

Feb/Mar 2006 E-Skript

Greetings to all from Wake Forest during March Madness! Here's what's going on in the world of reporting in North Carolina

TESTING

NCRA Certification testing will be held in both Kinston and Hickory on May 6. The registration deadline has already passed. Lisa Garrison will be Chief Examiner at the Hickory site, ably assisted by Cheryl Nuccio.

Volunteers are needed to assist in Kinston. Janice McElhaney will be the Chief Examiner and she would love to have folks helping out with room proctoring and grading. Please contact her at janroymc@yahoo.com to let her know you're interested.

Fall testing at this point is only scheduled for Kinston. Please note that the registration deadline for that will be sometime, most likely, in September.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL REGISTERED!

MEETINGS

AOCR and NCVRA recently had a meeting, on March 11. From all accounts it was well attended. We've been asked if we would like to participate in a FULLY JOINT meeting in October, the week of the Judge's Conference. The Board will be discussing this possibility and probably looking for volunteers to assist in the planning!

Our next meeting will be on June 24, at the Hilton in RTP (yes, where the AOCR/NCVRA meeting was held). The convention planning committee, chaired by our Vice President, Briana Nesbit, is working on a seminar agenda that focuses on Professionalism. Please note that our annual business meeting will be held at this meeting.

We're also in the process of developing a fall training session for the Eastern Area similar to the one held in January in Charlotte for Eclipse users. The Western Area meeting was so wildly successful that they are asking for another. Both of these sessions would take place in the fall *IN ADDITION TO* the joint fall meeting. Yes, CE points seem to be falling like rain, don't they?! Convention planning will be getting back to us on potential dates ASAP.

NCRA *MIDYEAR* is March 30-April 2. Nashville, Tennessee is the location. Please make plans to attend! ****SEE END OF DOCUMENT FOR REQUEST****

NCRA *Annual* is August 3 through 7 in New York City. Registration is already open. Some extras include a New Professionals Boot Camp, Student Day, and group tickets to several Broadway shows.

VCRA is planning their spring meeting for April 28-30 in Alexandria, Virginia.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board meeting – currently planned for April 22 (date/time/location to be confirmed)

Convention planning – Ongoing via email.

Joinder – Recent meeting in Greensboro. The minutes will follow as soon as they are transcribed and consented to by the members of the committee.

Licensure – Committee has met and developed a tentative strategy, which would include an opportunity for working reporters to discuss with attorneys/judges and give them some “talking points” about why reporters think licensure would be a good thing for reporting in North Carolina.

Mentoring – Loretta Armstrong has developed a list of current reporting students and has reporters signed up to serve as mentors. If you would be interested in serving, please let me know and I’ll forward your information to Loretta

BOOT CAMP

Tina Stancill and I, along with NCRA Board Member Nancy Braswell, attended NCRA’s Legislative Boot Camp last month in the greater Washington area. We spent two days learning about the Federal Initiative that’s currently making its way through the Congress that would authorize \$20 million a year for three years to train broadcast captioners to meet the unfunded mandate. This money would be for competitive grants for schools to set up programs, purchase equipment and build studios, add teachers, and do recruitment and for students to get funding to assist them in their retraining efforts. We spent several days on the Hill meeting with our respective legislators. Currently the bill has passed through the Senate with Unanimous Consent, and is waiting to make its journey through the House. **Ask Tina how much fun she had at the event... and then plan on attending NEXT FEBRUARY!!** (yes, you get CEs for this)

CAREER FAIR

LCC hosted a career fair in Kinston on March 15. Loretta Armstrong, Dennis Coley and I attended as reporter representatives, and we had TWO captioners attending, one locally from NC and another from Caption Colorado. Most of the current students came to the program and attended a group lunch afterward. This was a most gratifying morning and I would encourage you all to participate at the local level to get the word out to students about this wonderful profession.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – MEET LINDA CRANE, RMR, CRR

Linda lives in Mint Hill, NC, east of Charlotte, and got her reporting education in Clearwater, Florida at a local community college. She says that she used hypnosis to pass the RPR and prayed all the way through the RMR and CRR. (whatever works!)

Her parents said that when she was a toddler, instead of carrying around a blanket or stuffed animal, she carried around pencils and pens... a harbinger of things to come, perhaps?

Linda has been reporting since 1981, first as an official in Florida and then, when she moved to North Carolina, as a freelancer. Her daughter, Colleen Cain, became a court reporter after graduating from Midlands Tech in Columbia, SC, and the two of them started a freelance agency in 1996. She enjoys working with her daughter and all of the other reporters that are affiliated with them. She especially appreciates the competence and integrity of their reporters.

Linda has begun to branch out into CART by providing services at her church and at local meetings (she's not ready to dive in all the way, though... yet!)

What Linda loves about reporting is the fact that she runs a turnkey operation – from start to finish, she's in charge of production. She loves hearing a new story every time she goes out to report. In addition, the ability to be a night owl instead of a morning person makes her happy – she sometimes stays up until 2 or 3 a.m. working and then sleeps in. (a woman after my own heart!) Please say hi to Linda at the next meeting!

******SPECIAL NOTE******

MIDYEAR: NEED NCSA DELEGATES. WHO IS GOING TO NASHVILLE???

Here's the information regarding the NCSA session:

NCSA will be hosting a seminar at the Mid-Year Conference later this month. The time slot is Saturday morning, from 8:30 - 10:00, and the topic is "What Hot Legislative Issues Are Impacting You?"

If you are planning on being in Nashville, we hope to see you there! Whether or not you have someone from your state board who will be attending, if you know of individuals from your state association who will be there, please encourage them to attend the seminar as well.

As far as developing the content for the seminar, we would like to know: What issues are important to you? Transcript copy sales? Attorneys liable for transcript costs? Ethical considerations of selling transcript copies to a third party? Doing depositions for out-of-town agencies? Sales tax on transcripts? Contracting? Certification? ER?

We want to address issues that YOU feel are important, so send an e-mail to Diana.Taylor@courts.mo.gov (or try clicking on this link <mailto:Diana.Taylor@courts.mo.gov>) and let us know what topics you would like to see discussed.