

ARIZONA NOTES

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President's Message by Mike Bouley



WANTS AND NEEDS

We need to have a place in this world.

We want it to be a place of security, of love, of joy.

We need to make a living.

We want it to be fulfilling and lucrative.

We need to feel appreciated.

We want it to be genuine.

We need a tribe.

We want it to be a strong one.

Friends, can you feel your place in any of these statements?

Does any of this resonate with you?

Do you feel like you are receiving both your wants and needs?

I know I certainly do.

My place is in a pretty city in a beautiful state full of good people. It is predominantly safe. I am surrounded by love, and I experience great joy.

I make an excellent living. My work is both personally and financially rewarding.

I feel deeply respected, valued, trusted. My tribe includes all of you, and I am incredibly grateful.

I truly believe my wants and needs are all being met.

What about you?

Have you stepped back recently and taken a fresh look?

As one of my favorite authors, Jim Harrison, wrote, "We walk a path, until it becomes a rut, and finally a trench that we can't see out of." 5 months ago, I left my courthouse job of 25 years, and stepped out of what for me had become a trench, and started walking a new direction.

The new horizons have taken my breath away. I don't for one second

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regret my time at the courthouse. It was and remains a noble institution with fine people, and an excellent place to work. I loved every bit of my career there. But stepping out and doing something new has given me new eyes with which to see, a new heart with which to love, and new passion with which to live.

I knew my change was a want, but I discovered it was also a need.

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 **In Memorium:
Kathryn Lorenz**
**Official Court
Reporter, Pima County
Superior Court**

It is with great sadness that we bring the news that Kathryn Lorenz passed away on February 25, 2016. As Pima County official court reporters, we are all a tight-knit group, and I wanted to share our friend Kathryn with the court reporting community. Kathryn came to us in 2008. She worked for a year for Kathy Fink and moved to Arizona from Las Vegas, Nevada. She loved music and her cats. Here are some insights into how Kathy was viewed by us:



To me, Kathryn Lorenz was a strong and independent woman. She always engaged me in conversation about her beloved cats, whom she loved very much. (Do we know what will happen to them?) As well, she was very generous. I remember a time she was giving away those microphones to hook into the steno machines for recording purposes. She didn't want any money from me for the one she gave me. She was extremely conscientious and really cared about providing an accurate transcript. Even though I was not close to her, I feel sad she was taken away from us.

A. Tracy Jamieson
Court Reporter to Hon. Brenden Griffin - Division 1



I couldn't agree more with Tracy Jamieson. She was truly a dedicated reporter, kind and generous. She definitely leaves a palpable empty space here on earth. If there is a splendid, glorious place to be after death, I know she is there.

Mary Bernal, Official Court Reporter Division 8



I, also, was aware of how incredibly important it was for her to make a perfect transcript, not a great one, but a perfect one. Also, there were so many times that she offered to help me cover my jobs or help me in some way because I seemed busy, when I knew perfectly well that she was horribly busy herself. She always put other people's concerns above her own. She always smiled and joked, even when you could tell she didn't feel well. I'm going to miss her.

Chris King, Official Court Reporter, Division 27



Kathy was probably the most conscientious court reporter I ever met. She was so modest we would have to trick her into teaching Eclipse classes. We would tell her someone else was teaching the class and then just ask her lots of questions. I had taught the class at one time but she and Wayne knew 10 times what I did.

I feel so sad to learn she is gone.

Gail Vinson, Retired Official Court Reporter



This is my "Kathy" story...

I considered Kathy my grocery buddy, because without a doubt, I would run into her either at Costco or at Fry's on a weekly basis. She was always upbeat, happy and smiling. We would always chat for a little while and go on our way expecting to see each other the following weekend, which we did.

At work, she was always willing to help out, even in the most trying times. When I think of Kathy, I picture her smiling face. I feel very fortunate to have known her.


She will be sorely missed.

Laurinda S. Ginsberg, Official Court Reporter, Div. 16

COMING TO
A KEYBOARD
NEAR YOU!

Internet Keyboarding Competition 2016

April 11 to May 2, 2016



*Uniting the worldwide community of those using
a full range of speed-writing methods to quickly
produce high-quality texts...*

Who can participate?
Anyone who uses a computer or steno keyboard for text entry is part of TEAM USA, and we love keyboard diversification! The more the merrier!

