisa at 303-914-8344** with any questions.

**SEE YOU APRIL 25, 2009!!**

Please see full Agenda and Registration form on pages 6 & 7.



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# Colorado Court Reporters Association

## 2009 SPRING SYMPOSIUM

**April 25, 2009**

**GREEN GABLES COUNTRY CLUB**  
 6800 West Jewell Avenue, Denver, CO 80232  
 (303) 985-4433

.60 CEUs Applied For  
 Registration form also on the web at [www.ccrainfo](http://www.ccrainfo)



### AGENDA

#### Saturday, April 25

**7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. ~ Past Presidents' Breakfast**

**7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. ~ Registration and Buffet Breakfast**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. ~ “Having a Mind for Realtime” by Mary Bouley, M.A. & Michael A. Bouley, RDR**  
 This interactive workshop will engage participants in productive thinking about realtime reporting. Using a variety of activities, including small group discussion and model conversations, participants will examine their thinking, their attitudes, and their beliefs related to realtime reporting.

**9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. ~ Break – Visit the Vendors, Network, and Check Out the Silent Auction**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ~ “Living Positively – Health and Wellness for Today’s Busy Reporter”  
 by Dr. Betty J. Vanek**

Dr. Vanek will instruct us on healthy and positive ways to de-stress in both our personal and professional lives. Her focus on positive psychology will emphasize thoughts and behavior which will help us establish a better professional image as court reporters, as well as calm in our hectic personal lives.

**11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. ~ BUSINESS MEETING, INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD, AWARDS & LUNCHEON**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ~ “Style Matters – Building a Professional Wardrobe is Serious Business”  
 by Judie Schwartz and Evelinda Urman**

This workshop provides image tips to help us all in our careers. Learn how to create a better-looking professional wardrobe with the clothes in your closet and the money in your wallets. The presentation includes research on why dress is important, the science of color and how it relates to image, components of a basic business wardrobe, recommendations on where to shop, what to spend, and how to mix and match clothing.

**2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. ~ Break – Last chance to Check Out the Silent Auction!**

**2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ~ Announce Silent Auction and Door Prize Winners**

**3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ~ “Personal Safety and Self-Defense”  
 by Sergeant Margaret Chavez, Technician Michael Rappe and  
 Corporal Richard Stensgaard**

You will learn about personal safety, including self-defense and self-protection awareness in this class. With many years of experience, these officers will share their knowledge and give us information on how we can keep ourselves safe.

**5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. ~ Board of Directors Meeting**



# Colorado Court Reporters Association

## 2009 SPRING SYMPOSIUM

### April 25, 2009

### GREEN GABLES COUNTRY CLUB

6800 West Jewell Avenue, Denver, CO 80232



(Nearby hotels include Best Western Denver Southwest – (303) 989-5500 and La Quinta Inn & Suites (303) 969-9700)

#### COST

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$169.00 ~ CCRA Member
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$269.00 ~ Non-Member/Out of State
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$89.00 ~ Students and DACR Teachers
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$114.00 ~ Non-Member Student (Includes Membership w/ Application)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 ~ Social Only (Saturday Business Meeting/Lunch)

**\*\* Register by April 10, 2009 \*\***

*(After April 10th, Late Registration Fee of \$50 applies)*

To Register for the Seminar, Please Complete the Registration Form  
and Submit per Instructions to:  
CCRA, PO Box 271327, Littleton, CO 80127-0023  
Or FAX to 303-933-0588. MasterCard, Visa, or Personal Checks Only.  
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\*\*\* Please check here for Vegetarian option at Annual Business Meeting Lunch  \*\*\*

***SPONSOR a STUDENT (Suggested Donation \$89.00)*** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Erin Valenti at 970-690-6693 or eev2133@yahoo.com

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** A refund will be given for seminar fee only, minus a \$10 processing fee, provided written notice of cancellation is given 10 days prior to the event.

**PLEASE NOTE:** No refunds will be given due to weather or road conditions.

# Job Opening

Overland Park, Kansas. Hostetler & Associates has immediate openings. We are a full-service, non-contracting court reporting firm – one of the oldest firms in Kansas City – with excellent clientele and a high earnings potential.

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Work from home, e-mail your ASCII, and our office staff will do the rest. Paid every two weeks regardless of when firm collects. Call Myles Megee at (913) 262-0100 or e-mail inquiry or resume to [mmegee@kcreporters.com](mailto:mmegee@kcreporters.com).

