

E-Skript – Summer 2006

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JUNE 24 MEETING – HILTON RTP

Thanks to all who attended what I thought was a FANTASTIC one-day event in the greater Raleigh area. Our speakers were chock-full of knowledge and kept us on the edges of our seats most of the day. We learned about what deductions we SHOULD be taking, how to back up our files, and how to project a professional image. For those who did not get a chance to come, worry not – we're going to see if Janice Gregory, the 'deduction guru' will be able to attend another session in the future.

If you see her, congratulate Briana Nesbit and the committee for organizing such a great program. Our Silent Auction was a wonderful success and many thanks to all who donated AND those who bid on items.

Our NCRA Rep, Melanie Humphrey-Sonntag, informed us about the Angels program (the Foundation's fund-raising arm – for scholarships) and pointed out the various positive aspects of service to your professional organization.

Thanks again for making our "mini meeting" such a great event.

NCCRA-ONLINE.ORG

It's done! The web site is officially updated. It's not perfect yet, but it's looking quite spiffy. A couple of things you're probably going to notice – we no longer have the chat room/message board feature. The program did not mesh with the new platform, and it had been getting hideously spammed! So we did away with the feature.

We are hoping to add an advertising feature for people – vendors and practitioners – to place a small ad so that if you're looking for a scopist, proof reader, or a reporter not in your locale OR if you need a new piece of equipment, you'll have a resource. We had talked about having an online database of our membership roster, but to add a "private – members only" section would have been cost prohibitive, so if you need a current roster, drop one of the officers and email (Dawn is our current secretary) and they'll be happy to email you a copy.

We're also going to be uploading old "issues" of the E-skript in the archive section should you wish to catch back up on some association information.

Thanks for your patience! If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

LCC COURSE OFFERINGS – SPEED DEVELOPMENT AND SCOPING CERTIFICATION

Below is a note from Ms. Jan McElhaney, the reporting instructor from Lenoir Community College in Kinston!

Also – please note that the "scopist certification" program will be starting up this fall. Jan is in GREAT need of *translated* files in Eclipse and Case Catalyst (all that's needed is about 40 or 50 pages or so per file) so that her students can get an idea of what a file would look like when they get it from a reporter. Officials, Freelancers, PLEASE send Jan some files; if you wish to also send a 'poop sheet' with other information, I'm sure that would also be most appreciated.

And now, from Jan:

<<<Can you notify the members of NCCRA that LCC is going to have Internet Web Streaming classes in the fall called CRT 214 Machine Shorthand VI and CRT 224 Mach Short Speed Dev VI. The classes will be live on the web for a max of 2 ½ to 3 hours per week. It will probably be held on two days a week live. The broadcast time is pending, but the broadcast can be downloaded later. High-speed or Internet cable access is recommended in order to get an adequate signal.

The in-state tuition for these co-requisite classes will be \$215.15, plus a \$50 slot fee that has to be paid to LCC. LCC pays that \$50 directly to Stenograph for use of its online speed testing site.

REQUIRED TEXT(S):

1. Ten Steps to Realtime Writing, ISBN 0-938643-34-7, Published by Stenotype Educational Products, Inc.
2. Morson's English Guide for Court Reporters, Second Edition, by Lillian I. Morson, Published by Lillian I. Morson, ISBN 0-9657932-0-6, can be purchased from Stenograph 1-800-323-4247. CD rental required, contact LCC Learning Resource Center at (252) 527-6223, Extension 503 Stenograph online \$50 slot fee, in addition to tuition and textbook materials, is required

If anyone has participated in last year's fall retraining program, they may have received a copy of the Ten Steps to Realtime Book. If so, this is one of the books that is needed. The other book is the Morson's English Guide. I understand there is a new edition that you can get from Stenograph. However, the older edition will suffice.

Those interested should complete an online application if they did not do so for the 2006 January classes. If they were enrolled in January

in a captioning or CART class, they will not have to complete another application.

Early registration is July 17-20. The trial schedule form is attached and it should be returned to Janice as soon as possible or before July 20. Please fill it out with your registration information and the course names and numbers and forward it to janroymc@yahoo.com or jmcelhaney@lenoircc.edu These are the two E-mail addresses for Janice McElhaney. Sometimes the college E-mail blocks out messages. It's Best to send notes to both addresses.

Thank you!

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<<Web Stream Link>>

There is nothing there yet, but this will be the link that is needed to access the web streaming broadcast once it starts in the fall. The exact date and times for the CRT 214 and CRT 224 classes will be given to the registrants as soon as available.

<http://152.31.161.234/Mediasite/Viewer/?peid=90234e18-a0c3-4365-9bf4-04bbaa9b9874>

We are very excited and anxious to get started!

Way to go, Jan! We appreciate all the extra work that's gone into adding new courses to the curriculum at LCC – and the fact that we can now attend MANY classes online!

NEW YORK CITY – NCRA ANNUAL CONVENTION

It's almost that time again! The NCRA annual convention is just a few short weeks away. As you all know, I'm a convention junkie, and I'm very excited to spend a week in New York exploring the city and catching up with old friends. Even though I grew up just a few hours away from the City, I never spent much time there, so I'm really looking forward to being a tourist! I'm also looking forward to serving as your NCSA (National Committee of State Associations) delegate, along with Briana Nesbit. If you have ANY comments that you would like us to bring up at our morning meeting where we do a roundtable with other state leaders, please let one of us know.

