

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has offered to assist me and then really assisted, those that I "voluntold" to assist and they happily complied, and those who are so enthusiastic they have come up with a great idea and are forging ahead. Court reporters are such an industrious lot!

Our website is being updated by Rachel Rosenberg – check it out – and she has kindly offered to be the editor of our newsletter. We hope to distribute the newsletter every couple of months and welcome any articles/links/helpful hints you have to contribute. Just send those ideas/articles on to the webmaster@csrao.net or myself, your president@csrao.net.

The new council has held its first meeting, and new initiatives have begun. Cynthia Yan is going to help establish CSRAO's Facebook colony; Angela Gunn will be fighting the new war with the Attorney General; Lisa Barrett is offering the Saturday morning classes for students; Karin Jenkner and company will be digging in to get to the bottom of our storage issue.

As the new president of this esteemed association, I feel like the conductor of a great orchestra – jumping up and down with excitement or pausing to listening intently – to a very knowledgeable and talented group of professionals. 'Tis music to my ears.

If you would like to be involved with your association, please send me an e-mail. Don't be shy. We can use all the assistance we can get.

As ever, best wishes for the New Year. Be safe and warm.

Terry Wood, CSR, RPR
President, CSRAO
2014-2015

CALL FOR ARTICLES:

It only takes a second. Why not make a list of things as they occur to you and send them to webmaster@csrao.net when convenient. Please submit your best tips and shortforms. As a working reporter with experience, what helped you the most in your first two years is an example. Put on those thinking caps and remember back to the days of yore, folks.

FREE - FREE - FREE NEW STUDENT SPEED CLASSES

Classes will be held on:

Saturday, February 7 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 14 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 21 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 28 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

REGISTER BEFORE: January 30, 2015
Admission: Food bank item

PLEASE CONTACT: Lisa Barrett, CSR, RPR, CRR
lisabarrett@sympatico.ca

Hope to see you there! Class space generously donated by ASAP Reporting @ 333 Bay Street, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario

SEE BELOW FOR FURTHER DETAILS

FREE - FREE – FREE STUDENT SPEED CLASSES

By: Lisa Barrett, CSR, RPR, CRR
lisabarrett@sympatico.ca

In the spirit of "Vintage", we are pleased to announce the return of the Saturday morning CSR classes. Come join your friends and colleagues as we strive to reach the highest speeds, climb the highest mountains and find out the latest tricks.

Our classes will be geared towards getting you to pass your CSR exam or your RPR. Won't it be nice to have those flashy initials beside your name and the status and money it brings you?

Classes are for students and reporters who are currently at 160 wpm and higher.

Come learn from some of the best veteran reporters the city has to offer.



Classes will include live two-voice dictation, read-backs, concentration drills, finger drills, and NCRA material. This class may give you a renewed interest in becoming the best court reporter you can be.

Special appearance by:
Jade King, via Skype.
<http://jadeluxe.wordpress.com/steno/>
And other guests, including Stacey Donison (The Hague), and Christy Cannariato (California Court Reporters' Assoc).

If you are interested in participating as a teacher, featured guest, please contact me also at:
lisabarrett@sympatico.ca

CONVENTION NEWS 2014

Saturday, October 25, 2014

Royal Canadian Yacht Club, St. George St., Toronto

Eclipse Training with Christine Phipps

By Minori Arai, CSR, RPR, CRR, CBC, CCP

One of the many benefits of attending the annual convention is the opportunity to learn new things from guest presenters and fellow reporters. This year we were lucky to have a very accomplished user and trainer of Eclipse, Christine Phipps.

One of the features of Eclipse that I hadn't used, and which most interested me, was Connection Magic. Lisa Barrett, in the training session she gave at last year's convention, whetted my appetite on the subject, and this year I came with questions ready!

Here at the Senate I have visions of using Connection Magic in confidential meetings when no transcripts are to leave the room.

The only copy we leave is with the committee clerk, in draft form, on a secure USB memory stick. Until now, two writers have been going and switching off every 20 or 30 minutes, and the reporter who has just finished writing goes through and cleans up his or her notes. This often means that the last reporter to write feels some time pressure in the cleaning-up as the clerk waits for them.

Using Connection Magic, we will connect via a router and hard-line connections to create a local area network (LAN), with no connection to the Internet for security reasons. The non-writing reporter or scopist will be able to edit the shared document as it is being created, all while sitting right next to the writer. This will mean that the draft would be ready within minutes of adjournment and no switching off -- brilliant.

I know in the freelance world many reporters are using Connection Magic to have a scopist off site -- even in another country -- editing as the document is being written, but I am under the impression that it has yet to be used in this very restricted LAN setting.