When is registration?
Between March 14 and April 10, 2016


How do we register?
Follow these instructions:

intersteno.org/intersteno-internet-contests/how-to-participate-to-internet-contest/

Can my whole class participate? Absolutely!
Rankings are done by person, class, school, country!
Go, TEAM USA!

Suggestions for participation: Court reporting classes, keyboarding classes in high schools and colleges, data entry professionals, anyone who likes to use a keyboard.

Sponsored by
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NCRA

ASK MR. MODEM!

www.MrModem.com

March 2016

Farewell, Dear Friends

After more than 30 wonderful years as a writer, I have decided to retire. I know what you're thinking, "He's MUCH too young to retire." Okay, so maybe you are not thinking that, but it's my final column, so would it kill you to work with me here? Thank you.

All kidding aside, when I began writing columns and publishing my weekly newsletter back in the primordial era of computing, virtually everybody used Windows 3.1. We were a simpler people back then. Technology, as we all know, moves ahead at an unrelenting pace, with us or without us. And yes, it is exhausting just trying to keep up. Today I receive questions from readers using Windows XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10 -- and heaven help us, the next version of Windows is already in the works. Add to that Apple, Android and Microsoft smartphones, tablets of all species, plus Kindle, Kobo, Slick, Nook and other eReaders - it's enough to make one's head explode. The reality is that my one remaining neuron is no longer willing (or particularly

interested) in retaining all that information. I can, however, still remember some of the 1960s, for which I am very grateful.

One of the most significant factors in my decision to retire is my beloved Mrs. Modem. She has been incredibly supportive of my work -- well, once she accepted the idea that sitting at home all day in one's robe and slippers is work. My "work," questionable as it might be by definition, has required my attention virtually seven days a week. It was only Mrs. M's patience, loving support and acceptance that made it possible. During the past 15 years, we have taken two brief vacations, so I have a lot of time for which to make up. We know we are not getting any younger, so while we can still kick up our heels (hopefully without breaking any hips) and enjoy a few adventures away from the computer, the time is right to move into the next phase of our lives.

Though I plan to relinquish my spot on the cutting edge of technology and ultimately fade into history, I will be very busy in retirement. I look forward to fulfilling multiple roles as house husband and support system for Mrs. Modem, a physician by profession, and reveling in my favorite role as father, protector and poop-scooper for our three furry felines, Willy, Nilly and Bertie.

I am also excited about having the time to pursue several areas of interest and passion: As a musician, I have had the pleasure of performing (solo and with others) for a number

of organizations, including children's and veterans' hospitals, retirement homes, centers and communities, long-term care facilities, hospice and other predominantly senior-oriented venues.

In the spirit of "giving back," I plan to continue, both as a solo performer (acoustic guitar) and as a member of several groups, providing free performances of spirited, all-American, profanity-free, sing-along songs, from an era when music was truly music.

Mrs. Modem and I are also avid bicyclists and plan to do more cycling on our own and participate in charity riding events, as well as enjoy several long-distance cycling tours each year -- the Good Lord willing, of course. (Watch for us in next year's Tour de France, Senior Category. We'll be the ones being attended to by paramedics.)

In closing, I sincerely thank you for your years of loyal readership, your support and for an extraordinary writing career which would not have been possible without you. As many of you know, I was a court reporter before I transitioned to a full-time writing career -- just a different kind of writing. As a result, I have tremendous respect and appreciation for court reporters everywhere and I will continue to be a positive voice and advocate for the reporting profession.

I wish each of you the most belated "Happy New Year!" greeting in history and I wish you problem-free computing in the years ahead!

Mr. M. (Ret.)

MrModem@gmail.com

GLOBAL STENOGRAPHY - BERLIN 2017!

By Jennifer Schuck

Some would say it's the opportunity of a lifetime. However, it's a biennial opportunity. Every other year Intersteno holds a congress. Typically the event location is somewhere in Europe.

In 2011, I decided to attend the Paris Congress. Since it is one of my favorite cities, it was hard to pass up a "business" trip. I didn't have a clear understanding of what Intersteno was, but it piqued my interest. A couple of my friends were going, thus I had every reason to go. My intention was strictly to compete in the realtime competition. The itinerary was only four days in length – a long way to go for eight minutes of dictation. But it was Paris!