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## **Membership Committee** **Erin Valenti, RPR, CRR**

We are all aware that there are many concerns facing the field of court reporting here in Colorado. Also, many of you have probably heard that all of the official reporters in Utah have been notified that their jobs will be cut as of next June. (Read more about it here: [http://www.sltrib.com/technology/ci\\_10945495](http://www.sltrib.com/technology/ci_10945495).)

The Colorado Court Reporters Association is committed to serving the reporting community in Colorado by providing a lobbyist to monitor issues with our State legislature, providing a means for CEU points, and providing networking opportunities. Yet to continue serving all of you talented, hard-working reporters out there, we must have a strong membership in the CCRA.

For \$8.33 a month you are helping our state association in innumerable ways. So please remember to join or renew your membership for 2009.

I wish you all a Happy New Year, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Symposium on April 25<sup>th</sup>!

**Denver Academy of Court Reporting**

**Contact: Dawn Marsh**

**Title: Career Counselor**

**(303) 427-5292**

**[dmarsh@dacr.org](mailto:dmarsh@dacr.org)**



**Charles McNeil Named Director of Education of  
Denver Academy of Court Reporting**

**Denver, CO, December 23, 2008-** Denver Academy of Court Reporting, Colorado's only court reporting school, proudly announces the appointment of W. Charles McNeil as its Director of Education.

Mr. McNeil brings a wealth of post-secondary educational and administrative experience to his new position including service as an instructor, Associate Academic Dean, Department Chair, and Director of Education. In addition to the depth of his teaching experience, he is recognized for his efforts in faculty development and training.

Mr. McNeil is a 1985 graduate of San Francisco State University and earned his J.D. from the New College of California, School of Law in 1995. He has received awards for his teaching and department management. He is also a subject matter evaluator for the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) in the areas of paralegal and criminal justice.

"We are fortunate to have been able to add Mr. McNeil to our administrative staff. His vision and focus on faculty development and student achievement will bring our program to new heights," said Dr. Susan Falzone, Campus Director. "It further reinforces our commitment to offer the highest quality educational experience to our students," she added.

You can find out more information about the school, the programs and court reporting as a career on the web at [www.dacr.org](http://www.dacr.org).

*Denver Academy of Court Reporting (DACR) has been training court reporters since its founding in 1975 by Kenneth Avery. DACR grants an associate degree and is fully accredited by the Colorado Commission of Higher Education, the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) and Certified by the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA). Visit [www.dacr.org](http://www.dacr.org) to learn more. DACR is owned by Stenograph which was founded in 1938 and is committed to providing a total solution for the information technology needs of the court reporting and captioning communities. Stenograph is a manufacturer and worldwide marketing leader for shorthand writing machines, computer-aided transcription (CAT) software, and court reporting and other industry-related supplies. Stenograph is headquartered in Mount Prospect, Illinois. For more information, please visit them at [www.stenograph.com](http://www.stenograph.com).*

CCRA has a new Web site.

The address is ~ [www.ccra.info](http://www.ccra.info), *Check It Out!*

## Legislative Committee Report: “Keeping In Touch” Pat Graves, RDR, CRR, CCP, CSR-II.

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As one of the board members for CCRA, I had the privilege and honor of being sent to NCRA's Legislative Boot Camp. The goal was to prepare a CCRA leader who will in turn train our members about the fine points of legislative procedure and effective lobbying.

There were two comprehensive days of training. The training consisted of identifying, branding and marketing court reporting value to our clients and all decision-makers. In this time of budget cuts, we have to “sell” our value. No longer can we simply say “court reporters are better than alternate technology.” We have to prove it. We need to add value and offer services that only court reporters can offer, such as realtime, protecting the record, quick transcript turnaround, and generally high customer service.

The opportunity to do role playing was extended to all participants, similar to what we did at the April 2008 CCRA conference.

On the second day we were briefed on how the Federal Government House of Representatives and the Senate operate. We were trained on the issues that NCRA wanted us to talk to our legislators about.

There were some issues that we asked the legislators to keep in the forefront of their minds. Three of the issues are focused a bit more towards freelancers and agency owners, but all court reporters at one time or another may be faced with these issues.

**Issue 1:** HR 850, Cooperatives for Healthcare Options to Improve Coverage for Employees (CHOICE) Act. Another term is: Small Business Health Plans.

Whether it is a group of independent contractors, small businesses or a group of associations banding together, the idea is to increase mass and power when dealing with insurance companies. There were an estimated 45.8 million people without health insurance in 2004. New healthcare pooling options will allow for small business coverage of employees and their dependents as well as independent contractors.

