

ARIZONA NOTES

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President’s Message by Diane Donoho



As we come to the end of 2016, it feels as though the year has flown by so quickly. As I get older, that seems to be the case each year.

I am truly honored to represent the Arizona Court Reporters Association as president this year. And again, I have to acknowledge the outstanding group of people who have volunteered their time, many for multiple years now, to your association – Linda Cantrell, Kate Roundy, Kim Portik, Marylynn Lemoine, Amy Weaver, Jeanne Kappedal, Haley Westra, Carolyn Sullivan, and Mike Bouley. As members of our Association, you can be truly proud of the work each of these volunteers continues to do. I’d also like to mention how grateful the Board is with other members of our Association who continually step up to volunteer and advise the Board on various things such as student

mentoring, legislation, fundraising, and anything and everything about this wonderful profession. Those people include Doreen Sutton, Leslie Foldy, Mary Meyer, Pam Griffin, and so many more.

And we’ve been busy! We’ve had two outstanding conventions this year with more people attending than in the past few years, and we’re gearing up for some exciting seminars for Spring and Fall of 2017 as well as member recruitment, student mentoring, fundraising, legislation monitoring, and overall keeping the membership informed of all the above.

With so much happening in our Association as well as our own work and our own lives, I’d like to suggest we all just take a minute to just breathe. How often do we really do that, just take a minute to breathe? I’m sure it’s not as often as we should. When I say take a minute to breathe, I mean that, breathe and reflect on what truly matters.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I have to say that I am grateful for you, the membership. You are the profession, freelance, CART,

officials, and students. The Arizona Court Reporters Association would not exist without you. We appreciate your continued support in being a member of this organization and having faith in your Board to represent our wonderful profession.

With the new year approaching, we on the Board are wishing everyone a wonderful new year. See you in 2017!

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CYBER SECURITY

by Corrine Hester

With the closing of National Cyber Security Month, here's some information on How to Create a Strong Password, as a good password is key to keeping you cyber safe. Follow these do's and don'ts and if your password makes the Worst List, consider changing it.

Use this fun site to test how secure your password is: <https://howsecureismypassword.net/>

('hownowbrowncow' will take 51 years to crack so use those passphrases!)

DO	DON'T
Make password at least 8 characters long and the longer the better	Use part of your email address or mailing address
Contain characters and numbers in the middle of your password	Use a word from any dictionary or names from popular culture (Ex: Harry_Potter)
Contain upper and lower case letters	Use names in any form – first, middle, last, maiden, spelled backwards, nickname or initials; or names of family members or pets
Change regularly (60 – 90 days)	Duplicate your password on other sites
Keep your password a secret	Use simple translations, such as pa\$\$word (password) or @pple (apple)
Use an acronym for an easy to remember quote or phrase	Use PII: your phone or office number, address, birthday or anniversary
Use different passwords for different accounts especially financial and health	Use home passwords at work; or work passwords at home (hack one, get the other)

The 25 Worst Passwords of 2015 of Splash Data's annual list:

1234	12345	123456	1234567	12345678
123456789	1234567890	111111	1qaz2wsx	abc123
baseball	dragon	football	letmein	login
master	monkey	password	Passw0rd	princess
solo	starwars	qwerty	qwertyuiop	welcome



NEW CYBER SCAM ALERT!! Cyber thieves are creating online accounts, then redirecting your information or money to them. Avoid being a victim by being first to create your (or your family) online accounts, and set login with a 2-step authentication when possible. The 2 most important accounts to create are:

Social Security Administration (SSA):

<http://www.myssa.com/> (if a relative receives SSA checks, offer to create accounts for them)

Arizona State Retirement System:

<https://secure.azasrs.gov/web/Login.do>

IRS does not have online accounts for filers; they only contact you by USPS mail and will NOT call you (so don't fall for the call scam), but thieves have used online filing software to file before the taxpayer and had refunds sent to the thieves. File early!

Check your credit reports for free; it's recommended to order one report every 4 months so you can check throughout the year for problems: Experian, Equifax, TransUnion- <https://AnnualCreditReport.com/>

And as always:

- **Don't Click and Don't Open Attachments** you don't know (it's not just Word and Excel macros to watch for anymore);
- **Hover Before You Click** for link's true destination; and
- **Suspicious Email But Know the Sender?** Don't Click Reply! Create a new email and use your known good contact information.