After some trial and error, some help from Advantage Software, collaboration with a few patient and generous colleagues, assistance from the Senate Information Systems Directorate and a supportive management team, we had it working in a test situation.

I'm looking forward to using this set-up in a real-life situation soon. Bring it on!

Honouring Our Historical Personalities



We were delighted to have Mark Nimigan present a plaque to Life Member Maria Mihailovich of Nimigan Mihailovich Reporting Inc., Hamilton, for her work and dedication over the years.

Please read Mark's entire tribute to Maria on our web site:
<http://www.csrao.net/index.php/historical-personalities.html>

The Nortel Trial

By Cynthia Yan, Associate

Every court reporter has war stories, but when Kim Neeson and Deana Santedicola shared their experiences working on the Nortel trial at the 2014 CSRAO conference, the room was entranced. The Nortel Trial was the first of its kind, and it was history in the making for the court reporting industry.

The Nortel Trial was a cross-border trial that took place simultaneously both in Canada and the United States, with two courtrooms, two judges, and two judicial systems. Kim and Deana worked from the courtroom in Toronto, along with two American court reporters in Wilmington, Delaware, and provided real-time reporting and certified daily transcripts to the judges and lawyers in both Canada and the United States through the help of audio feeds and video streaming. They dealt with challenging technological problems, ever changing lawyers, and the age-old problem of Canadian spelling versus American spelling.

Kim and Deana shared their joys and frustrations with the Nortel trial, and they also shared their tips on how they survived to tell their once-in-a-lifetime experience with this unique cross-border proceeding.

NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTER

Rachel Rosenberg, CSR
webmaster@csrao.net

Please stay tuned as we revamp the web site!

We have added new articles and made the renewal/membership info page easier to find.

We plan to push the UserIDs and Passwords out to members to log into the Members Only area. No more waiting. This will happen in the next few weeks.

Also in the near future, we will have more convention photos up.

For now, enjoy the good spirits exhibited by our members at Convention 2014.

Case CATalyst Seminar

By Danice Brown, Student

The Case CATalyst seminar was a great experience for me as a student and one I thoroughly enjoyed. A Case CATalyst seminar is an experience any student would benefit from simply because of the limited amount of functionality on student software and because such a seminar opens up your eyes to what's available once you become a professional.

As a student, I have seen how my understanding of Case CATalyst has grown as this is my second Case CATalyst seminar, and I have a better understanding of how everything works. I have also seen how students further along in their steno journey have benefited because they learned something they didn't know before about their own student software. For example, using a simple Function key to access the TrueStroke technology on the student software was very informational because it is another tool to help build your writing. Software seminars are a great learning tool no matter where you are in your steno journey.



Judith Caputo, CSR, RPR, CRR & Connie Holton, CSR

ELECTRICITY, WINTER AND YOU!

By: Rachel Rosenberg, CSR

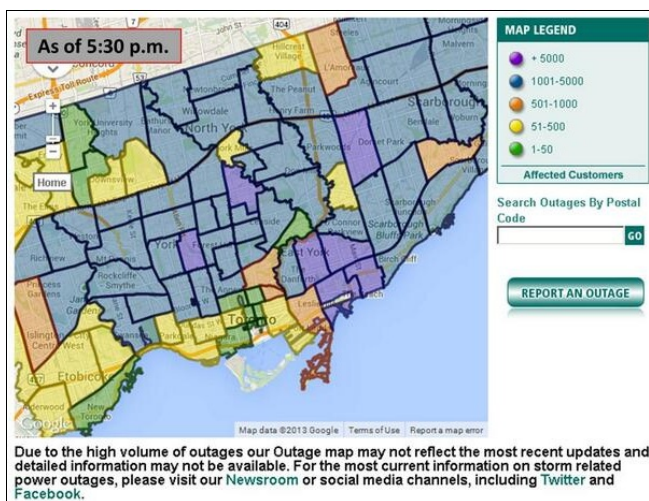
With the Ice Storm of 2014 still within living memory and the telecommunications outage from summers past due to flooding of Toronto's central carrier hotel, two sites can help you keep on top of these interruptions.

TORONTO HYDRO

(Toronto Residents)

Toronto Hydro's live updated map can be tracked here:

www.torontohydro.com/sites/electricsystem/poweroutages/pages/outagemap.aspx



Toronto outages during the Ice Storm, December 2013.

