



*The Virginian Hotel, 712 Church Street, Lynchburg, VA
(434) 616-4429*

OCTOBER 23-25, 2020 VCRA 2020 CONVENTION

**“20/20 SEEING CLEARLY
INTO OUR PROFESSION”**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
GUINNESS WORLD
RECORD FOR
"FASTEST COURT
REPORTER"
MARK KISLINGBURY

**PROJECT STENO
PRESIDENT
JIM DECRESCENZO**

MICHELE EDDY

**ROARING 20'S
SPEAK EASY
WELCOME
RECEPTION**

**BRING YOUR
MACHINES AND
LAPTOPS!**

**VIRGINIA COURT
REPORTERS
ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 12317
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VCRA 2020 Convention Schedule

Friday, October 23, 2020

3:00 to 4:45 p.m.	Speed Contests	(Mary Bell Washington)
	<p>VCRA's first ever REALTIME and SPEED contests for STENOGRAPHERS AND VOICE WRITERS at 3:00 and 3:30 p.m. The Realtime Contest will be a Q&A at 225 wpm. The Speed Contest will be given at 280 wpm, with 90 minutes to transcribe. You must indicate your desire to compete in one or both contests on your conference registration form. Fee: \$45 per contest.</p>	
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.	Early Registration	(Eleanor Rose Madison)
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	Brief Exchange/Meet your VCRA Board of Directors (.10/1.0)	(Eleanor Rose Madison)
	<p>Bring 10 of your best briefs to share for a reception beverage ticket. Meet your board members and share your concerns and questions. If you've ever considered board service, this is the time to find out what goes on!</p>	
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Speak Easy Welcome Reception	(Eleanor Rose Madison)
	<p>Roaring 20s theme with prizes for the best costumes! Join us for heavy hors d' oeuvres and fun.</p>	

Total CEU Friday: NCRA .10/NVRA 1.0

Saturday, October 24, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Registration Open		(Ballroom Foyer)
7:00 to 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffett		(The Gallery)
8:00 to 9:30 a.m.	Mark Kislingbury	(.15/1.5)	(Grand Ballroom)
	<p>Mark's seminar will thoroughly cover his two pillars of writing and realtime excellence for court reporters: writing short, and high speed practice. He will demonstrate with numerous interesting and compelling proofs how that these two pillars contribute directly to speed, accuracy, comfort, health, money, time, and job satisfaction. His entertaining and informative presentation relies on a thorough PowerPoint presentation as well as stories and anecdotes relating to his 37-year court reporting career involving high-level realtime jobs and 12 NCRA contest wins in speed or realtime. Mark's seminars are highly popular and get universally high marks. You don't want to miss this one!</p>		
9:30 to 10:00 a.m.	Break/Pro Bono Award/Visit with Vendors		(Grand Ballroom)
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.	Mark Kislingbury Part II	(.15/1.5)	(Grand Ballroom)
11:30 to 1:30 p.m.	Lunch/Town Hall/Annual Business Meeting/Elections	(.10)	(Grand Ballroom)
1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	Mark Kislingbury Part III	(.10/1.0)	(Grand Ballroom)
2:30 to 4:00 p.m.	Jim DeCrescenzo	(.15/1.5)	(Grand Ballroom)
	<p>Watson Today, Quantum Computing Tomorrow. Can Stenotype Reporting Survive the Advance in Computing?</p> <p>The session addresses the incredible advances in computing power and the threat it presents to stenotype reporters. From the advent of the tape recorder, stenographic reporters have constantly faced threats from different advancing technologies. IBM's Watson, and many others, are focusing on Automatic Speech Recognition. With billions of research dollars pouring in, quantum computing is the next major advance being worked on by the global tech companies. In the face of these threats, will there still be a place for us? This seminar will explore current and future technologies and give you the facts you need to know on this critical question.</p>		

4:00 to 4:30 p.m.	Break/Tayloe Award/Raffles		(Grand Ballroom)
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.	Jim DeCrescenzo	(.10/1.0)	(Grand Ballroom)

Rebuilding Our Profession Together, Trends in Court Reporting and Let's Cover Our Bases

There's always change afoot in our marketplace and we need to keep pace today! How better to stay abreast of market trends than mingling with Project Steno's leader as he discusses with us the changes and trends impacting today's court reporting professionals and how we can work together to bring young people into court reporting and captioning. Learn about our just-launched Military Spouse program, Project Steno's exciting awareness campaign, and our tuition assistance/student monitoring program. Walk away with a new can-do spirit.