This House Bill has been introduced, but it will “look” very different as it progresses down its natural path. We asked the legislators to keep Small Business Health Plans in mind as this Bill progresses.

**Issue 2:** Currently under the tax code self-employed individuals face an inequity in terms of the payment of self-employment tax on health insurance premiums.

Corporations can deduct these premiums paid as a business expense and forego FICA taxes on these expenses. Self-employed individuals are unable to deduct those premiums and they are required to pay an additional 15.3% self-employment tax on these expenses.

We asked the legislators to amend the Internal Revenue Tax Code of 1986 to provide for these deductions.

**Issue 3:** The current IRS 20-factor law test for determining who is an employee versus an independent contractor is very subjective.

We asked the legislators to support the introduction of legislation encouraging reform for this IRS 20-factor test.

**Issue 4:** Higher Education Opportunity Act, Public Law 110-315, Part S, Section 872, Training for Realtime Writers.

This law was signed in August of 2008 by President Bush. It allows for the retraining of court reporters so that they become realtime ready. It is understood nationally that realtime is what sets us apart from alternative technologies. With these realtime skills, the 30 million deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans who rely on access through realtime text will be completely served.

We asked our legislators to fully fund this reauthorization. A trained realtime writer will be able to provide services for decades, and these trained realtime writers will allow the Federal Government to fulfill their promise given to all Americans when they passed the Telecommunications Act in 1996 assuring equal access.

What can you do? There is a lot the members of CCRA can do. First, know your elected officials statewide and at the federal level. Write to them. Tell them your thoughts on issues. Offer to help them. Each and every one of the people I spoke with said the biggest thing you can do is to write and tell them who you are, what you do, where you live, and what issues are of importance to you. Keeping in touch is the most important thing!

How do you keep in touch? Go to <http://www.leg.state.co.us>. On that page you will find districts, names, addresses, etc. You can also contact our lobbyist, Betsy Murray, at: [BCJSM@aol.com](mailto:BCJSM@aol.com) or (303) 478-1207.

I encourage everyone to make sure you know what district you are in, who your representatives are and how to get hold of them...and then do so! Keep in touch!

***“Trade in your work shoes for a pair of ours ... ”***



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## Instructors Needed

**Job Responsibilities:** Working collaboratively with a team of long-term Instructors, an Instructor for DACR will serve the student needs for instruction, education, mentoring, coaching and guidance as needed to assist them to graduate from this skill-based program. Instructors support both the didactic and skill-based training in the program of Court Reporting. There will occasionally be other duties as assigned to assist the team to the highest level of success for our students.

### **Required Education/Experience/Skills (Minimum Qualifications):**

1. Candidates must possess a Court Reporting degree or certificate. CSR (any state) and/or RPR preferred. **CRI highly desirable.**
2. Candidate must also have a minimum of two years full-time (or the part-time equivalent) experience in any of the fields of Court Reporting.

### **Desired qualifications: The successful candidate will possess:**

1. A solid understanding and appreciation of the court reporting field, and of the skill-based nature of this career.
2. Experience in leading or supervising skill-oriented groups.
3. Experience working with CART, captioning, realtime reporting, transcription, or other career path in the court reporting field.
4. Skill at assisting, teaching, training, or educating people.

If interested, please contact:

Charles McNeil, JD

Dean of Academic Affairs

Denver Academy of Court Reporting

9051 Harlan Street Ste 20

Westminster, CO 80031

[cmcneil@dacr.org](mailto:cmcneil@dacr.org)

# Calendar of Events



- April 17-19* **NCRA Midyear Conference** in New Orleans, La.
- April 25* **CCRA Spring Symposium** at Green Gables Country Club in Denver, Co.
- April 25* **CCRA Annual Business Meeting** at Green Gables, Denver, Co.
- April 25* **CCRA Executive Board Meeting** following Spring Symposium, Denver, Co.
- May 2* **NCRA ~ Testing Day** at Denver Academy of Court Reporting, Westminster, Co.
- June 5* **RAMBLINGS Deadline** to submit Articles & Ads
- April 6-9* **NCRA 2009 Annual Convention & Exposition** at Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, National Harbor, Md. (Washington D.C.)