WANT SOME GOOD CYBER NEWS? FCC adopts Privacy Rules for Internet Service Providers requiring consumers to Opt In before ISP can release or share your personal information including Web Browsing History. Yeah, no more ad spam!

<https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-broadband-consumer-privacy-rules>

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Spotlight on a Court Reporter



Antoinette Salazar

I met Antoinette Salazar approximately a year and a half ago when I became a part of the court reporting staff in Maricopa County Superior Court. I quickly realized that she is part of a number of reporting professionals that basically keep the profession going by. In October

Antoinette received her 30 years of service appreciation from Maricopa County.

I recently had a chance to chat with Antoinette, and the following is what she shared with me.

How long have you been a court reporter?

I have been a Court Reporter since 1982, so 34 years.

When did you first become interested in becoming a court reporter and what led you in the direction?

I worked as a high school student during my senior year at Globe City Municipality building. One of my jobs was to help the bailiff for the Justice of the Peace. I saw this woman sitting at her steno machine and instantly thought that was a job that I could do.

Where have you worked as a court reporter before coming to Arizona?

I've always worked in Arizona.

Did you have a career before court reporting?

No. I went straight from high school to Court Reporting School.

Where did you attend court reporting school?

I went to American Institute of Court Reporting, which at the time was in downtown Phoenix on 5th Avenue and Washington.

How long were you in CR school?

I attended school for just about 4 years. I was in the 6th level when I had my son, and stayed out for two years, before coming back to finish up.

How many times did you take the CR test?

I took the RPR a total of four times. I passed both the Lit and Jury charge on the first try. When I realized I was actually sitting there writing a test, and passing it, I completely froze for the Q & A. It took me three more tries to pass it.

Have you worked as an official? Freelance? CART provider?

My first Official job was in Gila County. I then worked as a pier deim reporter before being hired full time at Maricopa County

What has been your best work experience in the field of court reporting?

That's the great thing about the profession of Court Reporting. You are faced with new challenges and hear/learn about a variety of different topics every day that you are in Court.

What are you most proud of in your court reporting career?

Passing the RPR. I jobbed out of CR school, and had to pass the Superior Court test in order to work in Gila County. It was a personal goal I had always wanted to do, but never had taken the test.

What advice or tips would you offer to new reporters?

Speak up, stop attorneys when they're talking too fast, or you can't hear them. It makes your job so much easier.

What's been the biggest challenge in your court reporting career?

As Reporters we are faced with many challenges, but I feel the biggest challenge I am faced with is managing my time. There are more and more demands on Court Reporters to complete transcripts within a given time, not taking into consideration the other demands we may have.

Court reporting in general is a very time-consuming and demanding profession. What do you do in your spare time?

I like to work in my garden. I like to hike, and mountain bike. I like to sew and water paint. I also love to spend time with my granddaughters. Oh, and shop!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOTES

Executive Director Notes

“ACRA Volunteers – What’s in it for me?”

By Richard Borgmann

When one hears the word “volunteer,” what most often pops into mind is “doing good” for someone or joining a group that “does good” for the hungry, the poor, the hurting, or the outcasts of society. We give some of our time to a church group that delivers meals to the elderly or visits the home-bound. Some find that using their knowledge and talents are a way of “doing good,” such as an accountant helping file IRS returns or a businessman serving on a church finance committee.

All these volunteer activities have the common elements of a desire to do something good, to contribute to something that doesn’t benefit only one’s self, not expecting any return for one’s efforts, and choosing when and where to get involved.

But are there benefits that accrue to the volunteer? Is it always just “doing good” for others? Can I ask the question, “What’s in it for me?”

Volunteering can be a great way to develop skills, learn more about career options, make friends, find new professional contacts, and lots more.

What, then, is in it for an Arizona court reporter who volunteers time and talent in support of the Arizona Court Reporters Association? And what kind of volunteer work is there?

In my role as your Executive Director I come in contact with some wonderful volunteers: your Board of Directors and members of committees who give of their time and talent to make sure that your profession has a future, fighting off those who would diminish your role in keeping the record, planning for quality educational events, mentoring students who want to join your ranks, and so on.

