

ARIZONA NOTES

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Spring 2019



Attitude is Everything By Kate Roundy

I read a long time ago that if you open your eyes in the morning, swing your legs

over the side of the bed, and immediately start reciting what you're grateful for, you will walk out the rest of your day with a positive mindset and attitude. I find this routine to be true, and it affects my professional life, my physical health, and my relationships.

Professionally, we can all agree that the life of a court reporter is stressful. Each day we are under pressure to capture the spoken words of a cast of characters, make an accurate record, meet pressing deadlines, and perform magic, all while keeping our professional composure. Starting each day with a smile on my face and an optimistic attitude is my first line of defense against the pressure. Challenging days tend to go smoothly, and my positivity spreads to others. The end of the day becomes a success instead of a stress for everyone involved.

Aside from the mental workout of court reporting, I have done yoga, hiked, boxed, swam, ran, lifted weights, or taught aerobics

throughout my entire life. In my eyes, exercise and attitude go hand in hand. A positive attitude gets me started. Accomplishing the physical goal gives me inner strength and pride, which creates the ultimate bad-xxx attitude. The momentum from my new attitude boosts my performance, transforming my physical health, and in turn, my disposition. If feeling grateful immediately after the alarm sounds seems impossible and you're looking for a recipe to help lift your attitude, go for a walk and do something physical. This will perk you right up, and your positive attitude will become

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Arizona Court Reporters Association

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SERVICE ABOVE SELF

BY MARTY HERDER

Hi friends. First, my thanks and appreciation to our ACRA board and our ArizoNotes editor for their selfless contribution each and every week to our profession. Also, a shout-out to all of those who have served before over the years. Thanks to each of you, we as a court reporting family are better situated, better prepared and better informed.

My father-in-law Harold, (“H”) was a force to be reckoned with. Direct, bold, successful, yet extremely generous with his time. I particularly enjoyed and respected his business acumen and sense of community participation. H was a Rotarian, and he planted the seed of volunteerism from the day I first started dating his lovely daughter, Ann.

One day after a depo a client, who I also respect deeply, brought up joining Rotary. With an infectious smile, he invited me to breakfast at the Chandler-Horizon Rotary Club. That was 17 years ago. At the time Ann and I were overwhelmed. We were building a brand new business. We had a two-year old and a newborn, and we had just moved into a new house in the middle of nowhere, miles further out than I’d ever commuted before. Also, I was commuting back and forth to Los Angeles several times a month to comfort mom during her battle with cancer. I remember driving to my first Rotary meeting thinking, “What am I doing? I’ve got no time in my schedule doing charity work for strangers.”

I could not have been more wrong. I, like many, had no perception of the profound and positive influence a life of “Service Above Self” would have on me, my family, my friends, and most importantly those that we serve.

The Chandler-Horizon Rotary Club is an award-winning, dynamic Chapter of Rotary International. We work tirelessly throughout the year, volunteering with many organizations and causes to provide extra hands, love, and our commitment to help in order to make sure that as many needs as possible are met.

Is it exhausting? Sometimes. But, it’s been one of the most joyful and rewarding decisions of my life. The men and women of our Rotary “family” like most volunteers, are the most kind and giving human beings you will ever know. Whether it’s Saturday mornings at food banks, Friday night fundraisers, or weekdays volunteering at a local shelter, each week is a new opportunity for adventure with other enthusiastic community volunteers from all backgrounds and walks of life. I have learned that volunteerism is an amazing way to broaden your life experience while having a tangible, positive impact on your community

When Hurricane Harvey hit land, we Rotarians hit the ground running, tirelessly collecting supplies and emergency funds for victims and sending a team to Houston to rebuild homes.

In 2018 alone I was privileged to be a part of many of our ongoing fundraisers and efforts for the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona, Foundation for Burns & Trauma, building storage rooms for The Clothes Cabin, helping build a well in Nigeria, fundraising for an eye clinic and water project in India, providing natural disaster Shelter Boxes to Haiti, working with Hope Crisis Animal Assistance, participating in The Rotary Third Grade Dictionary Project, boxing food for Feed My Starving Children, United Food Bank, and the Chandler Food Bank (AzCend).