## Did You Know ...?

- ... **Sylvia Noneff** is the NCRA Chief Examiner in Colorado? **NCRA Test Day** is **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at DACR. Sylvia is looking for volunteers to help with the Saturday, May 2, 2009, NCRA Skills test at DACR. Please contact her if you can help: [snoneff@comcast.net](mailto:snoneff@comcast.net) or (303) 751-5688. Did you know that you could make a difference?
- CCRA's newly designed Web site has a fantastic **NCRA-PBS video** on the court reporting and captioning profession? Be sure to watch it and share it with friends and colleagues!
- ... **Gina Meyer**, Official from Fort Collins, passed the November 2008 Certified Realtime Reporter certification test? *Our hearty congratulations, Gina! Well Done!*
- ... That it costs merely **\$8.33 a month** to reap the many benefits of being a CCRA member? Contact Erin Valenti, Membership Chairperson, for more. [ee2133@yahoo.com](mailto:ee2133@yahoo.com)
- ... That you can research just about anything on the **Wikipedia** Web site: <http://www.wikipedia.org> ? Did you know that Wikipedia is known as *The Free Encyclopedia*? Did you know you can find that link and others on the CCRA Web site?
- ... **CBS Channel 4** did a special broadcast on the court reporting profession at Denver Academy of Court Reporting on March 5<sup>th</sup>? Go to [www.ccra.info](http://www.ccra.info) under the Professions tab/page and click on the link to watch the video "Beating the Recession" and read the article, "Demand Grows For Court Reporters In Colorado."
- ... You can contact Kirstin O'Malley at [komalley@speakeasy.net](mailto:komalley@speakeasy.net) or Sherri Meadors at [sherri@reporterworks.com](mailto:sherri@reporterworks.com) to ask how you can be involved as a Student Mentor ... or ... if you wish to be a Student Mentee! *Pay it Forward!*
- ... **CCRA Dues** are "Due" by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year? You've already received your notice to renew for 2009-2010. You can contact **Erin Valenti**, our Membership Chairperson at 970/498-6246 or [ee2133@yahoo.com](mailto:ee2133@yahoo.com) if you have any questions!
- ... The **Susie DeWitt** foundation perseveres? Susie's work to establish a foundation to warn young people that even casual smoking can cause lung cancer continues. If you would like to aide in Susie's important work, contributions may be made to the **Susan L. DeWitt Foundation for Extended Breath**, P.O. Box 270201, Louisville, CO 80027. Please visit her web site: [www.susanldewitt.com](http://www.susanldewitt.com). *Thank You!*

# CCRA's Annual Luncheon Sponsored by the Freelance Committee

## Kathy Davis, RDR, CRR, CMR

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ANNUAL LUNCHEON at CINZZETTI'S on FEBRUARY 28, 2009

Once again, we met at Cinzzetti's for a wonderful Italian meal, some good camaraderie, and a few speakers to update us on the goings-on in our profession. 33 attended, a mix of officials, freelancers, captioners, school reps, recent grads, and our lobbyist, **Betsy Murray**.

In fact, Betsy led off our presentations with a word about how bills are passed, handouts, including the "pink sheet," on which are listed our congressmen and senators, and a plea for us to each contact the legislators in our own districts to say we support the bill titled Public Law 110-315, Part S. Welcome back, Betsy!

**Erin Valenti** and **Lisa Kelly** then presented the agenda for the Spring Symposium, to be held Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Green Gables Country Club on Jewell in Denver. .6 CEUs have been applied for. The focus is on positive thinking, dealing with the mental aspects of realtime, appropriate professional dress in these times, with a self-defense component to wrap up the event.

**Kirstin O'Malley** awarded full scholarships to the Spring Symposium to **Dave Lierman** and **Lisa Vialpando**, student volunteers, and passed the hat and collected another \$200 to add to the ongoing student scholarship fund. Thanks, Kirstin and thanks, contributors!

**Joyce Martin** has been working very hard on getting our new Web site up and running through HostWorks. The new look is great! She hopes that CCRA can utilize the site as a fundraiser by offering advertising, including links to businesses. Check it out at [www.CCRA.info](http://www.CCRA.info).

**Shelly Hunter** and **Kathy Davis** addressed the issue of gift-giving and the nationwide concern that there are large national firms across the country giving inappropriately high-value gifts to paralegals and other law firm staff. The issues are twofold: *One*, shouldn't money or a discount on services be going to the law firm's client? *Two*, sales taxes should be paid on monies received. Gift cards for a cash value are never appropriate. Shelly has been and will be in touch with the Colorado Bar Association regarding educating law firms about this issue. While Colorado is not currently faced directly with the problem, we should be proactive.