Total CEU Saturday: NCRA .75/NVRA 6.5

Sunday, October 25, 2020

7:00 to 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast/Installation of Officers		(The Gallery)
8:30 to 10:00 a.m.	Michele Eddy	(.15/1.5)	(Grand Ballroom)

How To Write Technical Jobs With Ease

Ever wonder how you'll ever be ready to write a technical job with ease, without sweating bullets, without feeling like you want to throw in the towel at the end of the day? I'm here to help by sharing with you my personal system for preparing for a technical job, whether it's a pharmaceutical case or an intellectual patent case involving chemical terminology. We will then take the time during this session not only to go through the steps, but to put these skills into practice by simulating a real deposition experience. Bring your thinking cap and your machines and laptops, and let's get down to business.

10:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Break		
10:30 to 11:30 a.m.	NCRA representative	(.10/1.0)	(Grand Ballroom)

Motivation is one of the strong components of success, and knowing how to keep yourself inspired is vital to ensuring the health of your career. Learn how to measure the impact motivation has on your business. Also, learn how to rekindle the spark to deliver the best service possible to your clients as well as potential clients.

11:30 to 12:30 p.m. VCRA Board of Directors Panel Discussion (.10/1.0) (Grand Ballroom)

Multiple topics will be discussed including court reporting ethics and legislation requiring licensure of all court reporters within the Commonwealth of Virginia. At the conclusion of the presentation, attendees will be invited to ask questions of the panel.

Total CEU Sunday: NCRA .35/NVRA 3.5

Total Event CEU: NCRA 1.2/NVRA 12.0

Speakers

Mark Kislingbury, RDR, CRR, FAPR

Mark started his career as a freelance court reporter in 1983 in Houston, Texas. He began working on realtime from the beginning and has won 12 total NCRA speed and realtime contests.. He also has a Guinness World Record for "Fastest Court Reporter" for passing a one-minute take at 360 wpm with 97.22% accuracy in 2004. He is the author of four court reporting books and runs the popular Internet training site for court reporters, the Magnum Steno Club. He opened the Mark Kislingbury Academy of Court Reporting in 2011 and his first 11 graduates averaged 1 yr. 11 mos. to graduate. He is the author of his own theory, the Magnum Steno Theory, and the author of "My System: The Road to Realtime Excellence," currently in the NCRA bookstore. Mark is married with three grown children and makes his home in Houston, Texas.

Jim DeCrescenzo, RPR, RMR, CRR, RDR, FAPR

Jim operated a court reporting agency in the Greater Philadelphia area for three decades before opening Exhibeo, LLC, a paperless deposition service, in 2015. Jim has served in countless volunteer capacities at the state and national level over the years. He is a Registered Diplomate Reporter (RDR), a Certified Realtime Reporter (CRR), and is a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters (FAPR).

Michele E. Eddy, RPR, CRR, CRI, CLR, Realtime Systems Administrator Certificate

Michele has been a freelance court reporter for over 30 years, beginning her career in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1989, then moving, in 2009, to the D.C./Northern Virginia area. She has been a Certified Realtime Reporter since 2000 and earned the Realtime Systems Administrator Certificate in 2012.

Michele works as a high-volume reporter in deposition, trial, or arbitration settings on almost a daily basis, providing interactive realtime, rough drafts, daily copy, or rush transcripts. This past year, Michele had the privilege of serving as a temporary Reporter of Debates for the U.S. Senate for several weeks, quickly learning the basics of Case Catalyst software in order to have a part in creating the Congressional Record on a daily basis.

Michele and her scopist use Eclipse software, often working together in the cloud through Connection Magic. Creating a job dictionary and auto-briefing is one of Michele's favorite tools to writing realtime effortlessly. Good knowledge of Eclipse software enables her to provide stress-free rush transcripts, whether it's knowledge about block files and automatic indexing to create title pages and indexes quickly or editing tricks to produce fast rough drafts or a final product.

While in Ohio, Michele served as an instructor in the court reporting program at Cuyahoga Community College during the 2006-2007 academic year.

From 2014 through 2016, Michele participated in the Taking Realtime Awareness and Innovation Nationwide (TRAIN) program for the Virginia Court Reporters Association, providing realtime and technical training to fellow reporters. She has also conducted software-related seminars at VCRA's Education Day. In October 2015, she was awarded the Frank G. Tayloe Award by VCRA. From 2016 to the present, she has served on the Board of VCRA as Vice President, Secretary, and Director, currently chairing the Education Committee, having conducted several A to Z classes and has led efforts to bring awareness of our profession at the Virginia School Counselor Association's annual conference in Hampton Roads, Virginia, in October 2019 and October 2018.

Yolanda L Walton, FAPR, RPR, NCRA Director

Yolanda joined the NCRA in 1985 as a student and has been heavily involved with the association since the mid1990s. She has attended every NCRA convention since 1992.

In 2018 at the annual convention in New Orleans, Yolanda was elected to the Board of Directors. She holds the nationally recognized professional certifications of Registered Professional Reporter (RPR), and Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters (FAPR).