Service Above Self continued on Page 13...



I Can Hear Clearly Now!

By Leslie Foldy

Soft-spoken whisperin’ witnesses make for tough reporting days, right? Not when you use the PockeTalker Ultra (about \$139 on Amazon). It’s an amplified listening device (think hearing aid) and is about the size of a deck of playing cards. It comes with both headphones and a single earbud plus a year’s worth of AAA batteries. Simple operation too: one wheel to adjust volume and one wheel to adjust bass/treble.

To make this gizmo even better, replace the original mic on the PockeTalker with the \$17 Olympus ME-52W Noise-Cancelling Microphone (same size and an easy pop in/pop out swap). As good as the PockeTalker is, using it with this Olympus Noise-Cancelling Mic installed takes it up to another level. Why? Because this mic’s noise-cancelling feature nearly eliminates the annoying hiss from air-conditioning.

I’ve been turning on the PockeTalker before the job starts and locating it near the witness. I place the headphones near me within easy reach (I drape mine over my steno machine). I may not need louder/clearer audio at every job – but if I do, I can quickly put on the headphones or earbud. Agony to ecstasy!



Court Reporters Volunteering for ASU’s Mock Deposition Classes

By Julie Ottmar

Arizona State University offers their law students a skills class in which they are given a hypothetical case with very specific factual details. While the students are developing their case, they are tasked with taking “mock” depositions, acting as the attorney taking the deposition, the witness, and the defending attorney. This is where we, the court reporters, enter the room.

An ASU professor requested court reporters to voluntarily play their role in the depositions and report the interrogations of witnesses, which were broken down into 10-minute segments. When the 10 minutes were up, the professors critiqued the student’s questions and asked the court reporters to share their input. This was our time to really enlighten these future attorneys how to get their depositions reported accurately on the record. Then the next set of students would take over the deposition for another 10-minute round. The second week of class, actual expert witnesses came in.

We were also asked to prepare a rough transcript so the students could clearly see how their questions and the answers actually appear in a transcript.

This was a lot of fun! These students were bright-eyed and so excited to jump in and get their hands dirty. And they were very appreciative of our efforts. No doubt we will be asked to share in this experience again, and I hope you will all consider volunteering. As an added bonus, you also receive continuing education credits!!



COURT REPORTING PRO BONO

By Lorena Marin-Garcia

My name is Lorena Marin-Garcia. I have been a freelance court reporter in Phoenix since 1991. I am lucky enough to have a job that I truly enjoy, and court reporting affords me a lot of flexibility. I get to work with great professionals, the conference rooms where I cover depositions have some of the best views in the Valley, and I get to learn about industries I didn't know existed.

When I was asked by a client if I would cover a deposition for him on a pro bono basis, I was happy to help. He told me his client was a young mother of four children who could not afford to pay for a deposition of her ex-husband. My only request was that the deposition be conducted on a date that I had free. We were able to coordinate a date, and I reserved the entire day.

On the deposition date, the testimony was easy to write, although hard to listen to as I heard about allegations of physical and verbal abuse towards mom, infidelities, paternity tests, guns in the presence of the kids, and various problems the kids were having in school and at home. This type of content is always hard to listen to, but after four hours, I transcribed the deposition and could only hope that the judge would be able to make informed rulings in the case that would be in the best interest of the kids and this young family.

I hope to do more pro bono work as a court reporter in the future. It is a way that I can give back in a profession that has been such a rewarding career for me. Giving back professionally is just as rewarding as chaperoning my kids' field trips at school or helping make hall signs for school clubs my kids are involved in, all of which I am able to do due to the flexibility I have as a freelance court reporter.

FUTURE COURT REPORTING STUDENTS ARE WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please help ACRA inform Arizona students about our wonderful career by giving a few hours of your time at a career fair coming soon. We have future high school career fairs coming up, and high schoolers will be the BEST future court reporters.

Contact Carolyn Sullivan to volunteer: carolyntsullivan@gmail.com 480-329-1343



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Arizona Family Campout

by Jesse Honn

www.azstateparks.com/family-camp

The Arizona Family Campout program was founded in 2013 by park ranger Louis Juers as a part of the Arizona State Parks department. While the program has grown over the years to include a number of activities, its core mission remains providing a safe and fun environment for families to camp and learn about the great outdoors regardless of prior experience or lack thereof.