Shelly also spoke about a concern brought to her attention by a videographer, this issue in fact dealing with Colorado reporters, that during a deposition when counsel requests a question be read back, there are reporters currently playing back the audio file of the question rather than reading back the question. Firm owners should stress to their employees and independent contractors that this is not appropriate and that the question should be actually read back by the court reporter.

**Linda Koenig**, Chair of the Pro Bono committee requested that we contact her at [LindaKoenig11@comcast.net](mailto:LindaKoenig11@comcast.net) with our willingness to help out when CCRA receives requests for a deposition to be reported, scoped, and proofread on a pro bono basis. The depo time is limited, as is the travel time, so the burden will not be heavy on one person. The requests go in phases, but in the recent past, there has only been one request.

**Catherine Rodriguez** spoke about the upcoming amended Chief Justice Directive. Realtime writing is being stressed by Jerry Marroney and through the Chief Justice Directive. Realtime is what will continue to distinguish us from electronic recording.

Catherine has in her district become the contact person for all transcript orders, whether by a court reporter or electronic means. This allows her to monitor the timeliness of transcript production and the qualifications of transcriptionists. She will promote the idea that the managing reporter in each district be the one to hold this important position.

Catherine said that there are two major proposed changes up for discussion involving the Chief Justice Directive (which has been put on a back burner while the budget issues take center stage). The first change would allow officials to obtain realtime status by taking the Federal exam, thus adding another opportunity for them to fulfill the certification requirements of their jobs. The second change is the proposal that in civil cases, the price per page of an original transcript be raised to \$3.00 per page and that copy fees be taken away. There are pros and cons to this idea.

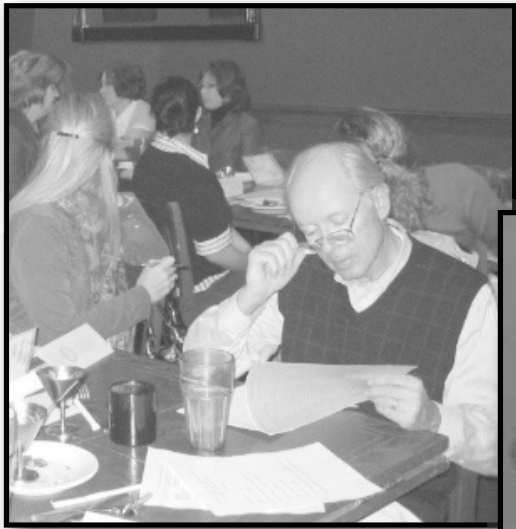
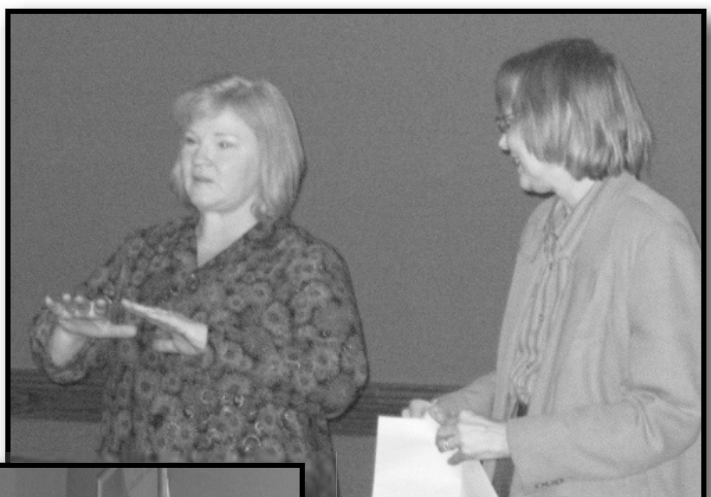
**Sylvia Noneff** and her twin, **Cindy**, were celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday so Sylvia was unable to attend the luncheon, but she is looking for volunteers to help with the Saturday, May 2, 2009, NCRA Skills test at DACR. Please contact her if you can help: [snoneff@comcast.net](mailto:snoneff@comcast.net) or (303) 751-5688. It's always a fun time – and another chance to mingle with our peers.

And **Jason Meadors** will be on the NCRA slate as the candidate proposed for the spot of Treasurer! Thanks for the generous donation of your time and energy, Jason!

SO, that's the overview. The annual luncheon is a great opportunity to touch base between seminars and, as opposed to the busy agenda of an actual seminar, is a great chance to network and visit with each other. All are invited: officials, freelancers, CART and captioners, faculty and students. We look forward to seeing even more attendees next year.



