

# ARIZONotes

Volume 50, Number 3

Fall 2022



## ACRA President's Message

by Laura Ashbrook

I'm B-A-A-A-A-CK !!!

Greetings one and all. Apparently, one time being president of ACRA wasn't enough for me, so I thought I'd give it another shot, this go-around with a little experience under my belt..... and..... I probably should mention no one else was ready to step up into the role

just yet.....so.....you're stuck with me! I'm actually very excited to be the head of ACRA this year. Having recently returned from the multi-state convention in Snowbird, Utah, I have a renewed sense of camaraderie and collegiality with my fellow reporters. It was just an incredible, incredible experience. It was small enough to have the chance to really interact with reporters from other states, yet big enough to attain the resources necessary to have just an outstanding slate of speakers.

I'll stop there gushing about the convention, because, hopefully, in this issue of ArizoNotes Marty Herder's article regarding the convention will publish, so I hesitate to step on the toes of his thoughts and memories of the amazing time we all had, but .....suffice it to say it was, hands down, the BEST convention I've EVER attended.....and I've been to A LOT of them.

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# WILD WEST ROUNDUP 2022 WRAP-UP BY MARTY HERDER

Wow! Where to start? Utah, Nevada, Colorado, and Arizona CR Associations all collaborated to pull off one of the BEST conventions EVER as they came together for an amazing weekend: The Wild West Roundup Court Reporter and Captioner Convention 2022.

Held at the Cliff Lodge and Resort at Snowbird, Utah, from the moment you arrived, the rest of the world disappeared in this beautiful alpine resort setting deep in Little Cottonwood Canyon, just 45 minutes outside Salt Lake City.

Snowbird has long been known as “a place dedicated to increasing human understanding through the enhancement of body, mind and spirit.” Letting that soak in, isn’t that a perfect fit for our profession in these chaotic times?

This was truly a homerun for organizers, reporters, vendors, and speakers from all around the country. Our deepest gratitude and kudos to our Arizona Superstars who were on the Planning Team: Tracy Johnston, Lerryn Roberds, Cindy Mahoney, and Angela Miller. We cannot imagine all the long hours, energy, and sacrifice that it took to skillfully navigate everything from COVID, multiple rescheduling, a powerful speaker lineup, and so much more. Outstanding job! We cannot thank you and the entire planning team enough.

The speaker lineup and CEUs were spot on, with multiple expert software trainers, informative and entertaining speakers such as Christina Martinez,

Financial Advisor; Judge David Sam; Paul Mellor, Memory Expert and author of Finding the Keys; Allison M. Hall, RMR, CRR, CSR, Speed Finalist and Writing coach; Judge Carolyn B. McHugh, United States Court Of Appeals For The Tenth Circuit; Clarkson D. Gaudette, ASL teacher (and Father of Convention planner Phoebe Moorhead, RPR, CRR!); Tasha Sisneros, Broadcast Captioner and advocate for equal accessibility for the Deaf/HoH community; Michelle Camp, certified instructor for the NRA and USCCA, and A Well-Armed Woman Instructor, just to name a few.

The food was off the hook and the ambiance was overwhelming as we enjoyed perfect weather. Our Saturday night Social was a hoot with the theme “Boots & Bling” where members packed the dance floor and danced the night away under the stars. During breaks during the day and personal time many of us enjoyed taking the iconic Aerial Tram to the peak or hiking one of the many trails. Coincidentally, Snowbird’s 50th Annual Oktoberfest was the same weekend, just steps from the resort with live music, beer garden, vendors and more, all adding to the fun.

Reporters from every corner of the country enjoyed a sense of community, personal interaction with like-minded members of our profession learning, socializing, and having a great time in this gem of a resort.

Post COVID let’s remember that nothing replaces the experience and connections we can make through involvement in great conferences like this. Whether it’s the exposure to new vendors, software, ideas, contacts, or just new friends, you get out exponentially more than you put in. Many of us have found that meeting someone at an event can completely change the trajectory of your career. We look forward to seeing each of you at the next one. “We’re all in this beautiful chaos together.”