My family and I first attended one of these campouts as paying customers in 2016, but our love of the program and respect for its friendly and knowledgeable leader led us to soon volunteer on a regular basis. As a part of the State Parks department, the program often has needs that far outweigh the available budget, and that's where numerous volunteers help pick up the slack.

As volunteers, we often attend weekend campouts to help visitors with setting up tents, cleaning the campsites, and moving around various equipment needed for activities. And those activities regularly include archery, slingshots, cooking, hiking, kayaking, and outdoor education. More recently, I've had the opportunity to share my love for science and outer space by providing telescope stargazing during some campouts. My favorite

memories from those weekends are when I'm surrounded by kids asking so many questions that I can barely answer before there's another one! Their enthusiasm is both infectious and inspiring.

One of the biggest challenges with camping, even with our often-beautiful weather here in Arizona, is still dealing with those periodic extremes. While the campouts are planned around spring and fall to take advantage of the best seasonal temperatures, we travel to a wide variety of parks ranging from near the Valley, up to high elevations, and even into some regions with significant water features. We've had some nights of frigid cold and a few days of 100+ degrees, but through it all a number of things have kept us coming back, including the friendships we've made, the smiling visitors, and the beautiful locations. We've also learned a great deal from Louis, other park rangers, and many visitors who are happy to share their interests and expertise.

I've volunteered and been in public service a number of times over the years, but the Family Campout program stands as a high point in my experiences with volunteerism. And whether it's the allure of "getting back to nature" or the fun of getting to know a bunch of great people along the way, I'm sure my family and I will be involved in this innovative program for years to come. Will you join us?



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P.E.O. Sisterhood (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Celebrating 150 Years of Women Helping Women Reach for the Stars

www.peointernational.org By Tracy Johnston

Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than a half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through education, while supporting and motivating them. In addition to the educational philanthropies, the P.E.O. Sisterhood provides a framework of support and community for all members.

What started with a bond of friendship among seven women in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, is one of the oldest women’s organizations in North America with close to 6,000 chapters.

Headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa, members are passionate about P.E.O.’s mission: to celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans and stewardship of Cottey College; and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood is a nonprofit organization that has helped more than 105,000 women pursue educational goals by providing over \$321 million in educational assistance, making a difference in women’s lives through six philanthropies and a foundation:

P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF)	A revolving loan fund established in 1907 to lend money to qualified women students to assist them in securing a higher education.	Has loaned \$195.4 million.
P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS)	A fund established in 1949 to provide scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the U.S. and Canada.	Has provided \$37.9 million in scholarships.
P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE)	Established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the U.S. and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families.	Has given \$55.3 million in grants.
P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA)	Established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based awards for women of the U.S. and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university.	Has awarded \$24.5 million in scholarships.
P.E.O. STAR Scholarship (STAR)	Established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year.	Has given \$8.5 million in scholarships.
Cottey College	A nationally ranked, fully accredited, independent, liberal arts/sciences college for women located in Nevada, Missouri, has been owned/ supported by P.E.O. since 1927 and offers baccalaureate and associate degrees in a variety of majors. Cottey College, a debt-free institution, welcomes women from around the world.	
P.E.O. Foundation	A nonprofit corporation established in 1961 to encourage tax-deductible giving to the educational and charitable projects of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. It is a service to the Sisterhood.	

I am a fifth-generation member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, and past president of Arizona State Chapter. Arizona has 145 chapters and over 5832 members. All chapters raise money in various ways that is then donated to the P.E.O. philanthropies.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE:

2020 Multi-State Convention

Date: September 18-20, 2020

Location: Park City, Utah

2019 ACRA Midyear Seminar

Date: April 13, 2019

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Hilton Phoenix Chandler

Register and for more information: <http://acraonline.org/events>

Board of Certified Reporters Board Meeting

Check website for details:

<https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Certified-Reporters-Program>

ACRA Board Meetings

April 12, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hilton Phoenix Chandler

June 15, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Bartelt|Nix
111 West Monroe Street, Suite 425, Phoenix

August 10, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Bartelt|Nix
111 West Monroe Street, Suite 425, Phoenix

Congratulations to the **Arizona Court Reporters Association (ACRA)** on winning the **NCRA 2019 Court Reporting & Captioning Week proclamation drawing**. ACRA President Kate Roundy, RPR, a freelance court reporter from Phoenix, Ariz., submitted the proclamation signed by Gov. Douglas A. Ducey.