If you've not already registered, there's still time; however, the main hotel has sold out of rooms. NCRA has arranged for rooms at another hotel, just across the street. Please go to the NCRA web site for more information (www.ncraonline.org).

Next year's spring meeting will be in... Vancouver, British Columbia (Canada!) and the summer meeting will be in the Dallas area. And for those who are interested in European travel, Intersteno will be in Prague, the Czech Republic, next summer. Keep your eyes peeled in upcoming JCRs for the actual dates.

Look forward to seeing you there!!

FALL NCCRA MEETINGS

We've got a lot on the calendar!

This fall we'll be having another joint meeting with NCVRA and AOCR in Greensboro at the Koury Convention Center (Four Seasons Mall area). It's a one-day event and as soon as I have the agenda, I'll be happy to share it with you. One of the topics on the schedule is a facilitated discussion (note, I say discussion!) about the possibility of joining all three associations into one larger group. This will be taking place after lunch and then we hope to have a continued discussion in our general meeting and a vote on the topic. Mark your calendars for October 14, 2006!

Area meetings are being developed for the fall for both the Eastern and Western areas. As soon as we have the dates/times/programs nailed down, we'll be in touch!

We've been approached by the Georgia association to do a joint meeting with them next fall, in Asheville. Based on our previous meetings in Asheville, we've agreed to work with Georgia to develop a fall meeting that will be in a GREAT location and hopefully will be a weekend that you can plan to bring your whole family for both education AND fun. We'll keep you posted on THIS too, as it develops.

PRAYER REQUEST

Another fellow reporter is in need of our support. Donna Rowe, a freelance reporter out of Wendell, has now undergone four weeks of chemotherapy and radiation to reduce a malignant tumor in her sinus. She has approximately two weeks left of treatment. She has not been able to report for the past couple of months.

Your prayers and support are much appreciated as she, her husband, and 5-year-old go through this process. We all acknowledge the power of prayer and any extra support given during such a trying time in one's life. Donna's address is: Donna Rowe, 1040 Lake Shore Drive, Wendell, NC 27591.

We have such a phenomenal community of reporters in this area. Thank you for your kindness extended to Donna and her family.

****Tori's personal note:** Donna was the first reporter I mentored and she LOVES this profession! She is missing going out on depositions and is just itching to get back to it! I spoke with her on Sunday night (7-16) and she's in very good spirits, though she says that she feels pretty bad Mondays through Thursdays. She has five days a week of radiation and one day a week of chemo.

(Wear a yellow armband for support of cancer research, survivors and families - www.livestrong.org.)

MEET JENNY CARROLL, RPR, CRR

My name is Jenny Carroll. I live in Goldsboro with my husband, Todd, and son, Davis (5 years old). I am currently a rover from the 8th district. I was the resident reporter for Wilson County for 4 years. And since I have a little gypsy blood in me, I wanted to make the switch to rover.

Prior to my officialship, I freelanced, for 3-1/2 years. I enjoy both, but the no late nights and rush jobs wins over.

How I got to be a court reporter: In high school, Eastern Wayne High School in Goldsboro, I worked in the office 3rd period entering information into the computer. The guidance counselor, who was friends with my parents, called and asked if I did a lot of typing on the computer at home. And since we didn't have a computer, the answer was no. So, the counselor told me one day that I should go into court reporting. My first response was: What is that? So, a few years passed and it was time to go to college. Thinking that I had to go to a university (since that's what big sis did) I went to East Carolina. The parents told us both that we had four years to complete college at a state-supported institution. Well, after two years at ECU and probably still a freshman, I knew I wouldn't be finishing in four years. That got me to thinking about court reporting school. Upon investigating in this profession, I was very fortunate to learn that there was a school in Kinston, a mere 30 minutes away. I finished court reporting school in two years (yes, it was only 200 wpm at that time to graduation). However, I didn't think court reporting was the profession I wanted to take on. I went and found various jobs out there in the world -- secretary, medical transcriptionist, money counter for a vending company -- but I never did forget about that frustrating machine.

So after moving away from the state for a year or two, Todd and I landed ourselves in Raleigh. I was working as a secretary at Patterson, Dilthey, Clay & Bryson when a court reporter came in for a deposition. She was a very young and very cute little thing. I thought, I can do that! And why am I cramped in this little office with no windows? So, off back to court reporting school I went. Shaun Peterson and I commuted from Raleigh to Kinston. I only found I could handle four days a week of that because I was working full-time in the evenings. And in about nine months, Nancy Braswell helped me build speed and get a good dictionary going. So in March of '98 I entered the court reporting world. Karla Grant was a great mentor and offered many great words of wisdom that helped me through many challenging days. Thanks, Karla!

My hobbies after work is knitting and sewing. Most of my time goes to my family and keeping us all on track. My newest adventure that my mother has gotten us into is cake decorating.

** Tori's note – students, if you don't have a mentor, please get one – it's wonderful to have someone to bounce ideas off of and get the moral support you need!

THE WRAP UP

Thanks for taking the time to read this five-page newsletter. I hope you found it informative. Please let me know of any comments you have regarding the newsletter, the site, anything! It's YOUR association and we on the board want to make it as beneficial to you as possible.

Tori