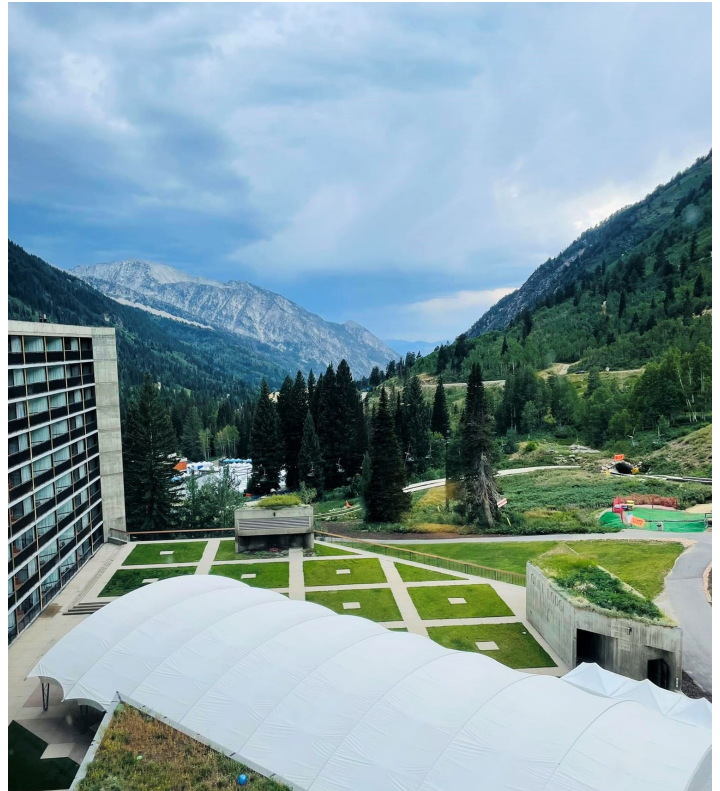
Marty Herder  
ACRA Past President



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Save the Date!!! **Saturday, April 23rd, 2023 for the ACRA Midyear Convention** at the lovely Tempe Mission Palms, located right in the heart of Mill Avenue in Tempe. Lovely setting, easy, comfortable walks to Tempe Town Lake, "A" Mountain, shops and restaurants. Visit [acraonline.org](http://acraonline.org) for more information.

## THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR PROFESSION

If you want to learn more about how you can become involved, please contact Robin Osterode, at [rosterode@cox.net](mailto:rosterode@cox.net). She would love to schedule you for one of the upcoming career days.



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# CURRENT ACRA BOARD MEMBERS

**Laura Ashbrook, RMR**

President

**Tammy Gillett**

Vice President

**Dana Valles, RPR**

President Elect

**Sonia Vaca**

Secretary and Treasurer

**Angela Miller, RPR**

Past President

## Directors

Robin Osterode, RPR –  
Representing Freelance 2021-2023

Terry Libretti–  
Representing Freelance 2022-2024

Treva Colwell –  
Representing Officials 2022-2024

## Executive Director

Kim Portik, RMR, CRR, CRC, CSR(CA)



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**Jingle & Mingle**

WEDNESDAY

**07**

DECEMBER

SAVE THE DATE!  
HOLIDAY MIXER & GIFT EXCHANGE

6:30-8:30 PM

OPA LIFE GREEK CAFE  
9404 W. WESTGATE BOULEVARD  
GLENDALE AZ 85305

RSVP: TEXT/CALL  
SONIA (602) 826-4855 or  
JENNIFER (480) 290-9460

**STUDENTS, apply now for the Career Launcher Grant.**

You could earn an award that covers your 10-module NCRF Career Launcher fees.