This was the first year NCRA has offered the chance for state associations to enter a drawing for a free national Convention & Expo registration. A total of 16 states submitted proclamations.

“Arizona participates every year in NCRA’s Court Reporting & Captioning Week because, heck, we deserve the recognition, don’t we! We are a proud state that believes wholeheartedly that promoting our profession and recruiting for the future is our #1 priority,” Roundy said. “It’s important that we continue to educate our country of our vital role in the integrity of our judicial system as well as our essential role in providing captioning to the public.”





HAPPY COURT REPORTING WEEK

JOIN ACRA!

Value of ACRA Membership

[Students can join for only \$20!]

- **Conventions and Seminars** - Two major events are held each year. ACRA provides NCRA and Cojet approved continuing education credits at our Annual Convention in the fall and our Midyear Seminar in the spring.
- **Legislative** - ACRA advocates on behalf of the court reporting and captioning profession. We combine the voices of many when our profession is attacked or diminished by the legislature or other rule making bodies or board.
- **ArizoNotes Magazine** - The only Arizona State publication devoted exclusively to the reporting profession. Delivered electronically.
- **Directory** - Access to the online Membership Directory, which includes the credentials and listing of services offered by each member.
- **Job Bank** - Access to any job postings as they are submitted.
- **Hertz Discount** - Members receive special year-round discounts.

* Membership dues update: Annual membership dues is \$150 and will no longer be prorated throughout the year. Renew early to maximize the benefits of your membership!



VISIT [HTTPS://ACRAONLINE.ORG](https://acraonline.org) TODAY!



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MIDYEAR SEMINAR 2019

2019 ACRA MIDYEAR SEMINAR

APRIL 13TH, 2019 @ 7:30 AM

Hilton Phoenix Chandler - 2929 West Frye Road, Chandler, AZ 85224

“GET ENERGIZED TO SPRING FORWARD”



The Program:

“Get Energized to Spring Forward” - Our exciting lineup of speakers will share ways to be proactive, not reactive; how to feel great every day in spite of a demanding job; best practices for social media. We will end the day with round-table discussions on current topics in our industry. Click 2019 Midyear Seminar to see more detail on the speakers, the topics, and the schedule.

The Venue:

A venue you recognize, a location we all appreciate - the Hilton Phoenix Chandler in Chandler, Arizona. For room reservations at our ACRA rate, Click here or call (480) 899-7400. Cutoff for the ACRA rate is 5:00 p.m. on March 22, 2019. For more information about the hotel, Click here.

The Fun:

Auctions, games, raffles and socializing. Includes two breaks, and lunch will be provided.

Students:

Court reporting students are welcome to attend without charge. By registering, students commit to attend all or a portion of the seminars. When registering, use the code STUDENT.

On the website (<https://www.acraonline.org/events>):

Want to contribute to the Student Attendance Fund to help defray the cost of their lunch?

Want to be an Exhibitor/Vendor?

Want to sponsor a part of this event?

Want to donate a cash prize or raffle item?

Registrations after Sunday, April 7, will incur a \$30 late fee. Register early!



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LOST OUR HOME

by Dori Marinakis

<https://www.lostourhome.org>

For the past 1.5 years, I have been volunteering at Lost Our Home Pet Rescue. I choose this organization over the other rescues because they not only provide rescue and adoptions, they also provide temporary care and have a food bank for people needing financial help.

They have a dog side and a cat side, but I only work with the dogs. It is easy to get involved, but they do require a couple short orientations before you can start with them. Any age can volunteer; there is something for everyone. There are many ways to help. You will never get bored or feel like you do the same thing; no matter what you feel like doing, there is something for you. With the adoptable dogs, I can sign up to help at an event, take the dogs for a walk

or even for bite to eat at a dog friendly place, and I can even take one home for the weekend. If I don't feel like doing too much, I can just sit in the room with them and visit. The temporary care dogs can go for walks, or I just spend time with them. They are used to being with their family, so it is great we can still give them the love and affection while they are boarded. The owners can come and visit them too, so they don't have to go without seeing their loved ones. If someone doesn't want to really handle the dogs or cats, there is always laundry, cleaning, or front desk help that is needed.

