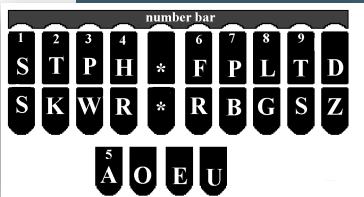


# NOTEWORTHY...

## NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION

*Dedicated to leadership and direction for the court reporting profession in the state of Connecticut.*



SPRING 2019

### IN THIS ISSUE:

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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY 30, 5pm, GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING at the Orange Library

JUNE 12th, Wish it was the Weekend Wednesday at the Park Tavern West Hartford

### JUST FOR FUN

IN BRIEF...

CCRA WEBSITE INFO

### WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR:

Welcome to the seminal edition of *Noteworthy*, the newsletter for YOU!

In March, a few of us had the opportunity to go and attend the Massachusetts Association for their convention up in Springfield. What a great time! Boy, those gals are a lot of fun! And they are so organized and put on a great convention! Your board here in Connecticut has undergone some recent changes and has some new members and some new ideas, and we are excited about some of the hopes and dreams we have for the future of court reporting in Connecticut. We are restructuring a bit and forming new committees to GET STUFF DONE. We hope we can pass along our excitement to YOU! Are you ready???

Right now, as you sit here reading this, your association and your profession are in critical need of your support. We are working hard to protect your livelihood, bring back our credentials (yes!!) and take a closer look at some of the things that threaten our jobs -- contracting, digital recording -- as well as address things that help us grow -- mentoring students, running A to Z classes, reaching out and in to the community to talk about how great our job is, etc! Our objective is to protect your job and keep the high standards set for our profession.

We have a number of new committees that we have started and they are as follows:

**The Legislative Committee** will tackle all things related to laws that are being proposed in Connecticut and will work with our lobbyist, who makes sure we are aware of new bills that come up that have to do with our profession and then helps us know what we can do to act on those bills when necessary. Our lobbyist is a very important person!!!

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*Please join us on Thursday, May 30th, at 5 p.m. at the Orange Library for our General Membership meeting. Come and see what we are doing for YOU!*

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Recently, our lobbyist came to us with a bill (Bill 844) that was going to be put through the legislature, which many of you became aware of and signed an objection to (thank you!!), and thanks to you all who signed, the bill was not passed! This is what our lobbyist does for us, and that is why we need YOU to join your association and pay your dues! If not for our lobbyist, important bills like this, with complex language, would sneak through the legislature and we would be incapable of doing anything to combat legislation that is improper or damaging to our profession. We need to stay on our toes and be aware of what is being pushed through. We need to be our own advocates and educate lawyers and the legislature, and to do that we need your help. Please consider rejoining your association if you have let it lapse or joining for the first time if you are new! Those dues are essential to helping your board advocate for you!

*Wish it was the Weekend Wednesday! Come join your pals or soon-to-be pals for some drinks and happy-hour snacks at the Park Tavern in West Hartford from 3 p.m. on! The tab is on you, but the friendship and laughs are free! Text Vicki at 503-544-9707 to verify we are still there if you are arriving late! 140 Park Rd. W. Hartford.*

## IN BRIEF...

### CLIP N' STICK PHRASES TO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER!

(CUT OUT AND TAPE TO YOUR MACHINE AND WORK ON THESE PHRASES THIS WEEK/MONTH!)



TA\* - take a  
TA\*B - take a break  
TA\*L - take a look  
TA\*LT - take a look at  
TA\*M - take a minute  
TAO\*M - take a moment  
TA\*MT - take a minute to  
TAO\*MT - take a moment to  
TA\*UR - take your  
TA\*URT - take your time

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**The Trainings & Seminars Committee** has the task of coming up with fun and interesting things for us all to learn and engage in during our conventions and other CEU or skill-building events.

**The Outreach Committee** has the job of reaching out to YOU in ways such as this newsletter, our new Facebook page (come check us out!) and coordinating some mixers and luncheons where we can all get together and have some FUN. We all work so hard, we all need a little bit of that! Find us on Facebook at Connecticut Court Reporters!

**The Issues Committee** will be dealing with whatever issues are out and about in our profession that we need to know about, such as digital recording and how that will or won't affect us, contracting, and other general issues that aren't necessarily bills that need to be addressed in legislation (yet!) but things we need to know about!

Lastly, we have **The Education Committee**, which is committed to reaching into schools to do show-and-tells about court reporting, or providing courses such as the A to Z class to introduce reporting to young people to show them what a great career this is!