**DEADLINE: DECEMBER 14, 2022**

[NCRA.org/NCRF-CL-Student-Grant](http://NCRA.org/NCRF-CL-Student-Grant)

**Join us!**

Join NCRA as a  
**NEW MEMBER** in November  
Receive **14** months for the  
price of **12**!

[NCRA.org/Join](http://NCRA.org/Join)



## What is contronym?

Single words that have two contradictory meanings (they are their own opposites) are known as contronyms, and they are quite rare.

Here are ten of them:

1. **apology**: a statement of contrition for an action, or a defense of one
2. **bolt**: to secure, or to flee
3. **bound**: heading to a destination, or restrained from movement
4. **cleave**: to add fine particles, or to remove them
5. **dust**: to add fine particles, or to remove them
6. **fast**: quick, or stuck or made stable
7. **left**: remained, or departed
8. **peer**: a person of the nobility, or an equal
9. **sanction**: to approve, or to boycott
10. **weather**: to withstand, or to wear away



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MARCH 2022

BROUGHT TO YOU BY ACRA

# ATTENTION ARIZONA ATTORNEYS

COURT REPORTERS IN ARIZONA MUST BE CERTIFIED

**Knowing the court rules and existing laws in Arizona regarding certified court reporters is more important than ever.**

**You may be surprised to find an uncertified "digital reporter" appear at your deposition. Be aware that in Arizona, court reporters must be certified according to law AND court reporting firms must be registered in Arizona with the Arizona Certification and Licensing division.**

**A.R.S. § 32-4003(A)** provides "A person shall not report proceedings in any court in this state and shall not report depositions in this state for use in any court in this state unless the person is certified pursuant to this chapter."

**A.R.S. § 32-4003(D)** provides: "It is unlawful for any person who is not certified pursuant to this chapter to represent oneself as a certified reporter." For eligibility to report a verbatim record in any sworn proceeding in this state for use in any court in this state, all persons shall hold a valid certificate and comply with the requirements of this section. Certified reporting is integrally related to the prompt, effective and impartial operation of the judicial system.

**ACJA Section 7-206** "Registered reporting firm" means an individual or entity that is registered pursuant to this section and for compensation offers to provide or provides reporting services or related services but does not personally provide the service as a certified reporter.

All Arizona certified reporters MUST include their license number on their business cards, all correspondence, and transcripts. If you don't see it, ask for it to be provided.

You may also contact the Arizona Court Reporters Association and we will assist you in finding a certified reporter and provide information to file a complaint if an uncertified digital reporter appears at your deposition.

**We are here to help you protect the record.**



**IS YOUR COURT REPORTER CERTIFIED AND LICENSED TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS IN ARIZONA?**

**HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED TO STIPULATE TO USING A "DIGITAL REPORTER" TO COVER YOUR DEPOSITION?**

**DIGITAL REPORTERS ARE NOT CERTIFIED TO PERFORM COURT REPORTING SERVICES IN ARIZONA**

**SPECIFY ON YOUR NOTICE OF DEPOSITION IT WILL BE TAKEN BEFORE A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER**

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# MonthlyMatters

## Association to Association News

Welcome to the November 2022 Monthly Matters, a resource for state leaders containing an array of ideas, story links, and other materials being shared by NCRA's Communications Team for use in your membership newsletters and other informational material states distribute.

### News from NCRA

- [NCRA Government Relations launches grassroots advocacy campaign and call to action](#)
- [Call for 2023 DSA nominations: Recognize that special professional](#)
- [Free student memberships available](#)
- [We're looking for a few good mentors](#)

### Request from NCRA's Communications Department

Help us tell your story during 2023 Court Reporting & Captioning Week. NCRA's Communications Department is looking for members who entered the court reporting profession after military service, as a second career, or as a college graduate who decided on a different path after four years of school, to share their stories during the 2023 Court Reporting & Captioning Week being celebrated Feb. 4-11. Please contact [pr@ncra.org](mailto:pr@ncra.org) if you have a story you would like to share and help us spread the word about why a career in stenographic court reporting or captioning is the best kept secret out there.