Many people say to me, Doesn't it make you sad seeing the dogs there and leaving them? Yes, sometimes I feel sad that they are there, and it is really hard when you get the on's that are there for too long. But the joy you bring to them while you are with them makes it worth it. I know that I am filling some void for them and giving them the love they so need and the human interaction that is so important. I always leave with my heart full and a smile on my face!

OTHER ACRA NEWS

Maricopa County court reporters were recognized by their administration and ACRA for their role in Arizona's legal process.



ACRA once again participated in promoting court reporting and captioning at the Arizona School Counselors Association Conference in Fountain Hills, Arizona. Sharing excitement and love for this profession is easy!



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Lancelot



Athena



Clark



Ike



Topher



Nanuk



Tazo



Thomas



Ursula



Zoey

The dogs and cats pictured above are available for adoption at Lost Our Home in Tempe, AZ, as of the time of submission. If you're interested in adopting, please check out their website.

<https://www.lostourhome.org>



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SPECIAL RECRUITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: Interested Persons
FROM: Certification and Licensing Division
RE: Board of Certified Reporters Member Recruitment

The Arizona Supreme Court is currently seeking interested candidates for appointment to the Board of Certified Reporters. The Board of Certified Reporters is comprised of nine volunteer members appointed by the Chief Justice for five-year terms. The Board of Certified Reporters meets every other month to consider and make decisions regarding certification and disciplinary matters involving certified court reporters. The Board also makes recommendations to the Arizona Supreme Court regarding court reporter issues.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Certified Reporter by email to CourtRep@courts.az.gov. Interested persons may submit a resume and an application form to:

Certification and Licensing Division
Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts
1501 West Washington, Suite 104
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Fax: (602) 452-3958

<https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Certified-Reporters-Program/Recruitment>

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President's Message continued from Page 1...

contagious.

Attitude and how we handle situations easily affects our relationships, particularly those closest to us. There have been times where I have been frustrated or disappointed with parents, significant others, kids, or best friends. The simple act of adjusting my attitude, whether it is at the beginning of the day or in the midst of a trial, gives me the strength to work through difficult times and maintain sight of the bigger picture. Life is too short to not beam with happiness at our good fortune to have the friends and family we do. That day becomes a gift. The problems that once mattered begin to fade away, and stressed relationships are restored.

So back to opening your eyes in the morning, swinging your legs over the side of your bed and reciting what you're grateful for. I have a waterbed, and let me just say, it's a challenge getting myself into a seated position these days. I choose to ignore my aching body and laugh at my ungraceful effort to sit up. It's a bright new day, and I choose to set my attitude straight each and every day. A positive and grateful attitude is a choice. It's my choice, and I encourage you to choose the same.

Service Above Self continued from Page 2...

In December, there was the tearful, but rewarding "Juguetes para niños" (Toys for Tots) in the expansive barrio of Puerto Penasco, Mexico, helping "Santa" distribute 100s of toys, clothes and food to poverty-stricken masses of children.

I've stood crying with veterans of all ages organizing the Healing Field at Tempe Beach Park, and laughed with grateful 4th graders during the Back-to-School Backpack Project.

Apparently passion is contagious, as both of my teen daughters have spent their high school spring breaks and vacations on mission trips volunteering around the country. My youngest (16) went to Malawi, Africa, last summer with a team to support the medical clinic and orphanage.

Ask anyone who knew me 30 years ago, and they'll tell you that Rotary and a life of "Service Above Self" has changed my life in more ways than I'll ever be able to repay.

We're all in this chaos together, with our insane schedules and busy beyond comprehension, right? But, think about this: The need is equally overwhelming. The world needs more people like YOU.

So, wherever you're at in life, whatever your current level of service work or charity is, the next time you ask yourself, "What can I do?"

The answer is simple: "More."