HYDRO ONE (Ontario)

HydroOne for Ontario's hydro supply outside of Toronto is here:

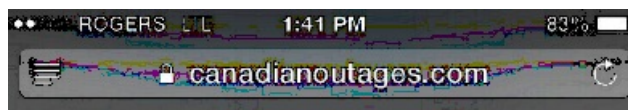
<http://www.hydroone.com/StormCenter3/>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS OUTAGES

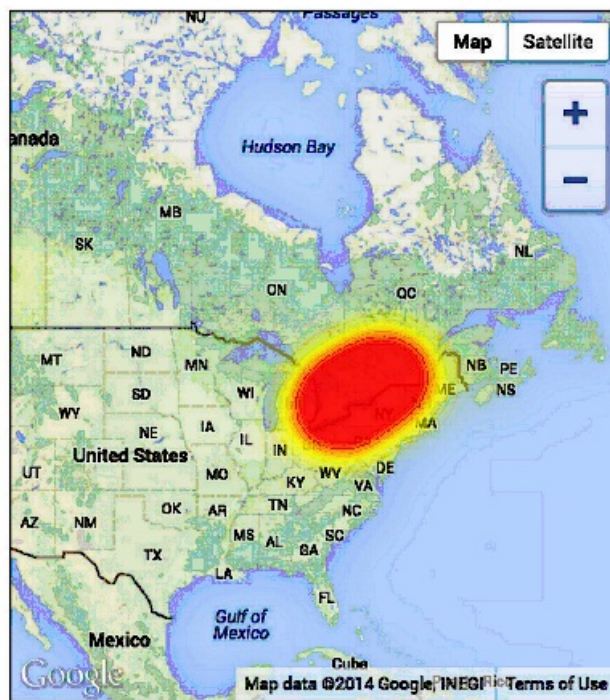
(North America)

This site will tell you, and show you, where there are major outages for Bell, Rogers, Telus, Shaw, Cogeco. There are also comments beneath the map for people to comment.

www.canadianoutages.com



Nov. 6, 2014 Bell outage map



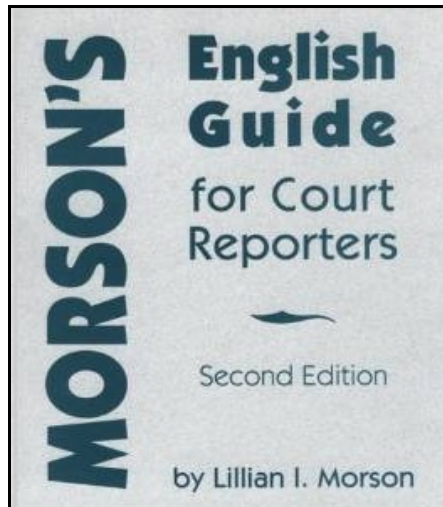
STUDENTS' CORNER

Recommended Reading and Reference Material:

MORSON'S ENGLISH GUIDE for COURT REPORTERS

By Lillian I. Morson

A favourite and time-honoured reference:
Morson's English Guide for Court Reporters
By Lillian Morson

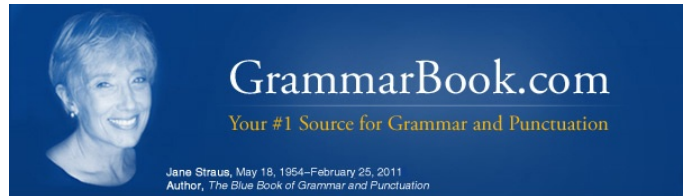


Available from Amazon.ca:
<http://tinyurl.com/lky5x5z>

Also found in the online NCRA store through
www.ncra.org.

Don't forget to explore all options for student discounts wherever you purchase, AND don't forget about currency differences.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR NEWSLETTER FROM "THE BLUE BOOK"



Sign up for a weekly grammar refresher, (bearing in mind American punctuation and spelling) with Jane's GrammarBook www.grammarbook.com e-newsletter.

See link at top of www.grammarbook.com to register.

HARDWARE NEWS

BEST FULL KEYBOARD

Logitech K750 Solar Keyboard. Not only is it powered by ambient office light, but it also has a fantastic touch due to the low-profile, "Chicklet" keys.



Purchase the K750 directly from Logitech (<http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/product/k750-keyboard?crid=26>), or try Amazon.ca.

COMPUTER CONFIGURATIONS

BY: Rachel Rosenberg, CSR

The favourite computer so far in my life is running Windows 7 through Bootcamp on a MacMini with the 27-inch screen. The extra large screen is wonderful for having two documents side by side, i.e., your transcript on one side and an electronic document for checking quotes on the other.

Only con is only four USB ports. With USB sticks from lawyers/clients and foot pedals, headsets and smartphone connectors these days, it's a good idea to also have a powered USB port as well, being one which connects to the USB port to give you multiple ports and also plugs into your surge protector.