It was an exciting four days: Good food, fun with friends, the chance to make new friends, and witnessing some mind-blowing writing skills. Intersteno competitions are the "Olympics" for reporters. Reporters from all over the world come to compete. What's mind blowing about that? They start as young as eight years old! You can compete in more than one language, should you have that skill. Mind blowing! You can use whatever method you want. Mind blowing! Why? Who knew that there were different types of keyboards around the world? Have you ever seen Chinese in realtime? Korean? Dutch? It's all possible!

I had the opportunity to try writing on a Velotype. You know that face that people make when you show them our stenographic keyboard and they say, "You type on that?" Well, that was the face I was making when attempting to write on the Velotype. The keyboard has a different layout but outputs in English. No dictionary necessary! It's based on how words are spelled and not phonetics. Had I never gone to Paris, I never would have learned this keyboard even existed. I made some new friends and new connections that have flourished since then.

Unfortunately, work got in the way of my attending Ghent in 2013. So when Budapest was announced as the location of the 50th annual Intersteno Congress in 2015, I was not going to miss it!

This time the group of friends expanded, and I was going for a week. Team USA continued to grow. It was so much fun to have six American stenographers meet at the airport in Frankfurt to arrive in Budapest all at the same time. Budapest was hands down the best "business" trip I have ever had. The weather was ridiculously hot that summer in Europe, but it did not stop us.

Team USA swept the top three spots of the speed competition and took seven of the top ten spots. We also took first and third in the realtime competition.

There is so much more to Intersteno than just the competitions. It was my "excuse" to go. I learned so much more about this great profession of ours. There are different ways to make a record, and every culture is different. We can learn from each other and teach each other all with the result of prospering the profession.

While in Budapest, I networked with German, British, and Chinese stenographers. I learned it's no easy feat to send an English theory book to China but it's possible. Be on the lookout for the first Chinese stenographer to also write in English very soon.

Global Stenography continued on Page 6...

President's Message continued from Page 1...

You see, sometimes our souls are like children. They want stimulation. They want challenge. They want growth.

And sometimes our souls are like parents. They want routine. They want predictability. They want calm.

And both are good for us. So how do we know what is a want and what is a need?

We listen to our intuition. What do you feel inside when you think about something?

Are you bored with something? Or conversely, are you feeling too much drama?

My message today is simply to invite you to ask yourself some of these questions. Do you love what you have?

Are you grateful for it? Is there something else you want to add to the equation, like realtime, or more participation with ACRA?

Is it time to switch from freelance to official, or from official to freelance? Time to take up CART or captioning?

Maybe on the personal side it's time for a move, a new puppy, a new workout regimen?

Your life is your creation, one day at a time. Are you satisfying your wants and needs?

These are questions to ponder. Not because I say so. They exist inside of everyone. In the meantime, while you ponder that, I'll tell you one other want and need I have. I want you all to come to our 2016 Midyear Seminar April 9 at the Phoenix-Chandler Hilton! I'm sure you've seen our great lineup of speakers, who will surely add some new energy to your reporting career! Do you want to Write Like A Champion?

Then you will need to be there!

And don't forget, if you want to win some wonderful prizes, merchandise, and baskets, you need to bring some cash!

I can assure you we are going to have fun!

In closing, I want to tell you what a privilege it is to be your president. Yes, there are a lot of duties and decisions and time demands. But it is exactly what I wanted. It is exactly what I needed. And I know that not because it is exactly what I envisioned, but because of how it makes me feel. I feel like the luckiest guy I know. Very blessed, and very grateful.

Imagine the feeling you want. Then go make it happen.

See you April 9, my friends!

Much love,

Mike Bouley

Global Stenography continued from Page 5...

Lastly, by attending Intersteno you get to know people like Boris Neubauer exist. He earns his living as a lecturer in Aachen University of Applied Science. He teaches production and transmission of electricity. His background is in physics. Shorthand is his hobby.

Boris chairs the German Research Institute of Shorthand where they maintain the German Shorthand Library and train teachers for shorthand and text processing. Among the systems he reads and writes, the German Unified System, Gabelsberger, Stolze-Schrey, Byrom and Duployé. Another hobby of his is learning foreign languages. Boris has successfully transcribed in the Intersteno competitions in 17 different languages (intersteno.org). Mind blowing!

I often hear the world is now a "global economy." Why should shorthand be any different? Put the 51st Intersteno Congress on your calendar for summer 2017. See you in Berlin!