I also see these volunteers gaining for themselves many benefits: Skill development in public speaking, budgeting, planning; Career exploration in finding out about freelancing or court work, and in networking; Personal growth in interacting with each other and with leaders statewide and nationally. So, where do you start? Join some fellow reporters to give a demonstration at a high school job fair. Join a committee keeping track of our state CR Board, Legislature, and the court rules. Mentor a student. Say, “Yes,” when asked to serve a term on the Board of Directors.

And the last benefit of all: It might be fun!



ELECTION DAY!

BY MARTY HERDER

Whether you are conservative or liberal, young or old, whether your candidate comes in 2nd, 3rd, or never made it out of the gate, please remember that we have the privilege of living in the greatest nation in the history of mankind. Whatever the outcome of this election of these two flawed candidates, please be committed.

Please be committed to be an upbeat, positive force in your community, in your career, in life.

Please be committed to shun the negativity and demonizing of any opinion or person that differs from yours.

Please be committed to step up to bring about the change that you want to see, whether volunteering for a food bank, assisting with elder care, or being a Big Brother/Sister.

There are literally thousands of wonderful ways to contribute that you are not doing ...yet. Join a new charity and totally immerse yourself in "Service Above Self."

Be committed to do more than spending the next few years on FB posting negative, non-productive posts that lack fact-checking or that depend on media propaganda, (CNN, Fox, MSNBC, et al.)

I've been voting since 1976. I've come to embrace what Mr. Ross Price shared with me on my wedding day in 1994. Ross was tough as nails, an ex-Marine buddy of my father-in-law, a 65-year old witty, successful liberal Dem from Sacramento. I recall it like it was this morning, sitting at a popular sports bar in Cedar Falls, Iowa, at halftime of a Hawkeye game. When we both got "animated" drilling down on politics, me pontificating about fiscal responsibility, Big Ross suddenly leaned in, began to stare right through me . . . and then started grinning from ear-to-ear to say, "You know what, Marty? What I know for sure is that no matter who has been in office, we all live a pretty good life, a life that is better than 95% of the entire world. Never forget that."

That was true throughout his lifetime, and it has proven true throughout my 40 years of voting. I miss Ross and Dad, but they were spot-on. Both were committed to community service, had a lifetime of giving back to their communities, and both were committed to bringing about the changes they wanted to see. Two bigger than life, tough-as-nails, ex-Marines, best friends with wildly different political views, passionate about this great country of ours.

Be led by faith, not fear, and be COMMITTED to make a difference.



**DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD
2016**

2016 Distinguished Service Award



The DSA is the highest honor an ACRA member can receive. For decades, ACRA, its membership, and the reporting community have recognized the finest, most giving and dedicated professionals in our field.

In September at ACRA's annual convention in Tucson, the 2016 DSA was awarded to Doreen Borgmann, RPR, RMR, CRR, CLVS. Doreen has been a court reporter for over 40 years and worked in various capacities in state and national reporting

associations. She has been a leader in the field of court reporter legislation and issues.

Congratulations, Doreen!



In Memoriam: Steven C. "Steve" Toth

STEVEN C. "STEVE" TOTH passed away
October 4, 2016.

Steve was a husband, Marine, carpenter, court reporter, amazing wood carver, and photographer.

Steve was a home grown product. He went to reporting school in Phoenix. He was briefly a freelance reporter and then an official reporter for about 20 years in the Maricopa County Superior Court where he worked as an official with three different judges during his career. Steve took a medical retirement in 1996 due to a heart attack and stroke which disabled him but did not keep him from leading an active life for the next 20 years.

In his retirement Steve traveled with family and friends and pursued his passion for photography and working with wood.

He and wife Mary Jo were married for 48 years. Mary Jo, besides having a career working in a law office, was also his transcriber, scope editor, and of course best friend.

While working as a court reporter, Steve was involved in ACRA, was a member of several committees, and became president for two years. He achieved the RMR and CRR status. He also received the ACRA Distinguished Service Award.

Steve was known for his humor, his mentoring of neophyte court reporters, and his willingness to help others in whatever way they required, whether with reporting or something having to do with their personal needs. If you needed an extra hand, Steve was there.

Steve was a court reporter which everyone knew at the time he was reporting. If you knew Steve, you had a story to tell about him; you had a memory of him.

May he rest in peace.



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Association**

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