*Colorado Court Reporters Association  
Annual Luncheon at Cinzetti's Italian Market  
February 28, 2009*



*Would You like the Experience of  
Volunteering for Pro Bono Projects?*

If so, please contact *Linda Koenig*,  
at 303/484-0571 or [lindakoenig11@comcast.net](mailto:lindakoenig11@comcast.net)

*Thanks for your continued support of this valuable program!*

Once again, *The Washington Post* has published the winning submissions to its yearly neologism contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words.

*The winners are:*

1. Coffee (n.), the person upon whom one coughs.
2. Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.
6. Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.
7. Gargoyle (n.), olive-flavored mouthwash.
8. Flatulence (n.) emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
9. Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
10. Rectitude (n.), the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
11. Pokemon (n.), a Rastafarian proctologist.
12. Oyster (n.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.
13. Frisbeetarianism (n.), (back by popular demand): The belief that, when you die, your Soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.

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## **Nominating Committee Report**

### **Elaine Javernick, CRR, RPR, CSR**

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The 2009 Nominating Committee, comprised of **Elaine Javernick, Jason Meadors, Carol Bazzanella, Richard Matt, and Shelly Hunter**, conducted nominating interviews on March 5, 2009, and March 7, 2009, to fill positions for the 2009-2010 Board of Directors of CCRA.

There were two openings on the Board; one two-year director position and one one-year alternate director position. After interviewing the prospective candidates, it was the recommendation of the Nominating Committee that the voting membership approve the following slate of candidates for the Colorado Court Reporters Association Board of Directors for the year 2009-2010:

- Past President - Joyce Martin
- President - Patricia Graves
- Vice-President - Kathy Davis
- Secretary/Treasurer - Erin Valenti
- Director - Linda Koenig (year 2 of 2)
- Director - Kirstin O'Malley (year 2 of 2)
- Director - Debra Zoetewey (year 2 of 2)
- Director - Tracy Masuga (year 1 of 2)
- Alternate Director - Michelle Goodbee (year 1 of 1)

*Thank you for your time and commitment to our profession and association.*

The Washington Post's Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition.

#### ***Here are this year's winners:***

1. Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
2. Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.
3. Giraffiti (n): Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
4. Sarchasm (n): The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
5. Inoculatte (v): To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
6. Hipatitis (n): Terminal coolness.
7. Osteopornosis (n): A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)
8. Karmageddon (n): It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.
9. Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
10. Glibido (v): All talk and no action.
11. Dopeler effect (n): The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
12. Arachnoleptic fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.
13. Beelzebug (n.): Satan in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.
14. Caterpallor (n.): The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you're eating.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2009-2010

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby apply for membership in the Colorado Court Reporters Association.

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

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone will be printed in the CCRA Membership Directory. If you do not want your home phone listed, leave space blank.

A complete 2009 CCRA Membership Directory will be sent to all Members. Names & phone numbers will be published on CCRA's web site.



CHECK HERE if you do NOT want your information to appear on CCRA's web site.

CATEGORY:

Professional Shorthand Reporter/ Participating Member-- \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Official \_\_\_\_\_ Freelancer \_\_\_\_\_ CART Provider \_\_\_\_\_ Captioner

Associate Member -- \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher/Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ Vendor \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Scopist/Proofreader \_\_\_\_\_ Videographer

Student Member -- \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Student - Current Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired Member -- \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Retired

CERTIFICATIONS HELD

CSR: State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ RPR: Date \_\_\_\_\_ RMR: Date \_\_\_\_\_ RDR: Date \_\_\_\_\_ CRR: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer for pro bono projects.
\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to serve on a committee.
\_\_\_\_\_ I am available for substitution in court.
\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a mentor (or would like to be assigned one if a student).

METHOD OF PAYMENT: \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Charge my Visa or MasterCard
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

In submitting this application, and if I am accepted for membership, I hereby swear or affirm that I will uphold all of the provisions of the Constitutions and Bylaws of the Colorado Court Reporters Association and the Code of Professional Responsibility. My application includes my check payable to CCRA or my Visa/MasterCard authorization for the appropriate dues and is endorsed by a current CCRA member.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_
ENDORSED By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:
Colorado Court Reporters Association, P.O. Box 271327, Littleton, Colorado 80127-0023

Dues payments to CCRA are NOT deductible as charity deductions for federal tax purposes; amounts may be deductible as a necessary business expense.



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