

ADDITIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

DIRECTIONS TO HOTEL

From the North: US Highway 41 South to College Avenue (Exit #137). Turn right on College Avenue. At first stop light (Nicolet Road) turn left. Holiday Inn Select Appleton is on the left-hand side.

From the South: US Highway 41 North to College Avenue Exit (#137). Turn left on College Avenue. At first stop light (Nicolet Road) turn left. Holiday Inn Select Appleton is on the left-hand side.

From the East: US Highway 10 West to US Highway 41 North. Exit at College Avenue (#137). Turn left onto College Avenue. At first stop light (Nicolet Road) turn left. Holiday Inn Select Appleton is on the left-hand side.

From the West: US Highway 10 East to County Road CB. Turn left on County Road CB to College Avenue. Turn right onto College Ave. At second stop light (Nicolet Road) turn right. Holiday Inn Select Appleton is on the left-hand side.

GOING GREEN IN OUR COURTROOMS, OFFICES & HOMES!

The 2009 WCRA Spring Convention is going green! In conjunction with our newsletter going green, our theme for the spring convention is "Going Green in our Courtrooms, Offices and Homes." If you have access to pamphlets and brochures on saving our planet that we can make available to everyone, please send them to Jannell Mineau, 811 Harding Street, Waupaca, Wisconsin, 54981, or bring them with you to the convention. Also, think of your favorite recycling ideas and bring those with you to be eligible for a prize!

Join us in a "Take It or Leave It" scavenger hunt. Look for the recycled old exhibit boards at the convention, collect all your steno briefs, and be eligible for a prize!

Earth Day is April 22. Check out www.earthday.net for ideas on how you can celebrate and help save planet earth!

MARGIE WAKEMAN WELLS – NCRA PRESENTER

Margie Wakeman Wells is a lifetime credentialed teacher in the state of California and is a CRI. She has taught 45 years, 32 of those in court reporting. As a reporting instructor, she has taught from the theory level through the exit speeds as well as English courses. She has authored exercise books on all aspects of English and will publish her book on punctuating the reporting transcript, *Court Reporting: Bad Grammar*®, *Good Punctuation*®, this year.

She has presented, under the auspices of NCRA and state court reporting organizations, over 250 seminars for reporters on English-related topics as well as seminars for teachers and students.

Margie is currently the Online Education Consultant for College of Court Reporting in Hobart, Indiana. She proofreads for Miller and Company Reporters in the Los Angeles area. She has two grown sons and lives with her husband, Bill, in Culver City, California.

CONCURRENT STUDENT SEMINARS

WCRA will present concurrent student seminars on Saturday afternoon following Margie Wakeman Wells' presentations. We would encourage all students to attend Margie's presentations and then join us for the student seminars.

Our students are the future of our profession! We need to support and encourage their progress toward becoming working reporters/captioners/CART providers. Please consider donating a student convention registration to be used at a future convention or contact MATC or LTC to sponsor a student's registration for this convention.

REALTIME CONTEST

Don't miss WCRA's first ever Realtime Contest!! We will be conducting a Realtime Contest on Friday at 5pm. Those contestants passing with 96% accuracy will receive .4 CEU. Cost is \$25. Join in the fun!

COUNTY OF, CITY OF, TOWN OF....

Share your clever brief forms of your neighboring municipalities with all your fellow reporters and students! Christie Wydeven has generously offered to compile them for distribution at the spring convention. Send your briefs to christie@bayreportingservice.com.

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE: DONATE TO THE FOX VALLEY PRISON MINISTRIES PROGRAM

At this convention we are encouraging you to consider making a monetary donation to the Fox Valley Prison Ministries Program. Chaplain Tom Buxton will be sharing his story and how he became involved with the program. Please support his efforts!

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP/RECRUITMENT RAFFLE

In an effort to help our students, Doris Pfeiffer will once again be organizing the Student Scholarship/Recruitment Raffle. Winners will be drawn on Saturday, April 25. All members will receive a letter along with raffle tickets to sell. If you would like to make a donation for the prizes, contact Doris at drpalp@yahoo.com or 715-834-0306. Watch for an email with more information soon. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to help our students get started!

DOOR PRIZES & CONDUIT FUND

As always, we will be giving out door prizes from various vendors and reporters. If you would like to donate a door prize, we would appreciate that; just bring it along to the convention. Conduit donations will earn you a ticket for prizes, as well.

THE MASSAGE FACTORY

Therapists from The Massage Factory will be offering chair massages for the convention attendees on Saturday, 7:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You will remain fully clothed and sit in an ergonomically designed massage chair. The cost is \$10 for the first ten minutes, \$1 per minute thereafter. Table massages also available in your hotel room or Massage Factory office location. Sign-up sheets for the 10-minute massages will be available at the registration table. Call 920-450-2142 to make an appointment for a table massage. www.themassagefactory.com

SOCIAL PACKAGE

For those of you who would like to reunite with old friends or attend the Business Meeting, but do not wish to attend the seminars, WCRA is now offering a "social package." This would include Saturday's continental breakfast and lunch/business meeting. The cost will vary for each convention based on the hotel charges. It does not include admission to the seminars.

LUNCH IS INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION

A buffet lunch is included in the Spring and Fall Convention registration fees. The business meeting will be held in conjunction with lunch. We'll continue to offer a Friday night social and early registration to allow you to pick up your folders.

RETIRED REPORTERS

If you are aware of a retired reporter that is interested in attending any of our social events at any of our conventions, please pass the necessary information along to them.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR REGISTERING ONLINE!!

PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION BY CREDIT CARD

WCRA is offering online registration for this convention without any extra cost to you!! We encourage all members to register and pay for membership dues and convention registration fees online using a credit card. Simply go to the WCRA website, wicourtreporters.org, and click on Conventions & Events for the forms that need to be filled out for membership and/or convention registration and payment. Your secure online payment will be made through PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use the service.

To encourage your online registrations for the convention, WCRA will be absorbing the fee for this service. We hope that you find the service valuable and convenient. This service can not be used if you are applying a credit voucher or gift certificate for registration or membership fees. Please let us know if you have any comments or concerns.

FUTURE CONVENTION DATES & LOCATIONS

Fall 2009, October 23-25 – Elkhart Lake, Osthoff Resort

Call 1-800-876-3399 for reservations

Be sure to request a room in the WCRA block for special rate.

Run of House Guest Rooms and One-Bedroom Suites - \$109 plus tax

Two-Bedroom Woodland Suite - \$149 plus tax

Spring 2010 –Eau Claire

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR UPCOMING CONVENTIONS:

It takes a lot of time and effort by many people to put together a convention, so we are always in need of local volunteers to help out. If you would like to volunteer your time and talent, please contact Karla Sommer, (715) 261-1356 or kmsommer@charter.net, or contact Donna DeBiase, (715) 453-8510 or dmdelvis@wildblue.net, if you are interested. It really is fun to get involved!

OFFICIAL REPORTERS:

Please plan ahead if you will be requesting vacation time on the Friday of upcoming conventions. Due to the reporter shortage, coverage may be difficult. Please check your calendars for April 24, 2009 and October 23, 2009 today!

STENO PAPER

Don't forget to recycle your steno scraps for the students! We will have concurrent student seminars on Saturday afternoon, so we hope to have many students in attendance.