In summary, if ANY of these committees sound like something you might be interested in participating in or you have that GREAT idea you would like to share but haven't gotten around to doing so, please let us know! We are here for you and we NEED you! We promise we won't make you do anything alone. The more the merrier! Please come join us at meetings! Meet us out at the pub! Share your thoughts and ideas and concerns! I know it's hard to get out, but this is such a solitary career and no one will ever understand you like another court reporter! We all work hard and struggle to juggle, but we really want you now more than ever to get involved in order to keep our profession safe and active and growing in this state, plus we want you to join us for some FUN! Join CCRA so that we can afford to pay for the lobbyist that is watching your back and come and hang out with us at one of our upcoming fun events just because we all could use a good time!

## WHAT'S NEW??



For those of you unfamiliar with Project Steno, Project Steno is a team of volunteer reporters who are undertaking to promote the creation of new court reporting programs to keep our profession alive. In 2013, the NCRA commissioned a study that predicted that there would be a shortage of reporters by 2018, which we are clearly seeing now. Firm owners and courthouses can't keep up with the demand, so the time is ripe for some hardworking young people to join our ranks! Project Steno is entering high schools and teaching students stenographic theory and promoting court reporting directly in the schools where kids are making decisions about the direction their lives will take. They have launched a Basic Training program to teach introductory steno with practice dictation and readback drills. They have also reached out to military bases with the Cover your Bases program for military members and their spouses. If anyone is interested in getting involved in this program, learning more about what they are and who they are or simply to donate to help fund their efforts to grow this profession, I encourage you to go to their website at [www.ProjectSteno.org](http://www.ProjectSteno.org) and check it out! They are really doing some amazing things over there!

**SPOTLIGHT ON:  
CCRA President, Christine Mannix**

Q. Where do you live?

**A. My home town is Naugatuck.**

Q. How long have you been a court reporter?

**A. I've been working as a court reporter for 28 years!**

Q. Where did you go to school?

**A. I graduated from Stone Academy.**

Q. What led you to go into this profession originally?

**A. I got into court reporting on a whim. I was frustrated with working in an office, and a family member told me about her friend who was a court reporter and loved her job. I went down and signed up, and the rest is history!**

Q. Do you remember your first day on the job?

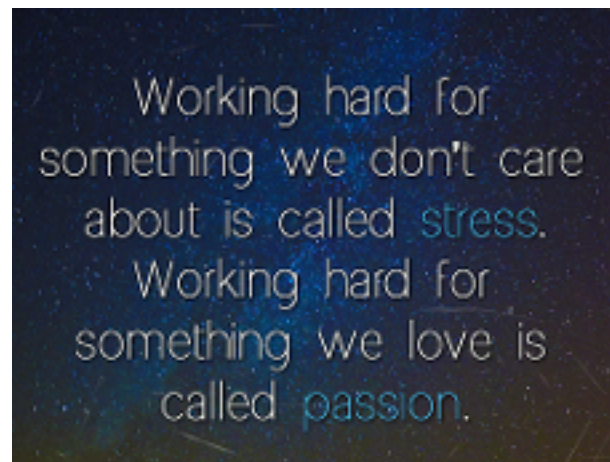
**A. My first day was supposed to be an easy one. It ended up being three Greek witnesses with heavy accents that lasted four hours and then I had to take a depo supposedly with an associate, which ended up being the owner of the firm...a long, difficult first day!**

Q. What are your hopes for court reporting in CT?

**A. My hope is that we can keep our profession alive and thriving for years to come.**

Q. What advice do you have for new reporters or students?

**A. I have mentored many students, I believe six in total. My advice, don't get discouraged, keep practicing, and never give up. The end result will be worth it!**



Board Members

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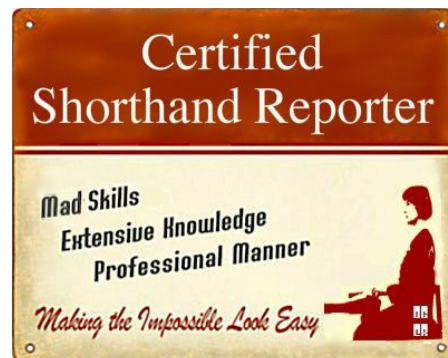
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If you have something you would like to contribute to this newsletter or a feature you would like to see added, please contact Vicki Jesse @ [vicki.jesse@comcast.net](mailto:vicki.jesse@comcast.net)