

THE SCRIBE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION
OF THE NEBRASKA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

FALL 2009

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Angela Comeau, RMR, CRR, CSR, CCR

Happy Fall to all of our members! I hope you are enjoying this season. It is my favorite.

Upon my return from Washington, DC at the National Court Reporters Association Convention, I can't help but be thankful for the profession that I have chosen. We truly have great leaders at the helm of NCRA and the excitement that exists at the convention is so contagious. It is really rejuvenating. You all need to plan the trip next year. It will be so close....in Chicago! Having grown up in Illinois, I love a visit to Chicago. You will too. Put it on your calendars! You will be so glad you did.

As we discussed at our own business meeting in the spring, you will recall that a group of NCRA members brought a motion before the membership to rescind action by the NCRA Board beginning an investigation into the feasibility and desirability of testing non-members. There was respectful and lively discussion and debate held during the NCRA business meeting. After a vote of the membership, the motion to rescind did fail. It was interesting to hear the opinions on both sides. I know the Board members were listening.

I feel as though my presidential messages have carried the same theme, but with the economy in its current condition and budget cuts occurring all around us, we must continue to keep our focus on a positive attitude with gratitude. I would encourage you all to read the Letter to the Editor in NCRA's JCR magazine this month. It is well written. In fact, I couldn't have said it better. And the author is an anonymous reporter in the Midwest, so it really does hit close to home. My advice, continue to be members of NeCRA, support our organization, work towards education and certification, write real-time and build unbreakable relationships.

I will see you at the fall meeting on October 16th at the DoubleTree in Omaha!

It has truly been my pleasure to serve as the President of NeCRA. Thank you to the Board, the supporting committees, and all of the members.

Angela Comeau, RMR, CRR, CSR, CCR

**FROM PAM WEYANT, 2008 DALE THEIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD RECIPIENT**

Fellow Reporters:

I encourage you to consider nominating a fellow reporter for the 2009 Dale Theis Distinguished Service Award.

On January 29, 1979, Dale Theis and Judge Eugene McFadden were killed instantly in a car-train collision near Norfolk . Dale was very active in our state association, and this award is given in his name each year to recognize individuals for their service to the reporting community.

Following is a list of past recipients. Please send your nomination to me at pamwey@msn.com. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

2008 - Pam Weyant, RMR, CRR, Freelance, Omaha, Nebraska
2007 - JaVee Suhr, CRR
2006 - Matisha Stratton RMR, Official, Omaha , Nebraska
2005 - Kathy Scheer, RMR
2004 - Kelli Scheffler, RPR, Official, Columbus , Nebraska
2003 - Patricia W. Laukaitis, RPR, Official, Lincoln, Nebraska
2002 - Denise Bickal, RMR, Official, Papillion, Nebraska
2001 - Danette Thibault, RMR, Official, Papillion , Nebraska
2000 - Dave Francis, RMR, Official, Retired, Lincoln , Nebraska
1999 - Gail Stokes, Official - Retired
1998 - Julie Hurley, RMR, Official, Omaha , Nebraska
1997 - Sue Wurm, RDR, Freelance, Lincon , Nebraska
1995 - Gretchen Thomas, RPR, Official, Papillion , Nebraska
1993 - Sue DeVetter, RMR, Official, Federal, Omaha , Nebraska
1992 - Kathy Habben, RPR, Official, Nebraska City
1991 - Brenda Fauber, CRR, Official, Federal, Omaha , Nebraska
1990 - Randy Fitch, RPR, Official, O'Neill, Nebraska
1989 - W. Don McIntyre, RPR, Official, Retired
1987 - Sue Anderson, RMR, Freelance, Lincoln , Nebraska
1986 - John Thomas, Freelance, Omaha , Nebraska
1985 - Gary Latimer, RMR, Retired, Lincoln , Nebraska
1983 - Terry Denney, RPR, Freelance, Omaha , Nebraska
1982 - Alan Kuhlman, CRR, Official, Federal, Omaha , Nebraska
1981 - South Bickley, Official, Sun City , Arizona
1980 - Richard "Dick" Mowers

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: The date for submissions has past. It is being printed for viewing only.

NeCRA Fall Convention
Friday, October 16, 2009
Doubletree Hotel & Executive Meeting Center
1616 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102
(402) 346-7600

- 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. On-site registration
Coffee/juices/pastries
- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Hugh G. Hermanek, CPA
Taxes, Write-offs, and Audits
Have you ever been audited or know someone who has? Join us as we learn the dos and don'ts regarding what it takes to keep Uncle Sam happy. Whether working as an official or a freelancer, this seminar will give us plenty to think about.
(.15 CEUs approved)
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15 – 11:45 a.m. Karen Kangas Dwyer, Ph.D.
Conquer Speech Anxiety: Develop a Plan that Works
We can all administer an oath in a crowded conference room and read back lines of testimony in a full courtroom, but ask us to make a public speech and fear sets in. It can make us sweat, wreak havoc in our stomachs, and keep many of us from volunteering for positions in our association. Dr. Dwyer, University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) faculty member, will help us start to cure this problem and conquer our fears.
(.15 CEUs approved)
- 11:45-1:15 p.m. Lunch and Business Meeting
- 1:15-2:45 p.m. Shirley Hall
Steno Swap
NCRA Representative Shirley Hall will share useful tips that are sure to make our "steno" life much easier.
(.15 CEUs approved)
- 2:45-3:30 p.m. Break
Commute to Soaring Wings Vineyard
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. Soaring Wings Vineyard
17111 So. 138th St., Springfield, Nebraska
Wine Education and Etiquette
Who said continuing education couldn't be fun? Join us at Soaring Wings, a family-run operation, for a tour and wine tasting. Enjoy the spectacular view of the Platte River Valley while sipping wine by the fireplace or on the deck... a great way to catch up, share stories... and a perfect ending for our convention.
(.20 CEUs approved)