### News from NCRA/NCRF

- [Vintage writers still available through NCRF's adoption fundraiser](#)
- [Two \\$1,000 scholarships available for students](#)

### News from STRONG

- Don't forget to check out the [NCRA STRONG Resource Library](#) for the latest resources to help promote stenographic captioning and court reporting as the best means to maintain the accuracy and integrity of the record.

### Feature articles

- [The facts about CART, closed captioning, and accessibility for all](#)
- [How to be cyber secure at work](#)
- [Cybersecurity is the lifeline you didn't know you needed](#)



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*President's Message continued from Page 1...*

The committee was SO pleased with the effusive positive feedback they received, it's been decided to throw another multi-state in 2024..... this time - fingers crossed - the venue will be our very own Sedona, and even more states are anxious to "jump in."

That having been said, I am fairly "jacked up" to try to bring our membership as close together as I possibly can this year. There aren't NEAR as many battles to wage as our past president, Angela Miller, had to deal with. So I feel there will be more time to work on our organization, i.e., bringing our conventions back to in person, starting with a hybrid version in April 2023 and an "all-in" convention in September 2023.

Covid threw everyone's lives into a tailspin, and this year is just - "baby steps" - starting to feel normal again for every person AND every organization. So.....I'm hoping you all will do your best to show up in person to the conventions and let's try and renew friendships, networking, supporting one another, in the face of the ubiquitous challenges that seem to dog our career, digital reporting being the newest "kid on the block."

There will OF COURSE be a Town Hall in April to address all of the current issues, threats, updates in our court reporting world, and I look forward to that, as we have a wealth of knowledge amongst our current board members to answer any questions, concerns, suggestions vis-à-vis these topics.

Lastly, I'd like you all to know ACRA is in AMAZING hands this year with your board. They are dedicated, hard-working and enthusiastic, to say the LEAST, and I know I'll have ALL the support I need to have a successful year. Look forward to seeing you all again "in the flesh".

Oh.....in the meantime.....check out our website. It's got a bit of a "face lift" and is looking great!

Thanks and peace. Laura



*Things get crazy at a court reporter's party*



### **BOARDlines is BACK!!!**

Don't miss out on things discussed at the ACRA Board Meetings. You can now find them on our website. Click below to see the latest BOARDlines from our October 2022 meeting.



**CLICK HERE FOR LATEST  
BOARDlines**



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## Arizona Supreme Court Volunteer Opportunities Certification & Licensing Boards August 2022

### ABOUT

Volunteers are appointed to three-year terms, which may be in addition to completing the term of a vacancy. Meetings are every other month and attendance may be in person or remote. The volunteer application form for all vacancies is online. Application: <https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/18/Applications/Volunteer-MemberInformationForm.pdf>

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### Certified Court Reporters Program

The Certified Court Reporter Program provides statewide certification for persons working in Arizona state courts and applies to any person who records and transcribes a verbatim record in any sworn proceeding by means of written symbols or abbreviations in shorthand or machine writing. Duties include reviewing applications, considering complaints, and deciding sanctions, when applicable, for violating regulatory requirements such as the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration and Arizona Revised Statutes.

**Four Opportunities:** 1 Court of Appeals Judge, 1 Attorney member, 1 Freelance Certified Reporter (not employed by superior court) with at least five years' experience, 1 Official Certified Reporter (employed by superior court) with at least five years' experience

**Apply:** Send resume and volunteer application form to [courtrep@courts.az.gov](mailto:courtrep@courts.az.gov)

**More Info:** [azcourts.gov/cld/Certified-Reporters-Program](https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Certified-Reporters-Program)

### CONTACT

For more information about the Boards and volunteering, contact:

Aaron Nash Director Certification and Licensing Division [anash@courts.az.gov](mailto:anash@courts.az.gov) 602-452-3362



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