SOFTWARE NEWS

DEALING WITH DIGITAL FILES

<http://www.nchsoftware.com/>

While NCH's ExpressScribe has long been a favourite for playback/transcription of digital files, most people don't realize that the Pro version of ExpressScribe has some real advantages.

The best feature is that you can drag-and-drop almost any file format onto it to load the file into the software, whereas the free download only accepts .wav and .mp3. It also plays video files.

The Pro version also cleans up and deletes files automatically after the time period you set. Normally, when you load a file into free ES it makes a copy, and you should delete this temporary file manually as well deciding what you want to do with the original file.

A further advantage of the Pro version is the automatic boosting of recording quality.

Other NCH software worth exploring is their conversion software for audio and video: <http://www.nchsoftware.com/software/converters.html>

CLASSIFIEDS

CART CAPTIONING OPPORTUNITY VANCOUVER, BC

Wanted: Full-time and/or part-time CART captioner for interesting on-site and remote work. Generous guaranteed base income. Willing to negotiate terms.

No CART experience necessary; we will assist your transition from real-time court reporting or captioning to CART. Job shadow with us and see how very rewarding this work is.

Please inquire at admin@accuraterealttime.com or call 604-685-6050.

Catherine Siegler, RPR, CRR, CCP
President, ACCURATE REALTIME INC.
Award of Merit recipient for distinguished service
WIDHH 2012

Tel: 604-685-6050
www.accuraterealttime.com

HUMOUR (Yup, they really said that)

Contributed by: Kathy McMenemy, CSR

- A. Yes.
Q. One question I never asked your husband is coming to me. Is your house a two-storey?
A. Yes.
Q. So there's stairs going upstairs?
A. Yes.
Q. And there's stairs going downstairs?
A. Yes.
Q. Does your mother sleep upstairs?

Contributed by: Rachel Rosenberg, CSR

Re asking inappropriate leading questions:

CHAIR: You remember those from law school maybe?

LAWYER: Maybe I should ask for a refund.

Spiced Pumpkin

Muffins

Contributed by Lisa Barrett, CSR, RPR, CRR

Makes 12 muffins

- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 cup canola or safflower oil
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup natural bran
- 3/4 cup granulated white sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp allspice
- 1/2 tsp ground cardamom
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup raisins or dried cranberries

1. Place rack in the middle of the oven and preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Line 12 muffin cups with paper liners or spray with a non stick vegetable spray.
3. In a bowl mix together the pumpkin puree, eggs, buttermilk, oil, and vanilla extract. Set aside.
4. In another bowl, combine the flour, bran, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, allspice, cardamom and salt. Add the milk and egg mixture to the flour mixture. Stir until just combined. Fold in the raisins. Tip: Do not over mix the batter or the muffins will be tough once baked.
5. Fill the muffin cups with the batter using two spoons or an ice cream scoop. Place in the oven and bake for 18 – 20 minutes, or until firm to the touch and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Place on a wire rack to cool.

PERSONAL NEWS

Obituary

HUBBARD, Thomas Stephen

1920-2014

Veteran - WWII

Contributed by D'Arcy McPherson, RDR, CRR, CBC, CCP, CMRS, CRI



Editor and Chief of the Reporting Branch of the Senate of Canada (Retired), Thomas Hubbard passed away peacefully on December 1, 2014 in his 95th year, dearly beloved husband of Teresa (née Verdon) for 66 years; loving father of Stephen (Lilly), Alexandria, VA; Louise (Stephen Hall), Ottawa; and Danielle (Walter

Garel), Montreal; grandfather of Thomas (Miranda), Fort Lauderdale, and great-grandfather of Makenzie.

Predeceased by his parents, Thomas Hubbard Sr. and Florence Dewar, infant son Paul, sisters Joan (Read), Mary (Spencer) and Olive (Mitchell) and brother Robert "Bob." He is survived by brothers Charles (Chuck and Betty), Bert (Aline) and Gil (Joanne), all of Ottawa, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Hubbard, a keen sportsman, was a member of the University of Ottawa Basketball team that won the Intermediate Basketball Championship of Canada in 1939. Years later, he was a long-time avid curler with the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club.

In 1945, he served as senior military court reporter at the Canadian War Crimes Trials in Germany.

From 1949 to 1999, he served as the recording secretary for the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association's annual meetings.

Thomas was a Past-President of the Chartered Shorthand Reporters Association of Ontario and also Past-President of the Hansard Association of Canada.

The funeral Mass was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 6 in Resurrection of Our Lord Church, Ottawa, with a private interment at Notre Dame Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Shepherds of Good Hope would be appreciated by the family.