NEBRASKA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

2009 Fall Convention Registration
Friday, October 16
Doubletree Hotel & Executive Meeting Center Omaha – Downtown
1616 Dodge Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102
(402) 346-7600

Name: _____

Address:	City/State:
Business Phone:	Home Phone:
Email:	NCRA ID#:

Member Registration	\$100.00	\$
Nonmember Registration (<i>includes membership</i>)	\$175.00	\$
Lunch cost included. <i>Please indicate if you will attend.</i>	Will NOT attend	Will attend
Soaring Wings Vineyard Tour & Wine Tasting – <i>Please indicate if you plan to attend. Reservations required.</i>	Will NOT attend	Will attend
2009/2010 Membership Dues	\$75.00	\$
2009/2010 Legislative Assessment	\$50.00	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	Thank you!	\$

Send completed registration form and payment by October 5, 2009, to:

Matisha M. Stratton
NeCRA Secretary/Treasurer
Post Office Box 863
Omaha, NE 68101-0863

If you have any questions, please call (402) 444-7549 or email necrasecretary@yahoo.com.

NEBRASKA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
April 15, 2009 TO SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

CASH ON HAND AS OF APRIL 16, 2009 \$16,313.84

RECEIPTS:

Interest	16.05
Dues 2009/2010	1,350.00
Legislative Assessment 2008/2009	1,900.00
2009 Spring Seminar	3,849.90
Advertising	150.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$7,265.95

DISBURSEMENTS:

2009 Spring Seminar	2,177.58
Postage	44.00
NSBA Hole-in-One Donation	250.00
2009 Leadership/National Convention	3,107.98

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$5,579.56

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2009 \$18,000.23

Respectfully submitted,

Matisha M. Stratton, RMR
Secretary-Treasurer

NEBRASKA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION
BUSINESS MEETING - KEARNEY, NEBRASKA
JUNE 4, 2009

The business meeting of the Nebraska Court Reporters Association (NeCRA) was held on June 3, 2009, at the Kearney Ramada, in Kearney, Nebraska. The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by NeCRA President Angela Comeau.

Julie Pell moved to approve the minutes, as printed in the Scribe. The motion was seconded by Lynne Pfortmiller. Motion carried. Rita Olberding moved to approve the treasurer's report, as printed in the Scribe. The motion was seconded by Gladys Nelson. Motion carried.

The CCR Committee reported there are two openings available on the CCR committee, starting in October. Lisa Hagman moved to approve the changes to the CCR Document, as previously provided to members via email. The motion was seconded by Lynne Pfortmiller. Motion carried.

It was announced that there is a freelance member-at-large position open. There were no other committee reports.

President Comeau briefly discussed the situation going on with NCRA and the proposed bylaw changes that will to be voted on at the August meeting.

President Comeau reported that she presented Pat Laukaitis with a plaque the previous day for all her years of service with the NeCRA website.

Dave & Sonya Kennedy were presented with a plaque for their many contributions to NeCRA.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matisha M. Stratton
Secretary-Treasurer

2009 – 2010 OFFICER NOMINATIONS

PRESIDENT - KAMI HOOEY

PRESIDENT-ELECT – JILL ALBRACHT

VICE PRESIDENT – TO BE ANNOUNCED

SECRETARY/TREASURER – MATISHA STRATTON

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – JULIE PELL



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NATIONAL COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

NCRA

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

Barry A. Barge

HAVING SATISFACTORILY PASSED THE WRITTEN KNOWLEDGE AND PRODUCTION EXAMINATIONS IN THE LEGAL APPLICATION OF VIDEOTAPE PROCEDURES AND TECHNOLOGY IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED AS A

CERTIFIED LEGAL VIDEO SPECIALIST

IN GOOD STANDING THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009

CLVS

We only shoot depositions with Court Reporters present for official record.



Submitted and Created for NCSA by Tiffany M. Thompson, CCR #595
MCRA President-elect

JAVEE SUHR MEMORIAL GRANT

Don't forget that a grant will be given to someone that has signed up to take the CRR.
Don't pass up your opportunity to practice your skills and take the test!! Good luck!!

NeCRA Members:

The nominating committee is looking for someone to be Vice-President of NeCRA, starting later this month. There are many benefits to volunteering for your organization. You will gain invaluable leadership experience and attend National Court Reporters Association events during your time on the board.

Please carefully consider volunteering. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, contact Julie Pell of the Nominating Committee at julie@thepells.net or 402-476-7160.

